

FACE TO FACE WITH HIBO MAHAMOUD

MTM UNSUNG HERO AWARD FINALIST 2021

I am the founder and managing director of TALO community. I am also the first point of contact for many people from the Somali community due to working closely in the community for over 15 years. My passion lies in social justice and community empowerment.



We are Face To Face with Hibo

What difference have you brought to the communities you serve?

I am known to really listen without passing judgement, to support without being patronising, to create a comfortable environment where individuals are happy to share their concerns. But most importantly, I am very known to make things happen for the community through the links and networks I have made throughout the years.

What is your driving force?

To lessen the burden of the individuals who uses our services, TALO community provides advocacy and support services, when individuals approach us, they are generally in a challenging situations but by the time we get to the end of our support, they are much more hopeful.

I am also passionate about challenging negative stereotypes associated to the Somali community, through open dialogue and celebrating Somali success I hope to do my bit towards changing the narrative.

What do you consider to be your key strengths?

I am a highly motivated person and I have goals both for my personal development but also the wider society. I like to think that I take my team with me throughout the journey that is TALO community. I also have a lot of ideas and I'm never afraid of a challenge

What do you consider to be your weaknesses?

A couple of my weaknesses I think is, I should have set up TALO community sooner. I also sometimes think that I could manage my time better.

Based on your answers to the above, how would you like to be perceived?

A community leader and community activist. Someone who is easy to reach and will always be able to make time for community concerns and most importantly someone the younger generation and women can inspire to.

What are your objectives over the next one to three years?

To continue growing TALO community to reach a national level and increase training and speaking events of my experience working with the Somali community

How will receiving this award benefit you?

It will help towards gaining more presence outside of the Somali community in Bristol and help reach my goals of gaining more presence nationally as a managing director but also personally with speaking and training opportunities.

Have you introduced or implemented any projects or events in the last 12 months?

Yes, many projects, to name a few:

- Summer fun days programme
- Covid-19 programme
- Support services (ongoing)
- February fun day
- Empowerment programme for young people
- Mentoring programme

2012

MTM Awards were created to honour the South Asian communities in the South West of England. Mast The Magazine, a community based Black Asian & Ethnic publication in the region realised that ethnic communities did not feature in any local awards in Bristol and the South West.

Our founder, a career broadcaster and co-founder a young community enthusiast moved to Bristol from Kenya were already known in the Bristol circles as they had founded Radio Ramadhan Bristol and Radio Mast FM both of which were launched TO BRING THE ETHNIC COMMUNITES TOGETHER and an urgent need for Asian businesses, organisations and positive role models to have A MEDIA OUTLET they can call their own, so as to inspire and empower diverse communities across the South West and South Wales. Since its inception in 2012, we have recognised grass-root communities, small and medium-sized businesses, and diverse community organizations giving a platform to showcase their excellence & achievements and share the untapped talent and often unrecognized achievements.



#MTM2021 #10&beyond #TheGreenCarpet



The 2012 awards were well received with over a thousand nominations, 21 AWARDS, and 11 SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS spread over 5 CATEGORIES. The award evening was blessed with the attendance of Mayor George Ferguson, the 1st elected mayor of Bristol. Councillor Peter Abrahams presented the first World Foods Mini-Market Award to Bristol Sweetmart, the first recipients of an MTM Award. The event was held at the UWE Bristol Exhibition and Conference Centre and attended by close to 750 people. Headlining the entertainment was award winning Brit-Asian singer - ARJUN

2014

Word spread like bush-fire and soon we had other ethnic communities knock on our door to request inclusion, and include we did and re-branded the awards to MTM South West Asian & Ethnic Minority Communities Awards. This of course was made possible with the restructuring in 2013 and bringing in a whole new dedicated team. .

MTM Awards moved to a new home, the Bristol Marriott City Centre, one of Bristol's finest venues and re-named the award evening MTM Glittering Gala awards Evening. MTM 2014 was an evening of good food, diverse entertainment, unique networking with 30 awards 17 special recognitions spread over 6 categories.



2015

We now understood the needs and wants of the Asian, Black & Ethnic communities better that guided us to tailor the MTM Awards to what they are now, inclusive, diverse and one of the most sought-after awards in the UK and beyond.

The 2015 nominations from the Romanian community, thanks to the Honorary Consul of Romania to Bristol Dr Razvan and his wife Ileana Constantinescu opened the doors for our Eastern European communities. It was also the year that we officially launched our brand ambassadors across the South West & Beyond.

Since the inception of MTM Awards, we have supported several charities in the UK and abroad. The first being Help for Heroes in 2012, by way of creating awareness of the chosen charities and allowing the charity to pitch their mission and collect funds. Through our platforms, many of these charity organizations have managed to voice their plight and we are humbled to have been given the opportunity to voice their cause.



2016

MTM Awards opened its doors to international participation, for the first time an international nominee was honoured with a Special Recognition for her work in Mombasa Kenya for People With Difficulties (PWDs), Ramla Said Omar disability activist and an inspiration to many women with disabilities founded the Al-Muqtadir Association for the physically disabled.

It was also the year we helped launch Bristol Somali Women's Group. The team's passion to empower Somali women in the city with regular day workshops and a one to one talk on issues affecting most Somali women.

We are also proud to be the first Awards in the UK to honour and recognise the fantastic work and life of Dr Paul Stephenson MBE who received the 2016 Lifetime Achievement Award. MTM Awards are a cultural experience like no other; our entertainment has been unique and diverse, giving grassroots debutant performers a platform to showcase their talent and opening new avenues for these acts.

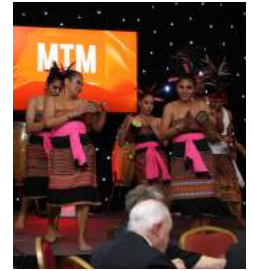


2017

2017 was dubbed as the year of the Great London to Bristol Ivory Belongs to Elephant Walk, a 210-mile 10-day walk, highlighting our chosen project, IVORY BELONGS TO ELEPHANTS to create awareness of the continued Slaughter of the African Elephant. We also supported a local charity FeedTheHomelessBristol by providing a platform to launch the organisation at the MTM Glittering Gala Award Evening.

National and International participation was on the rise and so were guests from these places.

MTM Awards are different, our difference is relayed through the diverse communities attending, the entertainment and the food served. The Food at the MTM Awards Has Been the Centre of Bringing the Diverse Communities Together. Our guests have enjoyed cuisines ranging from Zanzibar in East Africa to the Asian continent.



The red carpet at high profile GALA events, such as award ceremonies is the perfect place for people coming together, and networking, MTM Awards has over the years provided opportunities for diverse communities to network.

2018

In this year we will talk about the MTM RED CARPET the first stop as you step into the Glittering Gala Award Evening, a networking haven and the preferred photo-Op spot.

At the MTM Awards OUR NETWORKING IS UNIQUE it presents a perfect opportunity for diversity to co-exist, it is where contacts are exchanged and connections made, it is where corporates show case their brands, it is the MTM Red Carpet where people come together, the place where it all happens.

Our chosen charity for MTM Awards 2018 was Prostate Cancer UK, and Plastic Pollution Awareness & Action Projects 2018 a Bristol-based charity working with communities in the South West and beyond whose aim to engage a diverse community in environmental action To celebrate our 10th anniversary the Red Carpet Goes Green for a Sustainable Awards Evening.



2019

MTM Awards launch the Founders Award!

There were 20 awards-2 posthumous awards 10 special recognitions all spread over 7 categories- plus the newly launched the FOUNDERS Award with the finalists, celebrated UK artist Apache Indian and a young disability activist from Kenya Angel Wanjiru, with the later taking the accolade home.

2019 was the year that we enjoyed the biggest international participation both in the nominations and guest list, hosted by Junior Sheikh and Pearl Fernandes, a past MTM Award Winner. Our entertainment as always was diverse and we opted for a Turkish cuisine by celebratory chef Kani Naim. Our chosen charity was Dementia UK and a local charity Plastic Pollution Action & Awareness Projects. It was also the first time we welcomed the Ukrainian community to the awards as nominees.



MTM 2021: Celebrating the Excellence & Achievement of the Asian, Black and Ethnic Communities

2020 *COVID 19 Strikes the World.*

This was a tough year for us all; the pandemic and resulting lockdown forced a change the format of the 2020 edition, with only 12 awards and 10 Special Recognitions spread over 5 categories, to ensure we recognize the amazing achievements of our thriving communities.

Our CEO launched MTM Connect to distribute food packages to Food Banks across the South West partnered by past MTM Award winners and nominees and sponsors, thanks to the support of these local businesses we were able realise this project.

2020 also saw the launch of the 1st MTM Environmental Excellence Award, the response across international waters was overwhelming, with over 85 nominations for the inaugural award. There are 54 finalists in 2020 vying for the 12 awards and 10 Special Recognitions spread across 5 categories.

The winners will be announced at the MTM Awards 2020 Gala Finale on Saturday 31st July at the Bristol Marriott Hotel City Centre.



TEAEnvironment KENYA



MTM Batook Pandya Lifetime Achievement Award Winners 2012-2019

After 10 years 170 award winners, 78 Special Recognition honours, 4750 welcomes, 6350 nominees, and over 178,000 votes cast since the inaugural awards we've seen a remarkable increase in participation, an immense interest from diverse communities vying for this prestigious award since 2012.

To celebrate our tenth anniversary, MTM Awards have launched two projects, Period Poverty Action Projects by MTM headed by our founder Big Q: Period Poverty Action Projects aims to educate, create awareness, support and provide sanitary pads to communities living in abject poverty. MTM Awards have teamed up with HURIS Foundation FAZA, Kenya for this project. The first stop will be Lamu Island Kenya followed by the Tana Delta Kenya.

The second is Angel Trust headed by the co-founder Junior Sheikh, to assist children from deprived communities through education. We are happy that we have been able to assist Angel Wanjiru of Kenya to continue her education in a specialist school.

#MTM2021 the Green Carpet will replace the traditional Red Carpet at the MTM Awards 10th Anniversary, #10&Beyond.

The concept of 'The Green Carpet' is to raise awareness of the climate emergency and to encourage sustainability within our Asian, Black, and Ethnic communities, who are often overlooked when the main stream are trying to address these issues.

The awards reflect the commitment in business and community, as they work to embrace rapid change while preserving the heritage and authenticity of small businesses and community projects. As we step into our 10th year we look to making the MTM Awards one of the country's unique diverse awards, bringing glamour and glitz to sustainability issues within businesses, and at the glittering gala award evening.

MTM Awards now are one of the biggest award ceremonies in the UK celebrating the excellence & achievements of the Asian, Black & Ethnic Minorities. The Glittering Gala Awards Evening ceremony offers a unique opportunity to network, exchange ideas, and celebrate with some of the finest in our region, nationally, and cross international waters.



2014-Rasik Patel



2015-Abdul Wahab MBE



2016-Paul Stephenson OBE



2017-Rosa Hui MBE, DL



2018-Peaches Golding OBE,
Lord Lieutenant



2019-Amjid Ali

The MTM Awards are about game-changers that Make A Difference!

2012-Batook Pandya MBE

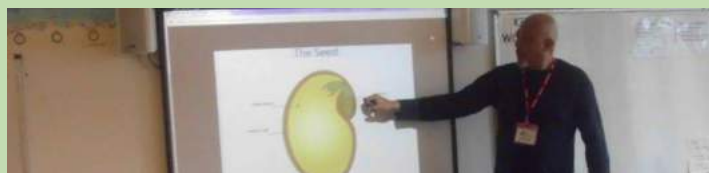




Desmond Brown

MTM Paul Stephenson
Unsung Hero Award **Finalist 2020**

I am at heart an activist and defender of the voiceless young people and families across communities in Bristol. I was the first Chair of C.O.R.E and one of the architects of Bristol's new violence reduction unit, as well as setting up and running The Community Mentors programme, which works with those who are perpetrators or victims of serious youth violence, child criminal exploitation and child sexual exploitation across Bristol, through my charity Growing Futures UK C.I.C, and was appointed Independent Chair of A&S Lammy review group in May 19 to tackle areas of disproportionality in Avon & Somerset criminal justice system as well as sitting on the Avon & Somerset OPCC scrutiny of police powers panel and CPS scrutiny of Hate crime and violence against women and girls.



What difference have you brought to the communities you serve?

Growing Futures UK was set up to work with disadvantaged young people and started with our community gardens, teaching young people to grow veg, cook, use tools and enjoy the great outdoors. Directly after the Grenfell tragedy I coordinated Bristol's response, sending 4 trucks of goods to the victims and bringing 2 coach loads of young people from Grenfell's footprint for a day out in Weston Super mare. I have over the years championed BME rights across all areas of life within the south west and nationally, as one of the Architects of the Violence Reduction Unit in Bristol, most of my weekends are spent with victims and families of effected by serious youth violence in A&E. In these moments of crisis, I am able to intervene in what for many is a circle of violence offering support and a way out, as well as diverting younger siblings away from exploitation and crime. I have also been privileged to have run workshops for all officers within A&S constabulary and student offices on the Impact of stop on search on Black Communities as well as running workshops for young people on Stop & Search.

What is your driving force?

Firstly, My Wife and family are my driving force, then seeing the difference in outcomes we can influence for OUR children and Families when relevant sustained support is offered, and our young people are probably resourced.



What do you consider to be your key strengths?

I believe my strengths are consistency, doggedness and adaptively

What are your objectives over the next one to three years?

To Complete the A&S Clammy report which is due to be published May 21. Build Growing Futures UK C.I.C ability to influence and offer opportunities to Bristol's children, especially those at risk of child criminal exploitation, exclusion and those from disadvantaged back grounds. Oh and have a holiday.

How will receiving this award benefit you?

A part from the personal pride of receiving this prestigious award, the benefit will be that the award will help to highlight the great work of Growing Futures UK and help to push forward the agenda of equality and add to the international recognition of Bristol as a city of hope.

MTM AWARD CATEGORIES 2021

Nominations now open
Closing Sunday 29th August

FOOD BUSINESS CATEGORY

WORLD FOODS AWARD
RESTAURANT OF EXCELLENCE AWARD
GOOD FOOD TAKEAWAY AWARD

GENERAL BUSINESS CATEGORY

ENTERPRISE BUSINESS AWARD
ENTREPRENEUR OF THE YEAR AWARD
BUSINESS OF THE YEAR AWARD

CREATIVE AWARDS CATEGORY

ARTS & CULTURE AWARD
MUSIC & ENTERTAINMENT AWARD
MEDIA DIGITAL CREATIVE AWARD

LIFESTYLE & WELL-BEING CATEGORY

HAIR & BEAUTY AWARD
FASHIONISTA & LIFESTYLE AWARD
HEALTH & WELL-BEING AWARD

COMMUNITY AWARDS CATEGORY

ROSA HUI MBE EMPOWERING WOMEN
AWARD
MUKHTIYAR SINGH COMMUNITY CHAMPION
AWARD
PEACHES GOLDING OBE COMMUNITY
GROUP AWARD
PAUL STEPHENSON OBE UNSUNG HERO
AWARD

SPECIAL AWARDS CATEGORY

SPORTING EXCELLENCE AWARD
YOUNG ACHIEVERS AWARD
PERSON OF THE YEAR AWARD

OPEN AWARDS NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL CATEGORY

NATIONAL AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE &
ACHIEVEMENT
NATIONAL ROLE MODEL AWARD
ENVIRONMENTAL EXCELLENCE AWARD
INTERNATIONAL AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE
& ACHIEVEMENT



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