



Supporting Scotland's
Vibrant voluntary sector

PRESS RELEASE

Embargoed until 00:01 on 10 May 2023

Maryhill Integration Network and JustRight Scotland shortlisted for national charity award

Maryhill Integration Network – in partnership with JustRight Scotland, set to star at this year's Scottish Charity Awards.

Run annually by the Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations (SCVO), the Scottish Charity Awards celebrate the best of Scotland's voluntary sector.

This year's shortlist includes 32 individuals and organisations from charities and voluntary groups across the country following a record-breaking number of nominations. While a judging panel will determine the winners under nine distinct categories, members of the public can have their say by voting for their favourite overall entry in the People's Choice Award – by visiting scvo.scot/vote - before 5pm on Wednesday 24 May 2023.

Maryhill Integration Network – in partnership with JustRight Scotland, has been recognised as a finalist in the Community Action category and are encouraging those in Scotland to vote for them.

Mariam Tuma, Participation Officer at JustRight Scotland, said: "This is an important recognition of the work Ahmed – together with Maryhill Integration Network and JustRight Scotland, has achieved. #OurGradesNotVisas advocacy campaign, all the events and activities we have organised across Scotland, have been a tool to raise awareness about the right to access education for migrant students in our country.

"We have highlighted how existing barriers young students face have an impact in our communities and we addressed the issue by proposing a change which will benefit our entire society. The participation of Ahmed and other students like Ola campaigning for a better future for them and their peers signals that together - step by step, brick by brick - we all can build a more inclusive society".

Pinar Aksu, Human Rights and Advocacy Coordinator at Maryhill Integration Network, said: "We are delighted to be a finalist within the Community Action category for 'Our Grades, Not Visas' campaign. This award is dedicated to everyone who has been raising their voices to have equal access to education. Especially to Ahmed for continuously sharing his experience, to everyone at Maryhill Integration Network and to JustRight Scotland for their fantastic legal action.

"We hope people who are seeking asylum and young migrant students like Ahmed, Ola and many others in Scotland will have the right to access higher education. We will continue

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raising awareness about the importance of welcoming people in our communities by highlighting the need for having the right to education in our society.'

The 2023 Scottish Charity Awards winners will be announced at a celebratory awards ceremony in Edinburgh on 23 June 2023 - hosted by TV presenter Sally Magnusson.

Anna Fowlie, Chief Executive of SCVO, said: "This year's Scottish Charity Awards are a fabulous opportunity to celebrate the exceptional individuals and groups within our vibrant sector.

"This year's record-breaking number of nominations underlines the strength of Scotland's voluntary sector, and the crucial work that we see from charities and voluntary organisations across the country. The hard work and dedication of people and organisations like these 32 finalists are making Scotland a better place to live and work.

"There is still a chance to have your own voice heard by voting in the People's Choice Award. Don't be late – participate!"

To view the full list of finalists, visit the [SCVO website](#).

ENDS

Notes

About Maryhill Integration Network

Maryhill Integration Network (MIN) is a community development organisation in Glasgow which aims to nurture connections between people from different backgrounds in the local community. MIN does this through participatory arts projects, as well as activities focused on wellbeing, advocacy and campaigning: [Maryhill Integration Network](#)

About JustRight Scotland

JustRight Scotland works to defend and extend people's rights. We work in partnership with like-minded organisations who share our vision of a fairer and more equal Scotland, by helping people use equalities and human rights law as an effective tool for social change: <https://www.justrightscotland.org.uk>



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