



Press Release

26 April 2019

Leeds Arts University wins award for Best University Facilities

Leeds Arts University was announced as the winner of the Whatuni Student Choice Award for Best Facilities last night, taking the prize for the third time in six years. The University also ranked second for Student Support, sixth for overall University of the Year and in the top ten for its Accommodation.

The results, taken from over 41,000 student reviews across 160 institutions, were announced at a gala dinner held at The Brewery in East London last night, hosted and presented by comedian Omid Djalili.

Professor Simone Wonnacott, Vice-Chancellor, Leeds Arts University said:

"To win the Whatuni Best Facilities award for the third time in six years is an incredible achievement for Leeds Arts University, which comes at a significant time following the completion of the state-of-the-art expansion to our building and facilities. Most importantly the award acknowledges the support and dedication of our staff, who give the students an unforgettable experience allowing them to maximise their creative potential."

Students studying at Leeds Arts University have access to state-of-the-art facilities, including a newly opened 230-seat performance auditorium, industry standard music, film and photography studios and a large specialist arts library. Workshops and studios are run by highly-skilled staff, who contribute significantly to the students' learning experience.

The Whatuni Student Choice Awards, now in their sixth year, offer an unbiased, student-led alternative to traditional university ranking systems and are all voted for by current students. The Whatuni Student Choice Awards are run by whatuni.com.

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Editor's Notes

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Image: Staff from Leeds Arts University collect their award with host Omid Djalili and Diana Beech, Policy Advisor to the Minister of State for Universities.

Leeds Arts University

Founded in 1846 as the Leeds Government School of Art and Design, Leeds Arts University (formerly Leeds College of Art) has contributed significantly to the development of art education in Britain and across the world. In 2016 the University was granted Taught Degree Awarding Powers, and in 2017 was awarded full university status.

Leeds Arts University has been previously recognised for its industry-standard facilities at the Whatuni awards (winners in 2014, 2016 and 2019), and is the number one University for Design & Crafts in the Guardian University League Table 2019.

The University has recently opened £22m state-of-the-art building expansion at the Blenheim Walk site which includes a 230-seat performance auditorium and industry standard film and photography studios. The building will house the growing portfolio of opportunities for postgraduate study at Leeds Arts University, with a larger specialist arts research and reference library and a new postgraduate study suite.

www.leeds-art.ac.uk

About Whatuni

Whatuni (www.whatuni.com) is the biggest and most comprehensive course comparison university site in the UK and is part of IDP Connect. Whatuni uses up-to-date course data from UCAS, KIS and The Complete University Guide table rankings, as well as its own data and insights collected throughout the year, including the 162,000+ student reviews that are currently hosted on the site.

The main categories for the Whatuni Student Choice Awards are compiled entirely from student reviews, which are a combination of electronic and physically collected reviews by the Whatuni team, who this year travelled 43,000 miles. The results are both quantitative (scores) and qualitative (free text) and the total reviews for 2018/19 collected were in excess of 41,000.

To feature in the main table categories, institutions have to have taught degree-awarding powers. The threshold for featuring in the main categories is 150-200 reviews, depending on institution size. The FE College and Independent HE categories have lower thresholds.