

WOMEN EMPOWERED



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NEW AWARDS TO
CELEBRATE SOUTH ASIAN
WOMEN'S ACHIEVEMENTS

Nominations sought for 'Women Empowered' in Lothian

A new awards event, '**Women Empowered**' is being launched to celebrate the achievements of outstanding South Asian women living in Edinburgh and Lothian area.

The event will recognise South Asian women of all ages who have demonstrated excellence, commitment and passion in diverse activities from business to the arts and community and voluntary work. It is being organised by Nari Kallyan Shangho an innovative health and welfare project for women and children in the Lothian area.

The hunt for potential winners has commenced and nominations are being sought. This is a unique opportunity to celebrate the incredible achievements of the many extraordinary women who represent strong role models for South Asians in Scottish society. Nominations are encouraged from women from all walks of life who are making a positive difference every day to their own and other people's lives.

Naina Minhas, manager of Nari Kallyan Shangho said: "*in the 19th Century the German feminist Louise Otto wrote: 'The history of all times and of today especially, teaches that...women will be forgotten if they forget to think about themselves.'* Sadly, that remains true in the 21st Century - too often the success of women in the community or in business, still goes unrecognised. Nari Kallyan Shangho is determined not to forget and that's what these awards are all about."

The organisation is calling on women to nominate themselves or a friend or colleague and to submit entries of no more than 500 words (or one side of an A4 sheet) describing their achievements. If you feel that you have a story to tell about yourself, a friend or a colleague then make your nomination now. We want to celebrate women's achievement and to tell the inspiring stories of remarkable women who have empowered themselves.

Nominations, which must be received by the deadline of May 11 2009, may be accompanied by supporting material such as official documents, photographs, or letters of thanks or commendation from community leaders.

The inaugural '**Women Empowered**' Awards will culminate in a ceremony on June 29 at the Assembly Rooms in Edinburgh and bookings for the evening are currently being taken.

All entries are strictly confidential until the Awards Evening.

Contact Nari Kallyan Shangho or go on the website for further information

Supported by:



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The award ceremony is also supported by communities and various sponsoring agencies.

Nari kallyan Shangho
Darroch Annexe
7 Gillespie Street
Edinburgh

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The presentation of awards will be made in the following nine categories:

1. **Personal Achievement Award:** This award recognises women who have achieved success in the face of adverse circumstances and demonstrated determination and courage to overcome difficulties in their lives. This could be through remarkable efforts to further their educational qualifications and career or other steps to improve their life circumstances.
2. **Humanitarian Award:** This category celebrates the extraordinary generosity and commitment of women who have given their time to carry out work which makes a positive difference in the lives of people in their communities. This could be through a voluntary role or it could celebrate the success of a woman who is in paid work, but has pushed the boundaries of her role to devote her own time to making a project a great success.
3. **Mentor Award:** This award recognises women who have made an outstanding contribution in creating positive changes in the lives of other women. This could be by supporting women in further education/training and helping them to gain information for empowerment purposes.
4. **Innovation and Dynamism Award:** This award is for active and dynamic women who have made outstanding contributions through innovative and dynamic ideas which make a lasting difference to their local community at a grassroots level.
5. **Entrepreneur of the Year Award:** The award is for women who have set up a business and have made it a success through a combination of talent, determination, commitment and focus.
6. **Arts and Culture Award:** This award recognises excellence in arts and creative writing. It will go to a woman who has demonstrated outstanding artistic qualities and originality in their work and also promoted diverse cultural activities in Scottish society.
7. **Young Achiever:** An award for a young woman up to the age of 30 who has done incredible work in the community, making them a positive role model for other young people in their local community.
8. **Lifetime Achievement Award:** This award is to celebrate the achievements of women who have made extraordinary achievements and contributions to their local communities over a period of time. The award is based on significant contribution to their local community over a minimum of 25 years.
9. **Special Award of the year:** This award will go to a woman who has made a special place for themselves in the community by demonstrating unwavering commitment and dedication in serving grassroots community needs in the Lothian area either in a paid or unpaid capacity.

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NEW AWARDS TO CELEBRATE SOUTH ASIAN WOMEN'S ACHIEVEMENTS

Making your Nominations

The first ever "*Women Empowered*" award is an opportunity to promote and celebrate women's remarkable and lasting contributions to their local communities in the Lothian area. The efforts and dedication of many worthy women too often go unnoticed. We would like you to make this opportunity a success by nominating yourself or any South Asian woman who you feel has made a significant contributions through their efforts, hard work and commitment to Scottish society and who you believe deserves to be congratulated on their achievement.

- A woman is eligible to enter for the award if she is of South Asian origin. South Asian is defined here as – a woman of Indian, Pakistani or Bangladeshi ethnic origin.
- Any woman who is in paid work at, or serves on the management committee of Nari Kallyan Shangho, is not eligible for nomination.
- Is resident in the Lothian area and has been so for a minimum of twelve months.
- All nominees should be over the age of 14 years on 31st of December 2008.
- Nominees can be entered into more than one category.
- Any woman who is in paid work at, or serves on the management committee of Nari Kallyan Shangho, is not eligible for nomination.

Each entry will be judged by a panel of independent judges. Candidates in each category will be short listed and invited to attend the awards evening. There will be one winner in each category and the runner-ups will be presented with certificates of commendations for their work.

Please submit the following to us at Nari Kallyan Shangho:

- A completed nomination form
- One A4 sheet or 500 words explaining why the woman nominated should be considered for an award.
- Supporting evidence i.e. letter supporting the information submitted, photographs, references etc.

Closing date for all entries are, Monday, 11th of May 2009.

All nominations will be strictly confidential until the awards evening. Winners will be announced on Monday, the 29th of June 2009 at the awards evening at the Assembly Rooms. The judges' decision will be treated as final.

For more information please contact:

Nari Kallyan Shanghoco.uk
Darroch Annexe
7 Gillespie Street, Edinburgh, EH 3 9NH
Phone/Fax: 0131 221 1915
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'WOMEN EMPOWERED'

*Awards ceremony to
celebrate*

South Asian women's achievements

Monday, 29th of June 2009

7.00pm

@

The Assembly Rooms

54 George Street

Edinburgh

EH2 2LR

TICKETS:

Statutory/large organisations	£25.00 per head (£250.00 for a table of ten)
Voluntary/ Small community Organisations:	£15.00 per head (£150.00 for a table of ten)
Individuals:	£10.00 per head (£100.00 a table of ten)

Contact NKS for booking a table and tickets at the following address

Funded by:



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