

About Nominet

We operate at the heart of e-commerce in the UK, running one of the world's largest Internet registries and managing over six million domain names.

We maintain the register of .uk domain names and we run the technology which locates a computer on the Internet that hosts the web site or email system you're looking for when you type in a web address or send an email to an address that ends in .uk.

We aim to be the leading provider of registry services.

www.nominet.org.uk

nominet[®]

Best Practice Challenge 2008 Winners



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About the Best Practice Challenge 2008

Nominet is proud to introduce the winners of our annual Best Practice Challenge. Building on the success of last year's competition, we are recognising those organisations, groups or individuals who have embraced the challenge of making the Internet a secure, open, accessible or diverse experience for all.

In assessing the entries the judges looked for innovative initiatives that successfully addressed the key themes of the Internet Governance Forum (IGF):

Security

Last year, British stakeholders identified security as the most important IGF theme for them. The UK is at the forefront of developing solutions to security threats and in building trust and confidence in the online environment.

Access

Sometimes perceived as a developing country issue, the digital divide is also seen in the UK, affecting rural communities, the disabled, the elderly and the socially disadvantaged.

Diversity

Expressions of cultural diversity and identity, including multilingual and local language content are necessary to bring all people into the Internet.

Openness

The Internet has greatly contributed to the free flow of information and access to information and knowledge, and in bringing the people closer to those who would govern them.

The categories

This year we have six categories:

1. Best development project award

2. Best security initiative award

3. Raising industry standards award

4. Personal safety online award

5. Internet for all award

6. Open Internet award



Thank you from Nominet

On behalf of Nominet, I would like to express our thanks to everyone who entered our Best Practice Challenge this year.

We had even more entries than last year, and of such a high standard, that the panel of judges clearly had a very difficult task to choose the winners. I would like to thank them for their hard work and dedication throughout the selection process.

I would also like to thank all the people at Nominet who have worked so diligently to make this Best Practice Challenge so successful.

I hope you enjoy reading more about the inspiring projects identified by the Challenge. Once again they underline the great strides being made in Internet Governance in the UK, something Nominet is very proud to be a part of.

Bob Gilbert,
Chairman, Nominet



Introduction from the judges

Today I am very pleased to be celebrating the achievements of the winners and commendable runners-up in the Nominet Best Practice Challenge 2008.

When we launched the Challenge in March we set out to recognise and reward the organisations, groups or individuals who have worked to ensure that the Internet offers a secure, open, accessible and diverse experience for all.

Nominet went looking for examples of British creativity and innovation in use of the Internet and discovered a wide spectrum of people and organisations who have tackled a diverse set of challenges for the benefit of Internet users in the UK and beyond.

We were delighted to receive an impressive array of high quality entries, across all six categories. Narrowing these down to a shortlist, and subsequently selecting the winners was no mean feat. In some categories the quality was so high that the judges selected entries to be highly commended in addition to the winners and runners-up.

I am proud to be celebrating so many examples of best practice within the UK Internet industry and look forward to highlighting their good work at the Internet Governance Forum in Hyderabad in December. The winning entries are sure to spark lively discussions and add substance to the international policy debate.

Rt Hon Alun Michael MP,
Chair of Judges,
Nominet Best Practice Challenge 2008

Category 1: Best development project

Winner

ACE IT (Age Concern Edinburgh Information Technology)

www.aceit.org.uk

Age Concern Edinburgh Information Technology (ACE IT) provides community based computer training for the 50+ age group within the Edinburgh area and beyond.

Their core role is to encourage new and non-confident users to learn basic computer skills, Internet access and email to help them expand their personal horizons with regards to education, leisure and social integration. ACE IT has also instigated ground-breaking digital and web based community initiatives seeking to cross barriers such as age and social isolation.

The multi-award winning success of initiatives such as the 'Edinburgh Silver Surfers' and the 'Moose in the Hoose' project has seen ACE IT become a focus and inspiration for community based web development projects at both local and national level. The 'Moose in the Hoose' project is introducing the benefits of computers to those living in residential care homes across Edinburgh.

The judges felt that this was a very positive project that focuses on a real need and succeeds in managing complex partnerships to achieve its goals.



Organisations who entered in this category are involved in:

- Work to bring the benefits of the Internet to developing countries
- Enabling Internet access in rural or disadvantaged regions
- Reducing the cost of access, providing hardware or connectivity
- Bringing socially excluded groups online
- Introducing new users to the benefits of the Internet
- Promoting interoperability or adaptability to give access for all

Runner-up

Cambridgeshire's Community Access Points (CAP) Initiative

www.scamb.gov.uk/CommunityandLiving/VillageServicesAndAmenities/caps.htm

Community Access Points (CAPs) are public access computers with printers, scanners and card readers that provide broadband access free of charge throughout the Cambridgeshire Community Network (CCN). CAPs are located in buildings accessible to the public such as village halls, information centres, community centres, sheltered housing, public houses, post offices and book cafés (volunteer libraries).

To support the CAPs a volunteer project was set up by Cambridgeshire Library Learning Service (LLS) to recruit volunteers willing to provide informal ICT training at their local community CAP. This flexible and popular style of tuition has had many benefits with volunteers and their sessions acting as friendly 'first steps' back into education by re-introducing them to learning in a more social and non-threatening environment. Currently the work being carried out at CAPs is having a direct benefit to a wide range of communities including travellers, the elderly, youth, migrant workers, the unemployed, retired individuals and rurally isolated communities.

The judges were impressed by the way this project uses volunteers effectively and addresses a diverse set of beneficiaries.



Highly commended:

Citizens Online - EverybodyOnline

www.everybodyonline.org.uk

EverybodyOnline is an initiative from UK charity Citizens Online, supported by BT. EverybodyOnline projects are based across the UK and support people in disadvantaged areas to use computers and the Internet to enable them to take advantage of the opportunities that digital technologies have to offer. Each project works with local partners, such as statutory agencies and voluntary sector networks, to provide a range of services that enable individuals and communities to use digital technologies that have the potential to enhance their quality of life. The judges were impressed by the impact this project has had in terms of the increase in Internet take up by previously excluded groups.

Also shortlisted:

actnow

www.actnowcornwall.org.uk

actnow is a not-for-profit partnership which has spearheaded access to broadband in Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly, areas that are now at the forefront of take up of broadband. actnow was the first public/private broadband partnership to be set up in the UK. The project has achieved its targets more than twice over and helped over 10,000 businesses to make the most of broadband technology. The judges commended the sheer scale and ambition of this project.

Childnet International

www.childnet-int.org

Since September 2007 Childnet has partnered with the Suzanne Mubarak Women's International Peace Movement (SMWIPM) as part of the Movement's Cyber Peace Initiative (CPI) to help promote safe online access to children and young people in Egypt and encouraging new users to come online.

This partnership has centred on the formation of a youth Internet safety focus group, Net-Aman. Childnet helped to implement an interactive and youth-centric programme of activity with Net-Aman to ensure that the project remained socially and culturally relevant to children and young people. The judges felt that this was an innovative project and were impressed by the way it inspired young people to become agents of change in their society.

CI-Net Ltd and Solihull Community Housing

www.ci-net.com

CI-Net (formerly Community Internet plc) worked closely with Solihull Community Housing (SCH) on an innovative, practical and cost effective initiative to bring free or subsidised Internet use to a disadvantaged community living in council owned properties in North Solihull. The judges felt that this approach could be applied successfully in developing countries to help solve access problems.

Category 2: Best security initiative

Winner

Barclays - PINsentry authentication device

www.barclays.co.uk/pinsentry

As part of their mission to provide industry-leading fraud/security protection within online banking, Barclays implemented two factor authentication by issuing over one million standalone card readers (called PINsentry) to their customers. Based on chip and pin technology, PINsentry is used together with a customer's debit card and its pin to authenticate their identity when they log on to online banking and when they make some third party payments.

The roll-out of PINsentry was completed by the end of 2007 and the ability to make a new third party payment was switched off for customers without a PINsentry device. Since implementation no cases of online fraud have been experienced and targeted Trojans and Phishing attacks against Barclays are decreasing. PINsentry is now also being rolled out in Turkey and South Africa.

The judges commended Barclays for addressing a real problem in gaining and building trust in online financial services with a quite remarkable success rate.



Organisations who entered in this category are involved in:

- Online authentication and identification
- Reducing security threats, such as spam and viruses
- Enhancing the security of networks
- Creating innovative or collaborative responses to security threats
- Protecting the integrity of users' privacy
- Protecting Internet users against identity theft

Runner-up

Business Crime Reduction Centre

www.bcrc-uk.org

The Business Crime Reduction Centre (BCRC) is an initiative that helps small to medium enterprises in South Yorkshire tackle problems caused by crime focusing on ICT crime prevention measures. The BCRC offers a free service and their team of expert advisers visit business premises to assess e-commerce and physical security needs. Advisers offer solutions on how to prevent crime and access to their Crime Prevention Fund that supports the purchase of e-crime security systems like firewalls and computer locking devices.

Over the past year BCRC has worked with 375 SMEs to assess and assist them with their security measures; supported 289 individuals in developing their skills and knowledge around ICT security and assisted in bringing in over £30 million in increased business sales.

The judges praised this local initiative and felt that this approach could be a model for other police forces across the country.



Also shortlisted:

Open Web Application Security Project

www.owasp.org

The Open Web Application Security Project (OWASP) is a global open community dedicated to enabling organisations to develop, purchase, and maintain applications that can be trusted. All of the OWASP tools, documents, forums, and chapters are free and open to anyone interested in improving application security. Operating since 2001, OWASP is a network of more than 100 local chapters worldwide. More than 4,000 people participate in the many projects active at any given time. The judges felt that this project was democratic, international and helps increase awareness of security issues.

BeCrypt (for BeCrypt Trusted Client)

www.becrypt.com

BeCrypt has developed a solution that allows the level of security achievable on home computers or other 'unmanaged' machines to be comparable to an organisation's internal security. This is achieved by allowing the organisation to use Trusted Client, a bootable USB device that contains a light-weight operating system to boot an unmanaged machine (e.g. a home PC). Trusted Client tackles the challenge of enabling businesses to support the mobility of employees using 'unmanaged' machines whilst ensuring that its networks and private information remain safe.

The judges felt that this project has a lot of potential and look forward to seeing how it develops.

Category 3: Raising industry standards

Winner

Internet Watch Foundation

www.iwf.org.uk

The Internet Watch Foundation's 'notice and take-down' service for the UK online sector has succeeded in virtually eradicating child sexual abuse content from being hosted in the UK. However, sexually abusive images of children are still available around the world so the commitment by IWF members to voluntarily prevent the accidental download of such content by working to deploy the IWF list of child sexual abuse URLs on their services has been welcomed in many quarters.

Since 2004, their members have increasingly chosen to make use of this service, namely, Internet service providers, mobile operators, search providers and filtering companies. As a result, the percentage of residential broadband consumers in the UK protected by this initiative has risen from 0% to 95%. This has been achieved through entirely voluntary, responsible action by the UK Internet industry.

The judges praised the IWF for continuing to raise standards through collective action and dedicated partnership and for demonstrating what great results can be achieved through self regulation.



Organisations who entered in this category are involved in:

- Promoting or complying with high standards of ethics in business, for example through voluntary codes of practice
- Promoting Corporate Social Responsibility within the Internet industry
- Delivering an exceptional standard of customer service to their online customers

Runner-up

SafeBuy

www.safebuy.org.uk

The SafeBuy assurance scheme for web retailing was started in 2004 to address the issues surrounding best practice in selling on the Internet.

SafeBuy validates applicants and issues the SafeBuy logo for approved web retailers to use on their web site with a link to the SafeBuy web site to verify that the retailer is a subscriber to the SafeBuy Code of Practice. In the event of a consumer complaint against a SafeBuy Code subscriber the consumer has the right to seek mediation from SafeBuy at no charge to resolve the matter.

The judges felt that this scheme would be a very good example to showcase at the Internet Governance Forum because of its resonance with the IGF themes.



Also shortlisted:

NSDesign Ltd

www.nsdesign.co.uk

NSDesign Ltd are a small company who help their clients to simply do things better on the web, ranging from initial domain name registration and web hosting, to custom web development, ecommerce systems, Internet marketing and training.

The company have developed their own voluntary quality compliance that ensures every web site developed by NSDesign is subject to strict quality guidelines that must be satisfied before any handover to the client. This ensures the finished site meets all the required accessibility, usability, design, and technical best practice that they strive for.

The judges commended this entry as a great example of a UK enterprise that has taken the drive for continuous improvement to heart.

Category 4: Personal safety online

Winner

Get Safe Online

www.getsafeonline.org

The Get Safe Online initiative, now in its third year, is the UK's national Internet security awareness campaign. A joint initiative between the Government, the Serious Organised Crime Agency (SOCA) and private sector sponsors, the campaign continues to educate, inform and raise awareness of Internet security issues.

The aim is to help consumers and micro-businesses to be aware of how to protect themselves against Internet security risks, primarily through advice provided through its web site, www.getsafeonline.org. Today, approximately 60,000 people visit the GSO web site each month, with the initiative directly engaging Internet users through a range of awareness-raising activities, as well as establishing itself as a recognised and independent commentator on Internet safety advice.

The judges praised this entry as an excellent example of collaboration and multi-stakeholder involvement in a national awareness campaign and felt it was worthy of recognition so that other countries could copy this model.



Organisations who entered in this category are involved in:

- Educating vulnerable Internet users about online personal safety
- Protecting vulnerable communities, such as children, from online exploitation
- Educating users about keeping their networks/computers safe, and avoiding online fraud or nuisance

Runner-up

Symantec

www.norton.com/ukfamilyresource

Symantec set up the Norton Family Online Safety Initiative as a dedicated educational, advice and support programme to proactively reach parents and children worldwide with valuable information, advice and resources on ways to stay safe online.

A dedicated Norton Family Online Safety web site has been set up in 17 countries around the world providing information, practical advice and materials for parents and children on ways to stay safe online and to support parents in ensuring their children are good cybercitizens.

Topics covered include cyber bullying, cyber stalking, identity fraud and social networking as well as information for parents to provide guidance to their children when using the Internet. The site also includes an 'Ask Caroline' section where the public can submit questions relating to Internet safety directly to Caroline Cockerill, Symantec's Norton Internet Safety Advocate for the UK.

The judges commended the way that this initiative provides quality security and safety advice to customers in a personal and friendly style.

Norton
from symantec

Also shortlisted:

Information Security Awareness Forum

www.theisaf.org

Formed in February 2008, the Information Security Awareness Forum is an umbrella organisation incorporating a number of bodies including the British Computer Society, the European Information Society group (EURIM) and the Institute of Engineering and Technology. Its objective is to develop a coordinated cross-industry/cross-institution approach for delivering security messages to large corporations, small and medium enterprises and individuals. It aims to improve security awareness for the benefit of individuals and businesses alike.

The forum has established itself as the primary co-ordinating body for IS awareness in the UK and has produced a Guide for Directors covering different aspects of information security. The judges were impressed by this model and the way that a variety of security specialists were sharing information together.

The E-Victims Organisation

www.e-victims.org

The E-Victims Organisation created an Internet advice web site that provides practical advice, in plain language, for victims of e-crime and other online incidents. It is the first web site dedicated to helping all e-victims. Their objective is that any worried Internet user will find free advice that is wide-ranging, accessible, timely and useful. Where appropriate the web site refers Internet users to the right reporting or support organisation, depending on the incident.

The E-Victims Organisation provides Internet users the opportunity to register what has happened and how they feel about it. This has two positive benefits: the victim feels more in control and it also means that data can be gathered on the incidents, volumes and trends that Internet users are experiencing.

The judges commented that this entry was a good example of how to create an information portal on a key topic of interest for the general public.

Category 5: Internet for all

Winner

Common Knowledge (CKUK)

www.ckglasgow.org.uk

Common Knowledge (CKUK) is a voluntary organisation based in Glasgow that tackles the inequality of information provision and the digital divide faced by people with significant and cognitive learning difficulties. It delivers essential information and learning to a community of people who lack basic knowledge about life and work.

CKUK have created a series of web sites to meet the access needs of their users:

- CKFriends is a safe accessible social networking site used by almost 1,000 members to connect with each other throughout Scotland and increasingly in other parts of the UK.
- CKLearn is a web site where people can learn about the issues that matter to them as well as learning computer skills while exploring the site. The learning available is about important issues and perceived 'taboo' topics such as bullying, relationships, sex, death and politics, presented in an engaging multi-media format.
- CKCyber is a showcase for projects created by groups of adult learners around Glasgow that eventually evolved into CKClick, the first online magazine written by people with learning difficulties for people with learning difficulties.

The judges praised this project for focusing on one of the most difficult groups to reach, taking on a massive challenge and achieving significant success.



Organisations who entered in this category are involved in:

- Providing tools that assist in the translation of web content into other languages
- Promoting or serving diversity of cultures within the UK or internationally
- Pioneering methods to include those challenged by lack of literacy in English or by disability, for example audiovisual communication
- Delivering multilingual content to serve relevant communities
- Assisting expressions of culture and identity through multilingual or local language content
- Developing or marketing software or content in languages other than English

Runner-up

British Computer Association of the Blind (BCAB)

www.bcab.org.uk/eyet4all-project.html

The British Computer Association of the Blind (BCAB) is a charitable trust that supports visually impaired people who work with ICT, either within the ICT industry or at home.

The BCAB have developed a programme of free 'EyeT4All' days where visually impaired people can gain 'hands-on' experience of the benefits of computing near to where they live. Attendees enjoy the days and discover easy to use and affordable technology solutions, which can help them live happier and more fulfilled lives. The 'EyeT4All' days can be hosted by any local group such as a voluntary society for the blind, a library, care home, or a group of interested blind and partially sighted people.

The judges praised the way that this project allows visually impaired people to gain confidence to use the Internet and bridge the digital divide.



BCAB
BRITISH
COMPUTER
ASSOCIATION
OF THE BLIND

Highly commended:

AbilityNet

www.abilitynet.org.uk

AbilityNet is a UK charity addressing the digital divide for people with a disability. AbilityNet offers direct services to individuals, companies and the public sector to identify adaptations and assistive technology that facilitate access to technology. They also advise on the design and implementation of web sites, software and desktop to ensure that access is maximised.

Their activities include producing a self help guide to adjusting and customising a PC; developing an online self assessment portal that generates a report summarising how a user's needs can be met; creating specific content on social networking sites such as MySpace, Facebook and YouTube to network their presence; creating a web site for training on assistive technologies using an open source learning platform.

The judges commented that this project showed great ambition and clearly used technology to best effect.

Also shortlisted:

Describe Online

www.describe-online.com

Describe Online provides text way-finding instructions to, from and around public premises. Rather than producing graphic maps, Describe Online use plain text and HTML to describe their routes and the layout of public spaces. Although primarily intended for blind/vision impaired people, their services have also benefited many other people. The company has developed online text maps for the National Rail and London Underground networks and guides to a wide range of public buildings. The judges commended the idea behind this project and the benefits it offers users.

myguide

www.myguide.gov.uk

The myguide project brings together a unique partnership of government, industry and third sector expertise to tackle the key barriers of accessibility, usability, motivation, skills and confidence. Exhaustively researched and tested, myguide combines access technologies with customer-focused design that directly challenges traditional Internet complexity. The result is a popular step-by-step tool for people to use the Internet on their own terms and access online services and opportunities.

The judges felt that this project was well thought out and well executed.

Category 6: Open Internet

Winner

YouthNet – do-it.org.uk

www.do-it.org.uk

do-it.org.uk is owned and run by online charity YouthNet. It is the UK's volunteering resource, featuring a postcode searchable database that includes over 850,000 volunteering opportunities from major charities, such as the National Trust and Oxfam, and local voluntary and public sector organisations.

Through technical innovation (including content syndication, email alerts, postcode search, e-newsletters) and working in partnership with government, companies, and not-for-profit organisations, do-it.org.uk has become the place on the Internet to find out about and get involved in volunteering. Each month do-it.org.uk attracts over 70,000 visitors, almost 9,000 of whom go on to register for one of the volunteering opportunities listed.

The judges praised the way that this project takes access to the Internet to another level and connects people who need help with people who want to help them.



Organisations who entered in this category are involved in:

- Innovative methods of enabling Internet users to benefit from increased access to online materials, knowledge or information
- Bringing citizens closer to parliamentarians or government
- Offering public services online
- Educational initiatives aimed at demystifying the Internet for users of all ages

Runner-up

mySociety – e-petitions

www.mysociety.org

mySociety is a charitable project, based in the UK that aims to build web sites to give people simple, tangible benefits in the civic and community aspects of their lives. They have built seven web sites designed to create public benefit at no cost to the end user.

In early 2006, mySociety was approached by 10 Downing Street about building an electronic petitions system, to enable people to petition the government to correct public grievances. The online petition programme is a first for a world leader. The petitions web site was launched in November 2006 and rapidly became a big success. To date, nearly 40,000 petitions have been created, with nearly 12,500 completed. In total nearly 5 million signatories have placed over 7.5 million signatures.

The judges commended this web site as being both transparent and easy to use.



Highly commended:

BLITZ IT Hub

Blackbird Leys IT Hub (BLITZ) is open six days per week and run entirely by a dedicated team of local volunteers. The Centre was set up in 2002 by a partnership of 18 community groups active on the estate and Oxfordshire County Council using money from the Government's UK Online programme and lottery funding.

BLITZ IT Hub offers a range of courses to help people gain the skills needed to create and manage web sites, maintain PCs, create electronic artwork and manage computer file systems. The courses are open to everyone and are provided free of charge to those in full time education or who are unemployed and seeking new skills. In the last year 300 learners have attended courses ranging from IT beginners to web design and computer maintenance, including a man aged 84 and a woman aged 93.

The judges praised the dedication and commitment of the project team and their 'hands-on' approach.

The Open University – OpenLearn

www.open.ac.uk/openlearn

The Open University launched the OpenLearn web site in October 2006 that gives free and open access to some of its course materials online along with a number of open source technologies to enable informal learning communities to form around the learning materials. The Open University has been the first university in the UK to provide access to its materials in this way and is leading the field in increasing access to knowledge for all.

The OpenLearn web site is designed to provide a quality standalone experience for the learner, but also one that can be taken apart and remixed to take on a new form. The Web 2.0 approach to an open and collaborative LearningSpace primarily for learners, is complemented by the LabSpace, an area for experimentation, where educational practitioners are encouraged to download, amend and adapt current and archived course materials. To date almost 2 million learners and educators have visited the web site, coming from over 160 countries around the world.

The judges commended this project's very impressive and substantial contribution to making online learning free, easy and accessible.

Also shortlisted:

University of Kent – Greenfoot

www.greenfoot.org

The University of Kent has developed the Greenfoot system, a highly original integrated programming environment, specifically designed for school age pupils, that makes it very easy to create two-dimensional graphical, animated applications, such as computer games and simulations. The aim of this project was to empower today's generation and to turn them into creators of the new Internet technologies, by bringing programming back into schools as an engaging, creative, stimulating and challenging activity.

In Greenfoot, learners can create computer games or graphical simulations, and then easily publish them on the Internet. This sharing of their work with their friends or family creates a very high level of motivation. The Greenfoot software is freely available online and has been adopted by at least 80 schools in several different countries.

The judges commended this project as a much-needed, imaginative and worthy initiative.

Bristol City Council

www.askbristol.com

Bristol City Council introduced an e-democracy programme to reinvigorate local participation in 2004. It has demonstrated some success but in 2007, a more strategic approach was taken which has significantly increased local participation levels, improved local understanding of key issues and has helped to raise councillors' profiles through webcasting and video opportunities.

The web site www.askbristol.com has become the e-democracy portal to all of Bristol's e-participation web sites. Ask Bristol is bringing the council closer to local residents and starting to show increased understanding and satisfaction that the council is listening. The council has received over 40,000 signatures on 100 e-petitions including almost 10,000 on one current issue.

The judges felt this entry was an imaginative and inclusive effort to engage more people from hard-to-reach groups in local politics.

Connecting Bristol

www.connectingbristol.org

Early in 2006 a movement of individuals across Bristol, from academia and the private, public and voluntary sector came together to develop a vision for bridging the divides that hold back some individuals and communities from achieving their full potential. This movement recognised in particular that digital literacy is the key to social inclusion.

When UK Central Government launched the Digital Challenge, a competition to identify a national showcase for digital inclusion, this group collaborated to develop a coherent, cross-sector proposal that was prepared and submitted as Connecting Bristol. Through the Digital Challenge process Connecting Bristol successfully galvanised interest, commitment and wide support for digital and social inclusion in Bristol and the surrounding region.

The judges commended this project as a really promising effort to rationalise and join up online services and training.

Although originally entered in the Internet for all category, the judges believed that the British Library merited special recognition for their exemplary use of Internet resources to share rare cultural artefacts with a worldwide audience.

Internet and culture award

The British Library – ‘Sacred’ web resources

www.bl.uk/onlinegallery/sacredtexts/index.html

The British Library created two complementary web resources to accompany its 2007 exhibition ‘Sacred’, focusing on the great texts of Christianity, Islam, and Judaism.

‘Sacred texts’ highlights the Library’s unsurpassed collection of material from all faiths.

‘Sacred contexts’ offers complementary videos, podcasts, and interactive features.

Taken together the sites form the Library’s most successful virtual exhibition ever, providing a lasting, and still growing, resource for people of all faiths and none to explore some of the world’s most important sacred texts, the cultures they have shaped, and the relationships between them.

‘Sacred’ has been the Library’s most popular online exhibition to date:

- 128,000 unique users visited the web resources during April – September 2007, the period the physical exhibition was on display.
- Over 85,000 unique users have visited the resources since then.
- Visitors to the web site have come from over 100 countries.

According to Google, 385 web sites and 70 blogs have linked to the ‘Sacred’ resources.

The judges were impressed by the way this imaginative and creative project had enabled cross-cultural access to knowledge and materials that would otherwise go unseen.



The judging panel



Rt Hon Alun Michael MP
Chair

Category 1: Best development project



Karen Banks
Association
for Progressive
Communication



Graham Thom
Computer Aid

Category 4: Personal safety online



Rachel
O'Connell
Bebo



Stephen
Carrick-Davies
Childnet
International

Category 2: Best security initiative



Louise Bennett
British Computer
Society



Richard Martin
APACS

Category 5: Internet for all



Steve Tyler
Royal National
Institute for
the Blind



Nick Thorne (CMG)
Former British
Ambassador to the
United Nations

Category 3: Raising industry standards



Tom Walker
Department for
Business



Jeremy Beale
Confederation of
British Industry

Category 6: Open Internet



Vicki Nash
Oxford Internet
Institute



Simon Boynton
Press Association