

Nomination for

Mr Kenneth Reid

By

Emmy Clarkson (daughter) and those listed at Annex A

In respect of services to the development of creative arts opportunities in higher and further education settings for Leeds and surrounding communities

Ken took up post at Thomas Danby College circa 1979 progressing through a variety of roles as worked to establish and develop the creative arts faculty there. The college joined forces with others in 2009 to form Leeds City College, where Ken currently holds the position of Head of Faculty, Creative Arts and Deputy Principle.

For over 35 years Ken has worked within the Leeds area, touching the lives of thousands of students and hundreds of staff within Further and Higher Education settings. Renowned for going the extra mile, he selflessly gives his time in navigating the system and making things happen positively for those that lean on him for support and guidance.

From what began in the 1980's as a handful of students studying 'drama', the programmes led by Ken have flourished and expanded. Today the Creative Arts faculty at Leeds City College provides full-time arts education to around 1,000 students every year, offering specialist courses from Entry Level 3 through to BA Honours Degrees, encompassing art, performance, photography, backstage arts and all aspects of creative media. The area was awarded Artsmark Gold status in 2012, a national recognition from the Arts Council and Ofsted that an outstanding arts environment within which students can really prosper is provided

He has worked tirelessly to extend the opportunities of further education to all, in particular striving to work through social / personal challenges to provide an individual student journey with tailored support. Delivering this requires a great deal of extra-curricular input and this pastoral input has yielded fantastic return in terms of academic results and personal development, whilst generating a tremendous amount of respect. It is fair to say he never stops giving and spends much of his free time attending student performances, liaising coaching and generally being 'online' for those who require his input. His offer is seemingly never ending and is extended to students and staff alike.

Key to his success is his ability to break down barriers, both perceived and actual, challenging the system in order to deliver an education accessible to all. Notably he created opportunities for those with a variety of learning disabilities to experience mainstream college life attending integrated classes alongside fulltime students, something which was unheard of at the time.

Throughout the years Ken has never stopped striving to offer the best for his staff and students, pushing for funding and facility parity to balance inequalities between the arts and more traditional educational areas; forging links with industry partners and ensuring the best.

From the outset he has endeavoured to challenge misconceptions about the potential of creative arts, putting it on the map at a time when there was no other city wide provision. More broadly, Ken has extended his impact by raising the UK's

profile and reputation as a provider of quality creative education through lead participation in European FE performing arts programme.

His approach has fundamentally transformed the college creative arts environment from perceived 'last chance saloon' to a highly desirable, innovative faculty offering a broad range of quality educational products and training through industry endorsed apprenticeships. Ken's ability to attract, maintain and develop a talented and dedicated workforce to deliver alongside him is critical to his success and an achievement in its own right. Widely recognised within the region across a breadth of educational and industry settings, his leadership style inspires others to follow his approach in delivering with passion, commitment and intent, nurturing and developing organisational links to ensure the best programme content for the student cohort.

His extraordinary impact, unwavering commitment and clear sense of purpose are undoubtedly second to none.

Supporter's name	Role in which the supporter has known the nominee (for example, colleague, friend).	Dates of knowledge (if known)
Diane Howse, Countess of Harewood Amy Bere	Associates	
James Brining Sam Perkins Ruth Hannant	Associates	
David Robertson	Associate	Approx. 1984 to present
Robert March	Associate	Approx. 1986 to present
Andy Russell	Associate	2005 to present
Sara Allkin	Student	1994 to present
Val Duggan	Student	1993 to present
Ewan Povey	Student	1993 to present
Sophia Becic	Student	To present
Joanne Adams	Colleague	unknown
Kevin O'Hare	Colleague	Approx. 1992 to present
Paul Danby	Colleague	2008 to present
Dorrie King	Colleague	1984 to present
Claire Irving	Colleague	2003 to present
Tim Balmforth	Colleague	2001 to present
Graham Williams	Colleague	2009 to present
Mick Doonan	Colleague	1983 to present
Samantha Beswick	Colleague	2005 to present
Jamie Smelt	Colleague	2000 to present
Emma Sullivan	Colleague	2007 to present
Kirsty Allison	Colleague	2002 to present