Terri is named Mentor of the Year

An ambitious community arts project devised by a Chesterfield student has earned its creator the national title of Community Mentor of the Year.

Terri Sanderson, 20, from Upper Newbold, won the award for a project she undertook as a mentor at the University of Central Lancashire in Preston, where she is a student of fashion promotion. She was presented with a laptop computer and £100 of book tokens during the Toshiba-sponsored Mentor of the Year Awards ceremony at London Guildhall last week.

A former Dronfield School pupil, Terri worked as a student mentor at the Hub Club, in Avenham, Preston, which is part of the Government-backed Youth Inclusion Project. Noticing how much graffiti there was around the place, Terri decided to harness the kids' creativity and channel it into a constructive art form.

She held workshops to encourage the young artists to transfer their ideas from the walls onto paper. At the end of the project the completed artworks were displayed in a public exhibition area at the University of Central Lancashire.

"I'm delighted to have won this award, not just for myself but for all the youngsters who took part in the project," says Terri. "There was a real sense of achievement and pride in the finished result, especially as it was displayed in a public gallery which gave it real value."

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1st July 2002
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Notes to editors:
1. For further information, contact Terri Sanderson on 07799 677205.
2. Photograph attached: Terri Sanderson is pictured at the Mentor of the Year awards ceremony with Richard Lomas from Toshiba.