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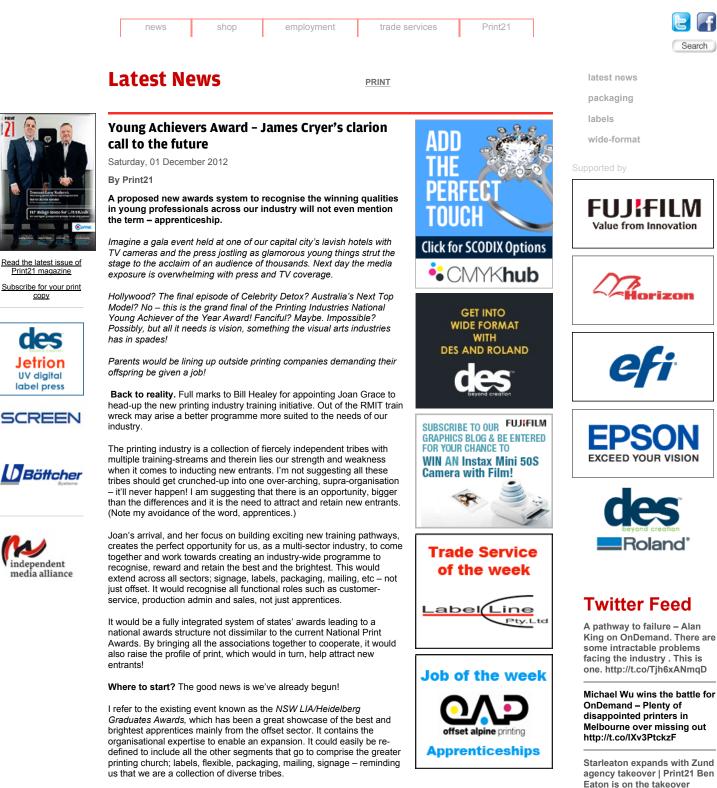


track. http://t.co/GRtavWVg6C

Joan Grace quits Printing

Industries & Future Print -

via @sharethis



Heidelberg has been a stalwart sponsor from the start. Nevertheless, with the need to broaden the award's ambit and to present it as a true mirror of the industry, it would be more appropriate to re-brand it as the Printing Industries awards scheme. Individual suppliers could still sponsor a particular award category.

The changing mix in training pathways. We have a unique opportunity to re-think the calibre and type of





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individuals we wish to attract and reward. Sadly, the need for factory-floor based apprentices is dwindling as other more exciting roles emerge. This is the story of our industry right now, not doom and gloom but readjustment. The contemporary industry is based on more capital, less labour, keeping the dream alive but with fewer bodies.

Apprenticeships have zero resonance within the design or digital printing fields. The obvious response is to widen the definition of who can enter a new-look awards scheme and include all vocations within the broad visual-communications industry. Young Achievers can be any outstanding employee, according to certain agreed-upon standards of excellence.

Taking ownership. This new, broad-based awards program should fall under the aegis of the Printing Industries (plural) Association of Australia, the body that purports, by its very name, to represent all the colourful tribes. Actual implementation would be via a body set up comprising all the participating sectors.

Printing Industries' Young Achievers Awards has a natural flavour to it and it's agnostic; it doesn't align itself with any sector, process, technology or commercial interest. This is vital; it must be free of commercial bias, like the ABC.

A multi-sector approach like this also meshes perfectly with *Printing Industries'* recent success in gaining federal funding to promote the attraction and retention of trainees. What better way to justify such a grant than to invest in a high-profile event, which showcases the best of the best across all sectors of our industry, not just the dwindling offset base?

To quote from Worldskills Australia's own website, the Young Achiever Awards would be:

... committed to the development ... of vocational education ... and to build a skills culture by inspiring young people, celebrating skills excellence and providing them with an opportunity to showcase their talent.

There is nothing there about apprentices but everything about achievement. That's the printing industry of tomorrow!

James Cryer JDA Print Recruitment

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2 Responses to "Young Achievers Award – James Cryer's clarion call to the future"

1. December 04, 2012 at 8:21 pm, Andy McCourt said:

Spot on Jim. I'd like to put my name down but perhaps you can assist me with a more precise definition of 'Young' ?

2. December 05, 2012 at 9:33 am, Mark said:

James, the LIA/Heidelberg Graduate of the Year Award is presented in each state/Territory each year and every 2 years a National winner is announced. The winner of this awards is presented by GAMAA a \$15,000 grant to further their career. Along with this prize there is also a future leaders award, this allows the reciprocates to travel to a major trade show, usually DRUPA or IPEX. These awards have been in progress for many years now and has produced some excellent results with many winners moving into management roles. The LIA is very proud to be involved with this program, they recieve great support from Heidelberg, GAMAA and the Collie Print Trust whom collectively keep the program alive for the well being of our industry.

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The industry can't afford to lose talent such as Joan Grace

.http://t.co/DuGDpXtwbC

Colin Longbottom heads towards the exit Good man Colin, hope your saddlebags are well loaded for the sunset ride.http://t.co/d5oamorf2X

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