



**EMBARGOED UNTIL 9AM – 11/01/2021**

## **Nominations are now open for WeAreTheCity's 2021 Rising Star Awards**

WeAreTheCity are delighted to announce that nominations for our 2021 Top 100 Rising Star Awards are now open.

Now in its seventh year, the Rising Star Awards are the first to focus on the UK's female talent pipeline below management level. Our strategic goal, set in 2015, aims to showcase 1,000 outstanding women by 2022. By highlighting the accolades of these women, WeAreTheCity are not only promoting the amazing female talent that exists across the UK, but actively encouraging organisations and business leaders to invest in and recognise these women as leaders of tomorrow and individual contributors to their respective industries.

These awards will recognise and celebrate a further 100 female individual contributors from over 20 different industries that represent the leaders and role models of tomorrow. These winners will join our award's alumni of 650 previous winners, across the UK and India.

New for this year, we are also excited to introduce a new "Global Award for Achievement" category to our awards to expand our search for global talent. This category is a female individual who works within any industry, outside of the UK, whose current position is below director level.

Alongside these categories, we are also calling for nominations for Champions, Men for Gender Balance and a Company of the Year. Our Champion award recognises the achievements of five senior individuals, of any gender, who are actively supporting the female pipeline outside of their day job. Nominations for this award are individuals who have demonstrated their commitment to gender, e.g. HeForShe supporters, network leaders, directors, MD's & C-Suite individuals who are championing women either inside or outside their organisations.

The Men for Gender Balance category is for men who are championing women and gender balance either inside or outside their organisation. Nominees must be at least Director level (or equivalent) or above, and must demonstrate that they have actively supported the female pipeline either through their current work role or external activities.

The Company of the Year award recognises the achievements of a company who can clearly demonstrate that they are actively supporting its female talent pipeline through their initiatives, training, development programmes and internal employee relations and diversity network groups.

Recognising that careers for women may follow different timescales, the Rising Star Awards do not have any age restrictions included within the criteria. WeAreTheCity feels it has a responsibility to ensure that female talent, regardless of age and background, receives the necessary support and skills to transition into key decision-making roles within our organisations.

WeAreTheCity will use its extensive reach across the UK & Ireland to find 100 high-achieving women across key industries and professions.

In previous years, the awards have been supported by an array of FTSE sponsors and this year is no different. The 2021 Rising Star Awards are powered by the Royal Bank of Canada and supported by 3M, Accenture, Barclays, Bloomberg, the British Army, C&C Search, Citi, CMI Women, Goldman Sachs, GSK, Highways Sector Council, HSBC, Lloyd's Insurance, National Grid, Northern Trust, Oliver Wyman, Oxford Said Business School, and Reed Smith.

The nominations process opens today, 11 January 2021, for all categories. A shortlist of ten women from each industry category will be chosen by an esteemed panel of judges and will be published in April. The shortlist will then be open to a public vote. Judging for the final five winners for each category will take place with independent judges in May. The winners will be announced on 11 May and winners will be invited to celebrate their award at a prestigious ceremony (further details to be announced).

**-ENDS-**

## **Editor's Notes**

### **Award's Categories**

- Rising Stars in All Other Industries
- Rising Stars in Banking & Capital Markets
- Rising Stars in Charity & Not-For-Profits
- Rising Stars in Defence
- Rising Stars in Digital
- Rising Stars in Diversity
- Rising Stars in EA/PA
- Rising Stars in Education & Academia
- Rising Stars in Energy & Utilities

- Rising Stars – Entrepreneurs & Start-Ups
- Rising Stars in Healthcare
- Rising Stars in HR & Recruitment
- Rising Stars in Infrastructure, Transport & Logistics
- Rising Stars in Insurance
- Rising Stars in Investment Management
- Rising Stars in Law (The Lynne Freeman Award)
- Rising Stars in Professional Services
- Rising Stars in Science & Engineering
- Rising Stars in Technology
- Rising Star Champions
- Company of the Year
- Men for Gender Balance
- Global Award for Achievement

### **Award's Timeline**

- Nominations open: 11 January 2021
- Nominations close: 08 March 2021
- Shortlist announced and public vote\*: 19 April 2021
- Public voting closes: 30 April 2021
- Winner's announced: 11 May 2021
- Award's ceremony: Date TBC

\*There is no public vote of support for the Champion, Global Award for Achievement, Company of the Year and Men for Gender Balance awards.

### **About WeAreTheCity**

WeAreTheCity.com is a female development organisation that helps companies to attract, retain and develop their female talent pool. WeAreTheCity provides resources for women looking to develop themselves personally and professionally. Through the website we provide gender-related news, a networks directory, calendar of events and conferences, returnships, business schools, inspirational women profiles, HeForShe interviews, giving back and jobs.

Through the website, we provide:

- Career related content to inspire and motivate our members (+10,000 articles)
- Connections to 350 female networks who support women in their personal/ professional progression
- A calendar of female-orientated events where our members can enhance their networks and grow their skills
- The latest knowledge and information on women in the workplace e.g. research reports, business schools, female development programs & returnships
- WeAreTechWomen, a dedicated section for female technologists featuring industry events, news, networks, conferences and awards

- Features on key charities, social enterprises & schools where our members can give back to their local communities
- Visibility of jobs via WeAreTheCity Jobs from firms seeking to improve their gender balance
- The opportunity to enter our annual awards, Rising Star Awards and TechWomen100
- The opportunity to attend our conferences, WeAreFutureLeaders and WeAreTechWomen

**WeAreTheCity in numbers:**

- Founded in 2008
- 120,000 members (15k Women in Technology)
- 10,000+ career related articles
- Promotion of over 350 women's networks
- Access to 50,000 women through our social media channels (Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn)
- 85+ events run/co-partnered