

# *Donald John MacKay Trust Annual Award*

## **Competition with £500 prize open to students**

### **BACKGROUND**

The Trustees of Urras Dhòmhnail Iain - The Donald John MacKay Educational Trust - have launched an annual competition in memory of Donald John MacKay, to mark the outstanding contribution he made to Gaelic and industrial development throughout the Highlands and Islands.

Donald John had a long association with the work of Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, Lèirsinn Research Centre, An Comunn Gàidhealach, of which he was the first Director (1965-70), Comunn na Gàidhlig, British Alcan, the Harris Tweed Association, Highlands and Islands Development Board, and the Gaelic Society of Inverness, as well as a range of other organisations.

The competition will be administered by Fèisean nan Gàidheal on behalf of the Trust and all entries should contribute to the aims and objectives of the current [National Gaelic Language Plan](#) and align to the aims and objects of the Trust in Annex 1.

Entries must be from individuals and will be judged by a panel including a representative of the MacKay family, one Trustee, one representative of Fèisean nan Gàidheal and up to two other independent assessors to be invited by Fèisean nan Gàidheal and the Trust.

The winning entry will be published on Fèisean nan Gàidheal's website and a copy of all the winning entries shall be retained in the organisation's library, and the library at Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, for archive and research purposes. The Trustees and Fèisean nan Gàidheal will evaluate the winning entries to ascertain the possibility of further development.

### **THE COMPETITION**

The main aims of the competition are to promote all aspects of Gaelic culture; to promote education in and through the Gaelic language; to promote the study, appreciation and use of the Gaelic language; to encourage young people to continue the seminal work of revival which Donald John MacKay inspired; to enable young people throughout the Highlands and Islands to develop entrepreneurial skills; to build community confidence through strategic planning; and to facilitate social inclusion and lifelong learning.

Specific examples of topics relating to industry/work areas on which entries could be based include:

- Forestry
- Livestock
- Arable farming areas
- Arts development, including sculpture, music, writing and other creative arts
- Transport issues
- Support for the disabled and/or young people
- Development of sporting opportunities
- Improving Gaelic oral skills
- The natural environment – wildlife, flowers, fauna etc
- Accountancy/Finance/Financial Planning
- Development of numerical skills in young people
- Sports and pastimes for young people in particular
- The seascape of the Highlands – wildlife and the environment
- Sailing, climbing and outdoor pursuits such as hunting, shooting and fishing.

## **HOW TO ENTER**

The competition is open to any student in Scotland, in full-time or part-time study, at further or higher education level, or working towards a doctorate.

To enter, please provide an outline, in no more than 2 pages of A4, of the project on which you would utilise the £500 award, if successful, ensuring you explain how your project would deliver the objects of the Trust or measures within the current National Gaelic Language Plan.

Please also ensure that you include your personal details, including name, address, telephone number and email address. In providing those details, you give Fèisean nan Gàidheal express permission to share your personal information with the Trustees of Urras Dhòmhnail Iain MhicAoidh and other individuals invited to be part of the judging panel.

Please e-mail your entry to [farpais@feisean.org](mailto:farpais@feisean.org) by midnight on **Friday 4 October 2019**.

Please note that all entries will be acknowledged within 72 hours of receipt. If you do not receive an acknowledgement within that timescale, please telephone Fèisean nan Gàidheal on 01478 613355 to ensure your entry has been received. Neither Fèisean nan Gàidheal, nor the Trustees of Urras Dhòmhnail Iain MhicAoidh, will be responsible for non-receipt of entries if the above procedure is not followed.

If you have any questions about the competition, please contact Arthur Cormack at Fèisean nan Gàidheal on 01478 613355 or [arthur@feisean.org](mailto:arthur@feisean.org).

## **Annex 1**

### **Urras Dhòmhnail Iain/Donald John MacKay Trust**

In 2001 Sabhal Mòr Ostaig organised a Memorial Appeal for the late Donald John MacKay, formerly Depute Chairman of Trustees and Project Development Manager at the College, to commemorate the outstanding contribution he made to Gaelic and industrial development throughout the Highlands and Islands through the work of Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, Lèirsinn Research Centre, An Comunn Gàidhealach, Comunn na Gàidhlig, the Gaelic Society of Inverness and a wide range of other organisations and employers with which he was associated.

The Trustees established an Educational Trust - Urras Dhòmhnail Iain - The Donald John MacKay Educational Trust - in memory of Donald John MacKay.

### **Object of the Trust**

The object for which the Trust was established is to commemorate the outstanding contribution made by the late Donald John MacKay to Gaelic and industrial development throughout the Highlands and Islands and in furtherance of this object to do the following:

- (i) to promote all aspects of Gaelic culture;
- (ii) to promote education in and through the Gaelic language;
- (iii) to promote the study, appreciation and use of the Gaelic language;
- (iv) to encourage young people to continue the seminal work of revival which Donald John MacKay inspired;
- (v) to enable young people throughout the Highlands and Islands to develop entrepreneurial skills;
- (vi) to build community confidence through strategic planning;
- (vii) to facilitate social inclusion and lifelong learning;
- (viii) to do such other things charitable in law as the Trustees may think appropriate to perpetuate the memory of Donald John MacKay, which may include the erection and maintenance of a tangible memorial to Donald John MacKay at Sabhal Mòr Ostaig in the Isle of Skye.