Brotsoffermyndigheten/The Crime Victim Compensation and Support Authority from Sweden wins the first MEDEA Award!

Ulf Hjerpe, Lawyer and Information Officer received the MEDEA Award 2008 for the multimedia programme Rättegångsskolan på webben/Court Introduction during the first MEDEA Award Ceremony on 4th of December at the Hotel InterContinental in Berlin. It was the first time that the MEDEA Award (a bronze statuette) was awarded, during a special ceremony set up in parallel to the ONLINE EDUCA BERLIN Conference. The Court Introduction programme deserved this award according to the 35 judges from 10 different countries, because the programme was: "...very well made and fully consistent with the target users’ expectations. Animations are well done and the technical quality is excellent. Most impressive was the fact that it uses media innovatively to teach a subject that would be hard to learn in any other way. It makes learning fun and easy, also for adult learners." The jury praised it as an overall excellent and effective learning experience. This web-based court introduction explains what happens before, during and after court proceedings to those people who are required to make an appearance in court (crime victims, witnesses, relatives and perpetrators).

At the same occasion, a special award was also presented to secondary school teacher Steven Ronsin from Sint-Lievenscollege Ghent in Belgium for their outstanding entry entitled Anti-Anti. This project was described by the judges as: "An exemplar of good choice and use of media, a very good story and a particular social agenda that is of great relevance to the learners taking part. The multimedia project was designed by the learners themselves. It is fantastic how intuitive and qualitative this entry is. It demonstrates good use of emotion, technology, and appeals to the participants because it uses the media and devices that they use every day." The multimedia pervasive game was created by secondary school students to sensitize students in the context of the national day against Unnecessary Violence. Students had to search a fictitious murderer in their school through clues provided to them in mp3-files and video clips.

The other finalists (who all received hardware and software supported by Apple Europe and Adobe) were ArtisanCam represented at the Awards by Keith Alexander from Artiststatwork.org (UK), Canal Educatif à la Demande by Erwan Bomstein-Erb from Canal Educatif (France), Patient Safety - Mildred’s Story by Jon Shears from the University of Leicester (UK) and Pronunciation Tips represented by Callum Robertson from BBC Learning English (UK).

Mathy Vanbuel, MEDEA Awards Organising Committee: “We are delighted with the results of this year’s competition. The six winning finalists represent a very broad range of organisations actively using media in education and show a degree of excellence that is truly worth rewarding. The range of media used and the diversity of applications show just how much media and video in particular is being use to support education and training worldwide and we are looking forward to an even more extensive competition in 2009.”

The MEDEA Awards is an annual event, set up to encourage the use of digital moving images and sound in education. This year, the MEDEA Awards received more than 100 entries from 25 different countries. Entries came from all types of organisations including professional production facilities, schools, audio-visual departments of universities, training providers, public authorities, public service broadcasters and content providers.

Entries for the MEDEA Awards 2009 will be open from 15th February 2009. For more information, visit the web site http://www.medea-awards.com or contact the Secretariat:

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