

THE AWARDS 2021

Most Innovative Teacher of the Year

Institution name	Liam Jarvis, <i>University of Essex</i>
Submission title or project name	
Nominee/key personnel	Dr Liam Jarvis
URL	https://www.essex.ac.uk/people/jarvi94108/liam-jarvis
Submission	<p>When lockdown struck it looked like University of Essex theatre studies students might miss the chance of a lifetime to be part of a new piece of theatre but, thanks to the ingenuity of Dr Liam Jarvis, a teacher with a proven track record for innovation, and 25 VR headsets sent around the globe, they got a unique learning experience.</p> <p>Liam tore up the script for his planned intensive workshop with actor and director Mella Faye. With four weeks to spare, he redirected funds, negotiated a deal with a theatre-streaming service and created a virtual residency so even the student in Singapore could watch performances, take part in storytelling workshops and pitch a reinvention of a Greek myth</p> <p>As one student said it "taught us that in times of hardship one must be resilient and come up with new and original ideas...and that...art can still happen from wherever we are."</p>