

## University's Bramall Music Building receives prestigious architectural award

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The University of Birmingham was honoured at the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) National Awards 2013, and shortlisted for the Sterling prize, for the design of the **Bramall Music Building** (<http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/bramall/index.aspx>).

Adding to a growing collection of awards including a **Civic Trust award** (<http://www.civictrustawards.org.uk/winners/2013/CTA006801/>), the Bramall Music building was among 52 buildings in the UK and Europe to receive RIBA Awards announced on 12 June 2013 (43 in the UK and 9 in the rest of the EU).

The RIBA National Awards, established in 1966, are the most rigorously-judged awards for architectural excellence. No matter the shape, size, budget or location, RIBA Award winning-schemes set the standard for great architecture all across the country.

The Bramall Music Building completes the iconic red brick Aston Webb semi-circle at the heart of the University and is home to the state-of-the-art, 450-seat Elgar Concert Hall and new residence for the University's world renowned Department of Music. The building, designed by Glenn Howells Architects was specifically recognised by the RIBA for its sympathy to the original design of the surrounding buildings. The recognition highlighted that a thorough understanding of the geometry and detailed construction of the existing buildings, with great attention to detail and materials has resulted in a very successful modern reinterpretation of the byzantine building's style.

Martin Hewitt-Moran, Venue Manager at the Bramall Music Building said: 'We are incredibly proud and inspired to have won such a prestigious award from an organisation of the importance of RIBA. This recognition will help to highlight the building as a wonderful arts and learning venue which will be of benefit for both the university and local community.'

The construction of the Bramall Music building, which opened in September 2012, was supported by the University's **Circles of Influence** (<http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/alumni/giving/circlesofinfluence/oldindex.aspx>) campaign. The generosity of alumni and supporters through this campaign is helping to provide state-of-the-art facilities across the campus to enhance the student experience in line with the vision of the University.

### Notes to editors

For information about the RIBA awards please visit the RIBA [website \(http://live-riba.contensis.com/Home.aspx\)](http://live-riba.contensis.com/Home.aspx)

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