**Ellie Maxwell Award 2021**

The Ellie Maxwell Award aims to encourage and support an Edinburgh-based student or group of students who have helped promote social change and inclusivity with their project. [Ellie Maxwell’s](https://fireflyinternational.org/about-us/ellie-maxwell/) work started when she was a student at the University of Edinburgh and eventually expanded to produce meaningful change in Bosnia and more recently Palestine, Turkey and Syria through the charity she founded, [Firefly International](https://fireflyinternational.org/). This prize is also part of her legacy: encouraging and rewarding young students who go out there and get involved with their community – whether it is local or global.

Who is eligible for this award?

Undergraduate and postgraduate students at the University of Edinburgh who have worked in any type of project where some meaningful impact has been achieved and there is some early evidence of sustainability; whether the focus is on Human Rights, the environment, children protection, gender equality, education or other work which promotes tolerance and inclusion.

What is the award?

The prize consists of £500 of seed funding for your charity, organisational support, mentoring and connection to Firefly International’s network.

How to apply

The application opens on the 12thMarch, the deadline for the application is the 22thApril and the winner will be announced at the end of May.
If you feel you fit these criteria, please go to this link and fill in the application form. [Application link live from the 12thMarch.](https://dianamcmicking.typeform.com/to/S7hcyN)

Testimonial from past winner

*Since being named winner of the Ellie Maxwell Award 2019,* [*Mxogyny*](https://www.mxogyny.com/) *has been able to expand and grow in directions that we never could have imagined. The seed funding that we received from Firefly has helped us to launch two major projects: the production of our Mxogyny tote bags and the creation of Mxogyny's first print edition, which is due to be released in December 2020.*

*The award gave us the confidence to dream bigger, which has been reflected directly in the expansion of our team from 9 to 23 volunteers over the last year. As part of our scale-up, we have also established a development team dedicated solely to fundraising strategy and putting in place the foundations for long-term financial sustainability and growth. None of this would've been possible without the belief that the Ellie Maxwell Award instilled in us, that we were an organisation full of potential to spark meaningful social change and that we can continue to create opportunities and provide a platform for marginalised creatives for years to come.*

Maisie Palmer Founder of mxogyny

Further information on award:

<https://fireflyinternational.org/ellie-maxwell-award-winners/>

<https://fireflyinternational.org/tag/ellie-maxwell-award/>

<https://www.ed.ac.uk/news/students/2019/ceremony-recognises-first-ellie-maxwell-award-winn>