

## Award for CPS Interiors

CPS Interiors in Loughborough has received third place highly commended in the recent Association of Interior Specialists annual awards.

"The brief was to create a bright corporate head office from the former engine workshop for Bombardier Transportation in Derby, including reception, meeting rooms and offices. Initial designs proposed blocking the

original arched windows and changing the façade, but we suggested retaining the historic features and designing the interior accordingly," said Chris Howell, Managing Director.

"Working with a tight budget CPS Interiors has transformed the space while utilising the historic architecture," said guest judge Richard Jordan. The fit-out included a glazed internal porch

with curved ceiling to echo the arched windows above, allowing daylight to flood in. This, with full-height Komfort Classic ash glazed partitioning, creates a light spacious environment. A corridor runs between two front sections either side of a curved ash reception counter with floor-to-ceiling glass. The corporate colours and railway track theme were reflected in wide-striped frosted manifestation on glazed

panels and striped planks of carpet along the corridor.



## Grants for businesses

The University of Leicester is offering SMEs £2K as a grant subsidy if they recruit a University of Leicester graduate intern who graduated in 2012.

The university is experienced in providing bespoke graduate internships and business projects to suit business needs. Internships are a low-risk, low-cost way to develop your workforce and have graduates work on specific projects/tasks.

What they offer:

- \* Internships: typically three-months (full-time) in length, the internship will have the graduate intern working within your organisation and fulfilling projects/tasks as set by you, the employer.
- \* Business Projects: similar to an internship, business projects are smaller short-term projects/tasks that students or graduates do on behalf of employers with the

vast majority of the work done remotely (i.e. the graduate working from home and communicating via e-mails, telephone, Skype etc).

Examples might include the intern developing a database or webpage, helping to write a press release or even helping in the design of marketing literature. Projects can be of varying lengths but up to a maximum of three-months.



What are the benefits to you? The university will advertise your opportunities and do all the initial short-listing of candidates free of charge, thus saving you time and money. They will draw up all contracts/service-level agreements and conduct a mid-term review to ensure all is well with both you and the graduate intern. In the case of internships,

## Loud & clear in Sri Lanka

Voice coach and Leicestershire Chamber of Commerce member Priscilla Morris spent six weeks travelling around Sri Lanka recently as the judge for the Sri Lanka Festival for the Performing Arts. This involved watching thousands of children and young adults performing, writing reports on them and comparing their skills, before making awards. The disciplines included public speaking, verse and prose speaking, acting and mime, TV news casting, solos, duos and groups.

Sri Lankans see good oral and written English as a passport to good further education and international jobs, so competitions often included in

they can offer you funding (a £2,000 grant subsidy) to offset the full cost of recruiting a graduate.

For more information email: [workrelatedlearning@le.ac.uk](mailto:workrelatedlearning@le.ac.uk)



Priscilla Morris at the Sri Lanka Festival finals.

excess of 100 entries. The work was therefore demanding but always rewarding.

For details on Priscilla's low cost half-day courses this autumn visit: <http://www.loudandclearuk.com/voice-workshop>



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