The Vietnam International Awards announced 12 individuals and 1 organization as winners on the occasion of its 5th anniversary.

COMMUNITY , Vietnamese people in 5 continents

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Individuals and organizations were honored in 12 categories, ranging from culinary arts, healthcare, finance, education, technology, architecture to art and community life.



The Vietnam International Awards 2026 (VIAwards) announced its winners at the awards ceremony and gala held on November 7th at the Kimpton Fitzroy Hotel in

achievements, significant contributions, and influence of the Vietnamese community globally, while also recognizing international individuals and organizations that have made positive contributions to Vietnam's development, promoting cooperation and strengthening connections between Vietnam and the world.

The ceremony was attended by Mr. Warwick Morris, former British Ambassador to Vietnam; Ms. Dao Thi Hong, Secretary of the Vietnamese Embassy in the United Kingdom; Professor Michael Mainelli, former Lord Mayor of the City of London; Sir Jonathan Van-Tam MBE, former Deputy Chief Medical Officer for England; and representatives from international associations, the Vietnamese community in the UK, and 200 guests from 12 countries.

This year, the VIAwards received over 140 applications, of which 95 from 15 countries were eligible for consideration. Twelve individuals were honored for their lasting contributions to Vietnam, the global Vietnamese community, and society in general.

Lifetime Achievement Award: Warwick Morris, OBE.

With 39 years in diplomacy, Warwick Morris served as the British Ambassador to Vietnam from 2000 to 2003 and to South Korea from 2003 to 2008. He then co-founded the Vietnam-UK Network (VUKN), serving as its Chairman from 2019 to 2023, and as an independent director of Prudential Vietnam until 2022.


VIETNAM
INTERNATIONAL
AWARDS

Awarded an OBE in 2023 for contributions to relations between the United Kingdom and Vietnam and South Korea.
Elected as an Honorary Fellow of Robinson College, University of Cambridge in 2011.

Excellence in Legal Studies Award: Michelle Pham.
Michelle Pham, Legal Counsel and Chief Legal Officer of Levare International Limited, has 25 years of experience practicing at law firms and leading corporate legal departments. She has helped businesses develop viable solutions to meet legal and compliance requirements in a variety of markets. She is currently developing Open Door, a sponsorship program for women entrepreneurs in Vietnam, through the MinhDuc Foundation.



Coordinated the establishment of legal entities to support acquisition activities across 44 jurisdictions for a single client.
Developed and implemented a compliance framework across an international oil and gas services group with approximately 1,400 employees, encompassing anti-money laundering, third-party due diligence, data protection, and corporate governance.
Served as Vice President, Chair of the Board of Directors, and a member of the Board

£110,000; also served on the Board of Directors of the school's tuition support fund. Provided free legal training and advisory services to Barnardo's and ActionAid; supported and mentored women entrepreneurs through the Cherie Blair Foundation for Women.

Culinary and Hospitality Award: Ben Pham.
Founder and CEO of Uncle Ben Pty Ltd, Ben Pham has over 24 years of experience in the hospitality and restaurant industry, from waiter in Ho Chi Minh City to owner of flagship restaurants in Australia. He brings Vietnamese cuisine into the fine dining segment while preserving its original spirit.

He participated in the development and operation of SEN Fine Dining in Albury, New South Wales, and founded The Q Dining in Canberra, with creations such as "Pho in a Teapot" and the "Pho" Negroni cocktail.
As the Chief Operating Officer of Black Rhino Group, he increased annual revenue from $11.5 million to $14.7 million.
He has been featured in The Canberra Times, the Australian Good Food Guide, VTV4, and VOV World.
Notably, this year's Healthcare Excellence category recognized two individuals, a special case in the award selection process. After two rigorous rounds of evaluation, both candidates received equal scores and were highly regarded by the Judging Panel for their outstanding achievements and practical contributions to the healthcare sector. Based on these results, the Judging Panel unanimously awarded the prize to both candidates, demonstrating VIAwards' commitment to fairness, transparency, and the deserved recognition of outstanding contributions.
Healthcare Award: Katrin Kandel,
Volunteer Director and Board Member of Facing the World (FTW), transformed the organization from a model based on individual surgeries in the UK into a sustainable, scalable network for craniofacial malformation care across Vietnam. She established the first Craniofacial Surgery Center in Southeast Asia at Military Central Hospital 108 in 2018.



She has helped perform over 10,000 surgeries annually and awarded over 187

Public Health (2023), and the National Volunteer Award from the Central Youth Union (2024), becoming the first foreigner to receive this award

. Medical Award: Professor Michelle Hermiston

. A physician and scientist, Professor Emeritus of Hematology and Pediatric Oncology at the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF), Professor Michelle Hermiston moved to Vietnam in 2023 to build sustainable change from within. She is currently the Director of the Institute of Health Sciences and the Scientific Director for Innovation in Health Sciences at VinUniversity.



Contributed to the design of the first pediatric hematology and oncology training

founded the Vietnam Pediatric Stem Cell Transplantation and Cell Therapy Alliance. Founded and chaired the Southeast Asian Pediatric Hematology Oncology (SEAPHO) group.

Financial and Business Leadership Award: Christina Bui.

Vice President of Managed Business Solutions at Robert Half Protiviti, Christina Bui is the Founder and Chair of the Vietnamese Leaders Forum. Throughout her career, she has transformed the expertise and global connections of the Vietnamese diaspora community into practical opportunities for young entrepreneurs and future leaders.

Building the Vietnamese Leaders Forum into a national platform connecting leaders in business, technology, finance, education, and the arts.

Serving as an Advisor to the Vietnam AI Stars Council, mobilizing members to serve as judges and advisors for the Vietnam Tech Summit 2026, attracting over 1,000 participants.

Member of the Global Advisory Board of Fulbright University Vietnam; named one of the most influential women in business by the San Francisco Business Times (2016 and 2017).

People's Choice Award: Isabelle Müller.

Author, illustrator, social activist, and founder of the LOAN Foundation, Isabelle Müller is of French and Vietnamese descent. She speaks frankly about violence, discrimination, and exclusion, combining genuine dialogue with practical, long-term action.

Organized approximately 150 readings across eight German states from her 2009 autobiography, *Phoenix Daughter - Hope Was My Way*.

Her second book, *Loan - From the Life of a Phoenix*, was a finalist for the 2015 Amazon Kindle Storyteller Award.

All book royalties were donated to the LOAN Foundation, an organization that has supported over 5,000 children and teenagers.

Content Creator of the Year Award: Johnny Dung Nguyen.

Founder of VietQ Media, Johnny Dung Nguyen has developed the platform from a project showcasing Vietnamese musical talent into a global community connecting Vietnam and overseas Vietnamese through music, artist stories, and culture.



Since 2021, we have introduced over 500 artists from 19 countries.
We have built a community of over 66,000 followers on Instagram and 8,000 on TikTok.
We collaborate with events and organizations such as 84FEST, No Headliner Festival, and are expanding into live and international projects in 2026.
Digital Technology and Innovation Award: Le Huy Hien Ngo.
An AI expert and product leader who grew up in Da Nang, Le Huy Hien Ngo completed three Master of Science degrees in the UK, France, and Sweden with top honors, and was recognized by the UK Home Office as a Digital Technology Emerging Leader in 2024. He pursues the goal of bringing cutting-edge technology to those often left behind.
The author of the book "Going to School in the Age of AI," which aligns with Vietnam's national AI education framework for grades 1 to 12,
created PlantKViT, an AI model for plant species recognition, and operates two publicly available mobile applications. He

Education Award: LOAN Stiftung (LOAN Foundation).

Founded by Isabelle Müller in memory of her mother who was deprived of the opportunity to attend school, the LOAN Foundation has spent a decade helping children in remote mountainous areas and ethnic minority communities in Vietnam access education.

Supported over 5,000 children and young people in eight provinces, completing 44 projects, including 28 educational projects.

Awarded 401 scholarships and distributed over 4,000 books and learning materials.

Received the Human Act Prize 2023, M4D Award 2023, and Vu A Dinh Award 2024.



Architectural Design Award: Quang Le

With fifteen years of experience in Geneva, Berlin, and Ho Chi Minh City, Quang Le views architecture as a process of understanding the history, local customs, economic conditions, and specific circumstances of each site. His career began with contributions to projects such as the WTO Headquarters in Geneva

His post-Covid factory project in Bien Hoa was recognized by the Holcim Awards.
He teaches and mentors architecture students in Europe and Vietnam.
Global Innovation Award: Dr. Dinh-Quy (William) Nguyen
R&D Manager at Mitsubishi Electric, Dr. Dinh-Quy Nguyen has dedicated his career to bridging global technology centers and Vietnam, opening pathways for Vietnamese founders, engineers, and underprivileged children.
Manages collaborative R&D initiatives between Mitsubishi Electric and MIT CSAIL on physical AI, robotics, and smart factory automation.
Co-founder of VietSearch, a big data analytics platform connecting Vietnamese experts globally, and leads the Vietnam Global Innovation Connect platform at AVSE Global.
Co-founder and Chair of the Vietnamese Youth Volunteer organization, supporting disadvantaged children in rural Vietnam for nearly two decades.
Innovation Award: Trang Trinh.
Pianist, educator, and arts leader, Trang Trinh graduated from the Royal Academy of Music in London and is currently the Managing Director of the Chapel Sound Art Foundation in Canada. Her work questions who is involved in the arts.
Founded Miracle Choir & Orchestra in 2013, offering free weekly music classes to nearly 100 underprivileged children in Hanoi.
Co-authored elementary school music textbooks for grades 1-4, used in public schools since 2020.
Performed (in)finitude / Finite between infinity, a 24-hour piano performance in Hanoi for the hearing-impaired, visually impaired, and sighted; named in Forbes Vietnam 30 Under 30 (2015).

In addition to the awards ceremony, the gala night featured contemporary art performances showcasing Vietnamese cultural identity and a dinner with a menu curated by the hotel's executive chef. Four live auction categories and over 30 private auction experiences contributed to fundraising to support women and children, mentoring and career development programs for young people, and initiatives from the Vietnamese community in the UK and around the world.
Earlier in the day, over 60 delegates attended the UK-Vietnam Healthcare Innovation and Investment Conference at UCL's Wilkins building, the annual non-profit conference of VIAwards, this year focusing on healthcare finance, cancer care, and responsible AI applications in healthcare.

cooperation, and knowledge exchange between the Vietnamese community and partners worldwide.



The Vietnam International Awards (VIAwards) is an independent, non-profit initiative established in the United Kingdom in 2022. Through its awards, annual conferences, and community programs, VIAwards recognizes outstanding contributions, connects Vietnamese people globally, and honors Vietnam's international friends.

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The Union of Vietnamese Associations in the Czech Republic emphasizes unity, innovation, and the development of the next generation.

The 6th Executive Committee meeting of the Union of Vietnamese Associations in the Czech Republic reviewed the results of its activities, pointed out limitations, and proposed directions for strengthening discipline, applying technology, and training successors.

10-11-2026



Unanswered questions in the case of the Vietnamese girl murdered in Germany.

The time and cause of death, and the relationship between the suspect and the victim, are unanswered questions in the murder case of Lisa Ta.

10-11-2026



The suspect in the murder of a Vietnamese girl in Germany had previously been investigated for pedophilia.

The suspect in the murder of Lisa Ta was previously investigated by Berlin authorities for possessing more than 900 pieces of child pornography.

10-11-2026



Tamda Brno Distribution Center is bustling during the Christmas season.

With Christmas and New Year just around the corner, consumer demand is at its peak, especially for food, beverages, and essential goods. At the Tamda Brno distribution center, the busy season has begun.

09-11-2026



The suspect in the murder of Lisa Ta is a 22-year-old German man who remains in critical condition.

A 22-year-old German national, suspected of kidnapping and murdering the girl, was also found at the scene with gunshot wounds and is currently in critical condition.

09-11-2026



Vietnamese entrepreneurs in Cheb hold discussions on EET 2.0 regulations.

The seminar in Cheb allowed Vietnamese entrepreneurs and business owners to directly exchange views with representatives from government agencies, financial and tax experts about the EET 2.0 system, which is expected to be implemented from 2027.

09-11-2026



Lisa T.'s family suspects the 13-year-old girl was followed by a truck before she disappeared.

Lisa T.'s family says the 13-year-old girl may have been followed by a truck the day before she disappeared in Berlin. However, police have not confirmed this information and it is unclear whether the vehicle is connected to the case.

09-11-2026



The 7th Family Reunion of the Vu-Vo Clan in the Czech Republic: Strengthening Family Bonds and Connecting with Our Roots

Last night, November 8th, in Prague, the Liaison Committee of the Vu-Vo clan of Vietnam in the Czech Republic held its 7th annual gathering and exchange program.

09-11-2026





13 Years of Spreading Love by the Vietnamese-Czech Shelter Association

Regardless of nationality or origin, for the past 13 years, the Vietnamese-Czech Shelter Association has connected compassionate hearts and supported many disadvantaged people in the Czech Republic.

09-11-2026

FEATURED NEWS

Having lunch at a restaurant has become a luxury, so Czechs are switching to eating at their desks.



Restaurants are losing customers, with some even ceasing to open at lunchtime. Czechs are increasingly price-sensitive. A 200 korun lunch is too expensive for many, leading them t...

1 hour ago

At exactly 4:36 PM: Czech students protest in support of the Television and Radio Broadcasting Station.



University students continued their protests today against plans to change the funding mechanism for public media outlets. Activities took place in Prague and several other...

1 hour ago

The hidden side of foreign workers in the Czech Republic: When quitting a job, it's not just a matter of resigning.



Regulations regarding residency, outstanding recruitment fees, and accommodation being dependent on the employer make job changes difficult. The consequences of this...

2 hours ago

Prague Christmas Market 2026: Opening Hours and Must-Visit Spots



Prague's Christmas markets begin opening on November 20th. Below is information on the markets located in the

The Union of Vietnamese Associations in the Czech Republic emphasizes unity, innovation, and the development of the next generation.



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3 hours ago

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3 hours ago

Central Bohemian cities are preparing shelters and "heated chairs" for the homeless as winter approaches.



As autumn draws to a close, nighttime temperatures are increasingly dropping below 0°C. Therefore, cities in Central Bohemia are looking for ways to provide warm shelter for...

3 hours ago

Shooting in Hamburg, Germany leaves two people injured.



Two people were injured in a shooting that occurred on the morning of November 10 near the Elbphilharmonie theater in Hamburg. Police deployed a task force, surrounded and...

4 hours ago

The spaghetti served in the elementary school canteen in Újezd was the source of the salmonella outbreak.



The source of the salmonella outbreak in the Újezd nad Lesy area of Prague was a dish made with expired eggs, served in September by the kitchen of Masaryk Primary School.

4 hours ago

Black Friday is in full swing in the Czech Republic, but consumers need to be wary of "fake discounts."



The Black Friday shopping season began in early November. This is one of the busiest business periods of the year, with stores constantly offering discounts before Christmas....

6 hours ago

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