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Bristol student wins top prize for baby pneumonia diagnosis device

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Stefan Guiton won first prize at the Designed for Business student awards.

Bristol student Stefan Guiton has scooped first prize in a national competition with his design for a pneumonia diagnosis device for babies in developing countries.

Stefan, from the Hotwells area of the city, has just completed his final year at the University of the West of England.

He entered the device called *Kulinda* in the *Designed for Business* student awards' Product Design category, beating hundreds of other entrants from around the country.

Kulinda is a simple, low-cost pneumonia diagnosis device that counts a baby's breaths per minute via a sensor equipped with a microchip containing an algorithm that is secured around the baby's chest using soft, stretchy fabric.

Stefan got the idea for his low-cost device from his mum who works as a doctor in Kenya who told him that typically medics in Kenya check for pneumonia by counting breaths manually – a method that can be highly inaccurate.

Stefan picked up his £1000 first prize at the awards ceremony, held in the Members' Dining Room at the House of Commons, London last Thursday.

The ceremony was the culmination of a six-month-long judging process to assess the projects submitted by university students in their final year.

The entries were judged by a panel of top names from the creative industries including key representatives from companies including Sebastian Conran Associates, Amazon UK, Christie's Education, John Lewis, Amara, HG Designworks and VitrA, as well as creative educators from a number of leading universities.

Hundreds of students from 93 universities submitted their final year's course work to SBID and BE OPEN to one of five categories: Product Design; Art & Design; Fashion; Interior Design and Interior Decoration.

On winning the award Stefan said: "It felt amazing to win.

"The credibility of the awards will help me when I want to pitch my idea to the World Health Organisation and other companies – it will really give me an extra boost."

BE OPEN founder Elena Baturina, said: "The *Designed for Business* Student competition is all about celebrating the talent, aspirations, and tenacity of the young artists and designers, whose creativity will define our future for years to come.

"I created BE OPEN because I wanted a platform from which to support and encourage the fantastic creative talent that I see all around me, yet, which often struggles to find a connection to the commercial world. BE OPEN, working with SBID intends to change that."

SBID founder, Dr Vanessa Brady, said: "The competition was created to engage the world of employment with design students who are eager to get themselves and their work within their chosen industry.

"It is also a great opportunity for universities to showcase the talent their courses are shaping. We're delighted with the number of entries overall and especially the turn out tonight."