

WOMEN OF THE FUTURE AWARDS

UNITED KINGDOM

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Women of the
Future Programme
#WOF2026

2026 SHORTLIST ANNOUNCED

BRITAIN'S NEXT GENERATION OF TRAILBLAZERS

We are proud to present the 2026 UK Women of the Future shortlist. This year's shortlist is truly eclectic and exceptional, bringing together women making their mark across an extraordinary range of fields. From pioneers in AI, medicine and journalism to boxers, actors, sculptors and historians, the breadth of talent and achievement represented is remarkable.

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WOF AWARDS

SHORTLIST 2026



PINKY LILANI CBE DL

FOUNDER AND CHAIR,
WOMEN OF THE FUTURE PROGRAMME

“ We are delighted to announce the final shortlists for this year’s Women of the Future Awards. My heartfelt thanks go to our wonderful sponsors, judges and partners for helping us celebrate the remarkable women who continue to inspire, lead and create positive change. This year, we honour not only outstanding achievements, but also the resilience, ambition and vision of the women shaping our future.

Pinky Lilani



WOF AWARDS

SHORTLIST 2026

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Alice Dougan, Enterprise, Risk and Controls Manager, PwC

Elizabeth Chandler, Lead of AI, Integrated Ops Global Reinvention Services, Accenture

Krittika D'Silva, PhD, Director, International Rescue Committee

Dr. Laura Marie Helleckes, Imperial Research Fellow, Imperial College London

Sara Schein, AI Growth & Former VC, ex-Encord

ARTS & CULTURE

Beatrice Galletley, Artist

Daniella Decker, Executive Director, Entertainment Software Association

Jessica Telling, Access Lead, Walk the Plank

Mira kumari Medtia, Founder, Maison Lumiere

Naarah Shaye Barnes, Actor, Daisy Green Collection

Naqsh Haque, MBA Student/Co-Founder of Shalimar Room, CJBS/Shalimar Room

Zahra Mansoor, Co-Founder, Shalimar Room

BUSINESS

Barbara Pressendo, Payments Control Manager, J.P. Morgan

Ele Theochari, Corporate Tax Partner, Blick Rothenberg Limited

Georgia Hunter, Director, KPMG UK

Marina Jodrell, Reinsurance Broker - Property & Specialty, Aon

Marta Verani, Managing Consultant, Mastercard

Riley MacDonald, Head of EMEA, Enterprise Product, Worldpay, now Global Payments

COMMUNITY SPIRIT

Ellie Bellusci, Assurance Business Specialist, Bupa

Grace Spence Green, Paediatric Doctor, NHS

Jenn Mejia, Founder and Director, Latin Americans Rising

Rachel Duffy, Head of Community / Founder, The Times and Sunday Times / Young Journalist Network

Shomy Hasan Chowdhury, Co-Founder, Awareness 360

Tsian Deslandes, Founder & Director, Mermaids Beyond Borders

ENTREPRENEUR

Amy Nicholas M.Inst.M., Director, Morgans Butchery Ltd

Jessie Hickman, Co-Founder, The Cusp

Krupali Khimasia, Business Owner, Cobeat Ltd

Melissa Dewar, Founder and CEO, The Modernists

Tulasi Parmer, Founder & Creative Director, TULASI

MEDIA

Aisha Kherallah, Producer, ITV News

Alice Lassman, Author and Economist, Kings College London

Amy Austin, News Editor, FT Advisor

Anila Dhami, News Presenter & Journalist, Freelance

Katie Kennedy, Historian & Creator, The History Gossip

MENTOR

Abaida Mahmood, CEO Qurban & Surraya Educational Foundation, Qurban & Surraya Educational Foundation (Formerly known as Qurban & Surraya Educational Trust)

Claire McCaffray, Managing Director, Customs, Excise & International Trade Services, PwC

Dave Kirby, CEO, Coppett Hill

Juhie Radia, Analyst, Salesforce

Peter Brown MBE, Global Workforce Leader, PwC

Dr Samuel Pachoud, Partner, EY LLP

PROFESSIONS

Dr Diana Madibekova, Founder, Peace Recipes

Emily Beatty MCMI ChMC, Management Consultant, PwC

Jinkai Chan, Senior Associate, JLL

Dr Kerrie Stevenson, Medical Doctor and Academic, University College London

Phoebe Ng, Co-Founder, Excelas

Phoebe O'Neill, Senior Contract Performance Manager - Air Commercial, Ministry of Defence - Air

SCIENCE

Anjali Sarker, Senior Manager, The Oxford Character Project

Chloe Craze, Customer Account Chemist, Infineum UK

Florence Huynh, Vice President of Innovations, Polymateria

Margherita Zenoni, PhD Candidate, University of Cambridge and Head of Research Fundraising & Communication, Orchard OCD

Xanthe Goldsack BSc, Category Manager, Rosemont Pharmaceuticals

Xinyan Peng, Chemist, Infineum UK Ltd

SPORT

Camille VanderMeer, MBA Student, University of Cambridge

Hannah Nicholls, Graduate Assistant in Design, Marlborough College

Jaya Kalsi, Student, Team England Boxer

Jess Ward, Senior Manager, Youth Products, England & Wales Cricket Board

Kira Reeves, Head of Girls Rugby, St Joseph's College, Ipswich

TECHNOLOGY & DIGITAL

Aashi Sahu, Solutions Consultant, KONE

Catherine Reader, Non Executive Director, FlippGen

Emma Landriault, Kinexys, J.P. Morgan

Likitha Talluri, DevOps Engineer, Nationwide Building Society

Rawan El Jamal, Director, Solution Architect, Mastercard

YOUNG STAR

Anwen Grace Rodaway, Student, Aberystwyth University

Grace Anne Perry, Founder, Colour the World Better

Kseniia Strelbytka, Researcher, Reasonable

Rhea Patil, Founder & CEO, Nelvara

Simran Kaur Sagoo, Product & Industrial Designer