



By appointment
to HM The Queen
motor car manufacturers
Bentley Motors Limited
Crewe Cheshire



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BENTLEY

Press Information

BENTLEY MOTORS ANNOUNCES THE THIRD EDITION OF ITS EXTRAORDINARY WOMEN INITIATIVE FOR 2024

- **Students from five partner universities in the UK and Qatar will be mentored by Extraordinary Women Pioneers and Bentley experts**
- **Sara Davies MBE joins the cohort of Pioneering women and will mentor a student from the UK**
- **Bentley Motors' Extraordinary Women initiative is designed to inspire and develop the next generation of young female leaders**
- **Programme offered to students in the fields of engineering, design, technology and business from participating universities**

(Crewe, 18 March 2024) Bentley Motors has announced the launch of the third edition of its Extraordinary Women mentorship programme. Designed to encourage and develop the next generation of young female leaders, this year the initiative will involve students, universities and inspirational female Pioneers from the United Kingdom and Qatar.

The Extraordinary Women mentorship programme is organised in collaboration with the University of Bath, Loughborough, Warwick and Manchester Metropolitan in the UK and the University of Doha for Science in Technology in Qatar.

The programme focuses specifically on female students in the fields of engineering, design, technology, and business, and is a component of Bentley's wider commitment to diversity and inclusion, which falls under its Beyond100 strategy. It was created and crafted to encourage women to explore a variety of career paths in the STEM and automotive sectors.

Wayne Bruce

Director of Communications
wayne.bruce@bentley.co.uk
+44 (0) 7780 004537

Stefanie Lackner

Head of Sustainability
Communications
stefanie.lackner@bentley.co.uk
+44 (0) 7443 146394

Bentley Motors Ltd

Pyms Lane
Crewe
CW1 3PL

www.bentleymedia.com
communications@bentley.co.uk
@BentleyComms
@BentleyNewsroom



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Eight students from the UK and Qatar will be selected to embark on the programme, which will involve one-on-one mentorship by specially selected, high-achieving women – the inspirational Pioneers – and will culminate in a week-long visit to Bentley's headquarters in Crewe, England, this June.

The significance of the programme lies in highlighting the range of opportunities available for women. Participating students in previous editions in the UK, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates have been able to engage with Pioneers such as Amanda Leveté, a Stirling Prize-winning architect appointed CBE for her contributions to architecture, Saudi Arabia's Mishaal Ashemimry, the first female aerospace engineer in the Gulf region, and Amna Al Hashemi, an Emirati thought leader and serial entrepreneur.

This year, Sara Davies MBE joins the cohort of Pioneering women and will mentor a student from the UK. The founder and owner of Crafter's Companion, a craft supply company that employs more than 150 people worldwide, is an inspiration to many women all over the globe. Sara is best known for her place on the BBC One show *Dragons' Den*, as the show's youngest ever female investor and appeared on BBC One on 15 March in ***Snow Going Back: Comic Relief vs. The Arctic***, where she has taken part in an incredible trek in the Arctic Circle for Comic Relief.

She commented: "I love what Bentley is doing, celebrating the achievements of female talent; and most importantly supporting the growth of exceptional young females through their Extraordinary Woman initiative. I cannot wait to get started and meet the student I shall be personally mentoring".

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Karen Lange, Bentley's Board Member for Human Resources, commented: "It is a source of pride and inspiration to everyone within Bentley to see the Extraordinary Women programme going from strength to strength, as it enters its third year and expands to a fourth country. Our aim for this extraordinary initiative has been to build a legacy for young women and support the success of the next generation of future leaders, and with past participants progressing to undertake placements with Bentley, we are already witnessing the positive impact it is having."

The extraordinary women programme is one of many initiatives from Bentley Motors to champion gender equality, empower women globally, and foster inclusion. As part of its Beyond100 strategy, Bentley aims to become the most diverse luxury car company with colleagues as individual as its cars.

- ENDS -

Notes to editors

Bentley Motors is the most sought after luxury car brand in the world. The company's headquarters in Crewe is home to all of its operations including design, R&D, engineering and production of the company's five model lines, Continental GT, Continental GT Convertible, Flying Spur, Bentayga and Bentayga EWB. The combination of fine craftsmanship, using skills that have been handed down through generations, alongside engineering expertise and cutting-edge technology is unique to UK luxury car brands such as Bentley. It is also an example of high-value British manufacturing at its best. Bentley employs around 4,000 people at Crewe.

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