**News Release**

**For Immediate Release**

**18 October 2022**

**MDL’s Sail Training Awards 2023 are open for nominations**

Nominations are now being sought by MDL Marinas for its Sail Training Awards 2023.

Now in their fourth decade, these unique awards offer twelve inspirational young people each year the opportunity to enjoy a life changing sailing experience with the Ocean Youth Trust South onboard its sail training vessel, *Prolific*.

**Nominate a young person today**

MDL is looking for third party nominations for young people aged between 12 and 18, who have overcome adverse personal circumstances, shown exceptional accomplishments and achievements or who have supported those around them.

Those in contact with young people are invited to send in nominations, including teachers, guide or scout leaders, youth group leaders, friends and employers.

Past winners have included young people who’ve been outstanding achievers, involved in voluntary work, never had the chance to travel abroad, or who’ve had added family responsibilities.

The deserving winners will spend five nights and six days onboard *Prolific*, becoming involved in all aspects of life on board, including hoisting sails, helping with maintenance, sailing the boat at night, and cooking and cleaning with the rest of the crew. This all-encompassing voyage will take place 1-6 April 2023, departing MDL’s Ocean Village Marina.

“Being onboard *Prolific* helps to build a young person’s confidence and creates a sense of responsibility and pride,” says Hazel Craik, organiser of the Sail Training Awards at MDL.

“Over the past 30 years plus, we’ve seen just how much of a difference a voyage with Ocean Youth Trust South can make to someone’s life. The work the charity does with young people is fantastic and we’re delighted to support it with our Sail Training Awards.”

The winners will be selected from the regions in which MDL Marinas are located; the South West, Dorset, Hampshire, Thames Valley and East Coast.

Nominating is easy, it’s all online. You’ll need to provide some basic contact details and write a couple of paragraphs (no more than 200 words) on why you’re making the nomination. Go to <http://www.sailtrainingawards.co.uk/>

Nominations close on Friday 13th January 2023. A shortlist will then be compiled for local interviews before the winners are selected in March 2023.

**Ends**

**Notes for editors**

High res images are available online at <https://maa.agency/media-centre>

**MDL Marinas Group Ltd**

* MDL Marinas Group is the UK’s leading marina and water-based leisure provider and one of Europe’s largest marina groups, offering members over 160 destinations to cruise to in the UK, France and Spain. Currently MDL Marinas manages 18 UK marinas and one in Spain.
* MDL Holidays is part of the MDL Marinas Group, offering waterside holidays in luxury lodge and holiday park accommodation.
* New to the MDL Marinas Group, MDL Fitness is a range of green gyms where the fitness equipment converts human kinetic energy into electricity.
* MDL Marinas Group is proud to be landlords to over 500 marine businesses, with over 260 staff delivering the unique MDL experience to all berth holders, visitors and commercial partners.
* The company also advises on worldwide marina developments.
* For more information visit [www.mdlmarinas.co.uk](http://www.mdlmarinas.co.uk)

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MAA

Susannah Hart

Email: [susannah@maa.agency](mailto:susannah@maa.agency)

Tel: +44 (0) 23 9252 2044.