

flyingstart

Clare
Gage



Name: Clare Gage
Age: 24 years
Business: Clare Gage
Service: Design and manufacture of textile inspired ceramics
Website: www.claregage.com
University: University of Cumbria

Description of business: Clare Gage's elegant collection of tableware is a fusion of hand-crafted textiles and delicate ceramics. Every piece is formed from hand woven fabrics, transformed into individual moulds and created in porcelain from her studio in Derbyshire. All Clare's creations are eclectic, individual and yet completely functional. Clare's products are sold online, in shops and galleries across the country, at select exhibitions and at public events such as the Country Living Fairs.

Business awards:

- * 2007 - Won RSA Design Directions: Ceramic Futures Award and granted fellowship of the RSA.
- * 2007 - Short-listed for Trevor Campbell Award.
- * 2007 - Short-listed for the Ceramic Festivals Design Award.
- * 2007 - Won Excellence in the Community Award by Derbyshire County Council.
- * March 2009 - Won Editors Choice Award at the Country Living Spring Fair.
- * June 2009 - Won Best Presented Stand Award at Holmfirth Arts Market.
- * 2009 - Not On The High Street Partner Competition Winner.
- * August 2009 - Won Craft & Design Selected Silver Award.
- * Featured in the local, national and international press.

How has FlyingStart helped: 'The training course gave me the confidence to make plans and begin my business. The most useful lesson learnt during the course was the importance of networking. This is something I have continued to do since starting the business and find that it not only brings opportunities but also provides personal support for your business.'



At a glance....

Degree: Applied Arts
Graduated: 2007
Started Trading: February 2008

About the FlyingStart Programme

This 12-month business start-up programme for new entrepreneurs is delivered by the NCGE and supported by the UK Government's Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS). An intensive three-day residential training course is followed by 12 months' specialist mentoring and support. The aim is to have 60% of all graduates trading within one year. FlyingStart ensures all new graduate businesses have a ready-made national and regional network, a dedicated mentor, appreciate the 'know-hows and know-whos' of practical business, and understand how to make money.