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THE STORY BEHIND THIS YEAR'S ANGEL COMPETITION

Since its inception, the Angel Business Plan Competition has become one of Mont Rose College's most anticipated annual events, designed to celebrate entrepreneurial spirit, innovation, and the incredible diversity of our student community.



Now in its 2025 edition, the competition has grown bigger and bolder. With seven inspiring finalists from across departments and disciplines, this year's competition represents the most diverse pool of business ideas yet—from healthcare and beauty to sustainable fashion and real estate. Each student has crafted a business plan and undergone three months of hands-on mentoring, guided by the college's Business Department and Engagement Department.

Following a competitive application process in February and an intensive series of marketing, finance, operations, and law workshops, these finalists are ready to take the stage. Their mission? They want to pitch their dreams to a live audience and a panel of industry experts and prove that ambition, when nurtured, can have an impact.

Building on the legacy of past winners—like **Irina Paduret** (Desserdirina, 2022), **Nicoleta Tirgovat** (VickyTar NailTech, 2023), and **Silvia Atanasova** (Mediterranean Realty Connect, 2024)—the Angel Competition 2025 stands as an inspiration of what's possible when talent meets opportunity.

As we gather again at Mont Rose House, we invite you to support, cheer, and be inspired by the stories and ideas that might shape tomorrow.

PREVIOUS COMPETITION WINNER

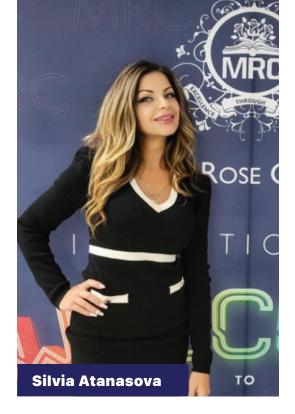
SILVIA ATANASOVA

WINNER OF THE ANGEL COMPETITION 2024
MEDITERRANEAN REALTY CONNECT

While studying Business Management at Mont Rose College, Silvia Atanasova transformed her academic journey into a thriving entrepreneurial venture. With extensive experience in business development and digital marketing, Silvia launched Mediterranean Realty Connect (MRC)—a real estate firm specialising in exclusive investment opportunities in Northern Cyprus.

Her innovative approach, strategic insight, and passion for international business set her apart during the 2024 Angel Competition, where she delivered a compelling pitch that demonstrated both vision and viability. Since winning, Silvia has continued to grow her enterprise, forging key partnerships and positioning MRC as a trusted name in cross-border real estate investment.

"The Angel Competition gave me the platform, mentorship, and confidence to take my idea beyond the classroom. It was more than a competition — it was the launchpad for my future." – Silvia Atanasova.



Her story continues to inspire aspiring entrepreneurs at Mont Rose College.

Follow her journey: Mediterranean Real Connect – Facebook

LinkedIn Feature: Mont Rose College – Angel Competition Post



ALINE WABI NZUMBA

BUSINESS NAME

DE GRACE EVENT & RESTAURANTS

I am studying Business Management at Montrose College. I am the proud founder of De Grace Event & Restaurants—an African food venture inspired by passion, tradition, and over 15 years of hands-on experience in my parents' restaurant back home in Congo.

Since arriving in the UK, I've been cooking and selling authentic, homemade dishes within my local community, building a loyal customer base through word-of-mouth and a strong reputation for bold, unforgettable flavours.

With a Level 2 qualification in Hygiene, Health and Food Safety, I am committed to upholding the highest food preparation and service standards.

Now, I'm ready to take De Grace Event & Restaurants to the next stage by launching a full-scale restaurant—one that introduces rich African flavours to a broader audience while creating a warm, welcoming space that celebrates both food and culture.

De Grace Event & Restaurants is about authentic flavour, culture, and food that unite people.



DANIELA ANDREEA IVAN

BUSINESS NAME

ANDREEA'S ART

Thank you for the opportunity to take part in the Mont Rose College Angel Competition.

My name is Andreea, and painting is more than just a passion—it's the heart of everything I do. Through Andreea's ART, I breathe new life into everyday items by transforming them into unique, hand-painted creations. From customised shoes and clothing for children and adults to reconditioning used footwear, each piece I create reflects creativity, care, and individuality.

What began as a hobby has become a small but vibrant home-based business, supported by a growing Facebook, Instagram, and TikTok community. My dream is to take Andreea's ART to the next level by launching a dedicated website and one day, my very own studio where art, fashion, and sustainability come together.

With love in every brushstroke, I'm excited to share my work with the world.



SONIA BARCELOS

BUSINESS NAME **S&B NEARBY PRIVATE CARE LTD**

Blending healthcare with holistic well-being, Sonia Barcelos brings a heartfelt vision to the Angel Competition 2025 with S&B Nearby Private Care Ltd. Drawing on her professional experience in both the NHS and beauty sector, her business aims to provide personalised at-home care and pampering services for elderly and vulnerable patients. Her unique approach combines essential personal support with uplifting beauty treatments to promote dignity, joy, and mental well-being. Sonia envisions building a compassionate care team and becoming an accredited health and social care trainer.



JOSEPH OSONDUKWE

BUSINESS NAME NOBLE HEALTHC

NOBLE HEALTHCARE SERVICES

Noble Healthcare is committed to delivering exceptional care to residents experiencing mental health conditions or learning disabilities. We provide high-quality accommodation and tailored facilities to meet each individual's unique needs. Through our dedicated approach, we aim to significantly enhance the lives of our service users and create a rewarding and supportive environment for our employees.



MISBAH SAFEER

BUSINESS NAME MISHI TAILORING

With over eight years of experience in the tailoring industry, Misbah Safeer introduces Mishi Tailoring—a one-stop tailoring and stitching service designed for all communities and all genders. Her innovative concept brings together English and Asian styles under one roof, offering fast, same-day services that cater to modern fashion needs. Misbah's goal is to eliminate the hassle of fragmented services and expand through franchises across London and beyond. With Mishi Tailoring, she aims to create an inclusive centre point where tradition meets convenience and everyone feels represented.

SAMPA DEY

BUSINESS NAME **SAMPA'S FASHION**

Sampa Dey brings vibrant cultural heritage to the UK fashion scene by offering a curated selection of traditional Indian clothing, jewellery, and a stylish range of Western apparel. Her business is growing through online platforms, with plans to expand into a physical retail space.

What sets Sampa's Fashion apart is its inclusive range, from children to adults, and the flexibility of nationwide delivery, providing easy access to traditional wear without store limitations. By blending elegant craftsmanship with digital convenience, Sampa is building a brand honouring tradition while embracing modern consumer needs.

Her long-term vision is to grow her customer base, enhance visibility through social media promotion, and open a boutique celebrating diversity and cultural expression in fashion.



LOURENÇO FERNANDES

BUSINESS NAME LAURENCO BOX

Founder of Palao Brother, Lourenço Fernandes, brings the heart of traditional Indian cuisine to the fast-paced lives of modern Britain. Based in Chatham, Kent, his food business offers freshly prepared Indian dishes using locally sourced ingredients, served with both authenticity and affordability in mind.

More than just a takeaway, Palao Brother is a culinary experience focused on high-quality meals, eco-friendly packaging, and fast, reliable delivery. With a vision to become Britain's finest Indian food brand, Lourenço aims to grow his venture through innovation, exceptional service, and a promise: delivering generous portions, great taste, and warm hospitality right to your doorstep.

MEET THE JUDGES

MR DESH SHARMA

HND Business Programme Leader

Our Business Programme Manager, Mr Desh Sharma has played an instrumental part in this competition.

Mr. Desh is a Certified Associate of Indian Institute of Bankers. He has a Masters in Commerce and a Postgraduate Certificate in Higher Education.

In his current role as a Programme Manager for Business, Mr. Desh is responsible for planning and designing of the programme and proactively monitoring its progress.



MR BILAL SHEIKH

CEO

He sought to bring positive change to the East London area. Founding Mont Rose College in 2006 and has since achieved Chartered Manager Status and Chartered Fellow Status.

Mont Rose College now has three sites and currently educates nearly 1000 students!



MEET THE JUDGES

CYRIL BEKOE

Ilford Business Improvement District Manager at Savills Place

Cyril Bekoe is a crucial figure at Ilford BID, dedicated to business improvement and community engagement. He oversees initiatives and projects that enhance Ilford as a destination, improve public safety and the public realm, and support local enterprises. With a strong background in urban development and business advocacy, Cyril's efforts also include raising brand awareness, increasing footfall, and celebrating diversity and community spirit. His extensive experience and dedication make him an invaluable judge for this year's Angel Competition.



Cllr Tanweer Khan

Entrepreneur and Investment Banker

Cllr Tanweer Khan is a dedicated public servant, entrepreneur, and investment banker with a passion for community empowerment and social impact.

The son of immigrant, illiterate, working-class parents, Tanweer's life journey has been anything but ordinary. After surviving a near-fatal accident when he was just 7 years old - having been hit by a lorry while cycling and falling into a coma - he defied expectations to earn a Master's degree from the University of Cambridge.



MEET THE JUDGES

Neal Banks

Xchange Sales and Lettings Ltd

With nearly a decade of experience at the family-run business Xchange Sales and Lettings Ltd, Neal Banks has developed a solid foundation in navigating the demands of a competitive industry. Their business approach is defined by a balance of ambition and discipline, making bold yet principled decisions. Shaped by strong family values and real-world experience, they bring a practical, results-driven perspective and a deep respect for those striving to build and grow their ventures.





EVENT SCHEDULE

Time	Activity
9:45 AM	Opening & Welcome Remarks:
	Vasilita & Mr. Bilal Sheikh, followed by Judges & Audience Briefing
10:05 – 10:25 AM	Daniela Andreea Ivan
10:25 – 10:45 AM	Sampa Dey
10:45 – 11:05 AM	Misbah Safeer
11:05 – 11:25 AM	Joseph Osundukwe
11:25 – 11:45 AM	Sonia Barcelos
11:45 – 12:05 PM	Lourenço Fernandes
12:05 – 12:25 PM	Aline Wabi Nzumba
12:25 – 12:40 PM	Stall Visits by Judges & Guests
12:40 – 1:00 PM	Judges' Deliberation & Panel Discussion
1:00 – 1:15 PM	Winner Announcement & Award Speech
1:15 PM	Lunch (Upstairs – Staff & Guests)

VASILITA GOLBAN

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT OFFICER

ANGEL COMPETITION 2025 COORDINATOR

This year's Angel Competition 2025 has been nothing short of extraordinary. As the Student Engagement Officer and organiser of this event, I am filled with pride, gratitude, and deep admiration for what we have achieved together as a community.

With seven inspiring finalists, we have officially broken the record for the highest number of students reaching the final stage — each of them bringing forward a unique vision, shaped through hard work, creativity, and an unwavering belief in their dreams. What began as early-stage ideas on paper has become strong, confident business concepts, ready to take on the world.

A heartfelt thank you goes to our incredible mentors, Mr. Yannick Fansi and Mrs. Fathima Aqila Mohamed Ali, whose support has been instrumental in this transformation. You both provided more than just business guidance — you offered time, compassion, and belief. You nurtured these students from the first idea through the ups and downs of development, helping them refine their strategies, build confidence, and present their dreams professionally and proudly.

I also extend my profound appreciation to our distinguished judging panel, who brought insight, integrity, and inspiration to this competition. Your thoughtful questions, encouraging feedback, and generous time helped shape the experience for every student involved. Thank you for being part of this journey:

Mr. Bilal Sheikh

Mr. Desh Sharma

Mr. Cyril Bekoe

Cllr Tanweer Khan

Mr. Neal Banks

To our wider Mont Rose College community, thank you for showing up, cheering on our finalists, and contributing to the energy and excellence that made this event so special.

This competition proves that Mont Rose College is more than just a place of study — it's a launchpad for bold ideas, entrepreneurial spirit, and future leaders.

Here's to dreaming big, working hard, and lifting each other higher!



THRIVE. ACHIEVE. EXCEL.

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