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The Puppet Company honoured in Small Business Growth Awards

The Puppet Company has been named the East of England winner in the Family Business category at the Small Business Growth Awards, organised by HSBC UK and the Federation of Small Businesses.

The Family Business Award category recognises family-run SMEs with fewer than 250 employees, with judges assessing how family values contribute to business success. The company will now progress to the national final.

Founded 25 years ago by former teachers Sue and Peter Lockey, the business began with products designed at the family kitchen table to support children's learning through play. Its puppets and soft toys are now sold internationally.

The company remains family-run, with members of the founding family involved across the business, including in design, marketing and sales. Following Peter Lockey's passing in 2021, the family has continued to lead the company.

Regional winners attended a ceremony at the University Arms in Cambridge on 30 April. The national final will take place at London's Savoy Hotel on 4 June.



Right: Katy Rugman (nee Lockey), product and marketing director, with the trophy.