



Mandy and Little Miss Inventor © Mandy Haberman Library

## Women Inventors: Looking to the future

As part of this project we interviewed women inventors from East London in the pre-patent stage of product development. We also interviewed award-winning entrepreneur Mandy Haberman, inventor of the non-spill toddler cup the *Anywayup Cup*, who shared her experiences and stories as a woman inventor.

### East London's women inventors today

"I grew up in Woodford and we moved to Essex when I was about 13. I designed sensory aids for children with developmental disorders. My dad and brothers both have Asperger's syndrome and I've got ADHD so I've been around a lot of learning difficulties in my life. It was combining the two together - sort of seeing space in the market for a product. It was so personal to me, designing something that affects people like me or people like my family members. You get a buzz when you have an idea. I think any inventor will tell you that."

-Tia Chowdhury, teacher, designer and inventor

"I was born in Hackney in the East End and when I was ten we moved to Stamford Hill and then kept migrating north. I've always been an ideas person. I saw this road safety problem and I started doing research... I identified what the issue was and spoke to various people about what I'd thought of. That was 2016 when I first came up with the idea."

-Eka Davies, artist and inventor



Tia Chowdhury: teacher, designer and inventor



Little Miss Inventor © MR. MEN™ LITTLE MISS™

### Celebrating women inventors

"I have two sorts of feelings about the British Female Inventor of the Year award. My gut reaction is you shouldn't need to have one just for females, because that's like saying you can't compete with the men. But the reality is that winning that gave me a platform. In a perfect world you wouldn't need it but it really was a very positive experience."

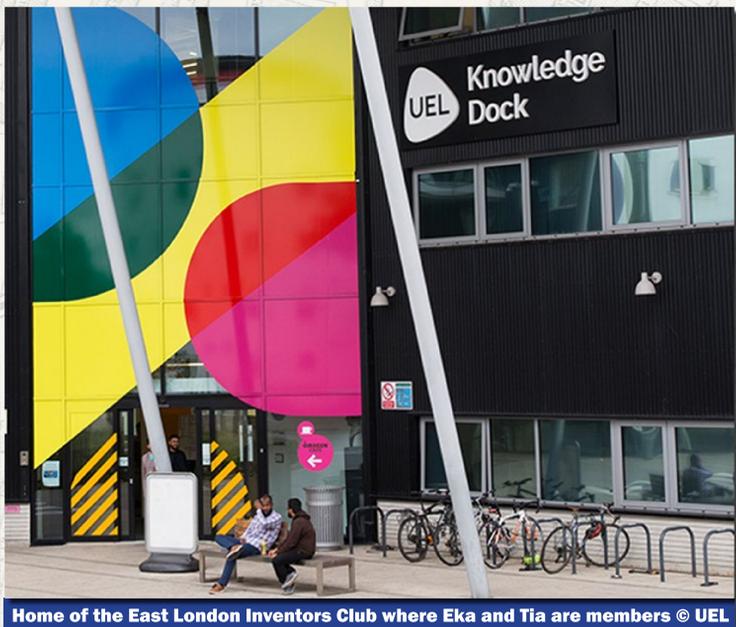
-Mandy Haberman, inventor

"You're giving them an inventor as a role model, which puts in the mind right from the start - I can be a scientist and I can invent, so I think that's huge. I thought it is such a brilliant thing to do, because instead of just Barbie you've got Little Miss Inventor too. How wonderful is that? Not to say that you can't have Barbie as well and Ken and everything else but I think it needs to be there, it's diversity after all."

-Mandy Haberman, inventor



Mandy on BBC One's *The One Show* © BBC



Home of the East London Inventors Club where Eka and Tia are members © UEL

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