

PRESS RELEASE



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STUDENTS RAISE MONEY IN STYLE!

The Yeovil College end-of-year Art and Fashion Show has raised more than £2000 for the Yeovil College Bursary Foundation (YCBF), which is dedicated to financially supporting hardworking students who might otherwise have to leave education.

Staff and students from departments across the College, including Business, Art & Design, Hair, Hospitality and Performing Arts, joined forces for the event.

The show received support from local businesses and corporate sponsors. For the first time, students modelled clothes from retailers including New Look, ABC, Frederick L Mabbs and Miss Selfridge. Charity shop Brainwave also provided clothes for a section of the show

entitled 'recycled', where students used their creativity to find new uses for unwanted clothes.



Jazmin Wilde and Mia Knight model Sixties style dresses by Leigh Ritchie and Mia Knight

The models hair and make-up was done by the College's Hairdressing students along with staff from Frederic's Hair and Beauty.



Buckler's Mead pupil Danielle Skeggs models her self-made felt wrap and skirt.

The work of local school children was also included, which they produced during a series of workshops held at Yeovil College. The workshops were supported by Aim Higher, an organisation dedicated to raise the aspirations of young people and encouraging them to pursue education to a higher level. The pupils from Bucklers Mead Community School and Westfield Community School created a number of fun and creative pieces on the themes of 'felt', 'plastics' and 'recycling' for the show.

Two fashion shows took place on the day, attended by teachers and pupils from local schools, as well as members of the public and local dignitaries, including Yeovil Mayor Cllr. Wes Read. The evening's gala performance attracted nearly 200 people and there were additional visitors to free Art exhibitions in the multimillion-pound Leonardo Building.

Jo Roundell-Green, Chair of the YCBF, was grateful for the support of everyone involved. She said "The YCBF was founded in 2002 and since then it has given away £18,000 in bursaries to support hard working students. The Foundation normally gives out six bursaries each year,



A Yeovil College dancer performs wearing one of the hats designed for the show

but this year we have been able to give out eight thanks to the generosity of patrons. We still need support, however, so that we can continue to help students and improve the skills base in Yeovil."

Yeovil College Principal James Hampton praised the work of the students and the bursary. He said *"The annual Arts and Fashion Show is a highlight of the year for me. It's a fantastic opportunity to celebrate the work of students over the last year and, from what I've seen, their effort was really worth it. It shows just how much young people from Yeovil and the surrounding area can achieve.*



Yeovil College Principal James Hampton (Centre) with Mayor of Yeovil Cllr Wes Read and Cllr Ian Martin, Chair of South Somerset District Council.

"The show is an important way to raise funds for the YCBF so that it can support hardworking students who need financial support to get to College. It would be a real shame if such young people couldn't continue their studies for want of a few hundred pounds. The Foundation exists to allow them to successfully develop into students like those on show tonight."

Art & Design lecturer Clarissa Ready co-ordinated the event, supported by students from Business and Creative Arts. She said *"I am very, very proud of all the students involved tonight. They did exceptionally well. The work on display, including the art, textiles and dance pieces, was very beautiful and, at times, very moving. It's also lovely to be able to support such a worthy cause and for everyone to be involved."*

The next Art & Fashion Show will be in June 2010. For more information about the Yeovil College Bursary Foundation, please visit www.yeovil.ac.uk/bursady_foundation.

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Notes to Editors

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