



North Yorkshire Competition
Managers

North Yorkshire Dance Showcase
24th February 2009
Harrogate Grammar School

COMPETITION
MANAGERS

STRICTLY COMES TO NORTH YORKSHIRE!



As part of North Yorkshire's ongoing commitment to physical activity and creative/expressive arts, North Yorkshire County Council, North Yorkshire Sport and North Yorkshire Competition Managers put on the inaugural North Yorkshire & York Schools Dance Competition at Harrogate Grammar on February 24th 2009.

Eight schools from across North Yorkshire put weeks and months worth of practicing their routines on display in what was considered by all who attended a fantastically high standard of aesthetics and choreography.

The expert eye of judges Edward Lynch, Donald Edwards and Laura Murphy, alongside an audience of fellow performers, family, friends and professional sports officers gathered together to create an exuberant atmosphere mixed with competitive tension.

After much deliberation Stokesley School's self choreographed piece, "*based on supernatural beings, superbly performed to Rihanna's Disturbia*" came out in first position. All Saints RC School, York created "*a fusion of street, contemporary and ballet held together with a hip hop rhythm*" to glide into second place. Third was shared between Brayton College's "*street dance piece incorporating B Boy styles*" and Archbishop Holgates School's performance to "*Let it Go by Brit & Alex*".



Although it was extremely difficult to split the schools the judges looked at;

- **Overall presentation of the dance, timing, performance and group dynamics**
- **Appropriateness of costume for the dance theme, the costume can be simple or elaborate, but must match the theme, style or content of the dance**
- **Creativity of the choreography, entrances and exits, spacing, use of stage space, patterns and imaginative motifs**
- **How well the group worked together and performed together throughout the piece**
- **The level of difficulty of the technique within the steps and the age of the participants when making decisions on the winning piece**

The Competition was made all the more special by the North Yorkshire County Youth Dance Company (NYCYDC) who performed 'Hidden Voices' as opening guests and closed the show with 'A Jazz Thing' and the school troupes stared open mouthed as they wowed in the professionalism of the dancers who they surely must aspire to emulate.

The real driving forces behind the Showcase were Gail Ferrin of Get Moving who organised everything from dance floor and co-ordination to all those below, who we offer special thanks, and Joanna Marston who was budget holder; event planner and school support amongst many other things. Special thanks to:

- **All of the performers**
- **NYCYDC – Junior & Senior members**
- **Teachers and support workers for helping and supervising Harrogate Grammar School, particularly Lucy Hodgson and her technical/box office team of students (and refreshments)**
- **Andy McNair – extra technical input and equipment**
- **The Judges**
- **The Audience**
- **North Yorkshire County Council**