

Discovering talent: finale

By **Ola Adeniran, 13, Jamila Sami-Ludlam, 15 and Rebecca Dixon, 15**

AFTER enjoying the opening event of this year's Discover Young Hackney 09 (DYH09) festival, Headliners reporters thought it would be fun to go to the closing showcase as well.

DHY09 was a two-month long festival in which local arts and cultural organisations gave young people in Hackney the chance to



explore their creative talents through workshops and events. We decided to attend the festival's closing evening to find out what young people had achieved through DYH09.

From the little we saw, the ending of DYH09 was okay. When

everyone had settled down after talking to people in the foyer who were promoting Olympic sports, the event was opened up by Choice FM presenter and local celebrity, Kat B. We all had different views on his opening presentation. Some thought he was funny and able to relate with both the teenage and adult crowd, but others thought he was praising himself and his success too much.

The disability led Graeae Theatre group then showcased a part of one of



Clockwise from left: Performers from disability led theatre company Graeae; young speakers at the event; presenter Kat B; & Mayor Jules Pipe who gave a welcome speech at the finale of DYH09

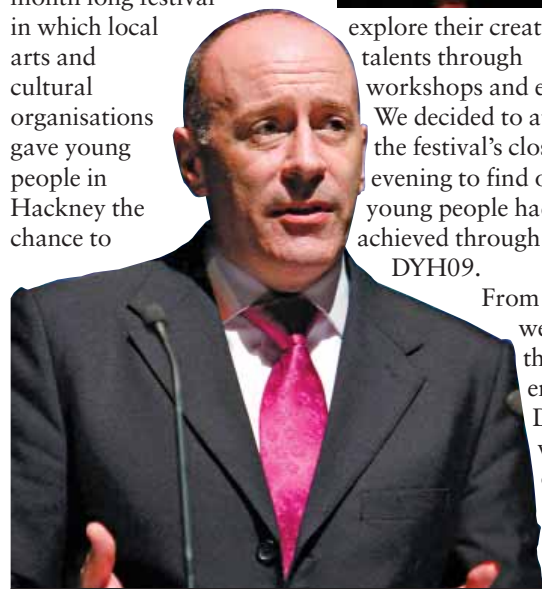
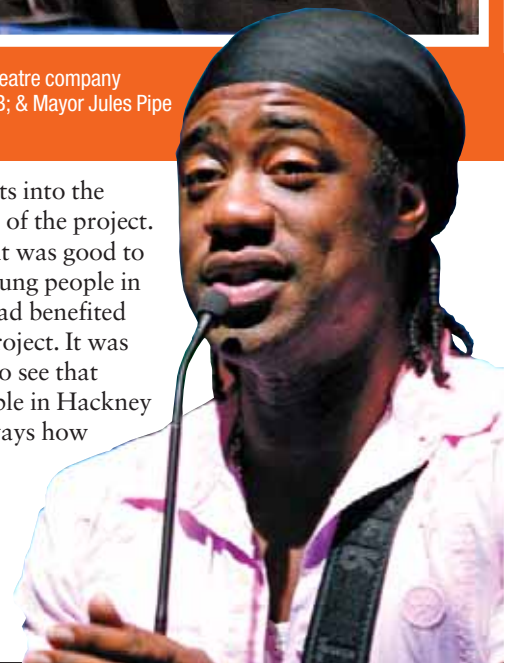
their productions. How did this relate to the DYH09 celebrations we wondered? (The finale was interpreted via British Sign Language in keeping with the festival's commitment to inclusivity.)

Mayor Jules Pipe also gave a welcome speech and we thought he seemed like a humble person.

We found the young peoples' speeches about their experiences of the festival intriguing as they

gave insights into the advantages of the project.

Overall, it was good to see how young people in Hackney had benefited from the project. It was also good to see that young people in Hackney are not always how the media portrays them.



Interview

Funky bins for recycling make a real difference

By **Gloire Ammany, 19**

FROM my own experience, recycling in Hackney is on the right track.

Statistics on the Council's website show that 24 per cent of all Hackney's waste was recycled last year. So far, for me, recycling schemes have been a success – the collections are always on time and the collectors always put your Green Box back in front of your door. There are also a range of recycling bins on streets and estates, some of which even look like cows.

Recycling has now become a habit for me because it is quick and easy and free of charge.

If we recycle more and encourage family and relatives to recycle more, we can help Hackney

achieve its targets. Statistics suggest that up to 60 per cent of rubbish that ends up in an average

household bin could be recycled.

I think that it would be right to fine residents who do not use the Green Box collection scheme, as this would encourage more people to contribute and it would help to counter climate change. Citizens should support the Government, instead of blaming

them, how can we blame them if we ourselves aren't doing anything?



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