



Limassol
Theatre Arts School

Limassol Theatre Arts School (LTAS)

4th Annual Talent Show

Limassol, 12th May 2014

On Saturday 10th May 2014, Limassol Theatre Arts School (LTAS) held their 4th Annual Talent Show with great success.

Limassol's own stage school for kids gave young singers, dancers, musicians and entertainers the opportunity to showcase their talents in a fierce competition organized into three age categories (juniors, intermediates and seniors).

The judges were:

Miss Amy Black:

Originally Amy is from North Wales, she completed her training in Musical Theatre at Dolphin Dance Studios in Liverpool, where she also gained all of her teaching qualifications and became an associate of the ISTD and IDTA. Amy started her performing career as part of the Dance Company 'Siege' performing in the UK theatre tours of The Ken Dodd Happiness Show and Swing Mania. Amy then went onto sing and dance aboard the MV Ocean Majesty, MV Ocean Monarch and MS Breamar for Mirage Show company and in touring shows for Hotels and Holiday companies in Greece and Tenerife. Amy then went on to produce and choreograph her own show and spent 4 years working for Bourne Leisure in the UK. Amy moved to Cyprus last year with her Show Group the Candy Heartbreakers, with whom she tours Hotels and Entertainment venues. She also produced and played the title role in Paphos' first professional pantomime – Cinderella this Christmas.

Mr. Ashley Andrews

Ashley trained professionally at Laine Theatre Arts graduating with his National Diploma in Musical Theatre (Trinity, London).

Theatrical credits include Original cast of *Drunk* (Leicester Curve & Bridewell Theatre, London); *Chicago* (Leicester Curve); Dance Captain and the role of Rory in *Bare* (Greenwich Theatre); Dance Captain for the Original UK Production of Dolly Parton's *9 to 5 The Musical* (UK Tour); *Wicked* (Apollo Victoria, London); *Billy Elliott* (Victoria Palace, London); Original Cast *Shoes* (Sadlers Wells); *Night of 1000 Voices* (Royal Albert Hall); understudy & played Mary Sunshine in *Chicago* (Cambridge Theatre, London); understudy & played Nick & Goody in *Fame the Musical* (UK Tour); Original UK Cast of *High School Musical* (UK Tour); Original Cast of *Never Forget the Take That musical* (UK Tour); *One Man's Dream* (Disneyland Tokyo, Japan); *Peter Pan & Jack & The Beanstalk* (Birmingham Hippodrome); the role of Kurt in *The Sound of Music*, & *Oliver!* (both Leicester Haymarket Theatre).

Miss Barbara Lucas

Barbara Lucas graduated from the National Conservatoire in Athens receiving First Prize and the Award of Exceptional Performance. She has been a prizewinner in many competitions and she has recorded for the radio and the television. She is frequently collaborating with many important orchestras and musical ensembles in Greece and Cyprus.

Judging:

The judges were overwhelmed at the array of talent they were presented with, which they hadn't quite expected! There were 60 acts on the day across the three sections. Whilst they struggled somewhat to compare dance acts with vocalists and comparing them again with musicians, they said that they particularly enjoyed the variety of acts that were presented. They found the standard extremely high, making the overall decision in each section a tough one.

Artistic Director of LTAS Lucy Georgiou who organized this competition:

"In Cyprus it seems to me that as a culture, 'Performing Arts' does not have the importance it has in other countries. The children here are so very talented; yet, they do not seem to have many opportunities where they can showcase their talents.

As a professional West End Musical Theatre performer, having worked in professional Theatre since the age of 4 years, living here in Cyprus has opened my eyes to the lack of theatrical training and opportunities in the performing arts that the children have here compared to those in the UK. In fact most promising Cypriot performers move away from Cyprus for vocational training, (if their parents allow them to!!!) and most certainly for employment in companies abroad.

I, therefore, not only created a vocational theatre stage school to train the promising children of Cyprus, but then created this competition in order to allow our children to express themselves and to be given the valuable feedback they need to make lifelong decisions about their futures! I could be wrong but it seems to me that we are a society of people who value and therefore focus rather more on Mathematics, Engineering, accountancy etc rather than encouraging our children to be creative and artistic. I suppose this is because we worry about the lack of employment in this field and we want security for our children? Nevertheless, even as a hobby for our children, we should be promoting them to express themselves through the Arts, and so this is what this competition is aimed at doing.

It also gives children from underprivileged financial backgrounds the opportunity to showcase their talent and if awarded a place in their section, they are awarded scholarships for training at the Theatre School that they couldn't otherwise afford. This can be life changing for these children.

I will continue to make a difference to the society here in Cyprus by promoting a love of the performing arts and dedicating my time to training these incredibly talented children."

Results were as follows:

Junior Section

Winner: Sam Piper 6 years
Runner up: Amelie Theodorou (LTAS student) 9 years
Special Commendations: Lidia Rogacheva (LTAS student) 8 years,
Cosmina Lazar (LTAS student) 9 years

Intermediate Section

Winner: Daniil Staroselsky (LTAS student) 12 years
Runner up: Sophie Campbell (LTAS student) 12 years
Special Commendations: Iman Arnous (LTAS student) 12 years
Amina Radzhibaeva 10 years
Maximos Agathocleous (LTAS student) 11 years

Senior Section

Winner: Alison Ioannou (LTAS student) 14 years (3rd year running as a winner)
Runners up: Vanessa Sami (LTAS student) 18 years
Sarah Miqdadi
Special commendations: Marios Sellas 17 years
William Pavli 16 years

Prizes:

Winners were awarded: A fully produced cover song with video sponsored by Soundscape Studios amounting to the value of 3600 Euro; various vouchers as well as scholarships to the Limassol Theatre Arts School (LTAS) for Vocal and Musical Theatre coaching.

Runners up were given a term's scholarship for vocal or dance tuition at LTAS and vouchers.

On top of this, a scholarship to the Musical Theatre Summer School at the renowned Pineapple Performing Arts Studio in Covent Garden, London was awarded to 1 participant – specially chosen by our panel of judges based on their potential and ability in Musical Theatre. The finalists for this were: Iliana Agathocleous, Maximos Agathocleous, Iman Arnous, Melissa Kyriacou. The judges chose 11 year old Maximos Agathocleous as the winner of this scholarship.

Limassol Theatre Arts School (LTAS) has announced its 5th Annual Talent Show to take place in March-April 2015. More details to follow.

Limassol Theatre Arts School (LTAS) is a new dynamic Stage School aimed at providing young people high quality training and performance opportunities. It brings alive the magical world of dance, music, drama and theatre arts, where true talent is discovered and nurtured till it reaches its true potential.

More information about LTAS can be found at www.limassolarts.com



Intermediate Winners with the Judges and Comperes.



Intermediate Winners with the Judges



Junior Winners with the Judges and Comperes.



The Judges and the Artistic Director of LTAS Mrs Lucy-Jane Georghiou. From left to right: Amy Black, Barbara Lucas, Lucy Georghiou and Ashley Andrews.