



# Limassol Theatre Arts School

## Limassol Theatre Arts School (LTAS)

### 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Talent Show

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**Limassol, 27<sup>th</sup> April 2016**

On Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2016, Limassol Theatre Arts School (LTAS) held their 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Talent Show with great success.

Limassol's own stage school for kids gave talented young singers, dancers, musicians and entertainers the opportunity to showcase their skills in a fierce competition of all performing disciplines. This performing extravaganza, was organized into three age categories (juniors, intermediates and seniors).

The judges were:

**Mr Damian Jackson:**

Over the last 22 years, Damian Jackson has worked extensively as both a dancer and choreographer in the West End. After graduating from Performers College with ballet, tap & modern teaching qualifications, Damian's theatre experience expanded to CATS, GREASE, COPACABANA, SATURDAY NIGHT FEVER and 'Billy Elliot' in the West End. Damian has also danced with many well known artists such as Cher, Dannii Minogue, Vanessa Mae, Steps, Atomic Kitten and Sir Cliff Richard. He also performed alongside Adam Cooper in 'Les Liaisons Dangereuses' at Sadler's Wells, London. Damian was assistant choreographer both in the West End and UK Tour of SATURDAY NIGHT FEVER and assistant choreographer on MINNIE THE MOOCHER Halifax commercial and the 2002 commonwealth games in Manchester. Damian is currently resident Choreographer on the smash hit musical 'Billy Elliot' which after a hugely successful 11 years in the West End, was performed for the last time just a few weeks back. Billy Elliot has been a huge part of Damian's creative career, being associate choreographer on the Dutch production & currently audition coordinator for the South Korean production.

**Mrs Janna Dimont Sargerson:**

Janna Dimont Sargerson is the Assistant Concertmaster of the Cyprus Symphony Orchestra which she has been a member of since 1999. She is a Lecturer of violin and chamber music at the Music Department of the University of Nicosia since its opening in Fall of 2005. Janna is a graduate of Master's degree in Violin Performance from Meadows School of the Arts at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas. She has lived, studied and performed in Cyprus, USA, Israel, Kazakhstan, Holland, Japan, Sweden and other countries, thus has participated in prestigious festivals and competitions such as Holland Music Sessions, Young Artists International, Ueda International Competition and many more.

**Mr Marios Charalambous:**

Marios Charalambous was born in Limassol. He was first introduced to music and was taught Byzantine music by cantor Nikos Papisavvas. He trained classically with soprano Sona Gargaloyan and world-renowned tenor Agim Hushi. In 2004 he was awarded a Diploma in Byzantine music (and the First Prize) from the Byzantine Music School of the Archdiocese of Crete and in 2005 he was awarded a Certificate in Voice Performance from the Guildhall School of Music & Drama. Marios has participated in various festivals, concerts and competitions in Cyprus and abroad, performing a wide repertoire of works from opera, folk and church music. Specifically in 2009, he performed roles from operas such as Verdi's 'La Traviata' and 'Rigoletto', Donizetti's 'L'elisir d'amore' and Puccini's 'La Boheme'. In 2007 he was awarded third place in a Greek National Song Contest. Since 2015, he has been a member of the vocal quartet Avanti 4, which gave concerts in St. Petersburg and in Cyprus during last year.

**Mrs Maggie Paterson:**

Maggie is the Principal of the Pineapple Performing Arts School and the Artistic Director for all PPAS productions. She has been a dance teacher at Pineapple Studios for over 30 years. Maggie has also choreographed numerous commercials, stage shows, pop videos and TV specials. In addition to all of this she still finds time to be an international adjudicator and judge for a variety of leading dance competitions, where she regularly awards scholarships to attend the Sunday school and the Pineapple Performing Arts Summer School. Her judging roles include the annual Showdown competitions held at Cadogan Hall for the borough of Chelsea and Kensington and also the prestigious International Dance Association, IDA 'Expressions' competition which is held annually in Florence, Italy, Maggie is the UK judge joined by internationally famed choreographers from the USA and Europe.

**Judging:**

The judges were impressed and overwhelmed at the range of talent the competitors presented! After over 100 participants in the semi-finals, there were 71 acts in the finals across the three sections. The judges found the standard extremely high this year, making the overall decision in each section a tough one. A variety of gymnasts, dancers, extremely well rehearsed songs and musical theatre numbers were presented. Whilst the judges struggled somewhat to choose winners and runner ups for each section, several participants were awarded the impressive scholarships and prizes. All judges agreed that while

they found it difficult to compare gymnastic acts with vocalists and comparing them again with dancers, they were particularly surprised by the vocalists and the choreography of certain musical theatre acts.

**Artistic Director of LTAS Lucy Georghiou who organized this competition:**

"Competition was fierce this year! All participants were extremely well prepared, with vocalists, gymnasts, dancers and actors displaying a great range of abilities in all 3 age categories. I am happy that children are finding more and more opportunities to perform and enrich their cultural development. In fact, this year there were over 100 applicants, we were lead to organise semi-finals for the competition. Unfortunately while we would like all children to perform take part in this extravaganza of performances, we are sadly not able to have 3 hour shows.

Having created a vocational theatre stage school to train the talented children of Cyprus 6 years ago, it is becoming increasingly obvious that many children have such a talent for performing on stage, it is only natural for them to want to showcase their skills. Hosting our talent shows gives us the opportunity to locate the talented youth of Cyprus and offer scholarships for training at our Theatre School as well as offer them our guidance and in fact, if we spot a child who is incredibly talented, we like to nurture and promote their talent. After all, this is why LTAS was created; we value and appreciate the efforts of children and their families who are encouraged to be more artistic and creative, thus our goal is to train and provide for these children as we know best.

As a professional West End Musical Theatre performer, having worked in professional Theatre since the age of 4, I know exactly what it takes to make it in the industry. It is a very competitive world, and I have made it my aim to create a team of professionals in the industry, who share my passion for cultivating children with great talent. Within the last few years my team and I have given children of our school numerous opportunities to perform in our shows and we have given valuable feedback in dance, vocals, acting and performing, which is needed to make lifelong decisions about their futures! Our students are blossoming into true professionals and we are happy to see that many are pursuing further training and careers in the UK and USA.

My team and 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:	Yana Prymark, 8, LTAS student
Runner up:	Andreas Constantinides, 9
Vocal Scholarship:	Maria Volodov Christodoulidou, 7, LTAS student

Special Commendations and other awards: Sonia Tsiklauri, 5, LTAS student

**\*Intermediate Section\***

Winners: Nicole Nicolaou, 11, LTAS student  
Anna Sokolova, 11

Runner up: Amelie Theodorou, 11, LTAS student

Vocal Scholarship: Olivia Abaian, 12

Special Commendations and other awards: Adriana Chira, 11, LTAS student  
Evita Christou, 10, LTAS student

**\*Senior Section\***

Winners: Maximos Agathocleous, 13, LTAS student  
Florida Theodosiou, 19, LTAS student

Runner up: Catrin Snaith, 16, LTAS student

Vocal Scholarships: Iman Arnous, 14, LTAS student  
Charis Orphanidou, 14  
Michaela Iacovou, 13

Special Commendations and other awards: Iliana Agathocleous, 16, LTAS student  
Andreas Kontides, 21

**\*Pineapple Performing Arts Summer School Scholarships\* Bianca Lazar, 14, LTAS student**

**Harrison Green, 11, LTAS student**

**Prizes:**

Winners were awarded: A fully produced cover song with video, as well as scholarships to the Limassol Theatre Arts School (LTAS) for Vocal, Dance and Musical Theatre coaching for a year.

Runner ups were given a term's scholarship for vocal or dance tuition at LTAS and various vouchers from Pizza Express and Danzante Dance Boutique.

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 2 participants – specially chosen by Mrs. Maggie Paterson and Mr. Damian Jackson based on their potential and ability in Musical Theatre. The finalists for this were: Evita Christou, Olivia Spilioti, Amelie Theodorou, Liliane El Zoheiri and Harrison Green from the Intermediates and Alison Ioannou, Iolanthe Georghiou, Nataly Stylianou, Catrin Snaith and Bianca Lazar from the Senior section. The judges chose 14 year old Bianca Lazar and 11 year old Harrison Green as the winners of these scholarships.

**Limassol Theatre Arts School** (LTAS) has announced its 7th Annual Talent Show to take place in March-April 2017. 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](http://www.limassolarts.com)



Junior Winners with the Judges and Comperes.



Intermediate Winners with the Judges and Comperes



Senior Winners with the Judges and Comperes.