



Students shape up in charity dance-off

Students took to the stage in an X Factor-style dance contest to raise money for a charity mission in Ethiopia.

The students from Havering Sixth Form College are looking to collect £5,000 throughout 2011 for GibMissionAfricaUK to help fund the building of children's centres and medical centres for the most poverty-stricken areas.

There is also a bigger project to build a nursery in Kenya for the Pokot tribe, costing £22,000, which staff and students are hoping to contribute towards.

A total of six acts competed in the dance-off – four solo dancers and two groups – for the chance to win the title and cash.

They were judged by staff members David Beesley, Lisa Leigh and Sue Joslin. Gym manager and PE Facilitator Chloe Newman, who organised the event, said: "The judges were supposed to only choose two for the final but they were so impressed they chose three."

Finalists Fuad Lawal, Joyce Agbonson and John Odigure went head-to-head in a freestyle dance-off to a hip-hop and street dance track remixed especially for the competition by a college technician. In the end John Odigure was voted the winner.

Chloe said: "It was good fun and everyone enjoyed it. I'm going to do another one next year."

Now the college is supporting volunteers from the same charity to get into gear training for an 18-day charity bike ride from London to Gibraltar in August. More details from the website <http://www.gibmissionafricauk.org.uk/> or from Chloe at the College, or by clicking on the fundraising page link <http://www.justgiving.com/adam-newman>