



Striking images on show at Havering Sixth Form College students' art exhibition

An art exhibition which showed off students' vivid imaginations was held at the Robert Beard Youth Centre, Hornchurch, on Friday, February 26.

Double Applied GCSE Art students from Havering Sixth Form College, displayed their varied and striking work in the exhibition entitled Perceptions of Youth.

The exhibition was a special project designed to show how young people in today's society can be dedicated, creative and free-thinking.

The seven students involved were: Amber-Rose Edwards, Zakk Merison, Shanice Austin, Stephanie Lockwood, Elle Lee, Jade Collins and Ash Langton.

A quote from the philosopher Plato, c 300 – 400 BC, was displayed as part of the exhibition, which said: "The young people of today think of nothing but themselves. They have no reverence for parents or old age. They are impatient of all restraint. They talk as if they alone know everything and what passes for wisdom with us is foolishness with them. The children now love luxury. They have bad manners, contempt for authority, they show disrespect to their elders.... They no longer rise when elders enter the room. They contradict their parents, and are tyrants over their teachers."

Deputy Mayor of Havering Cllr Melvin Wallace, who attended the event with his wife, Deputy Mayoress Joan, said he was most impressed with the art on show.

"This fabulous show has brought together a fantastic array of artwork which shows what vivid imaginations these young people have.

"The College tutors and all their mums and dads should be very proud of their achievements. It shows that the youth of today have so much talent, and I'd like to congratulate each and every one of them who has worked so hard on their exhibits."

The exhibition was funded by Havering Council's Integrated Youth Services as part of a project to produce art work for display in a matter of a few weeks. It was managed by Kat Etherington, Manager of Preventative and Universal Youth Services, who runs the Robert Beard Centre.

Tutor Steve Harrington, College Co-ordinator for Creative Arts & Media, said: "The students worked hard and produced quality work, considering they had only eight weeks from start to finish.

“This was the first exhibition of this kind we have run for GCSE students, but it was such a success, we are now hoping to run it annually. I'd like to thank Kat and all at the Robert Beard Centre for their hard work, and Pauline Morse, the College's art and design learning facilitator for initially getting the project off the ground.”