



Music students sing and play for Havering at Barbican competition

Havering Sixth Form College music students joined pupils from Hall Mead School to take part in an exciting venture that has seen them work with top-rated musicians and singer-songwriters.

The group of five A Level students from the College and five Year 10 girls from Hall Mead School, in Marlborough Gardens, Upminster, were chosen to represent Havering in a London Borough competition, called Songs in the Key of London.

They attended workshops run by Chris Difford, who plays with Jools Holland in the band Squeeze, and guitarist Matt Deighton, who has performed with Oasis, Paul Weller and fronted Mother Earth. During the workshops they composed and wrote music and lyrics for three of their own original songs about London which they played and sung at the competition against the other London borough entries at the Barbican in London, on Sunday, March 7.

Unfortunately they were not chosen as the winners – even though their song and performance was highly praised.

The College students involved were Jack Hertzberg, Andrew Jones, Emily Pavling, Oliver Sears and Alice Reynolds and the Hall Mead students were Natalie Fagbemi, Nicole Robinson, Katie Thornett, Charlotte Brown and Danielle David.

Jonathan Venner, College Head of Music and Performing Arts, said: "This has been a challenging and exciting project which has given the students the chance to work with professionals in the music industry.

"The students' song was among the best at the competition and they were very unlucky to miss out on the top spot. They performed brilliantly and worked so well together as a team."