

Dance Fever

Friday, 12th February 2010

On Wednesday 16th of December 2009 there was Dancer Fever at Maryhill-high school where over 250 people came along to watch it. The first ever dance show was held at the high school involving about 45 people overall. With the help of the audience the show managed to raise about £1000 to spend on dance equipment for the fitness suite.

About 30 students worked along side Miss Hambelton and Vicky Thornton. A lot of hard work was put in as they rehearsed for 2 months every Monday and Friday after school. They also went in on a Saturday for 3 hours, now that is determination. As the show came closer and closer that dancers picked out all their outfits, discussed any final things that needed changing and had 2 technical rehearsals.

During the auditions stages, students had the option of auditioning for either the group dances or a solo dance. 3 students managed to get a solo dance, two of which were Carley Mack and Lucy Simms who are part of their own dance clubs out of school. However, one student didn't audition for the show. This student was Stephanie Eardley, I asked her how she got into the show and this is what she replied, **"well I was doing a dance aerobics class with Vicki and Carley for 8 weeks before the auditions were announced.**

I never actually auditioned but I got asked to do the show as Carley was asked to make up a Banghra dance she asked me to take part in so I did and I'm glad I did as it was really fun to learn and make-up the dance."

After the auditions it was time for the teachers involved in the thriller dance. It might be a surprise but Mr Nicklin didn't learn the dance until the first technical rehearsal when he was asked to join in for a bit of fun. While the teachers were waiting backstage they were very nervous, but still managed to perform their best.

Lucy, Carley and Stephanie wearing an outfit for one of the dances.



The opening dance involved all of the students, setting high standards for the rest of the show. Followed Fight For This Love (featuring some dance moves from the music video). Thirdly, came Lucy Simm's dance to Sk8ter Boi. There were 6 dances in the first half, leading the show into the interval was 4girls dancing to Michael Jackson. Containing some of Michael's signature moves and also a flip leading into the splits, which surprised the whole audience. During the interval the dancers came round to the school foyer to talk to some of their friends and family and to give themselves and opportunity to cool down and relax before the second half of the show.

Kicking off the second half

Of the show was Carley Mack dancing to Dangerous by Kardinal Official feat. Akon. She dazzled the whole audience with her moves 6 dances followed on from Carley's one of which was a "Ghost" dance, where no music was played at the start of the contemporary styled dance. Finally, the show ended with a spectacular dance where all the students joined the stage together for the last time, before returning back onto the stage to bow and present Miss Hambelton and Vicky Thornton with flowers as a reward for their efforts. The whole show was kept together with the interesting comedy styling of the two hosts Lewis harrowing and Jason "Jace" Brough.

Shortly after the show I spoke to a few students about their thoughts on the show. **"I loved it, It was an amazing experience and gave me a chance to show my true talent."** Replied Carley. Other Dancers described the show as a chance to **"make new friends"**, a **"calm atmosphere"** and they **"felt the adrenaline"** while up on

the stage.

Talking to Carley, it seems that their will be another show in the future, as this one went so well. Maybe their will be even more people showing up to watch or even more students and teachers involved in the show, and we should even expect to see something **"totally different than last year's show"**. Some dancers are looking forward to it already as it will be **"another chance to make new friends and enjoy themselves"**.



carley mack

Carley before her dancing



Carley Mack has been dancing for 9 years, starting at the young age of 6. She performs at the Regent theatre every other year and in the years in-between she spends some time performing at smaller theatres. **"Performing on stage is amazing. The feeling you have when the adrenaline hits you is unexplainable and it takes away**

any fear that you have. The buzz that you get afterwards from performing on a big stage lasts for hours." She specialises in jazz, street jazz and tap, just recently finishing her 4th exam in tap with only 3 grades away from finishing the syllabus. Not only

does Carley do tap exams but she is also close to reaching the end of her jazz exams which means when she does she will get a degree in dancing. When asked what she likes about dancing Carley responded **"It's a way to escape from everything else that happens in my life as its individual. It gives me the opportunity to better myself and makes me feel good about myself."**

Carley is not alone in her dancing lifestyle, she has family and friends around to support her in everything she does. Every time she is up on the stage her family go to watch, her dad even goes backstage occasionally to congratulate her. At Carley's last big performance 'Adrenaline' she had 6 friends there to cheer for her

for the first time. She described the feeling as **"amazing"** and she could **"feel their support from the audience"**. Hopefully, in the future her friends would be able to watch her at most of her shows and support her through her dancing lifestyle.

Carley's dancing started out as a hobby but as she progressed she realised that with the talents she has she could pursue a career in it, even though it is a hard profession she won't give up. **"It would be a dream if I could get paid for doing what I love most"**. As a contrast to her busy life Style Carley's other hobbies include her watching telly, spending time with friends and involving herself in sports such as rounders and net ball.

LUCY Simms

Lucy in her troupe outfit



Lucy Simms started doing troupe at the age of 8, troupe is a type of dance style that is similar to cheerleading. When asked why she liked that style of dancing she answered **"it's different to dancing people normally do; and I like to be different."** Unlike Carley, Lucy does opening nights at the start of each

new season to show case their dances. From then on she does a series of competitions every Sunday, except potters day, up until October.

Lucy is very talented at what she does as she was won 7 trophies and over 250 medals! Her troupe occasionally has to go to holiday camps in order to compete against other teams. Her team loves to have fun when they dress up because one of their outfits for Halloween were bees.

As far as support goes Lucy said that her mum watches her perform sometimes. She appears to not be very bothered about the lack of support as she just thinks it's **"nice they have come to watch"** However, she wouldn't like her friends to watch her as she said **"I know they would think it's weird."** She doesn't

have any other hobbies anymore because she quit them because she didn't enjoy them as much as she enjoyed dancing. Even though she thinks her friends don't support her, she does. I asked Stephanie, one of her friends if she supported them and she replied **"Yes, I do support her as she is really good at what she does"** and judging by what people saw at the dance show, she is talented enough to get her own solo and to have people cheering her on while she was on stage and I think that over 250 medals certainly proves how good she is.

By Laura Shenton