



PRESS RELEASE
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Children to star at Bristol Fashion Week

Six children from two Bristol dance and drama schools have been picked to star on the catwalk at Bristol Fashion Week at The Mall at Cribbs Causeway next week. They will take turns modelling the new season's fashions in 18 spectacular fashion shows from Thursday 25th to Sunday 28th March.

The youngsters will join 12 professional adult models and the show hosts, TV fashion stylist Mark Heyes and celebrity hairdresser Andrew Barton on the catwalk.

Five of the children attend the Bristol School of Performing Arts. They include seven year old **Ava May Llewellyn** who is making her second appearance at The Mall's fashion spectacular after stealing the hearts of the audiences at last spring's Fashion Week event.

Ava May has a number of credits to her name already. She has performed in Snow White and Whistle down the Wind at the Bristol Hippodrome, sung in the 'Joseph' choir in Bristol and Bath and appeared in CBBC's Driver Dan's Story Train.

Ava May loved performing on the catwalk last year and says: "I'm very excited that I've been picked again for Bristol Fashion Week. It's lovely to get all dressed up in such pretty clothes and go out and perform in front of so many people."

Joining Ava May and making their catwalk debut at The Mall are 11 year old **Maia Tamrakar**, who has just finished playing the young Cosette in a tour of Les Miserables, and nine year old **Liam Scott** who also performed in Snow White at the Hippodrome.

The second trio includes 11 year old **Louise Johnston-Allen** who attends Funk It Up Dance School. As well as modelling on the catwalk, Louise will also perform with top Bristol dance troupe Synergy at the VIP fashion show. Six year old **Yohanna Hodgkinson** and **Oliver Farmer**, who appeared in CBBC's Driver Dan's Story Train and Whistle down the Wind, will join Louise on the catwalk.

Maria Crayton of The Mall at Cribbs Causeway says: "They say you should never work with children or animals but for us the children on the catwalk are the undisputed stars of the show. Most people in the audience have children or grandchildren and love seeing the children dance down the catwalk in the latest fashions. These six youngsters are fantastic young performers who really bring something special to our fashion shows."

John Redgrave of Bristol School of Performing Arts says: "It's wonderful for our students to have the chance to perform on the catwalk at Bristol Fashion Week. Working with professional models, dancers and choreographers is a great experience for them and I'm sure they'll do us and The Mall very proud."

Bristol Fashion Week at The Mall at Cribbs Causeway runs from Thursday 25th to Sunday 28th March with daily catwalk fashion shows and free style and beauty treats. Visit mallcribbs.com or The Mall's Information Desk for fashion show tickets.

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