



Fashion Awareness Direct

Supporting and promoting

the art of fashion, the culture of fashion, the future of fashion

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Model miss: Annie Skipper (right) with the girl who modelled her winning black dress design.

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Teenager is a fashion star in the making

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MOVE over Coco Chanel, a talented teenager from Woodford Green is after your fashion crown.

Annie Skipper a 17 year-old schoolgirl from Trinity High School beat off competition from hundreds of other aspiring designers to win top prize with her ubiquitous little black dress.

Her design will soon be hitting the shops to be sold under Asda's George label.

Sophie Clinch, Asda's chief buyer said: "This dress has an excellent finish, is very pretty, and will be easy to make and easy to sell."

Miss Skipper, who came first among 14 finalists, said: "If I could choose anyone in the world to wear my black satin trimmed dress, it would have to be Cameron Diaz at a film premiere."

She has also won an all expenses paid two-week work placement with Asda design studios.

The black party dress will be displayed on a catwalk during an Evening of Elegance on September 29 at the Textile Museum in London, when judges will also announce the names of three other finalists who have earned a special mention.

Though Annie is the overall winner, judges have decided to award a special mention to three other finalists, including the youngest finalist Alexandra Achille.

High School was given a special mention by the judges who were impressed by the creativity of her dress featuring panels of intricate knotted silk.

The competition was organised by Fashion Awareness Direct (FAD) who run projects for young people that foster their creativity and give them a platform to showcase their talents to the industry.

Rachel Fergus from Edge said: "The standard of entries did real justice to the students' talent and hard work."

"It was very tough choosing a winner. But having described Annie's dress to the other people in Edge's office, they said we can't wait for it to hit stores so we can have our own to wear."

Adrian Chapell of the Arts Learning Partnership added "This is a real world project. I liked the commercial hard-edged aspect. This was a tough challenge and the students have shown what they can do."

The Redbridge finalists were:
Alexandra Achille - Valentine 6th Form School, Essex
Nicola Hitchens - Wanstead High School, Wanstead
Grace Carlton - Trinity High School, Woodford Green,
Annie Skipper - Trinity High School, Woodford Green,
Yvonne Archibald - Trinity High School, Woodford Green,
Pamela Spencer - Woodford

