

# Drama school makes a first of it

SWISH of the Curtain Drama School is once again celebrating outstanding success in this year's Bournemouth Festival with 34 first-place wins.

Megan Pitt (18) won the Senior Speech and Drama Championship for the 2nd year running, winning the dramatic open class, second in Shakespeare over-16 and third in duologue class with her sister, Leah Pitt. (Her other sister, Alice also got a first in the party piece under 16 years)

Elisa Jacobs (10) came runner up in the Junior Championship (under 16) after winning the Acting Under 12 Years with her piece, Jane Eyre by Charlotte Bronte. This was selected to be performed at the festival concert at the Pavilion on Saturday - and this was her first ever solo piece in the festivals!

Swish pupils were awarded first places throughout the speech and drama competition in Acting, Shakespeare, Poetry and Mime.

Sally Noble, the adjudicator, also asked the winners of the group acting over 18 years if they would like to go to Bristol to perform the scene to her youth theatre after awarding it 89 marks. This scene, entitled First Betrayal, was written by Swish principal Tina Smith and starred Dominic Smith and Tammy Payne.

Dominic is currently playing Bill Sykes in the Swish production of *Oliver!* at The Regent Centre and Tammy Payne

is playing Charlotte Sowerberry.

Many other students who also had success in the festival can be seen in *Oliver!*, which runs until July 15.

Many children taking part have already worked in the professional theatre, Alex Edwards, who plays Oilver, played Chip in *Beauty and the Beast* at the *Mayflower*.

Dodger (Ben Mundy) played John Darling in *Peter Pan* at the *Mayflower*, and Rylan Cox played the Young Marajah in *Far Pavilions* in the West End.

Other West End credits for Swish include *Tommy*, *Oliver* & *Mary Poppins*.

Others have appeared in TV and Film, like Tiffany Hannam-Daniels (Girls Club) and Harry Coath (The Queen). Many appeared in *Harry Potter*, *Thunderbirds* and numerous commercials.

■ **The festival, which reached an end yesterday, is celebrated this evening with a Gala Concert at the Pavilion Theatre in Bournemouth. Tickets: 08701 113000**

**Hilary Porter**

## Results, Instrumental & Strings

■ Strings Grade 1 & 11 Solo: 1 Malread O'Connell  
■ Strings Grade 111 & IV: 1 Georgia Carrington  
■ Any Stringed Instrument Grade V & V1 Solo: 1 Holiday Wallis  
■ Any Stringed Instrument Grade V1 & Beyond Solo: 1 Rosali Curlett (The Achille Rivarde Cup)  
■ Advanced Solo Recital for any Stringed Instrument: 1 William McNichol (The Bournemouth Chamber Music Society is awarding two tickets for 2006/07 season in

memory of Mr Leslie Bickel)

■ Instrumental Duet or Trio: 1 Sophie Jones, Rachel Naylor & Helen Nicholas

■ Instrumental Ensemble: 1 Wessex 2 Quartet (The St Cecilia Cup)

## Percussion

■ Percussion Duet or Trio: 1 Jim Reeve-Baker & Liam Emerson

■ Percussion Solo: 1 Francis Smith

## Jazz

■ Jazz Duet or Trio: 1 David & Jonathan Howell

■ Jazz Solo: 1 Jonathan Howell (The Jackie Harris Award of £15)

## Brass

■ Grade V & V1 Solo: 1 Michael Wilson

■ Grade V11 & Beyond Solo: 1 Matthew Blunt (The Bosanko Brass Trophy and the Joe Bartlett Award)

## Piano

■ Grade V11 & Beyond: 1 Sung-Hee Kim (The Edith Goddard Award of £25)

■ Baroque Grade V11 and Beyond: 1 Hannah Ely (The Richmond Hill Women's Forum Cup)

■ Grade V & V1: 1 Steven Lee (The George Victor Ford Cup)



**CURTAIN CALLS:** Megan Pitt, who won the Senior Speech and Drama Championship for the second year running, and Elisa Jacobs who came runner-up in the Junior Championship (under 16)