W I N G S

WOHAA WINNERS

Wings of Hope ended a wonderful year of WOHAA with a bang on 21st April 2011 by hosting an Award Ceremony at Wembley Stadium.

The overall winners were team 'Evolution' from ACS International School, Haberdashers' Aske's Boys' School and Merchant Taylors's School.

Their award was presented by Simon Bird famously known for his role as Will from BAFTA-winning TV series, The Inbetweeners. (Pictured above with Wings of Hope Co-founders Dr Sri Ram FRSA and Mrs Rajni Sriram FRSA at Wembley Stadium).

There were 6 awards up for grabs: including the Most Innovative, Most Funds Raised, Most Awareness Raised, Most Innovative, Best SPEAK Out, Best Individual and the Overall Winners.

It was a wonderful end to an incredible year, and a great opportunity to say THANK YOU for all of your hard work!

Dearest friends,

As another hugely successful year of WOHAA draws to a close, I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank you for all of your kindness and support.

Without you, WOHAA would not be what it is today. We have had more schools on board than ever before, and I never cease to be amazed at the enthusiasm of the students, teachers and parent alike.

Your ongoing support means that we can plan for the future, to expand and develop our invaluable programmes providing education to orphaned and vulnerable children in India and Malawi.

As our work continues to grow from strength to strength, there is always more we can do. Please help us to continue our successes by sharing your thoughts and feedback with us. We would be so grateful if you could stay in touch as we take our next steps into WOHAA 2011-12 together.

Best wishes,

Mrs Rajni Sriram, CEO & Co-Founder

PERFORMANCES

Wings of Hope contacted schools from across London to recruit budding musicians to perform at the Award Ceremony. The response was phenomenal! There was an incredibly high calibre of artists making it difficult to select the performers!

The performances included a diverse range of jazz, indie and rock styles of music and some of them even performed their own compositions. We also had WOHAA participants Shivankit Hora playing saxophone, and Brandi Campbell-Quail performing a ballet piece.

MALAWI HIGH COMMISSION

We were honoured to host a representative from the Malawi High Commission, who reminded us all of the importance of our achievements in supporting our Indian and Malawian school programmes.

"On behalf of the Malawi Government, I would like to thank you for the support you are giving to Malawian children. The High Commission will keep supporting your activities in improving the welfare and education of Malawian children in any way possible."

Vupe G. Kunkwenzu, Malawi High Commission

UK Registered charity number: 1099685
Co-Founders: Mrs Rajni Sriram, FRSA and Dr R Sri Ram, FRSA
Tel: 020 8438 1598 Email: info@thewingsofhope.org Website: www.thewingsofhope.org

GUESTS AND KIND SUPPORTERS

Along with the company of Simon Bird, we had the pleasure of hosting some more esteemed guests at the Award Ceremony, including the Right Honourable Lord McNally (pictured left with Simon Bird and Co-founder Dr Sri Ram FRSA at Wembley Stadium) who attends every year. Lord McNally is the leader of the Liberal Democrats in the House of Lords, a Minister of State for Justice, and a loyal supporter of Wings of Hope.

Lord McNally presented the first award of the evening, the 'Best Presentation Award' to team One Way from Francis Holland School, who won the prize for their creativity - they even dressed up in jump suits at the semi-final event at the House of Lords!

After the event, he kindly wrote to us say,

"Thank you most sincerely for what is always a most inspiring evening. [My wife] Juliet and I enjoyed the whole evening."

BBC News presenter, Babita Sharma (pictured right), was our host for the evening. Bringing the professionalism that she has perfected at the BBC, Babita added a glamorous twist to the evening. Babita has kindly made time for us each year to be the Master of Ceremony, and we are incredibly fortunate to have such a talented individual support Wings of Hope in her busy schedule.

She hosted the Oscar-styled ceremony, by interviewing our guests and quizzing the students about what they had accomplished.

The second award was for Most Awareness Raised, which was presented by a representative of the Malawi High Commission. The award went to Team Parivartana from Hasmonean High School for Girls. The group of 6 girls shouted about the wonders of WOHAA to MPs, High Commissioners, and their achievements were featured in the news! They even visited the Houses of Parliament and visited Question Time!

The Wings of Hope Achievement Award Ceremony is a great opportunity to bring together students from across the UK. It was a wonderful and very supportive atmosphere as the results were announced and the students had a chance to celebrate their peers' achievements.

On the day, the participants of WOHAA 2010 - 11 gathered outside Wembley Stadium for a photo shoot to mark the occasion.

The Overall Winners at the event said,

"Our favourite WOHAA journey was simply winning the WOHAA Award. We really bonded as a group together and enjoyed our experience. We would like to thank all of WOHAA for giving us this award."

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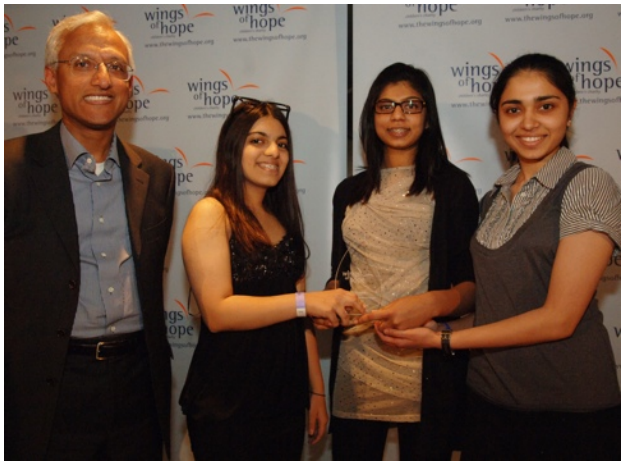
THE AWARDS

Mr Lakshmi, C.E.O of Tata Consultancy Services attended the event to present the award for Most Funds Raised.

Wings of Hope are very fortunate to have the kind corporate support of Tata Consultancy Services.

Mr Lakshmi is pictured with the runners up of the Most Funds Raised Award who were named team

'Esperanza' from St. Helen's School, Middlesex.



The winners of the **Most Funds Raised Award** (also presented by Mr Lakshmi), were 'Light Side of the Moon' from Haberdashers' Aske's Boys' School. This team also excelled in their creativity, budgeting and planning. They organised a sponsored 15 mile walk across London and, to add a complication, completed the walk wearing shorts and sandals! The boys also walked on broken glass, organised a dinner and dance, and did babysitting to raise even more funds!

The winners of the **Most Innovative Award** were team 'Plume' from Tormead School in Surrey. This prize was presented by Lord Dalmeny, Deputy Chairman of Sotheby's (pictured left). The girls made and sold home-made jewellery, and performed the 'Jai Ho' dance from the film 'Slumdog Millionaire' in various places across London.

The winner of the **SPEAK Out Award** - an award which is new to WOHAA this year - went to lone participant Sumanpreet Dhaliwal from Villier's High School, Middlesex. This award was presented by the Mayor of Brent, Mr Singh.

COMING UP...

In response to the fantastic number of submissions we had from musicians wanting to play at the Award Ceremony, at Wembley, we are looking into organising a summer music concert.

Watch this space...!

Another year of WOHAA is starting up, and we are now taking bookings for presentations at school assemblies. Contact us if you are interested.

Do you want to get fit this summer? We have 4 remaining places on the London 10K run on 10th July. Get in touch if you would like a place.

The Wings of Hope are working with universities to create a summer programme. Look out for details coming your way...

Missed out on the chance to attend the awards? Take a look at our YouTube videos which show what WOHAA participants have achieved, what the winners did and also show WOHAA manager interviewing Simon Bird!

www.youtube.com/user/WingsofHopeWOHAA

OVERALL WINNERS

The winner of the **Best Individual** Award went to Brandi Campbell-Quail from Claremont High School, Brent. Brandi held a range of events including a bar event, dance classes at primary schools and a talent show which the Mayor of Brent attended.

The **Overall Winners** (pictured right with Babita Sharma) were a team named 'Evolution' who came from schools: Merchant Taylor's School, ACS International and Haberdashers' Aske's Boys' School.

One member, Amal, could not attend the awards as he was in India.

The team, Karan, Amar and Shivankit organised a range of events including trick or treating, car washing, snow shovelling, tutoring and a glitz 'n' glam charity gala.

Overall first prize is an all-expenses paid trip to India to visit the Wings of Hope school programme in Chennai to see first-hand how their work has paid off.

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WINGS OF HOPE GLOBAL LEADER AWARD

Dr R. Sri Ram - Co-founder of the charity launched the Wings of Hope Global leader award. Pictured above with some of the global leaders, the award recognizes the vast potential of the alumni network of WOHAA. Over 10,000 students having participated in WOHAA, many have now achieved success in their chosen field. To be nominated for a Global leader, one should have excelled as a past participant of WOHAA or excelled in their chosen field.

Global fellows would form a core action group supporting the charity and would also be privileged to receive support from corporate sponsors of the charity. A select group will receive job placements, work experience placements and overseas trips to work with partner organisations. The Wings Global leader would be a prestigious award for the very select few who have the passion and drive to excel not only in their chosen field but also a passion to help community at large.

LE GEEK, C'EST CHIC!

The students certainly embrace the 'Geek Chic' theme of the event and Wings of Hope found it very hard to choose the winners of the Best Dressed Prize! They managed to pick 3 winners, who got some great prizes generously donated by Lazy Oaf.

It was very fitting to have Simon Bird from the Inbetweeners attend the event, who said,

"I think it [WOHAA] is amazing, it has been very humbling, sitting at the back, realising how little I do compared to all the kids who have done so much."

"It would have been great if my school had something like this to help encourage kids to do more, so I am hoping that more schools and more organisations get behind it."

SUMMER PLANS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

The summer holidays are fast approaching, so we dare you to:

FLY - Fly on the Wings of Hope (with a little help from a parachute!) at 10,000ft high.

RUN - Get fit this summer and snap up a place on the London 10k on 10th July 2011. Sign up today!

PEDAL - A great way to spend a summers day! We have a number of cycling events this summer, so don't miss out and contact us to reserve a place.

DONATE - Just £2.50 a week can help educate a child.

Interested? Call: 0208 438 1598 NOW!

THE SUMMER PROGRAMME

Wings of Hope have huge, ambitious, plans to create a summer programme for university students.

Our focus is on personal development - students are encouraged to look at job descriptions and identify where they need to gain experience for their own career objectives. What's more, it is FUN, INCLUSIVE and offers a chance to win some TOP PRIZES!

CONTACT US

We love to hear from people who have been involved in WOHAA and Wings of Hope. If you have any ideas, want to get involved, would like more info, or just fancy a chat, please get in touch! There's also heaps of information on the website: www.thewingsofhope.org

Email us: info@thewingsofhope.org
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FIND US ON FACEBOOK

Don't just 'like' WOHAA, LOVE it!

Join our Facebook page:

Wings OfHope Children's-Charity

It's an easy way to stay in touch with the Wings of Hope team.

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