

APPLAUSE SUSAN SCHWARTZ



From St. George's: Andreea Kaplin (left), Olivia Kostin-Cohen, Alex Cohen, Natalie Vineberg, Sara Diamond, Adam Koren, Michaela Kovic, Rachel Kirstein, Patrick Park. Missing: Matthew McPherson.

Song-and-dance showdown raises funds

Glee-ful students shine at contest

The first annual Just for Kids Foundation Glee High School showdown, a song-and-dance competition held Nov. 21 at the Loyola High School auditorium, brought in more than \$35,000 for the foundation, which raises funds to buy medical equipment for the Montreal Children's Hospital.

The event is named for the popular musical comedy-drama television series Glee, which features a fictional high-school show choir competing for the first time on the show choir circuit as its members deal with relationship, sexuality and social issues.

An enthusiastic capacity crowd of 750 cheered on the teams, made up of high-school students from nine Montreal-area schools: Bialik High School, Miss Edgar's and Miss Cramp's School, The Study, Lower Canada College, Royal Vale School, Lindsay Place High School, St. George's High School, Riverdale High School and Trafalgar School For Girls.

St. George's took first place. Riverdale took second and Trafalgar took third place. But all nine schools were declared outstanding by the event's three judges: record producer Mac Thornhill, dancer Shana Troy and 94.7 Hits FM promotions coordinator Tina Paylan. The station was the event's official sponsor and station personalities Dexter and Brad Johns were MCs.

Guests included 17-year-old

Montreal recording artist Jill Ohayon, who performed the title track from her album, Hello You, due out in 2011, and the dance team of 8-Count.

Raffle prizes included Habs tickets, a diamond necklace from Delmar, watches from Michael Kors, gift certificates from Miss Sixty and sunglasses from Juicy Couture.

Event co-chairs Jill Aberman and Lynda Lubin thanked the schools for participating, the committee for its dedication and the sponsors whose generosity made the event a reality.

The Just for Kids Foundation is made up of about 200 Montreal-area volunteers in four chapters. Since it was launched in 1987, it has raised more than \$7 million for the purchase of medical equipment for the hospital.

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