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Press Release

## **RAGS TO RICHES SHOW CREATES CATWALK FASHION FROM WASTE**

**Fabulous clothes created from waste paper and other bits of rubbish were the stars of a fashion show with a difference at Cambridge Regional College last night.**

The Rags2Riches show brought together students from Manor Community College, Impington Village College and CRC in an event designed to promote awareness of recycling through fashion and art.

And the students took the 're-use, recycle' message to heart, with stunning outfits created from plastic shopping bags, crisp packets, bin liners and old newspapers. Dresses, skirts and tops were decorated with old can tops and circles of brightly coloured plastic, while wire hangars created structure and pieces of old upholstery fabric were used to add texture.

The winner of the Eco Chic award – chosen by all the judges – was CRC student Allesandra Ridgeway, 18, whose amazing catwalk creation was made of chicken wire threaded with different yarns. She was one of 15 CRC students who took part in the competition, all of them on Fashion and Textiles courses and planning to study the subject at university later this year.

The show included spectacular dance performances from Cambridge Regional College Performing Arts students – who also modelled the clothes - and performances from Manor and Impington students which enthralled the audience.

CRC Art and Design lecturer Rebecca Wood, one of the organisers of the event, said the entries were enormously resourceful and inventive.

“The fashion show was a fantastic event and we were delighted to be involved with local schools and see such a wide age range of students taking part. It was an amazing show, with the participants producing some outstanding creations,” she said.

The staging for the event was adorned with palm trees and street lights created from waste materials by Manor pupils. A judging panel, which included the High Sheriff of Cambridgeshire Nigel Brown OBE, also presented awards for Innovation, Design, Sustainability and Creative Re-use.

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### **MEDIA ENQUIRIES**

For more information, please contact Lynn O’Shea, Communications & PR Manager, on 01223 418773 or email [loshea@camre.ac.uk](mailto:loshea@camre.ac.uk)

### **NOTES TO EDITORS**

Cambridge Regional College is the second largest provider of full-time further education for 16 to 19 year-olds in the eastern region. The College has more than 4,000 full-time and 6,000 part-time students. Students come in from a 40-mile radius, covering Cambridge and its surrounding villages, eastern Bedfordshire, northern Essex and western Suffolk.

Over 80 per cent of full-time students are aged 16 to 18 years old and come to the College after secondary school; the rest are mature students, studying on a range of Access to Higher Education and vocational programmes. The College offers the largest and most comprehensive range of vocational courses in Cambridgeshire, and has one of the largest work-based learning contracts in the Eastern Region.