

MAKING

# waves

The termly magazine **Spring 2019**



Start  
here,  
go far

Jamming for  
Oxjam.

page 4

Khyrese has  
a bright future  
in dance.

cover story » page 6

Alix Brewer:  
award winning  
makeup artist

page 8





# Welcome to West Thames College.

Executive Director for Business Development and Student Experience  
**Graeme Baker** welcomes you to the spring edition of Making Waves.

## Dear Reader

One of the things that makes studying at college different from staying on at school is the focus on gaining the skills you need for the world of work. Over the past few months, students and former students from West Thames College have showcased these skills on stage, on live TV and film.

- Student bands and solo acts performed as part of the Oxjam Music Festival [page 4](#)
- Dance student Khyrese Heron advanced to the second round of live show challenges in *The Greatest Dancer* on the BBC [pages 6-7](#)
- Specialist Makeup graduate Alix Brewer won an award in Los Angeles for her work on independent film *Blood Means Nothing* [pages 8-9](#)
- Hairdressing students showed off their skills in a college competition and benefited from industry visits during Enrichment Week [page 10](#)

If you want to gain the skills for a rewarding career, come along to one of our upcoming Open Events. It's a great opportunity to meet our industry specialist course teachers, get all the information you need for your chosen course, and ask any questions you may have. You'll also be taken on a tour of our state-of-the-art facilities and campus, and find out more about our clubs and Students' Union, giving you an insight into life here at West Thames College.

Yours sincerely,  
Graeme Baker



## Students meet local MP



A group of students recently met Ruth Cadbury, MP for Isleworth and Brentford, at the college to discuss issues of funding for further education. The students presented their views clearly and with confidence, expressing how much they value their education at

West Thames College and stressing the need for the government to fund all types of education fairly. We were really proud that this meeting was later referred to in a parliamentary debate held in the House of Commons on Monday 21 January ([goo.gl/3wBdr5](https://goo.gl/3wBdr5)).



# Jamming for Oxjam

Our Level 3 Music students put on a fantastic show of live music in the Endeavour Theatre as part of Oxjam – an annual charity music event – raising over £85 for Oxfam.

Student bands and solo acts showcased their musicianship and stage presence across genres such as pop, rock, rap and RnB, performing original songs and covers including Stevie Wonder, Dua Lipa and Adele.





# Dancer with a bright future

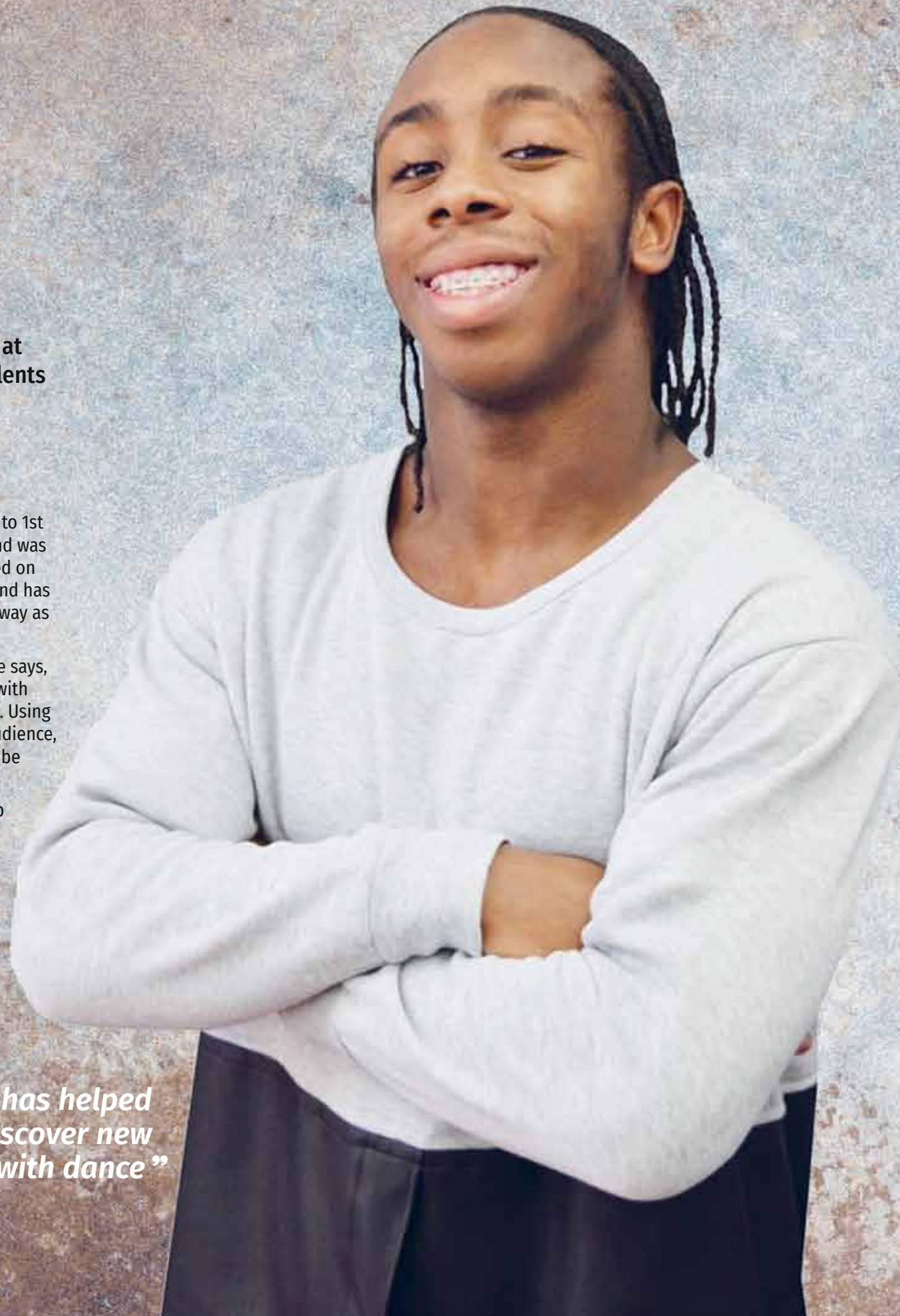
Khyrese Heron, a Level 3 Dance student at West Thames College, showcased his talents on national TV when he and his dance group **Prospects Fraternity** made it to the second round of live shows in *The Greatest Dancer* on the BBC.

No stranger to success, Khyrese previously made it to 1st place in the London Qualifiers in *World of Dance* and was a finalist on Sky 1's *Got to Dance*. He's also appeared on the hit dance show *Taking the Next Step* on CBBC and has taken part in workshops and Q&A sessions as far away as China and New Zealand.

Speaking about his course at West Thames, Khyrese says, "The course has helped me discover new avenues with dance, to use my skills in new and interesting ways. Using these skills to tell strong stories and ideas to an audience, while also learning new ones. I feel comfortable to be myself and to be my own dancer/choreographer."

If you love to dance and want to take that next step into a career, come to one of our Isleworth Open Events to find out more about our courses, meet our teachers and visit the college's dance studios and theatre.

*"The course has helped me to discover new avenues with dance"*



**Top:** Khyrese (back row, second from left) with his dance group Prospects Fraternity  
**Bottom:** Khyrese (back row, centre) competing live on *The Greatest Dancer*



# Award winning makeup artist



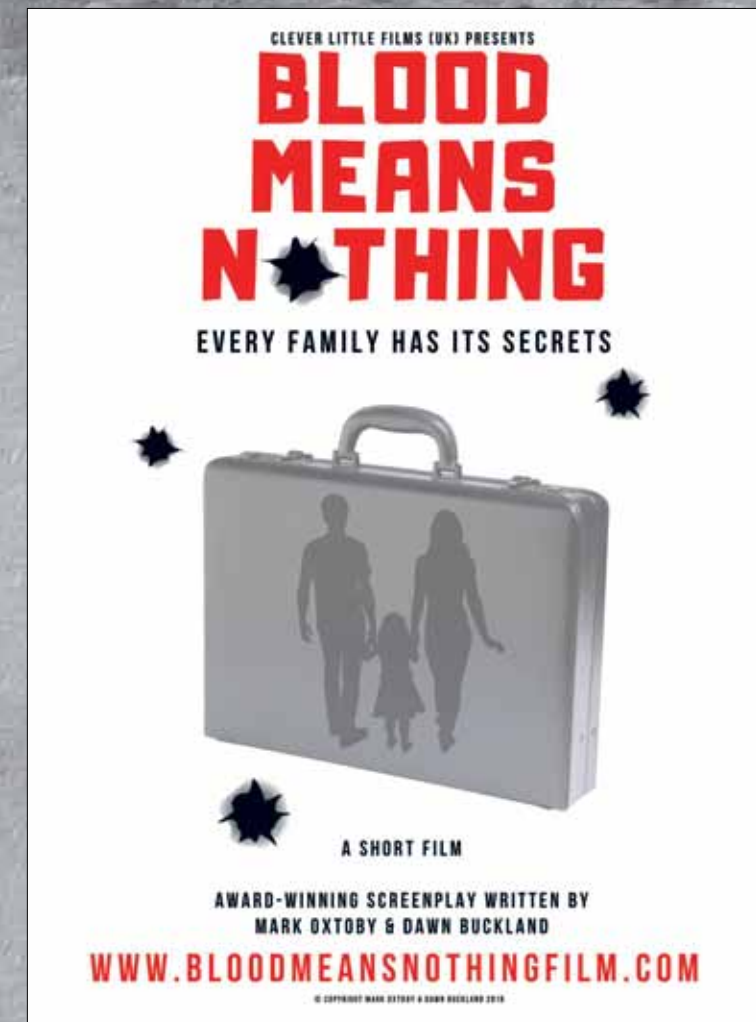
Alix Brewer graduated from our HND Specialist Makeup course in June 2018 and has since worked as a makeup artist for Ugg and Primark.

In September 2018, Alix became Head of Makeup for the short indie film **Blood Means Nothing**. She joined the project at pre-production stage and got straight to work using the skills she gained on her HND to plan what was needed.

"I was able to go through the whole script," Alix explains, "putting together mood boards for scenes, working closely with the producer and director. Mostly it involved breaking down the lead characters and making sure I made notes and continuity sheets before and after each shoot day."

Alix's work won her the Best Special Makeup award at Indie Short Fest, part of the Los Angeles International Film Festival, beating films from Mexico and the USA. "I was so proud," she says. "Not just for myself but for the whole team who made it easy for me to work with them and bring out my best work."

If you'd like to follow in Alix's footsteps and work in film, on stage or TV as a makeup artist, come to one of our Isleworth Open Events to meet teachers, find out what you'll learn on the course and visit our industry-standard makeup suites.



## Industry visits

Industry visits are an essential part of our Specialist Makeup courses. Students recently had a visit from Kryolan UK – who gave a demo and provided an insight into the makeup industry – and went to Carnaby Street for discounted shopping on top brands such as Urban Decay.







## Hairdressing Enrichment Week

Studying at West Thames College is an opportunity to gain the skills you need to get the career you want. Our hairdressing and beauty therapy students are taught by professionals with a wealth of industry experience in excellent, modern facilities, which helps them progress from their course into a rewarding career.

Our recent enrichment week gave students a chance to hear directly from employers such as GHD about what they look for in employees. They also learned to make shampoo and took part in a competition day to demonstrate their skills.

If you want a career in hairdressing or beauty therapy, come along to one of our Isleworth Open Events to see our great facilities, talk to teachers and find out what you'll learn on these courses.

# Green fingered students win gardening award

Last summer Supported Learning students at the college were invited to enter a gardening competition run by the Feltham and Whitton Lions Club. Students were provided with everything they needed to try to grow the tallest and most sunflowers. After a very hot summer, they were thrilled to win first place.

The prize was a £100 voucher from Garsons Garden Centre in Esher which students will now use to develop a sensory garden. Thanks to the Lions and Garson's for this opportunity, and for the ongoing support they are providing to develop this new gardening project.



*Gemma Driscoll, president of the Feltham and Whitton Lions Club, presents the award to Student Support Assistant Hannah Collier*





*The Aftermath*  
Dance performance, June 2018

## Future Events

See our website or follow us on social media for more details.



# 2019

### Isleworth Open Events

Saturday 9 March  
10am-1pm

Thursday 20 June  
5pm-7pm

### Feltham Open Events

Thursday 14 March  
5pm-7pm

Tuesday 25 June  
5pm-7pm



**020 8326 2020**  
**west-thames.ac.uk**