

## PRESS RELEASE

## HAMPSTEAD SCHOOL REGIONAL FINAL WINNER – CAMDEN "SPEAK OUT CHALLENGE"

## Hampstead School congratulates, Jaidyn Sommers, Year 10 for his success in winning the Camden "Speak Out" Challenge Regional Final.

Jaidyn Sommers from Hampstead School has won the Camden Jack Petchey "Speak Out Challenge" competition by beating 16 other strong competitors from 9 Camden secondary schools. Regional Champions are awarded a "Speak Out" Challenge! trophy at the Regional Final. Jaidyn's achievement will be recognised in school assemblies to encourage other students to get involved.

Jaidyn's public speaking performance on 29 November 2017 was voted on by an independent judging panel comprising of: Chidinma Obi, Associate Director, Ambition School Leadership; Ben Pearce, Social Business Manager, CAN Invest; Cindy Rampersaud, Senior Vice President, Pearsons; Sarika Unadkat, Project Coordinator, BBC Ten Pieces; Charlie Watson, TA, City University & Stemette Ambassador; Pat West, Management Consultant, Pat West Consulting; and Sofia Romano, Runner-up, Camden Regional Final 2016.

Each year over 19,000 students across London and Essex take part in Jack Petchey's "Speak Out" Challenge! the world's largest public speaking competition. There are 37 different Regional Champions and these speakers are among the top 0.2% of young speakers in London and Essex. We are always blown away by the talent and ability of these young speakers.

Frankie Rushton, Programme Director of the Speakers Trust said: "On behalf of Speakers Trust and the Jack Petchey Foundation we congratulate you on this outstanding achievement."

Jacques Szemalikowsi, Head of Hampstead School said:" A wonderful evening showcasing the huge public speaking talent within Camden Schools. I am delighted that Jaidyn won as this reflects the emphasis within our school on developing confident young people able to express themselves fluently. We await the outcome of the panel of judges who will decide on who from the 37 Regional Champions will go forward to speak at Jack Petchey's 'Speak Out' Challenge Grand Final in 2018. We wish Jaidyn success for his accomplishment."

Sarah O'Connell, Head of Year at Hampstead School said: "I am thrilled for Jaidyn he was such a wonderful ambassador for Hampstead School, his speech showed humour, social awareness and a real understanding of the wider community. Congratulations Jaidyn, I hope you get chosen for the Grand Final."





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