

Splendours

Celebrating London Fashion Week

OF THE COMMONWEALTH

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Press Release

For Immediate Publication

CCLEF CELEBRATES LONDON FASHION WEEK WITH AN INAUGURAL SPLENDOURS OF THE COMMONWEALTH EVENT

London, August, 2013. The registered charity Commonwealth Countries League Education Fund (**CCLEF**) has joined this year's London Fashion Week activities by hosting Splendours of the Commonwealth on September 12, 2013 at the May Fair Hotel in London, which proudly celebrates its fifth year as "Official Hotel of London Fashion Week".

Splendours of the Commonwealth (www.splendoursofthecommonwealth.com) is a showcase of talented and bright designers and models from the fashion industry throughout the Commonwealth. The result of a collaborative and creative effort, Splendours of the Commonwealth has brought together many of the CCLEF's friends, supporters and partners including the May Fair Hotel, London Garments Expo, lead sponsor HSBC Bank plc. and Deloitte LLP.

The charity event promises to be an unforgettable occasion of glitz and glamour, fashion, musical performances and fund raising. During the evening, designers from around the Commonwealth will present their work in a catwalk show, compered by Russell Amerasekera of Epiphany Presentations. The event includes a pre-show reception, musical entertainment and a silent auction of art works created by pupils from various Commonwealth countries. The designers, who were invited to participate through their High Commissions in London, represent regions of the Commonwealth. The show also features an exclusive finale from one of the UK's top British designers. Volunteers from the London Garments Expo are directing the designers and Commonwealth models who were recruited

Our sponsors



COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES LEAGUE EDUCATION FUND
Administrative Secretary, 29 Tennyson Street, Swindon SN1 5DT, United Kingdom

telephone +44 (0)1793 616693 email ccl.edfund@googlemail.com

www.ccl-int.org | www.splendoursofthecommonwealth.com



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from London, while Southampton Solent University students are donating their time and skills to the show's hair and make-up design.

Judith Fisher, event organiser and CCLEF Hon. Treasurer said, "As a charity, we are deeply honoured and hugely grateful to the May Fair Hotel owners for their generous support, as they have been involved in the organisation of this event from the very start. We are also fortunate to have the invaluable assistance, design and on-going direction that have been provided from the London Garments Expo team. Such assistance, coupled with the equally generous sponsorship from our lead sponsor HSBC plc, and Deloitte LLP, have all contributed immensely to make this happen. Splendours of the Commonwealth 2103 is our inaugural event, and the response from all our supporters and partners so far has been truly inspiring."

Various art works will be auctioned at the end of the evening through a silent auction. Guests will also have the opportunity to buy the artworks which have not been included in the silent auction. These art works have been specially created this summer by pupils from schools where there are girls currently sponsored by the CCLEF. The art works demonstrate the far-reaching outcomes that the CCLEF sponsorships bring to the girls. CCLEF works in cooperation with schools and local registered organisations, which are all becoming increasingly committed to female education, resulting in a positive impact within their societies. A preview of these unique art works may be viewed online at <http://splendoursofthecommonwealth.com/the-silent-auction/>. Donations may also be made through the site www.splendoursofthecommonwealth.com. Tickets are still available and may be obtained by contacting the organisers at ccl.edfund@googlemail.com.

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Invited guests include members of the diplomatic community of the Commonwealth, CCLEF supporters, and senior women in business and corporate life, including Baroness Jo Valentine, Ade Adepitan and other celebrity guests. Present to greet the guests will be CCLEF patrons, Baroness Betty Boothroyd and Baroness Shreela Flather, together with various members from the Board of Trustees.

The CCLEF (<http://www.ccl-int.org/>) has sponsored thousands of bright girls through secondary education since 1967. Today they are supporting 397 able girls across 25 Commonwealth countries. Without their help, these girls would not otherwise receive an education and their lives would be very different indeed. The charity's founders, the Commonwealth Countries League (CCL), formed out of the suffragette movement in the 1920s, support their work with the help of the High Commissions in London through the annual Commonwealth Fair and other fundraising events.

Ends

Word: 632

Event Contact Details:

Ms Judith Fisher

Organiser and CCLEF Hon Treasurer

Tel: +44(0)1525 713121; +44(0)7714702959 (mob)

Email: ccl.edfund@googlemail.com

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Notes to Editors

About Commonwealth Countries League Education Fund (CCLEF)



www.ccl-int.org

Registered Charity No 1048908

The **Commonwealth Countries League Education Fund (CCLEF)** is a secondary education sponsorship scheme for girls. The charity is currently funding 397 able but impoverished girls across 25 countries in Commonwealth countries.

The CCLEF has, since 1967, supported over 4000 girls in 30 Commonwealth countries, empowering them to break away from poverty, develop careers and positively impact the societies in which they live. Over 90 girls have completed their secondary education. Some will go on to university, others to training colleges: all should now have the ability to take greater control of their lives, increased knowledge, earning capacity and the opportunity to overcome poverty. Others have already reaped these rewards and are passing on the benefits to their families and communities.

The CCLEF is the registered charity of the **Commonwealth Countries League (CCL)** which was formed out of the suffragette movement in the 1920s. The CCL promotes the education of girls and young women and links together women's organizations throughout the Commonwealth. Further information can be found on the website: www.ccl-int.org.

For more details about the CCL, CCLEF, the education scheme and application forms, please contact: The Administrative Secretary, 29 Tennyson Street, Swindon SN1 5DT, or email: ccl.edfund@googlemail.com.

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