



Saint Viator's Annual Fashion Show Raises Money for the School



Seniors Abigail Dickey and Tyler Stanley model formalwear during the annual fashion show.

What do you get when you combine more than 150 models, backed up by jazz band and Orchesis Club performances, and fashions from nearly two dozen stores throughout the Northwest suburbs?

A fashion show that really makes a statement, that's what.

On Sunday, more than 525 guests turned out to the Stonegate Conference & Banquet Center in Hoffman Estates for Saint Viator High School's largest Parents' Club fundraiser.

Money raised in recent years have helped update science labs in the school, put SMART board technology in each academic department, and purchase a van to transport students to service projects with Campus Ministry officials.

Parents' Club also sponsors scholarships for students to help offset tuition costs.

This year's show used American Idol contestants and their award winning songs to set up each scene, before group of students took to the runway in choreographed numbers.

Models walked down a runway, patterned after those in Paris, and built specifically for the Saint Viator fashion show by Stonegate officials, back when the conference center opened in 2000.

Their fashions came from Pac Sun, All About Me, Nika, Banana Republic, Ann Taylor Loft, Cache, Stein Mart, Encore, Ciao Bella, The Gap, Erehwon, Republic of Couture, NV Clothin, Delia's, A La Mode, Savvy Spirit and York Furrier.

Highlighting the show were more than 60 seniors dressed in prom and formal wear, provided by A Formal Affair, A L'Amour Bridal Shop, Gentlemen's Quarters, Men's Wearhouse, Mr. Tux, Robin Elliot, Shelly's Bridal, Vanessa's Modern Bride and Volle' Bridal and Boutique.

Beyond the fashion show, there were performances by the school's award winning jazz band, which played throughout the opening reception, and the Orchesis dance troupe, which performed its own American Idol ensemble number.

Guests also spent their time perusing more than 95 raffle baskets orchestrated by Parents' Club volunteers, before taking their chances on winning a Tiffany necklace or the grand prize trip to the Disney Hilton Head Resort or Door County's Bailey's Harbor Yacht Club.

"This is a really important event," said the Rev. Robert M. Egan, C.S.V, president. "It involves so many different parts of our school, and serves as a great reminder that we truly are a community."