



Brandon takes first steps to stardom after winning X- Factor contest

Talented Brandon Bishop was performing as soon as he could walk – and now he’s taken his first steps to stardom after winning a contest supported by X-Factor star Shayne Ward.

Brandon, 14, who had never entered a talent competition before, took home £1,000 after he was crowned the winner in a Grand Final held at West Sussex holiday park Bunn Leisure.



The youngster, a pupil at Meopham School in Gravesend, wowed judges from the Bunn Leisure’s Got Talent final with a pitch-perfect rendition of the classic *Feeling Good*, as performed by Michael Buble.

Brandon was named the winner after 20 acts had performed on the stage in front of a full house at Bunn Leisure’s 2,000-seater venue The Embassy.

His prize was presented by Shayne Ward, who also performed some of his hits ahead of the release of his new album, scheduled for 2015.

Brandon’s proud mum Nadia Wallbridge, who was in the audience to see her son take the top prize, said he had always shown a talent for singing and dancing.

“I’m very proud of him,” she said. “He’s never entered a competition before, so to win his first is amazing.



“We first realised he was talented when he was tiny – he couldn’t really even walk properly but we would put a video of *Riverdance* on and he would copy the dancing.

“He grew up dancing – he did some freestyle and street dance, and now he’s gone on to singing.

“It’s really helped with his confidence. He gets quite nervous so the final was very nerve-racking for me but the whole evening was brilliant.

“Brandon said it was a little bit like being on X Factor! We’ve been coming to Bunn Leisure as a family for about five years so we’ve seen lots of entertainment here – for Brandon to actually be the entertainment was incredible.”

Brandon, who goes each Saturday to the famous Sylvia Young Theatre School in London, said: “I had a fantastic time in the final and I never expected to win. Shayne Ward was great – he spent ages chatting to the contestants and making us all feel welcome. It was a real night to remember.”



The Bunn Leisure’s Got Talent competition saw more than 300 acts audition at the holiday park in Selsey over the summer.

Each hopeful performed in front of holiday guests and caravan owners and 12 were selected to perform in live heats in the evening in front of a crowd of more than 1,000 spectators.

Up to two acts from each live heat were chosen to go through to the Grand Final, along with three wildcard entries to bring the number of finalists up to 20. Each of the live heat winners was given a free weekend break for up to four people so they could compete in the Grand Final.

Adrian Douthwaite, head of entertainment at Bunn Leisure, said: “Bunn Leisure’s Got Talent was a major new competition for us this year and we have been bowled over by its success.

“To see so many talented acts come through the doors has been incredible, and the quality of the finalists was stunning. Congratulations to Brandon, who was a very deserving winner.”

After the success of this year’s competition, Bunn Leisure’s Got Talent will return in 2015 with auditions taking place throughout the school summer holidays.

Bunn Leisure is an award-winning holiday park which has won top prizes in Tourism South East’s Beautiful South Awards for Excellence for four years running.

For more information see www.bunnleisure.co.uk or call the booking line on 01243 606080.

Ends

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