

Fashion Meets Philanthropy at Centennial High School

SARAH GREGORINI

It's that time again! Get your tee-shirts out; find the old camera; and definitely clear your schedule.

"Fashion Meets Philanthropy," featuring Nick Aburn's Dierie Designs and sponsored by the Centennial High School Student Government Association, is back with outfits, models, tee-shirts, music and the men of "Mr. CHS." And once again Nick Aburn, coordinator and designer of the show, will keep his fashion show focused on a good cause.

In honor of his friend Emily Davis, a recent victim of cancer, the Centennial High senior will donate all the proceeds to The Make A Wish Foundation.

Highlights of the event are five returning outfits (deemed "best of last year's") and the lovely Alex Davis, Emily's older sister. "Not only is Alex a great model and beautiful girl, but I really appreciate the direct support from the Davises," said Aburn about the return of one of his top models and her family.

For Aburn, fashion designing started long before last year's show. "I started drawing way before my

parents or I remember," said Aburn who taught himself all the basics of sewing after finally getting his hands on a sewing machine in his freshman year. Recently, Aburn started taking private lessons which he claims have improved his sewing drastically.

Aburn feels, however, that his biggest change has been in the way he views the models. "I started to realize it wasn't about their size, or how beautiful they are, but about their personalities, if they can feel the music and if they are having fun."

There are some new models this year, all from Centennial, with a few veterans of the catwalk, such as Lucy Hou, Heidi Wang, Amelia Aburn and Sarah Korn.

Thrilled about having a coherent theme and a better sense of professionalism in this show, Aburn can't wait to debut his new designs next Thursday night.

Last year the show was in May, and this year's earlier show date has added more stress and pressure, but Aburn has been helped by a mentorship with Manish Singh set up by the CHS mentor program. Aburn said the mentorship has helped him

in particular to understand the marketing aspects of design.

Like many other high school seniors, Aburn is waiting to hear back from colleges. In addition to having applied to two fashion design colleges, Aburn has applied to a couple of liberal arts colleges around New York. He is most interested in the design and artistic side of fashion design. "At this point, I'm going to let fate determine it for me," said Aburn.

Come see for yourself what this aspiring young designer has accomplished to date. "Fashion Meets Philanthropy" will be held Thursday March 2 at Centennial High School. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. Show begins at 8 p.m. All proceeds will benefit the Make-a-Wish foundation in memory of Emily Davis. Tickets are \$20 for floor seats, and bleachers seats are \$5 for students and \$10 for adults. To reserve your tickets or for more information, call 410-750-8972.

Sarah Gregorini is a senior at CHS and an intern at The View.

PICTURED: Sophia Narrett and Caitlin Burr model outfits designed by Nick Aburn.

Nick Aburn

