

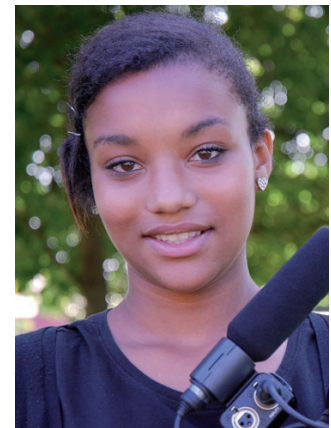
Leeds pupil wins national film award **A pupil from the City of Leeds School in** **Woodhouse has won a national film award for her** **movie, 'One Life One Knife'.**

Friday September 25, 2009

Jessica's winning film, will be shown on The Life Channel - a television network found in schools, GP surgeries and community venues. The movie uses drama, dance and music to put its message across; it only takes one knife to end a life.

Shelia Howarth, Student Progress Leader at the City of Leeds School says the subject is an important one for both parents and students to understand: "As a school we wanted to tackle the problem of knife crime in a format that kids understand, for example we used dance, drama and music to tell the tale of an innocent person getting hurt by knife crime. We also produced an educational resource pack and DVD to go out to every school in Leeds.

"We worked closely with the police and the Derek Fatchett Centre to produce the film. The film has a great impact on everybody who sees it. All pupils involved in the project at City of Leeds School learned new skills, from story boarding to editing to filming.



Jessica on location

"As adults we don't always see the signs of children being in gangs or carrying weapons. But everybody needs advice and education about these crimes."

The films were judged by an expert panel including Celebrity Jungle King, Joe Swash and British Actor Ray Winstone.

Ray Winstone says finding a winner was difficult because it wasn't just about the production of the film: "I thought the selection of films we saw was great. But we've got to take a step back from that because this was more than a straightforward film competition. What was important about all this was the message the kids had for us.

"A competition like this is great because kids are involved with this in a way my generation never was. It gives them a serious, valued voice on something that really matters to them."

Jessica won a year's worth of free films at any UK Vue cinema.