



# Palmerstown teen on catwalk to success

A 15-year-old Palmerstown beauty, Leanne Brady, has been crowned winner of the **Dublin Fashion Festival** model search.

by Neil Fetherston

The leggy redhead won a three-year contract with 1st Option Model Management and a front cover magazine shoot to kick off what is set to be a very promising career in modelling.

Leanne was selected as the winner by a fashion industry judging panel comprising Jules Fallon from 1st Option Model Management, fashion designer Jennifer Rothwell and the TV presenter and the face of the **Dublin Fashion Festival**, Sonya Lennon.

Before the winner was selected, Leanne, along with 13 other gorgeous finalists, was given a model master class by catwalk aficionado Noel Sutton, who even donned a pair of stilettos to show the girls how it's done. It was after the catwalk strut that judges were in no doubt that Leanne was a worthy winner.

Judge Jules said Leanne really was an extraordinary beauty.

"People think you come across redheads every day in Ireland, but in truth, they're hard to find," she said. "We're so excited about finding Leanne. She's destined to have international success as well as con-

quering Ireland's modelling industry."

Leanne also walked away with a €600 voucher for Pandora jewellery on Grafton Street and an A-Wear goody bag.

A student at Colaiste Cois na Life, Leanne has only recently discovered a love of modelling.

"I've been watching the British and American modelling

competitions on TV and I love their lives," she said. "The way they jet off to Paris, Milan and New York looks amazing. I can't wait to get started."

The competition was all part of the **Dublin Fashion Festival** which took place recently. An annual event celebrating retail in the capital, the **Dublin Fashion Festival** is the brainchild of Dublin City **Business Improvement District**.



● The winner of the Dublin Fashion Festival model search, Leanne Brady, is pictured with Jennifer Rothwell, Sonya Lennon and Jules Fallon at the Old Waterstones building on Dawson Street. Photo by Richie Stokes