

Diversity rules OK!

Students from an East London college showed that being different is most definitely a good thing recently by staging a celebration of diversity event which included cooking regional food, singing traditional music and displaying artefacts from cultures throughout the globe.



The students are part of the English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) course at Tower Hamlets College's Arbour Square campus in Stepney and they were encouraged to bring in items associated with their home countries and teach other students about their respective cultures. A North African themed stall was among the many erected and showcased the region's distinctive range of rugs, fabrics and teas, while many students chose to wear traditional items of clothing from their country.

Prizes were also awarded to individuals for outstanding progress, improving teamwork skills and the overcoming of significant obstacles in pursuit of their educational goals. The students later tried their hand at Mediterranean food in the kitchen, with a little help from former chef turned teacher Nicholas Vadasz, in order to cater for a staggering 200 hungry fellow students.

Jessica Morris, Team Leader on the ESOL course, felt the event was a great success. "All of the students seemed to really enjoy the opportunity to learn about different cultures and customs. The day was full of laughter and vivid colours while there was an array of different arts and crafts on display. I was a bit worried about the amount of food for so many people at one stage but it had been judged to perfection."