



## **BIGGEST PUBLIC SPEAKING EVENT IN EUROPE – “SPEAK OUT” CHALLENGE! GOES LONDON-WIDE**

Over 10,000 Year 10 students in London are being invited to take part in the **Jack Petchey Foundation “Speak Out” Challenge!**, a brand new public speaking initiative being rolled out across 32 London Boroughs.

The £350,000 project starts this month in the 13 boroughs in north-west London. In the spring term training will be offered to state secondary schools in south London and in the summer term to state schools in the east London boroughs.

The challenge is expected to be taken up by students from 432 schools and will be the biggest public speaking event in Europe. Prizes total £15,000, making it the highest award ever for public speaking.

***“Today was an experience I’ll never forget. It is an opportunity of a lifetime”***  
**Moynul, Pupil-Langdon School**

The winning speaker will receive a first prize of a holiday for four to Portugal and a further £3000 donated to his or her school, and certificates of achievement will be awarded to all the students.

***“Our students have made wonderful progress and hearing their speeches has made me feel incredibly proud! A stunning day!”***  
**Natalie Shephard, Teacher- Brampton Manor School**

Training is worth over £700 to each school which selects 25 pupils to receive up to six hours training in public speaking. Every participant enters the Jack Petchey Foundation “Speak Out” Challenge!, followed by local borough wide finals and a grand final challenge to be held in London next July 11<sup>th</sup>.

***“I hope this programme goes around the world”***  
**Adedotun, Pupil- Eastbury Comprehensive School**

“Youth today get lots of bad press and I want to see that change” said Jack Petchey OBE. “I am a great believer in the ability to speak well and with confidence. Most young people hold strong views and feel passionate about them but can’t always put that across. Our challenge gives them the opportunity to be trained how to express themselves clearly and without fear. This will help them gain a more positive image in the media”.

For further information visit [www.speakersbank.co.uk](http://www.speakersbank.co.uk), contact Sean Kennedy on 020 8347 8671 or [seankennedy@speakersbank.co.uk](mailto:seankennedy@speakersbank.co.uk) or [www.jackpetcheyfoundation.org.uk](http://www.jackpetcheyfoundation.org.uk)