



# DANCING QUEEN! MANCHESTER STREET DANCER WINS FIRST EVER FRIDAYS FEELING TALENT SHOW

- Destiny Owen from Cheadle Hulme, Greater Manchester tops public vote with epic street dance routines showcasing her array of talent
- The inspirational 18-year old was one of four acts to make it through to the final of the first ever Fridays Feeling Talent Show
- As part of an amazing prize package, Destiny has chosen to donate £5,000 to the Greater Manchester Mental Health Trust



*(Fridays Feeling Talent Show winner Destiny Owen)*

**11<sup>TH</sup> June 2020:** Destiny Owen, an 18 year old street dancer from Cheadle Hulme, Greater Manchester, has become the first ever champion of the Fridays Feeling Talent Show.



Launched in April by TGI Fridays, the talent competition has been empowering loyal guests and team members to spread positivity and showcase their skills from the safety of their own home. All to keep our locked-down nation entertained.

Destiny was one of four acts to make it through to the final and was victorious after receiving almost a third of the public votes in the last round. The talented school goer wowed Fridays social media followers with her lockdown inspired routine in the first round and her semi-final dance around her hometown being just as entertaining – even featuring a cameo from her local Fridays!

Also a dance teacher, Destiny enlisted the help of her students for the final dance routine, and the future dance generation clearly captured the nations hearts.

As well as receiving a £2,000 cash prize and an invitation to perform at a VIP party at a Fridays restaurant when safe to do so, the dancer was given £5,000 to donate to an NHS charity of her choice, which we are pleased to announce is the Greater Manchester Mental Health Trust.

**Speaking about becoming champion, Destiny Owen, said:** *“I’m buzzing to be the winner of the Fridays Feeling Talent Show! I LOVE that there’s no limits when I’m dancing, I can just be me and bring good vibes to everyone watching. I’m so grateful to everyone who’s supported me along the way!*

*“I’m honoured to donate the £5,000 to my home town charity, the Greater Manchester Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust. I believe it’s so important that during times of COVID-19 and Black Lives Matter, places like GMMH are there to help people deal with their mental health. I hope this donation highlights that we can support each other and face these challenges together.”*

**Neil Thwaite, Chief Executive of Greater Manchester Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust (GMMH), said of the donation:** *“On behalf of GMMH, I would like to say a huge thank you to Destiny and TGI Fridays UK for their very generous donation. We are overwhelmed by this gift, which will go directly to support the care of our patients and service users or to support the wellbeing of staff looking after them.*

*“Our staff are working magnificently around the clock to care for patients from our region, and in turn our communities have shown how much they appreciate everything they do.*

*“During these times of uncertainty, it is more important than ever that we come together to support our communities across Greater Manchester and beyond. We applaud Destiny for using her platform to share such a positive and inspiring message.”*



**Dan Staples, Chief Marketing Officer at TGI Fridays UK added:** *“Destiny is a truly deserving winner of the first ever Fridays Feeling Talent Show. Her talent is inspirational and it’s clear from the hundreds of thousands of votes she received throughout the competition that our loyal fans thought the same. We are delighted that she has chosen the Greater Manchester Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust as the recipient of the £5,000 NHS donation, a service that provides such vital support to the community.”*

ENDS

#### NOTES TO EDITORS

#### **About Fridays:**

Fridays first opened in New York in 1965 with flowing cocktails and charismatic bartenders making every night feel like a Friday. Over 55 years later, we’re making Fridays famous again and proudly celebrating our heritage with simple, freshly made to order dishes with top-quality ingredients, vibrant new and classic cocktails full of energy & theatre, all handcrafted by our expert bartenders. All of which is complemented by consistently brilliant and iconic Fridays service and spirit of generosity.

Whether you’re out for a date, girls night or a family dinner, Fridays is here to help bring that Fridays Feeling, no matter what day of the week or time of day.

Fridays is a proud member of The Responsible Business Recovery Forum (RBRF). The RBRF is a membership body of Out of Home food and drink operators and suppliers. The group’s objective is to collaborate to aid an efficient, industry-wide recovery, in the aftermath of COVID-19 whilst anticipating future trends. A community of progressive businesses learning and sharing for past, present and the future.

Get that Fridays Feeling all day every day -



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