

Meth show performed at DTSS

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ECHO REPORTER

Green Thumb Theatre of Vancouver has been on the road with their latest production, Cranked, and recently performed at David Thompson Secondary School (DTSS).

The 45-minute one-man-show hip hop production focuses on one youth and his addiction to crystal meth.

Stan, performed by Kyle Cameron, takes the audience through his life and the decisions that lead to his downfall.

Cameron starts the performance by likening meth heads to zombies.

"In this land the dead walk the streets," he states.

The storyline follows the rising freestyling star through his rise as a performing artist to his addiction and finally to rehab.

Cranked was written by Michael P. Northie and the freestyling lyrics and track were written and produced by Kyprios and Stylust.

While Cranked is a fictional work, it accurately portrays the dangers surrounding crystal meth and addiction.

Cameron credits meth documentaries, the movie Spun and seeing addicts in Vancouver's lower east side with honing in on his meth head mannerisms.

"The first time I tried meth I saw God," his character tells the audience. He then goes on to explain how meth addicts are always chasing their initial high.

The production shows youth how fast and how devastating crystal meth addiction is. In a short span of time, Cameron's character is living on the street, stealing from his family and having violent hallucinations.

"I hit rock bottom. I grabbed a shovel and kept digging," said Cameron.

Cameron's character, Stan, is one of the unlikely human statistics who leaves rehab and goes back to his life. In a question period with the students, Cameron said 90% of

meth addicts who go through rehab will relapse.

Cameron hopes that his character and the production will leave kids informed to make positive decisions when it comes to crystal meth. He's had several students during the tour approach him about how meth has affected their families.

"It's your choice, it's your decision," he says to students.

Cranked was well-received by the students and faculty of DTSS, who don't want to see what happened to Cameron's character happen to any of their students.

"That was terrific," said DTSS principal Darren Danyluk. "I think that they (Green Thumb Theatre) generally succeed in delivering their message."

***I hit rock bottom. I grabbed
a shovel and kept on going.***

From Cranked...
