

## OCC's Got Talent is a Hit!

By: Andrea Reed

Ocean County College Studio Theatre held its first talent show, "OCC's Got Talent," Wednesday, Dec. 9, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. in the Gateway Building Lecture Hall. The admission was free for everyone and complimentary refreshments were served after the event. To keep the audience entertained before the show, the OCC Jazz Band performed a pre show for half an hour.

The event showcased 10 student performers. Students performed comedy and vocals from Frank Sinatra to Etta James. There was also a drum solo and solos performed on the piano and guitar.

From the 10 performers that performed, only three were crowned winners of the night.

Prizes included:

- \$250 for first place
- \$150 for second place
- \$100 for third place

OCC's Got Talent winner Tyler Ricker said it felt so amazing to win and he was planning to put his prize

money towards Christmas presents. Ricker was also given an open invitation by the Java House Café to come and perform.

Before the talent show I was able to sit and chat with Michael Glen Miller, who has run Studio Theater since 1984. He has been putting on plays until now, but fewer and fewer students were auditioning for the roles. So he decided to take a step back and try a new adventure. He knew that there were talented kids at the college, but they had nowhere to showcase their talents. Miller decided not to put on plays in the future and replace them with a talent show every semester.

"The kids did not know each other before the talent show rehearsal and now they have developed a family type atmosphere," Miller said. He is also hoping that next year will bring even more kids and the talent shows will keep getting bigger and better.

For more information on future events from Studio Theatre, please stop by the Student Life Office in the Student Center or call 732-255-0348.