

# New Providence teen wins first in design, sewing competition

NEW PROVIDENCE — Fifteen-year-old Cara Benevenia took the “Best in Show” prize Sunday at Project Fabricland — a design and sewing competition based on the popular TV show, “Project Runway.” Casanova, a cast member and designer from last season’s show, made an appearance and handed out the prizes to all 26 competitors.

Cara’s award-winning black semi-formal dress in velvet and satin was accented with a chantilly lace sleeve and trimmed with rows of black feathers. For the competition “challenge”, students were asked to create a design inspired by music — and Cara chose the song, “Welcome to the Jungle” by Gunns & Roses. Using a McCall pattern, she integrated the different fabrics and textures to create a whimsical, yet elegant style.

A sophomore at Villa Walsh Academy in Morristown, Cara has been sewing for four years and has won other awards at past Fabricland shows. Before learning to sew, she was a member of the New Jersey Ballet and danced with The Nutcracker troupe. Today, she plays lacrosse for her school and volunteers for the Red Cross in Summit — sewing bibs for veterans at the VA Hospital.

For her prize-winning design, Cara received a \$250 gift certificate from Fabricland. To see all the entries in this year’s Project Fabricland, visit [facebook.com/fabricland](https://facebook.com/fabricland). For information about Summer Sewing Camp and kids classes, call 908-755-4700, ext. 140.



**BEST IN SHOW** — Cara Benevenia is wearing the Best in Show semi-formal dress that she designed for Project Fabricland.