

Ocean's no barrier to making new friends

A GROUP of American youngsters have extended the hand of friendship 'across the pond' to a group of Hathershaw teenagers.

The youngsters at Performance Plaza, a non-profit organisation providing music and drama workshops, received a gift of handmade charm necklaces as part of the 'Hands across the Ocean' project.

Nine American children got together with Blossom International to make the unique gifts, which arrived in Oldham last week.

Paul Burgess, a director of Performance Plaza, said: "Blossom International is a fabulous organisation run by a very dear friend of ours in America.

"The organisation has many wonderful programmes and strives to offer initiatives that will encompass the statement: 'inspiring humanity to make a difference in the world by implementing programmes that increase understanding and

kindness'.

"This is a very unique and generous programme and we at Plaza are thrilled to have been chosen to receive the gifts."

The US kids were also given the chance to ask their UK counterparts a series of questions and can expect a special video of all their answers in return.

Performance Plaza provides a number of workshops which include performance on Wednesday evenings for eight to 16-year-olds and group guitar tuition on Tuesday evenings for all ages.

The workshops take place at Hathershaw College of Sport and Technology.

Plaza are also hoping to set up drama and song-writing workshops for adults and are inviting people to put their names down.

For more information email info@plaza.org.uk or visit www.plaza.org.uk



Keremy Aldis, Bekki O'Brien, Robert Fox, Jac Fox, D'arcy O'Connor and Naomi Hethrington with their necklaces from America