



## Media Release

### **Gifted young orators share their words at 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual *Concours d'art oratoire***

**Saskatoon, April 30, 2015** – Fifty-two of Saskatchewan's most talented French-Second Language (FSL) speakers convened in snowy Saskatoon this past weekend to participate in the Provincial Final for *Concours d'art oratoire*, a French-language oratory contest hosted by Canadian Parents for French - Saskatchewan (CPF-SK).

Participants from grades six to 12 competed at St. Joseph High School on Saturday April 25, 2015. Those in attendance qualified for the Provincial Final by placing first or second place at their school or division level. Close to 5,000 FSL students took part in the enriching public speaking program during the year.

"Congratulations to all participants," noted CPF-SK Secretary/Treasurer Alexander Sokalski as he addressed the students, their families and friends at the awards ceremony. "You are all winners already, and should be proud of the work you have done that has allowed you to be here today."

The winners, including their speech titles, in each category were as follows:

#### **Grade 6 French Immersion**

- 1st - Farrah Sim, École St. Pius X School, Regina - *La danse est-elle un sport?*
- 2nd - Blake Swetlikoff, École Elsie Mironuck School, Regina - *La natation de vitesse*
- 3rd - Jenna Hsu, École W.S. Hawrylak School, Regina - *Le livre est meilleur que le film*

#### **Grade 6 Francophone**

- 1st - Madeline Anthony, École St. Thomas, Lloydminster - *La scoliose*
- 2nd - Alexandra Pagé, École St. Thomas, Lloydminster - *La langue française*

#### **Grade 7 French Immersion**

- 1st - Muhammad Shaikh, École W.S. Hawrylak School, Regina - *Le droit à l'éducation*
- 2nd - Madelyn Kaban, École W.S. Hawrylak School, Regina - *Si les chiens pouvaient parler...*
- 3rd - Summer Baier, École St. Matthew School, Saskatoon - *Les troubles de la personnalité*

#### **Grade 8 French Immersion**

- 1st - Nico Rock, École Cardinal Léger School, Saskatoon - *YouTube*
- 2nd - Larisa Damara Oncea, Saskatoon French School, Saskatoon - *Les stéréotypes et normes doubles*
- 3rd - Vanessa Hu, École W.S. Hawrylak School, Regina - *Les droits des animaux*

### **Grade 9/10 French Immersion**

1st - Maryam Wajahat, Walter Murray Collegiate, Saskatoon - *Le pouvoir de l'éducation*

2nd - Hayley Csada, Dr. Martin LeBoldus Catholic High School, Regina - *Les croyances au sujet des immigrants au Canada: Mythes ou réalités?*

3rd - Yuxin Bai, Walter Murray Collegiate, Saskatoon - *À haute voix*

### **Grade 11/12 French Immersion**

1st - Cassidy Zacharias, Archbishop M.C. O'Neill Catholic High School, Regina - *Les mythes de la dépression*

2nd - Sarah Falkowsky, Tommy Douglas Collegiate, Saskatoon - *Le bonheur*

3rd - Christina Marie Chaisson, Holy Rosary High School, Lloydminster - *Les jeux*

### **Grade 11/12 Francophone**

1st - Zachary Williams, Thom Collegiate, Regina - *La xénophobie*

2nd - Krista Findlay, Thom Collegiate, Regina - *Les racines de la xénophobie raciale au Canada*

This year, two grade 12 students from Regina won first in their respective categories. They will represent Saskatchewan at the *Concours d'art oratoire* National Final in Ottawa, Ontario, on Saturday, May 30. Cassidy Zacharias from Archbishop M.C. O'Neill Catholic High School took the top spot in the French Immersion category, while Zachary Williams from Thom Collegiate was first in the Francophone category.

Williams and Zacharias will be among top-placing provincial winners from across the country vying for new award options from several post-secondary institutions. National *Concours d'art oratoire* first-place winners will now have a range of choices for scholarships from University of Ottawa, Université de Moncton in New Brunswick, University of Prince Edward Island, Université St. Boniface in Manitoba, and Université St. Anne in Nova Scotia.

### ***Félicitations et bonne chance à vous deux!***

*Canadian Parents for French (CPF) is the national network of volunteers who value French as an integral part of Canada and are dedicated to the promotion, creation and support of effective French-Second-Language (FSL) learning opportunities for youth in Canada.*

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