

For immediate release

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## **Canadian Parents for French Announces Winners of Seven University of Ottawa Scholarships**

**OTTAWA** - On Saturday May 28, Canadian Parents for French (CPF) held the National *Concours d'art oratoire* 2005 at the University of Ottawa, in Ottawa. Seven participants each received a \$20,000 scholarship (\$5,000 per year) to the University of Ottawa and an award funded through the Jos Scott Memorial Fund. The scholarship recipients are **Mohamed Farah** (Ottawa, ON); **David Rodriguez** (Orleans, ON); **John MacCormick** (Truro, NS); **Sherif Foda** (Edmonton, AB); **Stéphane Hannelas** (Mississauga, ON); **Calina Ellwand** (Toronto, ON) and **Ellorie McKnight** (Calgary, AB).

“The students who participated in this year’s *Concours* now have a chance to pursue their French-second-language studies at the post-secondary level, thanks to the generous donations from the University of Ottawa,” said Trudy Comeau, CPF President. “All of the competitors were impressive; their speeches covered a variety of topics and the judges were very pleased.”

The second place winners are **Rebecca Murray** (Halifax, NS); **Dorothea Toews** (Winnipeg, MB); **Jan Nato** (Winnipeg, MB); **Nidhi Kantawala** (Dollard-des-Ormeaux, QC); **Kyrie Irwin Kristmanson** (Regina, SK); **Pierre-Antoine Rivard Paquet** (Surrey, BC) and **Melanie Rickert** (Gatineau, QC).

The third place winners are **Nashila Addetia** (St. John’s, NL); **Samra Sahlou** (Regina, SK); **Miranda Booth** (Yellowknife, NT) and **Katie Bradley** (Calgary, AB); **Christina Nordquist** (Vancouver, BC); **Micaela Das Gupta** (Halifax, NS); **Martin Hutt** (Dartmouth, NS) and **Nathan Navidzadeh** (Charlottetown, PE).

The French public-speaking contest brought together senior high-school students from across the country who presented a speech they wrote in French – which, for many of them, is their second language – to a panel of judges. The second place participants each received a certificate provided by Firefly Books Ltd. and third place winners received a prize package courtesy of the University of Ottawa.

CPF thanks the following organizations for their contributions toward the National *Concours*: University of Ottawa, Jos Scott Memorial Fund, Bank of Montreal Mosaik Mastercard, Department of Canadian Heritage, Firefly Books Ltd., Urban Travel and *Collège universitaire de Saint-Boniface* (CUSB) for their contribution of \$400 for each of the four CPF-Manitoba finalists who participated in the nationals.

Canadian Parents for French (CPF) is the national network of volunteers which values French as an integral part of Canada and which is dedicated to the promotion and creation of French-second-language learning opportunities for young Canadians. There are currently over 22,000 members across Canada.

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