

May 28, 2013

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE BC STUDENT FILM FESTIVAL

Burnaby schools garnered second and third place in the senior narrative comedy category of this year's BC Student Film Festival. Film & Broadcast program students, under the direction of Phil Byrne at Burnaby North, won a silver medal for their submission *Henry & Gloria*. (View it: <http://vimeo.com/61858618>) Students in the district's Industry Connect: Graphics/Media Arts program, under the direction of Trina Moulin at Byrne Creek, won bronze for their submission *The Hat*. (View it: <https://vimeo.com/61810751>) Students and their teachers had the opportunity to celebrate and learn together during the three day BC Film Festival showcase that was held mid-May at Capilano College.

YOUTH CITIZENSHIP RECOGNIZED

Four district students were recognized with youth citizenship awards as part of Youth Week earlier this month. The award recognizes youth who have a positive attitude and have made an important contribution to their community. Awards were presented by Mayor Corrigan to students David Wang , Kaja Simard and Ben Penate and graduate Brett Boland (grad 2012).

AN EXCEPTIONAL ORATOR

Hamish Clinton, grade 9 student at Alpha Secondary, placed 2nd in the provincial Gr. 9 French Immersion category of the Concours d'art oratoire. His speech, about the problems of modernization, was presented at the last public Board meeting. One week later it earned him a silver medal at the annual public speaking competition.

The following weekend, Hamish took part in the Gr. 9 Canadian National Debate Tournament. He and his debate partner from Coquitlam competed against 38 teams from across Canada. They placed fourth overall, with Hamish placing 10th as an individual speaker. And last week Alpha hosted the Provincial Bilingual Debating Championship where Hamish won 1st place in the category of Novice Bilingual Individual.

A GREAT TEACHER

Lakeview primary teacher Gail Wylie is one of 12 finalists in the 7th Annual Canadian Family Magazine Great Teacher Awards. Ms. Wylie has been a district employee for 31 years – as an EA for twelve years and a teacher for nineteen years. An exceptional educator committed to instructional excellence, her parent nominator also praised her emphasis on learning through outdoor adventure as well as her support of extra-curricular activities such as primary skipping club and stitchery club. The three teachers who receive the most votes will receive \$2500 for programming and supplies for their school. Vote through Lakeview's website at: www.lakeview.sd41.bc.ca/

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DESTINATION IMAGINATION

Two Burnaby elementary school teams took top spots in the Provincial Destination Imagination Challenge held in April. From Confederation Park, *The Kids of the Round Table*, claimed first place while Armstrong's *Clever Cupcakes*, took second. There were ten teams competing at the Elementary level. [Destination Imagination](#) is an educational program where student teams solve open-ended challenges and present their solutions in competition.

SINGING SENSATIONS

Burnaby Secondary School choirs garnered many awards at the Kiwanis Fraser Valley Festival on April 29. Burnaby South's Junior and Senior Choirs, under the direction of Rosemary Bell, earned Silver and Gold respectively. Burnaby Central's Chamber "A" Choir, under the direction of Carrie Taylor, won the Northwest Music Award Trophy for the most promising Senior Secondary School Choir. Also under the direction of Carrie Taylor, the Burnaby Central's Men's Choir, won the Cypress Publishing Trophy for the best performance of a Canadian work by a Secondary School Choir. The official award ceremony takes place on June 14 in Langley.

LEARNING IN DEPTH

University Highlands has been awarded an Outstanding Learning in Depth award by the Imaginative Education Research Group. The award has been presented to just two out of 100 schools for demonstrating exemplary implementation of the Learning in Depth program. This program matches students as early as kindergarten with one topic that they study in depth throughout their school years. The school held an open house on May 21 to showcase some of the student work that has taken place and included everything from chocolate to cricket tasting! Yum!