

November 26, 2013

THE DEBATERS

Grade 10 Ecole Alpha Secondaire student, **Hamish Clinton**, is one of the younger debaters chosen to participate in the BC Qualifiers competition. To be chosen is a great accomplishment. The BC Qualifiers will be held at UBC in mid-December and there are 24 students competing. The top three students will then advance, to be considered for a spot on Canada's National Debating Team.

CELEBRATING CANADA'S FORESTS

There were more than 200 entries received nationwide, but it was Burnaby Central grade 11 student, **Amy Lin** who won the National Forest Week poster contest. Amy is part of the Art Club, where she works with teacher sponsor Anto Steko. This contest was her first attempt at art so she is quite surprised by her win. We expect to see more of Amy and her artistic talent in the coming years! National Forest Week, held the last week of September, is a chance for Canadians to celebrate our forest heritage.

HEALTHY SCHOOLS, HEALTHY LIVING

Secondary students **Jessica Ng** and **Shivani Mysuria** (from Alpha and Cariboo Hill respectively) were selected to join the 2013-14 Healthy Living Youth Council (HLYC). Members of this council are the driving force behind a "for youth, by youth" model of engaging students in healthy living activities in their school communities. The Council includes 13 secondary students from throughout BC, who attended a *Healthy Living Council* kick-off retreat November 2 – 4 at Camp Fircom on Gambier Island. They are supported by teacher mentors, HLYC alumni members, program facilitators and community partners.

VOICES 41 KICKS OFF HOLIDAY PERFORMANCES

Music plays an important role in a Burnaby Schools student experience. Voices 41, a district holiday tradition, took place November 19 at the Michael J Fox Theatre. This year a diverse showcase of thirteen groups performed. As per usual, it was a highly entertaining repertoire, and we are grateful for the support and dedication of our Visual & Performing Arts teachers.

This year more than 60 public holiday performances are taking place at District schools and beyond. Get yourself in the holiday spirit and take some of them in!