



**2007-2008 SCHOOL YEAR**

**Participate in the Eссор Awards Contest**

**Showcase your projects!**

**NOMINATIONS**

**Deadline for project submissions: May 31, 2008**

The Essor Awards Contest is an occasion for the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS) and the Ministère de la Culture, des Communications et de la Condition féminine (MCCCF) to commend quality, hard work and the enthusiastic dedication to young people shown by teachers, artists and school personnel.

Moreover, the rising interest in the Contest that has been demonstrated since it was first launched confirms the growing desire among all those involved to initiate various types of innovative projects and bring them to a wider audience. The Essor Awards Contest is an ideal opportunity for greater visibility. Whether you are in a major centre or outlying region, in a large or small school, quality projects—whatever their scope—will stand out!

## **CONTEST OBJECTIVES**

By recognizing subject-specific and interdisciplinary projects that are simultaneously educational, artistic and open to partnership and collaboration, the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS), the Ministère de la Culture, des Communications et de la Condition féminine (MCCCF) and their partners seek to:

- promote projects that are consistent with the educational orientations and values advocated by the MELS within the framework of the education reform
- foster collaboration and cooperation among members of the education, arts and cultural sectors in order to facilitate the integration of the cultural dimension across the curriculum
- promote the five Arts Education subjects taught in school: Drama, Visual Arts, Visual Arts and Communication, Dance and Music
- promote the importance of quality artistic and cultural education
- make people aware of the excellent quality of the work carried out by teachers to foster students' development

## **PRIZES**

### **PRIZES AT THE REGIONAL LEVEL**

#### **TWO REGIONAL PRIZES SELECTED FROM FOUR CATEGORIES**

- Two cash prizes of **\$500** awarded by **Hydro-Québec**
- Two cash prizes of **\$1500** awarded **jointly** by the **MELS** and the **MCCCF**
- Two gift certificates of **\$500** awarded by **Yamaha Canada Music Ltd.**

In each of the 11 regions served by the MELS regional offices, cash prizes totalling \$2000 and a gift certificate worth \$500 will be awarded to each project that wins a 2008 Essor Regional Prize.

Note: In keeping with the objectives of the Essor Awards Contest and its focus on artistic and cultural education in the schools, sometimes there may be no winner, or only one winner, in a particular region.

#### **FOUR CATEGORIES OF REGIONAL PRIZES**

The following categories have been defined solely to highlight aspects of a project that may merit special distinction. All regional winners are eligible for any of the 2008 Essor Provincial Prizes.

##### **Innovation category**

A project that demonstrates a conscious attempt to include diversity and originality in its organizational structure, context, content or activities.

##### **Partnership category**

A project that encourages various types of partnership (community, cultural, school, professional, etc.) and shows that such collaborative efforts can be productive and dynamic. The project should also contribute to improving the quality of young people's general, artistic and cultural education.

##### **Social impact category**

A project that has had a significant impact on the immediate or wider community and whose effects are felt in various sectors of the population, among students and the general public alike. The project must have a positive impact on the promotion of arts and culture in different sectors of the community.

## **Educational category**

A project distinguished by the quality of its educational approach, as well as by the strategies and methods employed to ensure optimal cultural and artistic development of students.

## **PRIZES AT THE PROVINCIAL LEVEL**

### **THE 2008 ESSOR PROVINCIAL PRIZE**

- A cash prize of **\$7000** awarded by **Hydro-Québec**
- A Yamaha piano worth **\$7000** awarded by **Yamaha Canada Music Ltd.**

Of the projects that win 2008 Essor Regional Prizes, the Essor Provincial Prize goes to the project that distinguishes itself in terms of the originality and innovative character of the various aspects of the project; the partnership between the school community and the community at large; the quality and diversity of the activities as a whole; and the impact on the school community and the community at large. Projects that have already won the Essor Provincial Prize are not eligible for this category.

### **THE 2008 EDUCATION REFORM PRIZE**

- A cash prize of **\$3500** awarded by the **MELS**

This prize will go to one project among the regional winners that demonstrates outstanding achievement in terms of the quality of its subject-specific approach, the richness of the activities designed to develop competencies, the relevance of the connections between the different subjects, the synergy between those involved in the project, and the central role attributed to students.

### **THE 2008 CULTURE-EDUCATION PRIZE**

- A cash prize of **\$3500** awarded by the **MCCCF**

This prize will go to one project among the regional winners that distinguishes itself by fostering a dynamic partnership between the education community and resources in the cultural sector.

### **THE 2008 ISABELLE-AUBIN PRIZE**

- A cash prize of **\$2500** awarded by the **MELS**

This prize will go to one project among the regional winners that demonstrates the dynamic role of the arts (i.e. the specific and complementary roles of arts subjects in the project) and the quality of the arts education offered to students (i.e. the place occupied by arts education in the school's educational organization).

## **THE 2008 TÉLÉ-QUÉBEC PRIZE**

- A cash prize of **\$1500** and a **work of art** awarded by **Télé-Québec**

This prize will go to one project among the regional winners that demonstrates outstanding achievement in actively promoting the arts and culture in school, or in broadening their influence in the community.

## **THE 2008 ARTS AND CULTURAL EDUCATION PRIZE**

- Cash prizes totalling **\$2000** awarded by **professional associations of arts teachers and school cultural committees**

This prize will go to one project among the regional winners that stands out for its originality and innovative character in terms of the approach to a specific subject; educational strategies; type of student participation; activities; the contribution of the various subjects and the modes of expression involved; and so on.

Note: In keeping with the objectives of the Essor Awards Contest, all cash prizes must be used for educational purposes to ensure the continuity of the project or facilitate the creation of another activity designed to further the development of arts and cultural education in the school.

## **SELECTION OF WINNERS AND AWARDS CEREMONIES**

### **End of the 2007-2008 school year**

- Selection of regional winners

### **Fall 2008**

- Selection of provincial winners

- Regional awards ceremonies

A special ceremony will be held in each of the 11 administrative regions to announce the names of schools whose projects have won a 2008 Essor Regional Prize.

### **End of November 2008**

- Provincial awards ceremony

At the 2008 Essor Provincial Gala, the winners of the six provincial prizes will be revealed. The gala will be attended by representatives from the education, arts and cultural sectors.

Note: The MELS will recognize the person who authenticated the project (who initiated and coordinated it) as the official representative of the school at the various awards ceremonies.

## **PROJECT EVALUATION**

**The selection committee will evaluate each project according to the following criteria:**

- compliance with eligibility requirements
- active collaboration with or participation of one of the following partners:
  - teachers of other subjects
  - partners in one or more schools
  - parents
  - organizations from the arts and culture sectors
- the dynamic role of the arts in the project
- adherence to the teaching approaches and techniques specific to each of the arts subjects involved, particularly as they relate to the educational values and orientations promoted in the Arts Education programs
- the active involvement, throughout the project, of the greatest possible number of students, particularly those enrolled in arts courses at school
- the importance attributed to the selection of elements accompanying the various works of art produced during the project: quality of soundtracks; of music, drama or choreographic repertoires; of images, set design, etc.
- the quality and diversity of the range of activities included in the project
- the importance attributed to the essential role that teachers (generalists and specialists) play in guiding students throughout the project
- the originality and innovative character of the various aspects of the project
- the impact of the project on the school community and the community at large

## THE PROJECT EVALUATION AND SELECTION PROCESS

### **Stage 1: Examination of the Application Package**

The project submission form and the application package are examined prior to the evaluation session to ensure that they contain all the items and information the selection committee will need to verify the project's eligibility. The examiner may contact the project coordinator to obtain additional information on the project.

### **Stage 2: Selection of the Regional Winners**

A selection committee made up of 12 representatives from the education, arts and cultural sectors is responsible for evaluating the application package and selecting the winners at the regional level. This stage will involve the collaboration of representatives from:

- each of the four associations of arts teachers
- the Association québécoise des comités culturels scolaires
- the Québec Federation of Parents' Committees
- the cultural sector
- the Québec associations of school principals
- the MELS regional offices
- the MCCCCF regional offices

An Arts Education consultant will also sit on the committee.

### **Stage 3: Selection of the Provincial Winners**

During this stage, the committee will select the provincial prizewinners from among the regional winners. This will involve the collaboration of three additional committee members representing:

- the MELS
- the MCCCCF
- Télé-Québec

Note: The decisions of the MELS and the MCCCCF, following the recommendations of the selection committee, are final.

## VERIFICATION OF PROJECT ELIGIBILITY

The project must meet the following requirements:

1. It must be consistent with the educational orientations and values of the Québec Education Program.
2. It must have received input from the school team or school board, as well as from partner organizations.
3. It must feature at least one of the five Arts Education subjects.
4. It must be carried out mainly during school hours, or be an extension of Arts Education courses offered by the school.
5. Its activities must be carried out in collaboration with the Arts Education teacher and comply with the approach used in teaching the Arts Education subject in question.
6. It may have been developed or initiated during the preceding school year, but its main activities must take place over the course of the 2007-2008 school year.
7. Its activities must have started no later than February 2008 and should be completed by the end of the 2007-2008 school year.
8. The application package must comply with the requirements specified in the Application Package Development Guide.

Note: The organizing committee will pay special attention to projects that have already won an Essor award, to ensure that the project submitted is different from the previous prizewinning project.

### Important Information:

- The deadline for submitting a project is **May 31, 2008**.
- The following may submit a project:
  - any team representing an elementary or secondary school (public or private) or group of such schools
  - a school board that has developed an arts or cultural project in collaboration with a school cultural committee or partners in the arts and culture sectors

**Additional** documentation should be sent to the following address:

Essor Awards Contest, 2007-2008 School Year  
Direction générale de la formation des jeunes  
Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport  
Édifice Marie-Guyart, 17e étage  
1035, rue De La Chevrotière  
Québec (Québec) G1R 5A5

- For additional information please contact:

Essor Awards Contest  
Telephone: 418-644-5240, ext. 2538

## **APPLICATION PACKAGE DEVELOPMENT GUIDE**

- The application package must be **typed** (in a 12-point Arial or Times New Roman font) **double-spaced on 8.5 x 11 inch paper**. **It must not exceed 10 pages and its electronic version must be PC-compatible**. The application package must be accompanied by a project submission form. To facilitate evaluation of the application packages, please answer the questions concisely and **in sequence**. The quality of the language used is, of course, very important.
- Points **A and B** require a **brief** response, while points **C and D** must be **explained in greater detail**. You may want to present certain aspects in table form, in order to deal with points A and B more schematically.

### **A - Description of the school**

- 1) Briefly describe your school's main past or present activities promoting the arts and culture.
- 2) Specify the number of students in your school and its sociocultural context.
- 3) Briefly describe how the teaching of Arts Education is organized in your school (e.g. arts subjects taught, frequency of classes, distribution of arts subjects over the cycles).

## **B - Participation of partners within and outside the education community**

Briefly describe:

- 1) the various partners (individuals, school team or organizations) who joined the project, and the nature of their collaboration in terms of relationships, organization, administration and educational activities
- 2) the sponsors who contributed to the project

## **C - General description of the project**

- 1) Describe the structure and the main stages of the project.
- 2) Describe the project's main activities and the corresponding subject-specific initiatives.
- 3) Specify the arts or other subjects addressed by the project.
- 4) Indicate the number of students involved in each stage of the project.
- 5) Briefly describe when and where the activities take place (e.g. during or after classes, at school, in a cultural centre, in an arts venue).
- 6) Specify the period in which the project took place (e.g. for one term or throughout the school year).
- 7) Specify the educational roles played by the teacher and by resource persons from the cultural sector.
- 8) Specify the roles of the students with respect to learning.
- 9) Specify the project's educational objectives by briefly describing how it relates to the Québec Education Program (for example, you might want to cover cultural aspects, students' active participation, subject-specific competencies, aims of the arts subjects).
- 10) Highlight aspects likely to demonstrate the consistency, quality, originality and diversity of the project (nature, content, procedure, approach, etc.).

Where applicable:

- 11) Describe the interdisciplinary connections developed by the project.
- 12) If the school has already won a regional Essor prize within the past three years, specify what distinguishes this project from the winning project in terms of the competencies targeted.

- 13) If part of the project took place during extracurricular activities, highlight the ways in which these activities are connected with the Arts Education courses offered by the school.

**D - Impact of the project on the school community and the community at large**

- 1) Give one or more examples of positive changes (with respect to attitudes, behaviours, interests, initiatives) that have taken place among the students, teachers and partners, or in the community.
- 2) Describe the methods used to promote the arts.

**Submission of the Application Package**

1. Prepare an application package describing the project by following the instructions in the **Development Guide** and attach the completed **submission form**. Please send your application package and submission form to the following e-mail address: <politique-culturelle@mels.gouv.qc.ca>. Make sure you clearly identify the document as follows: **Essor 2007-08-Nomination - Name of school**.
2. In addition, please fax a duly signed copy of your submission form to the following number: 418-643-0056, to the attention of Claudine Hamel.
3. Send in **one copy** of any additional documentation presenting the various stages in the development of the project (e.g. a digital recording\* not exceeding five minutes, a photo album showing the key moments in the development process) as well as the final product. Copies should be sent rather than original works.

\* Please ensure that any digital recording you send can be read using QuickTime or Windows Media for PC, or a home DVD player.

## **WHO ARE THE PARTNERS AND SPONSORS OF THE ESSOR AWARDS CONTEST?**

### **Partners:**

The **Ministère de la Culture, des Communications et de la Condition féminine** (MCCCF) joins the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS) in encouraging schools to use the resources available in the cultural sector.

In particular, the MCCCF supports the Contest by awarding a cash prize to one of the two Essor regional prizewinners in each region, in any category, and by awarding a cash prize to the winner of the Culture-Education Prize.

### **Associations of arts teachers and of school cultural committees:**

- Fédération des associations de musiciens éducateurs du Québec
- Association québécoise des éducatrices et éducateurs spécialisés en arts plastiques
- Association Théâtre Éducation du Québec
- Regroupement québécois de la danse
- Association québécoise des comités culturels scolaires

As faithful partners of the Essor Awards Contest since 1996, these associations help to promote the contest in schools and take part in evaluating the projects submitted.

**Télé-Québec**, in keeping with its cultural and educational mission, is pleased to participate in this Contest by awarding a cash prize and a work of art to the winner of the Télé-Québec Prize.

### **Sponsors:**

**Hydro-Québec** will contribute to the cash prizes awarded to winning projects in each region and to the Essor Provincial Prize.

**Yamaha Canada Music Ltd.** will award a gift certificate to winning projects in each region, as well as a Yamaha piano for the project that wins the Essor Provincial Prize.