



Government of Canada

Gouvernement du Canada

The National Battlefields
Commission

Commission des champs
de bataille nationaux

Press release

For immediate release

Canadian Museums Association **The Commission scolaire de la Beauce-Etchemin and the National Battlefields Commission receive the 2010 Museums and Schools Partnership Award**

Québec, June 1, 2010 – Within the framework of the 63rd annual convention held last May 12 in Saint-John's (Newfoundland-and-Labrador), the Canadian Museums Association (CMA) disclosed the winners of the 2010 awards for the celebration and promotion of excellence in the sphere of Canadian museums. This year, the Museums and Schools Partnership Award was given to the ***Student Masterworks*** project set up by the Commission scolaire de la Beauce-Etchemin, in collaboration with the National Battlefields Commission, presented at the Brown Basin during the summer of 2009.

The members of the jury, gathered together to assess the projects submitted, unanimously recognized that the ***Student Masterworks*** project met all the CMA criteria of excellence including an efficient museum-school collaboration, heritage transmission to students, management and risk sharing, relevance and vision in the advancement of museums and schools, as well as partner synergy in this educational opportunity. An outstanding example of learning projects museums and schools can create by working in unison.

Aimed at heightening the interest and enriching the knowledge of secondary school students in our heritage as well as publicly showcasing their outstanding achievements, this partnership project between school and museum institutions put youths at the centre of their history. Presented from June 24 to September 7, this superb exhibition of some 140 reproductions of objects from the New France era turned out to be highly rewarding for students, as well as a remarkable achievement for the advancement of school and museum work.

A few years ago, the Commission scolaire de la Beauce-Etchemin launched a pedagogical activity known as *Reproduction of a historical object dating back to the New France period*. For its part, the National Battlefields Commission has a broad pedagogical expertise in the dissemination of history and a sharp interest in supporting the schools' efforts. The idea of a museum-school collaboration gave students the opportunity to broaden their experience and develop their work while giving unparalleled visibility to their creations: reproductions of objects and artefacts used in everyday life by New France inhabitants during the mid-18th century.

Once again, during the summer of 2010, nearly 150 reproductions of historical objects of New France (from 1608 to 1759) created by a new cohort of students, can be admired at Brown Basin. Each student made the most of their particular skills: sculpture, pottery, ceramics, drawing, painting, calligraphy, garment-making, sewing, etc. These masterly works, meticulously created by 175 award-winning students, were selected among the remarkable creations of some 800 secondary school students from three different institutions, on the initiative of Messrs Christian and Jean-Pierre Lagueux, who respectively teach at the Polyvalente Saint-Georges in Saint-Georges-de-Beauce and at the Polyvalente Bélanger in Saint-Martin-de-Beauce.

Brown Basin, a bequest from the Canadian Government for Québec City's 400th anniversary, is remarkably located along the shore of the St. Lawrence River, at 615 E. Champlain Blvd, in Québec City. This year, from June 24 to October 11, it will again welcome visitors to admire the 2nd edition of ***Student Masterworks***, as well as the animated interactive exhibition ***Pirates, privateers and freebooters*** and the multimedia exhibition ***Québec 1759-1760, Battlefield Between Two Empires***.

The Museums and Schools Partnership Award rewards the excellence in collaboration between Canadian museums and schools in developing educational programming. This award is presented in association with the CMA and the Canadian Teachers' Federation. The Canadian Museums Association, created in 1947, is a national organization which promotes the advancement of Canadian museums with close to 2000 members dedicated to the preservation and representation of Canadian heritage for the public's benefit.

www.theplainsofabraham.ca



Source: Joanne Laurin, Communication Officer
National Battlefields Commission
418 649-6251, joanne.laurin@ccbn-nbc.gc.ca