

THE ROYAL
CANADIAN
LEGION

LA LÉGION
ROYALE
CANADIENNE


LEGION



AWARDS

Posters, Essays, Poems

PRIX

Affiches, Compositions, Poèmes

VETERANS CARE
SOIN AUX ANCIENS
COMBATTANTS

REMEMBRANCE
SOUVENIR

POPPY CAMPAIGN
CAMPAGNE DU
COQUELICOT

YOUTH
JEUNESSE

SENIORS
ÂÎNÉ(E)S

UNITY
UNITÉ

COMMUNITY
SERVICE
SERVICE
COMMUNAUTAIRE

REMEMBRANCE CONTEST

2003

CONCOURS DU SOUVENIR

THE CONTESTS

For many, many years, The Royal Canadian Legion has sponsored annual Poster, Essay and Literary Contests that are open to all Canadian school children. The youths that participate in the contests assist the Legion in one of our primary goals – fostering the tradition of Remembrance amongst Canadians.

The contests are divided into three categories: Junior – grades 4, 5 and 6; Intermediate – grades 7, 8 and 9; and Senior – grades 10, 11, 12 and 13 if applicable. Initial judging takes place at the community level by volunteers at local Legion branches and the winning entries progress to judging at the Provincial level. The winning entries at this level are forwarded to Ottawa where they are judged and the National winners declared. The names and work of all the National winners are published in this booklet.

The Poster Contest has two divisions – Colour and Black and White. The winning entries for the three categories (school grades) are displayed at the Canadian War Museum from 1 July – 1 May of the following year. The second place winners and any receiving an Honourable Mention are displayed in the foyer of the House of Commons during the annual Remembrance period in November.

The senior winning entries in the Essay and Poetry contests are also displayed at the Canadian War Museum during the same period.

The Legion also sponsors a trip to Ottawa for the Senior Winners in the four contests (two poster, essay and poetry) to attend the National Remembrance Day Service where they place a wreath on behalf of the youth of Canada. They also have an opportunity to meet and visit with the Governor General.

Students may enter as many contests as they wish and congratulations to all of this year's winners.

Should you wish further information on the contests please contact the Royal Canadian Legion Branch nearest your residence.

LES CONCOURS

Durant plusieurs années, la Légion royale canadienne a parrainé des concours littéraires, d'affiches et de composition dans lesquels tous les élèves canadiens peuvent participer. De cette façon les jeunes participants et participantes aident la Légion à réaliser l'un de ses buts principaux – promouvoir la tradition du Souvenir au sein de la population canadienne.

Les concours sont divisés en trois catégories: junior – 4, 5 et 6^{ième} années; intermédiaire – 7, 8 et 9^{ième} années; et senior – 10, 11, 12 et 13^{ième} années, si applicable. Les concours sont jugés en premier lieu au niveau de la communauté par des bénévoles des filiales locales de la Légion, et les gagnants et gagnantes avancent alors au niveau provincial. Le travail des gagnants et gagnantes à ce niveau est soumis à Ottawa où il est jugé, et les gagnants nationaux choisis. Les noms et les projets de tous les gagnants et gagnantes au niveau national sont publiés dans ce livret.

Le concours d'affiches a deux divisions – couleurs, et noir et blanc. Les travaux des gagnants dans les trois catégories (grades scolaires) sont affichés au Musée canadien de la guerre du 1^{er} juillet au 1^{er} mai de l'année suivante. Les noms des gagnants et gagnantes en deuxième place ainsi que ceux des individus qui reçoivent une mention honorable sont exhibés dans le foyer de la Chambre des Communes durant la période annuelle du Souvenir, soit en novembre.

Les soumissions gagnantes au niveau senior dans le concours de composition et de poésie sont aussi montrées au Musée canadien de la guerre durant la même période.

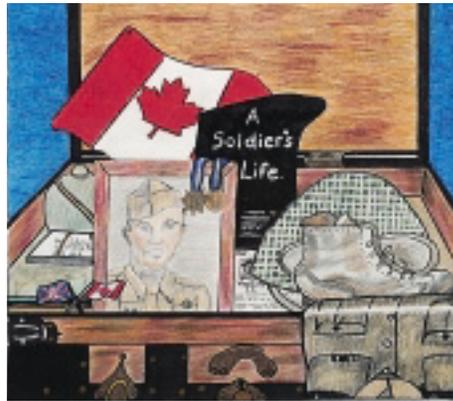
La Légion parraine aussi un voyage à Ottawa pour les gagnants et gagnantes au niveau senior dans les quatre concours (deux pour affiches et un chaque pour composition et poésie) pour assister au service du jour du Souvenir où ils déposent une couronne au nom de la jeunesse du Canada et ont l'occasion de rencontrer le Gouverneur général.

Les étudiants et étudiantes peuvent participer dans autant de concours qu'ils désirent. Félicitations à tous les gagnants et gagnantes de cette année.

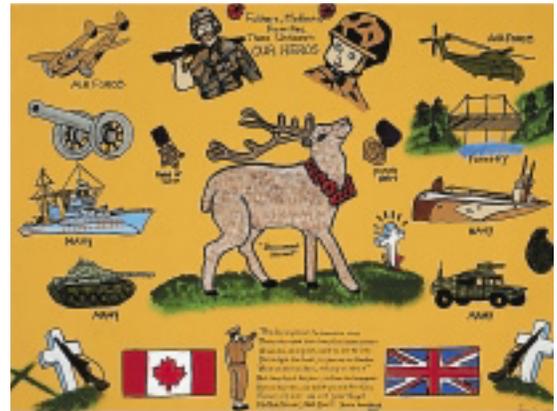
Si vous désirez plus d'information au sujet des concours, veuillez communiquer avec la filiale de la Légion royale canadienne la plus près de chez-vous.

Junior - Junior

**POSTERS - COLOUR
AFFICHES - COULEURS**



FIRST PRIZE • PREMIER PRIX
Amanda Clark
Wolseley, Saskatchewan



SECOND PRIZE • DEUXIÈME PRIX
Jamie Sweetland
Clareville, Newfoundland

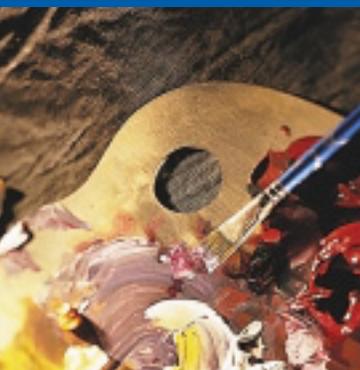
**POSTERS - BLACK AND WHITE
AFFICHES - NOIR ET BLANC**



FIRST PRIZE • PREMIER PRIX
Queenie Chan
Toronto, Ontario



SECOND PRIZE • DEUXIÈME PRIX
Erin Ross
Grenfell, Saskatchewan



Junior - Junior

ESSAY • FIRST PLACE COMPOSITION • PREMIÈRE PLACE

Remembrance Day

On Remembrance Day, we wear a poppy to show that we remember those who died, fighting in war.

War is a terrible thing. It is not fun with action figures or toy guns. It is not a game. War has killed millions and millions of people.

In Flanders Fields, many soldiers fought and died for us. The poppy, growing out of the grave, represents hope. Because of these men and women giving their lives, we can have life.

The poppy is a new and vibrant life growing out of the sacrifice of others.

These soldiers had such courage that they deserve to be honoured. But let us also remember those who survived and live with horrible memories and frightening images that time can not erase.

In both 1914 and 1939 young men all across Canada sacrificed future dreams, relationships with those they loved and personal ambitions to fight for their country. Some returned, but many did not. In both 1918 and

1942 those who returned came home with minds and bodies in pain.

In so much darkness, pain and loss the only light was the bright red poppy. This poppy shows us that our friends died so that we could have life. Their sacrifice was not in vain.

Why should we wear a poppy on Remembrance Day? So we can show the world how these soldiers gave up their lives for our freedom and our country.

Karalee Derkson
Banff, Alberta

POEM • FIRST PLACE POÈME • PREMIÈRE PLACE

Wind Spirits

Let the wind blow,
Like it would any other day.
But today will be different,
A day to remember them.

They fought for us,
All they ask is that we remember,
Imagine how they felt,
Chanting their death as they sounded off.

As the wind will blow,
Our flag will take flight,
And spirits fly free to whisper their message
That life is too short to waste.

We wear poppies to remember,
To remember Flanders Field,
And the crosses row on row,
Where all those poppies grow.

During the war there was suffering,
After there were empty places
In the heart of relatives,
Now we remember, remember, remember.

Tara Irwin
Ormstown, Quebec



Intermediate - Intermédiaire

**POSTERS - COLOUR
AFFICHES - COULEURS**



FIRST PRIZE • PREMIER PRIX

Emmy Chan
Toronto, Ontario



SECOND PRIZE • DEUXIÈME PRIX

Naomi Peters
O'Leary, Prince Edward Island

**POSTERS - BLACK AND WHITE
AFFICHES - NOIR ET BLANC**



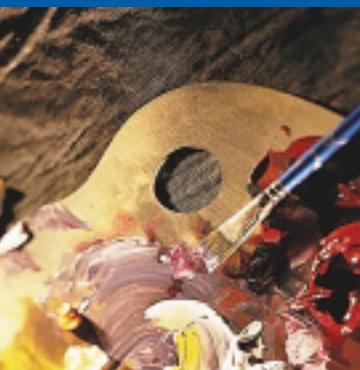
FIRST PRIZE • PREMIER PRIX

Taylor Sato
Canmore, Alberta



SECOND PRIZE • DEUXIÈME PRIX

Jasmine Wright
Blind River, Ontario



Intermediate - Intermédiaire

ESSAY • FIRST PLACE COMPOSITION • PREMIÈRE PLACE

In Memory of Nathan Smith

It was April 17th, 2002, when a friendly fire incident tragically occurred across the Atlantic Ocean, in Afghanistan. A 200lb bomb dropped and the friendly fire killed a brave soldier, Private Nathan Lloyd Smith. Three other Canadians were killed, and eight wounded. The American pilot, who dropped the bomb, was strictly given the orders to mark the target, but to not drop the bomb. But the pilot disobeyed his orders, claiming to have dropped the bomb in self defence.

That morning, I got on the bus and sat down with my friend, Lauren. In the background of all the teenagers talking, I heard on the radio, "Four Canadians killed in friendly fire overseas in Afghanistan". It didn't occur to me at the time, that one of those four could be Nathan. "What are the chances of that?" I asked myself quietly.

Later that day, after school, I got a phone call from my Mom. She told me through tears, that Nathan had been one of the four killed in Afghanistan. Private Richard Green, Corporal Ainsworth Dyer and Sergeant Marc Leger, also made the ultimate sacrifice.

My first reaction was anger towards the pilots and the Americans in general. I thought to myself, "This could have been prevented, Nathan didn't have to die this way".

I met Nathan around four years before friendly fire took his life. He was my neighbour's, Lloyd and Charlotte's son.

Nathan was a wonderful person in every way. He was humorous, smart and extremely brave. He never thought he was putting himself in danger by fighting for our country. He always thought of our country's safety and took pride in being a Canadian.

Nathan was interested in the military for a long time. At the

age of eight he had the dream of going to Military School. Around the age of twenty-two he became a member of the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry, better known as the PPCLI.

After Nathan's death, I began to realize just how important the military is. It was tragic that Nathan had to die from something could have been prevented, like friendly fire. But, Nathan probably would have wanted to die fighting for his country. He gave the biggest, bravest sacrifice that anyone could make. He died for the safety of our country, and for millions of people he did not know. He is a hero in every respect; I look up to him. He has honestly left a mark on this nation and everyone's heart. He shall never be forgotten. God bless Nathan. And let him rest in peace. His spirit, and his bravery will live on in our hearts forever.

Nora Heighton
Tatamagouche, Nova Scotia

POEM • FIRST PLACE POÈME • PREMIÈRE PLACE

Remember Us

Bullies on our playgrounds,
Pushing and hurting
Glad to be feared
Wanting now and always what is not theirs.
The intimidated watch
The bully at his work.
The suffering victims' silent fears,
Are reflected always in their tears.
Who cares enough to make the bullies stop?

The world's an adult playground
The bullies' features are blended
Into one evolving face
Hitler, Saddam, Al Qaeda, regardless of the race.
The intimidated watch
The bullies' at their work.
Innocent victims suffer, their lives are a war game
Death, loss and suffering; their hurt is the world's shame.
Who cares enough to make the bullies stop?

The Canadian Soldier
Has always firmly stood
On the side of right.
To stop the world's bullies, to stand fast and fight.
The whole world watches
These soldiers at their work.
The intimidated victims find always faithful friends
In the armed forces of Canada - heroes to the end.
Who cares enough to make the bullies stop?

We do
The Canadian Soldier.
Remember us,
And what we have always stood for.

Rebecca Goulding
St. John's, Newfoundland

Senior - Senior

POSTERS - COLOUR
AFFICHES - COULEURS



FIRST PRIZE • PREMIER PRIX

Jasmine Ang
West Vancouver, British Columbia



SECOND PRIZE • DEUXIÈME PRIX

Mary Jo Aquilina
Baltimore, Ontario

POSTERS - BLACK AND WHITE
AFFICHES - NOIR ET BLANC



FIRST PRIZE • PREMIER PRIX

Shelsey Muska
Parksville, British Columbia



SECOND PRIZE • DEUXIÈME PRIX

Brian Wells
Blind River, Ontario

Senior - Senior

ESSAY • FIRST PLACE COMPOSITION • PREMIÈRE PLACE

I am a seventeen-year-old Canadian and I take my freedom for granted. Through the restoration of peace I have grown up in a country where war and death feel like an ancient fantasy. How am I supposed to remember something that happened long before I was born? How can Remembrance Day become more real to me?

I listen to the lists of names year after year. Names belonging to people that I will never meet and who will never know me. I watch the movies; I wear a poppy; but, I will never be able to comprehend the reality of being asked to give my life for my country. To give my life, so that future generations of seventeen-year-old Canadians may live free.

The World Wars will forever remain the most memorable haunting years in the lives of each Canadian alive at that time. My parents' generation grew up from under the shadow of the World Wars and into the anxiety of the Cold War. Remembrance Day is real to them; they lived through what it represents.

Today war still exists but it resides far enough away from New Brunswick that my thoughts are seldom forced to its realization. Must peace breed ignorance?

This summer while on a travel-study program in Europe, I had the honour of visiting Vimy Ridge. I was guided through the Canadian subways and trenches. I stood looking from the German front line to the Canadian's, less than 30 feet apart. I saw the brutality of the battle through the indentation of randomly placed rises and craters in the centre of France's flat farmland. And I saw the sky filling monument, proclaiming the achievements of the Canadian soldiers, and immortalizing the men whose lives gave birth to victory.

This Summer, I walked along Omaha Beach, and I stood within the gas chamber at Dachau concentration camp in Germany. Suddenly I felt a connection. It was more than a movie, it was more than a plastic poppy. It was the realization that I will never be able to fully understand the

depth of sacrifice, laid down for my sake, by the lists of names. Their struggle came alive to me, each name became a person and though I will never meet them, I will live each day in an attempt to become worthy of their gift.

I know that there are many young Canadians who will not be given the same opportunities that allowed Remembrance Day to become something real to me. There are also many that find it hard, as I did, to remember a past from before our time, a past that no longer dictates how we live our lives. More education is needed to ensure that the meaning of Remembrance Day will not diminish with every passing generation. More than simply writing the same poem of re-hashed facts and classic rhyming that is dry of meaning, year after year. Our greatest tribute to the soldiers would be to live the life that they made possible, to learn from their example of courage and sacrifice, to remain forever thankful, to remember.

Noah Fitch
St. Stephen, New Brunswick

POEM • FIRST PLACE POÈME • PREMIÈRE PLACE

The Veteran

He crawls out of bed, his bones are weak
His muscles ache and warmth they seek
But today is Remembrance Day and there is a task at hand
His comrades in arms will meet across the land

This is the day that they stand together
Not matter their health, commitment or weather
They stand united with memories ripe
Of that terrible war with all its strife

Many were lost, injured or scarred
When they joined forces their country to guard
He knows he was lucky to make it home
Not like the "Unknown Soldier" buried alone

He touched his medals and his thoughts go back
To the day he met with his first attack
The sounds, the smells and feelings are clear
Ane even today they make his eyes tear

He heads to the hall where they're all meeting
Nods and smiles by way of a greeting
The reality of loss is suddenly clear
With so many of his friends no longer here

A cherished voice calls and he slowly turns around
The reason they fought he surely found
For there stood his family four generations in all
Together as one standing proud and tall

As young men they left for country to fight
Not knowing if the reason was wrong or right
Now as an old man with his family
He knows what they fought for is standing right here

Richelle Butcher
Lougheed, Alberta

