



## 2008-2009 ANNUAL REVIEW

### WINNING TEAM AT 2008 EUROPEAN OPEN TOURNAMENT



(Left to right) **Deirdre Casey** of the **Sacred Heart School of Halifax**, **Aidan Fishman** of Manitoba, **Jonny Lomond** of Newfoundland and **Maureen MacIsaac** of **Sydney Academy**, were members of Team Canada which captured the 2009 European Open Championship held in Ljutomer, Slovenia in November. Deirdre was Captain of the team and Maureen the top ranking Nova Scotian debater.

### CHAMPION TEAM AT 2009 JUNIOR HIGH NATIONALS



**John Wright** of the English Speaking Union presents the championship trophy to **J. D. Zillman** of **Whitney Pier Memorial Junior High School**, Sydney, and **Debi Ogunrinde** of **Halifax Grammar School**, the winning team at the 2009 Junior High Nationals hosted by the Halifax Grammar School May 22<sup>nd</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup>. Miss Ogunrinde placed second in the individual standings while Mr. Zillman came in 4<sup>th</sup> out of about 56 competitors.

### BLUENOSE MEMBER OF TEAM CANADA AT 2008 AND 2009 WORLD SCHOOLS CHAMPIONSHIPS



**Daniel Lewis** of **Halifax Grammar School** was a member of Team Canada that competed in the 2008 World Schools Debating Championships held in Washington, D.C. September 5<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> and the 2009 World Championships held in Athens, Greece from February 5<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup>. Both teams placed 6<sup>th</sup>; Daniel was 14<sup>th</sup> individually at the 2008 World Championships.

### 2008 MCGILL UNIVERSITY HIGH SCHOOL TOURNAMENT CHAMPION TEAM AND BEST INDIVIDUAL DEBATER



**Allison Ghosn** and **Deirdre Casey** of the **Sacred Heart School of Halifax** display the trophy for the champion team that they won at the 2008 McGill University High School Tournament held in Montréal on October 31<sup>st</sup> - November 1<sup>st</sup>. **Andrew Morrison** of the **Sacred Heart Boys School**, Halifax, was top individual debater at the event. A photograph of Andrew appears in the picture to the left.

### SUCCESSFUL CONTESTANTS FOR 2010 TEAM CANADA



At the Nova Scotia Try-Outs held in Halifax on October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2008, **Andrew Morrison** of the **Sacred Heart Boys School**, Halifax, (front), **Vinayak Mishra** of the **Halifax Grammar School** (top right) and **Lyle Dobbins** of **Citadel High School**, Halifax, (top left) won the right to represent Nova Scotia at the national Team Canada Selection Tournament. All three qualified for the nine member Team Canada pool at the national try-outs held in Regina on November 25<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>.

### 2008 SACRED HEART NOVICE WORKSHOP

The Sacred Heart School of Halifax attracted 40 novice debaters to its Novice Workshop on September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2008, along with 20 experienced debaters who assisted in administering the event.

## SENIOR HIGH WINNERS OF THE 2008 N.S. IMPROMPTU DEBATING CHAMPIONSHIPS



Deirdre Casey of the Sacred Heart School of Halifax, and Daniel Lewis and Scott Stirrett of the Halifax Grammar School were the top Senior High debaters at the 2008 Nova Scotia Impromptu Debating Championships held at the Sacred Heart School of Halifax on October 3<sup>rd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup>. Deirdre was

the best individual debater while the boys defended the team title for their school.

## 2009 CANWEST TOURNAMENT QUALIFIERS

At the 2008 Nova Scotia Impromptu Debating Championships, Deirdre Casey of the Sacred Heart School of Halifax and Daniel Lewis of Halifax Grammar School qualified to represent Nova Scotia at the 2009 Canwest National Public Speaking Championships held in Winnipeg February 6<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> but unfortunately neither was able to attend.

## JUNIOR HIGH WINNERS OF THE 2008 N.S. IMPROMPTU DEBATING CHAMPIONSHIPS



Debi Ogunrinde of Halifax Grammar School and J. D. Zillman and Corey Schruder of Whitney Pier Memorial Junior High School in Sydney were the best Junior High debaters at the 2008 Nova Scotia Impromptu Debating Championships held at

Sacred Heart School of Halifax October 3<sup>rd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Ogunrinde was the top individual debater while the boys defended the team title for their school.

## 2008 DÈBATS L'ACADIEN WINNERS

Karin Lefebvre of Ecole du Carrefour and Diane Malo of Middleton Regional High School were selected to attend the 2009 National Seminar at this event held at Ecole du Carrefour on October 18<sup>th</sup>.

## 2008 UNIVERSITY OF KING'S COLLEGE JUNIOR HIGH TOURNAMENT WINNERS

Aislin Flynn and Nzingha Millar of Sacred Heart School of Halifax were the top team at the 2009 UKC Junior High Tournament held in Halifax on November 15<sup>th</sup>. Sunny Kang of Gorsebrook Junior High School, Halifax, was the best individual debater.

## WINNERS OF 2008 MOSES COADY DEBATING COMPETITION

Scott Stirrett, Daniel Lewis and Vinayak Mishra of Halifax Grammar School retained their school's title as the top team at the 2008 Moses M. Coady Debating Competition hosted by St. Francis Xavier University in Antigonish on November 21<sup>st</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup>. Mr. Stirrett was offered a \$1,000 entrance scholarship to St. F. X. as best individual debater.

## NOVA SCOTIAN DELEGATES TO 2008 NATIONAL SEMINAR



(Left to right) Tom Lawson, Founding Father of the National Student Debating Seminar; Allison Ghosn of the Sacred Heart School of Halifax, Ashley Rerrie of Middleton Regional High School, Casper Macauley of Halifax Grammar School, Diane Malo of Middleton Regional High School, Caitlyn Campbell of Sydney Academy, Karine Lefebvre of Ecole du Carrefour, and Adult Delegate David Stewart of Middleton Regional High School in the background, were members of the Nova Scotia delegation to the National Seminar held in Calgary, Alberta from November 20<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup>. Karine was our Bilingual delegate, Diane our French one. Allison was our best English debater, placing 10<sup>th</sup>, while Diane placed 4<sup>th</sup> in the French competition.

## WINNERS OF THE 2009 SODALES TOURNAMENT

Vinayak Mishra and Casper Macauley of Halifax Grammar School were the top team at the 2009 Sodales Tournament hosted by the Dalhousie University Debating Society on January 9<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> and their schoolmate Daniel Lewis was best individual debater.

## TOP NOVA SCOTIANS AT THE 2009 QUEENS TOURNAMENT

Scott Stirrett of the Halifax Grammar School teamed up with Howard Cohen of Montreal to win the team championship at the 2009 National High School Tournament hosted by Queens University in Kingston on January 30<sup>th</sup> - February 1<sup>st</sup>. In the individual standings, Andrew Morrison of the Sacred Heart Boys School, Halifax, was the top Nova Scotian competitor, placing 3<sup>rd</sup>.

## OUR BEST AT 2009 HART HOUSE TOURNAMENT

Scott Stirrett of Halifax Grammar School was our best individual at this event held at the University of Toronto on February 20<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup>, placing 2<sup>nd</sup>. Our top team was Deirdre Casey and Allison Ghosn of the Sacred Heart School of Halifax, who placed 9<sup>th</sup>.

## WINNERS OF THE 2009 DONAHOE CUP TOURNAMENT



Allison Ghosn and Deirdre Casey of the Sacred Heart School of Halifax won the 2009 Donahoe Cup Debating Tournament hosted by the Sacred Heart School of Halifax on April 18<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup>. In the individual standings, Vinayak Mishra of Halifax Grammar School claimed the title.

## 2009 PROVINCIAL JUNIOR HIGH CHAMPION ENGLISH DEBATERS



Debi Ogunrinde of Halifax Grammar School retained the Gold Gavel, emblematic of the individual championship, at the 2009 Nova Scotia Junior High School Debating Championships held at the

Sacred Heart School of Halifax on March 28<sup>th</sup>. **Corey Schruder**, **Dillon Ross** and **J. D. Zillman** of **Whitney Pier Memorial Junior High School** were awarded the Atlantic Institute of Education Shield, retaining the team title for their school.

## 2009 PROVINCIAL SENIOR HIGH ENGLISH CHAMPION DEBATERS



**Daniel Lewis**, **Scott Stirrett** and **Vinayak Mishra** of the **Halifax Grammar School** retained the Lieutenant-Governor's Citation for HGS as top team at the 2009 Nova Scotia Senior High School English Debating Championships hosted by Halifax West

High School April 3<sup>rd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup>. Daniel also won the Gold Gavel as individual champion. **Liam Coughlan** of **Citadel High School**, **Kyla Shields** of **Middleton Regional High School**, **Kanivanan Chinniah** of **Sydney Academy** and **Craig Overmars** of **Dr. J. H. Gillis School**, Antigonish qualified as English delegates to the 2009 National Seminar.

## TOP NOVA SCOTIANS AT THE 2009 CANADIAN SENIOR HIGH CHAMPIONSHIPS

**Daniel Lewis** and **Scott Stirrett** of **Halifax Grammar School** were the top Nova Scotian team at the 2009 Canadian Senior High Championships held in Regina, Saskatchewan on April 23<sup>rd</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup>, placing fourth. In the individual standings, **Daniel** placed 5<sup>th</sup>.

## 2009 SACRED HEART SCHOOL DEBATE CAMP

The Sacred Heart School of Halifax hosted its fifth annual summer Debate Camp August 24<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup>, 2009. All 40 positions were taken and extra applicants placed on a waiting list.

## FRENCH DEBATING TOUR



**Nathaniel Mullin**, **Karine Lefebvre**, coach **Agnès Malouf**, **Dominique Hurst**, **Nicholas Doiron** and **Mathieu Charles Blouin** of **Ecole du Carrefour** put on demonstration French debates in Tusket and LaButte on May 29<sup>th</sup>.

## WINNERS OF 2009 STU MODEL UNITED NATIONS



Students from **Charles P. Allen High School** in Bedford display the Gary Robichaud Award they won as top school at the 2009 John Peters Humphrey Model United Nations hosted by St. Thomas University in Fredericton from May 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup>. Members of the team are (left to right) **Seung Woo Baek**, **Carol St. Gelaïs**, **Andrew Cormier**, **Aziz Alawadhi**, **Robbie Ruddick**, **Matthew Holland**, **Noah Brownstone**, **Mitchell MacInnis**, **Jenna Nowlan**, **Ryan Haley**, **Nila Joshi** and **Timothy Kim**. **Laura Cole** of **Middleton Regional High School** was the best individual of the 180 delegates at the event while her schoolmate **Patrick Korhonen** and **Ryan Smith** and **Dan MacNeil** of **Dr. J. H. Gillis School**, Antigonish, received honourable mentions.

## NOVA SCOTIAN DELEGATION TO 2008 JUNIOR HIGH NATIONALS



Nova Scotia's delegation to the 2009 Junior High Nationals hosted by the Halifax Grammar School from May 22<sup>nd</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> was comprised of (left to right) **Nzingha Millar** of the **Sacred Heart School of Halifax**, Adult Delegate **Carol Milne** of **Whitney Pier Memorial Junior High School**, Sydney, **William Dawson** of **Halifax Grammar School**, **Patrick Ross** of **Truro Junior High School**, **Esther Abel** of **Whitney Pier**, **Jack Fraser** and **Oliver Bjornsson** of **Halifax Grammar**, **Dillon Ross** of **Whitney Pier**, **Aislin Flynn** of **Sacred Heart School**, **J. D. Zillman** of **Whitney Pier**, **Debi Ogunrinde** of **Halifax Grammar**, Tournament Chairman **Josh Judah** of Halifax, and Adult Delegate **Cathy Nock** of **Whitney Pier**. Official team members were Debi, J. D., Oliver, Esther, Aislin and Patrick.

## ECOLE DU CARREFOUR WINS THE 2009 DÉBATS L'ACADIEN

**Mathieu Charles Blouin** and **Karine Lefebvre**, both of **Ecole du Carrefour** in Dartmouth, were the top team at the 2009 Débats l'Acadien hosted by their school on May 23<sup>rd</sup>. **Mathieu Charles Blouin** was the top individual debater and he and **Meaghan Carlson** of **Dr. J. H. Gillis Regional School**, Antigonish, qualified to attend the 2009 National Seminar. (Members of the winning team appear in the photograph to the left.)

## 2009 WILLIS MCLEESE AWARD WINNER



**David Stewart** of Middleton was the 2009 recipient of the Willis S. McLeese Award, a national trophy presented each year to a person who has made an outstanding contribution to student debating in Nova Scotia. The trophy is named in honour of Mr. McLeese, the Toronto businessman who was a founding director and long-time Treasurer of the Canadian Student Debating Federation.

David has been coaching debate at Middleton Regional High School for over five years, successfully lobbied the Department of Education to approve a course on debating, and was our Adult Delegate to the 2008 National Student Debating Seminar.

Previous provincial winners of the award have been Tass Paul Bey, Stephanie Blucher, Gordon Bragg, Geoff Buerger, Lee Cantwell, Brian Casey, Peter Delefes, Helen Dickson, Patricia Donnelly, Irina Efimov, Robert Ferguson, David Greene, Cathy Hanley, Marjorie Pettipas Mackay, Agnès Malouf, Allan MacDiarmid, Andra Doherty McGinn, Joshua Judah, Helen Kuniski, Harold Kyte, Carol Milne, Karen Pugh Powell, Barbara Read, Pauline Scott, Marilynne Sinclair, Raymond Smith, Regina Tate and Margaret Young, and national nominees John Filliter, Gerry Punké and Cleve Wall.

## 2009 SISTER ANNE LESOTA AWARD WINNER



**Murray Angus** of Dartmouth was the 2009 recipient of the Sister Lesota Award, which is presented in recognition of outstanding service as a debating judge. The award is named in honour of the late Sister Anne Lesota, who was extremely active in provincial student debating when she was Headmistress at what was then the Convent of the Sacred Heart in Halifax. Previous winners of this award have been Gerald Aucoin, Kathryn Bjornsson, James Bond, Margaret Boyd, Betty-Lou Cameron, Patricia Donnelly, Robert Ferguson, Canon Mel French, Dr. William Gallivan, Jennifer Harnum, Jennifer Henderson, Margaret Johnson, Sudannah MacDonald, Agnès Malouf, Dr. Fred Matthews, Regina Tate, Perry Teale, David White and Margaret Young.

## 2009 NATIONAL SEMINAR THEME

The Theme of the 2009 National Student Debating Seminar is “Arts Funding”. The Cross-Examination resolution will be “Should public money be used to support the Arts?” while the Parliamentary Bill is “This House would abolish copyright.” Senior high debaters planning to attend the Seminar are reminded not to debate these or closely-related topics in inter-school competition prior to the Seminar or they will be disqualified from attending it. The Seminar will be held in Winnipeg, Manitoba from October 14<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup>.

## NOTICE OF 2009 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 2009 Annual General Meeting of the Nova Scotia Debating Society will be held at Ecole du Carrefour, 102, avenue du Portage, Dartmouth on Saturday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2009 beginning at 12 noon or as soon thereafter as possible.



**2008-2009 Board of Directors: John Filliter, Fidel Castro-Gomez, Stephanie Blucher, Carol Milne, Deirdre Casey and J. D. Zillman.** Missing from photograph: **Ali Cherri, John Dulong and Agnès Malouf.**

## REGISTER OF 2008 – 2009 MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY

During the 2008-2009 Society Year, 24 schools affiliated with the Nova Scotia Debating Society, namely: (coaches)

- 01: Sacred Heart School of Halifax (Brian Casey)
- 02: Sacred Heart Boys School (Brian Casey)
- 03: West Island College International – Class Afloat (Kate Knight)
- 04: École du Carrefour (Agnès Malouf)
- 05: King's-Edgehill School (Fidel Castro-Gomez)
- 06: Sherwood Park Education Centre (Kerri Lynn Power)
- 07: Park View Education Centre (Susan Aliphath)
- 08: Dr. J. H. Gillis Regional School (Effie Boutilier)
- 09: North Nova Education Centre (David Greene)
- 10: Middleton Regional High School (David Stewart)
- 11: Whitney Pier Memorial Junior High School (Cathy Nock)
- 12: Baddeck Academy (Alfie MacKay)
- 13: Halifax Grammar School (Josh Judah)
- 14: Citadel High School (Josh Judah)
- 15: Gorsebrook Junior High School (Josh Judah)
- 16: Sydney Academy (Harold Kyte)
- 17: Truro Junior High School (Lesley Fisher)
- 18: Charles P. Allen High School (Christopher Hall)
- 19: Cornwallis Junior High School (Carol MacGillivray)
- 20: Prince Andrew High School (Bob MacKay)
- 21: Riverview Rural High School (Kathleen Butler)
- 22: Halifax West High School (Stephanie Blucher)
- 23: Sir John A. Macdonald High School (Guy Hartling)
- 24: Memorial Composite High School (Chris Nicholson)

## THANK YOU SUPPORTERS!

The Society thanks Ecole du Carrefour, the Sacred Heart School of Halifax, Halifax West High School and Halifax Grammar School for hosting provincial debating tournaments this year; Gail LeBlanc for designing the Annual Review, retired teacher and debate coach Colin Campbell for maintaining our website; and Ralph Blakeburn, John Filliter, H.R.M. Councillors Jerry Blumenthal, Bob Harvey, Bill Karsten, Gloria McCluskey, Linda Mosher, Tim Outhit, Dawn Sloane, Andrew Younger and Sue Uteck, the Willis McLeese Foundation, and Cleve Wall for making donations to the Society. The Society is a registered charity.

The **Annual Review** is published and distributed to all junior and senior high schools in Nova Scotia each September, along with an invitation to join the Nova Scotia Debating Society. The Society website is [www.debatingsociety.ca/ns](http://www.debatingsociety.ca/ns)

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