



Category: Staff Awards

Jeremy Award and Hedy Burton -Teachers at Metcalfe Public School jointly receive the Elementary Drama award. As director and producer respectively, Jeremy and Hedy's grades 4 – 8 production of *Sleeping Beauty* was a phenomenal success. Through their patience, teaching skills and long hours of mentoring, students were taught the important skills of timing, enunciation, volume control, body language, improvisation, as well as about sound, lighting, costume and set design, prop building. Their students learned not only effective theatre skills but also that hard work in the arts brings great satisfaction and lasting memories.

Mandar Gumaste of Longfield Davidson Heights Secondary School receives the Elementary Intermediate Music Award. Mandar is an exceptional music educator. With his impressive technical skills, high standards of musicianship, strong sense of innovation in teaching practices, boundless energy and obvious love of students, he instills in them an enthusiasm for music and desire to excel. Along with creating award winning musicians out of the elementary students at LDH, Mr. Gumaste is a key organizer of the OCDSB Grade 8 All-Star Jazz Band which is an outstanding contribution to the greater Ottawa educational community.

D. Gregory Crossett of Colonel By Secondary School receives the Secondary Drama Award. Mr. Crossett's production of the musical *Li'l Abner* was the summative project of his senior Drama class. Along with many others from the student body of Colonel By, the members of his class each performed one of more roles and also took on a production task such as promotion, set design and construction, costuming and choreography. The result was more than a class project; it became a highlight of the school year with incredible performances that delighted the school community. Gregory Crossett's talents and leadership in teaching Dramatic Arts through this exciting practical project is to be honoured.

Pierre Massie of Glebe Collegiate Institute receives the Secondary Integrated Arts Award. As a dedicated teacher and Arts Department Head with an outgoing and flamboyant personality, Pierre has almost tripled the size of the music department and thrilled the school's audiences with inspiring Music Nights. His many music ensembles, including the unique group called OFFBEAT which creates its own percussion instruments travel far and wide to entertain excited audiences. His students also integrate theatre technology as they operate the Glebe auditorium and its many events. The hard work Pierre's students cheerfully put in to meet his high standards attests to his excellent delivery of the Arts in our schools.

Timothy Stanutz and Meredith Ward, teachers at Bell High School, jointly receive the Secondary Music Award. Over the years, Timothy and Meredith have nurtured and developed outstanding instrumental and vocal music programs respectively. Their inspiring and award-winning music ensembles include Junior and Senior Bands, Jazz Band, Choir, Bear-i-tones, Belle-tones and Bell-Acapella. Working as a team and with drama teacher Perry Van Allan they have produced too many marvelous concerts and musicals to count. Their department helped in composing the score for this year's production of *Medea*. Through their love of music and teaching music, Timothy and Meredith have developed talent and creativity in a large proportion of Bell High School students and have motivated them to attain lofty goals, such as sharing their musical talents to provide much-needed financial and moral assistance to South African students at Munya School.

Barrie Hammond, former Superintendent and Director of Education, receives the Leadership in the Arts Award in recognition for his work as the Chair of the Cappies Steering Committee for its initial five years. Barrie Hammond and Ruth Dunley of the Ottawa Citizen have been the driving forces in bringing the incredibly important Cappies program of training students to critique and honour high school theatre to Canada in the Nation's capital. Starting in Washington, D.C. twelve years ago and increasing in size in Ottawa from 13 participating schools to 38 schools currently, Cappies has become an unstoppable engine of excitement for the Arts in our region. This phenomenon would not have happened without Barrie's countless hours of dedicated and diplomatic stewardship in building the cooperation of members of several school boards and independent schools. Thousands of talented students have taken part in the plays and musicals presented over the last five years, thousands more parents and community members have attended the shows or read the skillfully written reviews published in the Ottawa Citizen and still thousands more have attended the glitzy galas at the National Arts Centre each year where the student-chosen favourites have been honoured. From these thousands and from the thousands who will benefit in the future "Thank you, Barrie Hammond".

Category: School and Community Awards

David Jones, a volunteer at Elmdale Public School, receives the Arts Volunteer Award. As an active member of the Parent Council and the chair of the Arts Committee, David has worked to enrich the students' exposure to the arts. Not only has David focused on visual arts, a field in which he is renowned as a landscape painter, but he has also supported music and drama. David has mentored individual teachers in art projects, arranged for guest artists in various fields, championed the annual Elmdale Arts Calendar and demonstrated his own formidable painting talents by publicly creating one of his own works in full view of the students.

Jamie Fine, a student at Merivale High School, receives the Student Leadership in the Arts Award. For four years and as Merivale's co-president last year, Jamie has given unwavering support for the arts programs. Her public address system morning raps gained the attention of the student body and got them behind events such as Music Nights, shows and art exhibitions. Her vibrant, enthusiastic motivation made things happen at Merivale because she promoted the activities at assemblies, and meetings of teaching staff and parent council. Her excellent leadership skills as well as her musical

talents deserve our recognition.

The Elementary School Event (Performance) Award this year goes to W.O. Mitchell Elementary School for its production of *Beauty and the Beast*, directed by Sue Brown and produced by Debbie Pratt. Leading a team of 34 teachers, 5 volunteers, 43 cast members and 26 crew members, Sue and Debbie built the anticipation and thrilled the whole school and community with 6 sold-out performances of this endearing classic musical. Students learned not only dramatic and singing skills, design and technical skills but also how to face challenges, take risks and enjoy teamwork. *Beauty and the Beast* was definitely the highlight of the school year for W.O. Mitchell Elementary School.

The Secondary School Event (Display) Award this year goes to Nepean High School for its Maurice Haycock Retrospective Art Display, organized by Glenn Turner and Donna McPhail. This pair of teachers dedicated countless hours outside their regular workdays for many months to organize and mount an exceptional art exhibit which showcased the work of a talented Canadian landscape painter who also had deep roots in Nepean High School's community. With the collaboration of the family of the late Maurice Haycock, their efforts helped expose students in a very poignant way to many unique characteristics of Canada's geography, history and artistic roots as they created a special tribute which was as beautiful and inspirational as it was educational.

The Secondary School Event (Performance) Award this year goes to Bell High School for its production of *Medea*, directed by Perry Van Allen. Mr. Van Allen motivated his group of students to create a script adaptation of the Greek tragedy, compose an original score, design and construct a stunning set, costumes and life-size puppets, and perform the challenging dialogue of this drama. The high caliber of this production was recognized by the judge of the Ontario Sears Drama Festival (Ottawa sector) and sent to the provincial finals where again it was lauded. *Medea* was just one of many wonderful and award-winning productions lead by Perry Van Allen at Bell High School.

Marjorie Loughrey Lifetime Achievement Award goes to Irv Osterer, head of Arts at Merivale High School. Irv has been the Head of the Arts Department at Merivale for many years and has been a teacher of the arts in the OCDSB for 30 years. Irv is a leader, an arts advocate, a mentor, a coach for teachers and students alike. Irv is a true believer in the arts, in arts education, and in ALL students. His unbridled enthusiasm, his tireless promotion of students and their events, his innovative ways to enrich arts experiences and his unfailing support for his teachers make him a resounding choice for this honour according to his many colleagues and students, both current and former. Irv Osterer is absolutely and completely deserving of the Marjorie Loughrey Lifetime Achievement Award for his great service to Ottawa.