

CIRCLE OF HOPE

OVER 2,000
WSD STUDENTS
CELEBRATE
WINNIPEG'S
DIVERSITY WITH
A PARADE OF
SILK BANNERS

PAGE 3

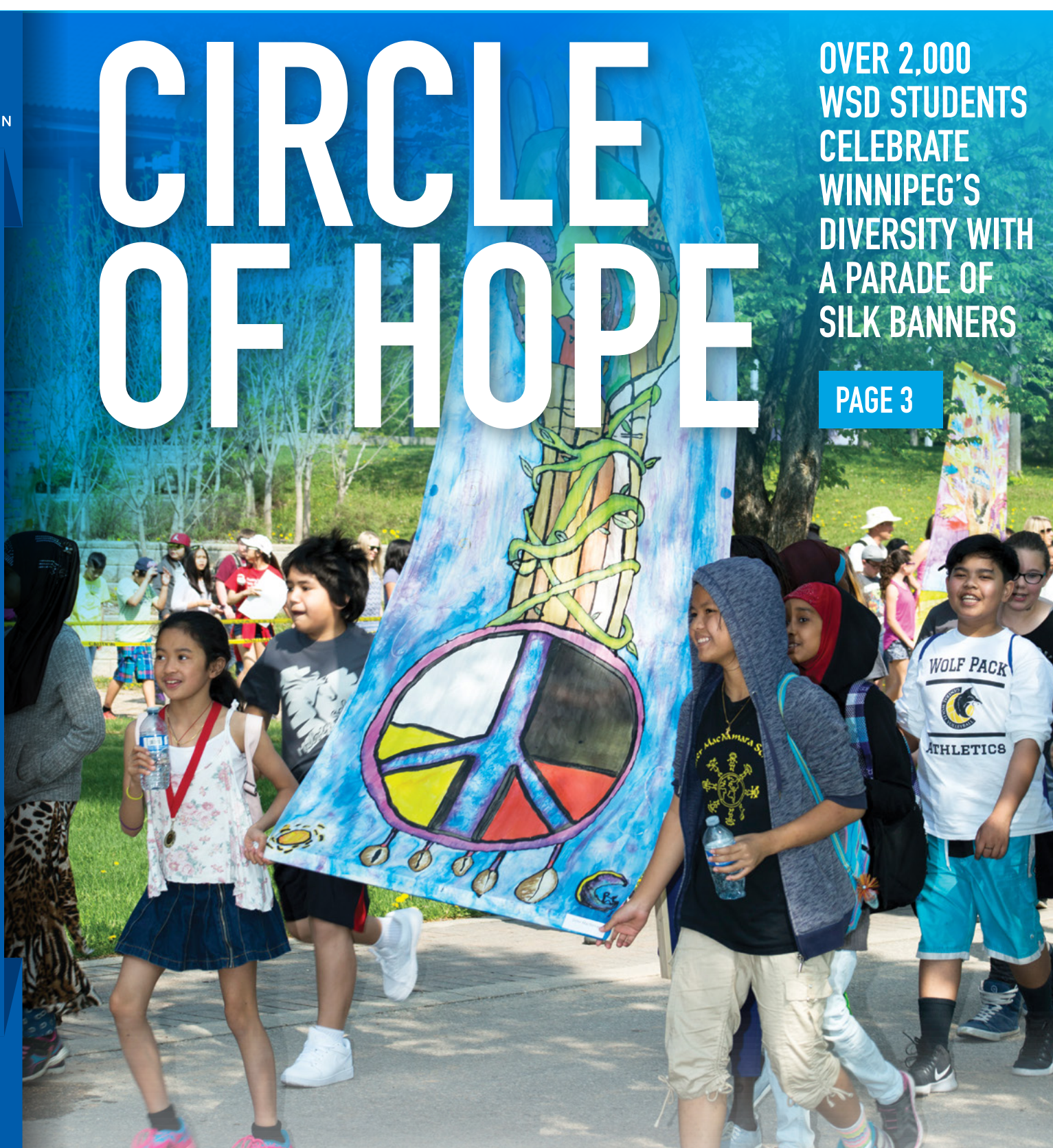


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INNOVATIVE
THINKING
FROM WSD
SCIENCE FAIR

PAGES 16-17



RAISE THE BANNERS!

St. John's High School Phys. Ed. Teacher Grant McMillan (left) and Principal Doug Taylor raised the banners during an assembly celebrating two Tier 2 city basketball championships.

The school's boys varsity and junior varsity squads each captured the city championships this year.

"It's wonderful to have all of our school supporting us, it's a great honour," said student Yassin Ahmed, who played on the junior varsity team. "I think we won because of our support—our coaches, our friends and families. And all the teachers that supported us too."

The last time a St. John's team won the city championships was over two decades ago, when the Tigers' girls team won a Tier 1 championship. Stanley Knowles Principal Darryl Stevenson was the coach of that 1994 squad. The team reunited for a game against the current Tigers' girls team on April 15.

"I think it's important for students to get that sense of history," said Principal Doug Taylor. "This is more than just a building with four walls. It has meaning and connections."

TASTY TUESDAYS

Students at Greenway School are preparing and tasting healthy lunches thanks to a nutrition program called Tasty Tuesdays.

Resource teacher Diane Zielinski and teacher Harbans Rihal started the program as a way to introduce more fruit and vegetables into students' diets. The duo applied for a Manitoba Healthy Living grant and the program was off and running.

"We're providing fruits and vegetable based lunches once a week," Ms. Zielinski said. "We have soups, pastas with vegetable based sauces and students always get a smoothie. We try to switch things around to see what the kids like."

Grade 4 students help with the preparation of the Tuesday lunches.

"The smoothies usually have things like spinach, yoghurt, strawberries and bananas," said student Thu Li. "The bananas help make them thick."

The group will also be providing smoothies to the entire school at recess to help spread the word about great tasting and healthy nutrition.

"We're doing this so kids can stay healthy," said student Kate Saquilayan.



Greenway students enjoy chicken vegetable soup on a Tasty Tuesday.

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HEARTY BOWLS

Isaac Newton School students Raven Ferland, Seth Hobson and Kayden Johnson (pictured) get ready to enjoy the first bowls of a healthy chili they made for their fellow students and staff.

"We chopped up the vegetables for it—celery, green peppers, tomatoes and beans—it's a vegetarian chili," Kayden said.

The school has used a Manitoba Healthy Living grant to create a healthy snack program for students.

"We've used the grant to purchase fresh fruit and vegetable snacks, and sometimes we also cook something special. On Wednesdays, different classes take turns making snacks and meals for the other students," said Vice-Principal Susan Christiuk. "We want to get students used to trying different fruits and vegetables. One of the students tried a mushroom for the first time the other day and he really enjoyed it."

The chili recipe was courtesy of Educational Assistant Ashley Gushulak.

"The recipe is from my grandma, who taught me how to make chili without the beef," she said. "All you need is some bright coloured vegetables and go to it."



Métis dancer Dean Davis helps Machray School celebrate their annual Mamawitan day with a school-wide jig.

MACHRAY BRINGING COMMUNITY TOGETHER

Machray School students and staff shared and celebrated the Aboriginal culture for the school's second annual Mamawitan event.

Mamawitan is Cree for "coming together."

Students showcased their learning in areas such as cultural identity, treaty education, legends and storytelling, while also taking part in workshops with the Louis Riel Institute.

Guidance Counsellor Kristy Waldman described the event as a way to engage students and the

Machray community.

"This is really about bringing families and culture into our building," she said. "One of the most profound things we noticed last year about this project is the level of student engagement."

The focus this year was on Métis culture, with students learning to jig, play the spoons and more. Métis dancer Dean Davis provided a fitting finale that included a school-wide jig.

"Any time you include culture, it's a great opportunity to connect," Ms. Waldman said.

CELEBRATING DIVERSITY

In a celebration of Winnipeg's Diversity, over 2,000 Winnipeg School Division (WSD) students walked a circle around the Canadian Museum of Human Rights on Friday, May 20.

School groups created spectacular silk art banners depicting the students' voice on human rights and equity. The banners were created over the past several months at Luxton School, under the tutelage of WSD Arts Consultant Joe Halas.

Banner carriers led each school as they walked from The Forks Festival Stage north along the walking path, circled the museum and returned back to the starting point.

The event marked the finale of another successful year of incorporating Everybody has the Right programming into WSD's everyday curriculum and learning.

"Our year started with a fantastic student summit with Mayor Brian Bowman and his challenge to all students to celebrate the rich cultures of our people," said Rob Riel, Director, Aboriginal Education and Newcomer Services, WSD. "Students all across WSD really took that challenge to heart and came up with very thoughtful ideas and actions to help work toward ending racism in our city."

Students met again with Mayor Bowman in January for a 'check-in' where they shared their ideas and sense of responsibility to prevent racism from developing.

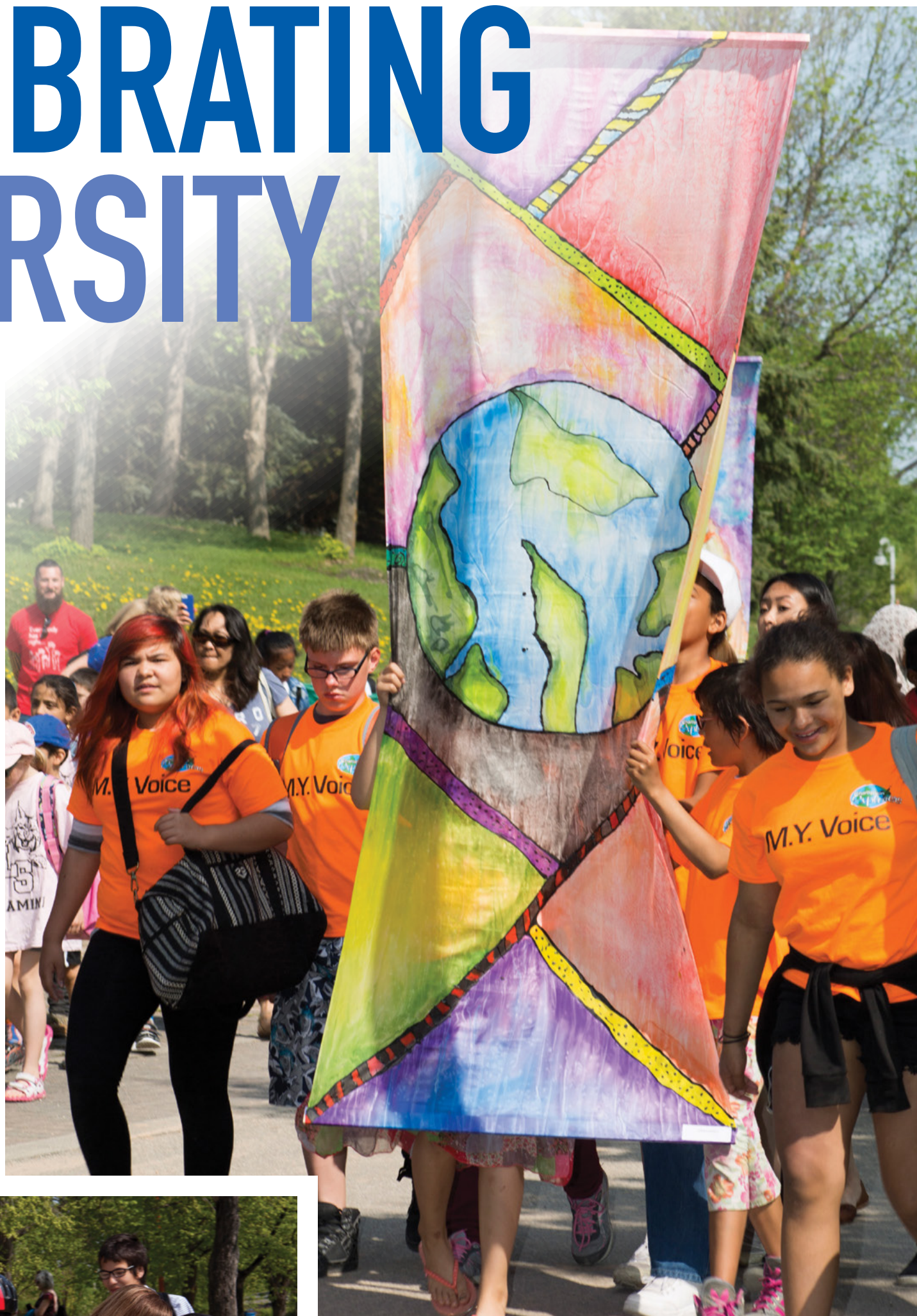


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PHOTO BY QUINCY CLEAVER, TEC VOC PHOTOGRAPHY



LEARNING TOGETHER

Learning is better when we're together! Students and their families enjoyed an evening of fun, collaborative learning at Dufferin School for Learning Together 2016.

The bi-annual event offers a free evening of learning workshops for parents and children. Families are bussed to the event from their regular schools.

Sessions included something for every interest: yoga, bookmaking, drama, drumming, Zumba, crocheting, Filipino games, math games, the Seven Aboriginal Teachings and more.

Flor Umana came with her two children from Machray School.

"We did it last time and we loved it," Ms. Umana said, during a Vegetable Container Garden workshop conducted by R.B. Russell Horticulture Teacher Louis Shachtay. "There are so many activities and it's all free. Sometimes when you are at home, you don't always get the time for this. This is good for the kids and community."

Organizers also gave families take-home bags with more learning activities.

"I really like the fact that they're making packages to send home with the parents," said Claudette Fournier, came with her granddaughter to the event. "Parents don't always have games to play with kids for math...these games are a benefit at home."

WSD Assistant Volunteer Coordinator Karen Naumiuk said the Learning Together Conference has been taking place for over 20 years.

"The intention is for parents and children to come together, participate and learn in different areas," Ms. Naumiuk said. "Hopefully they'll take some of these ideas to do with their children at home."

This year's conference was part of WSD's Healthy Minds Week. The May 2 to 6 event was organized as a way of encouraging further conversations and practices toward positive mental health, in conjunction with the Canadian Mental Health Association's Mental Health Week.

CREATING A WELCOME SPACE

When it comes to creating a welcoming space for all at a school, Gay-Straight Alliances (GSAs) can offer LGBTQ students a safe environment to meet, gather, be themselves and support each other.

According to a recent EGALE climate survey, students from schools with GSAs feel that their school communities are supportive of LGBTQ people, are more willing to be open about their identity with their peers and see their school climate as becoming less homophobic.

WSD staff met for a professional development session at Prince Charles ERC on April 28 on starting and sustaining a GSA; the Rainbow Resource Centre's Jared Star facilitated the session. Manitoba's Department of Education is funding the non-profit centre to help provide schools and educators with professional development, mental health supports and to connect the students and staff with regional health authority supports when needed.

Mr. Star started off the session by asking staff to introduce themselves and provide their preferred pronoun. For transgender students who are in different stages of acceptance and transition—and really for anyone—such pronouns are laden with identity significance; no one likes to be identified with an incorrect pronoun.

"Some people will have specific pronouns they use to identify themselves, and we try not to make assumptions around the pronouns people use," Mr. Star said. "This is something you'll encounter with youth who may be questioning their gender identity or may be going through some form of social transition."

Either students or staff can initiate new GSAs in WSD schools. Many schools, such



as Kelvin High School and R.B. Russell Vocational High School, already have GSAs.

Mr. Star noted that multiple studies have pointed to LGBTQ youth in Manitoba and Canada as having higher diagnosis rates for mental health disorders, homelessness and other issues.

"While I say this, it's hard not to balance that with the fact that there are a lot of really well supported, well-adjusted and happy LGBTQ youth...their parents love them, they have lots of friends and they're successful."

For students who do need support, a GSA can offer a peer support network.

"There are young people that are considering taking their own lives, there are young people that aren't supported at home or school," Mr. Star said.

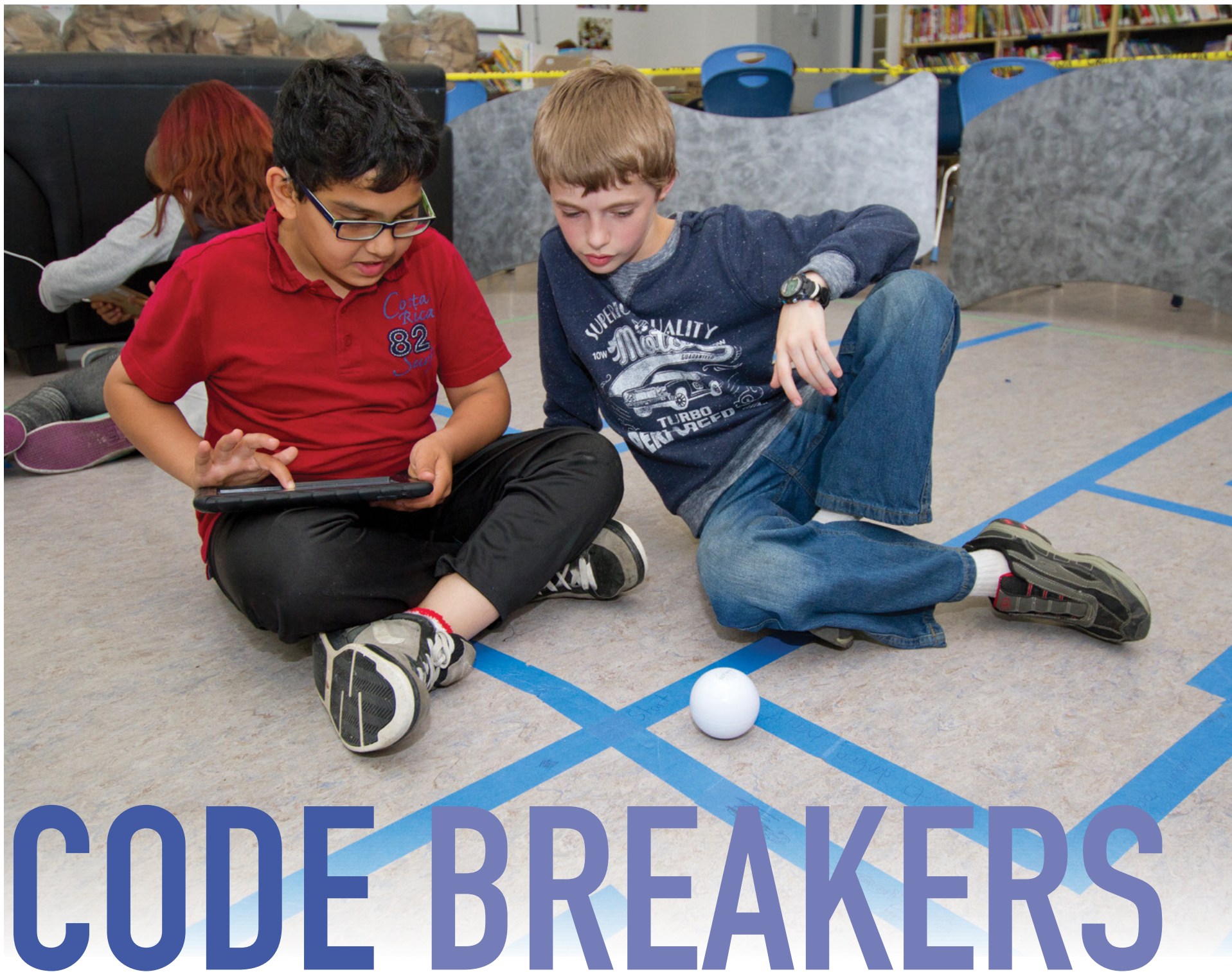
"The GSA might be the one place where you can come and be yourself, where you can talk about your real life...it might be the one place you where you can hang out with your friends without getting bullied or picked on."

Along with supporting GSAs, WSD has also drafted a Safe and Caring Policy – Trans and Gender Diverse Students and Staff that is intended to support all students and employees.

The Winnipeg School Division Code of Conduct is a key supporting document for the policy and essentially requires that everyone behave in a respectful manner, respect the rights of all students with regard to their gender identity and gender expression, and be aware of unacceptable behaviours, such as bullying, harassment, violence or discrimination.

Stakeholders provided feedback on the draft Safe and Caring Policy for a May 27 deadline, and the WSD Board of Trustees is now set to review.

With files from the Rainbow Resource Centre



CODE BREAKERS

Issuing commands through tablet devices, Mulvey School students are making a robotic ball roll its own way through a tape-bordered maze on the floor of their library.

For the older generations it's the stuff of science-fiction, but for Keith Strachan, the robotic balls—known as Spheros—are another way to introduce coding to elementary students.

"It's never too early to start coding," said Mr. Strachan, who works in many WSD schools as an Educational Technology Support Teacher. "Coding draws upon multiple disciplines: critical and computational thinking, problem solving, math, language skills, sequencing, collaborative skills, communication—there's lots of different skill sets and parts of the brain that are being engaged."

The Grade 6 students working with Mr. Strachan at Mulvey are using a block-programming tool to move their Sphero robots on the floor.

"To move the Sphero forward, they actually have to calculate the distance based on speed and time," Mr. Strachan said. "They're charting, doing ratios, looking at angles and measurement, etc. and that all came out of the project naturally. They saw the need for it to solve the puzzle."

There are a wide variety of tools and resources for students to learn coding at any age level. From non-digital tools like binary bracelets, paper and pencil tools, card-based tools or even the squares on a tile floor to digital resources like Hopscotch (a block-programming tool that focuses less on syntax and more on coding logic), Scratch Jr., BeeBots and Spheros, students can learn key coding concepts.

Mr. Strachan himself keeps a blog of coding resources at breakingnewground.ca.

"WSD has been coding with Grade 1 and 2 students successfully," Mr. Strachan said. "It's not even really about the coding—it's about the thinking and problem solving that's happening. How do you break the problem down into simple steps and approach it?"

Just as Mr. Strachan said it's never too early to learn coding, he adds that it's never too late to learn either: "I came to coding quite late in life and it's one of my passions now."

TEENS CODING

High school students across WSD are also getting opportunities to discover that passion.

Sisler High School recently hosted a coding workshop for Manitoba youth, attracting students from as far away as Dauphin. The April workshop was held as part of Sisler's partnership with the Vancouver Film School (VFS). Dubbed the VFS-Sisler Pathway, the partnership provides students with opportunities to enter the creative economy through coding workshops and financial support of up to a 50 per cent tuition reduction.

"Sisler is proud to partner with VFS and to provide a mechanism to promote innovation and access to the cutting-edge education VFS is known for," said Jamie Leduc, Sisler's Department Head of Business Education, Information Technology and Interactive Digital Media.

The April workshop included intensive game programming training for Grades 10 to 12 students, as well as a series of hands-on coding workshops for students in Grades 4 to 9 at Sisler.

Sisler Grade 12 students Mark Toledo and Aerron Tan are among several who are applying for VFS scholarships for the 2016-17 academic year. Mark has already been learning coding for two semesters and on his own time, learning Visual Basic, C# and Unity for game design and using Java for Android app development.

"Ever since I was younger, I've been into how things operate...I really liked that Discovery Channel show How Stuff Works," he said. "I found an interest in computers and the next natural step was coding."

"When it comes to giving the computer a harder task, you have to be creative with your solutions. What you're thinking in your head may not be the way a computer interprets it."

Aerron, meanwhile, has just started learning coding this year due to his interest

in game design: "It's cool how coding works to create what you see on screen. And I think that learning coding opens up a lot of opportunities, not just in game design, but other fields."

Mr. Strachan said that coding builds problem-solving skills that have far reaching uses. He notes a recent workshop at Ralph Brown School, where students created their own drawing program in Hopscotch as part of a larger Twitter challenge.

"There was an incredible empowerment to creating a drawing program for themselves," he said.

"There will be times in your life that you'll require a solution and often there will be none available to you. You'll have to create a solution. Having some of that literacy under your belt will be beneficial."



Learning Unreal Engine 4 with Vancouver Film School's Justin Meagher at Sisler.

THE PAY IT FORWARD FUN LUNCH

There's nothing better than a fun lunch on a Friday afternoon—eating a hot lunch with classmates and sharing the excitement of the impending weekend.

The Parent Advisory Group at Robert H. Smith School decided to share the fun by providing a Pay It Forward Fun Lunch at two other WSD schools.

When Robert H. Smith students pay for the school's fun lunches at the beginning of the school year, they also have the opportunity to pay for an extra fun lunch for another school in the WSD. This year, the school was able to hold fun lunches for students at both Norquay and Luxton Schools.

Our Schools caught up with Robert H. Smith parents Melanie Dorrington, Vicki

Shalley and Kate Franklin as they were delivering pizza and a board game for each classroom at Norquay School.

"The best part of this is visiting the schools," Ms. Dorrington said. "I think we get more out of this, it just fills your heart."

The Grant Park Real Canadian Superstore donated bananas for the lunch, while Santa Lucia Pizza and Tim Horton's provided discounted food to help with the budgeting of the event.

"We tally up the amounts, work out a budget and look for a school that fits our budget," Ms. Dorrington said. "Last year we did Sister MacNamara School, which was a larger school, so this year we decided to do two smaller schools."

The fun lunch was also another way to



continue a special relationship between a Norquay Grade 2/3 class and a Robert H. Smith Grade 5/6 class. Robert H. Smith teacher David Leochko's class have been pen pals with Teal Moszynski's class through the school year; the Norquay class even visited Robert H. Smith to celebrate Christmas. The two classes will wrap up with a year-end celebration at Assiniboine Park in June. The two teachers met when Ms. Moszynski was student teaching at Robert H. Smith.

"Our kids think it is so neat to connect with older students from another part of

the city," said Ms. Moszynski. "The whole art of letter writing is a bit of a lost art now, so the students are so excited when they receive letters and drawings from their pen pals."

Robert H. Smith Principal Tom Rossi said the ongoing relationships with other schools are an excellent learning opportunity in sustainable development.

"There is a social-economic piece to sustainable development and the students have embraced the learning through this."

THANKING WINNIPEG FOUNDATION

Organizers of the Y-Not? Program took time in May to publicly thank the Winnipeg Foundation for its many years of support.

The Y-Not? Program provides YMCA-YWCA memberships and other fitness opportunities to inner city students who may not otherwise be able to afford to go.

The program promotes mental and physical health and well being as a strategy to deal with personal impacts of poverty in the community.

"The Winnipeg Foundation has been actively involved in helping the Y-Not? Program provide up to 1,000 YMCA-YWCA memberships a school year for Winnipeg School Division inner city youth," said Margaret Eve MacKinnon at R.B. Russell Vocational High School on May 10.

She also noted that the Winnipeg Foundation has been providing financial support to the program since 2005.

"The Winnipeg Foundation cares about what's going on with youth in Winnipeg's inner city."

To donate to the Winnipeg Foundation, visit www.wpgfdn.org.



ROBERTSON VOTES

Just over 57 percent of Manitobans headed to the polls on April 19 for the provincial election, but 100 percent of Robertson School Grade 5 and 6 students took part in a similar democratic exercise a day earlier.

The students took to the polls to vote for the same candidates that were on the official provincial ballots for their Burrows constituency: incumbent Melanie Wight (NDP), Cindy Lamoureux (Liberal), Rae Wagner (PC), Garrett Bodnaryk (Green) and Tony Petrowski (Communist Party).

"The Grade 6 Social Studies curriculum is about voting, and with the federal

election in the fall, we've already talked a lot about government—so we thought it would be a great experience to take part in this round," said teacher Heather Engstrom. "We've also talked a lot about human rights and the right to vote in Canada."

Grade 6 student Isabella Villegas said she planned to vote when she turned 18.

"There are other people in the world that are dying for the right to vote...it's a privilege," she said. "It's very important to vote."

By the end of the official election night, Cindy Lamoureux (Liberal) took the Burrows seat in Manitoba's 41st election.



50 YEARS OF FUN LEARNING

Winnipeg School Division (WSD) recently commemorated 50 years since it first launched its Nursery program.

On May 18, the division planted a tree at David Livingstone School where the first Nursery class began in 1965.

Now the Principal at Principal Sparling School, Lionel Pang was among the first Nursery class students in Winnipeg School Division.

“Growing up with immigrant parents limited my experiences as both parents worked — the Nursery Program and first years of school helped to build my foundation of learning,” said Pang. “What I remember most is that education became an important part of my life. The more I learned, the more I loved to learn. The Nursery Program and early years in school not only built a strong foundation for education, but was an important building block of my life’s foundation, which has led me to do what I do today.”

Pang said that as a Principal, one of the most important parts of his day is visiting the Nursery Program in his school.

Winnipeg School Division is a strong advocate of early years education and pioneers for new programs. Over the past two years, the number of schools with full day Kindergarten has increased and as of this September there will be 13 full day Kindergarten classes.

“Preschool education has a long-term and positive impact on children’s learning and development,” said WSD Board of Trustees Vice-Chair Sherri Rollins. “We’re very pleased to recognize the significance of this 50 year milestone. The tree going in the ground later today will stand tall and be testimony – another fifty years from now – to the strong roots that preschool education gives our children to grow on.”

Winnipeg School Division is the only division in Manitoba to offer Nursery programs at all 59 elementary schools. More than 1,780 students are attending Nursery this year.

Right: A nursery student and WSD Board of Trustees Vice-Chair Sherri Rollins during the planting of the anniversary tree at David Livingstone.

Bottom Right: Lionel Pang was among the first group of students to attend Nursery in WSD. Today, he is the Principal at Principal Sparling School—and a highlight of his day is visiting Nursery classrooms.



PHOTO BY JEFF MILLER



A WINNIPEG HERITAGE MOMENT

Alliyah has travelled over the Arlington Bridge countless times; the rail yard below inspired her project at the Red River Heritage Fair.

“I pass the Arlington Bridge every morning and I see these trains, so I wanted to do a project and find out more,” said the General Wolfe student. “It’s just amazing to come to heritage fair with a project that I really wanted to do.”

Alliyah was among hundreds of Manitoban students who took part in the fair on May 5 at the University of Winnipeg’s Duckworth Centre. The colourful event offers students a chance to take part in historical workshops and share their heritage research with judges and peers.

Alyanna Joaquin chose to research The History of Women’s Suffrage in Canada.

“It’s important for us to know what women did back then just for us to be able to vote now...it’s important for us to have that because every vote counts,” she said. Alyanna added that she was enjoying her first experience at the Red River fair.

“It’s been fun, there are a lot of projects and many opportunities to learn about Canada.”

Elmwood High School students Alex Ratte and Ethan Stucky were also enjoying the fair for the first time.

“The judges are really happy when you tell them something they didn’t know before,” Alex said. “It’s nice to see that.”

RRHF co-organizer Marie Zorniak said she was impressed with the level of research and inspiration amongst student projects.

“We’ve seen an increase in quality. Students are discovering amazing, historically significant stories from our past,” she said. “And we’ve seen more unique projects, from Aboriginal history and vision quests to Canadians in the media.”

Ms. Zorniak added that the students’

passion for history is what draws the same group of dedicated volunteers and judges year after year.

“They see students who are on a learning

journey. When you speak with students who are passionate about their project and have taken ownership of it, it’s so rewarding.”

HERE IS A LIST OF WSD’S RED RIVER HERITAGE FAIR AWARD WINNERS FOR 2016:

- **Shadina Caligagan, Aleli Godoy (General Wolfe):** KGS Sustainable Development Award for “Canada’s Trades and Resources”
- **Evan Chan (Grant Park):** Aboriginal Circle of Educators Award, Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Manitoba/Treaty Relations Award for “Manitoba Indigenous Rights”
- **Alyanna Joaquin (General Wolfe):** CTV Research Award for “The History of Women’s Suffrage in Canada”
- **Alex Ratte, Ethan Stucky (Elmwood):** CTV Research Award for “Eliminating Plastic”
- **Alisheya Walker (Elmwood):** Manitoba Museum Award for “Missing Indigenous Women”
- **Niji Mahkwa School:** Dalnavert Museum School Spirit Award
- **Vitina Shannacappo (Sargent Park):** RRHF Art Gallery Award
- **Denise Villaneuva (Sargent Park):** RRHF Art Gallery Award
- **Damon Barteaux (J.B. Mitchell):** Young Citizens Award for “Royal Aviation Museum of Western Canada”
- **Massie Zhang (Grant Park):** Young Citizens Award for “No More Stolen Sisters”

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DESTINATION IMAGINATION!

Ralph Brown School opened its doors to teams of young innovators when it recently hosted the Manitoba provincials for Destination Imagination.

Destination Imagination is the largest creativity program in the world; it is active in 30 countries including the Canada and the United States.

The program focuses on inquiry and project-based learning and blends STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) with fine arts, and social entrepreneurship.

"It's very interdisciplinary, it reaches across all of the curricular areas," said WSD Enrichment & Innovation Consultant Shauna Cornwell. "The teamwork, the resilience, the imagination and creativity it develops in students is unprecedented."

Destination Imagination publishes six challenges a year in areas such as technical, fine arts, etc. Multigrade/multiage school teams of up to seven students spend the school year trying to come up with the best possible solution. (You can view the challenges at:

<https://www.destinationimagination.org/challenge-program/2015-16-challenge-previews/>)

Groups compare their solutions at Destination Imagination tournaments.

Ralph Brown had a team of Grade 4 to 6 students competing in the fine arts challenge at the May 3 event. The team had to plan and perform a pre-1990 set mystery play.

"We've been working on our play really hard...we based it on the board game Clue," said Grade 5 student Michaela Callender. "Our play is just under eight minutes and we're really happy with it."

"We're a bit nervous but this isn't the first time we've acted in front of people," added Grade 6 student Cassy Klann.

The program also has instant challenges, in which students must problem solve in a short time period. One example of an instant challenge would be building a tower with 20 pieces of paper according to appraising criteria such as size, creative use of materials, etc.

"We had a lot of interest in the instant challenge program," Ms. Cornwell said.



"We've done professional learning with teachers on instant challenges in our WSD STEAM Centres and the Inner City Science Centre. The classroom teachers have really bought into the

program and that four C learning—collaboration, communication, critical thinking and creativity."

With files from Shauna Cornwell



SOUND AND COLOUR

Students in the Winnipeg School Division's Honour Choir perform May 12 at the Portage Avenue Church.

PHOTO BY GRANT BRIDGEMAN



THE WRITE STUFF

From the arts to communications to medicine and the law, writing is a crucial skill with many career paths.

Students explored the possibilities of writing at Daniel McIntyre Collegiate Institute's "The Write Stuff" conference, which was held on April 21 at the Calvary Temple.

"This is a huge undertaking for the school with 160 DMCI students and neighbouring schools attending," said Grade 11 Teacher Robyn Harrington, event organizer. "It's an exciting opportunity for our students to hear from guest speakers in workshops about the day-to-day applications of writing and how that translates into real jobs."

David Alexander Robertson (shown left), a bestselling graphic novelist and writer, was the keynote speaker. His works include Betty: The Helen Betty Osborne Story, the 7 Generations series and the Tales from Big Spirit series.

"These graphic novels are all about indigenous issues...what we can learn from history and how that affects us," he said. "I wrote these graphic novels with a very specific intent—to educate people."

One of the most important pieces of advice Mr. Robertson gave to students was to elevate their writing through reading.

"Read a lot. Read all the time. That was the hardest lesson for me," he said. "I spent years being a mediocre writer, never published, because I wasn't reading."

Following the keynote, students broke into smaller workshops with writers from many fields: public relations, legal, the arts and more.

"If you are a strong writer, there are so many opportunities out there in the world for you," said DMCI English Department Head Cynthia Jones. "We want to expose students to some of the careers, jobs and people that are out there and doing this

for a living."

Students Nancy Duong and Clyde Bacani said the conference was worth attending.

"They had us share our ideas. Usually I'm a very shy person, but this helped me to be more confident in sharing my thoughts," Nancy said.

"I enjoy writing because it's a way to express yourself," Clyde added. "If you share your experiences with other people, they can share with you as well. It's a way to gain knowledge."

Students ended the day by writing letters to youth in Attawapiskat, an Ontario first nation devastated by suicides. The DMCI students wrote positive messages on paper airplanes that are to be sent to the first nation.

"Students are writing messages of inspiration and hope," Ms. Jones said. "We hope that some kind of encouragement will help these kids."

THE RIGHT TO PLAY

Young leaders from across WSD met at the University of Winnipeg to be trained as certified Right to Play junior leaders.

Founded in 2000 by Johann Olav Koss, Right to Play is a global organization that uses the power of sports, play and games to educate and empower children facing adversity.

"We're trying to inspire these students so they can make a difference in their community and the world," said Right to Play representative Araba Nurse.

The April 18 "play academy" was designed to help students build leadership skills and global citizenship. Students were trained in a variety of fun, active games that they will facilitate at their schools—joining more than 10,700 junior leaders across the globe. Students will put their work into practice on June 9, for Right to Play's Today We Play event.

WSD Phys. Ed. Consultant David Bard said the program was another way to integrate phys. ed. into teaching about Education for Sustainable Development.

"Right to Play looks at teaching human rights and social justice issues through games and sport," he said. "This empowers students to go back to their own schools and be leaders. It's our third year of doing this and we've trained over 300 students. It's very positive—both the teachers and students have learned more about social justice issues and have been able to engage each other in those serious topics through games and being active."

Clifton School teacher Antonio Di Geronimo has been at the school since it began its affiliation with Right to Play over seven years ago. He said it's become a regular part of Clifton's leadership and sustainability programming.

Right to Play workshop facilitator Araba Nurse talks to students at Right to Play's recent Winnipeg play academy.



"It's also an excellent way to build empathy, especially at the elementary level," he said. "These students are learning about children around the world who may not have the sort of things they take for granted."

Clifton students are learning Right to Play games at recess; the games range from neat variants on British Bulldog to

ice-breakers where students get to know each other better.

The workshop was a big moment in the school career of Clifton student Justin Supan.

"This is my first time as a junior leader, but I've played the games before at my school," he said. "I feel like I've matured and I'm very happy to do this."



READING TAKES FLIGHT

École Sacre-Coeur students were recently thrilled by an appearance from Winnipeg Jets' star defenseman Jacob Trouba.

In a visit sponsored by Recycle Everywhere, Mr. Trouba dropped by to read the book *Recycle Every Day!* with students and talk about his life in Winnipeg.

Students peppered Mr. Trouba with questions, such as his birthday (Feb. 26, 1994), when he started playing hockey (five years old), his other favourite sports (baseball and golf), his best friends (Andrew Copp, Mark Sheifele and Adam Lowry) and his favourite DC Comic hero (The Flash).

They also asked him how he became a good hockey player.

"It was a lot of hard work and a lot of time and practice," he said. "I've always tried to have fun and enjoy hockey because it's just a game."

The school won the appearance after custodian Bryan Morris entered the school in a Recycle Everywhere contest online. He said the school has embraced the Recycle Everywhere program.

"We signed up, got some bins and information for the school and it really kick started the recycling here," he said. "They students are all pretty excited about this."



A GLOBAL OPERATION

Sisler High School recently hosted a live web surgery that was broadcast to students as far away as Taiwan.

Through interactive high-definition video conferencing, Sisler science and technology students watched a live elbow surgery being performed at the Pan Am Clinic.

The March 22 live stream/video conference of the surgery was viewed by over 1,200 high school students in northern Manitoba and hundreds of students from around the globe including schools in New York, Ontario, Las Vegas, United Kingdom and Taiwan.

The event, which utilized a Polycom video conferencing system, was made possible by technical facilities and resources provided by the Frontier School Division.

For students, it was a chance to see something normally only experienced by medical residents in training. Student were able to ask questions during the procedure.

"It's not like a video, because students have that connection...they have a direct

link to that surgery room. And I think that makes it a much more meaningful experience for them," said Sisler digital media teacher Jonathan Dyck-Lyons.

The patient's surgery was on the "funny bone" nerve found in the elbow; surgeons performed a left in-situ ulnar nerve decompression. The ulnar nerve, if entrapped in the elbow can lead to Cubital tunnel syndrome (also known as "Cell Phone Elbow"), which causes numbness in the pinky and ring finger. Over time, the numbness is constant and will lead to weakness in the hand.

Student Isabela Aguila said watching the procedure didn't make her feel squeamish in the least.

"It's all inside of us, so you might as well get used to it," she said.

The elbow procedure was the third live surgery to arise from a partnership with Sisler High School, Pan Am Clinic, Telehealth, and Frontier School Division. The first two surgeries were live ACL knee reconstructions.

With files from Sisler High School



LITTLE GREEN THUMBS

Grade 3 students at Greenway School are earning their green thumbs by growing basil for a school fundraiser.

Teachers Kevin Roberts, Pamela Shay and Harbins Rihal had their students watering and monitoring an indoor garden in the school's art room over the past two months.

Students sold their produce at lunch and at their spring concert.

"We're hoping to raise enough money for a field trip," said student Marvin Duran, who added that students would vote on a destination.

The venture was made possible by Little Green Thumbs, an indoor gardening program that provided equipment and

supplies to the school.

"We used a special light to help the plants grow," said student Kaydence Stevenson.

"We would go to the art room to check on the plants and see if the soil was dry," added Hilena Abed.

Teachers tied the students learning into the Grade 3 curriculum. For example, students figured out the best price to sell the basil, ultimately deciding on \$2 per bushel.

Students said it wasn't difficult growing their own produce—and they encouraged everyone to grow their own edible plants at home.

"People can keep growing the basil at home and eat it when they like," said student Genevieve Le Marquis.

MYSTERY MAVEN

Luxton School students celebrated Canadian Children's Book Week with a visit from mystery writer Angela Misri.

Ms. Misri is the creator of the *Portia Adams* mystery novels, which include *Jewel of the Thames*, *Thrice Burned* and *No Matter How Improbable*. Writing such novels provides a healthy outlet for her overactive imagination.

"I think about crime all of the time," Ms. Misri said. "I wake up in the middle of the night with an awesome crime that I could totally get away with. Then I make the choice: am I going to be a criminal today, or am I going to be a crime writer? And every time I choose crime writer, which I think is healthy."

Ms. Misri grew up with literary figures like Nancy Drew and Sherlock Holmes (whom she would later write her senior thesis on in university), and she continues to enjoy authors such as Stephen King and graphic novels.

"I read a lot, and I think that's a big part

of why I write," she said. "If you love a craft, you have to immerse yourself in it."

Her character, Portia Adams, lives in 1930s England; she inherits the former offices of Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson and begins solving her own mysteries.

"In my books, you'll find a lot of easter eggs and homages," she said. "There are references to Nancy Drew, Agatha Christie and even Shakespeare."

Student Neo Fajardo was among many who had plenty of questions for Ms. Misri.

"I want to write books when I grow up," he said. "This helps you when you want to create your own books and it kind of motivates you too."

Teacher-librarian Ellen Donogh said students were thrilled to have Ms. Misri visit the Luxton library: "they were just so engaged and had so many questions for her."

Ms. Donogh also thanked Canadian Children's Book Week organizers for helping to make the appearance possible.





PINK UNITY

Students across WSD donned bright t-shirts to make a united front against bullying during Pink Shirt Day 2016.

The Feb. 24 event had students undertaking a wide variety of anti-bullying and school-community building activities.

At St. John's High School, the student group 21 Leaders organized a Pink Week that included a pink-pancake breakfast on the 24th. Students also sold pink ice cream and painted their nails pink. The purpose of the activities was to create a sense of community and camaraderie where students can share their concerns if they should arise.

"You want to be comfortable if you're new to a school and you want to know someone is there for you if you need it, whether someone is bullying you on the internet or physically," said student Krancheska Macusi.

Fellow student Jaron Yakimishyn said the 21 Leaders program, which started last year, was a way to students to create that sort of environment year-round: "We think we can make a difference."

Meanwhile, Lord Selkirk School kicked off a full day of activities with a special assembly that included a performance by Western Canadian Music Award winners Sweet Alibi and a Pink Cheer

by school staff. School Resource Officer Vern Novalkowski and Cst. Christina Bergen from the Winnipeg Police Service also joined students, staff and parents for the event.

Students also discussed the school's Diversity Pledge. The pledge states "At Lord Selkirk we treat each other as we would want to be treated ourselves. We motivate our community by embracing everyone equally and accepting all people for who they are. We increase our knowledge of diversity by keeping an open line of conversation with all people."

The pledge was created by a group of Lord Selkirk students that attended an "Everybody has the Right" human rights conference at St. John's earlier this school year.

"They did some very special work," said Principal Stormie Duchnycz regarding the Lord Selkirk human rights ambassadors that attended the conference. "It's all about being fair, being kind and treating each other the way we would like to be treated."

Students also took part in cooperative gym games, a pink-themed door-decorating contest, a photo-fun booth and left kind messages on pink sheets of paper for a special pledge wall.





WSD ADOPTS INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PINK

While there are several different recognized Pink Days throughout the year, WSD has adopted the International Day of Pink—held annually on the second Wednesday of April—as our day, moving forward, marking bullying-prevention and kindness throughout the division.

The roots of the national event go back to an anti-bullying campaign Central Kings Rural High School in Nova Scotia started in 2008. Students at the school wore pink shirts as a show of support for a fellow student who had been bullied for wearing pink.

On April 13, original Day of Pink co-founder Travis Price was at Gordon Bell High School to help the Canadian Red Cross and WSD to launch the event.

Schools from across WSD took part in the event. Luxton School had a Day of Pink pancake breakfast, while Sister MacNamara School debuted a music video with 101 ways to make a difference.

Thanks to all of our schools for showing that Pink Day is Every Day!



Wearing pink with pride at David Livingstone School.

Day of Pink co-founder Travis Price speaks at Gordon Bell High School.

PHOTO BY ANNA CHRAMOW, TEC VOC PHOTOGRAPHY

PHOTO COURTESY OF DAVID LIVINGSTONE



David Livingstone students created a video highlighting 101 ways to make a difference. Ideas ranged from “I will use words to solve problems” to “I can give people compliments to make the happy” and “I can stand up to bullying.” The video was funded by the Winnipeg Police Association’s Cool 2Be Kind grant program.



Pancake breakfast at Luxton School.

PHOTO BY QUINCY CLEAVER, TEC VOC PHOTOGRAPHY



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STYLING AND PROFILING

Grade 12 students at Children of the Earth High School will be graduating in style thanks to a generous donation from EPH Apparel.

The clothier is giving the 14 young men free suits, shirts, ties and tailoring for their grad night.

For most teens, the cost of a suit is daunting, so students were happy to drop by the store on May 16.

“I know for a fact that most of us here wouldn’t have been able to get a suit without the help from EPH Apparel,” said student Gordon Parisian. “We’re all very thankful for that, it’s very generous.”

Students were all smiles as they were fitted for formal wear.

“Wearing a nice suit can boost up your self-esteem,” Gordon said. “We’ll all have more of a sense of accomplishment when we’re graduating.”

The connection began when COTE Principal Jackie Connell put the word out at a Boys and Girls Clubs of Winnipeg board meeting. A fellow board member, retired businessman Ralph Jackson, emailed his colleagues and contacts and EPH Apparel rose to the occasion.

“We were happy to get involved,” said Alex Ethans, who co-owns the clothier along with Andrew Parkes and Maciek Hunek. “It’s a way for them to feel great and look their best for their big day...and



PHOTO NOT AVAILABLE FOR WEB

they can use the suits moving forward. A suit can be worn to a job interview or a family event when you want to look sharp.”

“It’s unbelievably special for them,” Ms. Connell said. “The students are being treated like gold here today. EPH Apparel has shut down the store so our students could come in for their fitting.

“It is a tremendous achievement for our students to be graduating. Some of them have many challenges they had to get through to be here and we want to celebrate as best we can.”

Female students can access the Gowns for Grads program, which has been in operation for seven years.

WAVE OF SUCCESS

A Sisler High School student who has enjoyed considerable success competing in the pool for the Manitoba Special Olympic and Paralympic programs recently moved on to the national stage.

Joshuah Pereira, 17, has been swimming with the Winnipeg Wave Swim Club for several years. He attends Sisler’s Lifeskills class as part of the Inclusive Education program.

“I started swimming at the age of 10, then I started swimming competitively when I was 12. I love being in the water,” he said.

Joshuah practices six times a week as part of the Wave’s senior competitive group.

“I keep practising so I can get better times,” said Joshuah, who specializes in the freestyle event. “Swimming is my main hobby.”

Joshuah qualified for and competed in the Rio Olympic trials in Toronto earlier this spring, taking part in the freestyle, backstroke, breaststroke and medley.

While he missed the cutoff for Rio by just over five seconds, Joshuah did qualify for the Speedo Can-Am Para Championships, set to take place in Gatineau, Quebec July 15-17.

“When I arrived at the pool for the first time, it looked huge,” he said. “I usually have my headphones on before a race to help me focus. It was a good experience and I improved on my personal bests.”

His coaches expect that within four years as he continues to build strength, Joshuah will make the Canadian Paralympic swimming team. He was one of the youngest competitors at the Rio trials.

“It’s been a big deal for us here,” said resource teacher Pamela Mason. “I watched all of his races on CBC Sports live...Joshuah is a great swimmer. He just keeps cutting and cutting those times.”



KNOWLEDGE AND CELEBRATION

St. John’s High School was bursting with song, dance and culture as part of the school’s Aboriginal Day of Knowledge and Celebration, held on May 18.

“Our school is over 60 per cent Aboriginal, so we thought ‘why not celebrate that?’” said

Rina Bright, an Aboriginal Graduation Coach at St. John’s. “Through knowing about one another’s culture, we learn to appreciate it a bit more—we’re such a diverse school.”

All of St. John’s feeder schools were invited to attend.

“This is community building as well—a lot of organizations and people have come to St. John’s to help with our day,” Ms. Bright said.

Silas Parenteau, who was one of the student organizers of the event, said the day was all about discovering culture.

“I was depressed a year ago and didn’t know who I was,” Silas said. “Since I’ve talked to Rina, she’s changed my life for the better because she got me involved in my culture. I want to help other people find themselves and their culture.”



BEGINNINGS & ENDINGS

Kian Evangelista makes his case in a student election during Tyndall Park Community School’s production *Beginnings & Endings*.

The story follows a Grade 6 class through a school election and then tracks the fallout of the election years later.

“It’s about beginnings and endings in life,” Kian said. “One of the characters buys a goldfish, so that’s the beginning of his responsibilities in life, but the goldfish

dies, so there’s an ending there.”

Students had been working on the play since October.

“We sent emails to our teachers and put down our ideas and we used that to make the play,” said student Carley Szydluk.

Carley said the play was a special way to end their time at Tyndall Park.

“I’ll miss all the people here,” Carley said. “And even some of the teachers, they’ve become our friends.”

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Montrose School Patrols.

PHOTO BY ANNA CHRAMOW, TEC VOC PHOTOGRAPHY

SAFETY IS THEIR BUSINESS

A hearty thank you and congratulations to the students and schools who were selected as the winners of the 2016 School Patrol Awards.

Patrol squads were honoured by WSD’s Board of Trustees at a special ceremony May 31 at Tec Voc High School. Earlier in May, the Winnipeg Police Service held their citywide award ceremony at the Winnipeg Convention Centre. Montrose School was selected as the city’s top patrol team, while Norquay student Joslen Collantes was selected for the Louise Staples Award for the top patroller.

Members of the Winnipeg Police Service chose the award-winning schools based on the performance of their patrol teams while on duty. Here are this year’s winning school patrol teams:

- CENTRAL**
1st – École George V School
2nd – Laura Secord School
3rd – Sargent Park School
- INNER CITY**
1st – École Victoria-Albert School
2nd – Fort Rouge School
3rd – David Livingstone School
- NORTH**
1st – École Lansdowne
2nd – Meadows West School
3rd - Inkster School
- SOUTH**
1st – Montrose School
2nd – Earl Grey School
3rd – Brock Corydon School



Inkster School Patrols.

PHOTO BY QUINCY CLEAVER, TEC VOC PHOTOGRAPHY



George V School Patrols.

PHOTO BY ANNA CHRAMOW, TEC VOC PHOTOGRAPHY



Victoria-Albert School Patrols.

PHOTO BY QUINCY CLEAVER, TEC VOC PHOTOGRAPHY

INNOVATIVE THINKING

Here are the WSD student award winners from the 46th annual Winnipeg Schools Science Fair, held April 13 at the University of Manitoba’s Health Sciences Centre campus. Whether they were solving world issues or asking questions about the universe, these students once again proved the possibilities of the inquiring minds.

ELEMENTARY CATEGORY

- **Joshua Rice, Hayden Perlov** – Brock Corydon; Platinum Elementary Award for “The Power of Peace.”
- **Nate Grant, Jack Rudick** – Brock Corydon; Most Outstanding Elementary Award for “Speed Shot”
- **Trisiti Hall Probaizanski** – River Elm; WSSF Sustainable Development Challenge Award for “Your Energy Footprint: Diaper Pollution”
- **Ella Hechter** – Brock Corydon; Manitoba Hydro Energy and You Award for “Apples to Apple”
- **Karandeep Chahal, Kasey Eusebio** – Prairie Rose; Science Innovator Award for “Fruity Filter”
- **Matthew Stipanovic, Jackson Fortat** – LaVérendrye; Mathematics and Statistics Award for “Les polyèdres réguliers”

INTERMEDIATE CATEGORY

- **Jacob Harvey** – Grant Park; Platinum Intermediate Award, Science Innovator Award, WSSF Sustainable Development Challenge Award for “Development of Fed-Batch Model for PHA production”
- **Evan Chan** – Grant Park; Most Outstanding Intermediate Award, Rina Ganguly Award for “Identification of Guanosine Targeting Essential Neurotoxic Sites in the Progression of the Parkinson’s Disease.” Evan was also selected to attend the Canada Wide Science Fair.
- **Rayan Roy, Angel Thomas** – Kelvin; Mathematics and Statistics Innovator Award, Rina Ganguly Award for “Statistical Analysis of the Effect of Wrapping on Banana Preservation”
- **Ruby Thom-Duck, Tamara Robson** – Elmwood; Manitoba Hydro Energy and You Award for “Salt Water Desalination”

JUNIOR CATEGORY

- **Ava Stokke** – Grant Park; Most Outstanding Junior Award. Mathematics and Statistics Innovation Award for “Antibiotics Everywhere! Using Bacillus Stearothermophilus var. Calidolactis and E. Coli Bacteria to Test for Antibiotic Residues in Meats”
- **Roxanne Kirschner** – River Heights; Platinum Junior Award for “Thermal Expansion”
- **Isaac Thomson, Lochlan Mackenzie** – River Heights; Science Innovator Award. WSSF Sustainable Development Challenge Award for “La Fusion Nuclaire”
- **Katarina Mohammad Lou** – Collège Churchill; Manitoba Hydro Energy and You Award for “Trash to Gas”

SENIOR CATEGORY

- **Philip Kawalec** – Sisler; Platinum Senior Award, WSSF Sustainable Development Challenge Award for “Cavendish Clones.” Philip was also selected to attend the Canada Wide Science Fair.
- **Dennis Drewnik** – Sisler; Most Outstanding Senior Award, the Overall Mathematics and Statistical Innovator, Science Innovator Awards for “Comprehensive RNA Profiling Identifies Novel Blackleg Resistance Genes in Canola.” Dennis was also selected to attend the Canada Wide Science Fair.

PHOTO NOT AVAILABLE FOR WEB

Dennis Drewnik

PHOTO NOT AVAILABLE FOR WEB

Ella Hechter

PHOTO NOT AVAILABLE FOR WEB

Evan Chan

PHOTO NOT AVAILABLE FOR WEB

PHOTO NOT AVAILABLE FOR WEB

Trisiti Hall Probaizanski

Joshua Rice, Hayden Perlov

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PHOTO NOT AVAILABLE FOR WEB

Jacob Harvey

Roxanne Kirschner

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PHOTO NOT AVAILABLE FOR WEB

Isaac Thomson, Lochlan Mackenzie

Philip Kawalec

PHOTO NOT AVAILABLE FOR WEB

Ava Stokke

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PHOTO NOT AVAILABLE FOR WEB

Matthew Stipanovic, Jackson Fortat

Nate Grant, Jack Rudick

SHARING THE MOSAIC



Staff at École Stanley Knowles School hosted fellow professionals from around WSD for the school's second annual Cultural Proficiency Conference.

Staff from four WSD schools attended the professional development event, as well as a team from WSD's Clinical Support Services department.

"The purpose of the conference was to encourage teachers, educational assistants, clerks and custodians to continue to create communities in their schools that celebrate diversity by actively modelling, practicing, and promoting respect, dignity, and inclusiveness with all staff, students, parents, and community members," said Stanley Knowles Principal Darryl Stevenson.

The school invited University of Winnipeg instructor Kevin Lamoureux (shown left) to keynote the event for the second straight year. Working in the Faculty of Education's ACCESS program, Mr. Lamoureux has developed expertise in mentorship, inclusion programs and governance models within Aboriginal education.

Building on a theme of cultural proficiency and healing, Mr. Lamoureux spoke about being in Ottawa for the release

of the Truth and Reconciliation report.

"One of the first symptoms of trauma is silence," he said. "And yet, on that day, we were dancing, we were singing, and we were celebrating the spirit of truth and reconciliation. There were people wearing bright red t-shirts that said survive. There was no shame, there was no more silence, there was no more need to hide from what happened in the past."

That openness and dialogue continued in the afternoon with workshops from presenters that included Islamic Social Services Association founder Shahina Siddiqui, retired Court of Queen's Bench Justice Sylvia Guertin-Riley, staff from Inner City multimedia outreach Just TV, a presentation on transgender acceptance and more.

"We tried to bring in speakers that are relevant to the kids we're teaching. It's about understanding where your kids are at and how you can relate to them outside the curriculum," said Grade 5/6 teacher Torrie Vicklund, who sits on Stanley Knowles professional development committee. "The majority of their time is spent outside of school, so you have to understand their lives too."

GLOBAL CONNECTIONS

WSD UNESCO (United Nations Scientific and Cultural Organization) students joined their counterparts from around the city for a special mission: creating the perfect world.

UNESCO students gathered at Thunderbird House on April 26, in an event that saw WSD students working with UNESCO schools from other divisions, such as Al Hijra Islamic, St. Emile Catholic and John Pritchard School.

Students created their miniature countries using recycled materials, and gave them names such as Iota and Epsilon. Then the students worked to build their economies and connect with other countries.

"We each have something different to offer," said Laura Secord School student Dominic Jones-Bierenger. "We tried to build bridges to connect the countries and negotiated and traded goods to grow the economy."

It wasn't always so easy though.

"Sometimes it was difficult because you need knowledge and resources to build

the bridges and you didn't have that," said fellow Laura Secord student Sophia Litardi.

The exercise was a good illustration of how different countries have inherent advantages and disadvantages when it comes to global connections depending on resources and economics.

"There's a UNESCO theme every year—this year it's global citizenship," Dominic said.

WSD currently has three UNESCO schools: École Laura Secord, Brock Corydon and candidate Churchill High School—as part of the Manitoba UNESCO team.

UNESCO schools work under four pillars of understanding: learning to know (ASPnet and UN Priorities), learning to do (Education for Sustainable Development), learning to be (peace and human rights) and learning to live together (intercultural learning).

"It's really interesting to meet kids from different schools," Sophia said. "It's a nice experience that supports global citizenship and UNESCO and you meet new friends."



PUTTING VOICES INTO ACTION

WSD partnered with FAST (Fighting Antisemitism Together) for the launch of a new social justice program for secondary students in Manitoba and Saskatchewan.

Over 450 students packed the theatre at Tec Voc High School for the launch of Voices Into Action, an online program that examines human rights history and issues and inspires action to promote social justices. The program can be viewed at www.voicesintoaction.ca.

"Winnipeg School Division's Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) curriculum incorporates key themes of sustainability such as poverty alleviation, human rights, health and environmental

protection and climate change," said Fatima Mota, WSD Superintendent of Education Services, Equity & Diversity, Inclusive Education. "Partnering with organizations like FAST assists us in our goal to help students develop the knowledge, skills and values needed for meaningful participation in a global and pluralistic society."

St. John's High School alumnus and activist Michael Champagne (shown right), who emceed the April 14 event, said that one of the key points of Voices to Action is move beyond simply talking about issues. Action is a critical component of making the world a better place.

"As the saying goes, it is better to light a single candle than to curse the darkness," Mr. Champagne said.

Organizers touched upon a few major human rights issues during the afternoon launch. Mr. Champagne spoke about the legacy of residential schools, guest Judy Wasylycia-Leis discussed gender rights and FAST program coordinator David Katzman touched upon the Holocaust.

Mr. Katzman noted that the Voices in Action program covers many different human rights issues, from Islamophobia to homophobia. The Holocaust remains foundational to the program because it illustrates how a highly educated society



can still go astray and dismiss human rights.

"How could this Holocaust happen in a civilized country?" Mr. Katzman asked. "History will repeat itself unless we learn."

HONOUR STUDENTS

On May 2, WSD’s Board of Trustees honoured four students who were nominated for the Manitoba School Boards Association’s Student Citizenship Awards. Each of these youths has made their community a better place in their own way.

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PHOTO BY JEFF MILLER

**REKHA DUTT, GRADE 12,
ELMWOOD HIGH SCHOOL**

Rekha has taken the lead role on a number of student-run campaigns such as the Social Justice and Sustainability Student group and is currently participating as a school ambassador for the WSD’s Everybody has the Right campaign endorsed by Mayor Brian Bowman. She has also organized awareness campaigns to benefit the homeless and impoverished. Rehka was also selected to represent Winnipeg North Rotary at the 2015 Adventures in Citizenship Program in Ottawa. While serving on the Social Justice Council she has organized a number of fundraising endeavours, such as bake sales and selling Christmas cards to raise money for Winnipeg Harvest and Free the Children. She has volunteered at a variety of community events including Boo at the Zoo, Children’s Festival, United Youth Day of Caring and Festival Du Voyageur. Her hard working nature, thoughtfulness and generosity of time and spirit are an inspiration to all with whom she has contact.

PHOTO BY JEFF MILLER

**SAMANTHA SHPELLER, GRADE 12,
GRANT PARK HIGH SCHOOL**

Samantha spends much of her time volunteering in organizations like Stride to Turn the Tide for Grands’n’More Winnipeg and High Holy Days Junior Congregation where she served for the past three years. Samantha also spends her time daily in a Special Education performing arts class and is currently on Student Council assisting with various activities such as the Syrian Refugee fund raiser, the 30 hour famine, and the holiday hampers. Samantha is very good at working with children and shows genuine interest in helping others on a consistent basis and has a positive attitude. In 2014, she joined a group of Grant Park teachers and students to help build a school in Kenya for girls through “Free the Children”. After the trip, she helped organize a fund raiser at the school to support the organization, as she was particularly moved by the impact of the situation she encountered in Kenya.

PHOTO BY JEFF MILLER

**MOHAMED SERAGE, GRADE 9,
HUGH JOHN MACDONALD SCHOOL**

Mohamed has grown into a leader who serves his fellow students with great pride and diligence. He has consistently demonstrated his strengths in academic, arts and citizenship. Mohamed has used classroom learning in horticulture to become a leader in tending the school’s community garden, a responsibility that extended into the summer months. Mohamed is also active on the sports teams as well as other school activities, and is always willing to help. He has been selected and honoured in every school term during these past two school years, and actively contributes to the life of the school in so many ways.

PHOTO BY JEFF MILLER

**SUDAN PARKE, GRADE 6 STUDENT,
MULVEY SCHOOL**

Sudan has generously donated her time and music expertise to many citizens, residents and seniors throughout the city, and has performed at various events like Folklorama, Lion’s Manor, Fred Douglas Lodge, Inner City Performing Arts Festival, Envision Art Festival, Manitoba Legislature, Misericordia Health Centre and Misericordia Place. Sudan has also volunteered at organizations such as the Winnipeg Harvest and Siloam Mission and has been an active member of the Filipino dance group for five years. Sudan also loves to give freely of her recesses and lunch hours to working, mentoring and tutoring students in the Nursery and Kindergarten classrooms. She is truly a leader in the community and a positive role model to Mulvey students. Sudan was selected by Manitoba School Boards’ Association to receive the 2016 Student Citizenship Award for the Region.



THE LION KING JR.

Grosvenor School’s Nursery to Grade 6 students all played a part in their school’s production of *The Lion King Jr.* The epic tale was performed at the Centennial Concert Hall on May 19.

PHOTO BY QUINCY CLEAVER, TEC VOC PHOTOGRAPHY



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MENTAL HEALTH MOMENTS

During the week of May 2 to 6, WSD hosted a variety of activities for staff, students and parents to promote healthy minds and bodies.

The event was aligned with the Canadian Mental Health Association's Mental Health Week to raise awareness of mental health and wellness across the division.

Schools held many great mental health moments throughout the week, including a Fiesta Friday at Lord Nelson School, where students made healthy tacos (pictured, left) and a dog day at Sisler High School, where students were able to hang out with four-legged friends at the school's courtyard.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF LORD NELSON AND SISLER



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WINNIPEG SCHOOL DIVISION

1577 Wall Street East
Winnipeg, MB R3E 2S5
P: 204-775-0231

Chief Superintendent
Pauline Clarke
Superintendents
Karin Seiler
Celia Caetano-Gomes
Fatima Mota

Editor
Dan LeMoal
Layout/Design
Andrew Pollreis



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