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Students Read and Draw Their Way to Global Citizenship

January 20, 2015 – In September 2015 Olena Hartsula, the Ukrainian Language Advisor for International Education Services, Alberta Education, initiated a four-month project “Let’s Read Together”. The objectives of the project were to develop global citizenship skills as well as to provide school students with an opportunity to represent fiction literature through art.

“A number of sister-schools in Edmonton, Sherwood Park, Vegreville, Velyki Mosty and Lviv participated in this project. We received emails from Ukrainian and Canadian school students who shared their impressions of the books they read,” notes Hartsula.

As part of the project, an art contest of students’ works was also organised. Overall, 86 works from Ukraine as well as 79 drawings from the Ukrainian bilingual programs in Alberta were submitted to the contest. The jury board was comprised of Naamah Segura (International Education Team Leader), Nadija Szram (Office and Operations Manager, St. John’s Institute), Nataliya Grytsiv (President of Arts of Life Studio), Olena Hartsula (Ukrainian Language Advisor), Pamela Trischuk (Head of Education and Interpretation Services, Ukrainian Cultural Heritage Village), and Suzanna Brytan (Executive Director, St. John’s Institute).

Winners were presented awards on January 15:

- Grades 3-4 Paige Philips (A.L.Horton School)
 Julia Tshuk (Lviv’s Vasyl Stus Educational Complex)
- Grades 5-6 Sam Fedoruk (A. L. Horton School)
 Ostap Bozhedarnyk (Lviv Gymnasium “Prestige”)
- Grades 7-9 Mariya Hyzha (St Kevin’s School)
 Ilona Savitska (Velyki Mosty Educational Complex)
- Grades 10-12 Victoriya Popovych (Ivan Franko School of Ukrainian Studies, Edmonton).

Additionally, Dahlia Gladys from A.L.Horton School in Vegreville received a special award from the Ukrainian Embassy in Ottawa – a book of art.

The Awards Ceremony took place during the contest's one month "Let's Read Together" exhibition at St. John's Institute, 11024 82 Avenue. The students' creative representations will also be displayed at the Ukrainian Cultural Heritage Village during the Celebration of Dance on May 18, 2015 as well as in other locations. The winning works are featured in a special 2015 calendar. Further, Hartsula comments: "We received so many wonderful drawings that illustrate one and the same story. Therefore, we are planning to develop teaching and learning resources for school teachers based on these drawings."

Photos:



Olena Hartsula awards the winners.



Works of contestants.

The Ukrainian Language Education Centre promotes and develops Ukrainian language education in Canada and abroad by: supporting bilingual programs and professional development of Ukrainian-language teachers and instructors; creating learning and teaching resources at both the secondary and post-secondary levels; conducting research on topics related to Ukrainian-language education and related fields; and fostering international links and community engagement. If you would like more information on the Centre, please visit [our website](#), [facebook page](#) or contact us by [email](#).



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