

A MESSAGE FROM THE SPOKESPERSON

More than any other period in your life, the time you spend in school is probably the most influential—at the very least, it leaves you with the most memories. It is often during these years that your aspirations begin to take shape and your need to find meaning in what you do is greatest.

Looking back, I realize just how much the cultural activities offered at my school gave me a sense of purpose and how much of an impact they had on all aspects of my life. For example, my Secondary IV drama class helped me to become more outgoing and to discover a passion that was just waiting to be tapped. As a result, my teenage years were enlivened by the tunes of musical comedies and ambitious productions including *Les légendes fantastiques*, in which I played one of my first roles.

The fact that I work in the cultural milieu today is in large part due to the teachers and instructors who gave me opportunities to express myself on stage and who, by their inspiration, lit a flame within me that still burns bright.

I am delighted to have the chance to be your new spokesperson promoting cultural activities in schools, and I can assure you that participating in cultural projects and events at school is motivating and contributes to self-esteem. As students, you can transform your school into a dynamic, stimulating environment. Be creative, get up on stage and don't be afraid to reveal the best in yourself by embracing the arts and culture!

Brigitte Boisjoli



FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONSULT THE FOLLOWING WEB SITE

www.mels.gouv.qc.ca/culture



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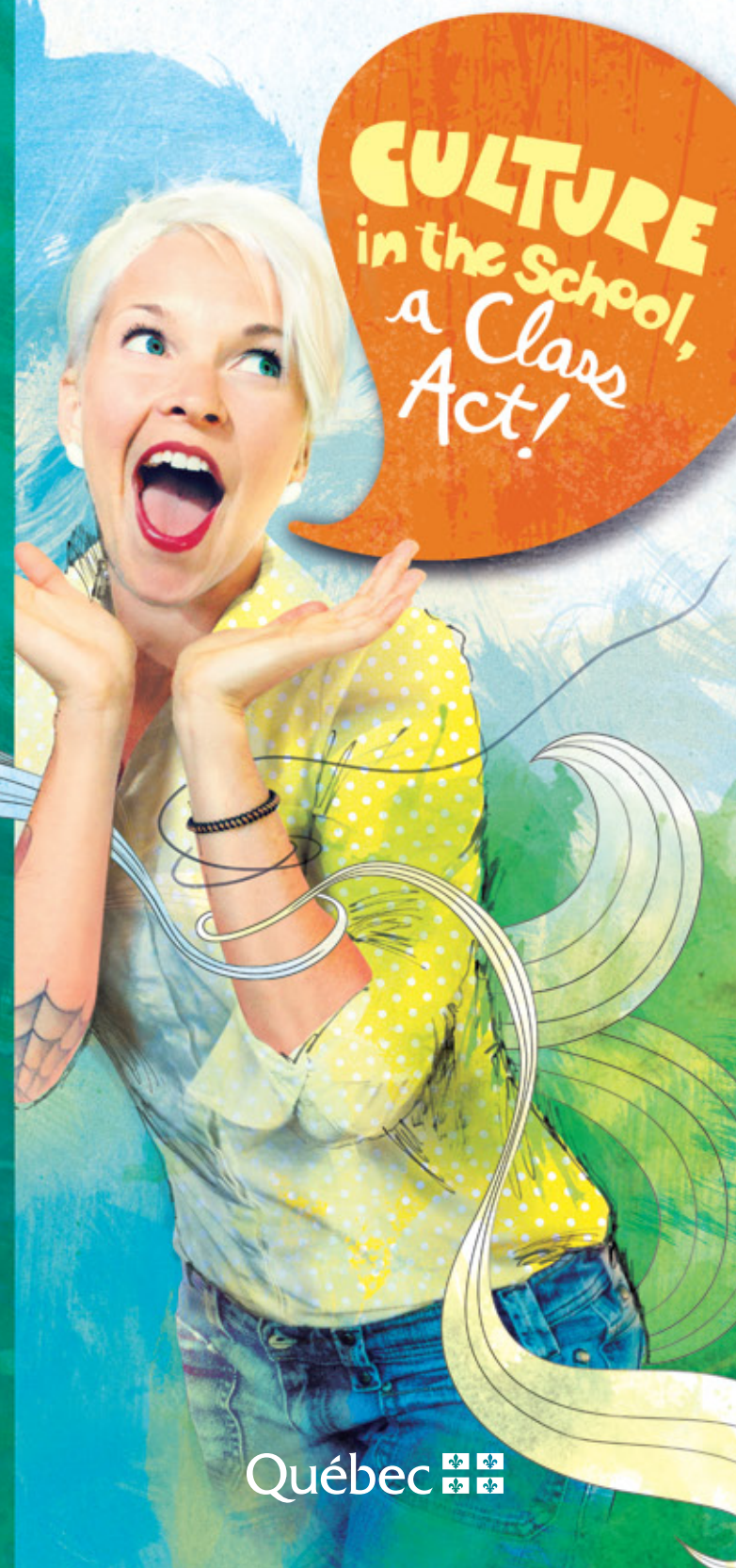
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CULTURE in the School, a Class Act!

School is an ideal place to promote culture. This is why the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport and the Ministère de la Culture et des Communications have been working closely together for the past several years to provide teachers with the tools they need to integrate all aspects of culture into learning. Culture, moreover, is something that can create a strong sense of belonging in the school and contribute to reducing the dropout rate.

The many different types of learning that stem from cultural experiences in school significantly contribute to the construction of students' identities. Teachers throughout Québec serve as veritable springboards for culture in the schools. They are the ones who facilitate contact between the worlds of culture and education.



Culture in the School, a Class Act! brings together a wide range of activities and resources intended to support and inspire teachers in carrying out stimulating projects that promote culture as a source of knowledge and learning:

ACTIVITIES

- Launch of the new season of cultural activities
- The Essor Recognition Awards
- Cultural Activities Month at School

RESOURCES

- The *Culture in the School* program
- The *Répertoire de ressources culture-éducation*
- Theme song
- *Arts and Culture in Québec Schools* magazine
- Financial support for school board cultural committees





THE CULTURE IN THE SCHOOL PROGRAM

The *Culture in the School* program provides school administrators and teachers with financial assistance to help them carry out artistic and cultural projects in the schools. The objective of the program is to educate young people to become culturally active citizens by involving them in a variety of cultural experiences, through the collaboration of artists, writers and professional cultural organizations. Schools must submit their projects in early fall.

BRINGING YOUNG PEOPLE
INTO CONTACT
WITH CULTURE IS
HIGHLY MOTIVATING!

THE RÉPERTOIRE DE RESSOURCES CULTURE-ÉDUCATION

The Web edition of the *Répertoire de ressources culture-éducation* contains profiles of some 2000 artists, writers and professional cultural organizations and constitutes a unique source of information for people and organizations who wish to plan cultural activities with young people. The latter benefit not only from the direct contact they have with creators, but from the artistic and cultural activities these resources offer in all arts disciplines and literary genres in both French and English. Consult the updated directory at:
www.mcc.gouv.qc.ca/rencontres.

IT'S A UNIQUE
SOURCE
OF INFORMATION,
SO USE IT!

CULTURE in the School, a Class Act!

THE ESSOR RECOGNITION AWARDS

The annual Essor Recognition Awards pay tribute to the excellence, efforts and enthusiasm of the educators and school authorities who help young people undertake innovative and imaginative projects at school, in conjunction with the cultural resources of their community. Schools that have carried out a cultural project involving the arts and other subjects with their students during the past school year are invited to apply before the end of May. They could be awarded a regional or provincial prize.

CULTURE IN THE SCHOOL, A CLASS ACT! THEME SONG

Go to the *Culture in the School* Web site to view the video clip of the new theme song, performed by William Deslauriers, who is accompanied by students from l'École du Marais and Polyvalente de Normandin. The sheet music for the song is also available on the Web site so that you can perform it yourself.

IT'S YOUR TURN TO PLAY!

To find out about the numerous prizes, eligibility requirements and how to participate, go to:
www.mels.gouv.qc.ca/culture.

THINKING ABOUT
SUBMITTING A PROJECT?
JUST GO FOR IT!

CULTURAL ACTIVITIES MONTH AT SCHOOL

February is **Cultural Activities Month at School**. It is a special time for holding original activities that spark students' interest in cultural projects connected with a subject taught at school. Teachers can draw inspiration from various resources for schools that are available on the Web site of the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport. The theme for 2013 is: *Imagining Sustainable Development*.

IN FEBRUARY,
LET'S ALL THINK
SUSTAINABILITY!

ARTS AND CULTURE IN QUÉBEC SCHOOLS MAGAZINE

Arts and Culture in Québec Schools (ACQS) magazine is intended for elementary and secondary school teachers and for partners in the cultural environment. The articles in the magazine deal with cultural activities and projects carried out in schools as well as subjects of a pedagogical nature.

ACQS is available on the Web site of the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport at: www.mels.gouv.qc.ca/culture.

SHOW HOW CREATIVE
YOU CAN BE
AND GET ACQS TALKING
ABOUT YOU!

FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR SCHOOL BOARD CULTURAL COMMITTEES

The Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport supports the formation and operations of school board cultural committees, whose mandate is to lead cultural activities in the schools. School boards must submit a request for financial support no later than May 1.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE
TO INTEGRATE CULTURE
INTO YOUR SCHOOL,
WE CAN HELP!