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Canadian Martyrs students' banner flying in Ottawa



Canadian Martyrs students' banner flying in Ottawa. Canadian Martyrs Grade 6 students Victoria Unsworth, Natasha Betz and Kendra Da Costa designed a banner for the Raise Your Voices! National Student Banner Contest that was one of seven selected to be reproduced and flown in Ottawa. The trio's creation is being flown until October at Major's Hill Park, located just east of Parliament Hill.

Three Burlington students have their artwork hoisted high and fluttering in a place of prominence.

Canadian Martyrs School Grade 6 pupils Natasha Betz, Kendra Da Costa and Victoria Unsworth designed a banner that was one of seven selected from more than 1,100 entries in the National Capital Commission (NCC) cross-Canada student banner contest.

Entitled *In the Fields*, the Canadian Martyrs banner depicts a faceless person standing in a field of poppy flowers. The individual and the poppies represent all the soldiers who have died on behalf of Canada.

The Lansdown Drive school's young artists' creation is now being exhibited in Ottawa.

Seven winning banners have been reproduced by the NCC and are being flown until October at Major's Hill Park, located just east of Parliament Hill, on the Rideau Canal.

In addition, the NCC has sent a set of banners to Canadian Martyrs, one for the school to display and one for each of the three winning students.

“They are really proud,” Canadian Martyrs Grade 6 teacher Linda Rivard said of her trio of students who had their banner chosen.

She noted that all 23 of her pupils got together in teams of two or three to create their own banner design over a couple of weeks.

The teacher plans on glimpsing the school’s winning banner when she travels to Ottawa this summer.

Three of the seven winning banners came from Ontario schools, the other two being Hazel McCallion Senior Public School in Mississauga and St. Raymond Catholic School of Toronto.

The remaining student banner winners are from Alberta, Manitoba, Quebec and Nova Scotia.

The National Capital Commission, in partnership with Classroom Connections, encouraged students in Grades 5 through 8 to submit a banner design to the Raise Your Voices! National Student Banner Contest.

Classroom Connections is a non-profit organization dedicated to initiating societal change by producing “progressive educational resources” for Canada’s youth.

Visit www.canadascapital.gc.ca/bannercontest to view the winning designs and banner descriptions.

Visit www.classroomconnections.ca to learn more about its programs and services.

For more information about the NCC’s youth programs, classroom resources or other NCC programs, contact the NCC at 1-800-465-1867 or visit the NCC’s website at www.canadascapital.gc.ca.