

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



For immediate release

ONTARIO TEACHERS' FEDERATION LAUNCHES BOOKS OF LIFE

TORONTO, September 20, 2012 - The Ontario Teachers' Federation is proud to hold its book launch of the works of Ontario's students from *Books of Life* on Sunday, September 23, 2012 at The Word on the Street Festival, Toronto at Queen's Park Circle.

Books of Life is an Aboriginal education awareness and literacy initiative of the Ontario Teachers' Federation (OTF), funded by the Government of Ontario. Supported by their teachers, students from diverse school populations created books about their lives. They exchanged their books with students in other schools, enhancing understanding of each other. Large schools were linked with small; rural with urban; northern with southern. Each class chose the theme and form of its *Books of Life*, which were exchanged with its matched school.

This Sunday, September 23, 2012, at The Word on the Street, students will read from their work at the Children's Reading Tent at 3:00 pm. The *Books of Life* project is a Literacy Partner of The Word on the Street, Toronto.

Teachers Tom Doherty of St. John's Catholic School in Red Lake and Vince Price of Monsignor Lee Catholic School in Orillia and their classes who were partnered in *Books of Life* will be at the Children's Reading Tent. Price, a teacher for more than 25 years has taught Grades 4 through 8. He uses drama techniques in his teaching practice, which has had a strong influence on his students' story writing techniques. Tom Doherty, a Native Language teacher, teaches students from Grades 1 to Grade 7. A graduate of Lakehead University, Tom has been a teacher for seven years and for the last four has been teaching Native Languages and the Arts. All of his students participated in *Books of Life*. Vince Price's Grade 5 class focused on its community in Orillia in its books.

The teachers will be joined by students, Zachary Villeneuve, Grace Mugford, James Tazzeo, Megan Muller and Kirsten Ford to highlight the books created by the two classes. We will also hear from the work of Landon Turtle, Lexus McKay, Jorja Kelly, and Dakota Vandale.

Books from all participating classes will be on display at the *Books of Life* booth at K14/K15 in KidStreet section of The Word on the Street, Toronto. Teachers who were part of the project will be available to talk about their experiences.

Annually attracting more than 200,000 visitors to its Queen's Park Circle location, The Word on the Street Toronto is the largest book and magazine festival in Canada.

The Ontario Teachers' Federation is the advocate for the teaching profession in Ontario and for its 160,000 teachers. OTF members are full-time, part-time and occasional teachers in all the publicly funded schools in the province—elementary, secondary, public, Catholic and francophone.

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Other schools that participated in *Books of Life*:

ELEMENTARY

Alexander Graham Bell P.S., Ajax, Durham DSB
Athol-South Marysburgh, Cherry Valley, Hastings Prince Edward DSB
Bishop EQ Jennings School, Thunder Bay, Thunder Bay CDSB
Bowmore P.S., Toronto, Toronto DSB
C.D. Howe School, Thunder Bay, Lakehead DSB
Deseronto P.S., Deseronto, Hastings and Prince Edward DSB
Dolphin Senior School, Mississauga, Peel DSB
Duke of Connaught P.S., Toronto, Toronto DSB
Ealing P.S., London, Thames Valley DSB
École élémentaire publique Francojeunesse, Ottawa, C.E.P.E.O
Elizabeth Ziegler P.S., Waterloo, Waterloo Region DSB
Floradale P.S., Elmira, Waterloo Region DSB
Forest Glen P.S., New Hamburg, Waterloo Region DSB
Glen Ogilvie, Ottawa, Ottawa Carleton DSB
Glen Park P.S., Toronto, Toronto DSB
Gordon A. Brown MS, East York, Toronto DSB
Holy Rosary School, Waterloo, Waterloo CDSB
Hyde Park School, Thunder Bay, Lakehead Public Schools
Lambton Park Community School, Toronto, Toronto DSB
Monsignor Lee Catholic School, Orillia, Simcoe Muskoka CDSB
North Shore P.S., Keene, Kawartha Pine Ridge DSB
North Star Community, Atikokan, Rainy River DSB
Ogden P.S., Thunder Bay, Lakehead Public Schools
Orchard Park Elementary School, Orillia, Simcoe County DSB
Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic School, Petawawa, Renfrew County CDSB
Queen of Peace Catholic Elementary School, Leamington, Windsor Essex CDSB
Roch Carrier Elementary School, Kanata, Ottawa Carleton DSB
Romeo Dallaire P.S., Ajax, Durham DSB
Roseneath Centennial P.S., Roseneath, Kawartha Pine-Ridge DSB
Spring Valley P.S., Brighton, Kawartha Pine-Ridge DSB
St. George School, Ottawa, Ottawa Catholic SB
St. James Catholic School, Eganville, Renfrew County CDSB
St. Andrew's Senior P.S., Cambridge, Waterloo Region DSB
St. Anthony Daniel Catholic School, Pickering, Durham CDSB
St. Bernard School, Thunder Bay, Thunder Bay CDSB
St. Gregory School, Tecumseh, Windsor Essex CDSB
St. James School, Lively, Sudbury CDSB
St. John's Separate School, Red Lake, Kenora Catholic DSB
St. Jude Elementary School, Thunder Bay, Thunder Bay CDSB
St. Mary School, Carleton Place, CDSB of Eastern Ontario
St. Paul Elementary, Norwood, PVNCCDSB
Ste-Rita Elementary, Val-Rita, CSCDGR
Stirling Junior P.S., Stirling, Hastings Prince Edward DSB
Sunnylea Junior School, Etobicoke, Toronto DSB
Vance Chapman P.S., Thunder Bay, Lakehead Public Schools
Vaughan Willard P.S., Pickering, Durham DSB
Village Union P.S., Oshawa, Durham DSB
Wedgewood Jr. P.S., Toronto, Toronto DSB
Westvale Public Elementary, Waterloo, Waterloo Region DSB
Wexford P.S., Scarborough, Toronto DSB

SECONDARY

Bayside Secondary School, Belleville, Hastings and Prince Edward DSB
Brantford Collegiate Institute & Vocational School, Brantford, Grand Erie DSB
Corpus Christi Catholic Secondary School, Burlington, Halton CDSB
Earl of March Secondary School, Kanata, Ottawa-Carleton DSB
East Northumberland Secondary School, Brighton, Kawartha Pine Ridge DSB
École secondaire Le Transit, Ottawa, CEPEO
École secondaire catholique régionale de Hawkesbury, Hawkesbury, CSDCEO
École secondaire catholique Thériault, Timmins, CSCDGR
École secondaire catholique Jean-Vanier, Welland, CSDCCS
G.L.Roberts C.V.I., Oshawa, Durham DSB
H.B. Beal Secondary School, London, Thames Valley DSB
Hagersville Secondary School, Hagersville, Grand Erie DSB
Hillcrest High School, Ottawa, Ottawa Carleton DSB
Lester B Pearson High School, Gloucester, Ottawa Catholic CDSB
Lisgar Collegiate Institute, Ottawa, Ottawa Carleton DSB
Milliken Mills Secondary School, Markham, York Region DSB
Monsignor Doyle Catholic Secondary School, Cambridge, Waterloo CDSB
Nepean High School, Ottawa, Ottawa Carleton DSB
North Park Collegiate Vocational School, Brantford, Grand Erie DSB
Northern Lights Secondary School, Moosonee, James Bay Lowlands Secondary SB
Pauline Johnson Collegiate & Vocational School, Brantford, Grand Erie DSB
Pope John Paul II Catholic Secondary School, Toronto, Toronto CDSB
Resurrection Catholic Secondary School, Kitchener, Waterloo CDSB
Rideau District High School, Elgin, Upper Canada DSB
Rideau High School, Ottawa, Ottawa Carleton DSB
SHAE/ Sir John A Macdonald Secondary School, Hamilton, Hamilton Wentworth DSB
Sir Winston Churchill Collegiate & Vocational School, Thunder Bay, Lakehead Public Schools
St. Mary's High School, Kitchener, Waterloo CDSB
St. Thomas Aquinas High School, Kenora, Kenora CDSB
Storefront Lakehead Alternative Schools, Thunder Bay, Lakehead Public Schools
Timmins High Aboriginal Alternative Secondary School, Timmins, DSB of Ontario North East
Toronto District Secondary School, Toronto, Toronto DSB
Waterloo Collegiate Institute, Waterloo, Waterloo Region DSB