



## The Essor Recognition Awards

The Essor Recognition Awards are given out each year to recognize the efforts and enthusiasm of the educators and school authorities who help young people undertake innovative and imaginative projects. These initiatives foster student retention by encouraging student involvement and promoting student success. The Essor Recognition Awards also provide an opportunity to highlight the actions taken by educational institutions and artists, writers and cultural organizations in the various regions of Québec to further the integration of the cultural dimension into the schools.

Eligible projects must promote culture and, in keeping with their interdisciplinary nature, include at least one Arts Education subject. By submitting such projects, teachers may win a regional prize worth \$2 000 for their school. Exceptional projects may even secure for them one of the nine provincial cash prizes that include the Essor Provincial Grand Prize of \$10 000.

---

## WE LOOK FORWARD TO RECEIVING YOUR PROJECT!

- [Orientations and Conditions of Eligibility](#)
- [Project Selection and Evaluation](#)
- [Submitting a Project](#)
- [Regional Prizes](#)
- [Provincial Prizes](#)
- [Partners](#)

---

[2012-2013 Regional prize winners](#) (French only)

[2011-2012 Regional prize winners](#) (French only)

[2012 Provincial prize winners](#) (French only)

[Photos of the 2012 provincial awards ceremonies](#)

[2010-2011 Regional prize winners](#) (French only)

[2011 Provincial prize winners](#) (French only)

[Photos of the 2011 provincial awards ceremonies](#)



[2009-2010 Regional prize winners \(French only\)](#)

[2010 Provincial prize winners \(French only\)](#)

[Photos of the 2010 provincial awards ceremonies](#)

## ORIENTATIONS

By recognizing projects that are simultaneously educational, artistic and open to partnerships and collaboration, the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS), the Ministère de la Culture et des Communications (MCC) and their partners seek to:

- promote the importance of quality artistic and cultural education and the excellent quality of teachers' work and that of their partners
- promote activities linking the Arts Education subjects taught in the schools—Drama, Visual Arts, Dance, Music—and other subjects
- foster cooperation and collaborative efforts among partners from the education, cultural, association, municipal, business and other sectors to integrate the cultural dimension in schools

## CONDITIONS OF ELIGIBILITY

The interdisciplinary project must meet the following requirements:

1. It must feature at least one of the four Arts Education subjects.
2. Its activities must be carried out in collaboration with the Arts Education teacher and comply with the approach used in teaching the Arts Education subjects in question.
3. It must have received input from the school team or school board, as well as from partner organizations.
4. It must be carried out mainly during school hours, or be an extension of Arts Education courses taught by the school. The main activities of projects being carried out in the 2013–2014 school year must start no later than February 2014, and must be completed by the end of the school year.
5. It must be consistent with the educational orientations and values of the Québec Education Program.
6. It must comply with the [Copyright Act](#) with respect to the works used in the project.
7. Schools that have won a regional Essor Recognition Award three years running may not submit a project for a fourth year unless that project is completely different from any previous ones.



8. It must be accompanied by relevant additional documentation (see the section entitled [Submitting the Project and Documentation](#) section).
9. **THE NEW DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING A PROJECT IS JUNE 31 MAI 2014.**

## PROJECT SELECTION

### Stage 1: Examination of the Application Form

A committee checks the files and supporting documents to ensure that they meet the eligibility requirements and contain everything that the selection committee must study. The examiner may contact the project coordinator to obtain additional information on the project.

### Stage 2: Selection of the Regional and Provincial Winners

The people who sit on the committees responsible for selecting the regional and provincial winners are drawn from:

- each of the four associations of Arts Education teachers
- the Association québécoise des comités culturels scolaires
- the Québec Federation of Parents' Committees
- the cultural sector
- the Québec associations of school principals
- the MELS regional offices
- the MCC regional offices

An Arts Education consultant from the school board will also sit on the committee.

**The decisions of MELS and the MCC following the recommendations of the selection committee are final.**

## PROJECT EVALUATION

The selection committee will evaluate each project according to the following criteria:



- the role of the arts in the project and the project's adherence to the teaching approaches and techniques specific to each of the arts subjects involved, particularly as they relate to the educational values and orientations promoted in the Arts Education programs
- the quality of the elements accompanying the various works of art produced during the project: soundtracks; music, drama or choreographic repertoires; images; set design
- the active collaboration or participation of the following:
  - teachers specialized in Arts Education
  - generalist teachers
  - students (as many as possible)
  - partners in one or more schools
  - artists or organizations from the arts and culture sectors
  - parents
  - any other partner (business, municipality, CEGEP, etc.)
- the originality and innovative quality of the activities included in the project
- the visibility of the project and its impact on the school community and the community at large (another municipality, region in Québec, or country, etc.)
- the inclusion of activities that guide students to engage in a process that respects the broad principles of sustainable development, whether environmental, social or economic

## SUBMITTING THE PROJECT

The following groups and organizations may submit a project:

- any team representing a French or English elementary or secondary school in the public or private sector, or group of such schools
- a school board that has developed an arts or cultural project in collaboration with a school cultural committee or partners in the arts and culture sectors

The project submission process has been simplified; there is now only one application form (in French only) to be submitted, along with the supporting documents. **ONLY ONE REQUEST PER PROJECT**

## Supporting Documents

**Submission of supporting documents is mandatory for a project to be eligible.** It enables the selection committee to examine both the creative process of the project as well as the quality of the final product.



These may include:

- any document presenting the various stages of project development (visual presentation of the process, electronic portfolio showing the evolution of the project, etc.)
- any document showing the student(s) in action (photographs, videos of rehearsals, final product, etc.)
- any document considered relevant in assessing your submission

Supporting documents must be submitted using the following e-mail no later than **May 31 2014**: [politique-culturelle@mels.gouv.qc.ca](mailto:politique-culturelle@mels.gouv.qc.ca) . All supporting documents must be submitted or mailed no later than **May 31, 2014**. For documents that do not correspond to the criteria indicated (audio-visual documents, promotional materials, etc.) please send an email to: [politique-culturelle@mels.gouv.qc.ca](mailto:politique-culturelle@mels.gouv.qc.ca) no later than **May 26, 2014**.

**Documents submitted** scanned newspaper articles

- scanned and photographed promotional materials

and, **depending on the main Arts Education subject concerned:**

- From one to ten photographs or other examples of students' work (visual arts projects)
- A digital audio recording, in QuickTime or Windows Media format, with a length of 5 minutes and a file size no larger than 50 MB (music projects)
- A short video clip, in Quick Time or Windows Media format, with a maximum length of 5 minutes and a file size no larger than 50 MB (music, drama or dance projects)

**When supporting documents contain captured images (video clips, photographs, etc.) or an audio clip that makes it possible to identify a student, the project coordinator must ensure that one of the holders of parental authority has been informed and that he or she has given consent.**

**Procedure for Submitting a Project File Using the following e-mail: [politique-culturelle@mels.gouv.qc.ca](mailto:politique-culturelle@mels.gouv.qc.ca)**

**Please ensure that your application is complete.. Should you wish to send further information afterwards or if you are experiencing technical difficulties, please send an e-mail to [politique-culturelle@mels.gouv.qc.ca](mailto:politique-culturelle@mels.gouv.qc.ca).**



**Here are the steps to follow:**

- Open the [Project Submission and Authentication Form](#) (dynamic PDF form in French only).
- Fill in the form and save it or else save the form and fill it in later.
- Scan the last page of the form, including the signatures, and e-mail it to [politique-culturelle@mels.gouv.qc.ca](mailto:politique-culturelle@mels.gouv.qc.ca), indicating the name of your school and school board, if applicable.
- 

**If you want to send supporting documents (CD or DVD) by mail, contact the coordinator of the Essor Recognition Awards beforehand, at [politique-culturelle@mels.gouv.qc.ca](mailto:politique-culturelle@mels.gouv.qc.ca) by May 26, 2014 at the latest.**

## **REGIONAL PRIZES**

- [Regional Prizes 2012-2013](#) (French only)
- [Regional Prizes 2011-2012](#) (French only)
- [Regional Prizes 2010-2011](#) (French only)
- [Regional Prizes 2009-2010](#) (French only)

### **Two prizes per region each consisting of:**

- \$2 000 awarded by the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS) and the Ministère de la Culture et des Communications (MCC). MELS will contribute \$1 250 toward the amount, while the MCC will contribute \$750.

MELS has 11 regional offices. Following the evaluations have taken place, it is possible that no winner, or only one winner, will be selected in a given region.

Lastly, the Essor Recognition Awards recognize the initiatives and dynamism of the education and cultural communities, while taking regional particularities into account.

They are awarded to the projects that best closely meet the following criteria:

- the diversity and originality of their organizational structure, the context in which they are carried out, their content or activities
- active partnership with community, cultural, educational or other resources
- the quantity and quality of the means of communication used to promote arts and culture



- the quality of their educational approach and by the means used to contribute to student learning in the arts
- the quality of their approach to culture and by the means used to integrate the cultural dimension in the school
- their contribution to awareness of the principle of economic efficiency and their concern for environmental protection and social equity<sup>1</sup>

## PROVINCIAL PRIZES

[2012 Provincial prize winners](#) (French only)

[Photos of the 2012 provincial awards ceremonies](#)

[2011 Provincial prize winners](#) (French only)

[Photos of the 2011 provincial awards ceremonies](#)

[2010 Provincial prize winners](#) (French only)

[Photos of the 2010 provincial awards ceremonies](#)

### Provincial Prize Winners Selected From Among the Regional Winners

The regional prizewinners are automatically entered for the provincial prizes and are evaluated against additional criteria.

#### The Essor Provincial Grand Prize<sup>1</sup>

- A cash award of **\$10 000** offered by the **Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS)** and **BMO Financial Group**, with MELS contributing \$7 000 and BMO Financial Group, \$3 000

This prize will be awarded to a project that satisfies, to an exceptional degree, the entire set of criteria associated with the Essor Recognition Awards.

**The evaluation criteria associated with this prize are:**

---

<sup>1</sup> For more information on the definition and main principles of sustainable development, consult: [http://www.mddep.gouv.qc.ca/developpement/inter\\_en.htm](http://www.mddep.gouv.qc.ca/developpement/inter_en.htm)



- demonstration of cooperation between the partners and substantial support from the community
- activities that spark young people's interests, speak to their concerns and encourage new cultural practices
- demonstration of collective and individual efforts along with enthusiasm on the part of the stakeholders
- a wide range of activities conducive to the students' overall development
- actions aimed at integrating the cultural dimension into the school's educational project
- respect for young people and their potential

### **The Partnership Prize**

- A cash award of **\$5 000** offered jointly by the **Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS)** and the **Ministère de la Culture et des Communications**

This prize will be awarded to a project distinguished by a pronounced dynamic partnership between the school and cultural circles, and includes other partnerships as well (associations, municipalities, private sector partners, etc.).

#### **The evaluation criteria associated with this prize are:**

- significant collaboration between the partners, who work in a complementary manner
- the obvious importance of partnership in the overall completion of the project
- active collaboration by the partners that extends beyond financial or material support
- ongoing constructive interactions between the partners and students for the duration of the project

### **The Pedagogical Development Prize**

- A cash award of **\$3 500** offered by the **Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport**

This prize will go to a project that demonstrates outstanding achievement in the way it makes subject-specific and cultural content thoroughly accessible to students and in the means it uses to acquaint students with other local or foreign customs.

#### **The evaluation criteria associated with this prize are:**





- the links between the pedagogical activities offered and the aims of the Québec Education Program: world-view, the construction of identity and empowerment
- the relevance and range of the means used (meaningful themes, links between subjects, contexts, various tasks, etc.) to facilitate students' overall development (multifaceted knowledge, connections between subjects, the ability to solve problems, the development of critical thinking, etc.)
- the contribution of the various subjects to the implementation of the project, the respect shown for each participant's approach and the links that the students come to make between these subjects
- the diversity and quality of the pedagogical activities
- the relevance of the theme in terms of its flexibility and its capacity to bring people and ideas together

### **The Culture Prize**

- A cash award of **\$3 500** offered by the **Ministère de la Culture et des Communications**

This prize will go to a project that demonstrates outstanding achievement in the quality of its cultural and artistic approach as well as in the originality of the means used to raise students' cultural awareness.

#### **The evaluation criteria associated with this prize are:**

- the integration of the cultural dimension into the activities through consideration of the significant cultural elements fostering student awareness, involvement and reflection for the duration of the project
- the participation of a cultural partner who plays a significant role in the project and acts in concert with the teachers
- the pursuit of the student's cultural experience in the delivery of the product (show, exhibition, etc.) in the presence of a cultural partner during project development and when the product is disseminated or delivered

### **The Isabelle-Aubin Prize**

- A cash award of **\$2 500** offered by the **Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport**

This prize will go to a project that demonstrates outstanding achievement in the role it attributes to the arts and to their interaction with other subjects throughout the duration of the project.

#### **The evaluation criteria associated with this prize are:**



- the key role attributed to the arts education subjects taught in the school, both in and of themselves and in interaction with other arts subjects
- the contribution of the foundations and principles of the arts put forward in the Québec Education Program, calling for a comprehensive approach to the arts and implementation of the three phases of classroom instruction (preparation, performance and integration)
- the collaboration of arts education teachers in all phases of the project

### **The Télé-Québec Prize**

- A cash award of **\$1 500** and a **work of art** offered by [Télé-Québec](#)

This prize will go to a project that demonstrates outstanding achievement through its artistic and cultural impact in the community, particularly in activities that promote art and culture in the school.

#### **The evaluation criteria associated with this prize are:**

- positive spin-offs that spark the attention of the target group or of the population in general
- obvious support from partners, sponsors or public personalities
- demonstration of positive effects on students' motivation to persevere and on their interest in the arts

### **The Arts Education Prize**

- Cash awards offered by **associations of arts education teachers**, namely, the **Association québécoise des enseignants de la danse à l'école (AQEDÉ)**, the **Association québécoise des éducatrices et éducateurs spécialisés en arts plastiques (AQÉSAP)**, the **Association Théâtre Éducation du Québec (ATEQ)** and the **Fédération des associations des musiciens éducateurs du Québec (FAMEQ)**

This prize will go to a project that demonstrates outstanding achievement in the quality of the arts education offered to students in the creation, interpretation and appreciation of a work.

#### **The evaluation criteria associated with this prize are:**

- an innovative pedagogical approach that goes beyond traditional ways of doing things



- a type of student participation that facilitates learning in arts disciplines and individualized approaches and techniques, particularly in creation, interpretation or appreciation
- the activities proposed, the contributions of the various disciplines and the forms of expression showcased
- clarity with respect to the project's educational aims and ample freedom for the students to make decisions and show initiative
- a comprehensive artistic approach with regard to the dynamics of art-making (the three phases of the process, namely, inspiration, development and distancing)

### **The Sustainable Development Prize offered by BMO Financial Group**

- A cash award of **\$2 000** offered by [BMO Financial Group](#).

This prize will go to a project that demonstrates outstanding achievement in activities that encourage student involvement on the environmental, social, economic and cultural planes.

#### **The evaluation criteria associated with this prize are:**

- increased student awareness of the adoption of measures aimed at preventing the degradation of the environment, particularly the cultural environment, in order to improve the quality of life and the well-being of the population and future generations
- increased student awareness of the fact that culture contributes to the prosperity and development of society
- cooperation in activities that place students in situations that make them aware of the social and economic exclusion of some individuals and that foster social equity (equality, solidarity and diversity)
- student participation in all the phases involved in a product or production, in order to make them more aware of the value of human, financial, material and cultural resources and of the consequences of their decisions for the environment

### **The 2013-2014 *Culture pour tous* Prize**

[Culture pour tous](#), a non-profit organization, is intended to highlight the impact of projects that establish and maintain lasting ties among the education community, cultural resources and the community as a whole.

This prize will be awarded to a project that helps to democratize culture and that demonstrates outstanding achievement in the creation of connections between stakeholders from the education and cultural communities. The project must have been



started during the 17th edition of the Journées de la culture, which took place from September 27 to 29, 2013.

*Culture pour tous* is happy to join forces with the 2013-2014 Essor Recognition Awards by offering a cash award of \$5 000, to be distributed as follows:

- an amount of \$3 000 to a professional cultural resource (organization, artist or writer associated with the project)
- an amount of \$2 000 to a school associated with the project

**The evaluation criteria associated with this prize are:**

- the involvement of cultural and school partners in extending cultural experience throughout the school year
- students' exploration of new avenues (types of activities, themes and pedagogical methods) that demonstrate outstanding achievement in the quality and originality of activities linking the school, cultural resources and the community
- the pursuit of activities during the school year with the same partners and with a view to extending collaboration

The Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport, the Ministère de la Culture et des Communications and the partners of the Essor Recognition Awards are pleased to highlight the quality and excellence of each year's prizewinning projects. They wish to remind those interested that the cash awards must be invested in activities designed to foster students' artistic and cultural development.

---

1. A school board or school that has won the Essor Provincial Grand Prize is not eligible to submit a project in this category for the next three years. Once this period has elapsed, a project different from the prizewinning project may be submitted.



## PARTNERS

Over the years, MELS and the MCC have joined forces with committed partners, such as:



## Associations of Arts Education teachers:

