

This year OCENET and OCDSB schools are hosting international students...

- from 35 countries
- in 22 high school schools and 21 elementary schools,
- and over 136 visiting educators from 7 countries

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OCENET welcomes students from around the world...



Students enrolled in one of OCENET's summer programs are excited as they prepare to experience a taste of Canadian culture by paddling voyageur canoes on the Ottawa River behind Parliament Hill on a balmy day in July

In July more than one hundred students arrived from across the globe to attend anywhere from 3 to 6 weeks at OCENET/OCDSB international summer camps. Students attended English classes (using the Common European

Framework) in the morning followed by a wide variety of activities each afternoon, from hiking the trails at Gatineau Park, to participating in the Aboriginal Experience at Victoria Island, to attending a performance of *Wicked* at the NAC. According to

Program Director, Constantine Ioannou: "The kids are really great. They always enjoy making new friends and exposure to Canadian culture. Over the years, we have developed a program that is enriching and exciting...world class!"

OCENET to host International Education Info Fair in November

As part of International Education Week, on **Saturday, November 17**, from **10AM-2 PM**, the Ottawa Carleton Education Network will be hosting an International Education Info Fair at the Albert St. Education Centre (440 Albert St.) to inform students, parents, and educators about the wide range of international education initiatives taking place in OCDSB schools. It's free of

charge and all are welcome to visit as many of the presentations as you wish throughout the info fair.

There will be numerous information booths and scheduled presentations throughout the event. Students can learn about student exchanges and gap year opportunities. Parents will receive information about the application process and the cost of an overseas educational experience;

teachers can learn how to organize an international trip or school partnership, or about Teach Abroad opportunities. Attendees can also learn about Homestay and about the new International Certificate Program being piloted in some OCDSB high schools. Students will showcase international activities taking place in schools. Visit www.ocenet.ca in September for more information.

The Lynch-Getty Award recognizes global citizenship



Earl of March SS student Kareem Ibrahim receives the Lynch-Getty Award from Mrs. Rita Getty

-photo courtesy of Mr. Brent Darbyson

The Lynch-Getty Award honours the legacy of Alex Getty (former trustee of the OCDSB and OCENET board member) and Ron Lynch (former Director of Education and OCENET board member) who both believed strongly in fostering the principles of global citizenship. The award recognizes students who value the importance of creating a world where people strive to understand and help others near and far.

The Lynch-Getty Award is presented to four graduating students annually to acknowledge their significant contributions to their community through active involvement in groups, events and activities that promote cross-cultural understanding. Two of the award recipients are international students who are attending OCDSB schools through the Ottawa Carleton Education Network. The awards are presented at commencement ceremonies in June.

Each award recipient receives a certificate along with \$1,000 towards supporting post-secondary studies. More information on the Lynch-Getty Award can be found at ocenet.ca

OCENET is proud to recognize the commitment and applauds the success of the following Lynch-Getty Award recipients for 2012:

Miss Xiang Li is a Glebe CI graduate who will be attending the University of Toronto to pursue a degree in Engineering.

Ms. Joaquina Larves will be attending the University of Ottawa for a degree in Public Administration and is a graduate of Adult HS.

Mr. Eric Kabasele attended Rideau HS and will be a degree majoring in Criminology at the University of Ottawa.

Mr. Kareem Essam Ibrahim, an Earl of March SS graduate, will be going to McGill University to pursue a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science.



Student Xiang Li is presented with the Lynch-Getty Award by OCENET Executive Director Geoff Best at the Glebe CI commencement ceremony in June

OCDSB schools host visiting groups of international students



Xingwan School teacher Ms. Cathy Bao with two of her students following the farewell ceremony hosted by Principal Heather Lawson with students and staff at Terry Fox ES

While many OCDSB schools host international students on an individual basis, there are some schools that host larger groups of students. These groups of international students attend our schools to enhance their English skills and to experience Canadian culture. Often these students stay for several months, attending a local school and living with a Canadian family through Homestay.

This past March a group of twenty students from Xingwan School in Suzhou, China, arrived in Ottawa. Half of the students were in Grade 5 and attended Terry Fox ES and the other half, in Grade 7, were hosted by Henry Munro MS. In both schools the administration

and staff extended a warm welcome to the Chinese students and their accompanying teachers. Preparations to accommodate the students both in the schools and with their local Homestay families were made long in advance of arrival in Canada.

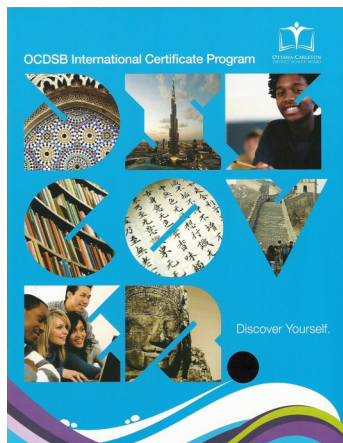
These types of cross-cultural educational opportunities benefit all involved. Both the Chinese and Canadian students and staff learn from each other and understand more about each other's cultures. As to be expected, there were "growing pains" but soon the Canadian and Chinese students were playing basketball at recess, and by the end of the three month stay in June, there were hugs and tears at the schools, which each held special ceremonies to bid their new friends and classmates a safe trip home.

This past year the staff and students of Fisher Park PS had similar positive cross-cultural learning experiences by hosting a group from Ninghai, China.



Henry Munro MS teacher Ms Barb Gorman with Miss Sally Li, teacher from Xingwan School in Suzhou, China

International Certificate Program to be piloted in six OCDSB high schools this year



The front cover of the OCDSB International Certificate Program with an emphasis on the theme of "Discover Yourself."

A new and exciting program is being piloted in six OCDSB secondary schools this fall with the expressed purpose "to recognize and honour students who demonstrate a commitment to being motivated, engaged and active global citizens."

This program is unique in Ontario. It is a collaborative effort by the OCDSB and OCENET and

was developed last year by a committee that included secondary teachers and others who have considerable experience with international education.

The result of their consultations is a program that will interest and challenge students. There are several components to the program:

Component 1: Students must obtain at least one credit in an international language besides French or English and complete an intercultural communication workshop;

Component 2: Students must successfully complete 4 credits from a select list of courses that focus on international topics, and work on "internationalized" summative tasks in two other courses throughout their high school years;

Component 3: Students have numerous options by which to become involved in an international experience, anything from an international student exchange

to being actively involved in a school club with an international or cultural focus.

The final step involves the creation of an International Certificate Portfolio which provides a student with "an opportunity to demonstrate, showcase and reflect" on being a global citizen through completing a series of summative activities.

The schools that will be piloting the International Certificate in the 2012-13 academic year are A.Y. Jackson SS, Bell HS, Gloucester HS, Hillcrest HS, Lisgar CI, and Ridgemont HS. In each of these schools an International Certificate Advisor will assist students who register for the program to complete the OCDSB International Certificate, which will be awarded to students who successfully complete the program at June commencement ceremonies.

For more details, view the program brochure available online at either the ocdsb.ca or ocenet.ca website.

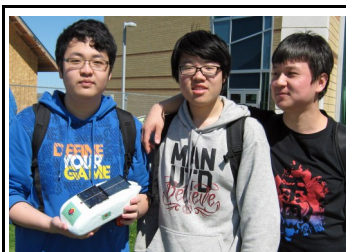
"The International Certificate is a great opportunity for students to use their knowledge and creativity to learn from international engagement"

- Geoff Best, OCENET Executive Director

Note in your calendar

OCENET International Education Info Fair
Sat., Nov. 17
10AM-2PM
440Albert St.

What's New: Recent International Education News



Congratulations to Gloucester HS international students Ziqi Fan, Peter Paerguzhati and Tianyang Jioao for their successes at the Project Karyne solar car design challenge!
-thanks to Carolyn Turner, Gloucester HS, for this news

The OCDSB has been selected as a winner of the Global Best Award 2012 in the category of "Partnerships that support Health, Well-being and Learning." This award is based on a submission by Longfields-Davidson Heights business teacher Cathy Belanger about her work, along with other teachers and partner agencies, to encourage student involvement in education projects in Kenya.

International education initiatives going on at your school?
If you have an event or news item related to international education or international students in OCDSB schools, please forward any pictures and details for the Fall 2012 issue of Global Connections to the International Education Coordinator: ross.laing@ocdsb.ca



Canada Homestay Network
Incorporating Canada Homestay International
Serving Canada from Coast to Coast

Thinking About Becoming A Homestay Host?

Among the many benefits of being a Homestay host:

- make a significant difference to the life of a student from another country
- learn about people from other cultures
- make friends across the world
- introduce your children to an intercultural experience
- share Canadian culture and life in Ottawa
- Host Support 24/7
- receive an honorarium to cover expenses

Visit "Hosts" at www.canadahomestaynetwork.ca



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OCENET links to the OCDSB Strategic Plan

International education initiatives are directly or indirectly linked to the 4 Key Priority Areas of the 2011-2015 OCDSB Strategy Map, and specifically to the following priority areas:

Well-Being #3: *“In collaboration with community partners, develop specific strategies to further the cultural proficiency of the school district in terms of inclusive and accessible practices and a workplace representative of the workplace we serve”*

Engagement #2: *“Develop a framework for and initiate effective partnerships with organizations that enrich our schools as community hubs”*

Engagement #4: *“Develop a strategy that supports and encourages engagement in provincial, national and international initiatives to encourage organizational learning and global citizenship”*

Leadership #4: *“Encourage and support student leadership and citizenship to promote global competencies”*

The Branches of OCENET



INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS
Elementary School
High School
University Preparation



GROUP PROJECTS
English Immersion
Teacher Training
Summer Programs



ENGLISH LANGUAGE SCHOOL
Academic English
Leadership and
Outdoor Education Programs
Summer Study



Please direct any comments, questions, or suggestions to:
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