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STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN CINEMATIC EXPERIENCE AT SCHOOL

G.L. Roberts CVI collaborates with the Durham Region International Film Festival

By Sarah Racioppa

From October 17 to 19, approximately 600 secondary students in the Durham District School Board (DDSB) experienced the glitz and glamour of a film festival at G.L. Roberts CVI in Oshawa.

When the Durham Region International Film Festival (DRIFF) wanted to connect with schools to show relevant themes to students, DRIFF organizers knew that G.L.

Roberts CVI was the perfect location. "We came to their [G.L. Roberts CVI's] film festival last May and we really enjoyed the student-made films, and the unique theatre space," says Erin Boshart, Board President of DRIFF.

Boshart reached out to Nicole Hart, teacher at G.L. Roberts CVI and organizer of their own film festival. Together they collaborated to bring an exclusive program of films catered specifically to students.

"DRIFF included films that are relevant for socio-economic content, curriculum connection, and topical themes that are going on in our society over tons of different disciplines," explains Hart. "All of the content is driven to have those connections, and those next-step conversations with students and teachers back in the classroom."

All secondary students in the DDSB were welcome to chose from either a morning or afternoon session over the three days, which included both short and full-length films



Nicole Hart (left) poses with her G.L. Roberts CVI student volunteers on the red carpet.

from all over the world. Films included: Cradle of Champions (English language - United States), Love, Scott (English language - Canada), Rocco (Spanish language - Spain), and many more. The program distributed to schools labelled each film with a theme/educational value so teachers and students could decide which films fit best with their current place in the curriculum. Discussions were held post-screenings with filmmakers and experts dis-

cussing relevant topics with students.

Dressing the part

Students dressed up in true film festival attire and posed for photos on the red carpet outside the theatre room. "It's a celebration of art. You could feel and see the buzz of excitement with the students taking pride in how they appeared, and representing their schools," says Hart.

A future in filmmaking

Hart notes that there are various levels to the cinematic experience, "It's more than just simply experiencing a film festival. It's the idea of exploring career opportunities in the film industry." She adds, "There are so many jobs in the trades that are connected to the film industry. That post-secondary and pathway planning piece can really be incorporated into the excitement and drama of a film festival."



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FREE HANUKKAH CELEBRATION LETS DURHAM RESIDENTS RAISES MONEY FOR CHILDREN WITH CANCER AND OTHER LIFE THREATENING ILLNESSES

All Durham residents are invited to celebrate Hanukkah with Chabad of Durham Region, while giving back to the Durham community.

From 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. Monday, Dec. 3, Chabad of Durham Region is hosting a free Hanukkah celebration, at the Whitby Public Library's main branch, 405 Dundas St. W. The event features an awesome **CHANUKAH CHOCOLATE GELT COIN DROP** with the help of Whitby Fire Department! Live music, Balloon Twister, Face painting, Hanukkah crafts, hot latkes, doughnuts, Starbucks coffee and meet-and-greet with Judah Maccabee, a traditional Hanukkah figure.

Public dignitaries and community leaders will attend the ceremony and will assist in kindling the giant Menorah.

We try to not just light the Menorah but also to light up someone's spirit, this year we are making a large clear Menorah, to fill with 25,000+ coins and it will go to Hearth Place and Chai-Lifeline Canada.

"Hanukkah is about bringing light into this world. A menorah built with coins to help

these very special children is sure to add more light into our world," said Rabbi Tzali Borenstein, who leads Chabad of Durham Region with his wife Chana. "We light the menorah, each day we add another candle, and that's because if we add a little bit of light every day, we can eventually create lots of light, and everyone who brings some coins for the children going through a terrible illness can add light to their lives."

Collect loose change for your family, friends or co-workers or trade in for change at the event! You can also donate online at www.jewish-durham.com/celebrate and we will add the coins for you. Coins can also be dropped off at Chabad Jewish Centre of Durham Region, 1121 Dundas St. E., by contacting the centre at 905-493-9007 for available drop-off times.

Chanukah, a celebration for all time is highlighted by the kindling of the Menorah each night of the holiday. "It is a holiday that enriches our lives with the light of tradition, and symbolizes our unity" said Rabbi Tzali Borenstein, director of the Chabad Jewish Centre. "In ancient times our ancestors rededicated the

Temple in Jerusalem with the Menorah. Today, we rededicate ourselves to making this world a better and brighter place, especially this year, where we are feeling the darkness of the Pittsburgh shooting, let us add even more light."

Chanukah also propagates the universal message that ultimately good will prevail over evil, freedom over oppression and light over darkness.

In its Chanukah outreach campaign, Chabad of Durham Region joins thousands of Chabad centers across the globe that are staging similar public displays of the Menorah and its symbolic lights. From Australia to Africa, Columbia to Hong Kong, to Parliament Hill, hundreds of thousands will experience the joy of Chanukah with Chabad.

Join Chabad in a public display of unity at this exciting Menorah Lighting Ceremony. Bring the kids and make this your special Chanukah celebration.

For more information, contact Chabad Jewish Centre of Durham Region at (905) 493-9007 or on the web www.jewishdurham.com.

Chabad Jewish Centre of Durham Region invites you to
CHANUKAH Extravaganza & COINORAH LIGHTING

Help us fill a huge Coin Menorah
 Collect loose change from family, friends and co-workers, or trade in \$ for change at the event
 Join this charity project to benefit Chai-Lifeline & Hearth Place Cancer Centre

Monday, December 3rd, 2018
 5:30pm
 at the Whitby Central Library
 405 Dundas St. West

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FOR THE FIRST TIME EVER IN DURHAM REGION! **GELT DROP!**
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