

# Forest of Reading® Festival of Trees™

It takes an army of volunteers and months of preparation and is THE annual kidlit event of the year in Ontario – it's the OLA's Forest of Reading® Festival of Trees™ celebration. This year, it was a two-day affair at Harbourfront. The organizers did the impossible and surpassed themselves with the variety of entertaining events available for the thousands of students that converged on the grounds. There were activities for all types of readers – an art exhibition of work by some of the Blue Spruce™ and Silver Birch® illustrators, hands-on craft-making, games, ship tours, henna painting, author workshops, collaborative story writing, boating, buskers, and more. The award ceremonies themselves, and the opportunity for the authors and students to interact, were the most exciting part for many of the participants. Thanks go to all the selection, steering and festival committees, and to the OLA staff and their helpers for creating something incredible. Enjoy the following photos, courtesy of the OLA photo team.

For more photos visit:  
[www.accessola.com/festival2008](http://www.accessola.com/festival2008).

## And the winners are...

### Blue Spruce Award™

*Scaredy Squirrel Makes a Friend*, Mélanie Watt

### Silver Birch Awards™

#### Express

*Things are Looking Grimm*, Jill, Dan Bar-el

#### Fiction

*The Secret of Grim Hill*, Linda DeMeulemeester

#### Non-Fiction

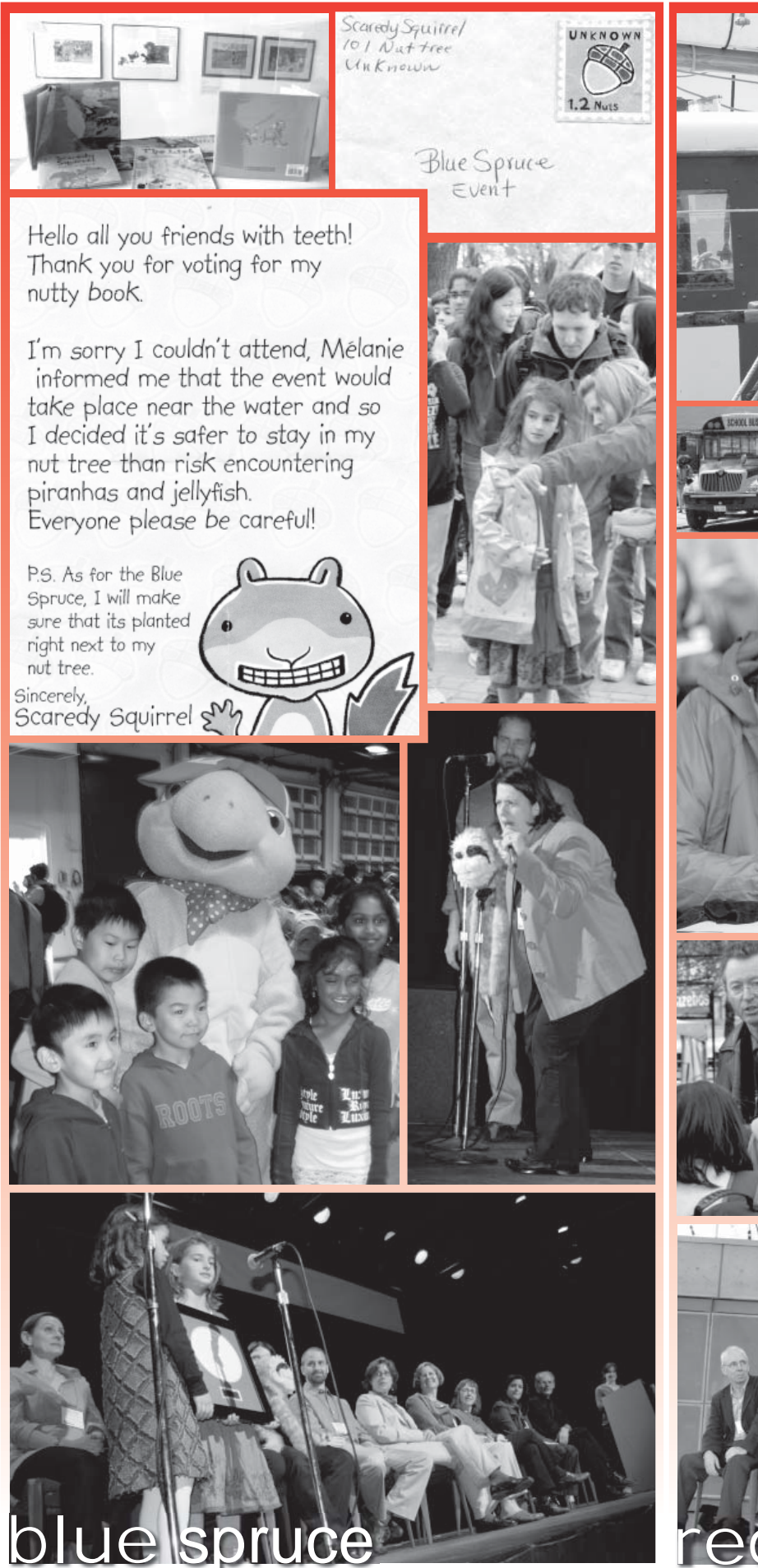
*Secret Agent Y.O.U: The Official Guide to Secret Codes, Disguises, Surveillance and More*, Helaine Becker, illustrated by Dave Whamond

### Red Maple Award™

*Safe as Houses*, Eric Walters

### White Pine Award™

*Keturah & Lord Death*, Martine Leavitt



Hello all you friends with teeth!  
Thank you for voting for my nutty book.

I'm sorry I couldn't attend, Mélanie informed me that the event would take place near the water and so I decided it's safer to stay in my nut tree than risk encountering piranhas and jellyfish. Everyone please be careful!

P.S. As for the Blue Spruce, I will make sure that its planted right next to my nut tree.

Sincerely,  
Scaredy Squirrel



blue spruce

red