



PHOTO/SAMUEL CHENG

GOOD VIBRATIONS COURTESY SUMMITVIEW

The Summitview Vibrations Hand Drumming Group provided the entertainment at the Catholic Community Services of York Region second annual dinner and dance fundraiser April 18 at the Crystal Fountain Banquet Hall in Markham. The group consists of students in grades 3 to 8 from Summitview Public School.



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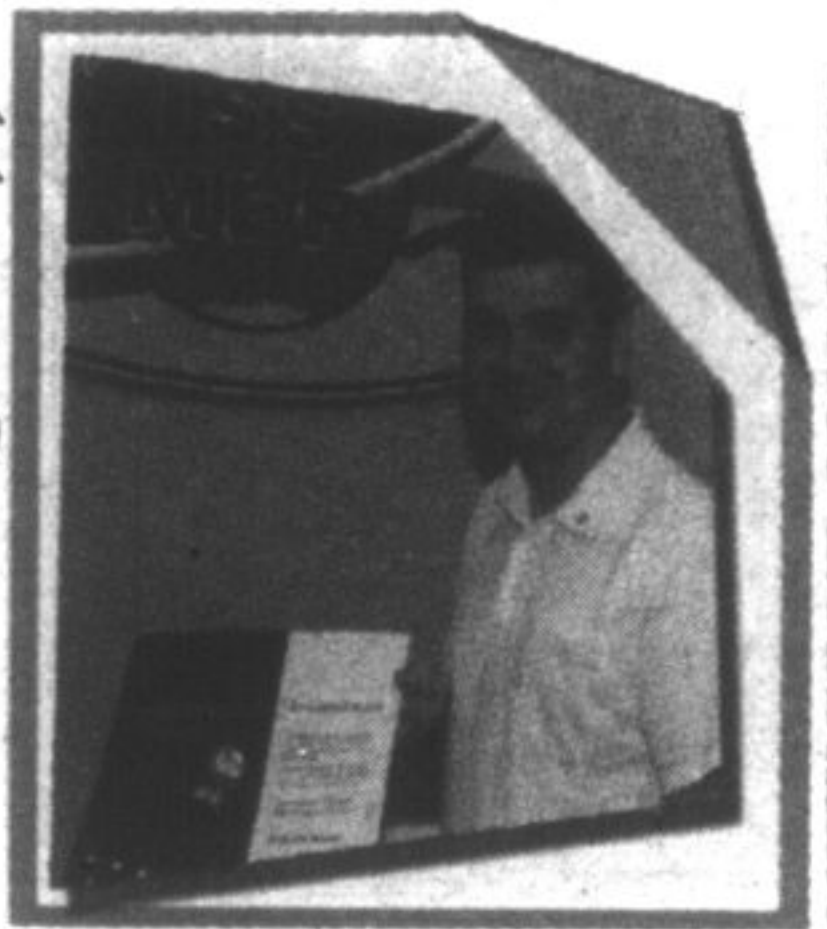


DURING CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK 2008

The YORK CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD salutes

OUR DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI

FRANK DiGiuseppe



ROBOTICS ENGINEER

Frank DiGiuseppe attended St. Luke CES and St. Robert CHS in Thornhill. He holds a Masters of Engineering degree from McGill University in computer vision and robotics. He now works in the Houston office of MacDonald Dettwiler Space & Advanced Robotics (MDA), where he leads a team of engineers supporting the on-orbit robotic operations on the International Space Station (ISS). The team works in the Mission Control Center at NASA's Johnson Space Center. Frank credits his math and science teachers at St. Robert with instilling in him a deep interest and curiosity in these subjects. He believes that having strong Catholic role models helped to show him that being a person of faith was not incompatible with being a person of science. NASA has awarded him the astronauts' personal award for professional excellence, the Silver Snoopy, given to those regarded as the best in their respective professions.

DR. STEVEN Hayward



PROFESSOR

Dr. Steven Hayward, who attended St. Mary Immaculate CES in Richmond Hill, is assistant professor of English at John Carroll University in Ohio. His 2005 novel, *The Secret Mitzvah of Lucio Burke*, was shortlisted for a 2006 Northern Ohio Live prize for best book, and won Italy's Premio Grinzane Cavour prize for best first novel. He recalls that, in Grade 4, he experienced the thrill of performing for the first time, in school plays directed by then-teacher Victoria Augustynik. He says he uses the experience in his work as a teacher of Shakespeare and as a literary novelist. Dr. Hayward notes that his novels and short stories make it clear that his imagination has been shaped and formed by the experience of being a Catholic. In addition to his creative work, Hayward has also published on literary theory, film, Renaissance drama and Canadian literature. His new novel is coming out from Knopf, Canada in August 2009.

MICHELLE Lovretta



SCREENWRITER

Michelle Lovretta attended Notre Dame CES and Canadian Martyrs CES. She graduated from Sacred Heart CHS, where she credits teacher Dan deSouza for introducing her to writing in prose, and making a writing career seem viable to her. "His faith in me as a young writer meant more than I could have estimated at the time," she says. While studying screenwriting at York University, Michelle wrote an independent movie, called *The Fishing Trip*, which was accepted by the Toronto International Film Festival. She has written for television series including *Relic Hunter*, *The Associates*, *Mutant X* and *Instant Star*. She was also the Showrunner/Executive Producer for *Instant Star*, and has written TV movies including *Playing House* (CTV/Lifetime), *To Be Fat Like Me* (Lifetime), and *Hunt for Justice: The Louise Arbour Story*, which received a Gemini nomination for Best Screenplay and won for Best Movie.

BARB DiGiulio



SPORTSCASTER

Radio sportscaster Barb DiGiulio attended St. Margaret Mary CES in Woodbridge. She has fond memories of elementary teacher, Mr. Reissler, who, she says, "encouraged all of us to believe in ourselves and opened us up to an entire world of possibilities". She believes that attending Catholic school gave her a faith base that helped to guide her through her early childhood years, and that the structure of religion provided stability for her in her learning. Barb began her radio career in North Bay as an evening disc jockey. She quickly made the switch to news, and later joined the staff of CJCL 1430 in Toronto. That station eventually became the FAN 590. Barb has been with the FAN for close to 17 years and is the midday sportscaster on both the FAN 590 and 590 News, as well as a fill-in host on the FAN. Barb also enjoys giving back to the community through her charity work.

JOE Eigo



STUNTMAN

Joe Eigo attended St. Joseph CES, Light of Christ CES and Cardinal Carter CHS in Aurora. He became a gymnast at the age of nine, winning a provincial championship only six months later. He now uses a unique blend of gymnastic abilities and martial arts training to work as a stuntman for films and on stage. He worked with Jackie Chan in the film *Around the World in 80 Days*, traveled to Iceland to film stunts for the popular children's TV show *LazyTown*, and recently appeared as character Dexter Lee on *American Pie 6 Beta House*. He also performed in the theatrical version of *Lord of the Rings* in Toronto. He says that his teachers provided him with a great support system to enable him to pursue his dreams, and helped him to discover his own strengths, uniqueness and abilities. He notes that having a Catholic education taught him discipline, high moral values and respect for everything created.

CLAUDINE Foong



GOLF PRO

Claudine Foong started golfing at 15 years old. Now, at 23, she has embarked on her career as a touring professional. After high school, the Light of Christ CES and Cardinal Carter CHS graduate received a full scholarship to Troy University in Alabama, later transferring to Gardner Webb University in North Carolina, where she finished her public relations degree and recorded six top-10 finishes in collegiate competition, including one win. Claudine has qualified to be a member of the CN Women's Tour and the Duramed Futures Tour, the LPGA's developmental tour. She is looking forward to the next few years with "great optimism and excitement" and hopes to one day play golf with the best players on the LPGA tour. Claudine says that having a Catholic education instilled in her values and virtues that will always be with her. She believes that her faith is a powerful driving force and a constant source of motivation to do the right thing.

Collaborative Learning Inspired by Jesus

Catholic Education Week is an opportunity to celebrate our alumni who demonstrate their Christian leadership every day.
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