

News Release



MARKHAM PUBLIC LIBRARIES

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 1, 2006

Ellen Fairclough Nabs Gold Medal in 2006 Battle of the Books Competition

This year's annual Battle of the Books competition took place on Wednesday, April 26th at Wismer Public School. Wismer's gymnasium was a flurry of activity as teams from fifteen Markham area schools participated in the event. After seventeen rounds of play Ellen Fairclough Public School, the newcomer to the competition, took home the gold medal. Silver and bronze medals were awarded to Stonebridge P.S. and William Armstrong P.S. respectively.

The winning school, Ellen Fairclough, won a \$100 gift certificate donated, once again, by Green Gables Books and each of the top three schools received between twenty-five and thirty library books donated by Canadian publishers.

Bringing greetings to the contestants were project partners and supporters, including Michelle Tidball, Chair of the Markham Public Libraries Board, Harald Grammenos, Principal of Wismer P.S. and Aimee Grant, Chair of the CFUW Battle of the Books Committee. Aimee also presented a large bouquet of flowers to retiring Stonebridge teacher-librarian Kathryn Wakely-Clare and expressed the gratitude of the CFUW and the Battle of the Books Coordinating Committee for all her work in support of the event over the years. Kathryn has been an integral part of the Battle of the Books program since its inception in 1993. Also in attendance was Catherine Biss, CEO of Markham Public Libraries, who eagerly cheered on the participants and who is, as always, a key player and staunch supporter of the event.

Battle of the Books is a literacy promotion program partnership of the Canadian Federation of University Women, Markham-Unionville, Markham Public Libraries and the teacher-librarians of the York Region District School Board and the York Region Catholic School Board.

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