

YMCAs OF QUÉBEC PEACE MEDALS 2011

Finalists

HONORARY LAUREATE

Richard J. Renaud

Richard J. Renaud is an accomplished businessman. He has succeeded on his own merit and owes his success to his innovative thinking and creativity. Actively involved in the area of private equity in Canada and the United States for over 35 years, he is currently the Chairman of the Board of Wynnchurch Capital - organization of which he is the President and founder - and of TNG Corporation. Furthermore, he is a member of 12 corporate Boards of Directors, and he is also the member who has chaired Concordia University's Board of Governors and Executive Committee the longest. As well, he is the former Chairman of the Board of Directors at St-Mary's Hospital.

Richard J. Renaud applies his know-how to the philanthropic sector, particularly in the areas of health, poverty, and education, and he has also been making great contributions to the community for many years. In 1984, Mr. Renaud founded the Roasters Foundation. Its mission is focussed on education (over 300 bursaries awarded annually to students in need who are registered in Québec universities) and healthcare (continued training support to nurses in Canada's major cities). In 2005, he held the position of Co-President for Centraide of Greater Montreal's campaign, the most successful campaign of its history.

In addition, Mr. Renaud plays a significant role in the promotion of the Arts. He received the "Cross Pro-Ecclesia et Pontifice" from Pope John Paul II for his distinguished service with the Church of Montreal, as well as the "Unsung Heroes of Compassion" award from the Dalai-Lama. He was recognized by the Association des Professionnels en Philanthropie - Chapitre du Québec, during the National Philanthropy Day.

His Philosophy:

"We make a living by what we get, we make a life by what we give." (Winston Churchill)

YOUTH PEACEMAKER

Drew Steeves

Drew Steeves is a regular hard-working university student who, in the company of two friends, started The Zero Force Cycling Team. The trio undertook a 7,500 km cycling trip across Canada, from Vancouver, BC to Halifax, NS during the summer of 2011, in order to raise money for the Child Soldiers' Initiative, an organization created by Lieutenant-General Roméo Dallaire. His goal: to help eradicate the presence of child soldiers around the world. The team raised close to \$35,000 for this



important peace initiative. Drew intends to mentor three other youth cyclists to cross Canada as the 2012 Zero Force Cycling team. He has shown by his tenacity that one small idea can grow to the trip of a lifetime.

VOLUNTEER PEACEMAKER

Raoul Lincourt

A long-standing volunteer with various youth and human rights organizations, for ten years now **Raoul Lincourt** has been dedicating much of his time with the Centre for Services in Restorative Justice (CSJR) serving as President, while also facilitating sessions between offenders and their victims in penitentiaries or within the community. By allowing offenders and victims of similar crimes to meet, Raoul Lincourt provides them with an opportunity to break free of their suffering, find inner-peace, and find peace in their social relations. Today, some fifty individuals per year benefit from these meetings on a voluntary basis.

LOCAL PEACE INITIATIVE

Burgundy Urban Mediation Project (BUMP)

The **Burgundy Urban Mediation Project (BUMP)** was founded in 2003 by the Little Burgundy's black community in South-West Montreal. Every day urban mediators walk the streets and speak with youth to help resolve conflicts before they erupt. The project is a model of citizen intervention in terms of violence prevention; it has truly helped deter the recruitment of street gangs in the area and the population has access to their services to help resolve all sorts of issues. This project, implemented to meet the current and pressing needs of the community, currently inspires principles of community support.

INTERNATIONAL PEACE INITIATIVE

Equitas

Founded in 1967, **Equitas** - a Global Human Rights Education Program - is a non-profit organization that advances equality, social justice, and respect for human dignity through innovative educational programs in Canada and around the world. These programs empower individuals and communities to promote progressive change and confront abuses of power. In particular, the success of their International Human Rights Training Program and the *Play it Fair!* programs have contributed to the excellent reputation Equitas enjoys as a global leader in the field of human rights education and training.



COUP DE COEUR

Dawson College

On September 13, 2006, **Dawson College** experienced a senseless attack resulting in the death of student Anastasia De Sousa and injury to several others. Now, five years later, the College is working to promote peace. To commemorate the shooting, the college created a Peace Garden and held an international conference entitled “Youth and Violence: the Role of Education.” As the largest CEGEP in the province with over 11,000 students, Dawson has assumed a responsibility to act on the United Nations Manifesto 2000 for a culture of peace and non-violence. Peace-related classes and projects are being developed; these will be housed in an umbrella program or institute to focus and give rigor to action-oriented peace education.