

PRESS RELEASE

ASPER CUP INTERNATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL DEBATE COMES TO GRAY ACADEMY

November 28, 2007 – Rory Paul, Head of School and C.E.O, is pleased to announce the upcoming ***Third Annual Asper Cup International High School Debate Tournament*** which will take place December 2-3, 2007 at Gray Academy of Jewish Education, located at 123 Doncaster Street. Proud sponsors of the Asper Cup include ***The Asper Foundation, Investors Group and the Winnipeg Free Press.***

This year's tournament has teams from across the country and Israel coming to Gray Academy to compete for The Asper Cup. "Come and experience the verbal thrust and parry of some of the best high school debaters in the country and, for the first time in Manitoba, the excitement of elimination debates in each of six rounds. Where will the victorious team be from - Winnipeg, Vancouver or perhaps Israel?" proclaimed debating teacher and coach, Linda Martin.

When the Asper Cup first made its debut, debating teams from around the globe arrived in Winnipeg to compete at Gray Academy. This prestigious event allowed our highly ranked students to not only perform on an international level, but to be introduced to a mosaic of people from different cultures.

Our growth in debating as a participating school in the last three years has been phenomenal with our students qualifying for the Canadian Team. In 2005, senior student Susan Schipper competed in the ***World Individual Public Speaking and Debate Championships*** in Cypress where she placed 7th overall, followed by 2nd place overall in Debate at the Worlds in Connecticut. In April 2007, Shira Lerner, a Grade 12 student, qualified for the Worlds held in Cape Town, South Africa where she competed in four events, Debate, Persuasive Speaking, Impromptu Speaking, and Interpretive Reading and placed 15th overall in the combined areas.

"We are very excited to once again host this international debating tournament, and are appreciative of the ongoing support of our sponsors, The Asper Foundation, Investors Group and the Winnipeg Free Press, all of whom have been with us since The Asper Cup made its debut in 2004," said Rory Paul.

Please join us at The Asper Cup on December 2 and 3 at Gray Academy:

Sunday, December 2

- 9:45 a.m. - Round 1 prepared
- 11:00 a.m. - Round 2 prepared
- NOON - Lunch for debaters and judges
- 12:30 p.m. - Judges Registration
- 1:00 p.m. - New Judges briefing
- Round 3 Topic Announced in Multi-Purpose Room (MPR)
- 1:30 p.m. - Round 3
- 3:00 p.m. - Round 4 Topic Announced in MPR
- 4:00 p.m. - Round 4

Monday, December 3

- 9:00 a.m. - Round 5 Topic announced in MPR
- Judges briefing
- 9:35 a.m. - Round 5
- 10:30 a.m. - Round 6 Topic announced in MPR
- 11:10 a.m. - Round 6 (hidden quarter Final)
- NOON - Lunch
- 1:30 p.m. - Semi-Finalists announced
- 2:00 p.m. - Semi-Final Rounds in MPR and Room 232
- 3:00 p.m. - Finalists announced
- 3:30 p.m. - FINALS in MPR
- 6:30 p.m. - Awards at Shaarey Zedek synagogue

Please join us at the Awards Banquet:

Monday, December 3, 2007

Shaarey Zedek Synagogue

6:30 p.m.

561 Wellington Crescent

Lower Level

Also, a new addition to this year's Asper Cup, is a lecture with world-renowned speaker, Professor Amos Guiora, an expert on global perspectives on counter terrorism who will be talking to the debating students as well as the general audience.

Presented by The Asper Foundation Lecture Series and the Jewish Federation of Winnipeg, Professor Guiora will be addressing the topic of ***Global Perspectives on Counter Terrorism*** on Saturday, December 1, at 7:30 p.m. in the Multi-Purpose Room of the Asper Jewish Community Campus, located at 123 Doncaster Street. Advance tickets are available by contacting Madeline Kowall at 477-7404. (Tickets also available at the door) Adults: \$10. Students (with ID) are free.

Gray Academy of Jewish Education is a JK-Grade 12 university preparatory school that places equal value on Jewish and General academic programs, and provides opportunities to nurture the emotional well-being and spiritual development of all students.

To interview Mrs. Martin and/or to cover The Asper Cup, please contact:

Lisa Abram
Director of Advancement
Gray Academy of Jewish Education
(204) 477-7514
labram@aspercampus.mb.ca