

«MnAATFNet» e-mail message of 15 December, 2009

From: Frederique Schmidt [frederique.schmidt@breckschool.org]
Sent: Tuesday, December 15, 2009 10:59 AM
Subject: Grand Concours Announcement for la messagerie

Chers instituteurs et professeurs de français,

We're excited to announce that registration has begun for this year's Grand Concours National French Exam and we hope you and your students will participate. Le Grand Concours is a competition sponsored by AATF for French students in grades 1-12. Students at each level compete within Minnesota and across the country for recognition and prizes! The test is also a good way for teachers to compare their students' progress to other students at the same level. Attached to this email you will find two forms: the Registration/Order form and the Student Eligibility form. Submit only one Registration form per school. Carefully write each participant's name on the Student Eligibility sheet so that the spelling of names is legible.

We've mailed a copy of the forms to everyone on our mailing list in addition to sending out a separate email message. Our goal is to reach the maximum number of French teachers in Minnesota, therefore you may receive this information more than once. If you know of a French teacher who hasn't received this information, please feel free to copy it and forward it on! Likewise, please star the names of new French faculty on your school's registration/order form so that we can update our data.

Deadlines: The deadline for registration is January 26, 2010, but early registrations are always appreciated! You may email your forms to Carolyn Fisk at cmfisk10@msn.com<<mailto:cmfisk10@msn.com>>. Checks can be mailed separately to Carolyn Fisk, 1057 Fairmount, St. Paul, Mn. 55105.

Testing Dates: FLES testing occurs February 15-26, and secondary level testing occurs March 1-28.

The contest is administered in your own school within the specified dates. A proctor other than the students' own French teacher is required. You will need to arrange for a proctor to administer your students' exams.

FLES testing: the FLES contest has changed slightly. Teachers will no longer order kits for their FLES classes; instead they will order test booklets and CDs just as for levels 01-5. Both A and B divisions for FLES are included in each test booklet. Please be aware that the FLES testing dates are earlier than the secondary test (February 15-26.)

Testing Levels: Students should be registered for the same level of the Concours as the level of school credit they are earning this school year. For example, a student currently earning credit for level 2 French would be registered in Level 2 of the Concours. Moreover we distinguish various divisions (A-B-C-D-E) according to students' backgrounds to ensure fairness. Please read the rules carefully to determine your students' divisions. For additional information (specifications, eligibility, rules and review materials) please visit the AATF website:

<http://frenchteachers.org/concours>

Distribution des Prix: All contestants in levels 01-5 who score at least 80% correct and all FLES national winners are invited to the ceremony at which prizes will be awarded. The ceremony will take place at the University of Minnesota in the Great Hall of Coffman Union on Wednesday, May 12 from 8:30 to 11:00 am. National Prizes: Gold, silver and bronze medals and Lauréat National certificates for students ranking in the top ten nationally; videos for first place FLES winners and books for first place winners from levels 01-5; Certificats de Réussite for students who score at or above 50%; and Certificats d'Honneur for students who score at or above 80%. There will also be a Minnesota Grand Prize Drawing for two \$700 travel stipends toward a trip to any francophone country (Levels 3-4-5) and additional prize drawings (music, movies, and various other goodies!) for all levels.

Cost: Each participating student will need his or her own exam booklet. For students of teachers who are members of AATF, each exam booklet costs \$5. For non-members, exam booklets cost \$8. In addition, teachers order the exam CD for each of their levels. CDs are \$6.50 for members and \$9 for non-members.

Deadline Reminders

- 1 January 2010: membership fees due to the national office
(Grand Concours fees are less expensive for AATF members!)
 - 26 January 2010: Deadline for sending in registration form,
eligibility sheets, and a CHECK payable
to "National French Contest" to:
Carolyn Fisk
1057 Fairmount
St. Paul, Mn. 55105
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