

January 14, 2013

VETERAN TEACHERS PLEASE NOTE

We have made two significant changes to the contest. Details will be emailed to you as soon as you send your "intent to participate" email. ☺

Dear Colleagues,

I am pleased to announce the theme of the 2013 Minnesota statewide *A Vous la Parole* French speaking contest. In honor of the 40th anniversary of the contest, the theme is the title of a Francis Cabrel song, "*Je t'aimais, je t'aime, et je t'aimerai.*" The 2013 contest will be held on **Tuesday, April 23, 2013**, in **Coffman Union** on the campus of the **University of Minnesota**, from **9 AM to 1:30 PM**. *A Vous la Parole* is sponsored annually by the Minnesota Chapter of the American Association of Teachers of French and is open to students of French in grades 7 through 12 accompanied by their teachers and/or representatives.

The purpose of this initial mailing is to give you some basic information as well as the timeline for this year's contest. Teachers who express interest in participating will receive additional information next month. Especially if you are new to the contest, you may wish to begin by reading the enclosed two-sided sheet entitled "**AVLP FAQ 2013**." The **categories sheet** can be found on the back of this letter.

The **cost per student and per category is \$8**. (Students may enter several categories, but they must pay the \$8 fee for each category entered. Each member of a group pays the \$8 fee as well.) **T-shirts** with the enclosed logo on them will be sold **in advance**. They will cost **\$11 each** and will be available for pick-up the morning of the contest. More precise information will go out to teachers in next month's mailing.

Normally, there is an **opening ceremony starting at 9 AM**. Last year, due to the record number of student entries, we had to cancel the opening ceremony. **Student performances will be scheduled starting at 9:30 AM and ending around 12:45 PM**. You will have an opportunity to make special requests regarding scheduling. Clare Hagen, the former contest coordinator, will continue to be in charge of scheduling and awards. She will do her best to accommodate your requests.

To receive next month's mailing, **you must let me know your intention to participate by Friday, February 1**. You can simply send an email to avouslaparole@hotmail.com to notify me of your intent to participate.

Here is a synopsis of the process to keep handy to make sure you are meeting all deadlines:

on or before Friday, February 1, 2013 – you send an e-mail regarding your initial interest in participating

February 8, 2013 (approximately) – information regarding registering will be mailed and emailed ONLY to interested parties

on or before Friday, March 15, 2013 – finalized electronic entries are due (you provide us all student names in a spreadsheet, including specific categories entered – no more than four entries per category); payment is due; t-shirt orders are due; t-shirt payments are due

March 25-29, 2013 – Clare will be on Spring Break but may be available to reply to emails

April 1-5, 2013 – Annie will be on Spring Break and will not be available to reply to emails

April 12, 2013 (approximately) – master schedule, master judging sheets, maps, student expectations, and last-minute instructions will be mailed and emailed

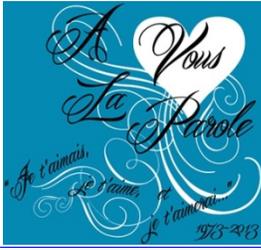
Tuesday, April 23, 2013 – competition day; t-shirts will be ready for pick-up on-site; judging results will be taken home or arranged for pick-up in Lakeville

I look forward to your participation and to the success of the 2013 *A Vous la Parole*.

Sincerely,



Annie Muske
Coordinator, *A Vous la Parole* 2013
avouslaparole@hotmail.com



The 2013 AVLP t-shirt was designed by Lakeville South High School sophomore Megan Pospisil. The color is "indigo," and it is 100% cotton. Sizes S to 3XL.