

## Le Grand Concours/National French Contest 2008

If your students have never participated in the Grand Concours, why not make 2008 a first for them? The Concours is a 60 point listening, reading and grammar exam (70 points for the upper levels). It takes one hour to administer in your own building by a proctor of your choice. Teachers of French may not administer the exam to their own students. Students must be registered carefully in the appropriate levels and divisions to ensure fairness.

### Deadlines for the 2008 Grand Concours

1 January 2008: pay your AATF dues by this date in order to register at member's prices

28 January 2008: send your registration forms, eligibility sheets and check to MaryEllen Weller, Mesabi Range Community College, 1001 W. Chestnut St. Virginia, MN 55792

2007 participating schools and all AATF members will receive registration materials by –email (new this year) or by regular mail. If you are not yet an AATF member (and someone has shared this newsletter with you) please request registration materials at [m.weller@mr.mnscu.edu](mailto:m.weller@mr.mnscu.edu).

Contest specifications by level and eligibility rules are available at the national AATF website at [www.frenchteachers.org/concours](http://www.frenchteachers.org/concours) . Secondary (7-12) contest dates are March 1<sup>st</sup>-23 and FLES contest dates are February 18-27. Your school is free to choose its contest date within that window.

Fees for 2008 remain the same. Exams are \$5 each and the CDs for each level's listening section are \$6.50. (Non-members: \$8 and \$9). FLES Kits, which include testing materials for 10 students, are \$21 for Kit A and \$24 for Kit B. (Non-members: \$28 and \$32) The FLES CD is \$6.50 (\$9 for non-members).

The contest fees include postage and PRIZES and an invitation to the annual Awards Breakfast for all students who score at least 80% correct. The 2008 awards will be made in the Great Hall of Coffman Union on the U of M campus on Wednesday, May 14, 2008, 9-11:00am. I hope to see you there!

### National Prizes

- Gold, silver, and bronze medals and *Lauréat National* certificates for Ranks 1-10.
- Videos for FLES 1<sup>st</sup> place winners and books for Levels 01-5 1<sup>st</sup> place winners.
- The *Certificat de Réussite* for students who score at or above the 50<sup>th</sup> percentile.
- The *Certificat d'Honneur* for students who score 80% or above.

### Minnesota Grand Prize Drawing

- Two \$700 travel stipends toward a trip to any francophone country (Levels 3-4-5)
- Two \$175 Scholarships to *Lac du Bois* French Language Village (Levels 01-1-2 and FLES)
- French books, CDs and DVDs

MaryEllen Weller, Minnesota Contest Administrator 2008