



MEDIA ADVISORY
Thursday, March 29, 2007

Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools students showcase talents during 2007 Junos in Saskatoon

Whether it's an all-girl Metis jiggling group or a Grade 7 student with a passion for guitar, Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools students are not only getting Juno fever, they're right in the middle of the festivities.

Metis jiggers at Aboriginal music showcase

On Friday, the St. Mary's Oskāyak Jiggers will open the 2007 Celebration of Aboriginal Music in Saskatoon. The event begins at 8 p.m. at Lakeview Free Methodist Church (Highway 16 and Boychuk Drive). The lineup features several high-profile performers, including Susan Aglukark, Chester Knight and Andrea Menard. Event organizers wanted to include the young dancers to illustrate that current aboriginal performers are paving the way for aboriginal young people who are interested in the arts.

The eight Metis jiggers, aged 11 to 14, are part of the larger St. Mary's Oskāyak dance troupe, which also does pow-wow dancing. The students, who will arrive in a limo thanks to a friend of the school, are thrilled they have been able to rub shoulders with other aboriginal performers, says Cecile Smith, the St. Mary's community school coordinator. "Hopefully it will broaden their horizons, to see that they can go forward. They can see these people are working hard, just like them."

12-year-old guitar player showing his stuff at Juno Awards

Stephen Fischer has been playing guitar since he was six years old and now regularly performs live at Bud's on Broadway in Saskatoon. His talent and obvious passion for music shone through on his demo CD, catching the eyes and ears of Juno organizers who selected Fischer to play live at the awards show on Sunday during a segment focusing on youth and the Canadian music industry.

Fischer will be introduced by Canadian rocker Sam Roberts and will play a few licks from American Woman. Fischer, a grade 7 student at St. Anne School, has a passion for electric blues greats like Stevie Ray Vaughn, Eric Clapton and B.B. King.

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For more information, please contact:

Donella Hoffman
Communications Consultant
Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools
659-7077 – office 229-3743 – cell