



## THE 2010 PEACE MEDAL RECIPIENTS

**HONORARY RECIPIENT:** A self-taught child from an underprivileged family, Daniel Germain discovered his missionary side while in Haiti and Mexico between 1990 and 1994. Upon returning to Canada, he created the *Club des petits déjeuners du Québec*. By June 2010, the Club had served more than 17 million breakfasts. But, he is also mindful of the situation of children around the world. In 2005, he decided to create the *Montreal Millennium Summit*, an annual international forum to fight poverty, which brings together major players in social engagement, representing governments, civil society, academia and major humanitarian organizations. Mr. Germain received numerous awards for his initiatives, including member of the Order of Canada in 2009.



The 2010 Peace Medal Recipients

**GROUPS / Local peace initiatives:** Founded in 1996, the Tolerance Foundation raises the awareness of youth in terms of respecting differences in order to build a more just and inclusive society. Through its high school awareness workshops, the Foundation informs the students of the inherent dangers of intolerance, prejudice, and discrimination in all its forms. The Foundation runs numerous Tolerance Caravans which, last year, visited 78 schools and reached more than 26,000 youth. The impact that these caravans have in terms of peace is well-known. Studies have shown that the vast majority of youth reached are able to modify, individually or collectively, prejudicial attitudes and behaviours such as violence, bullying, harassment, etc.

**GROUPS / International peace initiatives:** McGill Middle East Program in Civil Society and Peace Building (MMEP), founded in 1997, is committed to the belief that the reduction of inequality and the promotion of civil society and social justice are intricately related to peace building. The MMEP, in cooperation with its Jordanian, Israeli, and Palestinian institutional partners, has established 11 rights-based community practice (RBCP) centres in some of the most disadvantaged areas of Palestine, Jordan and Israel. The MMEP's International MSW Fellowship at McGill University has more than 50 alumni who have built the centres and continue to work across the Middle East to advance social justice.

**GROUPS / Youth initiatives:** The Concordia Volunteer Abroad Program is a non-profit organization created, funded, and managed by the students and graduates of Concordia University. The program sends student volunteers to northern Uganda where they have the unique opportunity to work in collaboration with local organizations and members of the community on various projects such as the prevention of HIV/AIDS, the fight against prejudice, nutrition, education, food safety, and housing. Participants focus mainly on promoting peace and social justice through discussions and position-taking. CVAP also organizes events in Montreal in order to promote the restoration of peace and to support small assistance projects in Uganda.

**INDIVIDUALS / Local peace initiatives:** Sophie Langri, a mediation and conflict resolution consultant, has adapted an American program called "No Fault Classroom" in order to meet the needs of students at École Buissonnière, an elementary school in Outremont. Renamed "Peace Zone", this program's goal is to reduce the conflicts and emotional stress that can affect learning in the classroom. It gives teachers and students the tools needed to resolve conflicts that may arise and helps promote harmonious interpersonal relationships. The Peace Zone has a direct impact on the students' learning as well as their ability to resolve conflicts peacefully. Thanks to the Peace Zone, Sophie Langri teaches compassion and empathy; two things that will surely contribute to a more peaceful and non-violent society.

**INDIVIDUALS / Youth initiatives:** Involved in various activities since the age of 11, Jasmyn Beauséjour is an excellent role model for his peers and is the type of citizen who enriches the community. During his teenage years, he supported many causes including the Multiple Sclerosis Society of Canada. Today, at 18 years of age and a student at Collège André-Grasset, Jasmyn is a spokesperson for the brand new program called Jeune citoyen engagé de l'OEUVRE LÉGER. The program provides help to college students who wish to create concrete and meaningful projects in the fight against poverty by providing grants to help them build their vital projects. Through his tireless work and his concrete actions, he participates in the positive and constructive transformation of society.