

NATIONAL YOUTH CONFERENCE



STAND TALL AND SPEAK OUT: VOICE FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

WELCOME KIT

An initiative by:



James Valitchka

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Canada's university



STAND TALL AND SPEAK OUT: VOICE FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

OTTAWA UNIVERSITY

MAY 16 – 19, 2009.

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STAND TALL AND SPEAK OUT: VOICE FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

OTTAWA UNIVERSITY MAY 16 – 19, 2009.

Dear Guests,

Thank you for playing such an important role in the National Youth Conference. We are honored that you have accepted our invitation to join us at our first National Youth Conference, May 16 – 19, 2009. After the success of the past two conferences in Toronto, we are eagerly anticipating this year's event with Youths from ages 14- 19 from many cities in Canada. Stand Tall And Speak Out: Voice For Children And Youth is an incredible platform to pursue our goals of empowering a generation of youth to change the world through their positive actions.

This National Youth Conference will be powerful and uplifting to the 200 youths attending. For many this will be their first visit to the Nations capital. Those youths will be able to go back to their schools and communities to start programs that will put them at the forefront of being an active global citizen and youth leader.

The aim of the conference is to give inner city children of all racial and cultural backgrounds, a shared experience and connection through providing a new way of looking at themselves, their histories, their voices, and their futures. There will be many positive role models; such as artists, authors and speakers at this conference.

This information package is your guide to STAND TALL AND SPEAK OUT: VOICE FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH. If you need any further information, do not hesitate to contact:

Founder/ Director -James Valitchka & Ally

Tel: (613) 291-5689 or (613) 440-2595

Email: jamesvalitchka@yahoo.ca & allyvalitchka@yahoo.ca

Olivia Meyia Chief Operating Officer

(613) 440 2595 Email:oliviamlegalserviceswye@yahoo.ca

Noella Charles - Conference Manager

613-219-5998, 613-894-6750 Email: ncharl@sympatico.ca

Deadline for registration is May 4, 2009

We look forward to welcoming you to the conference.

Best Regards,

James Valitchka
Founder & Director

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STAND TALL AND SPEAK OUT: VOICE FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

OTTAWA UNIVERSITY MAY 16 – 19, 2009.

STAND TALL AND SPEAK OUT: VOICE FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH*

The Event:

James Valitchka's Stand Tall and Speak Out: Voice for Children and Youth is a four-day annual student conference, which is a movement to encourage children and youth to speak out with respect, integrity, confidence and a spirit of public service whenever they see or experience injustice: violence, discrimination and abuse. It provides the skills and resources for students to become engaged participants in our country's civic and political process by opening the lines of communication with current political leaders and having students network, initiate and present national community projects while at the conference. James Valitchka's Stand Tall and Speak Out: Voice for Children and Youth annual student conference is designed for youth by youth, a group of existing youth leaders who will

- 1) Understand these specific personal and systemic barriers, challenges and obstacles that other youths will face as they endeavor to become politically active and respected leaders in their community and on a national mandate
- 2) Work with small teams in small workshops to research, brainstorm, develop and present community outreach programs
- 3) Empower children and youth to be confident individuals who have integrity, high self-esteem and believe they can do great things
- 4) Be inspired by their potential and their future success within the portfolio of different cabinet ministers in their country's political system and society.
- 5) Do something in the community that will contribute to their country's history.

***For Youth aged 14 - 19**

***Cost is \$100 per student but students may pay what they can afford based on the income of their legal guardian or as recommended by their school, community or DareArts. Payment can be made by check or money order sent to Stand Tall and Speak Out, 339 Elite Private, Ottawa, On, K2J 0M5**

Deadline for Registration is May 4, 2009

Made possible by



Application Form (1 form per student)
STAND TALL AND SPEAK OUT: VOICE FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH
National Youth Conference

339 Elite Private, Ottawa, ON , K2J 0M5 www.jamesvalitchka.com

Tel: 905-582-4541 613-440-2595 Fax: 613-440-1490

Name.....Male Female Age

Home Tel.....Emergency Contact Tel.....

Address.....

City.....Province..... Postal Code.....

Email if applicable.....

School.....Grade.....

City.....school TelFax.....

School Board.....Province.....

Please indicate any special needs allergies.....

Is a teacher from your school bringing a group of students?

Teacher's Tel/cel.....Teacher's e-mail

Parent's Name (please print)

I understand that photos of my child may be taken during the conference and agree that those pictures may appear in the media.

Parent's Signature.....

Student's Signature.....

Age Groups: Ages 14 to 19

To Register:

- (1) Cost is \$100 per student but students may pay what they can afford based on the income of their legal guardian or as recommended by their school, community or DareArts.
 - (2) Complete 1 registration form for each student
 - (3) Be sure to mark your envelope with your return address.
 - (4) Payment can be made by cheque or money order sent to Stand Tall and Speak Out, 339 Elite Private, Ottawa, On, K2J 0M5 OR mail to James Valitchka, 135 Allan Street, Ste. 608, Ottawa , ON L6H 3N4
- DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION is May 4, 2009.**

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Schedule of Events

On Arrival to Ottawa University, you will be asked to check in at the registration booths. You will receive your conference identification badge, journal and an access passport to the National Youth Conference.

Draft Schedule of Events ---Subject to change, with additions and times..

Saturday - May 16, 2009

4- 7:30pm Registration-out of town students, Guided to accommodations by Welcome team

7:30 Welcome from the founder, James Valitchka, Pre Activity Presentation, Movie

Sunday – May 17, 2009

8-9 am Breakfast and registration for local students

9-12 Opening remarks, Presentations, workshops

12:15 Lunch

1-2:15 Keynote speaker, Presentation, Team Building Exercises

2:15 Tour of Parliament Hill

4:15 Workshops, half hour Free time before supper

6 -7 Supper

7 Entertainment

Monday -May 18, 2009

8 am Breakfast

9:00 Open Remarks, Keynote presentation, Workshops, Tour of Ottawa University

12:15 Lunch

1pm Entertainment, workshop, Keynote, Post Activity session

4:30 Dinner

5:30 Group photos, Tour of Ottawa and Hull

8:00 Entertainment

Tuesday - May 19, 2009

8:00am Breakfast (Optional gym activity) Depart-checking location for all personal baggage

9:30 Keynote Speaker, workshops,

12 Farewell Lunch, Group sessions to complete post activity presentation

2pm Thank You call to action slide presentation, by the founder James Valitchka

2:45 Depart to airport, train station

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The Educated Choice for Accommodations During Your Ottawa University Adventure!

With 300 2-bedroom units with air conditioning and a private bathroom and over 700 dorm-style residence rooms, we offer affordable comfort to:

*Conference Attendees * School Groups

University of Ottawa Residences: Campus Living Centre
100 University Street
Ottawa, Ontario
Canada K1N 6N5



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OTTAWA UNIVERSITY MAY 16 – 19, 2009



Main Campus from the Ottawa International Airport

- Take the Airport Parkway to Bronson Avenue
- Follow Bronson Avenue to Laurier Street
- Turn right (east) on Laurier Street
- Follow Laurier Street to King Edward Avenue
- Turn right (south) on King Edward Avenue
- Follow King Edward Avenue to the second set of lights (Marie Curie Street)
- Turn right (west) on Marie Curie Street to enter the campus

Main Campus from the Ottawa Train Stations

- Turn west on Tremblay Road to the 417 West
- Off Highway 417 West, take the Nicholas/Mann exit
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Ottawa Experiences

Ottawa offers visitors a diverse selection of experiences, the year round. For first-time visitors, exploring the many impressive sites and landmarks that mark Ottawa as Canada's Capital is a must. Others visit for the city's unparalleled lineup of museums and galleries and festivals. Ottawa is also a natural for sports, recreation, and outdoor pursuits, thanks to its beautiful natural setting of waterways, parks and pathways. The Capital is child-friendly, offering fun activities and learning experiences for young and old alike.

- Museums and Galleries
- Festivals and Events
- Sports, Recreation & Outdoors
- Family

We want you to make the most of your visit to Ottawa!

Governor General Residence---Rideau Hall is the official residence of the Governor General of Canada, Her Excellency Michaëlle Jean. Canada's Governor General invites you to visit Rideau Hall, the home and workplace of every Governor General since Confederation in 1867, where Canadians are honoured and welcomed alongside world leaders and visitors from around the globe. Rideau Hall is a 79 acre oasis of beautifully landscaped grounds - just minutes from downtown Ottawa. It is open year-round, a gracious and inviting place where Canada's history comes to life with vitality and warmth. Tour the magnificent residence and gardens, wander through the peaceful grounds, have a picnic. Rideau Hall, a national historic site and the symbolic home of all Canadians, welcomes you. Watch the ceremonial guard every hour!



Rideau Canal-----Although the Rideau Canal was originally built for military defense, it serves today as one of the Capital's most popular recreational sites. In winter, the canal is filled with skaters; in summer, it is a haven for boaters. Those who like leisurely walks will find the canal's shady paths irresistible. The canal stretches all the way from Ottawa to Kingston.



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THANK YOU TO ALL THE SPONSORS!

Performers and Supporters:

Professor Joanne St. Lewis
Director/Directrice Human Rights Research Education Centre
Ottawa University

Barack Obama Team Instructor

Susan Lecorre

*Centre des droits de la personne / Human Rights Centre
uOttawa
Pavillon Fauteux Hall, 5e étage/5th Floor
Ottawa ON Canada K1N 6N5*



STAND TALL AND SPEAK OUT: VOICE FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

James Valitchka is a 13 year old award winning and critically acclaimed writer and motivational speaker, who started his community service work at the age of 8 by stating, "We have to give kids like me a chance to succeed at school". He is a sought after role model and public speaker who is known for his eloquent novels and his passion for encouraging other children and youth to positively express their emotions through writing. His books *Superheroes Don't Have Dads* and *I'm Not Brown I'm Human* became bestsellers in six months. James is a dual citizen of Canada and the United States who has spoken at over 150 Canadian, American and South American schools. He is

considered by educators and professionals to be an expert on literacy, anti-bullying, character education and multiculturalism. He is the author of eight books. James' latest novel, *Greater Expectations*, brings a message of hope and determination to the many challenges teens face today. James was the youngest person to win the Top 20 Under 20 award in 2005. He won the Free the Children and Canadian Living Magazine's Me to We award when he was 12 in 2007. James founded *Literacy Can Change Lives* in 2005, as well as *Stand Tall and Speak Out: VOICE for Children and Youth* in 2008 to give children and youth self esteem, confidence, and leadership through positive experiences. James believes his work will result in less bullying, less discrimination, less abuse, which will improve the lives and future of children and youth. James partners with Air Canada, Ontario Black History Society, Educate For Success and Future Aces. His website is www.jamesvalitchka.com . Email James at jamesvalitchka@yahoo.ca.



Stand Tall and Speak Out: VOICE for Children and Youth

A non profit company that supports, uplifts and strengthens our youth

The National Conference that Changes Lives! Copyright James Valitchka

Location: The University of Ottawa.

Date: May 16, 17, 18 &19, 2009 (Arrival for most students is Sat. May 16)

The focus of the conference

It will give children and youth the role models, tools, and the desire to be active in Canadian politics, volunteer, be community leaders and enter the world of politics either at the grass roots, campaigning for politicians, or becoming student representatives within the school board system, municipal politics, provincial politics or eventually running politics themselves. Participants will be able to choose an area of public service that is of interest them.

The goals:

The conference is to give inner city children of all racial and cultural backgrounds, in particular aboriginal and indigenous African Canadian children and youth, a shared experience and connection through providing a new way of looking at themselves, their histories, their voices, and their futures. Through positive role models, artists, authors and speakers, children and youth ages 14 to 19 will be provided with dynamic and multiple opportunities to

- 1) See the potential of the positive expression of their stories, feelings and
- 2) Feel a sense of intensified identity and sense of belonging as a Canadian
- 3) Realize and achieve the unique and valuable contribution they can make to Canadian society.
- 4) Understand that through determination, focus and positivism they can break through the barriers of abuse, poverty, and social challenges, thus creating their own successes within Canadian society, which will become a historical event in Canada.

Who should attend?

- Students who want the world to be a better place
- Student who want to make a positive impact in the world
- students who may be encountering academic or/and social challenges
- Student who need a new perspective or inspiration in order to succeed
- The group should consist of an equal number of 5 boys and 5 girls, unless it is an all girl's or all boy's school.

Selection criteria and procedure for participants and monitors:

- Implement a fair and need based selection process.

- ❑ Encourage students who want or would benefit from a life change or love to read and write.
- ❑ Select students who self identify their need and show a genuine interest and commitment to change and learning.

Security:

The James Valitchka's Stand Tall and Speak Out organization will ensure that one adult monitor supervises five students in order to ensure the student participants' safety and security. The organization will also be hiring a security team to ensure the participants' safety and security during the 3 day National conference event.

The participants will be residing in the University of Ottawa residence, where they will occupy 130 rooms. There will be 2 participants per room at the University of Ottawa residence. The activities will be offered in both English and French, since Canada is a bilingual country and we are aware that some of the participants will be French speaking.

What is the cost?

The fee for each student is \$100. However, we don't want any student to be turned away because they can't pay the fees. Thus, students should pay what they can, depending on their parents or guardians' income, as suggested by their school or community or DareArts – even if it's as little as \$5! Participants should register as soon as possible as there are always hundreds more applications than workshop spaces.

Basic Outline of Weekend Conference

Day 1- Arrivals, Registration 4pm, Welcome Event, Dinner, Meeting James Valitchka, Pre-Activity Presentations, Entertainment
Day 2- Workshops, Tour, Presentations
Day 3- Workshops, Tour, Post Activity Sessions, Entertainment
Day 4- Keynote breakfast & Finale Goodbyes before heading for home

For further information or to order an application kit, please contact:

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Tel: (613) 291-5689 or (613) 440-2595

Email: jamesvalitchka@yahoo.ca & allyvalitchka@yahoo.ca

Olivia Meyia - Chief Operating Officer

(613) 440 2595 Email:oliviamlegalserviceswye@yahoo.ca

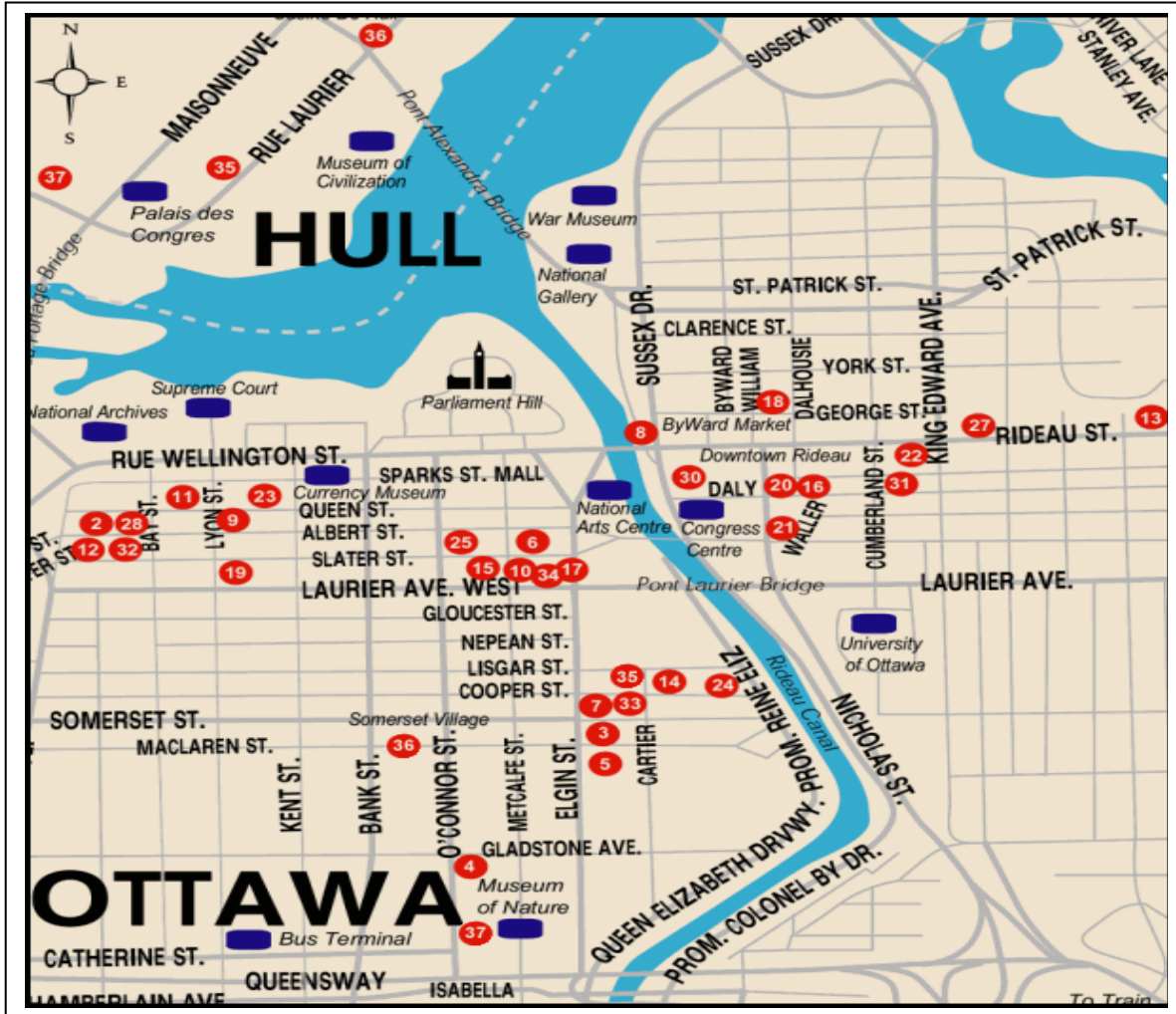
Noella Charles - Conference Manager

613-219-5998, 613-894-6750 Email: ncharl@sympatico.ca

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