

Oakville Academy for the Arts director earns major award

The Oakville Academy for the Arts Faculty, Staff and Students were thrilled this fall to receive word from the office of the Prime Minister of Canada that Kim Speer, Director of the Oakville Academy for the Arts Preschool, Junior Kindergarten, Senior Kindergarten and Afternoon Arts Adventure Programs, was chosen to receive the National Prime Minister's Award for Excellence in Early Childhood Education.

Ms. Speer, her family and the Director of the Academy Heidi McMeekan, flew to Ottawa for a week of events and celebrations marking this significant accomplishment for

Ms. Speer and the other 9 Early Childhood Award recipients from across Canada. After receiving her award from the Prime Minister, the Right Honourable Stephen Harper, a formal Award Ceremony was held at The Museum of Nature in downtown Ottawa.

Upon Ms. Speer's return to The Oakville Academy for the Arts, another reception was held with staff, faculty and former and current families to further acknowledge Ms. Speer's tireless and boundless energy and passion in the pursuit of the best possible education for children 3-5 years of age.

Award recipients receive a commemorative plaque, a Prime Minister's pin and a monetary sum to be shared with their home schools. Ms. Speer was thrilled to support Canadian small businesses by purchasing a huge variety of new dress-up play costumes and a broad range of engaging new learning materials for the Preschool and Kindergarten classrooms.

Ms. Speer is eager to put into effect best practice initiatives shared between award recipients during her week in Ottawa and is proud to have been a representative of her profession and the Oakville Academy for the Arts.

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- High qualified teachers and RECEs for group and individual needs
- Additional reputable resources in the classrooms
- Quality First certification (Progressive Level III)
- Very strong program
- Very bright and spacious classrooms
- Additional class for daily activities
- Field trips to connect with nature
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- Irresistible catered lunch with unlimited milk and two snacks

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Connecting with nature



... worth a thousand words!



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