



# Concours sur l'Europe Award Ceremony

A CONTEST CELEBRATING  
THE FRENCH PRESIDENCY OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

New York, December 5, 2008

5:30 pm

Florence Gould Hall - FIAF

# CONCOURS SUR L'EUROPE

A High School Contest

"What does the European Union mean to you?"  
"Que représente l'Union Européenne pour vous ?"



## What is it?

The "Concours sur l'Europe" is an essay competition organized by the Cultural Services of the French Embassy, in cooperation with the French-American Chamber of Commerce, the French-American Foundation and the French Institute: Alliance Française, to celebrate France's European Union presidency, taking place from July - December 2008.

## How do students participate?

Students write a maximum 500-word essay in English or in French answering the question. "What does the European Union mean to you?" "Que représente l'Union Européenne pour vous ?"

## Who is eligible?

All tri-state (NY, NJ, CT) students in **grades 9 - 12**  
Submissions will be reviewed for **originality** and **creativity** by a panel of teachers and members of the organizing institutions.

Essays may be submitted on the website [www.teacheurope.org](http://www.teacheurope.org) between Friday, August 15 and midnight on Monday, November 15, 2008.

Are there **prizes** to be won?

**Bien sur!!!** An awards ceremony for all prize winners will take place during the first two weeks of December. Winners will be notified of the date and location.

### Three grand prizes

One-week trip to **France** valued at 5,000 euros

### Seven second prizes

One-week trip to **France** valued at 2,000 euros

### 40 third prizes

A luxury gift bag of French products

Register on-line at [www.teacheurope.org](http://www.teacheurope.org)

Contact: Fabrice Jaumont - Tel: 212 439 1436 - Mail: [contest@teacheurope.org](mailto:contest@teacheurope.org)

Conception : Laura de la Peña - [delapenalaura@hoteaill.com](mailto:delapenalaura@hoteaill.com)



**THE CULTURAL SERVICES OF THE FRENCH EMBASSY**  
and the

**FRENCH-AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

in cooperation with the

**FRENCH-AMERICAN FOUNDATION**

and the

**FRENCH INSTITUTE ALLIANCE FRANÇAISE**

present:

# Concours sur l'Europe Award Ceremony

## PROGRAMME DE LA CÉRÉMONIE

Welcome

Projection of a Documentary film on the European Union

Intervention of Page Hopkins, FOX News Channel anchor

Musical interlude:

Maria-Cristina Necula, the European Anthem, "Ode to Joy"  
by Beethoven

Adagio to Europe

by Didier Van Damme and David Lasserre

Awarding of Grand Prizes

Reading of the three best essays

Awarding of Gift Bags

Group Photograph

*Master of Ceremony: Maitre Hervé LINDER.*

*President of the "Young Executive Committee"*

*and of the Executive Council of the French-American Chamber of Commerce*

## DESCRIPTION DU CONCOURS

Le "Concours sur l'Europe" is an essay competition organized by the Cultural Services of the French Embassy and the French-American Chamber of Commerce, in cooperation with the French-American Foundation and the French Institute Alliance Française, to celebrate France's presidency of the European Union from July to December 2008.

All high school students from New York, New Jersey and Connecticut were invited to participate. In total, students submitted 400 entries which were read by 32 volunteer correctors. More than 10% of the essays were from Connecticut, around one quarter came from New Jersey, 20% from New York City alone and almost 40% from the rest of New York State.

A committee including members of the Cultural Services of the French Embassy, the French-American Chamber of Commerce, the French -American Foundation and the French Institute Alliance Française chose the 50 best entries for tonight's ceremony.

The European Union is a family of democratic European countries, committed to working for peace and prosperity. Its member States have set up common institutions to which they delegate some of their sovereignty so that decisions on specific matters of joint interest can be democratically decided at a European level. The European Union was created to achieve the political goal of peace, but its dynamism and success spring emerge from its world economic power.

The European Union faces many challenges—climate change, ecology, migration, as well as economic and financial matters. These current issues concern not only European citizens of course, but all citizens in the world.

## **LISTE DES PRIX**

### **Three grand prizes:**

One trip to France valued at 5,000 euros.

### **Seven second prizes:**

One trip to France valued at 2,000 euros.

### **40 third prizes:**

A luxury gift bag of French products.

# LES GAGNANTS

FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	GRADE	SCHOOL NAME	CITY	STATE
Bareah	Alam	12	Notre Dame Academy High School	Staten Island	NY
Amanda	Bakowski	11	Dominican Academy	New York	NY
Eric	Baldwin	12	Ausable Valley Central School	Clintonville	NY
Nabounou	Bamba	11	International High School at Lafayette	Brooklyn	NY
Sienna	Batzli	11	Columbia High School	Maplewood	NJ
Salomé	Bidaux	12	Lycée Français de New York	New York	NJ
Ashley	Boucher	11	Lyman Memorial High School	Lebanon	CT
Sarah	Bugai	11	Coginchaug Regional High School	Durham	CT
Julisa	Chrysafi	10	Sachem High School East	Farmingville	NY
Elizabeth	Cleveland	12	Iroquois High School	Elma	NY
Caitlin	Condit	12	Robbinsville High School	Robbinsville	NJ
Teresa	Contessa	12	Connetquot High School	Bohemia	NY
Dea Dean	Damore	12	Bay Shore High School	Bay Shore	NY
Audrey	Del Campo	10	Dunellen High School	Dunellen	NJ
David	Desrosiers	11	Regis High School	New York	NY
Mary	Eloundou	11	Ithaca High School	Ithaca	NY
Brian	Emmert	10	Garden City High School	Garden City	NY
Colby	Eugene	12	International High School at Lafayette	Brooklyn	NY
Jacob	Evelyn	12	Ithaca High School	Ithaca	NY
Dominick	Fiorentino	11	Regis High School	New York	NY
Katie	Fragoso	11	Newtown High School	Sandy Hook	CT
Isabelle	Friedman	11	Columbia High School	Maplewood	NJ

Allyson	Gambardella	9	Irvington High School	Irvington	NY
Priyanka	Goyal	9	Watchung Hills Regional High School	Warren	NJ
Sophie	Grais	11	Scarsdale High School	Scarsdale	NY
Jazmin	Graves	12	Yonkers Middle High School	Yonkers	NY
Amina	Haidar	11	Academy of American Studies	Long Island City	NY
Zachary	Hamed	11	French Institute Alliance Francaise (FIAF)	New York	NY
Rebecca	Hecht	12	Bronx High School of Science	Bronx	NY
Daniel	Holowiak	10	Archbishop Molloy High School	Briarwood	NY
Zahra	Janoowalla	10	Passaic High School	Passaic	NJ
Richard	Johnson	12	Fairfield College Preparatory	Fairfield	CT
Roy	Kennan	11	Columbia High School	Maplewood	NJ
Jacob	Levine	11	Columbia High School	Maplewood	NJ
Jonathan	Lin	12	Whippany Park High School	Whippany	NJ
Anjelica	Mantikas	10	John F. Kennedy Highschool	Bellmore	NY
Elen	Miteva	11	Bergen County Academies	Hackensack	NJ
Megan	Mohler	12	William H. Hall High School	West Hartford	CT
Anna	Olkovsky	11	Hunter College High School	New York	NY
Amanda	Ostuni	12	Half Hollow Hills High School East	Dix Hills	NY
Mallory	Parker	9	John F. Kennedy High School	Bellmore	NY
Paul	Perez	12	Lycee Francais de New York	New York	NY
Suzanna	Petot	9	Archbishop Molloy High School	Briarwood	NY
Wesley	Pierre	10	Columbia High School	Maplewood	NJ
Juhi	Purswani	11	Irvington High School	Irvington	NY
Brittany	Reed	11	Miss Porter's School	Farmington	CT
Keith	Traynor	12	Midland Park High School	Midland Park	NJ
Christine	Wernette	12	AuSable Valley Central School	Clintonville	NY
Serge	Zemerov	11	Cherry Hill East High School	Cherry Hill	NJ
Nancy	Zhang	12	Half Hollow Hills High School East	Dix Hills	NY

**FÉLICITATIONS À TOUS!**



### **PAGE HOPKINS**

Page Hopkins joined FOX News Channel (FNC) as a news reader and general assignment reporter in September 2002. Most recently, Hopkins served as an anchor for *Moneycast*, a nationally syndicated morning show on Bloomberg Television.

Prior to her stint there, she served as an anchor at News 12 New Jersey, a 24-hour cable news network. She began her career as a weekend anchor at KTVE-TV (NBC) in Monroe, LA, and then went on to become an

anchor at WWCP-TV (FOX) in Johnstown, PA.

Hopkins received her Bachelor of Arts degree in history from Wellesley College.



### **HERVÉ N. LINDER**

Hervé N. Linder is admitted to the bar in the State of New York. Mr. Linder holds a Certificate of English Legal Studies from University College London and received a J.D. in Business Law, a J.D. in Public Law from the University of Paris II-Assas, a post-graduate degree in Anglo-American Corporate Law from the University of Paris I-Sorbonne and an LL.M. from Columbia University School of Law. Hervé Linder's practice focuses on international merger and

acquisitions, private placements, investment management, immigration and naturalization law. Mr. Linder is a member of the Board of Directors of the French American Chamber of Commerce (New York Chapter), the International Association of Lawyers, the American Bar Association (Business Law and International Law and Practice Sections), the New York State (Committee on Legal Education and Admission to the Bar, International Law and Practice Section) and New York County Bar Association.



### **LEON LIVSHIN**

"I am satisfied with a recital when I feel that I've connected the audience with the composer's original state of mind," reflects pianist Leon Livshin. "Whether it's Chopin or Scriabin – it is the idiosyncrasies of the man and the times that help shape the score its interpretation." Mr. Livshin began his piano studies at age 5 at the music school for gifted children in his native Lithuania. He then studied at the Lithuanian Academy of Music and performed across Europe and

the former Soviet Union.

For his graduate studies, Mr. Livshin attended the Moscow Tchaikovsky Conservatory, following the Stuttgart Hochschule, where he received a Soloist diploma. In 1997, Mr. Livshin came to the United States on full scholarship to the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, New York, where he studied with renowned American pianist Barry Snyder. Additionally, Mr. Livshin holds a doctorate degree from the Stony Brook University.

As a soloist and chamber music player, Mr. Livshin has performed at venues such as Carnegie Hall, Alice Tully Hall, the Kennedy Center, Merkin Hall, Steinway Hall, Cologne Philharmonic, Berlin Music Hochschule, Vienna Konzerthaus, Zurich Town Hall, Moscow White Hall, and the United Nations.



### **MARIA-CRISTINA NECULA**

Writer, poet and singer, Maria-Cristina Necula was born in Bucarest, Romania and came to the United States at the age of 12. A graduate of Purchase College, she pursued her voice studies at the University of Music in Vienna, Austria. In New York City, she has performed at Carnegie Hall, Merkin Hall, Florence Gould Hall, CAMI Hall, the Romanian Consulate, and for the centennial of the Statue of Liberty. She has toured the Eastern United States with the National Theater of the

Performing Arts as the Fox in the musical "The Little Prince". In 2006, Maria Cristina released an album of her own music, lyrics and arrangements "One Millennium Before Sunrise", and in 2007 XLibris published her first volume of poems, "Shadows and Miracles".

Please visit her website at [www.mariacristinanecula.com](http://www.mariacristinanecula.com)

# ADAGIO TO EUROPE

## Soprano

Music by Didier Van Damme

Words by David Lasserre

Eu- rope we owe you peace and strength  
As both your fa- thers and your proud chil- dren  
From sor- rows has come glo- rious des- ti- ny  
Wi- thin you lies li- ber-  
ty May you  
re- main an ex- am- ple  
Of friend- ship and hope for the peo- ple of the  
world

orchestra to end

*sfz*

The musical score is written for Soprano in 4/4 time, key of B-flat major. It consists of nine staves of music. The lyrics are: 'Eu- rope we owe you peace and strength / As both your fa- thers and your proud chil- dren / From sor- rows has come glo- rious des- ti- ny / Wi- thin you lies li- ber- / ty May you / re- main an ex- am- ple / Of friend- ship and hope for the peo- ple of the / world'. The score includes a repeat sign at the beginning, a double bar line with repeat dots, and a final double bar line with repeat dots. The word 'orchestra to end' is written above the eighth staff, and the dynamic marking '*sfz*' is written below the final staff.

## REMERCIEMENTS

We would like to thank all the students and teachers who brought this contest to life with their creativity and motivation.

Thanks to all of those who helped us to make this contest possible, and in particular:

Serge Bellanger, Martin Bischoff, Olivier Cassegrain, Chantal Chauvin, David Dietsch, Nicholas Dungan, Axelle Glapa, Page Hopkins, Fabrice Jaumont, Emmanuel Lainé, David Lasserre, Pascale Richard, Kareen Rispal, Jean-Jacques de Saint-Andrieu, Irène Sawas, Marie-Monique Steckel, Antoine Treuille, Didier Van Damme, Anne-Marie Van den Broeck and Guy Yelda.

The Cultural Services of the French Embassy and the French-American Chamber of Commerce in cooperation with the French-American Foundation and the French Institute Alliance Française



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