

Final Report – Eat Your History Contest 2012



The first annual Eat Your History Contest was funded by The History Education Network and conducted by the British Columbia Food History Network (www.bcfoodhistory.ca) of which the principal members are Mary Leah de Zwart, Linda Peterat and M. Gale Smith, three home economists and food history researchers.

After receiving notification that a grant of up to \$2500 had been offered by THEN/HiER in 2011, we set out the parameters of the Eat Your History contest as follows: The contest was open to all B.C. food and nutrition students with the purpose of adding to knowledge of food history in British Columbia. Students could work individually, in partners, or in small groups (maximum of 4) at the teacher's discretion. Teachers were asked to select the top three projects per class and submit them online to bcfoodhistory@gmail.com with an accompanying cover sheet. Deadline for submission was March 31, 2012. Prizes were to be awarded as follows:

Lesson plans were prepared for teacher use and uploaded to the BC Food History website, designed and maintained by <http://www.haizumdesign.com/> [Max Hilland]. Haizum Design also updated the website and uploaded the winning entry when the contest was concluded. A rubric for the final project was also created and uploaded to the BCFH for teachers to use as they wished.

Publicity for the contest was conducted as follows:

- Gale Smith and Mary Leah de Zwart presented a workshop at the THESA [Teachers of Home Economics Specialist Association] annual conference in Victoria, BC in October, 2011.
- A flyer announcing the contest was given to each person in attendance at the THESA conference
- Reminder emails were sent out on the THESA list serve and put in the THESA newsletter

A number of enquiries were received about the contest from teachers across the province. Although the final number of entries was disappointing, the quality of the entries was good.

Judges for the contest were the three principal members of the BC Food History Network. The judges waived the honorarium and asked for the money budgeted for this item to be added to the website update.

The winners were all from Sir Winston Churchill Secondary School, Vancouver, under the sponsorship of two home economics teachers, Susan Petersen and Elizabeth McNicoll. The school won a total of \$600, \$300 for first, \$200 for second and \$100 for third place. The student winners were as follows:

First Place (\$100) – Salmon Heritage
Angela Liu, Debbie Leung, Gordon Ma, Karmen Wong



Second Place (\$75) – Eastern Europe
Isabell Doucette, Rita Mihic, Michelle Yeh



Third Place (\$50) – Tang Yuan
Lovleen Hayer, Karen Lau, Alex Yang, Wendy Yang



The winning entry can be seen at:
<http://www.wix.com/sirwinstonchurchill8/salmonheritage>



We greatly appreciate the opportunity provided by THEN/HiER to improve our website and help students and teachers learn more about British Columbia food history. We have applied for and received \$1100 from the Canadian Home Economics Foundation in order to continue the contest in the coming year, and hope to receive an additional \$700-\$800 from other sponsors so that we can

run the contest in a similar fashion to this year with more entries. Now that we have an updated website and an exemplar winning entry, we hope that more students and teachers will be encouraged to participate.