



HISTOIRES DE VIE MONTRÉAL MONTREAL LIFE STORIES

www.lifestoriesmontreal.ca

NEWSLETTER

ISSUE NO. 3

JUNE 2009

A Snapshot of May 2009

Our team has been busy preparing for the International Day for Sharing Life Stories, which was a huge success! All 100 people who attended the event were very appreciative of the wide variety of activities and workshops. The Duvalier exhibition and the screening of “Life in the Open Prison” were also very well received. Well done to everyone for all your hard work!

INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR SHARING LIFE STORIES

May 16

For the second consecutive year, The Centre for Oral History and Digital Storytelling, the Montreal Life Stories Project and their many partners celebrated the International Day for Sharing Life Stories. Many countries participated in a variety of activities ranging from theatre, dance and music to round table discussions and technical workshops.

To find out more about this event: www.ausculi.org



Round table at the International Day for Sharing Life Stories
Photos David Ward



“Theatre playback”: Nisha Sajjani and Creative Alternatives gave the interviewees an original way to reflect on their experiences.
Photo: David Ward

HAITI: DICTATORSHIP, RESISTANCE AND EXILE UNDER DUVALIER

Exhibition & Film Screenings
April 27—May 10



Frantz Voltaire leads the discussion.
Photo: David Ward

The exhibition and film projections organised by the Haitian Refugees Workgroup commemorated the experience of many Haitians who fled their country to escape the Duvalier regime. The event attracted a large number of people, and the various discussions and exchanges enabled the group to

collectively reflect on the central themes of their work. Well done to the whole team for organising this event! One visitor commented: “I warmly thank the group of persons who found that Haiti’s history deserved to be told and that took the time to arrange such a thoughtful exhibition”.

LIFE IN THE OPEN PRISON Film Screening

May 28

Presented in collaboration with the Oral History in Education workgroup, the documentary film “Life in the Open Prison” was created by a group of students from St George’s Secondary School. The film is based on interviews conducted by the students to explore the life stories of two survivors of the Cambodian genocide. The students really grasped the meaning of oral history and gave their all to this inspiring collaborative project. Congratulations to Megan Webster and her class!

CANADIAN FEDERATION FOR THE HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

Annual Congress

May 27

Davith Bolin, Gracia Jalea, Stacey Zembrzycki and Anna Sheftel presented the Montreal Life Stories Project at the annual Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences. Well done all of you!

The Interviews Continue

Up until now, almost 70 people have been interviewed: congratulations to all the interviewers and videographers!

You can always come to the Centre for Oral History and Digital Storytelling (Concordia, LB-1042) to watch the interviews that you’ve conducted as you prepare for subsequent sessions. You are also welcome to watch interviews conducted by others.

Contact Sandra Gasana to make an appointment to do so: entrevue@alcor.concordia.ca



Interview from the Cambodian working group
Photos Davith Bolin

PHOTOS

Another way to document your work: **Take photos of your interviews!** Feel free to borrow a digital camera when picking up your equipment and send us the resulting photos!

Event of the Month

} **June 13th**
Annual Project Assembly
12pm-5pm
 Côte-des-Neiges Community Centre

Training Workshops

} **Part 1: June 3rd, 6pm**
Introduction à l'histoire oral et au projet histoires de vie
 COHDS, LB-1042, Concordia

} **Part 2: June 8th, 6pm**
L'Éthique et l'écoute des survivants
 COHDS, LB-1042, Concordia

Don't forget that anyone who wishes to conduct interviews must first complete this training. This is your last chance before next Autumn!

JUNE 2009

Monday	Tuesday	Wed.	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
1	2	3 General Training Part 1	4	5	6	7
8 General Training Part 2	9	10	11 EQUITAS conference	12	13 Annual Project Assembly	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

Not to miss in June!

Annual Project Assembly

The **Annual Project Assembly** will take place on the **13th of June** at the Côte-des-Neiges Community Centre, 5347 chemin de la Côte-des-Neiges.

From 11.30am to 5pm

This is the only time of the year where all the working groups meet to exchange ideas and reflect on the accomplishments to date and the year to come. Don't miss out on this unique opportunity!



EQUITAS conference

11th June, 7:30—9:00PM

Margaret Sekagya, UN Special Rapporteur on the Situation of Human Rights Defenders will be speaking at an event sponsored by EQUITAS—International Centre for Human Rights Education and the McGill Centre for Human Rights and Legal Pluralism. Be sure not to miss this inspirational presentation and meet a group of frontline human rights defenders!

Moot Court, Faculty of Law, McGill University, 3644 Peel Street
FREE ADMISSION

SUMMER HOLIDAYS!

- The Centre for Oral History and Digital Storytelling will be closed **from the 1st to the 16th August**. We will not reply to email or the telephone during this period.

- If you need equipment to conduct interviews (camera, recorder, etc.), the group coordinators can borrow it in advance and keep it for the duration of the holiday period.

Contact Anna Sheftel: cohds@alcor.concordia.ca

REFUNDS

Please submit all invoices for refund to Eve-Lyne Cayouette-Ashby **before July 17**.

A warm welcome to all the new interns!