

International Youth Competition for Peace

The International Youth Competition for Peace, organized by France Télévisions in collaboration with UNESCO, presented three prizes on Friday, September 20, 2019.

The goal of this first edition was to educate and engage the youth for the great challenges of our world, to create peace with the weapons of creation.

On the occasion of a ceremony in the headquarters of France Télévisions, organized by the Education Unit of France Télévisions, in the presence of Mrs. Marina PICASSO, the sponsor of the competition, His Excellency LEE Byong-Hyun, President of the Executive Council of UNESCO, jury members, ambassadors or representatives of UNESCO from Canada, Benin, Lebanon, France, Belgium and Poland these have been nominated as winners of the first edition of the PEACE competition by France Télévisions / Unesco:

THE WINNERS 2019

- **DESSINER LA PAIX, LIBAN Winner 2019** with the drawing and the quote presented by the children « **Mieux Vaut Paix que Victoire** », Creation of the students of the School Saint-François of the Sisters of the Cross, Ghazir.
- **PHOTOGRAPHER LA PAIX, LIBAN Winner 2019**, for photography and quote from Gebran Kkalil Gebran « **Si autrui vous blesse, vous pouvez oublier la blessure ; mais si vous le blessez, vous vous en souviendrez toujours** ». Creation by the students of the "Collège de la Jeune Fille du Liban", Beit Hebbak, Jbeil, accompanied by their teacher.
- **FILMER LA PAIX, FRANCE Winner 2019** « **Conséquences** » Created by students who responded to the postulate, "You have 60 seconds to convince the person who will trigger the nuclear weapon to give it up."The construction of the first sundial of Vence (medical and pedagogical clinic of Unesco) was carried out by students under the supervision of their teacher of fine arts accompanied by the music teacher.

Why has the "Collège de la Jeune Fille du Liban" participated in the International Youth Competition for Peace, organized by France Televisions in collaboration with UNESCO?

While we must live the educational dimension entrusted to us by the great Master Jesus Christ to develop "man and humanity," we join in this adventure and mobilize all the forces that work with us to bring about this struggle for the better respectively.

The values of freedom and peace remain for us the guarantors of our vocation in the Orient and an ideal to strive for a coherent understanding, which is symbolic in an Orient characterized by disunity and war.

For more than 15 years our "Collège de la Jeune Fille du Liban" has been a school associated with Unesco. Ms. Layla Komeir is represented at all Unesco-organized conferences covering various topics such as sustainable development, environment, peace, etc.

It is important to mention that last year we had the honor of organizing the Cultural Week we organize in April under the auspices of UNESCO, represented by Dr. Ing. Tala Zein, Secretary-General of the Lebanese National Commission of UNESCO.

In 2019, under the supervision of their teacher of visual arts, Mr. Kamal Salameh, assisted by photographer Mr. Elie Abboud, a group of our students participated in the International Youth Competition for Peace organized by France Télévisions in collaboration with Unesco. Lebanon was the only Arab country to participate in this competition, which includes three axes inviting young people to imagine creative solutions to peace:

- DRAW PEACE
- PHOTOGRAPH PEACE
- FILM PEACE

Our students opted for the "photograph peace" axis and won the first prize for the following photo:



واجهوا الرصاص بالورود

The photo, taken by a group of 12-year-old students, Christelle Chamoun, Peter Sassine and Maria Abi Nakhoul, in a neighborhood in Amchit with a mobile phone, symbolically expresses their vision of peace. The context will help us understand their creativity.

The central element of this photo is the gun. At the front is the hand that cares for a rose. The rifle, which is a long range weapon, is used to attack the other who wears the weapon of love embodied by the rose. It is the opposite of hate / love, fear / peace, negativity / certainty, strength / weakness and bondage / freedom, etc. The illumination of this photo suggests that this contrast of which we have already spoken, between the shadow (the black) on the side of the rifle and the light (white) on the other side with the rose becomes visible.

In reality, this picture gives the impression of a conflict between war and peace. This war is inherited and passed on to the new generation, and this last fight against this situation hurts peace.

The goal of the Catholic schools is first and foremost the formation of free, autonomous citizens who are permeated by values and virtues.

In the "Collège de la Jeune Fille du Liban" of the Missionary Sisters of the Holy Sacrament, we work to ensure that moral education goes hand in hand with academic education. As active members of the world and in the world, we firmly believe that peace must be possible and accessible if we accept it today.