



Press release
For immediate release

Opération Enfant Soleil's 24th telethon: \$17,221,000 to improve the well-being of sick children

Québec, June 5, 2011 – Children and their families, presenters and artists attending Opération Enfant Soleil's 24th telethon were overjoyed when the event finished by posting a record final amount of \$17,221,000.

The telethon united the efforts of more than 1,700 volunteers, partners, artists and stage technicians at ExpoCité's Pavillon de la Jeunesse in Québec in addition to over 1,500 volunteers in 70 call centres across the province.

Annie Brocoli and Joël Legendre once again hosted this amazing event, while a seasoned group lent a hand: Alain Dumas (who celebrated his 20th year with us), Jasmin Roy, Anick Dumontet, Josée Lavigreur, Sophie Chiasson, Isabelle Cyr, Philippe Fehmiu, Louis-Georges Girard, Alex Perron, Mélanie Gagné and Claudine Prévost.

The emotional event was broadcast live for 25 hours on TVA. The personal accounts of children and underlying messages of love and hope evidently touched the public's heart, prompting a generous response to Opération Enfant Soleil's appeal. Highlights included the opening act, which was a performance by Diane Dufresne and Enfants Soleil from all the regions of Quebec. The Matinée des enfants portion of the show gave kids the chance to see some of their favourite stars, including Arthur L'aventurier, Théo, Shilvi and Toc Toc Toc. The closing acts included uplifting performances by artists such as Jean-Pierre Ferland and Ginette Reno.

Presented by Desjardins, the Enfant Soleil Jeunes Espoirs Competition gave young talents the opportunity to sing in front of an audience. Claudia Marsian from Lavaltrie (winner of the 12–15-year-old category), Véronique Rivard from Verdun (winner of the 16–21-year-old category) and Rebecca Leclerc from Chicoutimi (winner of the singer-songwriter competition) all received \$1,000 prizes from Desjardins. Thanks to Musicor, Claudia will be able to record her song in a professional studio and have it distributed by Select Digital.

On behalf of Quebec's sick children, Opération Enfant Soleil would like to thank our generous partners: RE/MAX, Walmart, Costco, Sears, Familiprix, Énergie Cardio, TELUS, Le SuperClub Vidéotron, TD, BMR and the Groupe Nero Bianco.

About Opération Enfant Soleil

Opération Enfant Soleil is a non-profit organization that was founded in 1988. Its mission is to support the development of high-quality paediatrics and to contribute to social health projects for all the children in Quebec.

With its financial contributions, Opération Enfant Soleil helps major paediatric centres and regional hospitals to acquire the latest technology in order to provide sick children with the best possible care adapted to their needs. The funds are also used to provide hospitalized children with environments that help their recovery, thereby improving their quality of life during their stay.

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Source
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