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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## ***Roch Carrier Short Story Award Launched Nationally!***

*“Bilingualism is not only an advantage; it’s also part of the great Canadian mosaic.”*

*Roch Carrier*

Previously only offered to SEVEC exchange participants, the Roch Carrier Short Story Award is going national for the first time this year! Students 15-17 years of age across the country are invited to send in a short story, in any genre, that celebrates Canadian identity, history or culture.

What makes this contest different from every other short story contest out there? At least 100 words of every story must be written in the participant’s second official language, making the Roch Carrier Short Story Award the only bilingual short story contest in Canada.

“We developed this award to showcase the writing talents of youth across Canada, and to provide students with a creative opportunity to practice their second official language,” says Laurie Clement, Executive Director of the Society for Educational Visits and Exchanges Canada (SEVEC).

The contest opens on April 1<sup>st</sup> and closes on June 1<sup>st</sup>, and includes prizes such as a trip to Ottawa and meeting Roch Carrier, renowned Canadian author of *The Hockey Sweater*. The winner will also get a personally autographed copy of his book, as well as publication of the winning entry!

*For more than 70 years, SEVEC has been connecting youth across Canada through its exchanges program, facilitating growth in language, culture, appreciation of diversity and the development of Canadian identity.*

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Official contest site: [www.rochcarrier.ca](http://www.rochcarrier.ca)