

NEWSLETTER

LEA ROBACK FOUNDATION



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SPECIAL 20th anniversary

News bulletin, Lea Roback Foundation
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Twenty years of scholarships: twenty years of hope

2013, will mark twenty years since the launch of the Lea Roback Foundation. An anniversary that we're planning to honour in a variety of ways.

Initially, wasn't the notion of creating such a Foundation to mark Lea's ninetieth birthday a little bit off the wall? A Foundation whose mission would be awarding scholarships to women who are economically disadvantaged and active in their community? We really started from scratch. But thanks to the unwavering commitment of a bunch of women working together on the Board of Directors and the consistent generosity of several hundred donors, this project not only saw the light of day, but is still going strong some 20 years later.

Moreover: awareness regarding the Foundation has grown and we can be very proud today of being able to count upon Partners and Major Partners whose more substantial contributions have enabled the Foundation to expand the kinds of actions that are now possible. Without mentioning the bequests that we are now receiving.

A scholarship for all these women has represented an opportunity to realize a dream, to build a better life, to carry through with a commitment.

The Foundation which was set up and offered as a gift to Lea Roback 20 years ago not only keeps her memory alive and recalls her contribution to building Quebec society, but it also provides a

vehicle for advancing the values that she cherished: the right to an education, the equality of women and social justice.

We can be proud.

Proud of the inspiration provided by Lea; proud of the solidarity that has been generated; proud of the hopes that have been turned into

achievements. **Thank** you to each and every one of you, over all these years, for your commitment and your donations, for your support of the Foundation. **Bravo** to all those women that the Foundation has had the honour to assist in their academic development.

Lorraine Pagé, President

Over the past 20 years, 186 scholarships worth more than a quarter of a million dollars have been granted to women who have thus been able to give shape to their hopes and dreams.



Scholarship awards ceremony in November 2007, recipients and board members.

20th anniversary events : March to November 2013

La Déposition d'Hélène Pedneault

Hélène Pedneault was an admirer of Lea Roback and a great friend of the Foundation that she named as her universal legatee. What better way to launch our celebrations of the Foundation's 20th anniversary than an event that would bring these two extraordinary individuals together through the magic of theatre!

This will all be made possible thanks to the involvement and generosity of Danielle Drolet from the Théâtre *L'Essence des mots*.

The play entitled *La Déposition* d'Hélène Pedneault, which is celebrating its own 25th anniversary, will be staged at the *Expo Théâtre de la Visitation*, 814 route de l'Église, Quebec City. Performances will take place on Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings, at 20:00, from March 14 to March 30. On **March 21**, a fundraising gala for the Foundation will be held. Half of the \$40 ticket price will be remitted to the Foundation.

A special invitation is hereby launched to all of Lea's friends in the greater Quebec City area who have seldom had the opportunity to participate in our fundraising activities, as they have primarily been organized in Montreal.

You may reserve your tickets at info@fondationlearoback.org, or call (514) 606-1103 prior to March 18.

Your tickets will be given to you when you get to the theatre on the night of the performance that you choose to attend. But hurry: the theatre is small and the number of seats limited.



Lea Roback's Montreal

In order to pay a special tribute to the role played by the many women who have been active on the Foundation's Board of Directors and to celebrate the achievements of our scholarship recipients, the Foundation will be organizing a bus tour next April that will pass through some of the Montreal streets where Lea Roback made her mark. The workers from the Maison Parent-Roback will also be invited to attend this special activity. It will all be followed by a Happy Hour at the Maison Parent-Roback, a site that was close to the hearts of both Lea and Madeleine. Without a doubt, this illustrious twosome will be there with us, united once again in our memories and in our hearts!

20th Anniversary Closing Ceremony, an unprecedented event

Sunday, November 3, 2013 at 14:00

A tribute to women rebels who, like Lea Roback, paved the way for us to follow in their footsteps. Marrying lyrics and music, rebellion and good times, this special event will be taking place at the Corona theatre in the neighbourhood where Lea led many valiant struggles. A fundraising event with the proceeds going to the Lea Roback Foundation.

Program

Part One: A Duty to Remember

Artist friends will read various texts written by women rebels from the XVIII- XIX - XX Centuries, from Olympe de Gouges to Lea Roback.

Part Two: Music to lift your spirits

Les Imposteurs, four musicians, four voices that boldly move from yesterday's music to what we listen to today.

Please stay tuned, via our Web site, over the next few months for all the details.

20 years of scholarships... and, it's far from over

Lea endowed us with a mission to help women improve their situation through study and education. Lea would be proud of the path that has been taken. Since 1994, the year that the first scholarship was awarded, the Foundation has provided a modest financial boost and encouraged some 164 women, a few having received more than one scholarship, to pursue their studies.

And obviously the job is not over. We are currently in the midst of soliciting this year's applicants, given that the deadline is April 2, 2013.

And, this year, there's something new. The Foundation has created two scholarships, valued at \$1,000 each, one named after Madeleine Parent and the other after Hélène Pedneault. These scholarships will be awarded to women who pursue their studies in areas that were at the heart of the concerns and interests of these two great friends of the Foundation and thus seeks to honour their memory and pay tribute to their contribution to the Foundation.

To find out more about the 2013-2014 scholarships

<http://www.fondationlearoback.org/scholar.htm>

Madeleine Parent

It's been one year already that Madeleine Parent took her final leave from the field of struggle and solidarity. At the time of her passing, many people recounted the influence that she had had upon their own feminist, union and social commitment and the evolution of Quebec society.

A big thank you to all those people who came out to celebrate her many struggles and achievements. A big thank you as well to all those individuals who, wishing to honour her memory, made a donation, at the time, to the Lea Roback Foundation.

Madeleine Parent played a key role at the Foundation's birth and remained a close ally up until the end. She put in countless hours and was an unwavering donor. We still fondly remember her.

In our memories, Lea Roback and Madeleine Parent, dear friends and dedicated comrades-in-arms, forever united.



Great Partners of the Foundation:

the Confederation of Canadian Unions (CCU)
the Centrale des syndicats du Québec (CSQ);
the Confédération des syndicats nationaux (CSN);
the Fédération interprofessionnelle de la santé du Québec (FIQ);
the Syndicat des fonctionnaires municipaux de Montréal (SCFP);
la Congrégation des Sœurs de Saint-Joseph de Saint-Hyacinthe;
as well as two foundations and one friend who wish to remain anonymous.

Partners of the Foundation:

the Caisse d'économie solidaire Desjardins;
the Comité de condition féminine of the Syndicat des Métallos (FTQ);
the Fédération autonome de l'enseignement;
the Fédération des travailleurs et travailleuses du Québec (FTQ);
the Syndicat de la fonction publique du Québec (SFPO);
the Syndicat des conseillères et conseillers de la CSQ,
Fonds de solidarité;
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Ms Laura Alper;
Ms Suzanne Bélanger;
Ms Lucille Panet-Raymond;