

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Team Canada takes 1st place in chocolate and places 9th overall at the World Pastry Cup.

Lyon, France – January 25, 2005 - Le Cordon Bleu Paris Ottawa announced that it's Head Pastry Chef, Laurent Pages who captained Team Canada for the 2005 World Pastry Cup in Lyon, France last week brought home a first place trophy in the Chocolate Competition and placed a very respectable 9th overall against the Worlds top 20 Pastry Teams.

Chef Pages is also Executive Pastry Chef at the critically acclaimed four-diamond restaurant, Signatures @ Le Cordon Bleu Paris located in the Ottawa campus. Born in Paris, but trained in Beziers, France, Chef Pages had extensive experience in Europe before immigrating to Canada in 1996 where he opened Fouquet's in Montreal.

Montreal Chefs Christophe Morel and Vi Minh Tran teamed with Chef Pages to represent Canada in the competition. Christophe Morel is a co-owner and chocolatier for ChocoZ based in Montreal. A native of Paris, he ran two chocolate making businesses before coming to Canada. Vi Minh Tran, originally from Vietnam, arrived in Canada as a child after the Vietnam War. Growing up in Montreal, he began working in patisseries. He currently works at Patisserie La Gascogne. Le Cordon Bleu Master Sculptor/Instructor Armando Baisas, 1997 ice-carving World Champion and 4-time Winterlude Champion has been coaching Vi Minh Tran.

Team Canada has paired up with the world-renowned Cirque de Soleil who advised them on their designs. Cirque du Soleil had been creating computer-animated designs at the team's practice facilities in Montreal where the team had been training since July 2003.

The World Pastry Cup is considered to be the top international competition in the world of pastry and takes place in conjunction with its culinary counterpart, the Bocuse d'Or. Teams from twenty nations competed for the illustrious title of World Pastry Champions.

Congratulations Team Canada!

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Contact:

Tony Garcia - Marketing
LE CORDON BLEU PARIS
Ottawa Culinary Arts Institute
453 Laurier Avenue East
Ottawa, Ontario K1N 6R4
Phone: 613-236-2433
tgarcia@cordobleu.edu
www.cordobleu.edu

