

MANITOU CARES 2022

Each summer we have a theme for the summer that campers and staff will talk and learn about, and express themselves through speaking, singing, or acting at our Friday Night Fireside. One of our favourite themes of the past was “Its ok to fail”. This year’s theme is “GROW THROUGH WHAT YOU GO THROUGH”. We are delighted to have the Simon Wiesenthal Centre provide us with three wonderful speakers and programs for the summer that will enable staff and campers to embrace this theme. Thank you to the Simon Wiesenthal Centre for working so hard and caring so much, as once again it has given us an opportunity to inculcate core values to our campers and staff. This theme is really about empowerment, and resilience and using our experiences and passions to truly make a positive difference in this world.

Our first speaker in early July will be from the **Simon Wiesenthal Center** itself and will be speaking about inspiring and empowering our community to never stand by and to raise their voices and taking against hate and intolerance. They will be focusing on human rights and what that truly means in our day to day lives. What is even more incredible is that they are bringing up their “Tour for Humanity Bus” and we hope to get as many Manitou campers as possible on the bus Friday Night and all-day Saturday. This bus has visited schools across the country and many adult institutions as well. In fact, some police constables in Western Canada said that the ‘tour of humanity’ presentation changed their lives for the positive and in turn made them better at their jobs. To learn more about this click on <http://www.tourforhumanity.com/>.

Thanks to the generosity of the Simon Wiesenthal Centre, for Second Session we are privileged to welcome **Emanuel Jol** to speak. Emmanuel started his life as a child soldier in the war-torn region of Southern Sudan in the early 1980s. He eventually was rescued and despite his suffering, has become a successful and acclaimed recording artist and peace ambassador. His live appearances have included Live 8, Nelson Mandela’s 90th Birthday Concert and the One Concert for his Holiness the Dalai Lama. He has collaborated and performed alongside artists such as Lauryn Hill, Xavier Rudd, Peter Gabriel, Nelly Furtado, Ed Sheeran, and Alicia Keys.

Drawing on his personal experiences, he speaks and performs with a strong message of reconciliation and peace, and has addressed the **UN, US Congress, the Carter Centre** and the very highest level of several governments. Emmanuel co-starred with **Reese Witherspoon** in the Warner Brothers motion picture, ***The Good Lie*** which tells the story about the journey of four Sudanese refugees who win a lottery for relocation to the United States.

As well, during our Second Session for we have our ‘Walk of Hope’. We are thrilled to announce that our speaker for this year’s evening will be **Hannah Alper**. At the age of nine, Hannah launched her blog, ‘Call Me Hannah’, to share her growing concern for environmental issues and show that small, everyday actions can lead to big change. Today, at 17-years-old, she has emerged as an activist, impassioned public speaker and author. Hannah uses her voice and platform to motivate and empower people of all ages to identify their passion and act to help build a better world.