8. How will my work be evaluated?

The Heritage Fair program at the classroom and school level is an important part of the student's curriculum. The teacher, in introducing the program, will also give directions about the criteria that will be used for evaluation and any classroom marks, and qualifications the school will use for participation in the Regional Heritage Fair.

At the Regional Heritage Fair, students may choose whether or not they want their project judged. Some students choose to just participate in the regional fair. Those students who wish to be considered for additional opportunities are required to go through the judging process.

The judging process is meant to be a positive process where students have an opportunity to tell their stories, explain their projects and receive positive feedback on how they might improve their work.

The judging process at the regional fair involves several steps.

- 1) All students are interviewed by community judges, have an opportunity to share their work and receive feedback. All students are invited to participate in the regional fair activities and receive a certificate of participation.
- 2) The top fifty percent of the projects (approximately) are judged a second time by a committee of teachers, teacher-librarians and/or principals. Some of these students will receive an invitation to display their projects at other venues (Art Gallery, Museum, Canada Day, etc.).
- 3) The top twenty percent of the students (approximately) are interviewed by a committee of educators. Some of these students will receive a gold medal, Laurier Medal or a special invitation to participate in programs like the SEVEC Youth Exchange.
- 4) The top five to ten students are re-interviewed with specific parent consent and required references. From this group of students participants in the national fair will be chosen.

NOTE: Specific judging criteria is found in the Teachers' Resource Manual on pages 30 through 34.