

# The Concerned Kids Charity of Toronto

Fall/Winter 2011 Newsletter

## Our Upcoming Presentations:

- January 11, 2012:  
General Mercer PS
- January 12, 2012:  
Charles G. Fraser PS
- January 19, 2012:  
Flemington PS
- January 26, 2012:  
St. Jane Frances CS

## *Happy Holidays!*

The Concerned Kids are in full swing of our 2011-2012 presentation season! We are happy to offer our important messages about issues such as bullying, peer pressure, violence, and diversity to the children and youth of Toronto.

Recently, we took part in the children's program at [The Teresa Group](#), which is a community-based organization that serves children affected by HIV and AIDS and their families.

The Concerned Kids is thankful for the dedicated and enthusiastic group of volunteers and Board members, without whom, we would not be able to provide our programs—Thank you!

## Introducing: Wayson Choy

The Concerned Kids is proud to welcome Canadian author Wayson Choy as an Honorary member of our Board of Directors. Mr. Choy, a nationally acclaimed author and member of the Order of Canada, is the author of: *The Jade Peony*, *All That Matters*, *Paper Shadows*, and *Not Yet: A memoir of Living and Almost Dying*.

The Concerned Kids welcome Mr. Choy to our organization.



## Bullying in the News

Bullying is the big news item recently, with Facebook, UFC, and celebrities taking part in the focus on anti-bullying programs. [Public Safety Canada](#) reports: "A Canadian study using behavioural observation of children interacting at school revealed that bullying on the playground occurs **once every seven minutes** in primary grades. While classrooms had a more pro-social atmosphere, the rate of bullying was still quite high at once every 25 minutes." In a recent [UFC event at the Rogers Centre](#), one fighter said: "We've all been picked on or made to feel small. But to inflict that on someone else ... is something that has to be stopped." Facebook recently came on board with their "Stop Bullying: Speak Up" [app](#).



These initiatives are important to address and prevent bullying situations. The Concerned Kids' *Bullying & School Safety* program addresses the key aspects of bullying and prevention. The program works to model appropriate behaviour, defines the difference between tattling and reporting, and explores the idea of school safety, all of this is done through the creative and interactive medium of puppetry. We all need to work together to solve social issues such as bullying, and make a difference in the lives of children and youth.

# Thank You to Our Supporters!

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And thank you to many other generous individuals and organizations from the community.

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the board of directors, Guestlogix INC.

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Principal, HighQLife

Honorary Board Member: **Wayson Choy**



## How to get involved with The Concerned Kids

There are many ways to get involved during the holiday season and beyond. The Concerned Kids is currently offering volunteer opportunities in two fields:

### Puppeteers:

The Concerned Kids will be beginning training in early January 2012. We are looking for volunteers who are enthusiastic, willing to learn, and looking to help children and youth through the creative medium of puppetry. Training will run once a week for 7 weeks. For more information, please visit our website.

### Board Membership:

We are currently looking for 1-2 members for our Board of Directors.

If you, or someone you know is interested in either of these opportunities, please feel free to contact us.



**Please feel to contact us with questions, comments or to attend a presentation!**

The Concerned Kids  
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Or on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Youtube](#)!

*Wishing you a safe and happy holiday season!*