

Purdy students bring back the honours

Students from The Purdy Center for the Arts performed well at the recent competition. Shown are (front, l to r) Damien Zicaro, Alex Vranjic, Francesco Salerno, Joseph Isgro, Emma Bresil, Ezio Van-Rooyen Laurini, (2nd row) Deanna Fiorante, Aaren Zicaro, Teya Fiorante, Zackary Theriault, (back row) Sensei Blair Purdy, Sensei Marc Theriault.

Students from the Purdy Center for the Arts participated in the 28th Annual CNGK Championships in Elora April 14.

It was a competitive day with more than 100 martial artists from varying GoJu styles there to test their skills at the tournament.

Sensei Blair Purdy, who is the head instructor at the PCFA, prepared 11 of his students who brought back seven 1st-place standings; three 2nd-place standings and five 3rd-place standings for a combined 15 honors for the day.

There were 12 divisions offered for the different ranks and ages including Kumite (sparring), Kata (forms) and Kobudo (weapons).

The placings were as follows:

Marc Theriault, Schomberg, 1st place, kumite; Zackary Theriault, Schomberg, 1st place, kumite; Deanna Fiorante, Schomberg, 1st place, kata; Teya Fiorante, Schomberg, 1st place, kata; Alex Vranjic, Schomberg, 1st place, kumite and 3rd place kata; Damien Zicaro, King, 1st place, kumite, 3rd place, kata; Francesco Salerno, King City, 1st place, kata, 2nd place, kumite, 2nd place, kobudo; Emma Bresil, Schomberg, 1st place, kobudo, 2nd place, kata, 3rd place, kumite; Ezio Van Rooyen Laurini, Schomberg, 2nd place, kumite; Joseph Isgro, King City, 2nd place, kumite; Aaren Zicaro, King, 3rd place, kumite, 3rd place, kata.

The Purdy Center for the Arts is part of the Canadian Naha-Te GoJu Karate Association (www.cngk.ca) and is proud to take part in the tournaments and seminars made available to the school. Although Sensei Blair holds a second degree black belt in Goju Ryu Karate, he pushes his curriculum at the PCFA with the influences of kung fu, boxing, and mixed martial arts. The school is in its 9th year in King Township, and will be doing a martial arts demonstration early in the afternoon on Saturday, May 25 at the Schomberg Fair. For any information regarding classes please call 905-751-0812 or check the website www.purdycenter.com.