



The annual OBEA Student Awards Luncheon was held on Saturday, October 3, 2015, in Toronto. This year, we had 59 award winners from 15 Contests. Their names and schools are posted at www.obea.ca. The Student Awards Luncheon was a memorable and celebratory afternoon for students, parents, family, friends, and teachers. Our keynote speaker was Elyse Booth, who is an award-winning, Google Virtual-Tour Specialist and business owner of Shutter Fotos. Her presentation entitled, "It All Starts With Toast," was well received by the audience.

The OBEA Contests give Ontario Business Studies students an opportunity to use their talents and abilities, and be recognized for their commitment to academic excellence. The students' efforts from throughout the province were truly commendable. OBEA has a dedicated team of volunteer Contest Chairs who generously donate many hours of their time to designing Contests and evaluating students' work. Please note the following:

- As I have moved to my new role as Contest Coordinator, Debralee Lloyd-Graham will be the Contest Chair for Desktop Publishing Sr. for next year.
- Amul Gandhi, who is a teacher with York Region DSB, joins us as the new Contest Chair for the Sports, Entertainment, and Fashion Marketing Contest for next year.
- The submission dates for ongoing Contests vary. Please refer to the dates on the OBEA Website.
- Teachers must submit entries for ongoing Contests directly to the Contest Chair, not the District or Regional Councillor.
- The online Accounting Contests, sponsored by CPA, will run a practice session for students one week prior to the Contest. Visit the OBEA Website for updates.
- Winning entries for all OBEA Contests will be verified to ensure that there is an active OBEA member in the school. Please ensure that this membership is active so that your students qualify. You can register a new or update an existing membership online with a credit card payment.

The 2015-2016 Contest Handbook will be posted on the OBEA Website, www.obea.ca. Please review any Contest changes to avoid confusion for the students. Stay tuned for more information. OBEA encourages you to have your students participate in the many Contests available, and perhaps we will see you at the Awards Luncheon in the fall of 2016. If you have any questions, please contact the appropriate Contest Chair or the Contest Coordinator.

Please contact Emily Marotta-Kulcsar, if you are interested in getting involved with the OBEA Contests, at emilia.marotta-kulcsar@yrdsb.ca or **(905) 887-2216**. This is a great way to get involved in a professional organization, such as OBEA, supporting Business teachers and our students!

Thank you for your continuing support and promotion of both Business Studies and OBEA

Emily Marotta-Kulcsar, Contest Coordinator