

# Children of the Explosion



**Proposed participation of École St. Joseph's Alexander McKay School  
in the 100 Year Anniversary Commemoration of the  
Halifax Explosion**

# Children of the Explosion Remembrance, Resilience and Pulling Together



Children stand in front of destroyed North End houses



**SJAM**

# History

- ◉ We are historical. Established in 1867, destroyed on December 6, 1917
- ◉ The school building was built as part of reconstruction in 1919
- ◉ Generations of students have attended the school over the past 96 years



St. Joseph's orphanage and school (behind) on Gottingen at Kaye



NS Archives News reel of St. Joseph's A. McKay



Class of 1958

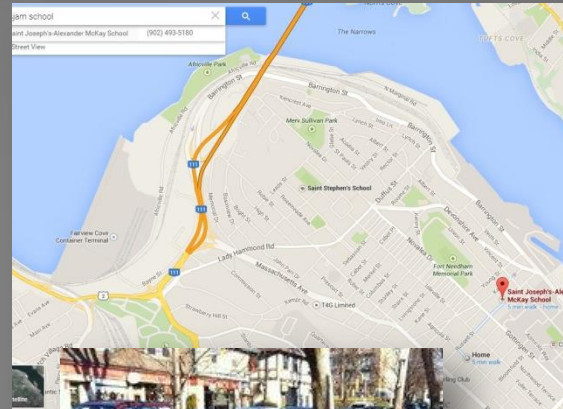
# History





# Central

- St Joseph's Alexander McKay is located on Russell Street
- Within view of the Hydrostone Market and the Reconstruction offices
- Next to Needham Hill
- Beside the United Memorial Church



# Children then and now



## Teaching and sharing

- Giving the children a meaningful way to process the event
- Representing and bringing together diverse groups
- Forming ties in the community

# Community

- St Joseph's Alexander McKay is very involved with our community
- Great hosts
- Experienced in producing meaningful projects





# Projects



**St Joseph's Alexander McKay** Has been involved in public performances, art and community projects such as the 4Cs Community Compass, 2012-2112 Future Oceans, and our SJAM Community Playspace, and the Hydrostone Tree Lighting

## We have worked with:

- Halifax planning department
  - 4Cs Foundation
  - Hydrostone Market Association
  - Ecology Action Centre
  - Big Brother Big Sisters
  - T4G
  - Halifax Port Authority, Irving Inc, WDCL
  - Sobey's/Empire
  - And always our local councillors and community.
- We have worked with budgets from \$0 to \$30,000 to \$135,000



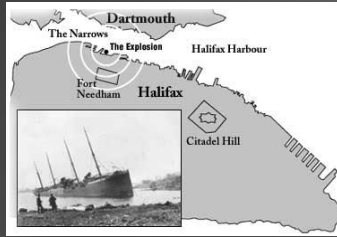


# Children of the Explosion Remembrance, Resilience and Pulling Together



Fundamental Forces

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## We can contribute:

- Our students' actual presence at any given event (in whole or part of the student body),
- Projects for display
- Our school as a venue
- Performances
- A social media presence (blogs all year leading up to the date), Twitter campaigns, etc

## Possible Opportunities:

- **Tours of the building** with a history of the architect and how much it cost to make it who paid and how many children have attended St J A McKay
- Family tree **genealogy** showing where we came from and tracking several survivors
- Projects on **chemistry and physics** showing the HFX explosion (man made munitions) as compared to natural disaster like earth quakes and volcanic eruptions. Also how explosions work.
- Projects on **cartography**
- Projects about the **harbor and harbor activity in 1917 and now**
- Projects involving **Art, music and theatre**
- Projects about **people working together around the world** to help each other and ways we can do that abroad and at home.
- **100 stories of resilience** success and survival from 100 alumni...Or North End residents?

## Fundamental Forces



# Children of the Explosion Remembrance, Resilience and Pulling Together Thank You



**SJAM**