



## **Kitchener-Waterloo Oktoberfest Idol Crowned**

(Kitchener-Waterloo, Canada – October 8, 2011) – The judges have spoken – **CASSANDRA HODGINS**, 16, of London, was named the 2011 Oktoberfest Idol winner today at Kitchener-Waterloo Oktoberfest. In a search that consisted of both singing and dancing talent!

Cassandra has also won the Western Fair Talent Show in 2010 and has performed in other musical theatre.

The search for the best singing or dancing performance was held this afternoon at the Conrad Centre for the Performing Arts, where audiences enjoyed performances from the top 20 contestants vying for the title of Oktoberfest Idol. The Oktoberfest Idol winner received \$1,000 in cash. The 1<sup>st</sup> runner up was Juliana Damiao, and the 2<sup>nd</sup> runner up was Nate Hall.

For aspiring singers or dancers under the age of 14, a Junior Idol Competition was also held. The Junior Idol received \$250 cash. The talented **Alyssa Trask**, 12, of Waterloo was named this year's Kitchener-Waterloo Oktoberfest Junior Idol Winner.

In addition to the Junior Oktoberfest Idol title, Alyssa has also won Star Power World Championship in Orlando in July 2011 and Miss Dance Canada and Miss Dancefest.

Winners in each category will also introduce their newly acquired "Idol" status at the Kitchener-Waterloo Oktoberfest Thanksgiving Day Parade on Monday, October 10<sup>th</sup>; which is televised on CTV at 12:00 pm. They will also appear on stage at the Downtown Willkommen Platz.

Oktoberfest Idol 2011 is proudly supported by 91.5 The Beat, Cambridge & K-W Mitsubishi, the Downtown Kitchener Business Improvement Area, and the Renaissance School of the Arts.

### **About Kitchener-Waterloo Oktoberfest**

Kitchener-Waterloo Oktoberfest is a not-for-profit Bavarian festival founded in 1969 by a group of volunteers committed to contributing to the social and economic vitality of Kitchener-Waterloo, Canada twin cities with German heritage. Canada's Greatest Bavarian Festival celebrates German heritage, food, music and festivities and is supported by more than 40 not-for-profit organizations. The festival is operated by eight year-round full-time staff, over 495 volunteers and 1,300 community and service club volunteers that stage the nine-day festival each October promoting a unique German cultural experience. As well as the economic boost the festival gives the local economy during the international festival, over \$1.5 million is raised each year by the not-for-profit organizations associated with Kitchener-Waterloo Oktoberfest, one of the top three most recognized event brands in Canada.

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**For additional information:**

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