



## The Caisse d'Épargne sponsors the *Prix Découvertes* award-giving ceremony during the Angoulême International Comic Book Festival

(Paris, January 30, 2009) --- The Caisse d'Épargne sponsored the award-giving ceremony organized for the *Prix Découvertes* ("Discovery Prizes") on Thursday, January 29 within the framework of the Angoulême International Comic Book Festival. These prizes are given in recognition of the early achievements of authors at the beginning of their professional careers, of artists chosen by young readers and, more generally, in recognition of the work of budding talent.

Several prizewinners were distinguished by these "Discovery Prizes" presented during the 36<sup>th</sup> Angoulême International Comic Book Festival.

### ■ The prizes awarded by the National Schools Comic Book competition

The National Schools Comic Book competition has been organized over the past 26 years by the Caisse d'Épargne, which is particularly keen to encourage the awakening of young people's creative talents through the organization and promotion of this competition. Thanks to its sponsorship in this area, the French savings banks allow a wide-ranging public to understand, appreciate and become better acquainted with comic books and graphic novels but also (for the more dedicated enthusiasts) to become more proficient in comic book production techniques.

- **Angoulême Schools Comic Book Prize, awarded to Vincent CAUT** (16), a student at the Jacques Amyot Lycée in Melun (Seine-et-Marne *département*) and whose plate entitled *Petits-Pois Man* ("Pea Man") won the unanimous approval of the selection panel.
- **Prize for "Best Graphic Art," awarded to Timothée BART** (15), a student at the Sacré Cœur private middle school in Rouen (Seine-Maritime *département*) for his 2 plates entitled *Une époustouflante aventure de Tim & Chouki* ("An amazing adventure for Tim & Chouki").
- **Prize for "Best Scenario," awarded to Arthur PASCAL** (10), a student at the Ambarès primary school in Ambarès (Gironde *département*) for his plates entitled *Et si c'était mieux avant ?* ("And what if things were better before?").
- **Prize for "Humor," awarded to Léopold BENSAID** (12), a student at the Chênevreux middle school in Nanterre (Hauts-de-Seine *département*) for his plate entitled *Hector le Chevalier* ("Hector the Knight"). This prize is jointly sponsored by the Caisse d'Épargne and by the satirical magazine *Fluide Glacial*, which will be inviting the prizewinner to spend a day discovering the magazine's editorial offices.
- **The Young Talent Prize**, sponsored by the Caisse d'Épargne, was awarded to **Clément PAURD** (24) for his plates entitled *La trêve* ("The truce"). This prize is awarded to an author who has not yet had any of his or her works published.

- **The *Essentiel Jeunesse* (Essential Youth) prize**, sponsored by the Caisse d'Epargne and awarded to the best Young People's comic book of the year, was awarded to the graphic novel *Le Petit Prince* ("The Little Prince"), by Joann Sfar, published by Gallimard.

*Photos of plates from the graphic novels are available upon request.*

*All the latest news about the Caisse d'Epargne and graphic novels can be consulted on the [www.mundo-bd.fr](http://www.mundo-bd.fr) website.*

**The Caisse d'Epargne and comic books:**

*Since 1984, the Caisse d'Epargne, the No. 1 bank for young people, has been promoting the "9<sup>th</sup> art" of graphic novels. The partnership with the Angoulême International Comic Book Festival and the large number of regional events are eloquent proof of this commitment.*

*With the organization of the national schools comic book competition and of the "Gang of Talents" operation, and the sponsorship of different prizes awarded by the Festival (Young Talents, Essential Youth), the Caisse d'Epargne confirms its commitment to fostering budding creativity and providing its support to the emergence of young talent.*

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