



ACHIEVE
LEAD
REMEMBER
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INSPIRE
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ENJOY
MERIT
EXCELLENCE
honesty
awesome
honour

2026

Division Student Awards

HONOURING STUDENT EXCELLENCE



EDMONTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AWARD

The Division Academic Excellence Award is open to Grade 12 students who demonstrate overall exceptional academic achievement in a range of subjects in International Baccalaureate, Advanced Placement or regular programming.

Calli Martin

Academy at King Edward

Calli applied herself with vigor and persistence in every course she undertook. Her ability to manage and organize multiple responsibilities allowed her to pursue numerous extracurricular activities, including student leadership, the Grad Council, volunteering in an elementary school classroom, and being actively involved in her broader community. Calli planned to attend the University of Alberta to pursue studies in education. Her dedication to her classes, alongside her ability to accept constructive feedback and reflect on her practices, promise to take her far in her post-secondary studies and beyond. It was an absolute pleasure to nominate Calli for the Academic Excellence Award.

Muskan Jiwa

Argyll Centre

Muskan was an extraordinary student and individual. Her academic success was rooted in intrinsic motivation, intellectual curiosity and a deep commitment to meaningful learning. As a thoughtful and engaged learner, Muskan regularly explored topics beyond the standard curriculum and contributed actively to class discussions. She consistently supported her fellow students and contributed to a safe, engaging learning environment. Beyond her academic contributions, she applied these same strengths to foster a caring and connected school community; Muskan took on a voluntary leadership role in the student-led newsletter, coordinating contributions from the student body that built a profound sense of connection within the school. Muskan's academic excellence was beautifully matched by a deep sense of responsibility to her peers and community.

Shania Larocque

Braemar

Shania excelled in all of her coursework and proved herself to be a resilient and successful learner at Braemar. With a tenacious work ethic, she established herself as a strong, focused and independent student who embraced new subjects with confidence. Throughout her studies, she took great responsibility for her academic path and demonstrated a remarkable ability to overcome the obstacles she faced in her learning. Shania's continued focus on high achievement and her strong determination served her exceptionally well in her academic life. She embraced a competitive spirit that will undoubtedly serve as a valuable asset as she enters the post-secondary and professional world.

Kai Tak

Centre High Campus

Kai was an outstanding student, consistently achieving exceptional marks in challenging, senior-level courses. Throughout his high school years at Centre High Campus, he unfailingly exceeded expectations. Kai demonstrated diligence, motivation and a strong commitment to his work, earning the profound respect of both his teachers and his peers. He earned acceptance into the Faculty of Science to pursue a Bachelor of Science degree at MacEwan University. There is no doubt whatsoever that Kai will find continued success in all of his future endeavors.

Rahi Patel

Dr. Anne Anderson

Rahi was a highly motivated student with a strong work ethic and profound intellectual curiosity, remaining resilient and adaptable across numerous academic pursuits. She worked with diligence and tenacity across a variety of Advanced Placement subjects, spanning the fields of both STEM and the humanities. Furthermore, she effectively balanced her extracurricular involvements, rigorous academics and employment as a tutor, supporting fellow students who shared similar ambitions of excellence and mastery. Rahi exemplified the belief that the significance of knowledge lies not merely in its acquisition, but in its thoughtful and purposeful application to support and empower others—a conviction, alongside her unrelenting perseverance and dedication, that will certainly guide her success in the years ahead.

Mutayeb Shiekh

Eastglen

Mutayeb was a dedicated student whose academic journey was defined by a relentless pursuit of depth and mastery. He carried the mindset of a true innovator who refused to settle for surface-level understanding, actively shaping his learning environment by engaging instructors with insightful questions. He ensured he grasped the “why” behind every complex concept and when faced with difficult material, he revisited and mastered the subject through disciplined persistence. Beyond his intellectual drive, Mutayeb was grounded by a strong moral compass. He deeply valued the integrity of his work, choosing fairness and honesty even when easier shortcuts were available, and recognized that true success was built on respect for himself and his peers. His journey was one of immense resilience—turning academic uncertainty into an opportunity for growth. By remaining resourceful and adaptable, Mutayeb proved that persistence is the key to making a lasting impact in the world.

Kaelan Ondrack

Edmonton Christian High

Kaelan was remarkably consistent in the level of academic excellence he exhibited throughout his time at Edmonton Christian High School. He was equally adept across various subject disciplines and exhibited all the habits of a dedicated and conscientious student. Kaelan not only worked for his own success, but was also incredibly helpful to his peers as they strove for understanding and mastery. He regularly worked to support his classmates in their coursework, exhibiting a genuine passion for the subject matter and a desire to utilize his own mastery to benefit others. Kaelan was deeply passionate about discovering innovative solutions to problems, possessing a natural curiosity to understand complex issues and a joy for sharing his discoveries with those around him.

Karamveer Brar

Elder Dr. Francis Whiskeyjack

Karamveer was a standout student who consistently demonstrated excellence across a diverse range of subjects, from integral calculus to complex literature. As an engaged learner, Karamveer immersed himself in his studies, mastering acid-base titrations and philosophical ideologies with a dedication that far exceeded classroom expectations. He acted as an ethical citizen and positioned himself as a leader who consistently encouraged his peers and raised the collective standard of learning through meaningful collaboration. Karamveer’s entrepreneurial spirit was evident in his proactive approach to a comprehensive education, as he always sought new ways to apply critical analysis to the world around him. His unstoppable pursuit of knowledge and mastery of discernment earned him a coveted place in the Engineering program at the University of Alberta. Karamveer’s hard work and commitment to academic excellence made him a truly deserving recipient of this Division award.

Elise Nordhagen

Harry Ainlay

Elise was an outstanding student who exemplified the qualities of an engaged learner, ethical citizen and entrepreneurial thinker. She was consistently engaged in class, frequently speaking French with her peers and asking thoughtful, insightful questions that enriched the learning experience for everyone. Elise demonstrated strong citizenship through her involvement in Franco 7 and by returning to her former elementary school to support student activities. She also founded a successful crochet club at Harry Ainlay. Resourceful and self-motivated, she approached challenges with determination while remaining kind, considerate and respectful toward others. Elise was highly approachable and supportive of her classmates, contributing immensely to a positive classroom environment. Achieving the highest academic average among Grade 12 students at Harry Ainlay, she demonstrated exceptional dedication to her studies, making her an excellent and highly deserving recipient of the Academic Excellence Award.

Luke Hartman

J. Percy Page

Luke demonstrated a level of intellectual rigor that was truly exceptional during his entire high school career. His performance in the most demanding academic courses was exemplary, as he achieved a perfect 100 per cent in Mathematics 30-1, Mathematics 31 AP and Chemistry 30. This mastery extended across the entire STEM curriculum, with Luke maintaining a staggering 99 per cent average in all of his 30-level science and math courses combined. Luke represented the very best of J. Percy Page's student body. He was one of the most well-rounded students the school had the privilege to call a Panther, and the staff looks forward to witnessing his future success.

Alysha Li

Jasper Place

Alysha was without question one of the top academically achieving students at Jasper Place School. She earned Honours with Distinction standing in all three years at the school and completed five challenging Advanced Placement (AP) exams. She was deeply involved in the school's Energy Research Club, Social Justice Club and Student Leadership Club, while also working tirelessly as a student tutor. Furthermore, she single-handedly organized and led a brand new initiative at the school: the Advanced Placement Study Club. Recognizing a need, she rose to the occasion to fill it. She truly went above and beyond to not only achieve her very best, but also to support and encourage all students to do the same.

Ali Gill

Lillian Osborne

Ali was an engaged learner who approached his studies with curiosity, discipline and a genuine commitment to understanding. He maintained a 98.2 per cent average across a rigorous academic program, consistently seeking deeper insight, asking thoughtful questions and contributing meaningfully to both class and group learning. As an ethical citizen, Ali demonstrated immense integrity, accountability and respect for others, supporting his peers and fostering a positive, collaborative classroom environment. His willingness to help others reflected a strong sense of responsibility and character. Ali also exhibited an entrepreneurial spirit through his initiative, proactive goal-setting and drive for continuous improvement. He embraced challenges, invested time in mastering complex concepts and took complete ownership of his learning. His acceptance to the University of Alberta for both physiology and engineering beautifully reflected his academic excellence and forward-thinking mindset.

Kara Luong

M.E. LaZerte

Kara was an exceptionally successful, diligent and hardworking student in the International Baccalaureate (IB) program at M.E. LaZerte. Regardless of the subject matter, she approached each topic with care and determination. Kara was always prepared and possessed a humble mindset, accepting that she could always learn more. This grounded approach allowed her to tackle each course and unit in such a manner that even when achieving 100 per cent on the material, she still strove for deeper knowledge. Furthermore, Kara was incredibly generous to her peers, always assisting them and ensuring they found success alongside her—a quality few students in her position display. Kara wholeheartedly deserved recognition for her attention to detail and her drive to be the best student, friend and colleague the school had to offer.

Ali Brenneis

McNally

Ali was an exceptional student whose commitment to excellence was evident across all areas. They consistently demonstrated a great deal of curiosity and asked thoughtful questions, approaching academic challenges with determination and a willingness to take risks. Ali excelled at making meaningful connections between ideas and excelled at applying their learning to real-world situations. Beyond their academic strength, Ali exemplified the qualities of an ethical citizen. They were an engaged and supportive team member who worked exceptionally well with others and contributed positively to group success. Kind, humble and respectful, they consistently considered the perspectives and needs of others, building strong relationships within their learning community. Ali's entrepreneurial spirit was reflected in their strong work ethic, goal-setting and perseverance. Their passion for learning and outstanding character made them a truly deserving recipient of this award.

Felicia Simanjuntak

Millwoods Christian

Felicia was an exceptional scholar who consistently earned Honours with Distinction through disciplined, intentional study. Rather than focusing solely on grades, she sought a profound understanding of her coursework by bridging the gap between classroom theory and real-world application. As a cornerstone of the academic community, Felicia enriched class discussions with insightful contributions and generously tutored her peers, fostering an inclusive environment for all. Beyond the classroom, her entrepreneurial spirit and resilience shone through her leadership in school clubs. By setting ambitious goals and pursuing them with unwavering perseverance, Felicia served as a powerful example of what can be achieved through passion and hard work.

Thomas Kowalchuk

Old Scona

Thomas was an exceptional student who consistently distinguished himself across the school community. In pursuit of the Full IB Diploma, he embraced the most rigorous academics with remarkable success. He maintained an outstanding 97.6 per cent average in his Grade 12 coursework, building on the perfect score of 7 he earned in IB French, and achieved top marks across all remaining subjects. Beyond his scholastic achievements, Thomas was an outstanding athlete and served as a cornerstone of the senior men's basketball and handball teams for three years. His leadership within the Reach for the Top program was also exemplary; he competed at provincials for three consecutive years and recently guided his team to qualify for the national championship. Thomas truly embodied the school motto, "ever to excel," and it was with immense pride that the institution counted him as a premier ambassador.

Sage Dosanj

Queen Elizabeth

Sage demonstrated exceptional academic achievement and excelled within her community. Her dedication, perseverance and curiosity allowed her to maintain consistent academic averages over 90 per cent throughout all three years at Queen Elizabeth.

Sage set a personal goal to improve her average each year, and through hard work and determination, she succeeded. Her engaged learning and willingness to improve inspired her peers. Sage always took time out of her busy schedule to demonstrate compassion and humility toward others, and she did not limit herself solely to academics. She took the initiative to organize many leadership events that strengthened the school community, built spirit among the graduates and introduced fundraisers to support graduation. Her love of learning extended well beyond the classroom, as she passionately pursued reading and developing her soccer skills. Sage was a well-rounded individual who was always willing to help others and challenge herself.

Jack Tennant

Ross Sheppard

Jack was an exemplary French Immersion student who demonstrated a profound commitment to academic excellence, particularly within mathematics and the sciences. As an engaged learner, he consistently performed at the top of his classes, often achieving perfect scores while maintaining a genuine curiosity for complex concepts. Beyond the classroom, Jack embodied ethical citizenship, contributing significantly to his school's athletic community as a dedicated member of both the football and handball teams. His ability to balance rigorous academics with high-level competitive soccer showcased exceptional discipline. Jack further demonstrated an entrepreneurial spirit by successfully establishing and managing his own small business during the summer months. Throughout his time in the Division, Jack was known for his positive classroom presence and his ability to inspire peers through his multifaceted leadership and dedication to his community.

Sophia Ngan

Strathcona

Sophia was a highly deserving recipient of the Academic Excellence Award, demonstrating exceptional mastery across all of her courses. She was not only academically brilliant but also a natural leader whose outstanding performance and character made her unequivocally deserving of this prestigious honor. Sophia's intellectual curiosity extended far beyond the classroom; she actively translated her academic knowledge into real-world applications, serving as an award-winning delegate at the Model United Nations and securing a highly competitive position as a Legislative Page. Sophia's integrity shone through her unwavering maturity and collaborative nature. Faculty members praised her consistent, respectful attitude, highlighting her deep dedication to civic engagement and peer support. Furthermore, Sophia embodied true initiative through her dynamic leadership in the Debate Club, serving on the executive team where she took proactive steps to lead, mentor and instruct junior members in the essentials of competitive debate.

Keira McLeod

Victoria

Keira was incredibly committed to maintaining balance across her arts and academic subjects, achieving extremely high levels of success in both. She actively sought knowledge and remained highly curious in all of her pursuits. Though quiet, Keira was a highly effective communicator in both written and oral forms, and it was through this strong communication that she demonstrated her deep care for others. She was an excellent example of a Victoria IB student: a strong artist, a curious academic and a kind, generous and compassionate ensemble member. In Chemistry 30, a course she took well ahead of her grade level, she performed at the highest standard and brought excellence to everything she produced. She was a principal performer in competitive dance, active in school theatre and pursued the Women in Scholarship, Engineering, Science, and Technology (WISEST) summer research program. She never once requested an extension, even when balancing a demanding schedule; whatever the pressure, her work arrived on time and at the highest level.

Sarah Crowley

Vimy Ridge Academy

Sarah represented the very best of the student body, seamlessly balancing rigorous academic achievement with a profound commitment to the Vimy community. Her tenure at Vimy Ridge Academy was characterized not only by high marks in her Advanced Placement (AP) courses, but by a consistent demonstration of the core attributes that define a truly exceptional student. As an engaged learner, Sarah demonstrated profound curiosity and critical thinking, eagerly tackling complex challenges and collaborating closely with peers. She was a true ethical citizen who prioritized the needs of her community through empathy, humility and respectful collaboration. Her character fostered inclusivity and built strong connections across the student body, setting a high standard for her peers and ensuring she was poised for future success.

Haidi Nguyen

W.P. Wagner

Haidi was a talented and accomplished student who maintained an overall average above 90 per cent throughout her high school career across a rigorous course load, including multiple Advanced Placement classes. She beautifully exemplified the qualities of diligence, hard work and dedication. Haidi approached her studies with absolute genuineness and curiosity, always striving to know more and to achieve higher goals. Outside of school, Haidi was an avid Taekwondo enthusiast. Holding a black belt, she volunteered her time to teach upcoming students at her Taekwondo academy. Haidi's dedication to both her martial arts community and her academic studies demonstrated a profound sense of responsibility and humility, making her an exemplary citizen who worked tirelessly to better herself and her community.

CAREER AND LIFE PATHWAYS AWARD

The Division Career and Life Pathways Award is open to Grade 12 students who demonstrate exceptional academic achievement in one or more of the following areas: Business, Administration, Finance and Information Technology (BIT), Health, Recreation and Human Services (HRH), Media, Design and Communication Arts (MDC), Natural Resources (NAT), Trades, Manufacturing and Transportation (TMT) and Career Transitions (CTR).

Titus Hofmann-Trotchie

Academy at King Edward

Titus was a motivated and forward-thinking student who demonstrated a clear commitment to his future career pathway. He chose to enrol in the Division's Introduction to Electrical Trades program, taking an important step toward a skilled and in-demand profession. Through this program, Titus developed practical skills in maintaining and repairing electrical systems. His willingness to pursue hands-on learning reflected both determination and a strong work ethic. Following the completion of the Campus EPSB program, he plans to continue his training at the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology (NAIT) and advance his apprenticeship and further refine his technical expertise. Titus' thoughtful planning and dedication to his goals highlighted his readiness for success in the trades, making him a highly deserving recipient of the Career and Life Pathways Award.

Hannah John

Braemar

Hannah demonstrated a strong commitment to leadership and the overall school environment during her time at Braemar. She approached each activity with determination, creativity and a positive attitude. Her strong work ethic made her a standout member of the Leadership class, where she helped bring many projects to life. Most notably, she led the creation of the school yearbook, demonstrating remarkable dedication, meticulous attention to detail and immense pride in her work. Hannah was a dependable student who not only completed every task assigned to her but also consistently went above and beyond expectations. Her contributions were highly evident in the spirit days she helped plan, the assemblies at which she confidently spoke, the brochure she designed for the school and numerous other projects. The school community was incredibly proud of all she accomplished.

Reed Hess

Dr. Anne Anderson

Reed distinguished herself in medical studies through her purposeful commitment to exploring a future in healthcare. The course became more than just an academic experience, providing clarity and direction as she considered her long-term goals. She approached both theoretical concepts and applied learning with focus, responsibility and genuine interest. Reed demonstrated maturity and professionalism when engaging with complex and sensitive health-related topics, consistently connecting classroom learning to real-world practice. She asked thoughtful questions, sought practical understanding and reflected carefully on how her strengths aligned with her career choices. Her initiative in using coursework to inform her future pathway reflected both self-direction and an entrepreneurial spirit. Ultimately, Reed's accountability and clarity of purpose made her the perfect candidate for this honor.

Justin Ventula

Eastglen

Justin was a multi-talented student who demonstrated strong skill and versatility across several Career and Life Pathways programs, particularly in Trades, Manufacturing and Transportation (TMT) and Media, Design and Communication Arts (MDC). At Eastglen, he showed technical proficiency in construction and mechanics, along with strong problem-solving skills and a consistent work ethic. He truly distinguished himself in communication technology and photography, becoming an integral part of the school community by capturing various campus events. His dedication extended well beyond the classroom, as he spent countless hours documenting major milestones for the yearbook with creativity and professionalism. Justin's ability to balance technical skill with artistic precision made him a remarkably well-rounded individual. His reliability, initiative and commitment to preserving school memories made him a highly deserving recipient of the Career and Life Pathways Award.

Jaiden Milford

Edmonton Christian High

Jaiden was an engaged learner who approached Food Studies with curiosity, creativity and a willingness to take thoughtful risks. She actively contributed to discussions, collaborated well with all of her peers, and demonstrated strong critical thinking and reflection. She consistently exceeded expectations and supported the daily operation of cafeteria service. Furthermore, Jaiden regularly collaborated with her classmates, adapting her own style to help peers who learned differently succeed alongside her. Observing her interactions, it was clear she was consistently thoughtful while adapting her approach to teach foundational culinary skills with patience, empathy and clear communication, ensuring success and inclusion for everyone. As an ethical citizen, Jaiden demonstrated respect, fairness and compassion, contributing immensely to a positive environment. She also showed a strong entrepreneurial spirit through her motivation, initiative and resilience, consistently striving for excellence and embracing every challenge.

Rasnampreet Pandher

Elder Dr. Francis Whiskeyjack

Rasnampreet was the Elder Dr. Francis Whiskeyjack recipient of the Division Career and Life Pathways Award. She was both an excellent photographer and a talented graphic artist. Throughout her time at the school, she consistently challenged herself to grow creatively. She improved during every year of high school and thoughtfully integrated skills learned in previous terms into her work in the senior Communications Technology class. Her projects set a remarkably high standard for the class and inspired her peers and teachers alike. Whether designing a shirt, a poster or a banner, Rasnampreet's work showcased a keen eye, thoughtful attention to detail and a distinct, personalized style.

Senul Fernando

Harry Ainlay

Senul was an exceptional Advanced Communication Technology student who consistently demonstrated the qualities of an engaged learner, ethical citizen and entrepreneurial thinker. He committed himself to a meaningful senior project connecting Harry Ainlay students with residents at Pleasantview Place Lodge, where he served as a lead photographer and collaborated with peers to capture events both in the community and at the school. Senul also embraced the challenge of acting as the master of ceremonies for the opening showcase at Southgate Centre, confidently welcoming dignitaries and community members. His dedication to excellence was further reflected in earning a silver medal at the Skills Alberta regional video competition, which secured his advancement to the provincial level. Above all, Senul's positive attitude, thoughtfulness and strong character made him a truly deserving recipient of the Career and Life Pathways Award.

Mikayla Lambert

J. Percy Page

Mikayla was an exceptional student who consistently demonstrated a strong commitment to her chosen pathway in Cosmetology. She beautifully embodied the goals of Career and Life Pathways programming, actively engaging in meaningful, hands-on learning that aligned with her career aspirations. Mikayla routinely went above and beyond expectations—arriving early, staying late and continually refining her technical skills and client interactions. She demonstrated immense professionalism, accountability and initiative, all of which are essential for success in the hairstyling industry. She was highly receptive to feedback, strove for continuous growth, and contributed positively to the learning environment by supporting her peers and leading by example. Mikayla represented a motivated, skilled and career-focused learner who was well-prepared for future success, and the staff at J. Percy Page were incredibly proud to endorse her for this Division award.

Keefer Cabales

Jasper Place

Keefer was a highly motivated student who consistently strove for excellence in all his academic pursuits. Throughout his time in the Career and Technology Studies department, he demonstrated meticulous attention to detail and a perfectionist approach to his coursework. Keefer's passion for the culinary arts led him to participate in various culinary challenges and Skills Canada competitions. Most notably, he placed fourth at the regional skills competition, earning the opportunity to represent Jasper Place School at the provincial level. Beyond his competitive success, Keefer displayed a remarkable entrepreneurial spirit by launching and managing his own baking business at a young age. This venture highlighted his ability to apply classroom skills to real-world scenarios, perfectly embodying the drive required for success in career and life pathways. His dedication to his craft and his community made him a truly exemplary student.

Ava Rattai

Lillian Osborne

Ava was an outstanding student in digital media (Media, Design, and Communication Arts). She was the very definition of an exemplary student, demonstrating enthusiasm, engagement and strong work ethic towards her learning. She created unique, in-depth design work that frequently surpassed expectations. Furthermore, she proved capable of creating works that could be directly applied to real-life projects and professional designs. Within the classroom, Ava was highly collaborative; she regularly engaged with other students, aiding them with their projects and exchanging ideas to elevate everyone's design work. Through her actions, Ava demonstrated kindness, honesty and deep integrity—all highly desirable qualities in both a student and a future professional.

Drayson Vandyk

M.E. LaZerte

Drayson demonstrated that awards are not only earned through academic grades, but also through tenacity and resilience. This young man showed tremendous growth after Grade 10, continuously building on his strengths to become a deeply respectful, dependable and highly engaged member of the school community. He consistently demonstrated a strong commitment to others and took outstanding initiative as an independent learner. His problem-solving skills were exceptional, and he approached every challenge with creativity and persistence. As a natural leader and a supportive team player, Drayson was goal-oriented, driven and thoroughly deserved this Career and Life Pathways Award.

Carter Kopchia

McNally

Carter's unique passion for working with his hands and mind to build all kinds of projects was a pervasive thread during his high school career. Beyond the classroom, Carter was actively involved in projects around his home and worked alongside family members who managed woodworking ventures of their own. He was quietly confident, always willing to listen, and consistently supported others. In Grade 11, Carter created a small business selling his custom wood projects at McNally's winter and spring markets. In his Grade 12 year, he completed the advanced carpentry course, beautifully demonstrating the immense growth he underwent during his years at the school. In his second semester, he joined the Registered Apprenticeship Program (RAP) and gained invaluable hands-on experience and apprenticeship hours as a millwright. From the perspective of growth, sense of purpose, passion and the ability to produce beautiful artifacts, Carter moved seamlessly through his high school years and stepped right into a promising career. He was a remarkable young man who was deeply deserving of this award.

Nicole Chu

Old Scona

Nicole consistently demonstrated leadership, initiative and commitment within her school and community during her tenure in high school. In Grades 11 and 12, she served as an executive member of both the speech and TEDx clubs. Nicole's involvement helped grow a supportive public speaking community and empowered students to share their voices while competing at national and international levels. As a director of the Student Engagement Team, Nicole organized major school events that increased student participation and school connection. She also developed a new, school-wide resource to improve access to information and better support her peers, which contributed significantly to a more inclusive and welcoming environment. Beyond school, Nicole founded and served as president of the Edmonton chapter of the Future Business Leaders of Canada (FBLC), creating valuable opportunities for students to explore business, develop leadership skills and connect with peers. These experiences beautifully reflected her growth as an engaged learner, an ethical citizen and an individual with a true entrepreneurial spirit.

Emily Shaw

Queen Elizabeth

Emily exemplified the comprehensive excellence celebrated by the Career and Life Pathways Award. She demonstrated exceptional academic achievement across all her subjects, highlighted by her outstanding performance on her government exams for Career Cosmetology 30—a major triumph within the Health, Recreation and Human Services (HRH) pathway. Furthermore, her immense talent as an artist beautifully intersected with the Media, Design, and Communication Arts (MDC) sector. A professional and mature student, Emily's fierce work ethic and ambition ensured she would find immense success in whatever pathway she chose to pursue in the future.

Yasmien Ramos-Cachola

Ross Sheppard

Yasmien was a creative student who demonstrated exceptional achievement in the Health, Recreation and Human Services (HRH) and Natural Resources (NAT) pathways. As an engaged learner in Foods 30, she consistently exceeded expectations and volunteered to mentor her peers and maintain the culinary facilities. Yasmien's ethical citizenship was highly evident through her leadership in the Project Green Club, where she managed aerogarden towers and greenhouse operations. She fostered excellent collaboration between the environmental and culinary departments to promote sustainability across the school. Furthermore, Yasmien's entrepreneurial spirit shone as she coordinated large-scale bake sales, skillfully navigating school logistics and partnerships to fundraise for student initiatives. Known for her respectful curiosity, Yasmien was a vital asset to the school community and consistently challenged herself to bridge the gap between classroom learning and real-world application.

Brooklyn McQueen

Strathcona

Brooklyn was a powerhouse student in the Technical Theatre program. Earlier in her theatre journey at Strathcona, she proved to be an amazing lighting designer and a dedicated mentor to junior students. In her senior year, Brooklyn stepped into the monumental role of Stage Manager, where she expertly led a team of over 100 people for the production of *Heathers*. She navigated the high-pressure environment of the control booth with a signature warmth and kindness that made every ensemble member feel thoroughly supported. Her dedication to the craft was unmatched; she was often the first to arrive and the last to leave to ensure every cue was perfect. Her care for her castmates and crew was beyond exceptional. Furthermore, her class work in Drama 30 was so intentional and detailed that her peers frequently sought her out for group collaborations. Additionally, Brooklyn mentored Drama 10 students on lighting design during her spare time and regularly visited classes to ensure the success of the students' class projects. She was a one-of-a-kind student to work alongside, teach and create art with, and the school community was incredibly proud to celebrate her hard work, leadership and the bright light she brought to the theatre community.

Michael Civin

Victoria

Michael was a standout student within the Restaurateur program. In Food Culture, he ensured that kitchen operations and service met professional standards as a natural student leader. As an engaged learner, Michael approached the culinary arts with a strong desire for mastery, studying complex techniques such as flavor profiling. He frequently sought feedback to refine his craft and eagerly took on additional challenges during busy lunch services. Michael beautifully reflected the qualities of an ethical citizen by prioritizing teamwork and safety; he mentored younger students in sanitation and knife skills, showing a mature commitment to professional social responsibility. His entrepreneurial spirit was highly evident when he led the kitchen as an expeditor, identifying operational bottlenecks and proposing effective, creative methods of problem-solving. He approached every shift with the mindset of an owner, leaving a lasting impact on the program at Victoria School.

James Dong

Vimy Ridge Academy

James consistently showed exceptional leadership skills and served as an outstanding role model for his peers while making significant, measurable contributions to community projects. James embodied the core values of an ethical citizen, demonstrating unwavering integrity, deep compassion and a profound sense of social responsibility in all of his endeavors. He actively engaged with complex issues affecting his community and worked tirelessly to foster positive change. Furthermore, James's entrepreneurial spirit was highly noteworthy; he continually sought out innovative solutions and creative opportunities to achieve his goals. Whether organizing impactful events for graduation, developing new initiatives for the school, or collaborating effectively with others, James displayed a remarkable ability to take initiative and think outside the box. Ultimately, James was an outstanding, well-deserving recipient of the Career and Life Pathways Award.

Amneet Aulakh

W.P. Wagner

Amneet completed the Advanced Hairstylist Career program, focusing heavily on skill mastery and professional growth. During her time in the program, she completed her hairstylist apprenticeship training and successfully passed her Period 1 and Period 2 Alberta Apprenticeship and Industry Training exams. She excelled while working with clientele in the school salon, where she became well-known for her meticulous attention to detail and her drive to improve. While Amneet was a quiet and soft-spoken student, her talent and dedication spoke volumes the moment she picked up her tools. She maintained a calm, steady presence in the salon environment that made both her peers and clients feel instantly at ease. Amneet was the type of student who practiced tirelessly behind the scenes to ensure she excelled, actively seeking out constructive criticism and using that feedback to refine her techniques. Her quiet confidence and constant drive to improve beautifully demonstrated her commitment to becoming the best stylist possible.

FINE ARTS AWARD

The Division Fine Arts Award is open to Grade 12 students who demonstrate exceptional academic achievement in one or more of the performing and visual arts, including subjects pertaining to music, art, dance and drama.

Donald (DJ) Verge *Academy at King Edward*

DJ was a dedicated and creative student whose passion for the fine arts was clearly demonstrated throughout his school journey. He explored a wide range of artistic disciplines, including drawing, painting and working with diverse mediums to express his unique ideas and perspectives. His work consistently reflected both technical skill and a genuine willingness to experiment and grow as an artist. In addition to his visual arts achievements, DJ pursued a focused stream of courses in film and media arts. Through this coursework, he developed strong skills in scripting, filming and editing, producing thoughtful and engaging projects. His ability to tell stories visually—whether on canvas or on screen—was what set him apart as a remarkably well-rounded artist. DJ approached each project with creativity, dedication and meticulous attention to detail, making him a highly deserving recipient of the Division Fine Arts Award.

Ollie (Lilo) Dunbar *Argyll Centre*

Lilo was a genuine artist who consistently sought to make life's moments visual through a diverse range of mediums. Driven by a grassroots artistic spirit, Lilo maintained extensive books of drawings, collage and poetry, demonstrating a deep, intrinsic motivation to create. As an engaged learner, they possessed an immense thirst for art history and contemporary works. In Film Studies, Lilo successfully applied foundational knowledge to reach new heights of excellence, pushing for higher-level thinking and seamlessly adapting to feedback to refine their craft. Lilo's artistic choices, guided by a sincere mindfulness of others, beautifully reflected the qualities of an ethical citizen. Lilo also embodied an entrepreneurial spirit, constantly exploring innovative ways to convey deep feeling through their work. Whether delivering professional design studies presentations or demonstrating exceptional creativity in leadership, Lilo managed their time with purposeful intent. Ultimately, Lilo's high-caliber work served as an exemplary model for peers and established a powerful foundation for a successful creative career.

Kyah Connell

Braemar

Kyah was deeply passionate about art and worked diligently in her creative practice, both in and out of the classroom. She consistently showed a willingness to take risks and demonstrated a natural curiosity in her learning. As a creative thinker, Kyah's open-mindedness yielded unique and beautiful opportunities for her to explore within her artwork. She developed impressive technical skills alongside the confidence to push boundaries, highlighting her passion for creating art and continuing to develop her craft. Her commitment to artistic excellence was undoubtedly matched by her uplifting nature, as she routinely led by example and fostered a lively, collaborative environment for everyone around her.

Messiah Powell

Dr. Anne Anderson

Messiah's creative skills and upbeat character throughout his time at Dr. Anne Anderson School beautifully demonstrated his spirit as a team leader and strategic thinker. Driven by his passion to be an artist, he participated in the drama program and memorably performed in the school's production of *The Wizard of Oz* as the Wicked Witch. He was also an active member of the school's dance program, which perfectly complemented his work in drama. By taking creative risks on stage, Messiah developed a truly expansive perspective on his craft, and his fierce commitment to personal growth made him a strong performer. Behind the scenes, Messiah was highly cooperative within his community, consistently demonstrating honesty, inclusivity and respect. With an ultimate objective to perform on Broadway and television, his dedication made him a highly deserving recipient of this award.

Amelya Mayhew

Eastglen

Amelya demonstrated exceptional dedication to the fine arts through her extensive involvement in dance and musical theatre. She displayed her remarkable versatility by serving as both a performer and a choreographer for the school musical, where she seamlessly balanced artistic expression with leadership. Beyond the stage, Amelya contributed her skills to technical theatre, ensuring the absolute success of productions from behind the scenes. She also engaged in a unique, interdisciplinary collaboration that bridged the dance and music departments, showcasing her profound commitment to artistic growth and community building.

Rachel Vandermeer

Edmonton Christian High

Rachel was an integral part of the school's band and drama programs. She was a dedicated member of the band who led by being a quiet, reliable example. She was always ready with a smile and was a natural encourager, leading through her willingness to try new things and seeking to do her very best at all points in time. Rachel was equally involved and indispensable in the theatre arts program at Edmonton Christian High School. In both Grades 11 and 12, she took on leading roles which she played to absolute perfection. Rachel demonstrated a highly professional attitude and was always willing to do whatever it took to make a production even better. She was the ultimate team player, consistently working to elevate each scene and support her castmates, which ultimately made theatre fun for everyone around her. The school community wishes Rachel the very best in whatever creative roles she chooses to pursue in her post-high school life.

Lucy Sabo

Elder Dr. Francis Whiskeyjack

Lucy was truly a deserving recipient of the Division Fine Arts Award, having created exceptional pieces across visual art, drama and instrumental music. She was distinguished by her profound empathy and she masterfully wove that sensitivity into her creative work. As an exceptional collaborator, she consistently stepped up to lead others with grace through the artistic process. Just as a rock band depends on a solid drummer, Lucy was the "rock" who kept her bandmates grounded through her unwavering reliability. Lucy beautifully embodied perseverance, leadership and adaptability, carrying an enthusiasm that energized everyone around her. Whether she was competing in extracurricular sports or meticulously caring for the shared music room, her dedication was always evident. Lucy's commitment to her craft and her community made her an inspiration to her peers and a true cornerstone of the fine arts program.

Brady Johnson

Harry Ainlay

Brady was a dedicated and fearless artist who fully embodied the spirit of the Fine Arts Award. He consistently demonstrated an engaged approach to learning, embracing large-scale work and new media with confidence and curiosity. His exceptional attention to fine detail, particularly in portraiture, highlighted both his technical skill and artistic sensitivity. Brady was a thoughtful and ethical member of the studio community—modest, appreciative and always willing to support and uplift fellow artists while remaining highly open to constructive feedback. Beyond the classroom, he showed outstanding entrepreneurial initiative by creating his own website and beginning to sell his original artwork. His acceptance into MacEwan University's Bachelor of Fine Arts program, along with an entrance scholarship for his outstanding portfolio, beautifully reflected his talent and dedication, making him a highly deserving recipient of this award.

Oliver Billheimer

J. Percy Page

Oliver was an enthusiastic contributor to the fine arts community at J. Percy Page. In addition to ceramics classes, he previously participated in the after-school theatre program as a technician, and this year he embodied the risk-taking that is central to theatre by participating as an actor. Oliver brought a lighthearted, humorous flair to rehearsals while still demonstrating professionalism, focus and dedication to the craft. In drama classes, Oliver was an excellent mentor and role model for his peers. He was unfailingly kind, eager to learn and willing to be silly, experiment and play. He was an excellent student and with a post-secondary interest in education, will without a doubt, make an excellent educator.

Keesha Gaba

Jasper Place

Keesha was a strong ambassador for her school community, peers and herself. As a well-rounded and engaged learner, Keesha consistently maintained Honours with Distinction while also prioritizing her physical and mental well-being. Keesha was an amazing, reflective artist who consistently thought outside the box; she sewed costumes for drama productions, demonstrated art techniques for the school's open house and painted vibrant murals for the school. Notably, she received a perfect score for her studio work and research, and submitted a powerful Advanced Placement portfolio to the College Board, earning her the Jasper Place Top Overall Art Student Award. As an ethical citizen, she genuinely respected and cared for others, helping her peers and volunteering as a Best Buddy to ensure all students felt involved and connected. Keesha's entrepreneurial spirit further led her to participate in Model United Nations conferences, Rebel Leadership and the Art Club. Her passion and love for learning had her looking forward to pursuing a Bachelor of Engineering and a Bachelor of Design, making her exceptionally deserving of the Fine Arts Award.

Ryenne Carson

Lillian Osborne

Ryenne was a true artist in every sense. A committed baritone player in the Lillian Osborne concert band, a skilled lighting designer in technical theatre and an International Baccalaureate (IB) Art student, Ryenne brought her artistry to life across numerous avenues during her time at Lillian Osborne. While her art gala exhibition and her incredible lighting design for the advanced acting production of *After Life* spoke for themselves, it was Ryenne's commitment to thinking in divergent, creative ways, combined with her naturally pleasant demeanor, that truly set her apart. Congratulations, Ryenne!

Maddison Den Otter

M.E. LaZerte

Maddison was a cornerstone of M.E. LaZerte's performing arts program and a highly deserving recipient of the Division Fine Arts Award. Her talent shone brightly on stage in productions of *Chicago*, *Little Shop of Horrors* and *Grease*, while her quick wit made her a vital member of the improv team. Beyond performing, Maddison served as a lead vocal trainer and arranger, generously sharing her expertise to elevate every production. As an outstanding contributor and mentor, Maddison's dedication and artistry left an indelible mark on her school community.

Kennedy Mah

McNally

Kennedy was a highly deserving recipient of the Division Fine Arts Award. She was a dedicated, passionate learner who embodied the qualities of an ethical citizen and carried a strong entrepreneurial spirit. Kennedy approached her studies with immense enthusiasm and curiosity, consistently achieving exceptional personal results in dance while uplifting her peers through leadership and encouragement. She demonstrated stellar initiative as the lead choreographer for three dance collectives, planning and leading weekly rehearsals while supporting fellow dancers with professionalism and grace. Kennedy also choreographed multiple solos and duets, collaborated closely with peers and led workshops during the school's open house. Beyond the arts, Kennedy strengthened the school community through her active involvement in the grad council and by volunteering at events such as the McNally Bikeathon and the Kindness Rocks sitting volleyball tournament. Furthermore, she remained a committed member of the Best Buddies Club for two years, fostering meaningful connections and inclusion. In every setting, Kennedy brought energy, integrity and heart.

Charlie Schmeichel

Millwoods Christian

Charlie distinguished himself as a highly versatile artist in both music and theatre. An accomplished percussionist, he was a key member of the 2023 Junior High Honour Band at the Night of Music, as well as the 2025 University of Alberta Honour Band. Beyond his instrumental accomplishments, Charlie discovered a true passion for the stage in Grade 10, revealing a remarkable tenor voice and a natural talent for portraying complex characters, most notably as Moses in *The Prince of Egypt*. Driven by a deep commitment to servant leadership, Charlie consistently contributed to his school's worship team and served as a student music assistant in musical theatre during his final year. His dedication to his craft was matched only by his eagerness to mentor developing musicians, leaving a lasting impact on his peers and the overall music program.

Josh Tim Marcos

Old Scona

Josh beautifully exemplified the qualities of an outstanding fine arts student. As a musician, Josh was always learning, proactively chasing new musical knowledge on his own time. He was an exceptional trombone player who demonstrated immense musicality in terms of his individual skills, and he was always thoroughly prepared for ensemble playing. He was a responsible and reliable player who could consistently be depended upon. Outside of performing, Josh's written arrangements for large ensembles were well-crafted, and completely fleshed-out musical pieces for his peers to play. He composed five unique arrangements, which were always an absolute joy to perform. He also participated in MacEwan University's youth jazz band and sought out opportunities to continue playing in community bands. Josh's unwavering dedication to both the arts and lifelong learning made him highly deserving of the Fine Arts Award.

Deena Wojokh

Queen Elizabeth

Deena was an exceptional Grade 12 visual arts student whose academic achievement and artistic dedication beautifully embodied the spirit of the Division Fine Arts Award. Throughout the curriculum, she consistently demonstrated an advanced understanding of complex artistic concepts, translating theoretical knowledge into sophisticated practice. Whether engaging in critical classroom conversations or conceptualizing her own artwork, Deena displayed a rare blend of technical skill, intellectual curiosity and creative maturity that set a standard of excellence for her peers.

Katya Anderson

Ross Sheppard

Katya was a student at Ross Sheppard School for three years, where she established herself as an exceptional talent in the visual and performing arts. She approached every assignment with deep research and curiosity, consistently producing technically sophisticated and insightful artwork. Beyond the classroom, Katya's impact was profound; she completed a large-scale mural for the Stollery Children's Hospital, specifically designed to wrap a new MRI machine. Her vibrant work beautifully transformed an intimidating medical procedure into a comforting, engaging experience for young patients. Furthermore, Katya was a cornerstone of the drama program, contributing vital technical expertise through poster design, prop construction and the management of graphic projections and lighting. Her multidisciplinary excellence across music, art and drama made her a truly standout recipient of the Fine Arts Award.

Katie Martin

Strathcona

Katie was an exceptional fine arts student whose passion, leadership and versatility made her a highly deserving recipient of the Division Fine Arts Award. As an Advanced Placement (AP) Art student, Katie demonstrated exceptional technical skill and creative vision, earning early acceptance into Art and Design at the University of Alberta. A rare talent who balanced discipline with a bold creative spirit, Katie redefined excellence within her AP courses, consistently exceeding expectations. Her artistic excellence also extended beyond the studio; she was a dedicated member of an award-winning improv team where her collaborative spirit shone, and she excelled in a supporting role within musical theatre, bringing depth, commitment and professionalism to the stage. Beyond her own achievements, Katie was a true arts leader in her school community, running a Cabaret Club that provided a supportive space for student artists to share their work and grow in confidence.

Augustus Williams

Victoria

Augustus was a highly diverse performer with extensive experience in choral and instrumental music, vocal jazz, dance, musical theatre, acting and directing. He was a deeply committed member of many performance ensembles, continually challenging himself to explore new genres and disciplines. Augustus also understood the profound importance of the arts to the wider community and worked extensively with the school's student art leadership team. It was with immense pride and admiration that Augustus was honored with the Division Fine Arts Award.

Novah Rice

Vimy Ridge Academy

Novah was a standout Grade 12 student in the Dance Program at Vimy Ridge Academy, where she trained at the highest level for six years. She was also a dedicated member of the Edmonton Contemporary Dancers for three years. At Vimy Ridge Academy, Novah became a commanding presence on stage, consistently blending technical precision with profound emotional depth. Whether performing in ensemble pieces or tackling challenging solo routines, her artistry elevated showcases and inspired her peers to strive for excellence. As a natural leader, she brought intelligence and insight to her craft, served as an excellent mentor to fellow student-athletes and maintained a deep commitment to the arts in Alberta.

Hanna Aquino

W.P. Wagner

Hanna was a standout student who beautifully blended traditional artistic mastery with cutting-edge technical innovation. For their Advanced Placement portfolio, Hanna explored digital identity, which culminated in the creation of a Virtual YouTuber—a complex, motion-captured virtual avatar presented at the school’s winter festival. At the Maker’s Market, Hanna translated tenacity and resourcefulness into a successful entrepreneurial venture by launching a cohesive personal brand of custom stickers and digital animations. As a leader in the art studio, Hanna organized open house activities and managed social media promotions for the school’s programs and events. Hanna also demonstrated an exceptional ability to collaborate with ensemble and creative teams, excelling in the guitar program and contributing significantly to the theatre set and costume design teams. Whether in the studio or on stage, Hanna worked alongside diverse teams to solve technical problems under tight deadlines with a strong artistic vision, creativity and kindness.

HEALTH AND WELLNESS AWARD

The Division Health and Wellness Award is open to Grade 12 students who demonstrate exceptional academic achievement and/or model leadership in one or more of the following areas: physical education, school athletics, health and life skills, and overall wellness, such as healthy life choices.

Keziah Roemmich

Academy at King Edward

Keziah was a dedicated and enthusiastic student whose commitment to health and wellness was evident in all aspects of her life. She was actively involved in competitive soccer for most of her life, demonstrating discipline, teamwork and perseverance. Through her athletic pursuits, she developed strong leadership skills and a deep appreciation for physical fitness. Keziah also enjoyed indoor wall climbing, where she challenged herself both physically and mentally, and took on the responsibility of belaying with confidence. Her adventurous spirit extended to skiing, a sport she approached with passion and determination. She was a consistent participant in the school's Jasper ski trip and embraced every opportunity to stay active and connected with her peers. Keziah's positive attitude and commitment to an active lifestyle made her an outstanding role model for others, making her a highly deserving recipient of the Division Health and Wellness Award.

Rayna Johal

Argyll Centre

Rayna was a highly deserving recipient of the Health and Wellness Award, having achieved a perfect score in Physical Education. As an engaged learner, she consistently demonstrated an exceptional work ethic and unwavering perseverance, approaching her wellness goals with keen dedication. Her entrepreneurial spirit shone through her excellent time-management skills, which allowed her to independently balance demanding physical tasks with her broader academic workload. Furthermore, Rayna proved to be an exemplary ethical citizen; she modeled exceptional online learning etiquette, actively fostering a respectful, supportive and inclusive digital classroom environment. Despite the unique challenges of navigating Physical Education online, she took complete initiative over her holistic health and maintained the highest standards for her personal fitness. Rayna's self-motivation and positive attitude made her a standout student who reflected the Division's character attributes.

Danica Barrow

Braemar

Danica distinguished herself as a cornerstone of the Physical Education program at Braemar through her daily participation, leadership and positive attitude in class. Her infectious enthusiasm transformed the atmosphere of the entire gymnasium, as she brought kindness, motivation and encouraging words to her classmates—a particularly inspiring feat considering she was a young mother who had faced much adversity in life. She embraced an active lifestyle both inside and outside of school and encouraged others to follow her example regarding fitness, healthy eating and personal hygiene. She consistently went above and beyond in class by regularly setting up and taking down equipment; she did not just participate in the class, she actively improved it. Her blend of hard work and empathy set a high standard for what leadership looks like in action. Danica was a passionate advocate for health and fitness, and her dedication to promoting wellness made her truly deserving of this recognition.

Ryan Pathirage

Dr. Anne Anderson

Ryan stood out because of his exceptional engagement and positive attitude. Whether tackling a new skill or refining a familiar one, his persistence and joy for movement elevated both his own performance and the overall classroom culture. Beyond his physical effort, Ryan was a thoughtful athlete who actively sought feedback and demonstrated a genuine desire to improve. His pursuit of excellence extended to his peers, as he frequently offered helpful tips and encouragement, inspiring those around him to participate more fully. Ryan was a reflective, hard-working and uplifting presence who consistently raised the standard of the class. He was an honorable student who was highly deserving of this award.

Brianna Bidney

Eastglen

Brianna pursued academic excellence with diligence and a deep curiosity that enriched every classroom discussion. A confident and charismatic leader, she thrived on collaboration and thoughtful inquiry. As captain of both the indoor and outdoor soccer teams, she led her peers to a city championship while modeling exceptional sportsmanship. Her commitment to her school was further evidenced by her consistent volunteer work with the Physical Education department, where she assisted in organizing major tournaments and events. Beyond the classroom, Brianna made a meaningful impact as a lead mentor for the Try it Girls program, fostering confidence in at-risk elementary students through sport. Her dedication to developing others was also clear through her work as a youth soccer coach. As she prepared to pursue her Bachelor of Education, Brianna beautifully embodied the empathy, professionalism and resilience of an exemplary educator, driven by a lasting commitment to positively influence her community.

Daisy Smith

Edmonton Christian High

Daisy was an engaged and passionate learner and leader in the area of health and wellness at school. She was extremely self-motivated and put in a tremendous amount of time, effort and energy into self and team improvement and fitness. As captain of multiple teams, she was responsible, competitive, respected and humble in her role as a leader, communicator and role model. She played at the highest level in both basketball and soccer and was awarded the prestigious Metro Edmonton basketball All-Star award. She was a leader in school and on the court and was well respected by her teachers, teammates, coaches and opponents. She is committed and passionate about being active, healthy and fit. Daisy put the interests of others and of our school community before herself both on and off the court. She was an inspiration to others and well-deserving of this award.

Vedant Prajapati

Elder Dr. Francis Whiskeyjack

Vedant was an outstanding student-athlete whose dedication, leadership and sportsmanship left a lasting impact on his school community. A multi-sport athlete, Vedant earned both the Grade 11 and Grade 12 Male Athlete of the Year awards and was recognized as the school's Most Valuable Jay (MVJ). He received the inaugural Block Sweater Award, presented to Grade 12 students who demonstrate exceptional participation across multiple sports and achieve excellence through accomplishments such as MVP honours and provincial-level competition. Vedant was named the senior boys volleyball MVJ, track MVJ, and was the recipient of the Heart of a Jay Award in badminton. He consistently competed with integrity, treated teammates and opponents with respect, and inspired others through his work ethic and commitment to health and wellness. Vedant's contributions exemplify the qualities of an exceptional student-athlete and community leader.

Tessa Paul

Harry Ainlay

Tessa was an outstanding Physical Education student who led by example every day. She came to class prepared, worked hard and gave a consistent effort across all activities, creating a highly positive environment. She supported her classmates, communicated effectively and showed respect to everyone around her. Tessa was the exact kind of student-athlete every school hopes to have. As captain of the volleyball team, she was a phenomenal leader, not just with her words but through her actions, setting a strong example for her teammates. Thanks in part to her steady guidance, the team achieved a second-place finish at the city championships and went on to earn third place at provincials. These incredible results reflected both her talent and determination. Tessa also committed to the MacEwan University volleyball program for the following year. She beautifully represented what a strong physical education student should be—hardworking, respectful and team-oriented—making her deeply deserving of the Division Health and Wellness Award.

Emerson Raczynski

J. Percy Page

Emerson demonstrated outstanding leadership in recreation and served as a positive role model within the school community. She consistently showed enthusiasm and responsibility in recreation leadership, helping to create an inclusive and encouraging environment for others. In addition to her leadership within the classroom, Emerson actively participated in a variety of extracurricular activities, demonstrating immense commitment, teamwork and a strong dedication to maintaining a healthy and active lifestyle. Her positive attitude and willingness to contribute made her a highly valued member of the student body, and J. Percy Page was proud to honour Emerson as a recipient of the Division Health and Wellness Award.

Elyse Dewarle

Jasper Place

Elyse was a highly deserving candidate for the Division Health and Wellness Award. She demonstrated exceptional achievement in physical education, earning a perfect 100 per cent in Physical Education 10, 20 and 30 through her outstanding athletic ability, work ethic, leadership and positive attitude. Elyse consistently led by example, showing kindness and encouragement to all students while maintaining a strong competitive spirit. She remained highly committed to her personal wellness, regularly training in the fitness center to support both her role on the senior girls' basketball team and her overall health. After suffering a torn ACL, Elyse showed remarkable resilience by continuing to attend every practice and morning shootaround—focusing diligently on rehabilitation, rebounding for teammates, and offering valuable encouragement and feedback. Her determination, toughness and commitment to healthy living made her an exceptional role model and an ideal recipient of this award.

Gabe Kim

Lillian Osborne

Gabe was recognized for his strong passion for fitness, physical activity and human performance. He was someone who was always on the move and constantly looking for ways to improve himself, both inside and outside of the classroom. He excelled in sports medicine, sports performance and physical education at the 30 levels, showing a deep interest in and commitment to the field of human performance. He did not just complete these courses; he truly understood and applied the philosophy of being a lifelong mover and learner. Outside the classroom, Gabe was just as active. He was regularly involved in intramurals and could often be found at the recreation centre during lunch, or before and after school, getting in extra basketball practice or participating in other physical activities. That kind of consistency perfectly reflected how much he enjoyed being active and improving his physical performance. Gabe possessed a warm personality and naturally built positive relationships with others. What stood out most about him was the absolute steadiness of his effort and passion. Congratulations, Gabe!

Divine Mustafa

M.E. LaZerte

Divine was a dedicated and well-rounded student who consistently demonstrated excellence in his personal, social and academic pursuits. He was a strong advocate for health and wellness, regularly participating in a wide range of fitness and wellness activities across the school. He possessed a genuine desire to learn, understand and appreciate the positive effects of exercise on mental health and overall well-being, consistently applying this knowledge to his daily life. Divine led by example, pushing himself to improve while simultaneously encouraging those around him to be their best. He was known for his exceptional work ethic, approaching every challenge with intense focus, determination and a commitment to continuous growth. Divine was highly dependable and always willing to step up, generously volunteering his time and effort whenever needed. He showed strong leadership potential through his initiative, stellar teamwork and a genuine desire to make a lasting, positive impact.

Abigail Pitzel

McNally

Abbie exemplified what it meant to be a complete Physical Education student at McNally School. She was fully invested in her own growth while consistently uplifting the people around her. As an engaged learner, Abbie took her growth in physical education seriously; she asked insightful questions, embraced new activities and constantly pushed herself to improve. Over time, she built a strong understanding of how to care for her own physical and mental well-being. Abbie stood out for the exceptional way she treated others. In team activities, she made a point of passing to teammates who had not been as involved, cheering on classmates who were still learning a skill and checking in with students who seemed hesitant to join. Her inclusive approach made the gymnasium a place where every student felt welcome, regardless of their ability or confidence level. Her ability to balance personal growth with service to others truly set her apart, reflecting a powerful form of leadership that did not require a title.

Haddon Williams

Millwoods Christian

Haddon demonstrated exceptional leadership in physical education and athletics. He showed a strong interest in the health sciences and worked diligently to apply what he learned to improve his own athletic performance. He also consistently encouraged others to set personal goals, stay active and perform at their best. Haddon served as a highly positive role model in the gymnasium, the classroom and on the playing field. He demonstrated outstanding sportsmanship, integrity and respect in the way he interacted with teammates, classmates and school staff. Furthermore, he supported younger students in Health and Life Skills, helping to create an environment where others felt included, encouraged and respected. Haddon fundamentally understood that true wellness was not only about personal health, but also about actively supporting the well-being of the whole community.

Sophie Chen

Old Scona

Sophie was an exceptional student-athlete and a true driving force within the school community. For three years, she was a standout competitor on the senior women's volleyball, handball and soccer teams. Sophie perfectly exemplified the core attributes of an Old Scona Olympian. Her tireless dedication to pursuing excellence was matched only by her outstanding leadership, teamwork and admirable respect for both opponents and officials. Beyond the field and court, Sophie served as an executive member of the Athletics Council, where she played a vital role in orchestrating school-wide events that fostered athletic engagement and school spirit. Furthermore, her active community involvement and constant willingness to lend a helping hand made her an invaluable asset across the entire school. Ultimately, Sophie's love and passion for sports were instrumental in the continued growth and success of the athletics program.

Athok Simon

Queen Elizabeth

Athok perfectly embodied the spirit of the Division Health and Wellness Award through her exceptional commitment to Grade 12 athletics and peer leadership. By participating in numerous sports teams and spearheading the school's Athletics Council, Athok demonstrated an outstanding dedication to physical education and healthy living. She did not just participate; she modeled wellness in action, showing the Queen Elizabeth community how to balance rigorous physical activity, leadership responsibilities and positive life choices with grace and determination. Athok truly represented the ideal student-athlete.

Kate Tennant

Ross Sheppard

Kate demonstrated exceptional excellence in health and wellness through her academic achievement, elite athletic performance and community leadership. She earned Honours with Distinction throughout high school and received multiple academic awards, beautifully reflecting her commitment as an engaged learner. Kate competed at the provincial and national levels in cross-country running, track and field, and cycling, modeling deep discipline, resilience and a strong understanding of training, nutrition and recovery. She contributed as a leader by coaching youth athletes and proactively promoting school athletics. Furthermore, Kate founded Bicycle Bakery, a carbon-neutral business promoting healthy choices that raised over \$10,000 for the Stollery Children's Hospital. Through her inspiring actions, she demonstrated empathy, initiative and a profound commitment to the well-being of others.

Elaina Tetteh-Wayoe

Strathcona

Elaina was the kind of leader who made healthy choices look less like a checklist and more like an inspiring lifestyle that people genuinely wanted to join. Whether she was in physical education class, leading an athletic team or energizing her peers, she showed up with confidence, positivity and a stellar willingness to take charge when it mattered most. She consistently led from the front—organizing, motivating, and ensuring no one was left behind while keeping activities engaging and fun. Elaina possessed a natural ability to bring people together, and she was never afraid to speak up, step in or set a high standard. Her encouragement was equal parts genuine support and good-natured motivation to get everyone moving in the right direction. Her commitment to holistic wellness—encompassing physical, mental and social health—was clear in everything she did, making her passion for a healthy lifestyle truly contagious.

Karter La Pierre

Victoria

Karter was an exemplary recipient of this award as he beautifully balanced physical excellence with community leadership. He fully immersed himself in outdoor physical education, where his curiosity and willingness to take risks served to motivate his peers to do the same. His active participation did not just improve his own skills; it elevated the entire learning environment. On the rugby pitch, Karter demonstrated a true entrepreneurial spirit; he was a tenacious athlete who set disciplined goals and pushed his teammates to challenge the status quo and reach their full potential. Beyond his athleticism, Karter acted as an ethical citizen who prioritized the needs of the community. Through fairness, humility and compassion, he built enduring relationships with both teachers and peers. Whether he was leading an athletic huddle or collaborating in the classroom, Karter's resilience and commitment to wellness made him a vital pillar of the school community.

Madison Terry

Vimy Ridge Academy

Madison was an individual who took great pride in her tasks and always displayed a respectful attitude toward her coaches, teachers and teammates. She was a determined young woman who consistently worked hard to reach her goals both academically and athletically, and her infectious attitude helped those around her achieve success. Madison was an exceptional student whose best attributes were her positive attitude, persistence and relentless work ethic. Always striving to succeed, she was entirely willing to put in extra effort and did not hesitate to seek assistance when required. As a natural leader, she routinely led by example. She played hockey at the highest levels and proudly represented her province and country at various tournaments. For these reasons and many more, Madison was an excellent recipient of the Health and Wellness Award.

Diya Patel

W.P. Wagner

Throughout her high school career, Diya demonstrated a strong commitment to health, well-being and academic excellence. As an active member of various school athletic teams—including badminton, flag football and soccer—she perfectly exemplified discipline, teamwork and resilience. Diya excelled equally in athletics and academics, consistently maintaining an honours standing while managing a rigorous course load throughout high school. She demonstrated immense mental and physical strength both on and off the court. Diya was an integral part of elevating the athletic program at W.P. Wagner, regularly volunteering to organize and scorekeep for various school sporting events. In all her endeavors, Diya maintained a positive and encouraging attitude toward teammates, coaches and administrators. She showed an outstanding commitment to living an active lifestyle, supporting others in doing the same, and creating an inclusive atmosphere that promoted overall wellness within the school community.

HUMANITIES AWARD

The Division Humanities Award is open to Grade 12 students who demonstrate exceptional academic achievement in one or more of the following subject areas: English, social studies and languages.

Inez DaSilva

Academy at King Edward

Inez was an exceptional student whose passion for the humanities was evident in her academic achievements and extracurricular involvement. She challenged herself by taking higher-level courses, consistently demonstrating advanced critical thinking. Her ability to engage deeply with complex texts and global issues set her apart as a thoughtful and articulate academic. Inez was actively involved in Model United Nations, where she honed her skills in diplomacy, research and public speaking. In addition, she competed at the Canadian National Ethics Bowl, showcasing her ability to thoughtfully examine and debate challenging moral questions. Her commitment to understanding diverse perspectives reflected a genuine curiosity about the world around her. Inez's dedication to her education extended far beyond the classroom and into meaningful, real-world applications. She looked forward to continuing her academic journey at MacEwan University, where she will undoubtedly continue to excel.

Fynn Silgard

Argyll Centre

Fynn was an absolute academic superstar. Fynn's dedication to their work was not just focused on achieving high marks, but also on deeply understanding the "why" behind human actions and history. Fynn truly embodied the spirit of the humanities curriculum and elevated the Argyll academic community through their profound contributions to the classroom; whenever they spoke, everyone listened. Fynn's insights always sparked constructive conversations amongst peers within the learning community. Fynn was a resilient student who constantly uplifted peers in every class. Fynn's affinity for excellence motivated fellow students and served as an inspiration to all learners, regardless of their capabilities, making them incredibly deserving of this award.

Isabella Char-Minoose

Braemar

Isabella beautifully exemplified the attributes of an ethical and engaged learner. As a critical and reflective thinker, she persevered through challenges and demonstrated the immense personal growth that is possible within a supportive learning environment. Within the classroom community, she consistently acted with humility and open-mindedness, treating her teachers, peers and studies with deep respect and integrity. Isabella worked diligently to complete her coursework in both English and social studies to the highest standard, all while reflecting the naturally caring nature of her spirit. Isabella's efforts to achieve her goals and maintain a consistently high quality of work were highly apparent in the classroom and would undoubtedly serve as valuable attributes in her life beyond Braemar.

Japji Kaur Gondara

Dr. Anne Anderson

Japji stood out as an exceptional humanities student throughout her high school career. Her remarkable academic achievements served as a clear testament to her diligent and hardworking nature. Furthermore, Japji's empathy, open-mindedness and intellectual curiosity were always evident in her contributions to the classroom. Her analyses were articulate and insightful, and she skillfully engaged with subjects ranging from classical literature to contemporary global issues. Beyond the classroom, Japji demonstrated her passion for uplifting diverse voices and pursued numerous leadership roles centered around community empowerment. For instance, alongside serving as the Director of Outreach for Youth Leaders in Law Edmonton, Japji held leadership positions in the school's Model United Nations Club, South Asian Student Alliance and Newspaper Club. Ultimately, Japji's academic excellence and commitment to service enriched her school community beyond measure and made her a well-deserving recipient of this award.

Madina Hanifi

Eastglen

Madina's passion for the humanities was rooted in a deep curiosity about the diverse perspectives that shape our world. To challenge herself, she pursued a rigorous load of Advanced Placement (AP) humanities courses, sharpening her critical thinking while exploring complex global issues. She was never satisfied with simply meeting basic requirements; Madina consistently went above and beyond, delving deeply into texts and historical material with a level of dedication that far exceeded expectations. This intellectual drive extended into her extracurricular life as well. At the public library, she shared her love for storytelling with the wider community, while her active involvement in Model United Nations provided profound insights into international diplomacy and collaborative problem-solving. As a leader in the Division's Student Senate, she also served as a dedicated advocate for her peers. These diverse experiences beautifully molded Madina into a thoughtful, inquisitive learner committed to using her humanities education to make a meaningful, positive impact on the world.

Rachael Hofstede

Edmonton Christian High

Rachael beautifully distinguished herself as a cornerstone of the humanities program at Edmonton Christian High School. Defined by an incredible work ethic and deep dedication, Rachael exhibited a keen curiosity that elevated every classroom discussion. As an excellent writer and a sharp analytical thinker, she demonstrated a sophisticated grasp of the humanities—from the nuances of literary development to the complexities of Canadian citizenship. Rachael was never shy about exploring faith's role in our collective narrative, seamlessly integrating her personal values into her academic life. Her pursuit of excellence extended far beyond the classroom through impactful leadership on the Student Council and across various sports teams at the school. Rachael's unique blend of intellectual rigor and peer leadership made her a truly exemplary representative of the humanities, rendering her thoroughly deserving of this division honour.

Karamveer Brar

Elder Dr. Francis Whiskeyjack

Karamveer was an exceptional student whose profound dedication to his studies earned him the Division Humanities Award. As an engaged learner, Karamveer was highly motivated; he frequently challenged the status quo and contributed to a positive learning environment through his natural curiosity and willingness to take risks. He consistently acted as an ethical citizen, building strong relationships through humility and encouraging his peers to critically examine the human condition and their place within the world. Karamveer's entrepreneurial spirit was highly evident in his disciplined work ethic and his ability to take full ownership of his education, often building the capacity of the community around him. Furthermore, his writing in English 30-1 and Social Studies 30-1 was exemplary, demonstrating a sophisticated understanding of complex ideological perspectives. Karamveer's insightful analysis and perceptive application of theory made him a true standout member of the Elder Dr. Francis Whiskeyjack school community.

Julian Rochman

Harry Ainlay

It was a privilege to recognize Julian for the Division Humanities Award. Julian approached all of his academic pursuits in a responsible and passionate manner; however, his engagement with humanities courses such as history and English was truly impressive. Julian's performance in History 30IB demonstrated true curiosity, dedication and a deep knowledge of the subject matter. He was not only a student of history, but he also fundamentally understood how historical events continued to impact the contemporary world. Julian possessed the rare ability to bridge complex theoretical concepts with modern realities, often leading peer discussions in class with both intellectual rigor and genuine curiosity. His unwavering commitment to empathy, critical thinking and social responsibility made him a standout candidate for this recognition.

Bianca Brabec

J. Percy Page

Bianca beautifully exemplified the core values of the humanities curriculum through her commitment to critical inquiry, ethical citizenship and engaged learning. She was a self-motivated, perceptive and thoughtful student who consistently demonstrated a rare depth of understanding and intellectual maturity. Bianca actively contributed to the learning environment through her curiosity, collaboration and clear, purposeful communication. She approached complex issues with insight and reflection, naturally extending her passion for learning beyond the classroom. She also embodied the qualities of an ethical citizen, demonstrating kindness, empathy and deep respect for diverse perspectives. Furthermore, Bianca's active involvement in extracurricular and leadership activities—including her contributions as a talented singer at school events—immensely enriched the broader school community. Her insight, leadership and strong character made her a highly deserving recipient of the Division Humanities Award.

Shereen Sultani

Jasper Place

Shereen was a brilliant and academically gifted student of the humanities. She excelled and exceeded all expectations in both her Social Studies and English 30 AP courses, where her dedication and intellectual curiosity were genuinely impressive. She read voraciously, thought incisively, analyzed media critically and remained incredibly committed to deepening her understanding of literature, politics, history and philosophy. In addition to her outstanding academic performance, Shereen was an engaged student and an avid supporter of the humanities outside of the classroom. She successfully started, built and promoted the Jasper Place Model United Nations Club. Acting as the club's founder and leader, she invested an extraordinary amount of time and effort into educating other students and improving their awareness of the many ways the humanities impact the world around them.

Luke Treece

Lillian Osborne

Luke demonstrated an excellent level of achievement in his humanities classes. He achieved the standard of excellence in both English and social studies, while also challenging himself as an International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Candidate in his social studies and French classes. Luke drove engagement in the classroom by actively asking questions, responding thoughtfully and thinking critically about the big picture; he was always willing to contribute far more than just a surface-level answer to the topic at hand. Furthermore, Luke was extremely considerate of his classmates' perspectives and contributions, routinely uplifting their learning and understanding of the topics under discussion. His dedication to learning across all subjects was highly noted by his teachers, as were his ubiquitous, handwritten notes, which beautifully demonstrated a deep connection to the material.

Aria Lee

M.E. LaZerte

During her time in high school, Aria's commitment to her studies was matched only by her exceptional involvement in the school community. As an International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma student, Aria maintained high marks across her classes by actively participating in discussions and demonstrating a true love of learning. Her deep interest in literature manifested in her IB Extended Essay, where she deftly explored the effects of trauma as represented in *The Bell Jar*. Driven by intrinsic motivation, Aria even earned dual credit in post-secondary courses while simultaneously completing her high school program. While she demonstrated exceptional writing skills in both English and social studies, English was not Aria's first language; she not only mastered the language, but she truly excelled in it. Aria's high level of achievement ultimately stemmed from this innate passion for the humanities.

Zoe Argo

McNally

Zoe was a passionate learner of literature, history and language. She excelled in critical thinking and rarely missed an opportunity to engage in deep queries related to these subjects. As an ethical and empathetic community member, Zoe engaged others whenever possible in rich dialogue, encouraged their insights and celebrated their voices. Her efforts helped create a welcoming and engaging learning space where complex ideas thrived. She regularly built upon the ideas of others in the spirit of enrichment, keeping her full focus on the pursuit of knowledge and understanding. As a world traveler, an avid reader and a natural inquirer, she remained dedicated to communication and continuously critiqued her own writing and speaking to improve. Zoe earned this award not just through her hard work, but by serving as an exemplary model of intrinsic thoughtfulness for the entire student community.

Maanvi Daulatani

Millwoods Christian

Maanvi demonstrated a strong commitment to the humanities and to her school community. Through her active involvement in the Student Council, Diversity Council and Model United Nations, she used her voice to support others, build mutual understanding and encourage students to care deeply about local and global issues. She approached every challenge with empathy and a people-first mindset, effectively advocating for her own learning while always considering the well-being of others. In Spanish class, Maanvi was a dedicated and curious student who participated actively, developed strong confidence in speaking and writing, and showed a genuine appreciation for Spanish-speaking cultures. Her leadership, compassion and commitment to human connection helped create a more inclusive school community and left a lasting impact on those around her.

Jessie Song

Old Scona

Jessie demonstrated exceptional achievement in the humanities through her deep engagement with English and social studies, her commitment to ethical leadership and her entrepreneurial approach to community impact. She earned excellent grades while consistently pushing for insightful analysis, exemplifying curiosity and critical thinking as an engaged learner. As the president of Old Scona's Writing Club, she tenaciously spearheaded student writing opportunities through the school's bimonthly newsletter and magazine; she also took the initiative to design workshops to help her peers strengthen their academic and creative writing skills. Furthermore, Jessie applied her compassion and dedication to serving others through student governance and volunteerism. She amplified underrepresented voices through her various leadership roles, building trusted relationships across educational, cultural and community settings by communicating and problem-solving with absolute integrity.

Anisa Alas

Queen Elizabeth

Anisa deeply loved literature, exhibiting this passion through her active engagement in class, where she was always ready and more than willing to discuss the delicate intricacies of English, whether through poetry or novels. Those within her vicinity could not help but be pulled in by her fascination with the various perspectives held by characters encountered in the readings. She regularly posed moral questions and encouraged her fellow students to question their own assumptions, while always maintaining deep respect for their particular worldviews; in this respect, Anisa truly operated as an ethical citizen. This young woman possessed immense spirit, which she showed in every class discussion, every paper she wrote and every question she asked. She was consistent in her analysis of the world, had the confidence to embrace change and carried the drive to make positive differences through the humanities.

Amica Becker

Ross Sheppard

Amica was a Grade 12 student whose commitment to her community was beautifully matched by her engagement with the humanities. Inspired by a family legacy of service, Amica spent her high school career successfully bridging the gap between academic inquiry and active leadership. She approached her studies in English and social studies not just as subjects, but as essential tools for understanding and supporting the diverse community around her. In the classroom, Amica led collaborative discussions, bringing a captain's mentality to academic projects. Her capacity to manage a rigorous schedule—balancing six sports and seven extracurricular activities—demonstrated remarkable intellectual discipline and a tireless work ethic. Amica consistently applied the critical thinking and communication skills honed in her humanities coursework to foster a more inclusive school environment, making her academic excellence and selfless dedication an ideal representation of the Humanities Award.

Taneesh Chekka

Strathcona

Taneesh was a hardworking and thoughtful student who drew from a holistic skillset to contribute effectively to class discussions, offer insightful perspectives, collaborate with peers and craft persuasive arguments. Truly committed to the humanities, Taneesh was a top student in English 30-1AP, Social Studies 30-1AP and French 9Y30. His commitment to excellence was demonstrated through his resilience when faced with challenges, alongside a constant desire to improve and grow. Supporting the school's founding principles, Taneesh was an active member of the Debate Club, served a master of ceremonies at the Remembrance Day ceremony and served as a student ambassador at Advanced Placement night. His steady commitment to an improved world fueled his deep understanding of power structures and human nature, allowing him to examine issues critically and ethically to bridge the gap between historical context and contemporary lived experiences.

Tobias Oliver-Poulsen

Victoria

Tobias demonstrated excellence in a wide variety of humanities subjects. He was a gifted writer, possessed a wide range of background knowledge and showed a real passion and enthusiasm for literature and history throughout high school. In class, Tobias was not just an engaged learner—he was a thoughtful and supportive classmate who could always be counted on to take risks and make meaningful contributions to class discussions. Across all of his humanities subjects, Tobias consistently demonstrated an ability to combine academic knowledge with his creative inspirations, and the results were frequently exciting and thought-provoking. Congratulations, Tobias, on this well-deserved award.

Lilja Radstaak

Vimy Ridge Academy

Lilja continuously exceeded expectations throughout her years at Vimy Ridge Academy, proving herself as an exemplary performer in both her studies and community involvement. Over her high school career, she achieved Honours with Distinction in every single semester, while also acquiring the highest overall marks in various social studies and English courses. Her commitment to the humanities extended far beyond her core studies, as demonstrated primarily through her position as President of the Vimy Ridge Model United Nations Club. Over her senior year, she successfully built the club from the ground up, creating a fun and educational environment for students to explore international politics. From running weekly debates to achieving the title of Best Delegate for Interpol at the University of Alberta High School Model United Nations conference, Lilja beautifully proved not only her love for learning, but also her deep commitment to making the world a better place.

Ravreet Walia

W.P. Wagner

Ravreet was an exemplary humanities student, consistently demonstrating deep engagement, profound insights and a steadfast dedication to fostering inclusive conversations. Her thoughtful classroom approach not only invited diverse perspectives but also delivered astute insights that routinely elevated group discussions. Her sharp analysis of current events demonstrated an innate curiosity and a desire to seek meaningful solutions to global issues. Ravreet's study of literature often centered on themes of privilege, diversity and inclusion; as a voracious reader, she masterfully applied her deep understanding of literature's power to build empathy and actively challenge the status quo. Beyond achieving outstanding academic performance, Ravreet dedicated extensive time to school leadership, serving on the grad committee, W.P. Wagner Student Senate and the Division's Student Senate, as well as organizing major school events. As a leader in anti-racism initiatives, Ravreet generated excellent anti-oppression resources, demonstrating an unwavering commitment to the betterment of others.

MATH/SCIENCE/TECHNOLOGIES AWARD

The Division Math, Science and Technologies Award is open to Grade 12 students who demonstrate exceptional academic achievement in a subject area related to mathematics, science or technologies.

Jackson Stokke

Academy at King Edward

Jackson was a highly worthy recipient of the Math, Science and Technology Award. He invested immense time and dedication into the pursuit of mathematics and science, which was clearly reflected in his impressive depth of knowledge. Jackson approached his STEM courses with a genuine passion that was evident in both his excellent work habits and his effective use of time and resources in class. With plans to pursue post-secondary education after high school, he looked forward to studying laboratory research and biotechnology at the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology (NAIT) to further his scientific training and turn his passion into a rewarding career.

Betina Cavalheiro Ishii

Argyll Centre

Betina was a dedicated science student who maintained exceptional grades throughout the year. She consistently demonstrated that academic success was not merely a result of talent, but the byproduct of an extraordinary work ethic and a true passion for the field. Driven by a desire for deep-level comprehension rather than just high marks, Betina routinely sought to understand the “why” behind every scientific concept. She approached every lesson with a focus on connecting new information to her existing knowledge, frequently asking insightful questions to refine her understanding. Beyond her academic achievements, Betina proved to be an accomplished athlete, a respectful peer and a highly valuable member of her school community.

Mercy Bristol-Vega

Braemar

Mercy demonstrated exceptional academic achievement in her math and science courses. She beautifully embodied the spirit of Braemar, demonstrating self-reliance and a steadfast dedication to her studies through hard work. She strove to understand concepts at a deeper level by always thinking critically and reflecting deeply on the questions she asked. Mercy graciously requested feedback and was quick to implement meaningful changes to her learning processes. Furthermore, she effectively advocated for her learning needs by requesting guidance or additional time with complex concepts before demonstrating her mastery. Beyond her own studies, Mercy frequently extended a helping hand to her peers with patience and clarity, and she always treated her teachers and others in the school community with utmost kindness and respect.

Michael Mebrahtu

Centre High Campus

Michael was an exceptional recipient of the Division Math, Science and Technology Award. As a student at Centre High Campus, Michael demonstrated a remarkable commitment to his studies, consistently seeking opportunities to bridge his current knowledge with his future goals. His academic drive was highly evidenced by his initiative to connect with school support systems, including career counseling and instructional staff. Michael's engagement in high-level coursework and his ability to navigate complex transitions—such as moving between different mathematics streams—showcased a deep-seated aptitude for analytical thinking. Beyond his grades, Michael exhibited a strong growth mindset by attending additional meetings and seeking clarity on challenging concepts. His persistence in the face of a busy schedule highlighted a mature, disciplined approach to the sciences.

Ayman Gani

Dr. Anne Anderson

Ayman was an exceptional student who always strove for his absolute best and possessed a very strong desire to understand everything he learned. He served as the leader in charge of the Peer Tutoring Club, where he successfully paired students with academic tutors and personally tutored students himself to help them achieve their goals. In his Career and Technology Studies (CTS) courses, he proved to be a standout student both in and out of class; for one of his final projects, he built a 3D game engine inside a computer terminal. Outside of class, he took the initiative to request that the school host the University of Waterloo's Canadian Computing Competition. He also founded the Programming and Robotics Club, where he designed an original computing competition and directed members in creating a new video game each year to showcase at the school's open house. His academic excellence, combined with his commitment to helping others and his proactive approach to community growth, made him a highly deserving recipient of this award.

Komal Deo

Eastglen

Komal was a natural problem-solver who viewed every challenge as an exciting opportunity for growth. Driven by immense curiosity, she regularly went far beyond the standard curriculum by asking thoughtful questions and exploring new scientific ideas. This hands-on, fearless approach beautifully reflected her readiness to pursue engineering at the University of Alberta. She thrived in collaborative environments, using her creativity to improve project outcomes while remaining thoroughly open to diverse perspectives. Her technical strengths were complemented by a strong commitment to others; Komal constantly considered how her work could positively impact both her community and the environment. She was resilient, disciplined and entirely willing to take risks in pursuit of meaningful solutions. With a can-do attitude and genuine empathy, Komal ensured her contributions were both effective and ethical, perfectly positioning her to make a lasting difference in her future field.

Kaelan Ondrack

Edmonton Christian High

Kaelan was a talented, confident and mature young man who was always eager to learn all that he could about the world around him. His love of mathematics gave him a strong foundation to explore the world of science with absolute confidence. Whether he was enrolled in biology, chemistry, physics or mathematics, Kaelan independently spent extra time diving deeper into the material. Beyond his impressive academic record, Kaelan was a highly supportive classmate who excelled at collaborative learning. He possessed the unique ability to guide his peers through complex problems, masterfully helping them arrive at the correct answers through their own critical thinking. Congratulations, Kaelan.

Atticus Lee

Elder Dr. Francis Whiskeyjack

Atticus was an exceptionally dedicated and motivated student whose academic record, particularly in the areas of mathematics and science, beautifully reflected his tireless work ethic, innate aptitude and relentless perseverance. He consistently maintained near-perfect marks while actively participating in numerous extracurricular activities. Atticus was an integral part of the swim team, a vital support system within the peer tutoring program and, when time allowed, even developed a website to act as a hub for online games that he enjoyed and created. In the classroom, Atticus elevated the learning environment by asking challenging, thought-provoking questions and offering continuous support to his peers. His extensive knowledge was balanced by a grounded humility and a collaborative spirit. Atticus's pursuit of growth and rigor set a new standard for academic passion, making his profound commitment to excellence a true pleasure to witness.

Alice Meikle

Harry Ainlay

Alice was an outstanding student and an incredible addition to Harry Ainlay School. While maintaining Honours with Distinction throughout her high school career—including achieving a perfect 100 per cent in Mathématiques 20-1 and 30-1—she was also an integral part of the broader school community. She competed on the swim, track and field, basketball and handball teams over the years, and when she was not competing, she regularly volunteered at numerous school events. Furthermore, she served on or acted as the co-chair for over six different committees during her Grade 12 year, helping to make the school a better place for all students. Alice was an enthusiastic learner who never hesitated to inquire further into a particular topic. She thoroughly enjoyed her time in the science and mathematics courses she took, and she looked forward to continuing her studies in biological sciences at the University of Alberta.

Benjamin Thiessen

J. Percy Page

Benjamin consistently demonstrated excellence in computer science, remarkably completing both his intermediate and advanced levels during a single semester. He showed a complete mastery of technical concepts and constantly challenged himself to go far above and beyond what was expected in all of his projects. Benjamin's disciplined work ethic, positive attitude and genuine enjoyment of technology during his time at J. Percy Page made him a wonderful recipient of the Division Math, Science and Technology Award.

Manan Kachhwal

Jasper Place

Manan demonstrated exceptional mathematical ability, excelling in pre-calculus and calculus while skillfully applying complex principles to unfamiliar problems over his three years of high school. As an active learner, Manan regularly engaged in deep peer discussions and expanded his skills through the Mathletes club, where he warmly embraced collaborative problem-solving. His commitment to STEM extended into high-level science, which included building a radio telescope and presenting his Heritage Youth Researcher Summer (HYRS) research at the Jasper Place Science Symposium. To further his goals, he added Advanced Placement (AP) Physics C: Mechanics to an already intensive AP workload, preparing himself for calculus-based engineering. Since Grade 10, Manan matured into a disciplined, independent scholar, successfully transitioning from a student requiring guidance to a highly resourceful individual who pursued his goals with resilience and initiative. This growth mindset, combined with his academic excellence, reflected a driven learner fully prepared for the challenges of higher education.

Jayden Wang

Lillian Osborne

Jayden achieved outstanding grades across his mathematics, science and technology courses. In many of these classes, he chose to write optional replacement exams despite already holding a 100 per cent average—a true testament to his competitiveness and unwavering commitment to mastery. As a collaborative and compassionate student, he loved working on group projects and could frequently be seen tutoring his peers in the hallways. Taking initiative beyond the classroom, he competed in the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Alberta (APEGA) Science Olympics, successfully leading his team to two gold medals. He further satisfied his scientific curiosity by attending an engineering summer program at the University of Toronto and a quantum technology summer program at the University of Waterloo. As an active community member and ethical citizen, he also volunteered at DiscoverE summer camps, where he mentored young children through engaging STEM activities and lessons. Ultimately, his strong ambition and willingness to take risks in his learning sets the stage for his future academic pursuits.

Josephine Maffo

M.E. LaZerte

Josephine was incredibly strong academically, which was beautifully paralleled by her incredible work ethic. Her ability to think through a problem and contribute to a solution was extremely impressive. She possessed an undeniable passion for learning and was always willing to take risks. Josephine served as a highly positive role model to others and was always willing to support her classmates; she was very much a team player, yet she could work independently to attain her personal goals of excellence. Josephine balanced her demanding academic workload alongside a multitude of extracurricular activities—both at school and within the external community—with sincerity, responsibility and maturity. These extracurricular involvements included being a member of every dance club at the school, performing as a member of the Pom Team, and volunteering regularly in the school library. Congratulations, Josephine!

Anthony Corsi

McNally

Anthony showed tremendous ability and excelled within an extremely demanding curriculum. He consistently persevered when faced with challenging problems, utilizing diverse strategies to find innovative solutions. Anthony was intrinsically motivated to perform at the highest level, demonstrating a superb work ethic and a real passion for the field of mathematics. He genuinely took joy in the process of seeking answers and inquiring about mathematical and scientific principles. Anthony also embodied the spirit of an ethical citizen through his collaborative nature; he was frequently seen guiding peers through difficult concepts, leading with a sense of humility and empathy to ensure the collective success of his classmates. Driven and self-reliant, Anthony set ambitious goals and welcomed every academic challenge. This authentic passion for discovery, paired with a resilient work ethic, truly defined him as an engaged learner with the talent and drive to contribute significantly to the fields of math and science.

Felicia Simanjuntak

Millwoods Christian

Felicia was a hardworking student who showed a true passion for mathematics and science. She was absolutely outstanding in Math 31, where she solved difficult calculus problems with ease and finished the course with a perfect 100 per cent average. She also made a concerted effort to support her classmates to reach that same level of mathematical understanding. Felicia saw every mistake as a valuable chance to learn and constantly looked for ways to expand her knowledge. She excelled equally in Physics 30 and Chemistry 30, where she thoroughly enjoyed the challenge of complex theories and intricate calculations. Eager to share her love for these subjects with others, Felicia started the school's STEM Club and organized engaging events designed to get students of all ages excited about science. In Grade 11, she went far beyond her standard high school subjects to conduct research at the University of Alberta through the Women in Scholarship, Engineering, Science, and Technology (WISEST) program, beautifully showcasing her dedication to exploring new scientific frontiers.

Esam Taher

Old Scona

Esam was a standout student who excelled across all STEM disciplines. As a full International Baccalaureate (IB) student, he successfully completed Biology 30, Chemistry 30 and Math 31 at the IB level, while also completing Physics 30, earning exceptional marks in all of these rigorous courses. Extracurricularly, Esam served as the senior executive of Old Scona's STEM Club, where he helped make science and technology engaging for the entire student body. He also founded e-NABLE Edmonton and Dot by Dot Braille, brilliantly utilizing his passion for 3D printing and technology to create custom prosthetics and braille signage to improve accessibility for both local and global communities. Having been invited to the national Canada-Wide Science Fair twice, Esam was widely recognized for his use of STEM to engineer solutions to combat global challenges. Overall, his passion for STEM was unmistakably clear in his academic dedication to the IB program and his innovative use of science to create a meaningful, real-world impact.

Rokia Mohammed Ali

Queen Elizabeth

Rokia demonstrated outstanding achievement and dedication in mathematics and the sciences, earning a stellar 97 per cent average across her Grade 12 STEM courses. Her strong work ethic and natural curiosity were beautifully reflected in her consistent mastery of complex concepts and her drive to understand the fundamental principles connecting ideas across different subjects. Rokia was also deeply committed to supporting other students within her school community; as a prominent member of the school-wide tutoring committee, she routinely helped classmates strengthen their understanding of mathematics and the sciences, contributing significantly to a collaborative learning environment. Outside of school, Rokia volunteered at various organizations—including the local food bank and with Sisters Dialogue—showcasing her immense compassion and empathy. Rokia planned to pursue a Bachelor of Science in biological sciences at the University of Alberta, where she looked forward to continuing to build upon her passion for STEM.

Joudy Farag

Ross Sheppard

Joudy was an enthusiastic and highly capable mathematics student. From the moment she started high school, she was deeply interested in expanding her mathematical knowledge. As an IB student, she spent three years taking additional mathematics topics and opted to challenge herself further through the Higher Level (HL) IB program. Because the school did not offer a formal classroom cohort for the HL curriculum, Joudy worked entirely independently to master the extra course material. Part of this rigorous program involved a major essay covering a topic of her choice, for which she chose to study the complex relationship between modular arithmetic and cryptography—a feat that required an immense amount of independent research. Joudy also eagerly participated in as many University of Waterloo mathematics contests as possible, including the annual team competition hosted by the school. Through her self-reliance and academic drive, Joudy demonstrated a truly unique level of interest in the field of mathematics.

Ben Eitzen

Strathcona

Ben was one of the top students across mathematics, science and computer science. He completed the highest levels in calculus, physics and computer science, and further challenged himself by independently preparing for both Advanced Placement (AP) Physics C exams. In addition to his exceptional academic standing, Ben routinely took the initiative to go far above and beyond the standard curriculum guidelines—asking insightful questions and probing deeper into concepts in an attempt to satisfy his own innate curiosity rather than limiting his focus to material that was simply going to be on the test. This high level of academic engagement helped build a vibrant classroom environment that pushed fellow students to appreciate learning for its own sake. Ben was also deeply involved in the Robotics Club and was always one of the very first to volunteer to help out with school events.

Pierce Bentz

Victoria

Pierce demonstrated excellence as an engaged learner, a highly motivated student, and an individual with a profound love for mathematics. As an engaged learner, he showed strong curiosity and passion, regularly going beyond course expectations by researching and exploring high-level university concepts outside of class time. He approached complex problems with immense persistence and contributed meaningful insights, often providing clear explanations to deepen the collective understanding of the room. As an ethical citizen, Pierce supported his peers with patience and respect, helping others navigate challenging concepts while fostering a positive, collaborative learning environment. He shared his thinking openly and contributed innovative ideas that supported both his classmates and his teachers. Overall, Pierce made a highly meaningful impact and beautifully exemplified the qualities of this award.

Max Tost

Vimy Ridge Academy

Max's dedication to the STEM fields was beautifully reflected in his exceptional academic track record, as he earned Honours with Distinction throughout his high school career. His competitive marks and mastery of rigorous coursework paved the way for his future, securing him early acceptance into the Bachelor of Science with a major in biological sciences at the University of Alberta. Looking ahead, Max planned to channel his passion into oncology and cancer research, aiming to make meaningful contributions to global health. Beyond his individual academic achievements, Max demonstrated remarkable initiative in applying scientific principles to real-world challenges. He consistently fostered a collaborative and supportive learning environment, working alongside his peers to push the boundaries of what was possible. Max's drive to uncover the unknown, paired with his strong ethical values and dedication to the scientific community, made him the ideal recipient of this prestigious award.

Namish Moduga

W.P. Wagner

Namish was a true force in science, mathematics and technology. He maintained exemplary grades across all of his courses, including earning a perfect 100 per cent in both Chemistry 30 and Physics 30. Namish was enrolled in and excelled at numerous computer science courses, including the new Artificial Intelligence course at W.P. Wagner. He was invited as an ambassador to the Division's Student AI Conference last year, and this year he was invited back to serve as a featured presenter. He successfully challenged Advanced Placement (AP) exams in chemistry, calculus and computer science. Namish was also highly involved in leadership activities within the school community; he served as part of the Student Senate, volunteered for STEM/AP night and the school open house, and participated in the annual 24-hour fundraising bikeathon. Always willing to lend a hand, Namish supported his peers both in class and by volunteering for the school's peer tutoring program, serving as an exemplary student who demonstrated an outstanding commitment to STEM and community service.