

# ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

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.

## Camryn Mallory Academy at King Edward

Camryn applied herself with vigor and persistence in all the courses she enrolled in. She was a well rounded, organized student who took pride in the products she handed in, whether it was an essay for English or a project in one of her art classes. Camryn would like to pursue a degree in psychology after high school. Her compassion for others will serve her well should she continue on to a career in this area. Her dedication to her classes and her ability to accept feedback and reflect on her practices will take her far in her post-secondary studies and beyond.

## **Jeremy Poon** *Centre High Campus*

Jeremy's plans for the future include a bachelor of science with a major in biological sciences. Jeremy overcame many difficulties in the past 12 years of schooling. He considered himself a late starter when it came to academics. The marks he earned in high school would have seemed inconceivable to his younger self. Over the years his love of learning and reading grew steadily. It took him time to adapt to the switch from in-person to online learning. Jeremy is proud of this award. It recognizes how much effort he put into becoming a better student.

## Kelsey Holmquist Eastglen

Kelsey was a dedicated student who focused on success. She went beyond expectations in all academic areas. Kelsey stayed engaged and proceeded to push herself even during the early stages of online learning. This determination continued as she finished her final year. Demonstrating excellence across all subject areas showed Kelsey's passion for learning.

#### Noam Kleine Edmonton Christian High

Noam had one of the highest overall averages at Edmonton Christian. He was a hard worker in all his courses. He was kind, compassionate and always willing to help both his peers and his community. Noam was a critical thinker and had a sharp mind for details. He was part of the student council, did all the behind the scene preparations for school activities, and was the school representative for the Division's Student Senate for three years running. Noam represented the school and the whole student body well. He was reliable and dependable.

#### Vienna Christiansen

#### Harry Ainlay

Vienna's accomplishments over her three years at Harry Ainlay speak to her passion for learning and unfaltering inquisitive spirit. With curiosity as her driver, she immersed herself in her studies, earning near perfect grades and ranking well within the top one per cent of students. In achieving such high standing, she successfully demonstrated the impact of persistence, diligence and embracing opportunities to the fullest. In addition to her scholastic achievements, she was the student council co-president where she showed leadership and service to the school community, and the ability to balance life's opportunities through successes and failures in the pursuit of excellence.

## Mariana Nava Martinez J. Percy Page

Mariana's teachers described her as overwhelmingly kind, honest and compassionate. She had a great sense of humour and got along well with everyone. Mariana was thoughtful, inquisitive and exceptionally hard-working. She was always striving to do and be her best no matter the situation. Mariana was well liked by her peers. She was positive and encouraging, and consistently there to help. Mariana maintained an Honours with Distinction standing each year, excelling in math, sciences, humanities and leadership, as well as a range of complementary courses. Mariana will make a significant, positive difference in the world.

#### Karina Banerji Jasper Place

Karina showed excellence in her academic performance throughout high school with an unwavering dedication to leadership and community service. She was a committed leader and member of the school's Key Club and students' union. In addition to her role as a project leader with the City of Edmonton Youth Council, Karina was involved in several projects to address racism within Division schools. As a Student Senator, Karina collaborated on anti-discrimination resources for all grade levels. She was also on the steering committee for the Student-Led Anti-Racism course available for Division high school students. This work was done as Karina maintained an average of 95 per cent in her Grade 12 courses. She leaves a high school legacy of leadership, service and academic excellence. Karina plans to pursue her post-secondary education at the University of Alberta.

#### Tracy Cui Lillian Osborne

Tracy was an exceptional student, achieving excellence in her academic studies. She maintained an extremely high grade point average while pursuing her creative passions and volunteerism. Tracy truly exemplified what it meant to be an engaged learner. She was committed and dedicated to all of her areas of study. She was well liked by her peers and teachers. Tracy not only worked hard in her academic courses, she was also an active citizen within the school and the greater Edmonton community. We were honoured to give the Academic Award of Excellence to Tracy Cui.

#### Jenna Kisilevich

Jenna's academic prowess was unrivaled in her Grade 12 year. She possessed a near perfect GPA as a full IB student. She achieved the top overall average at M.E. LaZerte in each year of her high school career, which attests to her intellect and dedication to her studies. Jenna was not only studious, she also sought experiences to better her community and explore future career options. Her involvements spoke to her character. Jenna created study groups and clubs for peers, joined the school's students' union, and was highly involved with raising money and awareness of issues such as poverty and mental health in the greater community. She is a caring and compassionate individual. Her desire to fuse her love of filmmaking and science will make her one to watch in the future!

## Whitney Campbell McNally

Whitney showed a passion for learning and discovery while pushing herself beyond her comfort zone. She was a committed student, motivated to strive for success in both the Alberta and International Baccalaureate curricula across all subjects. Whitney pursued opportunities to improve student well-being and sense of belonging at McNally and throughout the Division. She was involved in creating the school's Health and Wellness Club, worked to make McNally a more accepting space with the Best Buddies program, served as a Student Senator and participated in peer tutoring. Whitney was a student who strived for excellence in everything she did. She cared deeply about establishing an environment her peers could thrive in. She aims to create meaningful change as she pursues a bachelor's degree in nursing at the University of Alberta.

#### Jarred Alonzo

#### Millwoods Christian

Jarred showed an excellent ability to achieve in all of his academic endeavours. He was one of the top students in his class and consistently achieved this status throughout his high school career. Jarred was conscientious and strived to do his best in all areas of study.

#### Michelle Mo

#### **Old Scona**

Michelle stood out at the top of her grade with an impressive 99.24 academic average and a predicted mark of seven in each of her International Baccalaureate (IB) courses. A full IB diploma student and community leader, Michelle flourished in her studies through her diligent work ethic, while simultaneously leading the students' union, math team and chess club. As a lifelong learner, Michelle excelled in her education and strived to create opportunities for younger students, such as piloting a selective nonprofit math camp for underrepresented girls and an inter-school virtual chess tournament during the pandemic. Perpetually curious, she always went above and beyond to seek intellectual challenges, whether through academic competitions, published writing, or tinkering to make new things. She was an embodiment of Old Scona's motto, "Ever to Excel."

## Nour Chouman Oueen Elizabeth

Nour was one of the hardest working, most dedicated students. She was kind and a favourite of staff and students alike. Nour had the second highest marks in the school, and the highest marks based on pure academic courses.

#### Khalil Kesserwan Ross Sheppard

Khalil excelled throughout his high school years as a full International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma student, consistently achieving top marks. Through his involvement in multiple science and math competitions, he exhibited critical thinking skills. A certified community helper, he was an avid volunteer at school, serving on the IB executive where he collaborated with peers to host fun online events during the pandemic. He frequently acted as an anchor for the Ross Sheppard school show. Khalil worked hard to balance his extracurricular life: he played on a soccer team and became both a certified district soccer referee and a lifeguard. His entrepreneurial spirit saw him work to achieve his self-imposed goals and expectations.

#### Juliana Concini Strathcona

Juliana was an outstanding student, achieving an average in the high nineties in a range of subjects, including French, instrumental music and advanced placement courses. In all her classes, Juliana exceeded expectations. She was a diligent student, working to satiate her curiosity, refine her skills and deepen her understanding. She was also a natural leader, energetically engaging in class discussions and activities. Juliana actively and respectfully sought feedback, consistently looking for ways to improve. She was never afraid to try new things or take a risk, recognizing that sometimes mistakes lead to the greatest learning. Her humility, kindness, maturity and positivity earned her the respect of students and staff.

#### Zoe Boucher Victoria

Zoe is to be commended for her attention to her studies at Victoria. Her diligence in the rigour of International Baccalaureate studies, as well as regular courses, was exemplary throughout her high school career. She maintained top grades in all her courses. Zoe was an online student for the last two years. She excelled in academics and participated in the enrichment of her learning. This demonstrated her consistent effort and love of learning despite adverse circumstances. She joined an in-person/online hybrid for her subjects. International Baccalaureate is a demanding route and with five IB courses, Zoe embarked on a pathway of lifelong learning.

#### Henry Mackay Vimy Ridge Academy

Henry was always in the top five per cent of his classes. He earned an 85 per cent in English 30-1, a 93 per cent in Physics 30, a 92 per cent in Biology 30, a 91 per cent in Social 30-1, a 97 per cent in Math 31 and a 90 per cent in Chemistry 30. This demonstrated that he strived for excellence in academics and was hard-working and driven. Henry always challenged the course materials by questioning content and the processes to gain more insight into the curriculum. He had an innate desire to learn, and this motivation was a natural characteristic that you do not see in many students. This drive and motivation for academic excellence is a value he will transfer to his future studies!

## Ahmed Iqbal W.P. Wagner

Ahmed was a strong academic student who tried to complete all of his coursework to the best of his ability. He consistently strived to contribute to class discussions by answering questions or adding comments to enrich the conversation. He enjoyed a broad range of subjects from mathematics to social studies, and sought to draw connections to the real world from the topics that were discussed in class. In Grade 10, he realized investigators probably used angles and side lengths in car accident reconstruction which he later confirmed with his own personal research. He enjoyed options in high school, particularly computing science and pre-engineering, where he learned to code and perform hands-on collaborative work. He saw his options as an opportunity to approach problems in a logical and creative way, where the solution often required original and active thinking. Ahmed is an excellent recipient of this award.

#### CAREER AND LIFE PATHWAYS

## WARD

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).

#### **Tyrell Sylvester** Academy at King Edward

Tyrell showed a keen interest in building items with his hands from the moment he entered high school. He was consistently engaged in his construction classes and always willing to help out others in class, if needed. He was a calm and unassuming leader who was generous with his patience and time. Outside of school, he worked in construction and was dedicated to furthering his skills in the trade. Tyrell would like to pursue a career in aircraft maintenance engineering.

#### **Rand Neufeld**

#### Eastglen

Rand decided to become an automotive technician and to that end he committed three-quarters of his day to studying automotives. He focused his time on instructing Grade 10 students in the lab, helping his teacher build demonstrators for the classroom, and re-installing a transmission in a 1999 Porsche Boxster. He used his own time to job shadow, spending a day working at Plaizer's Automotive with a former Eastglen student. In the next year, Rand was planning to complete his first year automotive apprenticeship, and purchased the theory texts from NAIT so that he could prepare for his training.

#### **Emily Eskiw Edmonton Christian High**

Emily demonstrated consistent dedication to her Career and Technology Studies work. She thrived in these environments as outlets for her creativity. She shared her ideas on how she could improve the quality of a product, she was willing to step into any task that required attention and she went out of her way to ensure a professional stamp was left on her work. In food studies, she was a dependable Grade 12 student who served as a role model and taught her peers who were honing in on advancing their skill set. Emily was creative in her work which ensured a professional quality lunch product was produced for the school community. She was always willing to take on extra responsibilities that needed attention.

#### **Maddie Oselies**

#### Harry Ainlay

Maddie developed exceptional skills in video production. She helped edit video for Black Lives Matter, competed in Skills Alberta Video Production, filmed and edited a huge Career and Technology Studies (CTS) promotional video for the entire CTS department at Harry Ainlay, and filmed the wedding of her volleyball coach. Her projects resulted in a very impressive resume. Maddie learned how to use professional-standard equipment and editing software resulting in professional looking productions. She used her skills to highlight meaningful causes and programs in the spirit of promoting public education. She was an honours student, played school and community sports, and worked with at-risk students throughout the year. Last but not least, Maddie is an outstanding young lady.

## Lewis Nsoh J. Percy Page

Lewis was an extremely motivated student. He was dedicated to perfecting his skills in multiple subject areas at J. Percy Page. He began his cosmetology journey in Grade 10, and despite his love for it, decided to explore the other clubs and classes offered at J. Percy Page. When he returned to cosmetology in his final year, Lewis decided that pursuing barbering and hair design was a passion. Lewis worked incredibly hard to complete Cosmetology 20 and 30 concurrently. He spent all of his free time in the lab perfecting his practical skills and completing the theoretical portion of the program. He excelled in men's fades and taper cuts so much so that he was constantly fielding client requests. Lewis was a truly wonderful contributor to J. Percy Page, and the cosmetology program.

#### Kegan Machado Jasper Place

Kegan exemplifies what it means to be an ethical citizen with an entrepreneurial spirit. His passion for a career path in business was a driving factor in developing his skills and abilities in all aspects of the Management and Marketing program. Kegan gained expertise in functional website creation, creating a successful in-school, retail business and learning Microsoft word processing to the advanced level. He showcased these abilities at the Skills Canada Alberta competition for I.T. Office Software Applications. Kegan maintained honours in most of his classes and was accepted by the University of Alberta into the faculty of business. He was a hardworking, bright, and focused student who will do amazing things in the business world.

## **Beck Blashill** *Lillian Osborne*

Beck took the initiative and applied to the Campus EPSB Automotive Service technician program even though it required him to travel across the city every day. He was always mechanically inclined and had a high aptitude for automotives. He excelled in the program and transitioned from it directly into a registered apprenticeship position at Sandy Lane Auto. Beck's attendance and commitment was excellent, he was a model student. To excel in the automotive trades, you need to be a strong team player, with exemplary communication skills. Beck was a standout in this regard. He assumed many responsibilities during his apprenticeship and earned the trust of his employer very early on. Beck's placement was so successful that he secured full-time employment with Sandy Lane Auto following graduation in June 2022.

#### Noah Gill M.E. LaZerte

Noah was reluctant to accept accolades for the amazing work he did to support the M.E. LaZerte community. He asked questions such as, "What is the purpose or outcome we're aiming for?" and "What timeline are we working with?" This line of questioning showed maturity and care for process and product. Noah was well on his way to becoming a welder as he completed a semester of the Registered Apprenticeship Program. His dedication carried through academics; Noah progressed through courses much faster than his classmates. He mentored his fellow students and shared his passion for learning. This remarkable student embraced opportunities to help his school community through the application of his skill and the generosity of this time. Noah was integral to the design process and production of giant eight foot tall aluminum-welded numbers for M.E. LaZerte's 2022 Graduation Ceremony—just one example of how he used his competence, knowledge and care to benefit others.

## Catherine Kim Old Scona

Catherine received the top mark for Cybersecurity 10 and 20 and Computer Science 30 IB. She was on the Old Scona Computing Society Club executive. Catherine competed twice at nationals in the CyberPatriot/CyberTitan competition. She was a part of the Top All-Girls team in 2020 and 2021 and is the best defender for the Windows 10 Machine at Old Scona. Catherine was the captain of the Top All-Girl's team for PicoCTF in 2021 and was a candidate for the Top All-Girls team prize of 2022. She was also the vice-president of public relations at Old Scona. She used technology to improve school events and communicate both internally and externally. In her post-secondary studies in engineering, Catherine plans to use technology to improve the community around her.

## Lamees Sleiman Oueen Elizabeth

Lamees was a very dedicated student to both her work and her school. She showed amazing skill in cosmetology, demonstrating that she will be very successful in the hairdressing industry. Lamees was a fast learner, always ahead of the rest of her class. She showed great respect for others by helping when they were struggling with either projects or confidence. Lamees tried daily to always include everyone.

#### Madison Heslinga Ross Sheppard

Madison was a motivated and dedicated student both in the classroom at Ross Sheppard and in her Registered Apprenticeship Program placement. She became an apprentice chef at Earls restaurant. Madison went above and beyond to complete almost a 1,000 hours of apprenticeship training while working evenings and weekends. She maintained excellent marks and attendance in all her Grade 12 classes. Madison intends to continue her training in the culinary program at the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology (NAIT).

#### Finlay Soehn Strathcona

Finlay Soehn was highly involved in our Computing Science program at Strathcona. He not only represented our school at the 2022 Skills Alberta Provincial Championships in web design, but also took part in other international web design contests outside of school. Finlay excelled in his classes and was passionate about learning. In Grade 12, he shared his enthusiasm and abilities with others by collaboratively building interactive Scona-themed games called "Lordle" and "Crosslord." This led to fun contests and conversations that heightened school spirit. Finlay was a very positive and well-rounded student who not only excelled in computer science but many other areas including as a member of our jazz band and swim team.

#### Thomas Bonham

Thomas Bonham followed his passions in film and media over the course of six years at Victoria. He volunteered for every film project available, and by Grade 12, he was on the select team that competed in Skills Canada. Thomas was chosen to work for three weeks with the camera department on the International Alliance of Theatrical and Stage Employees (IATSE) Union film, For the Love of Pasta. He was the first student director of photography for Victoria School of the Arts' major yearly film; a role usually reserved for guest industry artists. In this role, Thomas worked hand in hand with quest Cree film director Aretha Greatrix (head of the Dreamspeakers Film Festival). He was a mentor and department head to nine younger students in the camera department. Recognized by Edmonton film industry professionals, he was asked to join IATSE Local 669 as a union permittee. He plans a career in film and media. Tom has a very bright future ahead of him.

## Teegan Runions Vimy Ridge Academy

Teegan was highly motivated to complete each task to perfection, he worked independently from planning through to completion in all projects. Teegan also pursued his passion outside of school, working in the construction industry. A role model in all his classes, Teegan consistently demonstrated the Vimy CORE values of character, opportunity, respect and enthusiasm.

#### **Evan Ball**

#### W.P. Wagner

Evan wanted to pursue a career in engineering for as long as he could remember. Taking design studies in high school was a natural fit for him. The course taught him industry standard programs like AutoCAD and Fusion 360, and he had access to 3D printers and a laser cutter. During the first two years of taking the design studies, Evan began doing small projects for himself and teachers. In Grade 12, he designed a 4-cylinder engine model using a Computer Assisted Design (CAD) program. He then printed the design using both a standard filament printer and resin printers. The model included windows which provided the opportunity to view internal moving parts. Evan also enrolled in a Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts and Mathematics (STEAM) course where he was part of a small team who designed and built a three-wheeled go-kart that was featured in W.P. Wagner's Open House.

#### 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.

#### Sam Mockford

#### Academy at King Edward

Sam Mockford entered the Applied Graphic Arts program in high school where he realized his passion for creating computer generated imagery. In developing his skills through the use of digital image manipulation as well as 3D modeling and animation, Sam was able to achieve honours at all levels of the program. By tackling a wide variety of courses throughout high school, Sam paved a path of diversity as a life-long learner, with intentions to pursue post-secondary education.

#### Emily Lajeunesse

Emily is an extremely gifted and dedicated artist. She exceeded expectations with every project and put the highest level of craftsmanship into everything she created. Emily sees the world in a unique way and her keen observational skills came through in her exquisitely rendered drawings. It was a delight to watch her methodical approach to drawing take shape on the page! In addition to demonstrating outstanding drawing skills, Emily took risks and experimented with colour, a variety of media and compositional techniques. When interpreting artworks, she shared her insightful ideas and contributed to class discussions. Emily was a strong role model in her art classes and displayed excellent leadership qualities. Her kindness and rich imagination added to our community of learners in positive ways. Emily's creativity, work ethic and ingenuity will serve her well.

## Vian Provins Eastglen

Vian was actively engaged in the visual and performing arts program throughout her time at Eastglen. She was engaged in various performances, and arts opportunities, including creating a large scale mural for school, numerous collaborative gallery shows at the Art Gallery of Alberta, Eastglen's musical theatre program and the after-school drama program. She was always up for a challenge and willing to contribute creatively. Vian left her mark both physically through her art and metaphorically in the impact she made at Eastglen.

#### Immanuel Kasapu Edmonton Christian High

Immanuel committed to doing his best for the last three years of high school band. He put in the work outside of class to learn his music and took feedback to improve his skill. He had perfect attendance marks for all three grades. Immanuel was the recipient of the Band Academic Award in Grade 10 and 11 for high marks (94 per cent and 97 per cent), character and work ethic in class. His average was in the high nineties for his Grade 12 year. This showed his ability to adapt and persevere throughout the required pivoting from in-person to online learning during the pandemic. His quality of work never changed and was always done to the best of his ability, near perfection. Immanuel did not take his studies lightly and he consistently balanced his demanding course loads with motivation, determination and creativity.

#### Ellena Jin Harry Ainlay

Ellena is a very strong visual artist, constantly challenging herself to step out of her comfort zone. She personified the whole artist: Ellena was involved in the Harry Ainlay choral group, worked in the theatre on the technical side, and completed Art 30. She advocated for the arts, provided and accepted constructive criticism, inspired her classmates and was such a kind and compassionate young woman.

## Paityn Johnstone J. Percy Page

Paityn was a positive contributor to the school community of J. Percy Page from Grade 10 to Grade 12. She represented the ideal intersection of artistic creativity and academic focus. Whether it was singing with the school choir, bringing visual compositions to life, or performing in school musicals, Paityn was always energetic, passionate, and successful.

## Noor Iman Salham Jasper Place

Noor was an artist, creator, positive role model and advocate for others to find their voice. Noor received the Top Art Award at Jasper Place and created a skillful and expressive art Advanced Placement portfolio. Noor also acted as the editor of the Jasper Place Key Club, a role that included making posters and tags, fundraising, and advertising to support events and charities. Noor put the highest level of craftsmanship into every project and often created pop culture artwork on clothing, handmade jewelry and paintings to be displayed and sold at Remedy Cafe. Noor was even invited to design and paint temporary front doors for a local business. Noor is enrolled in the bachelor of science with honours and will continue to engage in a lifelong love of art and hobbies.

#### Christina Kim Lillian Osborne

Christina was a committed and very involved arts student, participating in both the theatre world in advanced acting and musical theatre and as a visual arts International Baccalaureate student. She was not only extremely talented, but collaborative, kind, creative and embodied the collective spirit that is fundamental to the fine arts. Her work and her dedication to lifting up the people around her have been extraordinary over her three years at Lillian Osborne.

#### Natalia Ungstad M.E. LaZerte

Natalia was the student representative of the music program for M.E. LaZerte. This talented musician showed continuous dedication to music through performances both at school and at festivals such as Taste of Edmonton 2021. Natalia received first place in the Royal Sound Voice Competition (Winter 2022, 17 to 18 years old). Natalia plays and teaches voice, saxophone, piano, guitar and ukulele, and she is pursuing music (vocal performance) at MacEwan University.

## Trudy Kuropatwa Trent McNally

Trudy was deeply committed and passionate about art throughout high school. She was involved in a wide variety of artistic endeavours including drawing, painting, graphic design, live action video, video editing, photography, sculpture, theatre and animation. Over the last three years, she was involved in starting, developing, and maintaining the school magazine Tiger Times and the school talent show. Outside of school she was an assistant photographer. She worked in a restaurant and was doing some freelance work in film and video editing. She was the co-director of the school production. She was equally passionate about politics and history, and found art to be an amazing connector and place that enabled her to make meaning, express herself and use art to make a positive difference. Trudy consistently looked for opportunities to use the arts as a way to engage with and help her school and the larger community.

## Hannah Berg Millwoods Christian

Hannah used every minute of class to improve her craft. Each project was done with meticulous attention and care. She never seemed to give up or tire. Hannah was zoned in and could focus for long periods of time, creating pieces that showed great mastery of the skills (value, shape, form, line, etc.) combined with liveliness and personality.

#### Lucie Yang Old Scona

Lucie epitomized the Fine Arts Award criteria because she was an exceptional musician and artist and was involved in the community. As a music student, Lucie was an independent and mature student who gracefully fulfilled her role in the ensemble as the only oboe player. She worked hard to prepare her parts before class and developed good tone and intonation on a difficult instrument. Lucie took this challenge head on, and throughout the year, her skills improved dramatically with every class. As a result, she became one of the most outstanding players in the entire ensemble. Outside of the classroom, Lucie helped spearhead the development of the Old Scona Academic Arts Society, whose mandate is to create community engagement with the school through art by creating murals in the Old Strathcona community. Lucie was also a member of Old Scona's yearbook club and as such was a key member who pitched and drafted design and layout ideas.

## Sean Sommerville Oueen Elizabeth

Sean was a dedicated, hard-working and passionate individual. He threw himself into the work and delivered a great end product, whether it be through acting, directing or stage management. Sean not only worked to improve his own skills, he was a supportive peer and was committed to helping his classmates. He was drawn to leadership roles and would do so in a humble and helpful way. Sean was someone his classmates respected and looked up to. He got excited about learning new things and always offered new and creative ideas that could be used in the drama classroom. When Sean set his mind on something, he stopped at nothing to make sure it came out perfectly.

## **Gibson Finlay** *Ross Sheppard*

Gibson remained actively engaged in his education throughout the two years when online learning was prevalent. He invested time and money into furthering his musical education at home and at school. His passion for music and helping fellow students could be seen by his hard work while their primary teacher was away. He always tried to spread the knowledge and appreciation for music with other people. Throughout the year, Gibson tackled many musical projects on his own time. Even though his workload had not decreased, he still found the time to both consume and create more content to further his own growth in fine arts and music.

## Maya Wright Strathcona

Maya was an incredible artist at Scona. She studied drama, improvisation, musical theatre, dance and visual art. In each of these areas she found her artistic voice as a creator and a leader. She directed challenging one act plays like the Shakespearean inspired The Wind and the Rain, acted in lead roles in one act plays such as The Bone House and Concord Floral. She also took on complex roles like Martha in the musical, Spring Awakening. Maya was captain of Strathcona School's Northern Alberta Improv league team and was a fantastic role model to other improvisers. Maya's technical and conceptual artistic abilities were impressive. She was also a dedicated student in the dance program, expanding her movement vocabulary to complement her musical theatre training. Maya consistently demonstrated that she was not only a talented artist, but also a tremendous asset to the school.

## Wiktoria Jurkiewicz Victoria

Wiktoria represented the key elements of what an arts program should be; engaged in learning, focused on ensemble, leadership, communication, and community. She was a section leader in Jazz Band, Jazz Choir, Concert Band, and Concert Choir. Wiktoria represented Victoria School in outstanding fashion by participating in Provincial Honour Band and Alberta Honour Choir, both of which were auditioned ensembles. She provided essential leadership to other musicians in her classes, and gave her musical abilities freely by performing whenever possible, often sharing her original compositions. Wiktoria was driven, engaged, completely dedicated to her art form, and was always seeking to learn more and be better. She learned two new instruments in Grade 12, and sang in three different voice parts in her concert choir. Wiktoria represents the best of what the arts can be and should be, and will continue to influence those around her with her musical gifts.

## Molly Aikema Vimy Ridge Academy

Molly Aikema has been a student at Vimy Ridge since Grade 7. Throughout her time at the school, she has participated in numerous assemblies and performances. In Grade 12, she performed in Twas the Night Before Christmas (lead cat and kid), the Edmonton School of Ballet Passion for Performance, Edmonton Festival Ballet's Gala event featuring excerpts from Sleeping Beauty, and multiple other dance events. She debuted her first piece of choreography at the Winter Celebration to great acclaim. Molly also learned more about the behind the scenes components of theatre and dance by sharing the job of wardrobe mistress for her student company. Molly demonstrated strong leadership skills in her roles in the dance program at Vimy. Molly's success in her fine arts courses were complimented by strong honours grades in her academics.

## Trussan Worth W.P. Wagner

Trussan was involved with multiple areas of the arts including music and drama. Since the beginning of Grade 10, she excelled as a leader. She consistently stepped up to support her classmates, was eager to take risks, and challenged herself with new roles. Trussan was involved with Remembrance Day ceremonies, one acts (as both a performer and technician), mainstage productions where she worked tirelessly behind the scenes and performances with the band. She consistently shared her expertise with the next generation of artists and worked as a true ensemble member. Trussan was an exemplary student within the fine arts world at W.P. Wagner.

# HEALTH AND WELLNESS AVARD

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.

#### Isaac Nadeau

#### Academy at King Edward

Isaac dedicated his time over the past year to improving his mental health and physical well-being by adopting an intense fitness regimen that he followed regularly. As a student who was in our program for eight years, it was inspiring to see this young man shine academically while transforming himself physically. Isaac was aware that the key to improving mental health begins with hard work and regular exercise. Following graduation, Isaac intends to enroll with the Canadian Armed Forces where he will have an opportunity to protect the future of our great country.

#### **Dustin Edgi** amiskwaciy Academy

Dustin Edgi was an outstanding student and role model for health and wellness within the amiskwaciy Academy community. Dustin followed the teachings of the Medicine Wheel and strived for balance mentally, physically, spiritually and emotionally. He maintained a healthy lifestyle on a daily basis and he could be found at every sport practice, attending every class, taking part in cultural practices, striding confidently, and always making ethical decisions. Dustin also committed many years to the Nîkânîw Indigenous Youth Leadership Program where he emerged as a leader and even became a lifeguard for the City of Edmonton. Dustin demonstrated his leadership every day inside and outside of school.

#### Jessina Goodswimmer

Jessina's skill, participation, motivation and positive attitude personifies a health and wellness award. She was an exceptional athlete and a big part of in-and-out of school sports before she became pregnant with her son Jordan. Jessina's determination and resilience to continue to lead an active lifestyle and participate in sports as a young mom was impressive. Her leadership qualities and the encouragement she exhibited in class to push classmates to do their best and participate was exceptional. Jessina is an incredible advocate of health and fitness.

## Elijah Van Boom Eastglen

Elijah was a multi-sport athlete who demonstrated leadership across many teams. Since Grade 10, Elijah played on the senior basketball and volleyball teams. In Grade 12, he added handball, soccer and badminton to his accomplishments. Not only did Elijah participate in sports, he also showed his leadership off the court as a mentor to junior high players at tournaments and events. Elijah was instrumental in building Eastglen's sports teams.

## **Kyle Van Os Edmonton Christian High**

Kyle was a leader through his actions and his words in Physical Education 30 and Career and Technology Studies - Sports Performance. He demonstrated exceptional self motivation in the areas of healthy living, wellness, personal fitness and team sports. He was humble and always looking to make those around him better through encouragement and a team-first mentality. Kyle was a great communicator and a people person, he was fun to be around and was consistently valued as a contributor to a positive classroom environment. Kyle was an exceptional athlete and leader on the Lions volleyball, basketball and soccer teams, and he was well respected by his teammates, coaches and opponents. He played at the highest level of all three sports and as a multisport athlete his natural talents and abilities shone. He put in a tremendous amount of extra training outside of school activities and this commitment to personal and team success was admirable.

#### Roy Tanwani Harry Ainlay

As captain of Harry Ainlay's provincial championship football team, his positive attitude and work ethic were infectious for his teammates. He was a role model for his peers in class as well. Roy was a committed athlete who always made everyone feel welcome on the field and in class as a result of his kind demeanour and goal-oriented mindset. His character is impeccable which led him to start a 7-on-7 football camp. Roy truly did an incredible job as a student athlete.

## Jai Gupta J. Percy Page

Jai demonstrated many great academic, time management, organizational and leadership qualities throughout high school. He participated on numerous school athletic teams and was always a leader who exhibited proper sportsmanship and work ethic for the younger athletes. Jai was extremely polite and respectful to his teammates, coaches and officials. Academically, he was a leader in physical education and recreation leadership classes showing dedication to his well-being and commitment to living an active lifestyle. In recreation leadership, Jai pushed himself every day to achieve personal fitness goals while also encouraging his classmates to do the same. Jai was a respectful, diligent, hard working and reflective learner who was a great ambassador for our school.

## Romy Ng J. Percy Page

Romy demonstrated exceptional achievement and leadership in the area of health and wellness throughout her time at J. Percy Page. Academically, she participated in physical education and recreation leadership classes showing dedication to her well-being and a commitment to living an active lifestyle. In recreation leadership, her perseverance and dedication to understanding material and developing new skills never wavered. Romy was a respectful, diligent, hard-working and reflective learner. She was a leader and a role model in so many areas, as well as an engaged learner. Beyond her strength in academics, Romy was very involved in athletics playing on numerous school teams. Romy was a fantastic ambassador for our school.

## **Gerrit Prinsen** *Jasper Place*

Gerrit was a role model for so many young athletes in our school. His light-hearted sense of humour, along with his extremely humble attitude was something that all other athletes should strive for. Gerrit went above and beyond to engage with all of his classmates, particularly with one of his classmates living with Down Syndrome. These interactions provided a great example of what inclusion and being an ethical citizen look like. Gerrit's positive and welcoming attitude was contagious and created an exceptional environment for everyone. He constantly strived to become better and to push harder. Gerrit was a kind person with a passion for excellence. Without a doubt, Gerrit will continue to develop his academic and athletic talents for many years to come.

## Alex Bischof Lillian Osborne

Alex showed tremendous dedication to health and wellness. He was a multi-sport athlete who competed with tenacious drive and effort. Along with his athletic pursuits, Alex also achieved a high academic standard in both sports performance and physical education. He demonstrated an exceptional understanding of the importance of regular physical activity in combination with healthy life choices that reflected his awareness of all aspects of health and wellness. Alex's passion for physical activity along with his effort and motivation often inspired his classmates into action.

#### Payton Cooper M.E. LaZerte

Payton was a leader in our school and physical education classes when it came to health and wellness. She led by example demonstrating a strong work ethic, healthy eating habits and contributing to a healthy and inclusive class environment for all students. Payton was always positive in class and often helped other students when they needed a hand. In class, she was always one of the first students to complete her exercises and always with a smile on her face. Payton also encouraged classmates through the toughest workouts. She played on several school teams and was a very coachable athlete whose hard work and commitment made her a great role model and leader for her teammates. Payton's commitment to both personal and school-wide health and wellness was why she is very deserving of this award.

## Selva Arman Hernandez *McNally*

Selva Arman Hernandez joined various clubs and teams throughout her years at McNally. She expanded her health and wellness knowledge through physical exercise, nutritional eating, and mental health awareness. Selva joined the swim team and learned how consistent training and patience will almost always lead to growth in technique, speed, and even help in dealing with mental blocks. She also exercised creatively and culturally by joining a variety of dance teams, such as hip-hop, K-pop, and Chinese Lion Dance. Selva's experience made her aware of the importance of a supportive peer group for encouragement when a dance skill is tough. She helped lead school workshops and activities such as yoga, nutritional recipes, and fitness bingo. Selva was grateful to see participants come each week for the activities and fun!

## Aaron Maurier Millwoods Christian

Aaron demonstrated exceptional achievement in the Physical Education and Athletics program at Millwoods Christian. He had a passion for being a positive role model and motivated others to reach their goals. During football season, Aaron had an ankle injury which could have brought an end to his participation. He was given an opportunity to rehabilitate his ankle, but it would require a strong commitment for this to happen. Aaron persevered through this and returned to playing football in the championship game at the Alberta Provincials, where his team won. He also led extra workouts for the track and field athletes, volunteered as a coach for the junior high football program, and gave of his time to assist younger athletes develop their athletic skills.

## Maria Janisz Old Scona

Maria had a strong work ethic while balancing her personal and academic life, and took care of her own mental and physical health and the health of those around her at school and beyond. Her passion for health and wellness in diverse extracurriculars allowed her to contribute to her community. She demonstrated leadership and teamwork skills in her commitment to competitive soccer in the premier women's league and her school's cross country team. Maria was a SET Mentor and a trained school community helper at school, promoting mental health awareness and tutoring junior high students through the Life Long Learners program. She consistently volunteered at her local animal kennel within her community and was a high school ambassador for TeamUP Science, connecting students to STEM events at the University of Alberta. Maria's well-rounded list of involvements also included training as an opera singer.

## Frankie Zhang Oueen Elizabeth

Frankie's commitment to general health made him a role model for other students at Queen Elizabeth. He consistently balanced exercise with diet and wellness.

## Steven Chen Ross Sheppard

Steven Chen was a well-rounded student who demonstrated maturity and leadership in all aspects of his life. He participated in many team sports at school and trained every day after school. Steven was a very caring individual who was always willing to lend a helping hand to his friends. He could often be found tutoring a friend during lunch time.

## Teagan Turnbull Strathcona

Teagan was able to demonstrate a commitment to living a healthy and active lifestyle both inside and outside of the classroom. In physical education class, she was willing to try new things to better herself and broaden her experiences in sport and recreation all of which helped her earn a well-deserved 100 per cent throughout high school. Teagan was always someone who led by example and was very motivated. Her work ethic and positive energy helped her in setting and achieving her goals in relation to wellness and physical education. As a gifted athlete, Teagan was an asset to Strathcona's athletic program. She was an integral member of the flag football team where she helped the team earn a City Championship title in her Grade 12 year, and Teagan was also a talented member of both the school soccer and track and field programs.

#### **Isaac Holth**

#### Victoria

Isaac Holth demonstrated excellence in his dedication to health, wellness and athletics at Victoria School. Isaac was an active member of the school community and played on multiple teams throughout the year, including volleyball, basketball, soccer, badminton, and track and field. In fact, he even helped to form some of those teams. Isaac actively mentored several junior high teams, and assisted in tournaments and special events. He was a diligent worker who managed his time effectively, and gave his best effort in whatever he pursued. This grit and determination also extended to academics, as he maintained high grades throughout high school, and was accepted into a Bachelor of Science program at the University of Alberta. In short, Isaac consistently demonstrated leadership skills and exemplified the values of an International Baccalaureate school.

#### Rhys Kleinmann Vimy Ridge Academy

Rhys strived to do his best in any task that he faced, and prided himself with his unrelenting work ethic. He was focused and disciplined in his academic and extra-curricular achievements. This was evident in his overall honours with distinction marks and his strong presence on multiple sports teams. Rhys embraced the opportunities given to him and tried to better himself along with those around him. He was aware of what leadership entails and he demonstrated respect towards his teachers, coaches and peers. Rhys' willingness to learn and grow drove his positive lifestyle and highlighted how important education is to him.

#### Anish Rana W.P. Wagner

Anish was involved in many sports throughout his years in high school. These included volleyball, football, cricket, badminton, rugby and wrestling. His indoor cricket team won silver during the 2019-20 school year. Anish attended practice regularly and used the opportunity to reach out and get to know other students within the school. Sports helped to keep him engaged in school during hard times and he realized that sports are not all about winning, but rather taking care of and bettering oneself. His leadership kept everyone engaged and on task. Anish also helped in all areas of athletics as the opportunities (such as scorekeeping) presented themselves. Outside of sports, he contributed to the positive life of the school community by welcoming others, being involved in Student Senate, and using his leadership ability for major events at school. Anish was thankful to be as involved as he was, and the school community was grateful for all that Anish contributed.

#### **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.

#### **Kole Villeneuve**

#### Academy at King Edward

Kole Villeneuve exhibited a desire to excel academically in courses related to social studies and English language arts. He was a dedicated student who demonstrated a strong desire to build on pre-existing knowledge, and was always eager to initiate peer discussion to enhance the lessons being delivered. This bright, young student truly stepped up as a leader in his graduating year by representing the Academy at King Edward community as a Senator on the Student Senate. Kole is planning to extend his learning opportunities next year by attending a post-secondary bachelor's degree program.

#### **Breann Faye (Ames)**

#### Braemar

Breann exemplified all of the attributes of an ethical and engaged learner through her humanities classes. In social studies, her meaningful contributions to class discussions enriched the learning environment and her analytical skills were impressive throughout the course. Breann took responsibility for her education while thoughtfully accepting feedback and demonstrating a spirit of optimism. She persevered despite the challenges the year presented. Breann's strong work ethic was evident in all of her English assignments; her creativity, thoughtfulness and unique voice came through in her writing. She was a role model among her peers and made positive contributions to our school community. Breann will attend the Child and Youth Care program at MacEwan where she will continue to pursue her love of learning and helping others.

## Gemma Johannson Eastglen

When thinking about Gemma, one word that comes to mind is diligence. Gemma was not satisfied with good enough—she strived for excellence and pushed herself towards a deeper understanding, a more complete picture, a more thorough job of completing the task. These attributes led Gemma to high achievement at Eastglen, often landing her the top mark in her Advanced Placement classes. She showed a talent for amazing insights in her written analyses on her assignments. There was a precision in her thinking that made her stand out. Lastly, she was a humanitarian in spirit and practice. A genuinely kind and compassionate person, Gemma embodied the essence of the Humanities.

## Tomas Dias Edmonton Christian High

Tomas Dias had one of the highest marks in Social 30. He was also the most engaged in class, not only willing to discuss the importance of differing ideologies, but also how that corresponds to our faith and world events. He was able to critically think from a Christian perspective and would often bring that into his discussions and writing. Tomas was an excellent addition to the classroom environment in both English 20 and 30. He consistently contributed his ideas to class discussion which were highly perceptive and thoughtful. Tomas was not afraid to voice his opinion while being sensitive to the subject matter, kind and respectful.

#### Tysa Laidlow

#### Harry Ainlay

Tysa had a passion for language and culture. She excelled at the International Baccalaureate level in English, Spanish and French language arts, and her achievement in these areas as well as in social studies and French as a Second Language earned her academic distinction. Tysa found interest and satisfaction in her learning of not just languages, but also the history and reasons behind each lesson. Her hard work, resilience and engagement were all outstanding representations of excellence in the humanities at Harry Ainlay.

#### **Bian Cooper**

#### J. Percy Page

Bian demonstrated exceptional academic achievement by consistently achieving honours and honours with distinction in English, social studies, and Indigenous studies courses throughout his high school career. Bian has exemplified remarkable character as a member of the J. Percy Page community. He was brilliant at presenting arguments that were both logically and emotionally sound supported with "airtight" evidence. One of his many endearing qualities is the ability to reflect, and empathize with differing perspectives. This was done with passion measured with mature diplomacy. In Indigenous Studies 30 class, he took a leadership role organizing and facilitating class discussions, particularly in sharing circles. Bian's daily actions clearly demonstrate that human rights, fairness and justice are guiding values and beliefs. We were fortunate to learn alongside a person of such great intelligence, passion and compassion.

#### Grace Lequier

#### Jasper Place

Grace was one of those students who did not find writing, writing found her. It is unique to see such maturity and insight in a student's writing, and it is even more impressive to have a student whose writing is so engaging. Many professional writers work for a lifetime at this, and already, Grace's subtle, poignant understanding of rhetoric is refined. She was a curious student who thoughtfully chose precise details and ideas to consider. Her written work, both critical and personal, was highly nuanced and exposed truthful observations about her experience in the world. Grace's gentle and kind way of moving through the world made her research and writing compassionate. She was concerned with issues related to equity and social justice, and she presented these views respectfully and with great consideration for the thoughts, feelings and perspectives of others.

#### Katelyn Ly Lillian Osborne

Katelyn was an outstanding humanities student and demonstrated the highest level of academic excellence in class. But it was her other traits which made her stand out as even more remarkable and as someone who was worthy of this award. Katelyn was one of the most engaged learners. She created an absolutely beautiful entry for the Royal Canadian Legion annual poster contest, a remarkable commitment of time and creativity that will not soon be forgotten. Katelyn was also an ethical learner, during classes she constantly contributed, she consistently asked questions to improve her understanding and she was a font of information for her classmates and always sought to help others. She was never someone who placed herself above her peers, but always someone who placed herself amongst her peers. Lastly, Katelyn was someone who was dedicated and committed to her studies and her interests.

## Jenna Kisilevich M.E. LaZerte

Jenna was unparalleled when it came to having a true and heartfelt passion for the Humanities. Inspired and curious, she approached her courses with a sophistication far beyond her years. She was an avid reader of all genres, but she was also enthusiastic about film and photography, drawing on both interests in crafting her own original work. She directed a film-based documentary, and was recently awarded for a short French language film. As a writer, her successes were just as varied; she was the most prolific contributor to M.E. LaZerte's literary magazine as well as a successful essayist, writing a comprehensive historical analysis inspired by her Ukrainian heritage. Jenna was captivated by the past's role in shaping our present world, and enacted that passion as vice-president of the school's Interact club. Simply put, Jenna's diverse excellence in the humanities was truly worthy of both admiration and celebration.

## Maia Porritt McNally

Maia was always an avid reader and creative writer. She achieved excellent grades in International Baccalaureate English, history and French. Maia was devoted to continuously enhancing her academic writing and enjoyed discussing intellectual theories with her peers. She was a well-rounded student, challenging herself by taking all three sciences and calculus with ambitious goals of achieving honours grades. She adapted her study strategies to a year of online learning caused by the pandemic and refined her self-motivation and organizational skills through this period. Maia learned from her mistakes and was not afraid of hard work. She knew that her abilities could improve the lives of those around her, as evidenced by her extensive volunteer work, including as an academic tutor with the Africa Centre. Maia will begin as a University of Alberta Bachelor of arts student in the fall and is eager to continue pursuing this area of knowledge.

## Christine Requino Millwoods Christian

Christine consistently demonstrated excellent achievement in her English and social studies courses. She was an effective communicator who was able to clearly articulate and support her point of view. Christine's dedication to her studies secured success in all of her academic coursework, but it is in the humanities where her skills were the most prominent.

## Danna Hristova Old Scona

Danna was a full International Baccalaureate (IB) diploma student who had a passionate dedication to expanding her worldview and knowledge base through her humanities courses. She took history, English and French at the IB level and took Theory Of Knowledge to develop her global mindedness and apply it in a variety of settings. Danna dedicated countless hours exploring all perspectives of controversial and complex global problems so that she could present them in a respectful yet insightful manner. Her abilities allowed her to participate in debate competitions and High School Model United Nations conferences. She was one of the top three speakers at the 2022 Churchill competition. To share her knowledge of speech and debate, Danna also volunteered as a teaching assistant in a Grade 10 debate class. Furthermore, Danna challenged herself to explore cultures other than her own, undertaking the task of examining colonial impacts in Rwanda through her extended essay.

#### Ben Scrivano Outreach

Ben is an exceptional student who demonstrated perseverance and ability in his humanities classes at Learning Store Northgate. His modular submissions were consistently thorough and well done. Ben was receptive to feedback and consistently sought advice to improve both his learning and his work. Ben proved himself to be a motivated and dedicated learner.

## **Ijaz Janmohamed** *Oueen Elizabeth*

Ijaz's final English mark of 98 per cent reflected his abilities as an extremely talented writer who thought critically about the subtle nuances of the texts he studied in class. He provided thoughtful insight during class discussions and he positively influenced the learning environment every day. Ijaz was dedicated to social justice, consistently connecting in-class texts to broader social issues. He had an impressive ability to see the potential for world-building in the texts he studied.

## Carly Chiew Ross Sheppard

Carly was a highly motivated and enthusiastic student who constantly sought to achieve her highest potential. This motivation extended to all aspects of her life: academics, extra-curricular activities and human interactions. She was a very responsible student who not only excelled in academic areas but was also actively involved in many extracurricular activities and community events in the city. She was truly a remarkable young lady who displayed maturity beyond her years. As a result of her motivational attributes, she possessed superb work habits which she applied in a focused, task-oriented manner. Carly was well organized and made very efficient use of her time. She completed the full International Baccalaureate Diploma program and maintained an average over 90 per cent throughout her high school years.

## Sarah Freeman Strathcona

Sarah was a humble and mature learner, who was an incredible student to teach. She was an active volunteer at Strathcona and in the community while balancing very impressive academic achievements. She was a dedicated student and experienced great success across many subjects in the Advanced Placement program and within her Capstone course. Sarah was a gifted writer and presenter. Not only were her ideas insightful and thoughtful but her writing style was sophisticated and wonderful to read and listen to. Whether it be her summer research project, her Capstone thesis, or her work with the Division's Student Senate on creating a podcast, Sarah constantly explored different topics and ideas in many different ways.

## Abby Sarmiento Victoria

Abby was a dedicated student who brought a positive attitude to everything she did. Abby analyzed literature, organized her thinking, and communicated her understanding at levels that most students do not reach until well into an undergraduate degree, if ever. This did not happen by accident—Abby put a lot of time and effort into her work and was not satisfied until she had crafted the best possible version of any assignment. In class, she consistently led discussions, offered new perspectives, and asked questions that provoked new insights into literature. Abby inevitably emerged as a leader no matter what group she was in. Other students responded well to her blend of intelligence, work ethic, and enthusiasm. She always came to class with a positive attitude and detailed notes, eager to engage with new ideas and material. Abby was one of the most intelligent, hard-working students in our school, and there is no doubt that she will make a huge, positive impact on the world.

## Claire Francis Vimy Ridge Academy

Claire demonstrated attributes of an engaged, ethical student through her meaningful contributions in English, social and French courses. As a result of attending French Immersion programming from Kindergarten to junior high, Claire had a deep appreciation of French language and culture, which led to her near perfect mark in French 30. Claire's understanding of the world was evident through her English and social analyses and essays, where she effectively delivered her points through her strong use of voice. Claire was outspoken in class, and always a significant part of debates and discussions. She used both logic and empathy as lenses to view and critique the texts and situations she was presented, and was open and eager to new ways of thinking. Claire achieved honours and honours with distinction in all of her high school humanities, and looks forward to expanding her worldview in her arts courses at the University of Alberta.

## Parneet Virk W.P. Wagner

Parneet excelled academically, particularly in the study of Punjabi where she maintained a 100 per cent average. She contributed thoughtfully to the learning environment by asking questions and participating actively. She was reflective in her learning and appreciated the chance to think critically. Parneet shared a respectful and positive working relationship with her teachers and worked effectively both as an individual and on teams. She strived to do well academically and believed that her language skills in particular expanded over the years. Parneet appreciated being challenged in class and willingly took on those challenges. Her work with our Connect Crew, who welcome new students to the school, was also beneficial to many.

# MATH/SCIENCE/TECHNOLOGIES AVARO

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.

## **Liam Anderson**Academy at King Edward

Liam demonstrated a strong passion in the area of Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics (STEM). He excelled specifically in the disciplines of biology and chemistry. He was a dedicated student who attended classes regularly. Liam plans to continue to challenge himself academically by attending a post-secondary institution in Alberta.

#### **Kiwi Marois**

#### Braemar

Kiwi embodied the spirit of Braemar. Whenever there were leadership opportunities, she generously offered her time. She was a thoughtful, mature, and resilient student who was self-reliant and hard-working. Along with balancing caring for her family, Kiwi was dedicated to her studies. She consistently achieved above the standard of excellence in math and science. Kiwi worked through material, determined her own knowledge gaps and addressed them. She always approached her work with a professional attitude and meticulous attention to detail. Kiwi graciously requested feedback and was quick to implement changes to her learning processes. She volunteered with the Terra organization where she empowered teens to succeed, and she delivered important messages to stakeholders through speeches about her life as a young parent. Kiwi will be successful in any endeavor of her choice.

#### **Yuri Yao**

#### **Centre High Campus**

Yuri Yao is a philosopher at heart and observes the world with the eyes of curiosity. While at Centre High, it was evident he sought to attain the knowledge of what reality is and what it all means. This line of inquiry drove him to repeatedly challenge new information by asking why. He looks forward to stepping into the post-secondary world, eventually completing a PhD, and stepping towards what he will work toward.

#### Gustavo Marin Trejo Eastglen

Gustavo was an incredible student and key member of his Chemistry 30 class. He completed biology, chemistry, Math 30-1 and Math 31 with honours. Gustavo's ability to communicate with peers, and include peers who were more reserved, was a testament to his character. Gustavo took responsible risks with his learning, striving to learn more about the world around him and exploring possibilities. Overall, Gustavo's quest for understanding was what made him successful.

#### **Hannah Burdett**

#### **Edmonton Christian High**

Hannah Burdett was one of the most consistently top achievers in science classes. Naturally inquisitive and always striving for excellence, she asked questions that went far beyond surface level content. Hannah was a leader in the classroom and a peer whom many students sought out when they were having trouble with content. She herself was very dedicated to and engaged with the material, and was a positive influence on others. Her writing on ethics in genetics demonstrated that she thinks and cares deeply for the people and the world around her, as well as how science plays a part in that larger world. She was extremely capable and independent, but also not afraid to ask questions. Hannah's pursuit of excellence in biology went far beyond just achieving a high grade.

#### Brayden Zheng Harry Ainlay

Brayden's passion was evident with a combined average that exceeded 99 per cent in the three sciences, Math 30-1 and calculus. As a hobby, he liked to enter math contests where he was challenged and pushed in his mathematical problem solving ability, ingenuity and mathematical knowledge. Brayden contributed to his school by his leadership in the math club and as a Titan tutor for all levels of math and science including computer science and International Baccalaureate courses. Brayden played a key role in promoting and organizing math contests and, as president of the math club, he demonstrated leadership, organizational skills, proactivity, and public speaking skills.

#### Kaeden Hartman

#### J. Percy Page

Kaeden was a dedicated, inquisitive, intelligent and creative student who strived for excellence in all that he did. He demonstrated exceptional academic achievement throughout his Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) courses. Kaeden consistently achieved honours with distinction in STEM courses during his entire high school career. He was committed to learning, and held an overall grade of 100 per cent in his first five computer programming modules. Kaeden was a respectful, hard-working and active learner in all of his classes. Many students sought the advice and assistance of this quiet leader. Kaeden was always there to lend a hand and collaborate with others.

## Adrianne Surma Jasper Place

Adrianne took all four 30-level science courses and achieved higher than 90 per cent in all of them with the astounding marks of 99 per cent in Science 30 and 100 per cent in Biology 30. She was an extremely dedicated student who genuinely loved science. Adrianne would often ask for extra work just because she enjoyed it so much. She volunteered to represent Jasper Place as a judge at the Parkview School science fair and excelled in her capacity to spark a love of science in young students. Adrianne was a tremendous role model and resource for students in her classes.

## Roshant Vig

Roshant was an excellent student throughout his time at Lillian Osborne. He took a deep interest in his academic work. In math he was never satisfied with knowing 'how' to complete a guestion, he always dug deeper to understand the 'why' behind the method, process and answer. He consistently achieved levels of honours with distinction that reflected his effort and deep understanding. Roshant always contributed to the classroom community in multiple ways asking valuable questions and contributing to discussions. He was also generous with his time and knowledge and could be relied upon to share his understanding with peers who needed a little extra support. Roshant took on a leadership role in helping to prepare International Baccalaureate students for their May exams by organizing study groups and recruiting teachers to support the groups. He worked in a guiet and unassuming way, and was highly regarded by teachers and peers alike.

## Jenna Kisilevich M.E. LaZerte

Jenna was very strong in the areas of mathematics and science, and nearly achieved perfection in every course. This is quite an achievement but amazingly enough this was only one part of Jenna. She demonstrated creativity, persistence, thoughtfulness and confidence, and consistently went above and beyond tackling all tasks with enthusiasm. She embraced new learning as an opportunity to grow while providing strong support to her classmates. Jenna was very involved in the school community and eagerly volunteered her time. She studied different languages and cultures, and Jenna was careful to include everyone. Her entrepreneurial spirit was exemplified through her work on many diverse projects that give back to her community. The M.E. LaZerte school community felt honoured to work with this kind, polite and respectful student.

## Selva Arman Hernandez *McNally*

Selva's passion in mathematics bloomed throughout high school as she was motivated to search out how math could be applied in many different areas of life and used to find issues within the community. She conducted an experiment centered around statistics intending to deduce a correlation between sleep deprivation and stress among her peers. Based on over 100 participants answering a survey, she was able to identify common patterns within her peers. Selva felt more involved in her research and connected to fellow students simply by observing the statistical results of the survey. In university, she wants to continue learning and experiencing new ways math can help detect issues and patterns in society through both the discipline of statistics and problem solving with words.

## **Dylan Mathew** *Millwoods Christian*

Dylan was passionate about his studies in math and science throughout high school. His hard work was rewarded with a standing of academic excellence in these areas. Dylan also enjoyed sharing his passion for physics and math with other students, encouraging them to grow in these areas. He plans to continue to pursue math and science in future endeavors.

## Chris Situ

Chris excelled academically and avidly pursued a full International Baccalaureate Diploma, having accelerated in mathematics, chemistry, and computer science. He eagerly shared his passion for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) with his peers through the Old Scona STEM fellowship club, which he co-founded. This club introduced multiple legacy STEM initiatives to the student body. Outside of school, Chris finished three university-level STEM courses and attended Stanford's organic chemistry program. He competed in Sanofi Biogenius Canada winning National Champion in the group category. He participated in graduate-level published prion research at the University of Alberta. Through a summer job, Chris acquired work experience in a laboratory in an environmental engineering lab at the University of Alberta. Without a doubt, Chris will bring his passion for exploring and sharing the fascinating world of STEM to post-secondary and beyond.

## Koltan Elliott Outreach

Koltan exemplified what persistence and hard work can accomplish. The effort he put into his math and science classes at Learning Store Northgate was recognized by all of his teachers. Koltan was challenged by enrolling in classes in which he had limited background. He never faltered and he excelled. Outreach is incredibly proud of the gains that Koltan made in his math and science courses.

## Nour Chouman Queen Elizabeth

Nour was a very hard working, dedicated student. Always demonstrating kindness made her a favourite of staff and students alike. Nour had the second highest marks in the school, and the highest based on pure academic courses.

## Abdelrahman Elhelwe Ross Sheppard

Abdelrahman took all three 30-level science courses and Math 31 on top of his International Baccalaureate Diploma courses. Having such a heavy academic schedule made it difficult to manage extracurriculars and academics; however, he was not only able to manage this course load but excelled, managing to maintain marks in the high nineties. Peers often sought his help and he aided them to the best of his abilities. Abdelrahman participated in several math/science events at Ross Sheppard including the TeamUP Science competition and the Totem Torus. He will continue his studies at the University of Alberta, where he plans to major in physiology and further develop his passion for the sciences.

#### Kiran Mandhane Strathcona

Kiran's typical day of Grade 12 was filled with calculus, statistics, chemistry, physics and computing science, all Advanced Placement courses. Many would say it takes a special kind of person to love these subjects, and Kiran did just that. Her passion for these fields was contagious and her achievement in them was exceptional. The enthusiasm that Kiran brought to the classroom kept her engaged and also rallied her classmates as she drew them in with her questions and discussions on the topic at hand. The personable nature that Kiran embodied pushed her to be a leader in the math club and peer tutoring program within the school. There is no doubt that the discipline, collaborative skills and love for learning Kiran displayed will continue to set her up for success in any path she takes.

## Rowan Clendening

Rowan showed true passion for all things math and science. In his last semester of high school, he excelled in all three 30-level sciences and Math 31. He consistently sought further understanding of the content taught in class, going above and beyond what was required. Rowan was interested in the reasons behind doing any kind of math and enjoyed using the things he learns in each course to draw connections across courses and ideas. Rather than relying on given formulas, he was more interested in understanding where the formulas came from, how to derive them, and why the formulas worked. Rowan could often be found having intellectual conversations with his teachers and eagerly helped other students to further their understanding.

#### Rhys Kleinmann Vimy Ridge Academy

Rhys strived to do his best in any task he faced. He prided himself on having an unrelenting work ethic. Rhys was focused and disciplined both academically and in extracurriculars. This was evident from his overall honours with distinction marks and his strong presence on multiple sports teams. Rhys embraced the opportunities given to him to try and better himself along with those around him. He was aware of what leadership entailed and his presence demonstrated respect towards teachers, coaches, and peers. Rhys' willingness to learn and grow drove this positive lifestyle and highlighted how important education was to him.

#### Roshni Dwivedi W.P. Wagner

Ever since she could remember, Roshni's favorite class was always science. She excelled in math as well, but in her mind it could never compare to the sciences. The encouragement of curiosity and risk-taking were what drew Roshni into science—she was always curious about the world around her and noticed how many problems there were that required solving. Her academic average in both science and math was very competitive, demonstrating that she understood both of these subjects very well. Roshni's leadership in all areas of the school community were consistently appreciated in her years at Wagner. She plans to study neuroscience and has chosen that area because of her interest in the vastness of the human brain. Roshni's goal is to learn about brain disorders and poor mental health so that she can help people who face mental health challenges.