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ACHIEVE distinction
CELEBRATE awesome
INSPIRE honour
PERSEVERANCE
REACH integrity
ENJOY MERIT
EXCELLENCE



2024

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.

Jaime Singhal

Academy at King Edward

Jaime applied herself with vigour and persistence in every course she was enrolled in. Her involvement in extracurricular pursuits such as Student Senate, leadership and grad council further demonstrated that she was well-rounded, organized and involved in the greater school community. Jaime took pride in the products she handed in whether it was an essay for English or a project in one of her art classes. Her compassion for others, dedication to learning, as well as her ability to accept feedback and reflect on her practices will take her far in all future studies and beyond. Jaime plans to attend post-secondary with a focus on the sciences.

Adriana Kopchia

Argyll Centre

Adriana was self-motivated in her studies and worked towards comprehension without the need for any external prompts or incentives. The efficacy with which she employed this work ethic was evidenced by her grades, but a final grade was not what drove her—it was the genuine passion and desire that she had for learning. Adriana’s inquisitive mind and sincere curiosity about the universe around her and her role within it, led her to regularly look outside curricular constraints. When she encountered difficulty, rather than becoming frustrated, Adriana reconsidered her approach and how she could apply her skills and knowledge more effectively to move towards a solution. When talking through problems with Adriana, it was abundantly clear that she did not want to know the answer, she wanted to truly understand and develop her skill set for future applications. Adriana’s pathways will undoubtedly benefit her colleagues, peers and communities!

Rue Mushonga

Braemar

Rue excelled in all coursework and proved herself to be an attentive, proactive, respectful, determined, thoughtful and reflective learner. Her impressive commitment to academic success was demonstrated by the marks Rue earned overall. Both an eloquent speaker and writer, she deeply and meaningfully engaged with content. Rue’s continued focus on high achievement and positive relationships will serve her well in her personal, academic and professional life.

Mankirat Rattan

Centre High Campus

As an engaged learner, Mankirat dove into studies enthusiastically and curiously. He was always involved in class discussions and asked insightful questions. Mankirat was never afraid of seeking help or extra resources to deepen his understanding of a subject. He loved exploring new ideas and challenges, thinking critically and getting creative sometimes to solve problems. Whether he was doing collaborative work, working alone, or even reaching out to his instructors for extra help, Mankirat always approached everything with passion and dedication. For him, grades were not the only thing—it was the journey of learning and growth that mattered more.

Kieran Channon

Dr. Anne Anderson

Kieran showed exceptional academic performance achieving 100 per cent on his math, physics and chemistry diploma examinations. He was known by his teachers as not just an outstanding academic student and engaged learner, but as someone always quick to offer help and kindness to other students.

Jonathan Peebles

Eastglen

Jonathan strove for and demonstrated overall exceptional academic achievement in not only core classes, but electives as well. As an engaged learner, Jonathan was quick to pick up new concepts, think outside of the box to problem-solve and take risks with positive results. He offered support and guidance to others in the class and enjoyed collaboration to both learn and grow with exposure to differing viewpoints. Jonathan's continued outstanding high school performance across the board in a variety of subjects deserves to be celebrated!

Hiwot Gebremedhin

Edmonton Christian High

Hiwot achieved one of the highest overall averages in her graduating class. She was a diligent and conscientious student who strove for excellence across all subject areas. In the summer of 2023, this passionate learner participated in the WISEST program at the University of Alberta. Hiwot was one of the key leaders in the school guiding many student council events and community-focused campaigns. She was also involved in the leadership of the drama production all three years of high school that culminated in her role as stage manager in Grade 12. Hiwot's plan is post-secondary studies in the sciences.

Cohen Scott

Harry Ainlay

Cohen went above and beyond expectations in all of his endeavours, encouraged friendly competition and motivated others in activities and academics. His genuine curiosity for learning often led to the investigation of school subjects extracurricularly out of a desire for more knowledge. Cohen particularly enjoyed math and biology and looked for extensions of the curriculum in such subjects. With high emotional intelligence and extreme consideration for others, Cohen was cognizant of his impact on others and demonstrated kindness to all. As a member of the Harry Ainlay Community Helpers Program, he was a strong advocate for mental health and was trained to counsel students needing support. Cohen participated in Model UN, debating important global issues and working with other students to find resolutions. He is also an important member of his community indoor soccer team and supports everyone on and off the field.

Hunter Pawliuk

J. Percy Page

Hunter demonstrated dedicated academic excellence throughout his high school career. He received a final grade of 100 per cent in Math 10C, Math 20-1, Math 30-1 and was on pace to do it once again in Math 31 at the time of this award nomination. His impressive academics extended beyond math as he achieved a mark of honours with distinction in all of his 30 level courses. Hunter, a well-rounded individual, was well liked by his peers. Others enjoyed his great sense of humour, respected him as a decorated student athlete, and appreciated the positive influence he had on those around him. What may be even more remarkable than Hunter's academic prowess, or the life balance he sustained throughout his high school career, was that he achieved this success with relative ease.

Lilah Harvey

Jasper Place

Lilah showed an intense love of learning and a profound devotion to academic excellence. As a result, she became an extremely accomplished student across a wide range of courses and academic disciplines. Eager to challenge herself whenever possible, Lilah completed seven AP classes during her time in high school. She consistently achieved honours with distinction and both her classroom engagement and her intellectual curiosity were second to none. Lilah was also profoundly empathetic and always enthusiastic when it came to sharing her vast knowledge with peers. She held herself to an exceedingly high ethical standard and invariably surpassed those stringent expectations. In both curricular and extracurricular activities, Lilah was an inspiration and a role model to all who came into contact with her. Her unfailing kindness, academic brilliance and intellectual flexibility made her the perfect candidate for this award.

Ryan Zhang

Lillian Osborne

Throughout his academic journey, Ryan demonstrated an unwavering commitment to excellence and hard work. Academically, he consistently exceeded expectations and maintained an exceptional standard of achievement across all subjects. Ryan approached challenges with a positive approach, demonstrated a remarkable ability to overcome obstacles and excelled in any endeavour he undertook. Ryan exemplified maturity beyond his years, displaying a commendable level of responsibility and integrity. He approached every task with a sense of purpose and dedication, set a positive example for peers and earned the respect of everyone around him. Despite his exceptional abilities, Ryan remained humble and approachable, always willing to lend a helping hand and support classmates in their academic pursuits.

Basma Hussain

M.E. LaZerte

As an IB student, Basma excelled in all of her subjects, scoring in the high nineties across the board. She completed all three sciences, social studies and Math 31 at the IB-level, which demands a high level of commitment and dedication. Throughout her high school journey, Basma worked incredibly hard to maintain exceptional grades and contribute to the school community in meaningful ways as a volunteer and leader. She also focussed on uplifting her classmates and helping others when they needed her support both in and out of the classroom. Basma will continue to do great things as she begins post-secondary in the fall.

Juliana Scott

McNally

Juliana eagerly expanded her knowledge past the sphere of her university major, such as with her extended essay in which she wrote a historical paper beyond the social studies curriculum. She enrolled in the full IB program and pushed herself academically to both preserve academic excellence and gain the ability to critically examine and reflect throughout her education and onwards. Along with an intensive academic program, Juliana worked part-time which allowed her to understand the importance of meticulous discipline and commitment when striving for goals. She developed excellent time management skills that will help her navigate and overcome future challenges and grow as a learner. Additionally, Juliana's values lie beyond school, she cares deeply about her community. She is an avid leader and an active member in voluntary groups such as Meals on Wheels, Hope Mission and Edmonton's Food Bank.

Ellianna Birkholz

Millwoods Christian

Ellianna's love for learning and commitment to personal growth and leadership were evident throughout her high school studies. She exemplified excellence in achievement and work ethic and achieved 100 per cent in several courses. Leading by example, she encouraged her fellow students to achieve their best by helping them with exam preparation and peer tutoring. Ellianna engaged in leadership courses, actively participated in service projects in Belize and volunteered within the local community, all while keeping her academic achievement at a high level. Ellianna will undoubtedly continue to positively impact those around her and make meaningful change as she pursues her goal of becoming a teacher.

Victor Xu

Old Scona

Victor was a genuinely curious, outstanding student in every sense who loved learning. Over and above his stellar academic success, he was an integral part of Old Scona's Reach for the Top team. As a member of the Students' Union, Victor played an important role in ensuring the success of planned activities for the betterment of the student body's experience.

Eyas Kadri

Queen Elizabeth

As an engaged learner and leader, Eyas took on a task and completed it fully with the goal to understand not just memorize why the concept was being introduced. He was keen to learn from his mistakes, owning them as learning opportunities. Eyas was a compassionate, caring and genuine person who brought the best out of his peers and helped to make the school a much better place to be. He will be dearly missed at the school, yet the impact Eyas made on students and staff alike will last well into the future. Eyas will continue to positively impact others and make the world a better place to be!

Tejaswi Bhandari

Ross Sheppard

As the head of HSMUN and a member of the Principal Advisory Committee, both clubs significantly broadened Tejaswi's learning scope and created a beautiful learning environment to engage in. Her involvement in Shep TV, where she contributed as an anchor and explored camera techniques, enhanced her creative expression on and off screen. In leading SUNIA, a camp emphasizing ethical citizenship, Tejaswi engaged in nuanced discussions about global issues that focused on how individuals and communities can make large-scale impact. Anjaneya, the youth yoga class she coordinated, instilled teamwork and self-reliance values through community initiatives. Tejaswi's academic achievements, including her 96 per cent average, were a result of her all-round approach to learning and life, coordinating volunteering, projects, hobbies, and studying into her schedule.

Luke Concini

Strathcona

Luke was the very definition of an engaged learner throughout high school—a well-rounded student involved in athletics, music and academic competitions. Academically, Luke was at the top level with a full load of AP courses. He received the school's highest academic average award in Grade 11, narrowly missed out on the same award in Grade 10, and was in the running for the Grade 12 award at the time of this submission. Yet, Luke was not solely focused on academics. He entered Computer Science contests and the Science Olympics. Luke was chosen as a speaker for the Remembrance Day ceremony and then again was asked to be the main guest speaker at the Advanced Placement Open House. These two speeches were written and delivered with thought and care, showing off his citizenship and spirit. Outside of school, Luke is a competitive rock climber, climbing instructor and plays guitar.

Emma Pemann

Victoria

Emma was an outstanding student who excelled across a wide variety of subjects. She approached new ideas and concepts with an open mind, and was particularly adept at making connections between different subject areas. Her writing was particularly noteworthy—she consistently found interesting and thought-provoking ways into complex themes, and phrased her thinking in precise and powerful ways. Emma's enthusiasm for learning made her a natural leader during class discussions, and she was well liked and respected by her classmates. During her three years at Victoria School, Emma became a valued member of the school community. We are excited to see where her journey takes her next.

Brandon Flewwelling

Vimy Ridge Academy

Brandon consistently exhibited traits of an engaged learner, ethical citizen and possessed an entrepreneurial spirit. He pursued academic challenges with enthusiasm, demonstrating a commitment to learning across various disciplines. Brandon's integrity and compassion were evident in his interactions within the school community and beyond. Additionally, his entrepreneurial mindset was remarkable as he showed initiative and creativity in problem-solving and pursuing his goals. Brandon's dedication to academic achievement, coupled with his ethical values and entrepreneurial drive, make him an exceptional recipient of this prestigious award.

Jonah Campbell

W.P. Wagner

In the words of his peers, Jonah was a beacon of inspiration for others and he deserves this award more than anyone else. Jonah was a phenomenal student, consistently achieving academic excellence throughout his classes and balancing that success by giving back to his school and community. Jonah was always volunteering his time and knowledge to school programs such as peer tutoring, student leadership and school clubs. Jonah led the school's inaugural Lunar New Year celebrations and captained a bike-a-thon team to raise over \$3,000 for a local charity. All of these accomplishments were achieved with Jonah maintaining an average of over 90 per cent in all of his courses. Jonah exemplified everything the school stands for and he will continue to be a beacon of inspiration for everyone whom he encounters.

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).

Aliyah Pudlo Johnson

Academy at King Edward

Aliyah re-joined the Academy at King Edward for Grades 11 and 12 and expressed interest in the Restaurateur program through Victoria School of the Arts for next year. With a growing interest worldwide in culinary creativity, Aliyah decided to pursue this career pathway through high school with the intention of attending NAIT to gain a more in-depth understanding of the industry. Her dedication to success will ensure that she embarks on a meaningful journey through this profession.

Caty Laidlaw

Argyll Centre

Caty completed numerous courses to support her career pathways. She excelled in Finance and Information Technology and took several accounting modules with an average of 99 per cent. Caty took Physical Education 10, 20, and 30 to improve her knowledge of kinesiology and health and earned an average of 95 per cent in those courses. Her achievement in Forensic Studies 25 and 35 resulted in an average of 96 per cent. As well, Caty took foods, e-learning, and communication technology courses to improve her life skills. Outside of classes, Caty worked in the recreation and human services fields to gain practical customer service experience. Her plans are to attend university for a mathematics and accounting undergraduate degree before attending medical school. She wants to become a doctor before pursuing forensic pathology.

Holly Dumais

Braemar

Holly demonstrated commitment to complete leadership, foods and health modules. She exhibited exceptional determination, self-motivation and resilience by successfully finishing tasks despite the complexities of daily challenges. Holly was always very positive and willing to help whether that was speaking at assemblies, creating school social media posts or by volunteering to help cook meals for her fellow classmates. Her resilience and courage to push herself beyond her comfort zone in order to demonstrate thoughtful reflection and growth was truly admirable. Holly is an amazing individual with a great sense of humour. We are incredibly proud of all that she has become and will continue to be. Our hope is that she goes on to inspire others and embody that positive influence on everyone she meets.

Konstantinos (Kosta) Koutsopoulos

Dr. Anne Anderson

Kosta became an integral part of the Dr. Anne Anderson school community. He demonstrated incredible passion and skill in broadcasting, communication technology and computer science pathways. He achieved exceptional academic success in these areas. Kosta was enthusiastic and dedicated to supporting school events.

Nikki Bowerman

Eastglen

Nikki embodied the qualities and dedication sought after for the Division Career and Life Pathways Award. His academic excellence in construction, computer science, and digital arts, highlighted his commitment to his education and personal development. Additionally, Nikki's creative talents and collaborative nature further distinguished him as an exceptional candidate for this award. His positive impact within the school community reflected the values upheld by this award and made him a deserving recipient of this honour.

Paige Groot

Edmonton Christian High

Paige's awareness of need and initiative to help without hesitation was a blessing to the food studies program and its success. With her grace and gentle spirit, Paige helped others and was consistently willing to do extra work even when it extended beyond class time or stretched her comfort zone. Her work exemplified attention to detail and her organization skills, in conjunction with the skills of her peers, kept the "to-do" list in check and flowing at a controlled, efficient and logical speed. Paige always supported beyond what was expected. Congratulations on this well-deserved recognition.

Ryan Ma

Harry Ainlay

Ryan demonstrated exceptional leadership by overseeing and managing the school's 2023–24 yearbook. He worked with students and staff to ensure a quality product. Ryan attended all sorts of events to photograph and document so that the events were represented in the yearbook. Ryan also became somewhat of an equipment manager, where he helped organize gear and trained other students to improve their skill sets. Ryan was always looking out for others and made things better wherever he could. He is an incredible young man—the type of individual that one wants on their team. Ryan focuses on quality improvement, treats others with respect and kindness, and is an overall fantastic individual.

Dwija Patel

J. Percy Page

Dwija was an engaged learner, ethical citizen and had an entrepreneurial spirit. She excelled in academics and personal endeavours, and consistently demonstrated motivation to contribute actively to the learning environment. Dwija embraced challenges with enthusiasm and displayed critical thinking and creativity. She valued diversity and fostered inclusive environments showing humility, fairness and compassion in her interactions. Dwija set ambitious goals, thrived in challenging environments, and exhibited resilience and adaptability. Her commitment to personal and intellectual growth, along with her innovative mindset, reflected her dedication to benefiting the community and the world.

Aidan Wicks

Jasper Place

Aidan consistently demonstrated exemplary qualities both as a student and as a leader in the school's Career and Technology Studies program. He pursued Welding, achieving honours in all 15 credits, and completed all three levels of Mechanics, earning 25 credits with honours. Moreover, Aidan's dedication extended beyond the classroom. He was actively working towards his journeyman certificate and worked in the industry at a car dealership. His contributions to our school community were equally impressive. Aidan was a pivotal volunteer at the school's open house for the past three years and played a significant role in organizing the annual mechanics car show. Aidan's participation in Skills Canada also highlights his commitment to furthering his expertise and representing his high school with pride.

Morgan Gannon

Lillian Osborne

Morgan demonstrated her passion and determination in academics as well as in fashion studies. Her hard work, technical knowledge and enthusiasm in fashion was unparalleled amongst her peers. Morgan generously volunteered her time in the fashion studies classroom three times a week to work with the introductory and intermediate level students. She was highly capable of helping these students with their construction projects and was able to troubleshoot difficulties with the machinery. Being mindful of textile waste, Morgan used the fabric scraps in the classroom to recreate new projects and designs. She was the school's 2024 Alberta Skills Canada competitor in fashion technology. Her designs and creations were also showcased in the MC College Inspire and 7 Deadly Sins fashion shows. Morgan is attending Kwantlen Polytechnic University for fashion studies and design.

Davonne John

M.E. LaZerte

Conscientious, inquisitive, hardworking and a frequent fixture in the school's CTS wing, Davonne exemplified a driven and industrious student. His genuine pursuit of learning was an infectious quality that benefited those who had the enjoyable experience of working and learning alongside him. Above all, a quality of Davonne's that he overwhelmingly exhibited was his ability to address problems by being pragmatic and thinking through situations to determine the best solution. An educator's dream—a student completing high school with the ability to think critically.

Jasmine Laing

McNally

Jasmine definitely exemplified the character attribute categories of engaged learner, ethical citizen and entrepreneurial spirit. Despite being an IB student with a heavy course load of core courses, Jasmine took the effort in Grade 10 to experience multiple different CTS courses, including foods and computing science. She also spent a lot of time working extra-curricular hours in the construction shop, developing a skill set that she would eventually use cross-curricularly. Jasmine spent each year dedicating her time to being a lead student in the Tech Theatre class leading projects in which students learned basic carpentry and construction skills in order to build out the sets and props for drama productions. This was an excellent example of Jasmine's entrepreneurial thinking to work in an interdisciplinary fashion between CTS and fine arts. Due in part to her experience working in this capacity, Jasmine spent the first semester of this year enrolled in the RAP program.

Franz Arimbuyutan-Eslava

Millwoods Christian

Franz demonstrated creativity, vision and passion in the creation of media art. He utilized his skill to find unique ways to communicate his message to the viewer. Franz was able to engage his audience by combining a variety of approaches including music, video, photography, cartooning and sketching. He had a passion for both old and new technology, using them interchangeably to achieve the desired effect. Franz was highly knowledgeable about media history and spent time researching when beginning a new project to ensure project authenticity and the ability to effectively communicate his intended message.

Bayan Shayeb

Old Scona

Bayan, a very well-rounded individual, participated in many diverse activities. She was the captain of the All Girls CyberPatriot team in her senior year and a member of the last three All Girls teams that placed first in Canada in 2022, 2023 and 2024. As co-founder of the Flow Project, Bayan helped to improve the lives of women by addressing period poverty and cultivating menstrual equity. She volunteered as a tutor and at Edmonton's Food Bank. Bayan actively engaged in many student activities at the school as a member of Debate, CyberPatriot, Business Club and Model Union. These teams competed at the local, provincial, national and international level competitions. Bayan also worked on the school yearbook, Art Society and Student Engagement team.

Esrom Yemane

Queen Elizabeth

Esrom was incredibly passionate about all things design and communication, already running his own small business and preparing to study this field in post-secondary. During his time at Queen Elizabeth, Esrom played a major role in editing both the school yearbook and daily television show. Furthermore, he was incredibly committed to his small business doing freelance photography, videography and graphic design.

Ayden Kreutzer

Ross Sheppard

Ayden was an engaged student who consistently applied himself to the best of his ability on every task. He used his creativity to find positive solutions to resolve problems in the context of class projects. Ayden was also able to communicate his thoughts in a coherent way in order to contribute when working with others. On top of these positive characteristics, Ayden excelled academically in his Advanced Innovation & Entrepreneurship class.

Ana Kostyrko

Strathcona

Since Ana started at Scona, she showed exceptional creativity, dedication, and proficiency in various media platforms. Ana demonstrated a remarkable ability to conceptualize and execute ideas across a range of mediums from graphic design to photos to video. She exhibited strong leadership qualities within collaborative settings and inspired her peers to strive for excellence. Ana's passion for media, design and communication were evident in every endeavour she undertook, making her a deserving recipient of this award.

Gia Asumu

Victoria

Gia embodied engaged learning, ethical citizenship and entrepreneurial spirit. His journey within the Career and Life Pathways sphere was a testament to his commitment to personal and community development. As an active volunteer and actor in film studies, Gia showcased his curiosity and willingness to take risks by performing diverse roles and scenarios and contributing to his peers' learning. His ambitious endeavours in the school's food culture program demonstrated his critical thinking, creativity and collaborative skills in problem-solving, particularly in organizing and leading school events. This leadership consisted of ensuring many students of diverse backgrounds felt included and welcome. Moreover, Gia's leadership in culinary arts reflected his ethical citizenship. His entrepreneurial spirit shone through in his willingness to challenge the status quo, continuously setting and achieving goals that benefited not only himself but also the broader community.

Tivon Marks

Vimy Ridge Academy

Tivon's dedication to the field of recreation and human services is truly commendable. He showed exceptional leadership skills serving as a role model for his peers and making significant contributions to community projects and initiatives. Tivon embodied the values of an ethical citizen, consistently demonstrating integrity, compassion and a sense of social responsibility in all his endeavours. He actively engaged with issues affecting his community and worked tirelessly to make a positive impact. Tivon's entrepreneurial spirit was also noteworthy, as he continually sought out innovative solutions and opportunities to pursue his goals. Whether it was organizing events, developing new programs or collaborating with others, Tivon displayed a remarkable ability to think creatively and take initiative.

Dariusz Kubasiak-Mohamed

W.P. Wagner

Dariusz consistently produced outstanding results in his computer science studies. His desire to learn more motivated him to complete numerous extra projects and assignments that helped broaden his knowledge in this area. Whenever a new lesson needed to be tested prior to introducing it to the class, Dariusz would try out the assignment often during his personal time. He also helped troubleshoot technical problems in the lab working with our computer technicians to diagnose software issues. As he displayed examples of his previous work to younger students, his enthusiasm for computer science was palpable. In addition to school projects, Dariusz was keen to show other projects to his peers such as a flight simulator that he created on his own at home. It is clear that Dariusz' zeal for learning and willingness to help others will serve him well in the future.

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.

Amanda Oswald

Academy at King Edward

Amanda was an active participant in both art and ceramics during her time in high school. She was part of the Potters Guild at McNally and also volunteered her time in the ceramics room helping with prep work. In Grade 11, Amanda was one of a select group of students who had their work showcased by the Edmonton Arts Council as part of their Emerging Artist Showcase. Amanda also found success with digital arts and designed the logo for the youth robotics team from Telus World of Science Edmonton that was selected to represent Canada at the International Youth FIRST® Global Robotics Competition in Singapore. She always found a way to infuse art and colour into just about everything she did—one just needed to look at her study notes, which usually took the form of a collage filled with words and images. Amanda’s dedication and creative spirit will take her far in her chosen path.

Bo Lumbas

Argyll Centre

Bo was an exemplary student who strove to understand the general context of a lesson and took that understanding into personal, societal or global levels. Bo often incorporated their cultural roots into a modern interpretation which resonated in the new artistic spheres. They articulated their process in innovative ways using new technologies. Bo took time to work with others, shared ideas and participated in clubs and activities offered by the school. Bo’s work surpassed the expectation of the high school criteria—their skills and dedication earned them entry to Alberta University of the Arts with a full first-year scholarship.

Amy Neapetung

Braemar

Amy demonstrated exceptional achievement in the visual arts. She not only showed confidence and mastery in a wide breadth of mediums, but also pushed her creative boundaries well beyond the limits of her comfort zone. Amy took on new challenges with rigour and determination. Her contributions to the classroom environment went beyond her works, and encompassed the support and encouragement she provided to peers. Amy’s future endeavours will definitely be enriched by her artistic spirit!

Hannah Getz

Dr. Anne Anderson

Hannah exhibited an exceptional aptitude in the fine arts, excelling especially in culinary and visual arts. She was a pleasure to have in class and demonstrated exceptional academic ability. She showed herself to be an engaged learner with an entrepreneurial spirit that grew and flourished in the school’s culinary program with its daily service business model.

Mercedes Verville

Eastglen

Mercedes was an exceptional high school student showcasing unmatched dedication and creativity in performing and visual arts. Her entrepreneurial spirit was evident in her disciplined pursuit of excellence and community enrichment. She actively participated in various artistic endeavours from writing and performing original songs to excelling in ceramics. Mercedes captivated audiences with her talent in advanced acting, musical theatre and dance productions. She collaborated with peers and teachers, demonstrating humility and open-mindedness. Beyond school, she shared her passion by performing at local events emphasizing inclusivity and empathy through her art. Mercedes's journey embodied the power of passion, perseverance and individual impact on the community and beyond. Her commitment to personal and communal growth through the arts exemplified her as an outstanding candidate for recognition.

Kaiya Vogan

Edmonton Christian High

Kaiya was an integral part of the school band and drama programs. In band, she was instrumental in advocating for the program to new and interested students. Kaiya was a crucial section leader and brought life to the program like no other. Her musical expertise was strong, and Kaiya was faithful and took on whatever was needed. She did not just play to fulfill curricular requirements, but from a heart that was ready to share and give of her experiences. Kaiya was equally involved and indispensable in the theatre. In both Grade 11 and 12, she took on leading roles. Kaiya's genuine heart of empathy and inclusivity drew people in and made them feel valued and needed. She encouraged others to be their best both by her words and daily example. Kaiya will surely excel in whatever creative role she takes on in her life post-high school!

Josephine Lemofouet

Harry Ainlay

Josephine did it all! She was on the theatre tech team, attended the Sarah McLachlan School of Music, was in her own band, and received an automatic acceptance to the University of Alberta's Faculty of Fine Arts based on her portfolio of work. She was supportive of her classmates and provided constructive criticism, and challenged herself constantly to step out of her comfort zone. Her teacher shared that Josephine was the most well-rounded young individual she had the pleasure of teaching in her career. Everything Josephine touches turns to gold; and on top of everything else, her future goal is to be a doctor.

Madeline Lee

J. Percy Page

Maddy was a remarkable student whose excellent achievement went beyond core classes. She found a passion in technical theatre that led her into designing and operating lights for theatrical productions, and being a talented stage manager. Maddy's gift of being able to 'run the show' by calling all cues, keeping the entire production organized, and communicating with all departments led to amazing creations on the Page stage. She was the kind of artist whose work was essential for the development of a stage storyline. Her behind the scenes expertise allowed the audience to sit back and enjoy the artistry of her work. Madeline was the perfect example of an artist, student, leader, supporter and community member, and more than deserving of this award to honour her care, enthusiasm and passion for her craft.

Irmak Kurt

Jasper Place

Irmak was a positive force in any activity she was involved in. In dance classes and on the school pom and cheer teams, she consistently took risks and worked hard to constantly improve and challenge herself. Irmak followed through on all commitments, adapted when changes needed to happen, and was more than willing to put in the work to make sure performances were the best they could be. She was a team player, consistently building others up, encouraging them to try their best and motivating them to shine. Irmak's willingness to try new dance styles in an eager, joyful way contributed to building memories and community with classmates. She understood the power of the fine arts in improving mental health, releasing stress, as well as finding comfort and confidence in oneself and advocated for her peers to do the same.

Vincee Yau

Lillian Osborne

Vincee is an exceptionally dedicated fine arts student who sought to ensure every event and performance she was a part of was successful. Whether as president of the school's fine arts student council, a member of tech theatre, dance, jazz band and drumline, or just as an incredibly dedicated volunteer, Vincee embodied the best of the arts at Lillian Osborne. She promoted cultural understanding and appreciation through Chinese dance, which she performed at school and at the University of Alberta. As the stage manager of the school's 2024 musical, Vincee demonstrated exceptional organizational and leadership skills and was vital to the show's success. At the same time, she was a fierce advocate for the ensemble and took care of everyone around her. There are few students as passionate, dedicated, kind and exceptional as Vincee Yau.

Sam Papirnik

M.E. LaZerte

Sam was an outstanding student and leader within the school's fine arts programming. She choreographed two full musicals during her time at LaZerte. In order to be successful with this endeavour she had to do many things: research the history of the musical, come up with the choreography for various musical numbers in the production and lead her fellow students in these numbers, while ensuring her academic standing in the class was at the level of excellence. Sam always came to class with a positive attitude, encouragement for her fellow classmates, and a plan to help support the learning in the classroom. She was the perfect example of an up and coming leader in the theatre arts community.

Madison Zarowny

McNally

Madison constantly demonstrated a strong enthusiasm for learning and exploration, challenging herself beyond her limits both academically and artistically. Within her compositions, she often followed the theme of movement shown through the use of the elements and principles of art and design, such as colour, emphasis, balance and rhythm. In art and ceramic classes, Madison had many opportunities to explore herself as an artist and challenge herself to try different techniques, such as exploring different media, grounds, or even distortion of camera settings. Though these works might not have been fully resolved, it was the risk and the process that allowed her to grow. As part of her school community, Madison strove to improve the well-being of her peers through active participation in food security where she supported the change of cafeteria vendors and a change in menu. She plans on working on communication, problem-solving and building confidence while pursuing a masters in social work.

Daniel Elgot

Millwoods Christian

Daniel was a multi-dimensional artist who shared his talents in a variety of areas, including acting in drama and musical theatre, and performing music with a variety of collaborators. His passion for fine arts and commitment to growing his craft set an example for his fellow classmates. Daniel used his talents to help better the school environment by participating in numerous acting and musical endeavours, both in and out of school hours. Daniel's friendliness, approachability and willingness to collaborate contributed not only to his own skill development, but also to the development of his classmates and younger students within the school community.

Lucia Hernandez-Echevarria

Old Scona

Lucia was an outstanding art student who produced multiple notable works and used her artistic skills to help other students and the school. She was the top student enrolled in Visual Arts IB with an outstanding exhibition. There, she produced multiple works of art that were thought-provoking and visually appealing. Students, staff and parents were very impressed with and complimentary of her display. Lucia enjoyed academic diversity and was also one of the top Computer Science IB students.

Makaiya Ramjohn

Queen Elizabeth

Makaiya was a shining example of an engaged learner, ethical citizen and individual with an entrepreneurial spirit. Immersed in choir, art and various initiatives, she fearlessly tackled challenges and worked tirelessly to promote education and combat racism. Makaiya's curiosity and creativity drove her to collaborate and communicate effectively, foster positive change and leave a lasting impact on her community. Continuously setting ambitious goals, her resourcefulness and resilience were evident in her endeavours whether in academic pursuits or community initiatives. Makaiya's resilience, compassion and dedication to growth embodied the essence of a lifelong learner and leader inspiring others to follow suit.

Caleb Michael

Ross Sheppard

Since Caleb held his first pencil, art has been his favourite hobby. There were other hobbies but he always found himself coming back to art. When he learned that there was art class in high school, he was filled with joy since there were no art classes at his junior high. It expanded Caleb's horizons to explore new forms of art and he was engaged in every single one. It also helped him to explore and portray emotion through art and he began to see it as something more than a hobby. Art became a part of Caleb, so much so that his notes and even tests were always filled with a doodle here and there because he simply could not help himself. That is what art is for Caleb Michael.

Meredith Watt

Strathcona

Meredith began studying theatre in Grade 10, and since that time she has grown into an exceptional, vibrant and confident individual and leader. She approached each day as a new opportunity. Meredith inspired others with her passionate demeanour and incredible attitude. While enrolled in drama, musical theatre and improvisational theatre, she captained the Nosebowl Improv team to a provincial gold medal as well as took on leads and supporting leads in the school musical throughout high school. She also directed in the one-act festival, acted in the festival and at the Edmonton Fringe, and performed in a weekly improv show at Scona. In both the classroom and the rehearsal hall, Meredith was an exemplary student, role model and citizen, and ultimately, an amazing ambassador for the arts!

Katherine MacKenzie

Victoria

Katherine participated wholeheartedly and extensively in a variety of artforms. She was a skilled singer and actor, and participated in performance opportunities such as concert choir, musicals and one-act plays. As a dancer, Katherine demonstrated capacity as a performer, choreographer and mentor through self-choreographed works, ensembles, elementary dance club leader and participant in the NextFest Mentorship program. She was also a skilled textile artist creating works to market and sell, which demonstrated her entrepreneurial spirit. Above all else, Katherine demonstrated capacity as an ethical citizen serving on the students arts and leadership team, leading arts exploration days for elementary students and community initiatives such as the Hats for Homeless campaign. This fall, Katherine is thrilled to continue her education in the arts at York University in dance education.

Faith Wilson

Vimy Ridge Academy

Faith demonstrated exceptional engagement in the arts through her participation in the Vimy dance program. She embodied ethical citizenship and exhibited a strong entrepreneurial spirit. Her passion for various artistic disciplines was evident in her dedication and talent. Faith actively engaged in community initiatives promoting inclusivity and social responsibility, showcasing her integrity and empathy. Additionally, her entrepreneurial drive was evident in her innovative projects and leadership roles. Faith's outstanding qualities make her a deserving candidate for this prestigious award.

Kirat Gill

W.P. Wagner

Kirat demonstrated outstanding performance and citizenship in music and the Wagner community-at-large. She consistently displayed dedication and passion for music and was a source of inspiration for the program. Kirat demonstrated her commitment to her musical craft, both in the classroom setting and in her personal musical pursuits. She was always willing to take the lead in music events, outreach and performance opportunities. Kirat went above and beyond in practice, rehearsals and volunteer work, investing her time to mentor and inspire others in school community events. She always considered others and led with an inclusive and collaborative spirit. Kirat was a skilled musician in both instrumental music and choral. In addition to her contributions to the performing arts, she was an active member of student leadership and Student Senate. Kirat embodies joy and will create happiness in any room into which she steps.

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.

Emily Berg Noskiye *Academy at King Edward*

Emily has been involved in athletics for most of her life. Throughout high school, she played on the school's volleyball and badminton teams. In addition to her contribution to team play, she stepped into a coaching role with the badminton teams where she promoted the sport by encouraging students to participate. Emily is also an avid swimmer and recently completed her National Lifeguard certification.

Kaylee Walker *Argyll Centre*

As someone deeply passionate about health and well-being, Kaylee is on a mission to make a difference in people's lives. Her journey into fitness began during the beginning of the pandemic, offering what she called "an escape from the chaos." Kaylee said that over the past four years, fitness completely changed her life, teaching her discipline and consistency, invaluable traits important to all areas of life. Working at a local gym last year further fueled her passion for helping others, particularly children, while strengthening her love for fitness. Kaylee thrives on continuous learning, constantly seeking ways to better support those around her. Integrity and kindness guide her actions as she strives to be a positive force in the world. Kaylee's ultimate goal is to launch a health and wellness brand aimed at empowering women.

Faith Unger *Braemar*

Faith demonstrated exceptional achievement in the area of health and wellness during her time at Braemar School. Her positive attitude and motivation to improve her own physical and mental well-being, while balancing motherhood and caring for those around her, didn't go unnoticed. She was an incredible leader in class who continuously motivated and encouraged her classmates to participate and try their best. Her perseverance to try new skills and ability to keep it fun contributed to a positive classroom environment for everyone. Faith's commitment to personal and school-wide health and wellness deserves recognition.

Kendall McAdam *Dr. Anne Anderson*

Kendall continuously showed a commitment to health and wellness in her three years at Dr. Anne Anderson. She participated on multiple athletic teams and conducted herself with composure and integrity, and demonstrated respect for peers and coaches. Kendall helped with wellness activities on Agora days and other fitness activities around the school. This student is so deserving of the health and wellness award.

Klo Saw

Eastglen

Klo was an exceptional student and athlete and played on teams year-round since Grade 10. He continued to take physical education and sports performance and was a top student. Klo maintained a balance between being active as a student athlete alongside his academics, recreational sports outside of school and playing piano. Klo exemplified what a student athlete should be and embodied other principles of wellness, such as promoting kindness towards others and leadership skills.

Isaac Day

Edmonton Christian High

Isaac was involved in physical education, sports performance and athletics throughout high school. He was an engaged and passionate learner and leader. Isaac was self-motivated and put in a tremendous amount of time, effort and energy into self and team improvement and fitness. As the captain of the volleyball and basketball teams in Grade 12, he was responsible, competitive, respected and humble. Isaac played at the highest level in both and was awarded the prestigious Metro Edmonton Volleyball Division One All Star in Grades 11 and 12. He was the first recipient of the Alberta Schools' Athletic Association Outstanding Athletes. He put in extra training outside of school activities demonstrating admirable commitment to personal and team success. Isaac was a leader in class, the hallways and on the court, and was well respected by his teammates, coaches and opponents. He placed the interests of others before himself both on and off the court. Isaac is an inspiration to others and well deserving of this award.

Reese Hoyt

Harry Ainlay

Reese not only demonstrated outstanding leadership on the Harry Ainlay High Senior Women's basketball, soccer and flag football teams, she was also committed to ensuring her academic success. Not only motivated her teammates, but also held them accountable while maintaining relationships and pushing everyone towards their goals. This was exemplified in her speech, actions and encouragement both on and off the court, even from her first year with the senior program. As a confident leader and captain for our program, she helped to fill any role that was required for the betterment of the team. I am confident that you could find no finer person to represent and carry the legacy of this award.

Jules Ng

J. Percy Page

Jules exemplified the epitome of a balanced lifestyle, showcasing exceptional dedication to both academic excellence and athletic achievement. As a member of the school's golf, volleyball and slo-pitch teams, she not only demonstrated outstanding athletic prowess, but also embodied the principles of teamwork, discipline and resilience. She actively promoted physical fitness and healthy competition amongst her peers. Jules also maintained a very high academic average consistently excelling in all of her classes. In recreational leadership classes, she was always a positive, hardworking student who promoted health and wellness within the school. Furthermore, Jules regularly engaged in activities to encourage her peers to lead healthy active lifestyles. She is a fantastic choice for the Health and Wellness award.

Carter Oleksiw

Jasper Place

Carter was one of the most personable, energetic, outgoing student athletes that we have ever had at Jasper Place High School. He played on the volleyball team for three years and was involved in almost every school activity that the school offered. Teachers, students, and athletes loved to be around Carter because he was such a positive role model on and off the court and in the classroom. It was difficult not to give Carter a perfect mark in his physical education classes because not only did he work incredibly hard but he was constantly helping out the other students around him and supporting everyone to be better and more positive. Carter hopes to continue his volleyball post-secondary, and without a doubt will make a huge impact within the post-secondary institution he attends.

Ryder Brown

Lillian Osborne

Ryder was a dedicated student in the classroom, gym and fitness centre. He was academically focused, but at the same time managed to spend hours in the gym before and after school working on his athletic talents. Ryder achieved above 97 per cent in Physical Education 30 and above 90 per cent in ten different sport performance modules this year.

Hayley Peacock

M.E. LaZerte

Hayley was an excellent student who not only found a passion for health and wellness throughout high school but allowed that passion to flourish. Hayley maintained honours or honours with distinction during each semester. She was a member of the track team and in Grade 12 developed the physical confidence to go out for the rugby team. On top of academics and athletics, Hayley was a huge role model in her fitness classes where she consistently strove for excellence in movement quality and inspired others as a result of her work ethic. Hayley became a leader in mentoring younger girls in sports and athletics, was a member of fire cadets and recruited presenters for an annual health fair at the school. In and out of the classroom, Hayley was a strong student whose love of health and wellness shone through daily.

Evan Betker

McNally

Evan demonstrated exceptional academic achievement and modelled leadership during physical education, school athletics, health and life skills and in overall wellness. Throughout high school, he embodied the ideal physical education student and excelled in all areas especially with his sportsmanship, leadership and fellowship. Evan played on the Tigers football, handball and rugby teams where he was an excellent teammate and captain; moreover, he was highly active in outdoor pursuits beyond activities offered by McNally. With Tigers athletics, Evan was consistently respectful of his teammates, the opposition, coaches and officials while remaining fiercely competitive.

Trent Neumann

Millwoods Christian

Trent strove to ensure he had an active and healthy lifestyle. Through participation in a variety of activities including soccer, walks, volleyball, track and field, as well as hiking and backpacking throughout the summer, Trent modelled the importance of staying active and making choices that promoted personal wellness. He loved to be active and tried to make it as fun as possible. He also enjoyed teaching others about how they could have fun with the sports they loved. This desire led Trent to participate in a sports trip to Mexico where he worked with school-aged children to promote sports involvement and making positive choices that facilitate personal development and wellness.

Bill Lu

Old Scona

Bill was an outstanding student athlete who showed dedication, perseverance and integrity. Over his three years at the school, Bill represented Old Scona in cross-country running, swimming, track and field and senior men's volleyball. As one of the top swimmers, he won multiple medals at city championships and helped lead the team to their best finish all year. On the senior men's volleyball team, Bill was also one of the top players and the team captain and leader. Playing on a team composed mostly of Grade 10 students, Bill provided new athletes with guidance and inspiration. He was also vice-president of Student Life and did a tremendous job increasing student activity and wellness in the school.

Amr Alzyoud

Queen Elizabeth

Amr played a role in inspiring countless young minds through preaching the importance of an inclusive mindset within the world of soccer in Edmonton. As an actively engaged learner, he constantly searched for new ways to connect with youth to enhance their physical and mental well-being. His ethical citizenship shone through his work. Amr advocated the importance of perseverance in order to push through mental and socioeconomic boundaries and create stimulating environments for youth. One distinctive aspect about Amr was his passion for perseverance went beyond sport—it is a vital life skill that can transcend an individual into aiming for limitless achievements.

Kiera Stedall

Ross Sheppard

Throughout high school, Kiera maintained honours with distinction while being part of several school teams, her main sport being wrestling. While her experience with this sport had just begun, the hours she dedicated to it gave her the chance to learn from and train alongside excellent teammates and coaches. She gained valuable experience and knowledge transferable on and off the mat. In Grade 12, she placed second in provincials while being a leader for her school team and used her experience to help teammates find success. Through volunteering for the assembly of local tournaments, she helped maintain the accessibility of wrestling. Kiera plans to expand her commitments as a student athlete and the experiences she shares with others while taking engineering and wrestling with the Pandas at the University of Alberta.

Becker Gilewich

Strathcona

Becker was a staple in physical education, athletics and sports performance classes. Although quiet, he was an excellent leader who was often the first person to volunteer when help was needed and the last to leave class because he was helping to clean up. As an honours student and decorated student athlete, Becker was a consistent positive presence among the staff and his peers. He had a keen interest in making his school community a better place and often had suggestions that benefited the teams, players and classes. From team-building on the basketball team to promoting involvement with school-wide activities (cross-country, bike-a-thon initiative), Becker was one of the marquee leaders amongst our student body.

Benny Ekatan

Victoria

Benny embodies the spirit of sport and movement to better his own and others' lives. He was a Metro All Star and Team Captain for basketball, in addition to being a key part of the handball and soccer teams. In doing so, he fostered a community that celebrated movement, responsibility and connection. However, his impact on health and wellness wasn't limited to his teammates. He demonstrated himself not to just be a superior athlete, but a person of superior character, mentoring and coaching elementary students during intramurals. Benny has a truly nuanced and holistic approach to building personal and social wellness.

Blair Sprague

Vimy Ridge Academy

Blair embodied the qualities of an engaged learner, ethical citizen and had an entrepreneurial spirit. Their dedication to health initiatives within the school community was admirable, demonstrating a genuine commitment to well-being. Blair consistently upheld ethical values and displayed integrity and compassion in all interactions. Additionally, their proactive approach and innovative mindset contributed to the promotion of health and wellness.

Irine Rijo

W.P. Wagner

Irine was an outstanding student leader in health and wellness. Irine excelled in all levels of physical education, as well as sports performance and sports medicine classes. She was also a member of several school athletic teams, including track & field, rugby, soccer and flag football. Irine exemplified health and wellness through her dedication, hard work and consistent desire for improvement. She was always willing to lend a helping hand and enthusiastically volunteered her time and knowledge to support others in the school. As a thoughtful and caring student, Irine embodied the school values of empathy, kindness and community. She was a great role model for other students in the Division and will continue to make positive change in the world.

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.

Mia Scornaienchi

Academy at King Edward

Mia always demonstrated a desire to excel in social studies and English language arts, and she consistently was eager to learn and lead within these respected disciplines. Throughout high school, teachers were inspired to follow Mia's progression and believed she was clearly a strong student with aspirations to attend post-secondary schooling.

Adriana Kopchia

Argyll Centre

Adriana blended creativity and wit in her critical thinking, demonstrating an exceptional understanding of historical, political and social dynamics. In her social studies assignments, Adriana's writing underscored her profound dedication to humanism and compassion for others. She displayed a high level of discipline to complete her assignments and coursework independently as an asynchronous online learner showing excellent time management, indomitable spirit and courage. Her commitment to learning included joining her teacher in Google Meets to review exams and build capacity for higher learning. Taking the time to support her peers in a student club, Adriana brought positivity and hope to all. The most beautiful part of her character was her willingness to compassionately stretch her understanding of other perspectives, even when they appeared hostile to her own, with the ultimate goal of peaceful co-existence.

Emma Weatherby

Braemar

Emma confidently represented the goals of the humanities in both English and social studies during Grade 12. These courses require students to engage thoughtfully and respectfully with the concepts of what it truly means to partake in the experience of being human. While exploring experiences of others (both fictional and real), in addition to making personal connections with content, Emma excelled in demonstrating the ultimate goal of personifying empathetic and reflective engagement. Meaningfully contributing to discussions, she exemplified academic rigour, resilience and dedication for herself, and inspired peers to build courage to engage with content as well. Emma bravely overcame challenges and regularly pushed herself beyond her comfort zone to find her voice, sharing it through presentations and writing. Emma is a positive force in the world and can confidently know that her voice needs to be heard.

Moira Hemens

Dr. Anne Anderson

Moira joined the school very hesitant and not really sure she was going to enjoy the big high school. She became such an incredible part of the school, participated in multiple school events, maintained a very high level of academic excellence, and developed wonderful relationships with peers and teachers. Moira has shown exceptional aptitude in her humanities courses and multiple teachers selected her to receive this award. Congratulations, Moira!

Madi Halton

Eastglen

Throughout her time at Eastglen, Madi proved herself to be a passionate and insightful student of the humanities. In both English and social studies, she was an engaged and enthusiastic reader, writer, listener and speaker, delving into text study and text creation that reflected her creativity, maturity and depth of thought. As a member of the classroom community, she not only consistently contributed incisive questions and ideas to discussions, but also positively encouraged her classmates to engage as well. Her aptitude in the humanities was by no means limited to the academic sphere as she lived out the principles of active citizenship and humanitarianism each day. Madi's work in Model UN also reflected her dedication to environmental stewardship.

Lana Pidde

Edmonton Christian High

Lana excelled at communication! In the school's humanities courses, there are often students who are able to meet or exceed the standards of excellence when it comes to communicating ideas explored in English and social studies. Lana not only exemplified what it means to be a critical thinker, but she often had a way with words. Her work had the complexity of thought and exploration, but was also simply and succinctly written. While not a word-smith, Lana was able to express elemental truths about society, the human condition and our (her) role in God's story, as we explore what it means to live as faithful people in our communities. Edmonton Christian is proud to recognize Lana Pidde.

Sienna Gin

Harry Ainlay

Sienna not only achieved some of the highest marks in humanities courses such as French, French language arts and social studies, she was engaged in her school and community, dedicating over 300 hours to Ainlay's theatre program as both an actor, technician and a mentor to fellow members. Sienna demonstrated leadership in her dance studio and represented her school at various events and competitions, including cross country meets, Franco 7 and track and field championships, showcasing her commitment to community involvement and leadership. Outside school, she represents youth voices in Guiding through the Girl Guides Alberta Council Youth Forum, where she gives speeches, manages social media and leads initiatives for youth engagement.

Hunter Pawliuk

J. Percy Page

Hunter demonstrated remarkable writing skills in addition to his attentiveness, insightful discussions and thoughtful debate. In both English and social studies, Hunter showed a level of excellence regarding his interpretation of source materials and literary texts. Equal in excellence to his interpretation skills were his mastery of argumentation and use of evidence. Considerable depth and breadth of a wide range of topics were evident in Hunter's assessment tasks, discussions and Socratic debates. His knowledge and retention of 'new' knowledge was astounding. Hunter constantly and consistently exhibited what passion and mastery of the humanities is all about!

Liad Wolch

Jasper Place

Liad was an absolutely fantastic student! He was a profound thinker, a curious learner, an avid consumer of current events, and an enthusiastic participant in classroom debates and discussions. Liad excelled in all of his Advanced Placement humanities courses, but his strengths far surpassed the purely academic. His empathy for his fellow students and his desire to learn about and ultimately improve the world around him were genuinely impressive. Liad interacted with the subjects of history, literature, politics, economics, and philosophy with a level of sophistication, complexity, and maturity that far exceeded even the most rigorous classroom expectations. In both his thoughtful academic engagement and in his ambitious plans for university and beyond, Liad is the perfect embodiment of excellence in the humanities specifically and in education more broadly.

Alice Cai

Lillian Osborne

Alice Cai was a remarkable student with a passion for social justice, academics, writing and her community. Her writing had the qualities of silk—it was strong, yet smooth, delicate, yet powerful. We were regularly impressed by Alice's insightful perceptions that demonstrated a perspicacity about the human condition that far surpasses most adults. When reading Alice's writing, one feels as if one is in the presence of a great, new voice on the landscape of young Canadian writers. Through dedication to her craft, she has become one of the most talented young writers in the school. In Alice's writing, good sense, good humour and good craftsmanship weave literary tapestries that engage and charm her readers in equal measure.

Niamh Thomas

M.E. LaZerte

Niamh's passion for learning and for living in the realm of the humanities truly distinguished her from her peers. As an old soul, she valued those elements that unite us as one. From art to literature, to politics to history and as a voracious learner, she was constantly compelled to learn and to understand. Niamh lived those passions, and not only participated in the city's Model UN showcase, but successfully explored "The Troubles in Ireland" for her IB Historical Investigation. These choices were dictated by her passion for exploring historical events in modern contexts, by her love of history, and by her desire to understand complex situations—in that instance the connection between her family's distant history and her current reality. And most amazingly, as a student who still struggles with dyslexia, all of these choices and successes emphasized so clearly her passion, her dedication and her true wonderment in the human world around us.

Olive Shea

McNally

Olive was a very engaged and mature student. She actively contributed to class conversations in a thoughtful and relevant manner with curiosity and respect for others and their perspectives. Olive was very empathetic and reflected on her role as an individual in the larger context of how her actions and the actions of others contributed to the overall well-being of those in her community and society as a whole. She was constantly striving to understand more and never hesitated to ask questions in order to seek out new perspectives and knowledge to better herself and the way she interacted and understood those around her. She was compassionate toward her fellow classmates, genuinely cared about their well-being, and aided in creating a calm and safe space in the classroom, the school, and community at large.

Karen Bain

Millwoods Christian

Karen demonstrated a passion and proficiency in the humanities throughout her high school career, leading to high academic achievement in English and social studies. She challenged herself to grow in her writing skills in both courses and met this challenge successfully. Karen's love of learning, combined with an enjoyment of reading, fuelled her achievement in this area and will undoubtedly lead to a life-long exploration of literature.

Lucinda Fraser-Suarez

Old Scona

Lu was a determined student in every aspect of her course load. Specifically in English, Lu consistently asked questions, looked for feedback and did everything she could to be successful both inside and outside of the classroom. She was constantly placing herself outside of her comfort zone by asking tough questions and participating in the classroom environment, above and beyond what was expected of her. Lu's work to achieve success in the humanities courses was also served by her meticulous planning and communication with her peers and her teachers to achieve success. With her consistent high nineties average in humanities courses, her passion and excellence in her extracurricular speech and debate as well as being an executive for our GSA, there is no doubt Lu will continue to achieve success and well-deserving praise.

Gillian Smith

Queen Elizabeth

Gillian exemplified academic excellence in both English and social studies. Her passion was reflected in her insightful analysis and articulate expression. In English, Gillian consistently engaged with texts deeply, drawing connections that illuminate the human experience. Her writing showed creativity and originality, showcasing her unique perspective. In social studies, Gillian demonstrated a nuanced understanding of complex societal issues, employing critical thinking to dissect historical contexts and contemporary phenomena. Gillian fostered a collaborative environment, enriching class discussions with her thoughtful contributions. Her dedication to intellectual exploration and empathetic understanding made her an exemplary candidate for this award. Gillian's achievements in humanities undoubtedly warrant recognition and celebration.

Jordan Chen

Ross Sheppard

Jordan was an excellent student who not only excelled in academic studies but also participated in many school and community-based services. He worked in a focused, task-oriented manner, made efficient use of his time, and achieved an overall average of over 85 per cent. Jordan was a partial International Baccalaureate student which meant he had a demanding academic workload, yet he still found time to organize and volunteer at many school and community functions. Jordan was the leader of the Ross Sheppard Chinese Lion Dance team and led the group in many performances both at school and in the community at large. He was also the leader of the Mandarin Graduation Council and was a member of the swim team. Jordan's extracurricular activities enhanced his leadership abilities and improved his interpersonal skills.

Kira Slator

Strathcona

Kira deserves recognition for exceptional skills in language arts, social studies and language. Throughout their academic journey, Kira showed relentless curiosity and dedication. In language arts, Kira effortlessly crafted intricate narratives and expressed complex ideas with precision, reflecting deep literary understanding. In social studies, Kira demonstrated a profound appreciation for history and geography, analyzing events with insightful perspectives. Additionally, in French, Kira showcased impressive linguistic proficiency and cultural understanding. Outside of the classroom, Kira was involved with the Karate Club and contributed to the Alberta Youth Theatre Collective by reviewing productions. As an Honours student with a full AP schedule, Kira exemplified academic excellence in the humanities.

Hazel Dickson

Victoria

Hazel was a dynamic and conscientious student in both English and social studies, as well as a member of the Victoria Anti-Racism Student Initiative throughout her time in high school. She was a quiet but effective leader who helped organize cultural celebration events and even wrote a letter on behalf of VARS to the Minister of Education to advocate for anti-racism education. Hazel was passionate about social justice and constantly found opportunities to share and celebrate the contributions of her peers, both in and out of the classroom. She understood and appreciated diverse cultures and perspectives, and was always excited to engage with new ideas and viewpoints during class discussions. Hazel's intelligence, dedication and hard work made her an integral part of the Victoria School community.

Maya Slee

Vimy Ridge Academy

Maya's passion for the humanities was palpable in her enthusiastic approach to learning. She delved deeply into subjects such as literature, history and philosophy, demonstrating a keen intellect and a thirst for knowledge. Maya actively participated in discussions and projects, enriching the academic environment for her peers. She consistently upheld ethical values, showing integrity and empathy in her interactions with others. Maya was deeply committed to making a positive impact in her community and beyond, embodying the principles of responsible citizenship. Her entrepreneurial mindset was evident in her creative problem-solving and initiative-taking. Maya's dedication to the humanities, coupled with her ethical values and entrepreneurial drive, make her an exceptional candidate for this award. She will continue to inspire others and make significant contributions in this field.

Manroop Akalirai

W.P. Wagner

Manroop demonstrated exceptional achievement in social studies, English and French. She was an ethical, engaged and excited learner who cared about learning and cared about others. In all of her subjects, Manroop communicated clearly, correctly, and most importantly, respectfully. She was a reader, a writer, and an excellent speaker. Manroop knew that what she learned in her humanities classes was foundational for building a caring, empathetic and fair society. She applied her learning from these subject areas in her volunteer work, her committee work, and her relationships with others at the school. Her resume is long: she was involved in Rotary Interact, Grad Committee, the Student Warrior Action Team, Division Student Senate and more. In all of these positions, Manroop worked to build connections, advocate for change, break down racism and amplify marginalized voices. She will continue to initiate growth and change wherever she goes.

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.

Jaime Singhal

Academy at King Edward

Jaime invested her time and dedication into the pursuit of mathematics and science and it showed in her depth of knowledge as well as her marks. She approached her Math and Science courses with a passion that was evident in her work habits as well as her effective use of time and resources in class. Jaime also took on a role as a sought-after tutor to several of her classmates embarking on their own science and math journey. She was patient and generous with her time and helped several other students deepen their understanding with her clear explanations. Jaime plans to pursue sciences in her post-secondary career.

Caty Laidlaw

Argyll Centre

Caty was enthusiastic about every kind of STEM-related learning and took classes in mathematics, biology, chemistry, physics, communication technology, e-learning and a wildlife research study. She took far more courses than she needed to graduate and achieved top marks in all of them. Caty frequently received 100 per cent and actively participated in lessons and discussions. Her passion for STEM extended beyond the classroom; she engaged in scientific discussion with her peers and participated in research. In March of 2024, Caty participated in the Research Exploration Opportunity program hosted by the STEM Fellowship at the University of Alberta. She applied her knowledge of coding to chemical engineering to optimize processes. Caty's plan is to pursue a mathematics undergraduate degree where she will continue to experiment with and learn about STEM.

Trinity Amable

Braemar

Trinity was a dedicated student and role model in her final year at Braemar. She consistently strove for excellence in all of her classes, particularly her math and science classes. Outside of class, Trinity was an active leader who often spoke at school assemblies, organized engaging and fun school-wide events, and played a pivotal role on the school's social media team. She went out of her way to be kind and welcoming to everyone in our school community. Trinity's ability to balance all of this while also being a young parent showed her incredible resilience and determination. All of these assets will serve Trinity well in her future pursuits.

Noorinder Kaur

Centre High Campus

Noorinder developed into a mature, responsible and confident young woman. Her academic course load included Math 30-1, Physics 30, Chemistry 30, ELA 30-1 and Biology 30. Noorinder is pursuing a bachelor of sciences degree with a major in biology and minor in psychology at the University of Alberta. There is no doubt she will be successful in her future endeavours.

Shawn Wang

Dr. Anne Anderson

Shawn was an exceptional student and multiple teachers nominated him to receive this award. He was an incredibly engaged learner, always taking the time to be prepared for class and achieving exceptional marks in all of his courses, but especially math and science. Shawn was described as an incredible leader in the classroom, always helping other students and making sure he was the best role model he could be.

Salma Radwan

Eastglen

Salma was an exceptional student with unparalleled drive and determination in the STEM fields that showcased her strong academic achievement, determination, dedication and exemplary character. Through her discipline and high expectations for herself, Salma consistently demonstrated strong academic success and participated as a member of the Advanced Placement program. She achieved top marks among her peers in Biology, Chemistry and Physics 30, in addition to Math 30-1 and 31. Extending beyond her excellent work ethic, Salma demonstrated the ability to think beyond curricular objectives and think critically and innovatively to solve problems. The attributes that Salma possesses at this age, will help her with her future success as she continues her studies at the University of Alberta.

Justin Patterson

Edmonton Christian High

Experiencing Justin in a science or math class was a delight. A natural, curious learner, he had the ability to synthesize his previous knowledge with new material and then determine where we were going, often before his teachers got there. His questions showed depth of understanding and recognition of connections between material learned in math, physics and chemistry classes and beyond. Despite mastering the material quickly, he graciously took the time to help his peers with their questions. He consistently turned in excellent work and exams, yet unlike some high-achieving students, the focus was more on understanding and learning than the grade. This maturity of focus, curiosity and willingness to work with others set him apart.

Daniel Zhao

Harry Ainlay

Daniel showed his entrepreneurial spirit as the former president of the TEDy Ainlay Club, during which he organized and emceed the 2023 TEDy Ainlay Conference. In his final year of high school, he was co-president of the math club and vice president of Rotary Interact. He was one of two of the school's Student Senators to help express student opinions and tackle problems at a Division level. Daniel also participated in charity drives, such as his work with the Hope Mission to organize a clothing drive and his work with the Edmonton Zebra Centre to organize a toy drive. At the same time, Daniel maintained a nearly 100 per cent average in Physics 30, Chemistry 30 Biology 30, Math 30 and Math 31.

Aabid Ali

J. Percy Page

Aabid consistently demonstrated excellence and dedication in the fields of computing science, math, and science, showcasing a combination of intellectual curiosity, problem-solving skills and a genuine passion for learning. Aabid also actively volunteered his knowledge and skills in class to assist other students. Beyond his academic achievements, Aabid gave back to his school community through his voluntary contributions as a tutor for the Page tutoring club, his work with the Muslim Students group and his participation as 'Funny Man' on Page TV.

Kai Tan

Jasper Place

Kai Tan was more than just a high achieving AP student in math and sciences, including calculus, statistics, biology, chemistry, physics and computer science. He earned distinction in the Bebras Algorithm Contest, was the top JP student in the Waterloo CCC contest, competed on the JP team for Mathletes, competed in the JP Hackathon and participated in the U of A Programming Competition. In addition to peer tutoring at school, Kai has been a math tutor for elementary and junior high students with Kumon. He was the president of Rotary Interact, collecting food for the Christmas hampers among other community minded endeavours and was a member of the JP Gardening Club. Kai was an excellent problem solver, approaching problems thoughtfully and creatively, leveraging his experience to find new solutions. Kai valued these opportunities to shape him into a leader of the future. He plans to pursue a career in Computer Science.

Judy Zhu

Lillian Osborne

Judy was deeply passionate about STEM subjects and had a calm and collected demeanour, always performing near perfectly on exams. Her involvement in competitions like the CEMC contests and APEGA Science Olympics reflected her thirst for knowledge and willingness to explore beyond the classroom. At Code Ninjas, she shared her love for computer science, inspiring others to delve into technology and problem-solving. Judy demonstrated ethical citizenship by fostering respectful relationships within the school community and showing a commitment to fairness and empathy. Her willingness to tackle pressing issues like climate change and assistive technology through her studies in computer science at the U of A reflected her sense of responsibility towards making a positive impact. Her research on the effect of increasing carbon atoms on combustion enthalpy further demonstrated her analytical skills and dedication to understanding complex scientific concepts.

Basma Hussain

M.E. LaZerte

The ultimate reward of the teaching profession is meeting and working with a student like Basma, a mature, dedicated student with an impressive work ethic. Basma's ability to think through a problem and contribute to a solution was impressive. When peers struggled, she was generous with her time in assisting them to work through the problem. Basma was keen to move beyond her comfort zone and tackle new challenges such as the High School Youth Researcher Program last summer. Dedicated to achieving her very best, Basma consistently went well beyond what was required and always produced well researched work of the highest quality. This led to her acceptance in the immunology and infection program at the University of Alberta where she will, no doubt, continue with her mastery of STEM.

Sofiia Maidanska

McNally

Sofiia was one of the top students in Physics 30 and achieved 96 per cent on the diploma exam. She also excelled in Math 30-1 and received an overall grade of 92 per cent. Sofiia was an engaged learner always eager to learn and diligent in her preparation for assessments. Furthermore, her labs were done to the highest standard with strong attention to detail. Sofiia was keen to explore alternative solutions and understand the reasons for the answers in math. Whenever she had a question, Sofiia was never afraid to ask; whenever one of her peers had a question, Sofiia was never afraid to share her knowledge to help them out.

Ellianna Birkholz

Millwoods Christian

Evidence of Ellianna's passion for math and science was not hard to find. Her achievement across all of her math and science programming was commendable. Ellianna's engagement and commitment to excellence in these subject areas resulted in a mark of 100 per cent in Chemistry 20, Biology 20, Math 30-1 and Math 31. As part of her commitment to excel, in addition to her desire to help others, Ellianna created unit review packages, which have been utilized by other students to support their academic success. Ellianna's willingness to lead and encourage others to reach their potential resulted in valuable contributions to her high school community. She plans to pursue a career in education, with the goal of becoming a high school math and science teacher.

Kevin Huang

Old Scona

Kevin was one of the school's top chemistry IB, biology, and math students. Despite the complex curriculum in these courses, Kevin achieved an almost perfect grade in each. He did not shy away from challenges and opportunities, and continually strived to solve the more complex problems. Kevin also excelled in computer programming and networking at the school. Beyond his high achievement and excellent performance, Kevin was among the most humble and appreciative of students. He truly enjoyed learning and furthering his understanding of any topic and also helped others when they needed assistance to succeed.

Celine Jugandi Pasutti

Queen Elizabeth

Science, math and technology are passions for Celine. At the age of nine she already knew that she wanted to be involved in the cybersecurity field. During her high school career, she came to the conclusion that the artificial intelligence field is where she would unleash her talents. Celine produced work that well exceeded the standard of excellence throughout her high school career. She was an engaged learner with a take-charge attitude in the classroom, where she often coached her peers in deepening their understanding of course material.

Harris Oldring

Ross Sheppard

If you ask anyone that knows Harris, you will find out immediately what an amazing human being he is. He was one of the top, if not the top academic achieving students at the school. Harris was an accomplished athlete and musician. He was involved in the school community helping with the announcements and participated in all school math competitions. Harris deserves recognition for this intense interest in, and ability with mathematics. He wrote his IB extended essay on the Riemann Hypothesis, which was fantastic to read and so enjoyable to discuss it with him. Harris was quick to learn the material, process it and then synthesize it into his own ideas.

Cristina Iordache

Strathcona

Through Cristina's participation in the Youreka Research Program, she honed her skills in scientific research and statistical analysis, even undertaking a groundbreaking project on the correlation of blood lead levels in children and water facility policies. Her contributions extended beyond research, as seen in her involvement in the International Young Researcher's Conference, where she not only conducted impactful research but also presented a paper on the effects of study techniques on student learning. Academically, she stood out as a top student with a track record of excellence in AP courses and admission to the U of A's prestigious neuroscience honours program. With upcoming engagements like the U of A NeuroPosium and Neuroscience Brain Bee, Cristina plans to continue to showcase her passion and expertise in the field of science, promising a future filled with remarkable achievements.

Jigisha Bedi

Victoria

Jigisha's academic journey was nothing short of exemplary. Her passion for science and mathematics was unwavering throughout her high school career. Jigisha had a remarkable ability to grasp complex problems and offer insightful solutions. Her compassion towards her fellow students and open-mindedness in her work was noteworthy. Jigisha possesses all the essential traits to excel in any field she chooses to pursue and is sure to be a valuable asset to any institution she joins.

Lochlan Radstaak

Vimy Ridge Academy

Lochlan embodied the qualities of an engaged learner, ethical citizen and entrepreneurial spirit. His outstanding academic achievements in Math 31 and Physics 30 highlight his dedication and passion for STEM fields. Lochlan consistently upholds ethical values, fostering a collaborative learning environment, and demonstrates remarkable initiative in applying scientific principles to real-world challenges. His exceptional qualities make him an ideal candidate for this prestigious award.

Kamal Kandpal

W.P. Wagner

Kamal demonstrated academic brilliance in both mathematics and the sciences. He was an engaged learner and a hard worker, always approaching problems through the lens of a growth mindset. He responded to feedback extremely well, and his work was careful and meticulous. He was often seen supporting those around him and bringing out the best in others. He was a risk-taker who demonstrated resilience in working toward goals he set for himself. Kamal involved himself in extracurricular science activities, including science olympics and the Nerdapalooza science fair. In addition to his strong academic achievements, Kamal was a respectful, caring and compassionate community member and an all-around amazing human being. His teachers all agreed that he brought a level of positive energy to all he was involved in and he will continue to be the kind of person people enjoy being around.