

REMEMBER
VISION
DISTINCTION
LEAD
ACHIEVE
CELEBRATE
INSPIRE
PERSEVERANCE
REACH
ENJOY
MERIT
EXCELLENCE
awesome
honour



2021

Division Student Awards

HONOURING STUDENT EXCELLENCE

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.

Maya Lengle

Academy at King Edward

Maya achieved the highest academic standing in the Grade 12 program at the Academy at King Edward. She was highly motivated to excel in her course work and bridged the difficult gap between in-person and online learning. Throughout her high school career, Maya demonstrated a strong desire to contribute to class discussions, embraced a culture of acceptance and overcame any obstacle that stood in her way.

Omar Selmo

Eastglen

Omar began his academic journey as an English as a Second Language student where he established the groundwork for success. In his final year of high school, he took all three sciences and Advanced Placement Calculus, where he achieved honours. Omar demonstrates the importance of giving back to the community as a volunteer with organizations that help newcomers make a smooth transition into their new lives. Omar was an engaged learner at the highest levels; he demonstrated ethical citizenship with his commitment to learning English and finding success at school. He also worked part time to help fund his post-secondary education. Omar's hard work paid off with his acceptance to the Faculty of Science at the University of Alberta. His work ethic and commitment to excellence are just a few ways that Omar truly embodied the entrepreneurial spirit.

Riley Schalk

Edmonton Christian High

Riley was an excellent student, who was motivated and actively enjoyed learning. Throughout his high school years, Riley took it upon himself to help his peers in class. He was empathetic, compassionate and actively helped others. He loved to explore and engage with the curriculum and was confident in taking academic risks.

Sowmya Challa

Harry Ainlay

Sowmya was an excellent student who strived for deep understanding. She loved taking on challenges and pushed herself academically. With a near 100 per cent average, it is remarkable how she balanced her extracurricular activities and academics. These included being a Girls Engineering Mentorship Leader, Discovery TELUS World of Science Camp student, volunteering for Millennium STEM, participating in the Science Olympics, being a part of Youreka Canada and the Female Engineering Mentorship Program. Sowmya has performed (in and out of Canada) and teaches Indian Classical dance and volunteered in India to help homeless children. Along with being a dedicated International Baccalaureate student, she was always looking out for friends and people in need. She helped others with their education and demonstrated immense compassion and empathy.

Bretten Wiebe

J. Percy Page

Bretten was committed to his learning, achieving an overall average above 98 per cent in Grade 12. Throughout high school, Bretten was one of the top academic students at J. Percy Page, achieving honours with distinction in each of his three years. His perseverance and dedication to understanding material and developing his skills never wavered. Bretten was a respectful, diligent, hard working and reflective learner. He was a leader and a role model in so many areas, as well as an engaged learner. Beyond his strength in academics, Bretten was active in leadership and student government as well as in athletics, participating in basketball, volleyball, team handball and track and field.

Rahim Valji

Jasper Place

Rahim excelled in a range of honours, Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate courses. Strongly committed to academic success, Rahim achieved honours with distinction all three years at Jasper Place. Rahim was highly respected within his school community and demonstrated a passion to help and serve others through his involvement in several school clubs and extracurricular activities, such as Student Leadership, Key Club, Interact Club, initiating free virtual tutoring for Jasper Place students during the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as coaching soccer and participating in Edmonton Public Schools Student Senate. Rahim has been accepted to the University of Alberta and will be embarking on a Bachelor of Science program in Kinesiology.

Jessica Ma

Lillian Osborne

Jessica excelled as a student at Lillian Osborne. She had the highest combined average of all students in her Grade 12 class. To challenge herself further, Jessica competed in math contests and represented her school in the University of Waterloo Math Competition. Jessica made great contributions to her school community and the larger community. This included volunteering for her school's Chinese New Year celebrations, tutoring and supporting other students. She also worked with a student organization called Edmonton Youth Wellness to fundraise and donate books to schools. Somehow, she still found the time to work at Kumon, to support other students in their learning. Jessica was a responsible and hard working student. Her teachers have commented about what pleasure it was to have her in their classes.

Johanna Lau

M.E. LaZerte

Johanna's academic prowess went unchallenged in her three years at M.E. LaZerte. She was consistently at the top of her class in Grades 10, 11 and 12. Johanna was an academic prodigy because she encapsulated what it was to be a formidable learner—she was humble, yet perceptive and questioning. She knew when to lead, and when to let others contribute. She was inclusive and open-minded in her interactions with classmates, and also dedicated to her studies, with a mature and responsible attitude. Johanna's unmitigated commitment to bettering her community is undeniable. Throughout her years at M.E. LaZerte, Johanna has given countless hours to volunteering. In her Grade 12 year, she really found her calling; her presence, commitment and leadership in M.E. LaZerte's anti-racism efforts and other projects have left an indelible mark on her school community.

Corey Ly

McNally

Corey demonstrated not only academic excellence, but an exceptional work ethic where he put forth strong effort in all he did, both on behalf of his own academic and career goals and in service of the many school and community endeavours he led. Corey was a conscientious and self-motivated student who communicated clearly and professionally, and led by example. In addition to being described as bright, visionary, and with an entrepreneurial spirit, Corey showed compassion, was incredibly patient and inclusive, and he had the ability to consider projects and issues through differing perspectives. Corey was intelligent, creative, humble and entrepreneurial-minded. He served and mobilized youth through community initiatives, events and projects and he looked for ways for students to connect meaningfully with the larger community and to experience a sense of belonging. Corey's academic insights crossed all subjects with equal excellence.

Kessiah Benzon

Millwoods Christian

Kessiah was an academic superstar and showed a genuine interest in all topics that she was learning, along with a strong willingness to grow and change. On so many occasions, she demonstrated that marks are not the most important thing but rather learning the material and applying it to the bigger picture. Her eagerness to help those around her was infinite and she truly demonstrated a commitment to excellence in all her endeavours.

Alexander Cai

Old Scona

Alex was able to complete the full International Baccalaureate diploma, earn his high school diploma and take courses at the university level. He was a leader in his school and the community. He was one of the executives of the math club and ran math attack; in both of these groups, he helped others become better at math. He demonstrated his ability to prioritize academics, meet his voluntary obligations and compete in fencing at a high level. This young man was remarkable. He upheld the standard of excellence and, most importantly, he did it with integrity and diplomacy.

Claire Smith

Queen Elizabeth

Claire demonstrated excellence in her academic performance and in her meticulous attention to details and elevated research and referencing. Claire was quickly able to understand and master important skills such as analysis and critical thinking. Claire's desire for a thorough comprehension of course content and themes translated into her desire for knowledge outside of classroom contexts, such as through extra readings and film documentary viewings. Her independent course projects exhibited her meticulous attention to details in her quest for excellence.

Eric Au

Ross Sheppard

Eric was an exemplary student who not only excelled in all academic areas but also participated in many social justice activities and community services in school and around the city. He was the leader of his school's Chinese Lion Dance team. Due to the pandemic, the team could not hold regular practice. Eric managed to figure out a way to practice in a safe way so the team could continue to exist. Eric always demonstrated curiosity in learning and had an inquisitive mind. He was constantly reading to improve himself and willing to discuss things with his peers and teachers. Eric was a full International Baccalaureate Diploma student. Even with a heavy workload, he was still able to keep his average at 98.6 per cent.

Paul Konkin

Strathcona

Paul maintained an average above 95 per cent and earned the award for highest overall average in both Grades 10 and 11. He was a genuine leader, having the ability not only to recognize potential in others, but also to motivate others to reach their own potential. Paul always had a positive attitude, both about himself and towards others. He conducted himself with the utmost dignity and was an outstanding role model to all those around him. Paul genuinely cared about others and was willing to put others' needs ahead of his own. He was a success-oriented individual with boundless determination. Paul set high goals for himself and then worked diligently to achieve them. For Paul, mediocre was just not good enough. He continually strived to understand "why," not just "how," and always searched for practical applications to his knowledge. Paul had confidence in his abilities, and this, together with his outstanding work ethic, produced excellent results.

Leah Born

Victoria

Leah demonstrated a commitment to excellence in her academic and extra-curricular endeavours. With a passion for learning, Leah approached her education with curiosity and enthusiasm. She was an engaged and reflective student who consistently sought deeper understanding, setting high standards for herself and working to achieve her goals. Leah was an active volunteer in the school community and sought out additional opportunities to develop leadership skills. She was committed to lifelong learning and made connections with others to enable collaboration and critical thinking about how to solve problems that impact our global society. Working to pursue deeper connections with others, Leah strived to nurture appreciation for multiple perspectives and diversity in herself and her peers. Leading by example, Leah embodied open-mindedness, principled thinking and compassion. She believed in a shared responsibility to make the world a better place. Leah aspired to make a meaningful impact in our community by contributing to efforts to solve injustices and support vulnerable groups.

Reese Jones

Vimy Ridge Academy

Reese took great pride in whatever task she undertook and displayed a respectful attitude to her coaches, teachers and classmates. Whether she was on the field, on the court or in the classroom, Reese always strived to be at her best. She was an exceptional student and person and this is greatly reflected in her grades and ability to balance a busy schedule. As someone who always wants to succeed, Reese was willing to put in the extra effort and did not hesitate to seek out assistance when required.

Natasha Larson

W.P. Wagner

Natasha did her best to understand any topic, even those she didn't particularly enjoy, and excelled on tests. This was demonstrated by her overall 98 per cent average, including high averages not only in math and science but also in humanities courses. In recognition of her academic success, she was selected by the Science and English departments at her school to attend Encounters With Canada in Grade 11 as a representative of the school. Regardless of the subject, she strived to excel at everything she did and loved learning as an experience. This love of learning will help her continue to excel in future endeavours and to never give up on education and furthering her own abilities.

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).

Stuart Haverstock

Academy at King Edward

Stuart demonstrated a passion in the area of advanced technology and expressed a strong interest in the computer technician program offered by Campus EPSB through Queen Elizabeth School. With the industry-level certificates that he gained through the Career Pathways programs, Stuart intended to transition to the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology. He aspired to move into a career as a video game programmer and software developer, using the coding skills that he learned throughout his academic journey.

Madison Feehan

Argyll Centre

Madison was an engaged learner and an outstanding student who surpassed all requirements to complete all core subjects, including all three sciences. She had a portfolio of binders with extensive assignments, tests, essays and experiments. Madison's entrepreneurial spirit was clearly demonstrated in her Mars space station submission to NASA. It included a detailed and mathematical breakdown of how her 3D model would provide enough oxygen, water, food, heat and power to sustain a core group of 20 people. As a result, Madison was asked to join a team with NASA to review regular submissions for funding future projects. Madison truly modeled what it means to be an ethical citizen. Together with her mom, they raised enough money to help a person get back on their feet with a home, food and clothing after losing their home in the Fort McMurray fire.

Ryder Dutertre

Eastglen

Ryder was a hard working, well-rounded Career and Technology Studies student. He achieved excellence in Construction and Mechanics, but more importantly, he was a leader and role model in the classroom. Ryder was also very involved behind the scenes with his school's Theatre and Fine Arts program where he put his skills to practical use.

Soren Befus

Edmonton Christian High

Soren was an active and self motivated member of the sports performance class for three years. He was a great example of dedication to self improvement and fitness and was a responsible leader and role model to his peers. He worked hard every class and put in the necessary time, effort and passion to better himself and those around him. He was helpful and encouraging to others and worked well to build community and teamwork. Soren's hard work paid off and he will continue to develop his fitness and team skills, playing basketball at Brandon University.

Marco Simpatico

Harry Ainlay

Marco demonstrated a unique talent to produce exemplary work in welding and fabrication during his time at Harry Ainlay. His constant commitment to improving his skills produced results of the highest quality. Marco's skills were prominently on display in the halls of Harry Ainlay, as he was instrumental in the design and creation of the amazing character counts display outside our Career Centre. Marco's skills and attributes were quickly identified by our partners in industry, earning Marco an apprenticeship position with ATCO. His supervisors would comment regularly that Marco was the most highly skilled young adult they had ever worked with. They also mentioned that he came to work every day with a positive attitude and earned the respect of his colleagues. Marco represented Harry Ainlay with pride. His welding skills will carry him forward in the future, but his smile is what we will remember most.

Deanna Lovelock

J. Percy Page

Deanna, a Career and Technology Studies Mechanics student, maintained top marks in her class with an 89 per cent average. However, she consistently went beyond just the marks. She was a leader in her group, ensuring that everyone was involved and included in all the mechanical work that was done on both shop projects and customer service vehicles. She extended this enthusiasm to the school as part of student leadership, cultivated a positive culture by being involved in school-wide initiatives in fine arts, theatre and school activities such as open house. She takes her knowledge and initiative outside of the school as she gains experience working with her uncle on Land Rovers, helping restore vehicles both privately and as part of his mechanics business. She also volunteers as part of the Land Rover Club, marshalling traffic and helping out with activities during their meets. Deanna was a valuable member of the J. Percy Page student family and team, both as an up-and-coming mechanic and leader in the community.

Jaden Urusky

Jasper Place

Jaden has demonstrated a high level of achievement in not one, but two Career and Technology Studies pathways to the advanced level, excelling in both the fabrication and mechanics streams. This commitment to excellence is displayed in all of Jaden's courses as he also earned honours in his academic courses. Jaden was an outstanding student; kind, curious and consistently challenging himself and his peers to continuously improve. He was an active learner, reflective and persistent to always enhance his skills and understanding. Jaden competed in Skills Canada 2021 in welding and earned a bronze medal at provincials in workplace safety. Due to COVID restrictions, he rose to the challenge and trained independently, critiquing and pushing himself to a high standard.

Sascha Till-Rogers

Lillian Osborne

Sascha excelled in her academics as a student at Lillian Osborne School. Achieving honours with distinction in each year of high school, Career and Technology Studies was a particular area where she was able to shine. For three years in the Food Studies program, Sascha was a role model and positive force in her classes. Sascha was a resilient student who was committed to her studies and persevered to overcome any obstacles she encountered. Starting as a fairly inexperienced cook, she learned through trial and error and continuous growth that it's the knowledge you gain through the experience of doing something that is important, not the result itself. This realization impacted Sascha as a learner through all aspects of her life. Sascha was also a dedicated student during the online learning period. She was a genuine leader in the classroom, valuing teamwork and collaboration with other students. Sascha has a bright future ahead of her.

Dillon Hodder

M.E. LaZerte

Dillon came such a long way in just a few years. Dillon pushed the envelope and chose to be in a split construction class with students who were more advanced. He was determined to show how focused he was to be a tradesperson. He slowly advanced from a quiet, diligent hard worker to the organizer and thinker of the group. Dillon wanted to compete in the Skills Canada carpentry competition and did. He worked hard to get there and his school was very proud of how far he had come. In his Grade 11 year he continued to investigate many trades and joined the Registered Apprenticeship Program. He acquired a job in the electrical field but the experience was less than ideal. However, he persevered and finally got another electrical placement. He is currently working and loving his choice.

Danny Astle

McNally

Danny demonstrated his passion for learning through his engagement within his full International Baccalaureate (IB) Program. His extended essay, grounded in peer-reviewed research and a tenaciously acquired interview with Edmonton Police Service's Cybersecurity, explored the ethics and impact of facial recognition on the oppression of Xinjiang Uighur Muslims. Outside of academics, Danny was fully engaged with his IB Creativity, Action, and Service Program contributing student leadership to Division-wide eSports. Danny was a talented musician playing in the school's jazz band, organizing shows for his band in the community, and also playing non-profit shows. In all of the initiatives, Danny demonstrated exemplary proficiency in computational thinking competencies critical in computing science, which allowed him to approach complex problems.

Inssia Ahmed

Old Scona

Inssia was a full International Baccalaureate (IB) student who helped bring technology to a new level at her school. Besides being a top academic student, she was a top-rated Cyber Security Team member. She competed in the CyberPatriot/CyberTitan competitions for three years at Old Scona Academic. In her last two years, she captained an all-girls team to two top-10 finishes in Canada and was named the Top Girls team at the CyberTitan competition in 2020 and 2021. She recently led an all-girls team to the Top Girls team at the CanHack 2021. Inssia has been very successful at Skills Alberta Canada. Inssia received a bronze in 2020 and won gold in the same event in 2021 in the IT Network System Admin category. In addition, her mentorship and guidance led many other students to try IT and Cyber Security at her school. She was also a very strong computer science student.

Lakota Kopochinski

Queen Elizabeth

Lakota was a highly engaged student in a variety of Career and Technology Studies streams at Queen Elizabeth High School. She showed a large degree of interest in both work experience and natural resources courses. In addition, she showed strong levels of engagement in media, design and communication courses. She was an ethical citizen, taking great care to encourage, welcome and assist other students and teachers. Lakota showed a strong passion and willingness to engage in conversations and debates around topics relevant to sustainability, community practices and the future. During her time at Queen Elizabeth High School, Lakota developed a passion for growing fruits, vegetables and fungi, and actively sought out mentors and pathways to build herself a career out of this interest, showing an entrepreneurial spirit along the way.

Benette Guinto

Ross Sheppard

Benette is a newcomer to Canada who excelled in and out of the classroom. He was a hard working student who achieved good marks in all his classes and excelled in the Registered Apprenticeship Program at Ross Sheppard. He was a sheet metal apprentice with Arpi's North and was a diligent worker who was respected by his supervisors and coworkers alike. He was awarded 100 per cent in both his sheet metal courses and worked part time in the morning to continue his apprenticeship and attended classes in the afternoon. Benette has taken full advantage of what Edmonton Public Schools has to offer.

James Brayer

Strathcona

James completed his Registered Apprenticeship Program in the HVAC and sheet metal trade while at Strathcona High School. James proved himself to be a strong student due to his dedication, intelligence and mature work habits. His enthusiasm and excellent work habits contributed to a good learning situation in the classroom. James' energetic attitude and personality made it a pleasure to be around him. He had a great sense of humor and very good interpersonal skills. James will succeed at whatever challenges he sets for himself.

Blake Spence

Victoria

Blake was an exemplary Work Experience and Media student. He demonstrated an outstanding ability in problem solving, teamwork and leadership in and out of the classroom. Blake mentored less experienced students within the Media program by teaching and demonstrating appropriate use, management and maintenance of program gear. Consistently, Blake was the first student to show up to an extracurricular film commitment and the last to leave. Blake ensured projects and filming tasks were completed promptly and thoroughly. Regardless of the task or responsibility at hand, Blake always demonstrated professionalism through his hard work, a strong dedication to lifelong learning, a commitment to a teamwork environment, kindness and support towards clients, coworkers and superiors and a well-rounded understanding of the media craft. Blake's hard work and dedication to the media profession have led to him being accepted at the Toronto Film School.

Hailee George

Vimy Ridge Academy

Hailee was an intelligent, enthusiastic, hard-working student who was a delight to have in Food Studies class. Hailee enhanced the environment of the class with her eagerness and energy. She participated fully in all class activities and went above and beyond by bringing new recipes, ideas and skills into the lab. Her food product consistently exceeded expectations and her attention to detail enhanced her product further.

Emily Wispinski

W.P. Wagner

Emily was actively involved in Career and Technology Studies, more specifically the Natural Sciences program at W.P. Wagner. She spent countless hours organizing the greenhouse and assisting her teacher in a variety of ways. She worked well with others and also excelled in her coursework.

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.

Maya Lengle

Academy at King Edward

Maya grew into an academic success and aspiring artist over six years at the Academy at King Edward. She excelled in all fine arts courses and challenged herself by exploring disciplines of drawing, painting, photography and printmaking. Maya has had her work displayed in the Three Generations Art Show at the Grow Centre on Whyte. One of her paintings was selected as a finalist for Alberta University of the Arts 2021 ShowOff! competition. Maya's plans post-graduation include Alberta University of the Arts followed by freelance work internationally.

Heaven Gladue

amiskwaciy Academy

Heaven was a gifted young artist who has engaged in many forms of artistic expression. She has taken risks in exploring different ways to create many beautiful and impactful art forms with optimism and confidence. Heaven has contributed several paintings to the community. Her work has been showcased in the Nina Haggerty Centre for the Arts in Edmonton, and she made a major contribution to her school with a powerful painting dedicated to social justice for missing and murdered Indigenous men and women.

Emma Chapman

Argyll Centre

Emma's art portfolio and creative techniques have shown significant growth throughout junior high and high school. She has expressed gratitude for her teachers' support through the years. Emma was very proud of the work she created while at Argyll Centre. In and out of class, she dedicated much of her time to studying art history and furthering her artistic ability.

Amelie Lang-Muller

Eastglen

Amelie has always had a fascination with visual art. Her personal philosophy was that art is what makes the world interesting and people content enough to thrive. She participated in numerous visual 2D art classes along with formal instruction during her secondary school career. She created an Advanced Placement art portfolio during her Art 20 and 30 courses. Her interest in art was also apparent in her involvement with the community. During school open houses, Amelie encouraged future students to join the art programs. She also volunteered at the Kaleido Festival multiple years. Her art work has been displayed in various school and community venues, as well as at the Centre for Education. Amelie hopes to continue creating works of art and sharing her talents.

Anika Guillaume

Edmonton Christian High

Anika was a confident, motivated and skilled member of band class for three years. She persevered through all of the uncertainties and challenges that were brought with online schooling. She was committed to doing her best, showing up to every class with her individual practice, being prepared with her music parts and completing assignments. She strived to benefit her band community by helping and encouraging those around her. She had a passion for music that was demonstrated not only through her participation in band, but in her willingness to volunteer for chapel music and accompanying her class choir songs. She spent hours learning extra music to serve the school community. While most students are eliminating things to keep up with their school work during a pandemic, Anika did the opposite and showed just how disciplined she is by completing her Grade 8 Royal Conservatory of Music cello and theory exams.

Deborah Song

Harry Ainlay

Deborah was an artist who epitomized creative thinking, action and reflection in her conversations, planning and in her artwork. She strived for perfection but understood that the journey will have many speed bumps along the way. Deborah wishes to continue her journey in the area of digital arts where we know she will be highly successful! It has been an absolute pleasure watching Deborah's growth as an artist these past three years. We are very excited to see how she opens up this world to her vision of humanity.

Isla Medina

J. Percy Page

Isla was an incredibly involved fine arts student throughout high school. Beginning in Grade 10, she was an active member of the school musicals, both as an actor and behind the scenes with technical theatre. Her capacity for giving her artistic vision materiality made her an exceptional artist in any art-related class she chose. Not only was Isla a musician, but she also successfully completed her Advanced Placement 2D studio portfolio.

Abhay Sharma

Jasper Place

Abhay was a consistently engaged, motivated learner, achieving excellence in Drama 10, 20 and 30 classes as well as playing prominent roles in performing arts productions. He routinely took creative risks, reflected on feedback and achieved exceptional results and drama awards each year. In addition, Abhay genuinely supported others in collaborative projects. He independently mentored new students in the program, and was an ambassador for the drama program at open house and school events, encouraging younger students to join the drama community. Abhay participated in a City of Edmonton intergenerational podcast about his Drama experiences at Jasper Place and he represented his school in Edmonton's upcoming Nextfest Festival and in the Provincial Skills Canada Competition. Abhay has been accepted to the Media Production Program at Ryerson University in the hopes of pursuing a career in the arts.

Thomas Bonham

Lillian Osborne

The first thing you notice about Thomas is his sense of humour. It's pretty dry, but he always knows how to make those around him laugh. The second thing you notice about Thomas is how talented he is at art and how much he enjoys drawing. The third thing you notice about Thomas is his ability to take any assignment at the level he is registered for and achieve excellence in all criteria. Thomas managed to build a portfolio in his time at Lillian Osborne that he should be proud of and succeeded far above expectations. Thomas will surely succeed in creating art in the future in any means he chooses. He'll absolutely make more friends in other art studios and will continue to express himself in ways only an artist can.

Rukia Ainab

M.E. LaZerte

Rukia was a pleasure to work with in the dance studio at M.E. LaZerte. She was driven and passionate about dance not only as a student, but in developing herself as a teacher, leader and choreographer. In all her involvements, her energy was contagious. Rukia was passionate about the history and context associated with various dance genres. She was a beacon of encouragement for many of her peers both in her dance classes and as a member of the hip hop dance club. The club was an extracurricular, student-led dance club in which Rukia took on a leadership role. Above all, Rukia made a noticeable effort to promote respect and inclusivity in the hip hop club as well as in class.

Jason Gillanders

McNally

Jason was a highly motivated learner who independently sought out new opportunities to increase his skills in diverse areas. In addition to top grades in Instrumental Music, Jason excelled in other academic courses, particularly math and science related. He did this while providing leadership in both symphonic and jazz band, the city-wide MacEwan Youth Jazz ensemble, rock bands, studying guitar and completing his Royal Conservatory of Music Level 10 piano and theory exams. Jason took on responsibility for organizing and maintaining the percussion section, as well as mentoring and assisting a special needs student to fully participate in the symphonic band. His humble spirit allowed others to shine alongside his considerable skills. At every opportunity, Jason challenged himself to prepare and present outstanding performances for talent shows, coffee houses and other school events both alone and as part of a group.

Camryn Fraser

Millwoods Christian

Camryn was a positive and highly influential voice in the theatre program during her high school years. She consistently demonstrated a desire for self-improvement but more importantly she continually encouraged her peers to do the same. As a performer, Camryn always sought challenges to further her growth and her positive attitude towards portraying a variety of characters is second to none. In addition to this Camryn was compassionate to her fellow students, a consistent voice of encouragement and collaboration both on stage as well as behind the scenes. She used her talents outside of the classroom as well and in particular by being a key leader in creating drama performances with students in the Dominican Republic.

Erica Kim

Old Scona

Erica had near flawless grades in both Drama 30 and Art 30. She was a conscientious and thoughtful person who took on challenges with grace and flexibility. Erica directed a one-act play, was able to manage rehearsals in person and online, and met the challenges of directing for filming instead of a live audience in an organized and controlled manner. In visual art, Erica was always open to experimenting and exploring new ideas and media. She always had a positive attitude and a deep respect for her classmates. Her school watched her grow as an artist, and as a leader in both of her classes. She demonstrated exceptional time-management and worked deeply and intelligently in all she did.

Jeslyn Mudaliar

Queen Elizabeth

Jeslyn always had a passion for arts. Growing up she participated well in arts and tried to learn new techniques and skills; as she grew, so did her art skills. An engaged learner, she tried to apply the techniques learned while discovering her talents. Jeslyn tried to make art to highlight global issues rather than offend people. She created art to inspire others and keep them interested in observing her art pieces longer. She showcased her art on social media platforms and often shared the steps of creating her illustrations. Jeslyn aspired to bettering her skills and creating a business from her art, as this is where her passion lies.

Maya Pereira

Ross Sheppard

Maya was an exceptional student in multiple areas of the fine arts. She was the type of student every teacher dreams of mentoring. In guitar, Maya was a leader within her class, helping tutor her peers. She represented Ross Sheppard at the Night of Music online event with a song she performed, both singing and playing guitar. In Visual Art, Maya was at the top of her class, technically and conceptually. She loved to learn and worked exceptionally hard to achieve the success she does. Maya was a skilled artist able to craft objects and images full of meaningful expression. Maya's skills in art and her entrepreneurial spirit have led to her being sought after to do commissioned artwork in both drawing and painting.

Morgan Klose

Strathcona

Morgan combined her diverse passions in the performing and visual arts and exemplified what it means to be a true artist through dance and visual art education. Morgan was a leader in her classes as a risk taker and approached all her work with an open and curious mind; this allowed her to discover her unique artistic voice! She was a choreographer and she danced in the annual showcase. Morgan will be attending NAIT for Art and Design and continues to teach dance outside of school.

Emily Brinco

Victoria

Emily has been active in the arts since Grade 7. Over the last six years she has grown in confidence, skill and leadership. She has taken classes in choral music, vocal jazz, musical theatre, acting, directing and dance. An engaged learner, Emily was keenly studying music and theatre. She had excellent attendance, completed assignments with thought and detail, engaged authentically in conversation and led by example. As an ethical citizen, Emily believed in arts education and its value for developing citizens. She embodied open mindedness, principled thinking and conscientious decision making. Emily demonstrated entrepreneurial spirit through her involvement in the Student Arts Leadership Team where she helped plan, implement and host events in her school. She looked for opportunities to build community, offered great ideas and worked to see her ideas come to fruition.

Lexa Biermann

Vimy Ridge Academy

Lexa completed six years in the dance program at Vimy Ridge Academy and achieved the highest levels in her dance training. She had a keen interest in contemporary dance and completed her Grade 9 Al Gilbert tap exam. Lexa was a member of Edmonton Contemporary Dancers for three years. Lexa was an exemplary student leader in her dance courses. She was not only a dedicated artist committed to enhancing her craft as a dancer, but was also thoughtful and insightful in her approach to written work, both individually and with her peers. Lexa's drive and determination have been shown in her choreography in Composition 35 and she also completed multiple dance courses with excellence. Lexa was a strong role model when working with student athletes and she is committed to the enhancement of the arts in Alberta.

Angel Pardo

W.P. Wagner

Angel excelled in the art and pottery studios at W.P. Wagner. Angel was an engaged learner and with each assignment, he pushed his skills and took risks. He researched techniques, experimented with materials and engaged with the art world. He worked hard in the maintenance of the studios, especially in pottery. Angel trained other students in tasks of kiln loading and clay reclamation. He implemented processes in the studios to make shared spaces and supplies more efficient. He was an excellent mentor to his peers and treated everyone with patience and kindness. He was an excellent advocate for the arts and volunteered for promotional videos, junior high tours and open houses.

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.

Joshua Medley

Academy at King Edward

Josh has shown a commitment to living a healthy and active lifestyle by participating in team sports such as high school football and playing minor hockey, and taking Physical Education to the 30 level. When sidelined with a knee injury in Grade 11, Josh persevered through the rehabilitation process and was able to continue to participate in physical activity. The teamwork and sportsmanship skills Josh learned through sport will serve him well as he continues on to post-secondary.

Kerrie Vandenbrink

Braemar

Kerrie was an exceptional athlete and excelled at all sports and activities by always giving her best effort in class. She always pushed and helped all students to be the best they could be. Kerrie became a big part of getting girls to participate in class. She led an active way of life both inside and outside of school and always encouraged others to do so. Her resiliency and determination after she had her little boy were evident as she became an incredible leader in physical education class at Braemar.

Noah Souliere-Etherington

Eastglen

Noah completed all levels of Physical Education and Recreation Leadership courses and met the curricular standard of excellence in all. From a wellness perspective, Noah exemplified balance in student life, maintaining A-level grades and excellent relationships with friends, teammates, teachers and coaches. He played on numerous sports teams. Whether in class, or on the court or field, Noah demonstrated leadership, volunteerism and was always the first person to lend a helping hand to peers, teammates, staff or coaches. Noah was quiet in his demeanor, but his actions spoke to his love of physical activity and pursuit of an overall active lifestyle.

Brady Hoyt

Harry Ainlay

Brady was a multi-sport athlete all three years of his high school career, completing Physical Education 30 with an outstanding final mark of 100 per cent. Brady represents what we look for in a student in terms of his ability to blend humility and competitiveness as he pivots between physical education class and educational athletics. Brady was a very engaged learner who always demonstrated high character and represented our school with pride.

Georgia Brayne

J. Percy Page

Georgia demonstrated exceptional achievement and leadership in the area of health and wellness throughout her time at J. Percy Page. Her participation in Physical Education and Recreation Leadership demonstrated both a dedication to well being and commitment to living an active lifestyle. In Recreation Leadership, Georgia pushed herself every day to achieve personal fitness goals while encouraging her classmates to reach theirs. She showed incredible determination as she battled back from sports injuries, not letting any setback get in her way. Georgia was a key member on numerous sports teams including basketball, team handball, volleyball and track and field. Her internal motivation, dedication to her teammates and work ethic during training sessions was inspiring. Georgia was also an ambassador for the school as a member of the student union where she served as the athletics representative supporting all athletes and promoting athletics programming through various social media platforms.

Orin Schellenberg

Jasper Place

Orin epitomized what a student-athlete should be. He was a role model and leader for other students and always had a positive attitude. Even with the changes to online instruction and learning, Orin was both persistent and creative in finding ways to maintain and even improve his health and fitness while at home. This was a true sign of a student and athlete who embodied and strived for healthy life skills and choices. As an athlete, Orin was hardworking, dedicated, tough, intelligent and, most importantly, he displayed leadership skills that are rare. These qualities translated into his academics, as he was a wonderful student to teach in both Physical Education and Sports Performance. Orin was the type of kid that makes every group that he was a part of a little bit better. The qualities that Orin possesses will ensure that he goes on to have an excellent academic and athletic career as he moves forward to play football at the University of Alberta.

Aabid Lalani

Lillian Osborne

Aabid was hard working, friendly and willing to help anyone! He produced high-quality theory and written work and demonstrated excellent skills in a wide variety of activities. Aabid was a role model and leader in class as well as on the teams he participated on. He demonstrated great time-management skills as he juggled his many athletic and academic responsibilities. Aabid contributed positively to the school culture with his enthusiastic and energetic attitude. Aabid valued the importance of remaining physically active and found ways to stay involved both inside and outside of the classroom.

Nyagot Both Deng

M.E. LaZerte

Nyagot was a kind and generous student who led by example and was a role model for others. Growing up in a Kenyan refugee camp, Nyagot discovered her passion for sports at a young age and learned the value of teamwork in the process. Nygot and her family started a new journey in 2016 when they moved to Canada. Nyagot was excited to start learning English, which happens to be her third language, during her Grade 8 year in Edmonton. Nyagot excelled in her Physical Education (PE) classes and received top marks in PE 10, 20 and 30. She was a multi-sport athlete who participated on both the cross-country and basketball teams at M.E. LaZerte. Nyagot's resilience and courage exemplify the characteristics of a lifelong learner who has overcome adversity; she was an inspiration to staff and students at M.E. LaZerte school.

Aiden Aniskowicz

McNally

Aiden demonstrated exceptional academic achievement and modeled leadership in Physical Education, athletics, Special Olympics, health, and overall wellness. An ideal Physical Education student, he excelled in all areas of the subject, especially with his sportsmanship and teamwork. Aiden was a dedicated handball and volleyball player for the Tigers and captained his FOG Volleyball Club team. He was actively involved with McNally's Best Buddies, which led him to become a Special Olympics hockey official. Aiden demonstrated incredibly strong skills for inclusion, whether acknowledging a fellow student's accomplishments in Best Buddies, or sharing an encouraging word to a teammate. At McNally, Aiden was consistently respectful of all stakeholders in sport while remaining fiercely competitive. Aiden had high expectations of himself, a caring nature towards others, and understands the importance of health and wellness.

Annalise Hansen

Millwoods Christian

Annalise displayed positive character attributes throughout her years in Physical Education and athletics. She was always prepared to learn and be involved at all levels to improve in any way she could as a student-athlete. She set a good example for the other students around her as she was responsible, respectful and compassionate. Her attitude was contagious and easily seen when she was part of a team. She had a strong work ethic and strove to get the job done well, so that it was a positive experience for all involved. Annalise would lead by taking the initiative where possible which allowed those around her to achieve success.

Emma Li

Old Scona

Emma was a part of the student engagement team for two years. She was the co-chair of the program and was also a trained community helper. She organized numerous events to help students develop balance and good mental health. She helped create Mental Health Week which brought together all of the main councils to put on wellness activities for the student body. She was not afraid to take on challenges and learn and create new ideas to meet the needs of the student body. Emma was also a part of the Students' Council and was instrumental in ensuring that events did not overlap and that everyone was working together at the school.

Peter Kugba-Nyande

Queen Elizabeth

Peter was the true exemplar of a student-athlete who excelled in Physical Education, athletics, and overall health/life skills. Peter always had exemplary marks in all his Physical Education classes, and was always the first "Go-To" leader whenever a substitute teacher would be called in. Athletically, Peter competed at the highest level in his two years of school sports, playing basketball, soccer and handball. Peter received a Silver City medal in basketball and a city championship in handball in 2019. Finally, Peter was an excellent ambassador for Queen Elizabeth as he carried himself with tremendous poise and humility.

Kelly Wu

Ross Sheppard

Kelly was an outstanding student. She took initiative in her learning and constantly sought ways to improve herself. Kelly was an avid environmentalist. She was the leader of the school's Project Green club which promoted environmentally friendly living and recycled materials at school. Kelly also lived out her values. She refused to buy a new phone or purchase new clothing. She believes that we can all do our part to make the world a better place.

Sela Scott

Strathcona

Sela demonstrated outstanding leadership, volunteerism and committed achievement in health and life skills. She completed Physical Education (PE) up to the 30 level, attaining honours at all levels. A quote from her PE teacher summarizes Sela's excellence in class. "Sela was the most motivated. She was the oil in our engines and the student who was often the one pushing others to get engaged." Sela was always willing to try something new. Her dedication and resilience were clearly visible throughout the school and she always worked diligently to hold herself to an extremely high standard. Sela's positive attitude served her well in setting and achieving her goals in relation to wellness and physical education. Sela made positive life choices that were evidenced daily in her actions throughout the halls at Strathcona High School. She consistently demonstrated confidence in her overall wellness, and she inspired other students to continue to strive for individual excellence.

Isabelle Milsom

Victoria

Isabelle's personal health was one of her highest priorities. She always took care of herself by eating well and working out routinely, and enjoyed testing her physical limits. She liked to engage with other people and work as a team, she consistently worked out on her own, but she also participated in team sports. She was on the volleyball team at Victoria every year from Grade 8 to 12, and was also on the badminton team for a year. Not only did she play school volleyball, but she also played club volleyball for three years and taught volleyball skills to younger players as a volunteer. Isabelle was constantly active outside of school and clubs, playing tennis, archery, skateboarding, ice skating, hiking and skiing.

Alex Lemieux

Vimy Ridge Academy

Alex was an individual who took great pride in whatever task he took on and always displayed a respectful attitude to his coaches, teachers and teammates. He was a very determined young man who consistently worked hard and made sacrifices to reach his goals, both academically and athletically. His positive attitude encouraged those around him achieve success. Alex was an exceptional young man whose best attributes were his attitude, persistence and work ethic. As someone who always wanted to succeed, Alex was willing to put in the extra effort and did not hesitate to seek out assistance when required. He was a natural leader who led by example. He was a member of the volleyball, basketball and handball teams at school while also playing competitive hockey and lacrosse outside of school.

Angel Victoria

W.P. Wagner

Angel was naturally outgoing, welcomed new friends and encouraged everyone to push against all odds. Angel loved to learn and sought ways to improve every day. Throughout high school years at Wagner, Angel participated in various sports teams including senior volleyball, senior basketball and badminton. Despite getting student-athlete years cut off short, Angel continued to get involved in the school community and volunteered for open house and other school events. Angel pursued Physical Education to the 30 level and finished off strong, while also a member of the school's senate and a consistent honour student since Grade 10. Being a student-athlete helped improve time management skills and taught Angel how to balance life. It molded Angel to become a confident, dedicated, hardworking and responsible individual. Angel is planning to pursue a Bachelor of Science of Nursing at MacEwan University.

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.

Isabella Stevenson

Academy at King Edward

Isabella progressed as a young writer during her three years of high school. Her dedication as a student truly paid off, and she excelled in all of her academic courses. Beyond her ability to analyze text and produce exemplary writing in a variety of styles, Isabella was also an accomplished artist with a passion to produce high-quality artwork using graphite and paint as her media.

Emma Grekul

Argyll Centre

Emma made some big waves in the fine arts scene while living in small town Alberta and attending Argyll Centre. She was a prolific artist, who was engaged in learning and experimented and conducted research trials with almost every medium. An ethical citizen, she mentored and tutored young artists and ran a successful blog to spread the love of art. Emma demonstrated an entrepreneurial spirit in posting and selling her words and prints as well as having exhibits that require tickets. Even though Emma had to push through adversity, she embodied the Division's values and achieved top grades in art.

Mikayla Lake

Braemar

Mikayla 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. Mikayla took responsibility for her education and thoughtfully accepted feedback and demonstrated a spirit of optimism. Mikayla's strong work ethic was evident in all of her English assignments and her strong, confident voice came through in her writing. In the classroom Mikayla was always kind to others and was a role model among her peers. Mikayla will attend MacEwan University for Paralegal Studies where she will continue to pursue her love of learning and helping others.

Jordyn London

Eastglen

Jordyn embodied the essence of the Humanities during her time as a student at Eastglen High School. Jordyn regularly demonstrated that her passion is people—the stories they tell, the lives they lead, their struggles and successes. In her English and Social Studies courses, it was evident to her classmates and teachers alike that Jordyn craved to know more about concepts like justice, citizenship, humanitarianism, history and literature. In Social Studies, Jordyn showed her commitment to these topics in the Bear Pit debates; her hard work and dedication to these themes came through in her work at the Model United Nations conferences. In English, she displayed a dedication to these ideas through her creativity, mentoring of fellow classmates and writing and illustrating a children's book about autism.

Julianne Hofstede

Edmonton Christian High

Julianne was a caring, motivated and empathetic leader. Her character and learning demonstrated a sophisticated understanding of the humanities; from expressing emotion, nuance, character and plot development to understanding the role, rights and responsibilities of being a citizen in the Canadian context. Julianne was not shy in unveiling God's role in our individual and collective stories. This was seen in her writing, class participation and in her leadership inside and outside of the classroom. Julianne demonstrated excellence in the classroom, on the athletic court and in student council.

Catherine Li

Harry Ainlay

Catherine demonstrated outstanding ability in both International Baccalaureate English and History. Her written work showed insight, critical thinking and imagination far beyond what would be expected from a typical Grade 12 student. Her love of learning shone through in everything she did.

Kyra Drew

J. Percy Page

Kyra demonstrated exceptional academic achievement by consistently achieving honours and honours with distinction in English, Social Studies, and Indigenous studies courses throughout her high school career. She exemplified remarkable character as a member of the community. Kyra's insightful and informed writing was primarily concerned around the ways in which we could view literature through an intersectional feminist lens. Her writing showcased the different experiences that all women face and how representation is important. Kyra's interest in these narratives was also personal to her and she was able to make many intertextual connections between a variety of literature and her own experience as a young woman. As a Cree First Nations student, Kyra demonstrated infectious enthusiasm and vital leadership, particularly in sharing circles.

Adam Nixon

Jasper Place

Adam personified excellence in his Humanities courses, receiving honours with distinction in all three levels of his Japanese language courses. His teacher described his comprehension of grammar and language concepts as superb. Adam demonstrated personal leadership qualities that made him stand out from his peers. In all group activities, Adam not only tried his best, but also encouraged his peers to participate and engage with learning tasks. Adam intends to continue his Japanese studies in post-secondary and hopes to become a languages teacher to pass on his passion and knowledge to others.

Jessica Sah

Lillian Osborne

Jessica was one of the best and brightest students in the school. In her Humanities classes, she demonstrated both perseverance and insight. She was constantly challenging herself and her teachers to grow and learn to think globally when exploring texts and topics. She impressed with her unrivalled commitment to her studies and her choices to push herself to study complex and controversial topics in a mature way. For example, Jessica's extended essay on Sylvia Plath's poetry was delicate, compassionate and thorough, demonstrating her awareness of the context of the poetry as well as the complexity of the poet. Though Jessica comes from a vastly different background than Plath, she was empathetic, reflective and insightful about the issues that Plath faced as a female writer during her time. Jessica was highly motivated and will be exceptional as she continues her studies at university.

Abby Nixon

M.E. LaZerte

Abby was a truly exceptional Humanities student. Intellectually curious and open-minded, she approached work with a sophisticated maturity far beyond her years, providing insightful evaluations of issues and texts. Abby was an avid reader with a particular interest in classical literature and she drew on this foundation in her own work, producing thoughtful critical and creative pieces with a strong, unique voice. She was equally skilled in oral communication, and generously shared her ideas with others while remaining humble and open to different perspectives. Abby had an incisive grasp of historical concepts and an incredible ability to analyze historical events and the historiography of a topic. She exemplified what it means to be a risk-taker, focusing her efforts on important, challenging questions and often applying her talents as a visual artist to her work. She constantly sought out new opportunities for growth and pushed herself to improve, Abby embodied student excellence.

Reese Kurian

McNally

Reese was a sensitive humanitarian and incisive critical thinker; she had a passion for learning that was evident in all of her course work in the Humanities. Her commitment to social justice was evident in her academic pursuit. For example, her International Baccalaureate extended essay researched how women in India are impacted by stigmatization, and she helped organize Black History Month awareness events at McNally school. Reese continuously set higher goals for herself as she strive to make a difference in the world. She was a risk taker who will have an impact in the future.

Jessica Lindenberg

Millwoods Christian

Jessica has demonstrated a consistent desire for excellence, not only her studies but also by engaging the world around her. She enjoyed the challenge of discussing various aspects of a text, with varied levels of complexity, and lit up with new realizations about the text, the author and the world at large. She sought to understand life itself, in its obvious and subtle distinctions, and this was exemplified in the manner in which she approached school subjects, organizing groups that focused on making the world a better place, practically. Ethically, she refused to remain dormant when so much good is needed in the world, and Jessica is committed to employing her understanding to enact positive growth.

Areej Shaikh

Old Scona

Areej was an extraordinary student in the Humanities and in reflecting on humanity! She was the co-president of grad and was elected by her peers and taught a beginner debate class at Old Scona. She taught basic public speaking skills and fostered a supportive learning environment. She participated in high school Mock United Nations conferences throughout high school and won gold at the 2019 mock trials competition. She worked as a political columnist for The Written Revolutions, published articles about political and social issues that reached over 30,000 viewers in over 25 countries. She gave a TEDx talk about the recent trend of performative activism and changes society can make to become better activists. She was a partial International Baccalaureate student and maintained a high level of achievement in her Humanities courses, with an average of over 90 per cent.

Claire Smith

Queen Elizabeth

Claire demonstrated excellence in her academic performance and her meticulous attention to detail and elevated research and referencing. Claire was quickly able to understand and master important humanities skills such as analysis and critical thinking. Claire's desire for a thorough comprehension of course content and themes translated into her desire for knowledge outside of classroom contexts, such as through extra readings and film documentary viewings. Her independent course projects exhibited her meticulous attention to detail in her quest for excellence. Ultimately, Claire's maturation through the Advanced Placement program enabled her to master positive planning, preparation and work habits that will serve her well beyond high school.

Isabelle McCourt

Ross Sheppard

Isabelle started French Immersion in Grade 1, so it was no surprise that the humanities, especially languages, stood out to her. Over the past 12 years, she learned so much about the French language and culture, even travelling to Europe to practice her French skills. She believed that there is value in being bilingual and found it rewarding to speak another language. Her appreciation for French inspired her to take Spanish in high school. Easily, it became her favourite subject and she achieved 100 per cent in her final year of Spanish. It is her dream to travel the world to practice these languages, so that she never loses them. English was another strong suit of Isabelle's. She finished with a 97 per cent in English 30-1. The ability to study, read, write and speak multiple languages is a gift she will never take for granted.

Sophia Burns

Strathcona

Sophia was one of the most intelligent, diligent and creative students to ever attend Strathcona High School. She was incredibly thoughtful and reflective. Her class work, projects and exams were completed with perfection and creativity. Her work continually ranked among the best ever produced at the school. She motivated others gently, shone without blinding others and used both technology and artistic creativity to the fullest. Sophia approached issues and challenges intelligently, creatively and empathically. Despite a busy schedule, she was always prepared to volunteer for open house, bilingual nights or in any other capacity requested. Sophia engaged with junior high students and parents with charm.

Harmela Kassa Mezegebe

Victoria

Harmela achieved excellence in both English and Social Studies International Baccalaureate (IB). In addition, Harmela took on the challenge of an Independent Study through the IB Certificate Program and was very successful. Harmela was an active member in the theatre community at the school, both as an actor and director. Furthermore, Harmela initiated and led the Black Students' Association at Victoria. Harmela was truly a remarkable person and a dedicated learner.

Jewel Drews

Vimy Ridge Academy

Jewel was an exceptional student who was an active learner, engaged in her academics and an exemplary role model to her peers. She received one of the top scores in English 30-1 and 100 per cent in Aboriginal Studies 30. She was an enthusiastic, thoughtful and interesting young woman who will see further success as she moves into post-secondary.

Alain Humura

W.P. Wagner

Alain was a lover of language, and a learner with an everlasting thirst for philosophy, ethics, rationales and logic. They believed that a good Humanities course creates an environment that fosters a deeper exploration into the intentions nested in literature and history—with questions and theories that tackle the ethics of mercy kills, the instinctual nature of man's survival, the ease at which we humans are influenced by propaganda, and dictatorial messages of law, order, and peace. It's this hub, this environment that pushed Alain intellectually. It's also pushed them to start a reading and writing club, to compete in city-wide debate competitions and Model United Nation simulations, to represent the school as a Student Senator, to enjoy the magic of theatre as a Cappies Critic and to volunteer at the Edmonton Mennonite Centre for Newcomers. They provided others with this privilege, and to realize a passion for academia.

MATH/SCIENCE/TECHNOLOGIES AWARD

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

Jackson Durocher

Academy at King Edward

Jackson achieved the highest marks in both Science and Math at the school. He consistently challenged himself and began taking diploma courses in his second year of high school to ensure he would meet all post-secondary course requirements. He recognized the value of life-long learning and aspired to attend post-secondary. His teachers praised his strong work ethic, as well as his respectful and polite demeanor.

Madison Feehan

Argyll Centre

Madison was an engaged learner and an outstanding student who surpassed all requirements to complete all core subjects, including all three sciences. She had a portfolio of binders with extensive assignments, tests, essays and experiments. Madison's entrepreneurial spirit was clearly demonstrated in her Mars space station submission to NASA. It included a detailed and mathematical breakdown of how her 3D model would provide enough oxygen, water, food, heat and power to sustain a core group of 20 people. As a result, Madison was asked to join a team with NASA to review regular submissions for funding future projects. Madison truly modeled what it means to be an ethical citizen. Together with her mom, they raised enough money to help a person get back on their feet with a home, food and clothing after losing their home in the Fort McMurray fire.

Kerrie Vandenbrink

Braemar

Kerrie participated 100 per cent, whether she was in class or online. Actively engaged in her learning, she was inquisitive in science and math, and was always a positive role model. Her Science teacher had never seen someone be as respectful to organisms as her during her fetal pig dissection. Her Math teacher was thrilled by her constant engagement with the material and her drive to achieve the highest standard. She was incredibly kind to her teachers, peers and community, but was also a risk-taker and enjoyed a challenge. Going to school with a baby presented her with challenges, but she demonstrated a strong willingness to achieve success for her and her baby.

Elisabeth Yuen

Centre High Campus

Elisabeth developed into a mature, responsible and confident young woman. Her academic course load included Math 30-1, English Language Arts 30-1, and Chemistry 30. Elisabeth was accepted to the University of Alberta in the Bachelor of Science program with hopes to continue with Occupational Therapy. There is no doubt she will be able to successfully complete her goal.

Harrison Peebles

Eastglen

Harrison had a strong work ethic in class, and took time to assist his peers with their understanding and comprehension of chemistry materials. Harrison continued to challenge and extend his understanding of chemistry by working through the Advanced Placement course program, while working towards his goals in pursuing Engineering in post-secondary. He successfully completed five credits in Computer Science 30 where he embraced some challenges, collaborated with his classmates and solved these in an exemplary manner. Harrison was a motivated student who excelled not only in school, but in the community as well, volunteering at a martial arts studio to instruct younger students. Harrison exemplified the attributes of an engaged, ethical citizen.

Riley Schalk

Edmonton Christian

Riley demonstrated an exceptional level of achievement in Math and Science courses, he also demonstrated perseverance through a challenging educational experience due to COVID-19. He has a gifted mind and was an excellent problem solver. Even more striking though, was how gracious and helpful he was to his classmates. There was no ego, no condescension. Instead he would quietly come alongside classmates and assist them faithfully in every class he took. He tutored fellow students outside of class, sacrificing his personal time to help them. He contributed in many ways to the school community, including being the light technician for the school plays and serving on the grad committee.

Dan Voicu

Harry Ainlay

Dan was an exceptionally dedicated, motivated and hard-working student. Across all his Math and Science courses in high school, he scored perfect and near perfect marks in each one. His marks were a direct reflection of the effort that he put into his learning. Through his perseverance and effort, he was able to identify and analyze problems, and developed skills and attitudes that will be useful to him as a lifelong learner. Dan was never afraid to ask questions and help his peers when they needed it most. It was an absolute pleasure to have him in Science class.

Rahma Arif

J. Percy Page

Rahma was extremely bright and curious, with a sense of community that is global. Her teachers agreed that she strived for a deep understanding in her studies and excelled in math, science and technologies, and had a strong presence in the school community. This was evident in her planning of school events, promoting her efforts on the daily school broadcast. Her scientific ingenuity and meaningful community engagement culminated in the creation of a computer program that will download any YouTube video in seconds. The best programmers are those who are constantly adapting, working with new technologies every day, and collaborating with the community at large. Rahma exemplified this idea. She collaborated with code developed across the web and taught herself a new programming language to engineer a product that is now being shared and used by the teachers who helped her grow in the first place. Rahma makes the world a better place.

Marcus Kim

Jasper Place

Marcus excelled in his Advanced Placement Math, Science and Computing Sciences courses. Marcus not only achieved academic excellence, but he also contributed to the school community by volunteering to help other students through tutoring and participating in both the League of Legends and programming club. To support other computing science students, Marcus volunteered his time to work with students who needed help or had questions. Marcus used his programming skills, his ability to work in a team and his strong work ethic to complete an internship with the Department of Computer Science in Artificial Intelligence at the University of Alberta (U of A). He will be continuing his studies at the U of A.

Jiajing (Jessica) Chen

Lillian Osborne

Jiajing was a full International Baccalaureate student who demonstrated exemplary achievement across all subjects, especially in Mathematics and Science courses. She was motivated and disciplined, and constantly set high expectations for herself. Jiajing actively engaged in her courses by asking deep and thought-provoking questions. Often, her spirit of inquiry led to class discussions beyond the content of the curriculum. While constantly striving for success, Jiajing also saw beyond her own achievements by valuing teamwork and collaboration. Jiajing participated in many extracurricular activities, such as math contests and the breakout box club, and volunteered her time in the school community. Jiajing's outstanding work ethic and curiosity will no doubt take her on an extraordinary journey.

Sohaib Omar

M.E. LaZerte

Sohaib exhibited both extraordinary passion and skill for Chemistry and Biology, and achieved excellence and mastery. In Math he was a quiet, but tenacious problem solver who deliberated on challenges until he had mastered them. He was an earnest and thoughtful student intent on learning and understanding; he consistently demonstrated commitment to fully understanding each concept. Sohaib constantly tried to find ways in which he could develop both academic skills and personal character. He made significant contributions to anti-racism efforts at M.E. LaZerte. Sohaib was a critical thinker who strived to not only know "what" but "why." He was polite to his classmates, respectful of his teachers, motivated to succeed, and proactive in completing his assignments. Sohaib is a young man who gives others hope for our future.

Cheryl Lee

McNally

Cheryl had an exemplary understanding of mathematical and science concepts, which was demonstrated in her consistent results in all three Sciences, Calculus and Math 30-1 while completing her full International Baccalaureate diploma. Cheryl was responsible for assigned work and was prepared for scheduled assessments. Cheryl worked hard and advocated for herself. If she did not understand the nuance of something, she would make clarifications in an effort to learn. In class, and more notably during COVID-19 emergency remote teaching, Cheryl displayed discipline, self-management and grit, characteristics that are uncommon in students who are Cheryl's age. Through Cheryl's participation in class and through her extracurricular activities, Cheryl was a principled young adult acting with integrity and honesty. She dedicated her time to contributing to her school and the larger Edmonton community.

Kaiden Leslie

Millwoods Christian

Kaiden had a brilliant mind for Science, and in particular, Biology. He was a critical thinker with an amazing ability to solve problems in real world situations. He was constantly helping others and was a great collaborator in group assignments. For example, during dissections, he had the ability to take the lead but also the humility to let others shine in their work. His drive to reach goals is a force to be reckoned with and it was inspiring to watch him achieve them.

Edward Han

Old Scona

Edward was a full International Baccalaureate student who excelled in all areas of study. He was one of the top academic students and received a 7 in more than half of his subjects, including Math, Computer Science and Physics. Edward was a talented and knowledgeable STEM student. Still, one of his greatest passions was computer science, where he helped found and was the Co-President of the Computer Science Society. The group mentored members with workshops and activities, and the meetings were well attended even during the pandemic. Edward was also a tremendous leader in the school. He was the president of Club Francophone, vice-president of LinkCC Youth Society and co-president of our Student Engagement Team (SET). His work with SET was instrumental in students adjusting to student life at Old Scona Academic and learning online.

Renna Elladan

Queen Elizabeth

Renna was a top academic student with a passion for learning and was always engaged. In the classroom, she led class discussions, collaborated with her peers and was looked upon as someone they could go to for help and guidance. She challenged her teachers with her attention to detail and curiosity. She earned 97 per cent in Chemistry 30 class and over 90 per cent in her other Science and Math classes. Furthermore, her academic ability was only exceeded by her exceptional character. She was mature beyond her years. Renna's kindness and caring nature made her a teacher's dream because you knew you could put her in any situation and she would not only thrive but she would help those around her also shine.

Kenny Moc

Ross Sheppard

Kenny was an excellent student who demonstrated curiosity and interest in learning math and science-related materials. Not only did he present excellent results in his math and science subjects, he would often go beyond textbook materials to learn more and share his knowledge with his peers. Kenny was a full International Baccalaureate Diploma student and carried a heavy workload. Even though the program only requires students to take two science subjects, Kenny insisted on taking three International Baccalaureate science subjects and two of them at high level. He also took Math International Baccalaureate at high level. Since the school didn't offer Math at the high level, he had to study much of it on his own.

William Taylor

Strathcona

Will possessed an insatiable curiosity in Science, Mathematics and Computer Science and took the initiative to explore those passions to remarkable depths. This included his participation in international science competitions with teams made up of students around the country and working with graduate students on independent projects in mathematics to help further his learning. Will developed critical thinking and collaborative skills that will enable him to make very significant contributions to these fields. In class, Will's incredible depth of understanding and breadth of knowledge allowed him to ask intricate questions that challenged foundational assumptions and he enriched the academic environment for both his students and teachers. Will's relentless pursuit of academic growth seemingly knows no bounds and the discipline with which he strives to achieve goals sets a new standard regarding passion for learning.

Kevin Hoang

Victoria

Kevin was an amazing student overall, but truly excelled in everything STEM. Combining his Biology, Chemistry, Physics 30 and Math 30-1 and 31, Kevin achieved an average grade of 99.6 per cent. He did this by working exceptionally hard and asking questions to clarify the material. Kevin consistently went beyond what was required for each course by trying to understand how and why things are the way they are, rather than just accepting them at face value. He also enjoyed drawing parallels between courses and subject areas within STEM. For example, using what he had learned in Calculus to fully understand how formulas are derived in physics and how they could be used in different ways. Kevin could also be seen helping peers and younger students. He used his spare time to tutor fellow students in both biology and math.

Anna Dwyer

Vimy Ridge Academy

Anna was an outstanding individual. In addition to her academic Standard of Excellence with Distinction achievements, she spent in excess of 25 hours per week in the dance studio, and exuded citizenship, respect and resilience at every turn. Thinking of others, Anna volunteered to dance in front of senior homes during lockdowns this past year. Anna's desire to share positivity and hope is also evident in her years of involvement with the Village of Hope. Anna was cheerful, optimistic, quick to note the accomplishments of others, while being very quiet about her own. She was humble, holding herself with a wonderful sense of humility, grace and poise. Anna will be a great asset to any team she is a part of.

Shrusti Patel

W.P. Wagner

Shrusti was an engaged and eager learner both inside and outside of school, achieving 95–100 per cent in all her Mathematics and Science courses. Her commitment to learning was evident through her hard work in Advanced Placement courses and participation in the Women in Scholarship, Engineering, Science and Technology program where she gained hands-on experience in STEM fields. Shruti was an ethical citizen, continuously demonstrating integrity, and volunteering in the community. She has an entrepreneurial spirit, problem-solving mindset, embraces innovation, and focuses on self-improvement while looking to make the community a better place for everyone.