

Recipients of the Dan Vandal Youth Initiative Award – 2017
Récipiendaires du prix Daniel Vandal pour initiative jeunesse – 2017



Marc Serafin Madayag – St. Boniface Diocesan High School

Marc has contributed extracurricular time to his school's student government, through his service in a leadership role. Within this role, he has contributed his talents towards creating opportunities to promote school spirit and bring the student body together. Outside of school, Marc is a member of the Royal Canadian Sea Cadets.



Samuelle Lemoine – Collège Louis-Riel

Samuelle s'est démarquée en tant que Première ministre du Collège Louis-Riel, où elle a su propager un sentiment de fierté et d'esprit. Elle est un leader engagée, qui est très à l'aise à parler devant le grand public lors de ralliements, ou comme porte-parole pour la soirée Portes-ouvertes. Samuelle est un membre intégral du groupe Entraînement Leadership et a su bien transmettre sa passion pour les sports à travers des équipes sportives qu'elle a entraînée.

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***Mackenzie Germscheid* – Nelson McIntyre Collegiate**

Mackenzie has been a wonderful student at Nelson McIntyre Collegiate. She has spent countless hours volunteering with the Royal Winnipeg Ballet School Recreation Division, mentoring the next generation of young dancers. Along with this and her academic successes, Mackenzie wanted to further challenge herself and chose to give her time to the St. Boniface Hospital as a volunteer. We wish her all the best as she enters the Faculty of Science at the University of Manitoba in the fall.



***Montana Ledoux* – J.H. Bruns Collegiate**

During *Montana Ledoux's* four years at J.H. Bruns, he has shown his passion for community, citizenship, and youth advocacy. He played a significant leadership role in the Louis Riel School Division Indigenous Student Leadership Group, mentoring younger students, presenting at a youth conference, and bridging communities. He volunteered a great deal of time as a guide for the 2017 Ann Frank Exhibit showcased at J.H. Bruns. In addition, Montana is an elected member of the Manitoba Metis Federation Youth Council, and remains actively engaged in his duties as they relate to government process. Montana plans to continue learning and developing in his role as a youth advocate.

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Taylor Kepp – Springs Christian Academy

Taylor Kepp is a hard worker who displays great enthusiasm for volunteering within her school as Student Council Vice President, at church at Springs Youth, and Investor's Group Field. Her wide range of volunteering experience has equipped her with great communication and leadership skills. She has a servant's heart, is helpful and always willing to assist when required but also takes the initiative to serve in her school and community.



Derek Berthelette – Louis Riel Arts & Technology Centre

Derek Berthelette is a hard working father and student who provides an exceptional example for his classmates. He has graduated from the Culinary Arts Program at The Arts & Technology Centre and has gone on to work in the culinary industry at Chocolatier Constance Popp in St. Boniface. Derek has volunteered tirelessly with the Mama Bear Clan to help make our community a safer place. Derek continues to dedicate his time and effort to make our city a better place to live.

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Mudra Dave – Windsor Park Collegiate

Mudra Dave is an outstanding student. Besides handling the rigor that comes with enrolling in academic courses, she also takes part in WPC's school's Sports Council, Culture Club, and the Grade 9 Mentorship Program. She showed leadership and courage when initiating the Newspaper Club over the past school year. Outside of school, Mudra is an avid badminton player as well as being actively involved in painting programs. She has also shown to be a highly motivated volunteer, raising issues faced by youth and supporting social causes.



Micah Lizotte – Collège Jeanne-Sauvé

Micah Lizotte est un bon élève qui a démontré un bon rendement académique et contribue d'une façon positive à la communauté du Collège Jeanne-Sauvé.

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Skyla Dudek – Dakota Collegiate

Skyla Dudek is involved in many extracurricular activities. She is one of the most diverse students in her graduating class. She has worked with her school's Gender & Sexuality Alliance (GSA) for three years. She is also involved with Habitat for Humanity (3 years), is in the school Choir, which puts on two school concerts per year, as well as various other smaller performances. She is a peer tutor for students who are struggling in Math, and part of the school's Hamper Time. She is also involved in the 30-hour famine to raise money for World Vision. Skyla has a deep sense of social justice, and when compared to her peers, her sense of empathy is very strong. She is a major contributor to making school a positive and safe environment, and it will be tough to fill her shoes once she graduates this June.

In addition to the many hours of time she puts into school groups and maintaining strong academic standing, she also contributes to her community. Skyla has been employed at Extra Foods for 11 months as a cashier. She is well-known in the community for having a positive and gentle nature with those who come into the store. She has volunteered for her family's church in several roles, and most recently as a Catechism helper. She is a teacher's aide for young members of the church, and spends evenings each week giving her time to help these young people.

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Sydney Puhach – Collège Béliveau

Sydney Puhach is attending the Asper School of Business at the University of Manitoba in September. She has been a member of the Social Justice and SWAT comities and has tutored a number of students during her time at Collège Béliveau. She has also done a lot of volunteering and also acts as a page at the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba.



Esther Rebekah Aldana – Glenlawn Collegiate

Esther Rebekah Aldana has volunteered for the past 8 years at Gateway Community Church, helping with their food bank program. She was part of the high school girl's rugby team and eventually became captain. She founded the school's Spanish club which in turn funded various local charities. Was an active member of Glenlawn Indigenous Voice and Action Council. Was president of Interact Club, a group of students organizing fundraisers for international and city charities. Rebekah is also a member of the air cadets and is a squadron commander. She was a member of the Yearbook Committee. She will be pursuing her studies in the faculty of education and hopes to one day teach in the Louis Riel

School Division.

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Sophie Menet-Espina – Centre scolaire Léo-Rémillard

Sophie Menet-Espina est une élève engagée à titre de bénévole comme tutrice à son école élémentaire, École Christine-Lespérance, lors des années scolaires 2015-2017. Sophie a été un bon mentor pour les jeunes étudiants qui recherchaient des appuis académiques en les encourageant et les motivants de continuer à travailler. Sophie a été membre du conseil étudiant en tant que secrétaire-trésorière pour l'année 2015-2016 et ensuite comme présidente pour l'année scolaire 2016-2017. Elle a su bien gérer et travailler avec le conseil afin d'organiser des activités telles que les batailles de niveaux, des journées d'esprit, des activités à l'heure du dîner, des danses scolaires, une vente de pâtisserie où tous les profits ont été remis aux familles du fort McMurray et j'en passe. Elle a aussi participé de façon active à notre levé de fonds pour Siloam Mission. Sophie a participé au FTJ (Festival Théâtre Jeunesse) et à notre production de cirque, Circumfero, ainsi qu'au comité d'annuaire de cette année. Sophie a toujours démontré une attitude positive et un grand engagement non seulement envers sa communauté scolaire, mais aussi comme citoyenne responsable. Sophie n'hésite aucunement à se rendre disponible pour aider ou à organiser quoi que ce soit. Sophie démontre des bonnes qualités de leadership ce qui motive les autres à vouloir s'impliquer davantage.