



# Media Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

OCTOBER 26, 2024



## JEAN LUMB FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES 13 JEAN LUMB AWARDS WINNERS FROM ACROSS CANADA

**Toronto & GTA, ON** – Once again, the Jean Lumb Awards winners this year reflect the bright minds and passions of young Canadians across Canada. This year's winners include 6 recipients from Ontario (Toronto, Markham, Mississauga), 5 recipients from British Columbia (Vancouver, Langley, Richmond, Delta), and 1 recipient each from Nova Scotia (Dartmouth) and Alberta (Edmonton).

A champion squash player from B.C. with plans to pursue computer science at Harvard University to the incredible spirit and perseverance of a young student from Dartmouth, NS, the winners span the breadth of Canada and the hopes and imaginations of all Canadians.

Other winners include an award-winning Toronto student with novel research linking genes to PTSD, a grade 11 concert pianist from Edmonton, a young creator of an AI learning platform from Vancouver, and many more very talented winners with diverse interests from ecology to special needs children, digital music to biomedicine, and much more.

"I want to congratulate this year's winners and welcome them as Jean Lumb Award alumni," said Arlene Chan, eldest daughter of Jean Lumb and President of the Jean Lumb Foundation. "Their fresh energy and ideas will serve our communities positively for generations. Also, I want to thank our judging panel, who, year after year, invested many hours reviewing the hundreds of applications from students across Canada. Finally, I can never say thanks enough to our many sponsors who make the awards possible, particularly the University of Toronto Scarborough, which has one of our longest-serving sponsors."

The Jean Lumb Foundation celebrates 27 years of awarding scholarships to recognize excellence in students of Chinese heritage from across Canada. Since the awards' inception in 1998, over 160 award alumni have worked in their chosen fields and contributed positively to our communities. They work as lawyers, medical doctors, entrepreneurs, engineers, graphic artists, educators,

accountants, artists, performers, dentists and much more across Canada as far north as Nunavut and worldwide.

The Jean Lumb Awards celebrate the hopes and dreams of the early generations of Chinese Canadians whose hard work and sacrifice have paved the road for today's generations. Jean Lumb was the first Chinese Canadian woman to receive the Order of Canada for her tireless community work as a voice and advocate for Chinese communities across Canada.

The 27th Annual Jean Lumb Awards is to be held on Saturday, October 26, 11:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. EDT, at the Jean Lumb Public School, 20 Brunel Court, Toronto.

Media are welcome to request advance interviews via videoconferencing or on October 26 prior to the Jean Lumb Awards ceremony at 11:30 a.m.

## **The 2024 Jean Lumb Award winners:**

### **University of Toronto Scarborough Academics Award**

**Olivia Li Ngan Sun (李爱红) University of Toronto Schools, Toronto**



Olivia began volunteering with Youreka Toronto as a High School Investigator alongside undergraduate students at the University of Toronto and other students across the GTA. Collaborating with three others, she worked diligently for 8 months before finally presenting her novel research on the role of differentially expressed genes linked to PTSD at the Regionals Symposium, placing first and advancing to Nationals. Olivia started an organization that currently runs chapters in 8 different Greater Toronto Area schools to provide research opportunities to those interested. She has received McMaster University's Scientific Achievement Scholarship and the President Scholarship for Distinction and Academic Excellence from the University of Waterloo.

Olivia is excited to pursue her passion for neuroscience and health sciences at the University of Waterloo.

### **University of Toronto Scarborough Entrance Award**

**Bryan Zheng (郑海洋) Markville Secondary School, Markham, ON**



Bryan's accomplishments in design are in the digital world, where he shares his art through

YouTube. He runs a small channel called Robiz Slides, where he posts animation artwork in a cross between a chibi and a comic art style. He has garnered over 2,000 subscribers and 200,000 total views, equivalent to over 1,600 hours of watch time and has a consistent view count and audience retention in the YouTube shorts format. In the world of music, Bryan competes as the contrabass player of the Markville String Orchestra, an instrument he has played for 6 years. At the 2023 Toronto Kiwanis Music Festival, he placed second and received a gold rating, then placed second and received a platinum rating this past year, resulting in being invited to perform provincially in OMFA.

Bryan is enrolled at the University of Toronto Scarborough in Co-Op Life Sciences.

### **University of Toronto Scarborough Entrance Award**

**Hiu Lam Sara Lo (勞曉琳) St Augustine Catholic High School, Markham, ON**



Sara discovered her passion for chemistry alongside her training in swimming. She volunteers for a variety of endeavours, such as tutoring, delivering meals for seniors, and patient registration/translation for an acute care centre. Sara has enrolled in a Japanese language school to develop her proficiency and immerse herself in the culture. As a self-starter who takes initiative, she is dedicated to serving her community by enriching her experiences while maintaining high academic achievements. She believes in approaching new experiences as an active agent in serving diverse populations. Sara aspires to be a holistic leader and role model who sets an example by connecting others to relevant resources in order to further their development.

Sara is enrolled in Life Sciences at the University of Toronto Scarborough.

### **Chung-Kotcheff Family Arts Award**

**Charlotte Yi-Chia Kiang (江宜家) Ross Sheppard High School, Edmonton, AB**



Charlotte has been playing piano since age 4, was awarded the ARCT Associate Diploma at 13, and has an ARCT Performer's Diploma at 14, the highest credentials offered by the Royal Conservatory of Music (RCM) in Canada. She was a 1st place winner in the Steinway Piano Competition in 2018, a finalist in the Canadian Music Competition and the Vancouver International Music Competition in 2019, a gold medalist in the IPPA Conero International Piano Competition in 2023, and the 1st place winner for the ACNMP John Weinzwieg Senior Category National Award in 2023. Charlotte won 1st place in the Crescendo International Competition and was invited to debut at Carnegie Hall in New York City at the age of 7. At the age of 8, Charlotte

was invited to play as a piano soloist with the Vancouver Metropolitan Orchestra at the Chan Centre for the Performing Arts at the University of British Columbia. In addition to piano, Charlotte is currently playing in the grade 10 IB concert band and grade 10-12 jazz band at her high school, notably as a principal Saxophonist.

Charlotte is in grade 11 at Ross Sheppard High School.

### **Dorothy and Jung Shao Lu Community Services Award**

**Parker Zhang (张津榛) Walnut Grove Secondary, Langley, BC**



Parker was Grad Council President, Grade Representative and Secretary of the Student Council, advocating for more equitable and accessible inclusive learning spaces and planning grad activities to increase morale. As Editor-In-Chief of the Gator News, Parker managed the news website and mentored writers. Parker was the Vice-President of the Green/Eco Team at WGSS and the Power in Youth Club President, where he coordinates efforts to raise awareness about food insecurity on social media platforms and organizes a group of 30 volunteers to help with Meals on Wheels and Sources Langley Food Bank, as well as organizing the annual Christmas Food Drives. As the Vice-President of Youth Leaders in Law BC Chapter, he led the provincial chapter, helping youth access justice, organizing social media posts and leading youth legal conferences.

Parker is enrolled in International Relations and Economics at the University of British Columbia.

### **Murphy & Chung Chartered Accountants Athletics Award**

**Ocean Ma (马令洋) J.N. Burnett Secondary School, Richmond, BC**



Ocean is the five-time No.1 nationally ranked junior squash player. She is the 3-time national champion and won two gold medals for Team BC at the 2023 Canada Winter Games. At 15, she debuted at the 2022 WSF World Junior Championships. She represented Team Canada at the 2023 & 2024 World Junior Championships, competing for Team Canada at the No.1 position, where she led her teammates to place 6<sup>th</sup> in 2023. Ocean is the bronze medalist at the US Junior Open, the Canadian Junior Open Champion, the 2-time Alberta Junior Open Champion, the 2-time Pacific Northwest Junior Open Champion, past BC Provincial Champion, the 3-time BC Junior Open Champion, Ontario Junior Open Champion, and winner of the 2023 Massey Golden Trophy and the 2023 Ernie Rogers Bowl. Among many accolades, Ocean was the recipient of the Kevin

Kydd Junior Service Award in 2022, which is presented to "an individual or group who has unselfishly inspired, coached or mentored Junior squash players".

Ocean is pursuing a Degree in computer science at the Harvard School of Engineering and Applied Sciences and joining the Harvard women's squash team.

### **Choi King and John C. Mah Memorial Innovation Award**

**Eric Jujian Zou (邹具见) Markville Secondary School, Markham, ON**



In August 2023, Eric co-founded Articula to help newcomers overcome their language barriers and build their confidence in speaking. In August 2023, he won 5th place in the Youth Impact Challenge's summer competition, and in October 2023, he was appointed Microsoft Startup Founders Hub affiliate founder. In November 2023, he won 1st place in Queen's Young Entrepreneurs Competition, and in December 2023, 1st place in the Entrepreneur's Impact Marathon. In May 2023, he co-developed a solution for the medical industry, VitalConnect, which leverages the Internet of Things to monitor vital signs of chronic disease patients, reduce hospital costs, and protect patients. In March 2023, he co-founded and pitched Adwiser, a machine-learning financial assistant. In November 2022, he co-developed EZTimes, which automates a personalized, customizable, user-friendly schedule that tells users what to do daily according to their short-term and long-term goals.

Eric is enrolled at the University of Waterloo in the Bachelor of Applied Science, Electrical Engineering, Honours, Co-Operative Program.

### **AMI Wealth Group Dignity of Life Award**

**Samantha Fung (馮領誼) Mississauga Secondary School, Mississauga, ON**



When Samantha was in Grade 5, her father encouraged her to start volunteering with special needs students. When she couldn't volunteer during the pandemic and experienced her own struggles with the isolation and frustration of online learning, she wondered how much worse it must be for special needs children. Music For Every Child started as a thought, and now it's become an organization dedicated to youth mobilization, helping children with special needs and raising awareness. Engaging over 200 youth volunteers, Samantha and a core group of four friends have raised over \$165,000 in the past two years to run one-hour sessions delivered by musical therapists in 22 schools in Mississauga, Toronto, Oakville, Brampton and Ottawa. The program works because kids recruit other kids and help each other figure out leadership.

Samantha is currently studying at the United World College in Maastricht, Netherlands, to obtain her International Baccalaureate Diploma.

### **Kwai Chun Wong Award of Excellence**

**Brant Lee (李豪文) Sands Secondary School, Delta, BC**

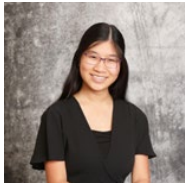


Brant has always been interested in STEM and medicine and was ecstatic to hear there was a pre-biomedical engineering program at UBC. He has been the winner of the Math 9, English 9, Science 10, Math 10, Physics 11, Pre-Calculus 11 and Photography 11 awards. In grade 10, he won the junior scholar award with a grade average of 99% in grade 11 and 98% in grade 12. He has been a part of the grad council, the green team, the homework club and library volunteers. He has also volunteered with the City of Delta, 819 Skyhawk Squadron air cadets, an engineering camp hosted by UBC called Geering Up, and at a local elementary school. His involvement within the community has helped him foster positive relationships with others. These experiences helped him grow, improve his interpersonal skills, and become less reserved.

Brant is enrolled in pre-biomedical engineering at the University of British Columbia.

### **Fay and John Wong Defense of the Environment Award**

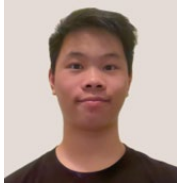
**Alexandra Chow (周筠筠) Eric Hamber Secondary School, Vancouver, BC**



Alexandra has been in the Environment Club since grade eight and on the executive team since grade ten. As President, she is working to become the first certified EcoSchool on the Vancouver School Board. She is also the co-founder of the Sustainable Union, co-leading two projects to pilot-test sugarcane paper and to implement a Sustainable Corner in libraries. Alexandra has been part of Youth 4 Climate Justice and the Vancouver School Board Sustainability Connection since grade 10 and runs Cultivate, a mentorship program. For the Technovation Girls competition, she co-created a mobile application to help youth cope with ecological anxiety. Alexandra is an alum of Ocean Wise's Youth to Sea program. Her work to build inclusive and sustainable communities has fostered a communal interest in climate justice by normalizing the idea of using privilege to help others and empowering her community to create waves and transform the world.

Alexandra is enrolled at McMaster University in Arts and Science, combined with Environmental Science.

**Ample Ace Holdings Ltd Innovation Award in Technology Award**  
**Hinson Chan (陳宇軒) Eric Hamber Secondary School, Vancouver, BC**



Hinson's journey began at EduBeyond, where he created an adaptive AI learning platform with Natural Language Processing. He worked with developers from the University of California's Berkeley AI Research Lab to develop novel strategies in Retrieval Augmented Generation. He developed a bidirectional communication protocol using radio to power a CanSat, a small satellite device that was launched at this year's Canadian CanSat competition. His microcontroller software led to his team representing Canada at the European Space Agency CanSat event this June. He created a Python library, 'Flowchat', which has been invaluable to both EduBeyond's workflows and over 12,000 developers who have downloaded and used his library. He hosts a YouTube channel with over 1,700 subscribers and 150,000 views, showcasing his engineering and programming projects and a full-length documentary about 'land checkerboarding'.

Hinson is enrolled in computer science at Stanford University.

**Jeffrey W. Lem and Susan Chong Lem Leadership Award**  
**Evelyn Lee, Erindale Secondary School, Mississauga, ON**



Evelyn served as Erindale's Student Activity Council (SAC) and DECA Co-President and served as Peel District School Board's Student Trustee from 2022-2023. She founded The Student Voice Meeting and passed a unanimous motion for Peel's first Indigenous Student Trustee, backed by the Ontario Public School Board Association, in January 2023. She worked on the Elementary Schools Consent Culture Curriculum Launch in collaboration with the Consent Culture and Mental Health steering committees. Evelyn joined the Halton DSB Student Trustee to co-found The Flourish Foundation and was Sponsorships Director for FUSE Society from 2022-2023 and rose to Ontario President from 2023-2024. She was a Youth Facilitator at the Young Canadians' Parliament in 2022-2023, after being a General Member from 2020-2022. Her list of contributions and engagements reflects a commitment to excellence, service, and philanthropy.

Evelyn is enrolled at Queen's University for a Bachelor of Commerce, Honours.

**Foon Hay Lum Commemorative Award for Overcoming Adversity**  
**Abigail MacLeod (Yin Yue) Woodlawn High School, Dartmouth, NS**



Abigail is a proud Chinese 17-year-old who was adopted at two years of age after being found as an infant on a bus and brought to an orphan's shelter. She was born with a cleft palate and a hearing impairment and has undergone six surgeries, with a seventh one scheduled this past summer. She has volunteered with the Nova Scotia Trails Association and completed her Bronze and Silver Duke of Edinburgh Awards. Being different makes her a target for those who feel she doesn't belong, but she continues to thrive no matter what others think of her. Abigail has not let anyone else's opinions matter more than her own. She believes that to overcome adversity and obstacles, you have to overcome yourself, become who you truly are no matter the obstacles put in front of you, and know that you are enough.

Abigail is continuing her studies at Woodlawn High School.

## **A Pioneer Chinese Canadian Woman**

Jean Lumb (nee Wong), one of twelve children, was born in Nanaimo, B.C. She left school at the age of 12 to work and support her family. In 1935, she moved to Toronto and opened her own grocery store at the age of 18. She married Doyle Lumb, her husband of 50 years. The mother of six children, grandmother of nine grandchildren, and one great-grandson, Jean Lumb, was the co-owner and director of the Kwong Chow Restaurant in Toronto for 23 years.

Jean Lumb was the first Chinese Canadian woman and the first restaurateur to receive the Order of Canada for her tireless community work. Most notably, she was recognized for her pivotal role in changing Canada's immigration laws that separated Chinese families and for her contribution to saving Chinatowns in Toronto and other cities. She achieved additional firsts in the community:

First Chinese woman on the board of governors of the Women's College Hospital

First Chinese woman on the board of University Settlement House

First Chinese restaurateur and first woman to receive the Fran Deck Award for outstanding achievement in Toronto's restaurant industry

First Chinese Canadian woman to sit on the Board of Rotary Laughlen Centre

Through her life, we get a glimpse of the history of Chinese Canadians in Canada. She represents generations of Chinese Canadians whose hard work and sacrifice made it possible for the present generation to enjoy what it has today. Learn more about the Jean Lumb story at [jeanlumbfoundation.ca](http://jeanlumbfoundation.ca).

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