

Leaders of Tomorrow 2011, Excellence Award Recipients

5 – 11 years old category



Brooke Dykslag

Brooke is an 11-year-old student and active volunteer at Galbraith Elementary School. Brooke is a natural leader; as a member of the school's Energy Day Committee, she helps plan school assemblies and acts as a mistress of ceremonies. She is also a mentor to younger students as a playground pal, taking time to play with them at recess. Brooke helps staff during her lunch hour, answering phones in the school office and taking messages. Brooke is an avid safety promoter; as part of AMA School Patrol, she ensures students are able to cross the street safely. Brooke has also been active in helping to earn fundraising points for the school by sorting and counting Campbell's soup labels. Brooke's caring and co-operative attitude and zest for life makes her a joy for staff and classmates, as well as a role model for younger students.

5 – 11 years old category



Allison Vonk

Allison is 10 years old and has a passion for soccer and the environment. Allison started volunteering in grade 1 when she created environment-related picket signs to remind her fellow classmates to keep the school grounds and the planet in good condition. Allison was an active volunteer for the Galt Museum's centennial celebration in September 2010 and began responding to recruitment materials almost a year before the event. She joined the planning committee; the youngest member in over 20 years! By the time the event arrived, Allison and another member were responsible for the planning and execution of the children's activities for the day. In the summer of 2009, Allison donated her hair to a charity that makes wigs for children; she will be doing this again soon. Allison's dedication, character and leadership towards volunteering and the environment is an inspiration to the community and the vision for a better world.

Leaders of Tomorrow 2011, Excellence Award Recipients

12 – 15 years old category



Cierra Ginter

Cierra is 16 years old and has a full volunteer schedule. As a volunteer for Chinook Regional Hospital since September 2009, she delivers ice water to patients. Cierra is reliable, trustworthy and is always enthusiastic about her shift. Cierra also acts as a leader at the hospital by mentoring new volunteers. Along with volunteering at Big Brothers Big Sisters, Cierra is also very active within her church; she helps set up and take down for the weekly youth program and often plans activities. She is also raising money for a mission trip to Ecuador this summer. There, she will assist a community in the construction of a school and hospital, as well as distributing food. Cierra would eventually like to go on to university to pursue a career in veterinary medicine. Cierra's gentle spirit, determination and sense of adventure will ensure a bright future!

12 – 15 years old category

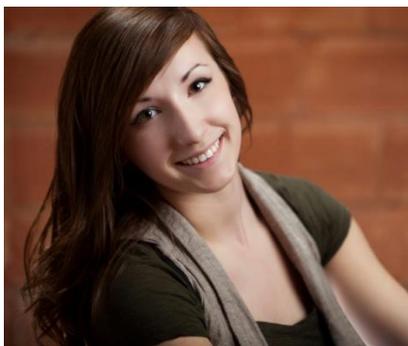


Michelle Kwan

Michelle is 15 years old and an active volunteer for Chinook Regional Hospital. She was taught about the value of hard work early in life which has contributed to a strong work ethic. Michelle has aspirations of becoming a physiotherapist and was encouraged by her parents to begin volunteering at the hospital to gain experience. Michelle has acted both as an ice water volunteer and a paediatric volunteer. As a paediatric volunteer, Michelle does various tasks, including looking after babies, playing games with children and organizing the hospital craft closet. Michelle attends her shifts regularly and enjoys the satisfaction of volunteering. She has even shared her volunteer experience with others and recruited three of her friends to start volunteering as well. Michelle is caring, considerate and works hard in all that she does.

Leaders of Tomorrow 2011, Excellence Award Recipients

16 – 18 years old category



Taylor Findlay

Taylor is 16 years old and never too busy to volunteer her time. She is active in the sports world as a scorekeeper for the Lethbridge Minor Hockey Association since 2007. She is also an official for ACAC and LSAA volleyball. She has also been a special event volunteer for several other organizations in the community including the Lethbridge Legion, Green Acres Foundation Christmas banquet and B.L.A.S.T. barbeque at Galbraith Elementary. Taylor is also a member of Chinook High School Student Council, where she acted as an organizer for Pink Shirt Day. Taylor was also a leader in her school's food drive campaign and is currently assisting with the school's blood drive project. Taylor is remembered for her hard work, positivity and genuine attitude.

16 – 18 years old category



Lynn Nguyen

Lynn is an exceptional 17-year-old. She attends Winston Churchill High School where she has been involved in several clubs and initiatives including Student Council, Grad Committee and Multicultural Club. She is also president of the Environment Club where she has been able to hone her leadership and management skills. Lynn also raised approximately \$1,000 for environmental awareness projects, recycling initiatives and environmental development. Lynn is also an active volunteer at Chinook Regional Hospital; she has spent many hours with patients and staff, including a position as an office assistant. Her ability to speak French and Vietnamese assist her in the many roles she assumes. Lynn's integrity, character and tolerance shine through in her endeavours; friends, family and teachers cannot wait to see what else she will achieve.

Leaders of Tomorrow 2011, Excellence Award Recipients

19 – 24 years old category



Samantha Gilbert

Samantha is a 21-year-old student at the University of Lethbridge working towards a degree in Neuroscience. Her dedication to academic success is only surpassed by her exceptional volunteer efforts. Samantha began volunteering at the early age of five as a Girl Guide. As an active member of the U of L's Rotaract Club, Samantha has aided with several initiatives including working with a fundraising team to send \$50,000 to Costa Rica to aid in the construction of locally sustainable businesses and farming ventures. In 2010, Samantha traveled to El Salvador with the Rotaract medical team to assist in clinics, construction and health education projects. Samantha has also assisted in fundraising efforts to support student scholarship programs in Malawi and Guatemala; she will be visiting Guatemala soon to donate her time and energy.