



Media Release

For Immediate Release

October 24, 2020

JEAN LUMB FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES THE 2020 AWARD WINNERS.

Toronto & GTA, ON – An eco advocate from New Westminister, B.C., a Canadian national gymnastic champion from Winnipeg, Manitoba, a Toronto student with a 99.83% final grade, and a water-recovery innovator from Vancouver. These are four of the sixteen student winners of the 23rd Annual Jean Lumb Awards from across Canada.

The 23rd Annual Jean Lumb Awards will be held on SATURDAY, October 24, 2:00-3:30 p.m. EDT Toronto time. The Jean Lumb Foundation will be making history by having its very first virtual event that can be enjoyed from coast to coast, no matter where anyone lives. The **University of Toronto Scarborough** has generously agreed to host the Zoom event.

The total number of awards was doubled to sixteen for this year only due to the COVID-19 pandemic that has unleashed unanticipated and/or unmanageable financial demands due to the lack of summer jobs, reduced family income, and other factors. As anticipated, the number of student applications increased sevenfold. Our foundation is pleased that we are able to increase our support for the students and their families in this challenging year for all Canadians.

“The judging panel had the challenge of selecting sixteen winners out of so many outstanding applications from across the country,” said **Arlene Chan**, eldest daughter of Jean Lumb and president of the Jean Lumb Foundation.

Without a doubt, this year’s winners of the Jean Lumb Awards are the best of the best who will continue in their individual quests for excellence in the future. They are all bright, young, and exceptional in Academics, the Arts, Community Services, Athletics, Defence of the Environment, Dignity of Life, and Innovation.

The Jean Lumb Awards are given annually to recognize the extraordinary talents and skills of young people and to encourage their continued quest for excellence. The 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 generation. **Jean Lumb**, born in Nanaimo, B.C., 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 in Toronto and across Canada.

The 2020 Jean Lumb Award winners:

University of Toronto Scarborough Community Services Award

Nancy Chen (陈轶), St. John Paul II Catholic S.S., Toronto, was dedicated to serving her community and keeping her school a safe place. As a director of the Safe Schools Council, she led many initiatives to combat cyberbullying, substance abuse, and racial and LGBTQ+ discrimination. She is currently enrolled in Physical & Environmental Sciences at the University of Toronto Scarborough.

University of Toronto Scarborough Academics Award

Yilin (Shirley) Re (任益霖), Markham District H.S., Markham, was the top-ranked student all through high school, while serving as Student Council president and as the founder of a club to help students to learn English. Her SAT score was in the 99th percentile. She is currently enrolled in Economics at Princeton University.

University of Toronto Scarborough Academics Award

Elizabeth Deng Zhou (洋洋), Bloor C.I., Toronto, was one of the top five students throughout her high school years, receiving many awards in math, sciences and the arts and graduating with an average of 99.83%. She is currently enrolled in Health Sciences at McMaster University.

Chung-Kotcheff Family Arts Award

Senaida Ng (伍思行), Havergal College, Toronto, is a classically trained pianist, principal saxophonist, composer, music producer, and founder of the Youth Showcase Concert Series. She is currently enrolled in Recorded Music at the New York University.

Chung-Kotcheff Family Arts Award

Bianca Shen (沈喻睿) embraces art as a lifestyle that has fueled her achievements in competitions, numerous exhibits of photorealistic images, and art pieces highlighting the treatment of women and minorities. She is currently enrolled at Unionville H.S., Markham.

Dorothy Lu Community Services Award

Grace Yanfeng Gong (龚彦丰), Erindale S.S., Mississauga, volunteered for 1400+ hours in support of social and climate justice causes, served on the Mississauga Youth Advisory Council and Peel Environmental Youth Alliance, and founded GreenShirt to collect and distribute used clothing. She is currently enrolled in Health Sciences at the University of Western Ontario.

Dorothy Lu Community Services Award

Yuanxuan (Molly) Chen (陈芸萱), Sir John A. Macdonald C.I., Toronto, contributed her time to serve on the Student Leadership & Youth Empowerment Youth Council, Mac in Action Council, Me to We Council, and Strength Stop for victims of assault, and founded Expanded Youth Society for underprivileged youth. She is currently enrolled in Business Management at the University of Western Ontario.

Murphy & Chung Chartered Accountants Athletics Award

Michelle Lee (李美凤), Pierre Elliott Trudeau H.S., Markham, holds thirteen National Champion titles as a member of Team Canada – Taekwondo, coaches, instructs, and officiates as a certified judge and referee. She was the only female in Canada to medal in the 2016 World Championships. She is currently enrolled in Interior Design at Ryerson University.

Murphy & Chung Chartered Accountants Athletics Award

Grace Francis, St. Mary's Academy, Winnipeg, placed first in the Rhythmic Gymnastics Senior Open category at the 2018 Canadian Championships. As a nine-year member of the Manitoba provincial team, she shares her passion for sport as a coach and volunteer judge. She is currently enrolled in Sciences at the University of Manitoba.

Choi King and John C. Mah Memorial Innovation Award

Estrella Lo (羅愷彤), Unionville H.S., Markham, established Edi Skincare to provide vegan products with edible ingredients, her business plan winning awards for excellence and innovation at a Markham competition. She created Ungendered Store, a clothing brand and gift shop with hyper-gendered apparel. She is currently enrolled in Integrated Business and Humanities at McMaster University.

Choi King and John C. Mah Memorial Innovation Award

Christopher Chong (庄家耀), David Thompson S.S., Vancouver, pioneered a system of projecting electric fields to capture water and founded the award-winning startup, Hydrofinity, and a registered non-profit, CanadianSTEMSociety, to increase the visibility of STEM-related opportunities. He is currently enrolled in Sciences and Business at McGill University.

Maximilian Dignity of Life Award

Karen Guan (关洋) established abuse and violence prevention programs that are delivered to elementary and high schools and a youth organization that supports mental health at youth and women's shelters. She is continuing her studies at A.Y. Jackson S.S., Toronto.

Maximilian Dignity of Life Award

Arlene Wang (王诗睿), Pickering H.S., Pickering, strongly believes in helping under-represented and vulnerable populations by volunteering at Footprints 4 Autism, raising funds to support racial justice initiatives, helping to organize Black History Month events, and serving as a school trustee at the Durham District School Board. She is currently enrolled in Life Sciences at the University of Toronto.

Fay and John Wong Defence of the Environment Award

Zong (Philia) Zhang (张纵), New Westminster S.S., New Westminster, B.C., shares her passion for environmental conservation by leading the Environment Club, organizing climate awareness events, establishing a campaign that introduced climate education into the school district's curriculum, and serving on her city's Youth Advisory Committee. She is currently enrolled in Atmospheric Sciences at the University of British Columbia.

Fay and John Wong Defence of the Environment Award

Chiung-Ting (Bella) Huang (黄瓊亭), Dr. Norman Bethune C.I., Toronto, is fascinated with the connection between humans and the natural environment, an interest that led to creating a water filtration system, promoting insects as a protein source, and raising awareness of environmental issues as an executive member of her school's Environmental Action Team. She is currently enrolled in Chemical Engineering at the University of Toronto.

Toronto Mandarin Lions Club Award

Guech Heang Chum, Newmarket H.S., Newmarket, moved to Canada from Cambodia in 2018 and gained such proficiency in English that she graduated with a 92% average, a place on the Principal's Honour Roll, and a passion for social entrepreneurship. She is currently enrolled in Business Administration, Seneca College.

The Jean Lumb Foundation celebrates 23 years of awarding scholarships to recognize excellence in students of Chinese heritage from coast to coast. Since 1998, the Foundation has recognized over 100 young people, many of whom are now leaders in their chosen fields. Past recipients of the Jean Lumb Award are now working as lawyers, police constables, doctors, entrepreneurs, engineers, graphic artists, automotive designers, dance teachers, journalists, and accountants across Canada, as far north as Nunavut, and around the world.

Media are welcome to request advance interviews via videoconferencing.

For further information, please contact Stephen Wong at (416) 817-5237 or by e-mail at info@jeanlumbfoundation.ca.

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