

Sharing the Spirit Student Awards of Excellence

Earlier this year, the Halton Catholic District School Board hosted its 23rd annual celebration of Catholic student excellence.

One student representative was selected from each elementary and secondary school in the Catholic school system to receive the Sharing The Spirit Student Award of Excellence.

The honour is given to students who best demonstrate outstanding qualities in Catholic leadership, family commitment, involvement in school affairs, involvement in community activities and dedication to a difficult situation or task.

Also recognized at the same awards ceremony were two recipients of the board-wide Special Education Advisory Committee's (SEAC) Spirit of Inclusion Awards — Oakville's Alex Magee of St. Ignatius of Loyola Secondary School representing the secondary panel of students and Burlington's Ainsley Philpott-Napier of St. Paul School from the elementary panel.

A total of 19 Oakville students were honoured at this year's ceremony.

This is the first installment profiling the local recipients. The remaining recipients will be profiled in future issues of *The Oakville Beaver*.

All photos and profiles were supplied to the *Beaver* by the Halton Catholic District School Board.

• **William Zak, Holy Family School:** William is a very success-oriented learner who excels in all areas of school life (spiritual,



William Zak
Holy Family School



Sarah Toteda
Mother Teresa School



Victoria Novak
Our Lady of Peace School



Madison Desembrana
Pope John Paul II School



Kamil Wozinski
St. Andrew School



Lucas Temor
St. Bernadette School

intellectual and social). He takes the initiative to not only drive his own excellence, but to promote growth among his peers.

• **Sarah Toteda, Mother Teresa School:** Sarah lives out Catholic values consistently by her generosity and kindness to her own peers and adults in the school. She empathizes with others' feelings and situations and reaches out

to assist others who may be down. She strives every day to do her best and is a model for others.

• **Victoria Novak, Our Lady of Peace School:** Victoria has displayed a high level of dedication to all school and community activities throughout her years at Our Lady of Peace Catholic School. She takes initiative

and demonstrates a strong sense of leadership, faith and commitment to challenging situations, school and family life with a consistent, respectful and positive sense of self and others.

• **Madison Desembrana, Pope John Paul II School:** As an active member of the Pope John Paul II Student government, Madison has been faithfully involved in running numerous successful initiatives within the school and was monumental in coming up with the idea of donating proceeds from the school movie day to support the good work of Toronto's Hospital for Sick Children. Despite difficult circumstances regarding a loved one's health, Madison's commitment to her family, friends and school has been truly inspiring.

• **Kamil Wozinski, St. Andrew School:** Kamil is an exemplary student who excels in both academics and athletics at St. Andrew School. He has the ability to inspire, encourage and influence his peers positively through his model behaviour and commitment to his work.

• **Lucas Temor, St. Bernadette School:** Lucas exhibits strong Catholic leadership qualities through his involvement as the student council president along with his affiliation with various Catholic initiatives during the school year. Lucas displays a strong sense of justice and service, as well as a desire to contribute in a positive and meaningful way to the school community.

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