

The student recipients of the Halton Catholic school board's Student Award of Excellence, demonstrated outstanding qualities in the following areas: Catholic leadership, faith and school philosophy, family commitment, school community relations, involvement in school affairs, community activities and commitment to a difficult situation or task.

The elementary Student Award of Excellence recipients are:

**HANNAH MAZZEI · GUARDIAN ANGELS SCHOOL**

Hannah is a dedicated student and a natural leader within our Catholic school community. Not only does Hannah excel academically and athletically, she also models the values of our faith through her establishment of an inclusive learning environment, her support of school-based initiatives, her participation on the Faith Team and her pursuit of social justice through the Me to We enterprise.

**MATTHEW TORRES · HOLY ROSARY SCHOOL**

Matthew shows Catholic leadership in our school by being a major part of Holy Rosary's student parliament and volunteers much of his time to organizing and leading many events and initiatives at school. He is also a committed student who excels academically, has developed a great rapport with his peers and teachers, and contributes to the positive environment of our school community.

**EMILY SCHMANDRA · LUMEN CHRISTI CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

Emily has shown great leadership within the school community and participates fully in the religious life of the school by organizing and reading at school assemblies and mass. Emily also includes others and helps those who need it. Emily is not a bystander; she is able to see God in everyone and follows Jesus' example of how to treat others. She is also very strong academically. Emily is well-known by all staff and is constantly called on by other teachers for help and leadership around the school.

**MATTHEW FOLIA · OUR LADY OF FATIMA SCHOOL**

Matthew, who repre-



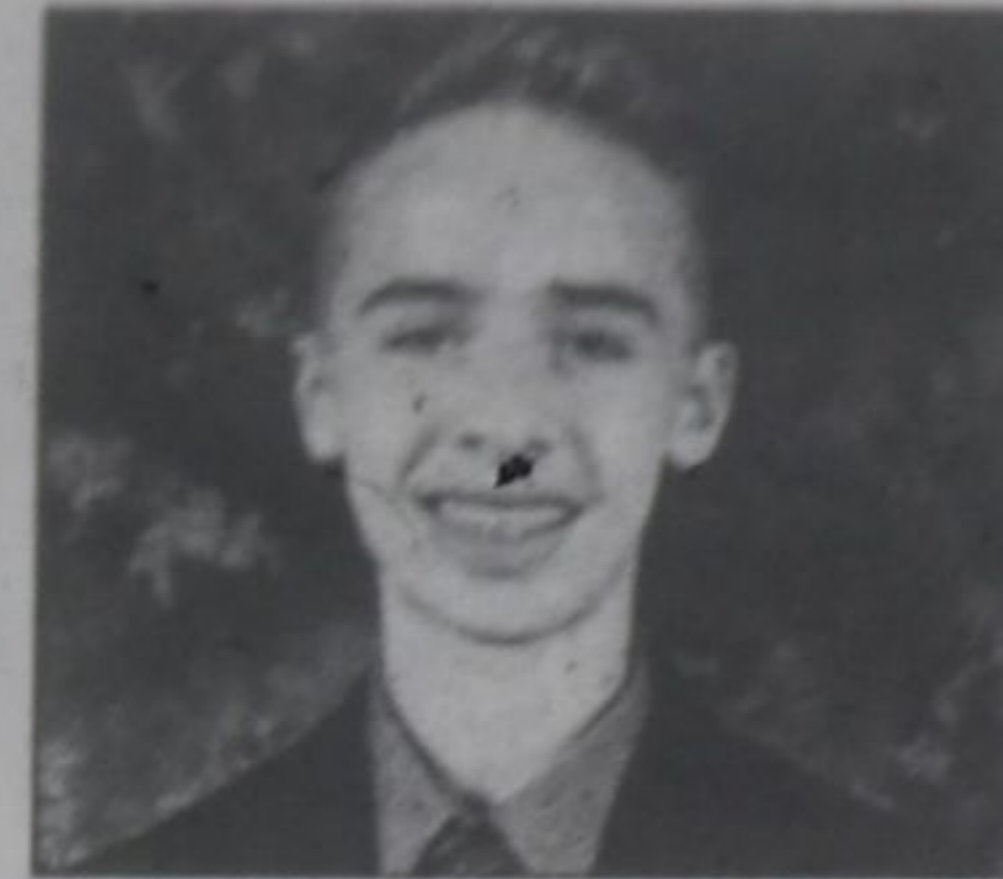
Matthew Torres



Laura Fox



Farah Istefan



Gabriel Murray



Nicholas Cabral



Hannah Mazzei



Emily Schmandra



Matthew Folia



Serena Badoo



Teagan Duplantis



Hailey Diamantopoulos



Irmtraud Bwanga

HCSB photos

## Catholic board honours students with award of excellence

sents excellence in both academic life and Catholic stewardship, has achieved tremendous accomplishments across all subject areas by taking part in leadership opportunities from within the school (such as in student council, wellness committee, the Green Team, and many varied sports teams). He has also exhibited a drive for active and meaningful participation among the wider school community, becoming a beacon for others using his God-given potential and talent to make a significant impact in the school (and no doubt in society in future as well) as a diligent and collaborative communicator.

**LAURA FOX · OUR LADY OF VICTORY SCHOOL**

Laura was selected to receive this award on behalf

of the Our Lady of Victory Catholic School community as she is recognized as a faith-centred individual who is able to clearly articulate her beliefs, exemplify Catholic values and virtues daily, and strives to support her peer group daily in reaching their full potential. In addition, Laura recognizes the thoughts and opinions of others, especially when volunteering and participating in many school initiatives, which has allowed her to deepen relationships with all members of the school community.

**HAILEY DIAMANTOPOULOS · QUEEN OF HEAVEN SCHOOL**

Hailey is a student who consistently meets every challenge and exceeds expectation. She is successful in all aspects of school life

including, but not limited to academics, social interactions, giving back to her community and being innovative to find solutions to problems.

**FARAH ISTEFAQ · ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA SCHOOL**

Farah is a well respected Christian and role model for her fellow students. She is an active member of the Social Justice Ambassadors who provide school-wide community outreach and leadership.

**IRMTRAUD BWANGA · ST. BENEDICT SCHOOL**

Irmtraud is a strong, kind and caring Catholic leader who establishes a positive rapport with all staff, students and community members. She actively participates in the school community and consistently promotes the dignity of

all people through her dedication to equality and social justice.

**GABRIEL MURRAY · ST. PETER SCHOOL**

Gabriel is a natural leader, who displays hard work, integrity, and perseverance on a daily basis. He has the respect of both his peers and the staff at St. Peter School.

The secondary Student Award of Excellence recipients are:

**HANBYOUL AGATHA PARK · BISHOP P. F. REDING CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL**

Hanbyoul Agatha Park works tirelessly to serve others, in the Bishop Reding, Holy Rosary and Milton communities, as reflected in the 1,000-plus hours she has dedicated to volunteering. Among her many endeavours, Agatha leads

the ProLife Club at Bishop Reding, blogs for Her Culture online magazine, is part of the church choir and volunteers at Allendale Long Term Care Facility.

**NICHOLAS CABRAL · JEAN VANIER CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL**

Nicholas is a thoughtful, dedicated student and caring young man, who has consistently lived out Jean Vanier's Gospel call to accept, include and serve with love through his active participation in both his school and parish communities. As an honour roll student, and member of numerous leadership groups, school communities and teams, Nicholas helps to make Jean Vanier and his community a better place by sharing his humour, his work ethic and kind-hearted spirit in all that he does.

The Halton Catholic District School Board also recognized youth with the S.E.A.C. Spirit of Inclusion Award. Recipients include:

**TEAGAN DUPLANTIS · OUR LADY OF VICTORY**

Teagan is a remarkable young lady who never ceases to amaze and inspire those around her. She is a helpful and friendly student that genuinely wants what is best for others and regularly places her needs second to her classmates and peers. As a Grade 8 student moving on to Bishop Reding Catholic Secondary School in September, Teagan will be missed for all the simple things that she does to make others around her feel happy and supported especially those with special needs.

**SERENA BANDO · BISHOP P. F. REDING CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL**

When Serena enters a room, everyone can feel her positive, enthusiastic and genuine attitude. She will go out of her way to assist any staff member or peer, always putting others before herself; Serena gives without expecting anything in return, especially with our Best Buddies and students in our Life Skills classroom. During her three years at Bishop Reding, Serena has made an impact on the lives of many and the Bishop Reding staff and students are fortunate to have Serena as a leader, role model and participant in so many clubs, groups and teams.