



NEWS RELEASE

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Toronto Catholic District School Board's 2007-2008 Top Graduating Students

Peter Cmorej from Bishop Allen Academy in Etobicoke has achieved 99.33 per cent, the highest average of all Grade 12 graduating students within the Toronto Catholic District School Board (TCDSB) for the 2007-2008 academic year. The Board will recognize Mr. Cmorej with a TCDSB Student Achievement Award at its annual Special Awards Event in the Spring.

Peter Cmorej earned 100 per cent in Psychology, Calculus, Advanced Functions and Chemistry and 98 percent in French and Religion. These top marks earned him an entrance scholarship of \$3,000 from McMaster University where he will be studying Health Sciences with the goal of becoming a medical doctor. In addition to his academic achievements, Peter participated in the school's Science Club, In the Driver's Seat Club, and played on the soccer team. He placed first in his school in the National Biology Competition, ranked in the top seven percent in the Chem 13 News Research Assistantship Examination in 2008 and was involved in his school's Peer Mentorship Program that provides assistance to grade nine students in mathematics. He has volunteered more than 75 hours at the Daily Food Bank and with the Easter Seals Society's fund raising events.

Nataliya Yavorska from Bishop Allen Academy in Etobicoke earned the second highest overall average with 99.00%. She earned 100 percent in English, Calculus, Advanced Functions, and Chemistry and 97 percent in Biology and Religion. Nataliya is planning to attend the University of Toronto where she hopes to obtain a degree in pharmacology. During her secondary school years, Nataliya was editor-in-chief of her school's newspaper, as well as counsellor at the orientation camp for grade 9 students. Nataliya and a team of fellow students placed 2nd for creativity and artistic value for their model roller coaster at Canada's Wonderland Physics Contest.

Anna Bui from Father John Redmond Catholic Secondary School in Etobicoke is TCDSB's third top graduating student with an average of 98.67. She will be attending the University of Toronto where she plans to complete a double major in Mathematics and Chemistry. Anna received the TCDSB Catherine Temple Mathematics Award of \$4,000 as well as various scholarships from the University of Toronto totalling \$8,000 for her first year of studies. Anna has volunteered as a tutor in Mathematics, Science and English in her school, at community centres and at the local library. During the

school year, she studied Vietnamese in the Saturday Continuing Education Program, was editor-in-chief of her school newspaper, and played the flute in the school and in her church's orchestras. This summer Anna is volunteering at the Trillium Health Centre and is working at a summer camp teaching arts and crafts.

Top students from other municipalities within Toronto

Kristen Carvalho from St. Joseph's College is the top graduating student in the former City of Toronto and tied for TCDSB fourth top graduating student with an average of 98.33. Her marks have earned her a National AP Scholars designation. She will be attending the University of Toronto where she will study Social Sciences. Kristen received \$5,000 scholarship from the University of Toronto's Scholars' program, \$3,500 from University College for her first year of studies, as well as scholarships of \$500 for subsequent years of study. During her years in secondary school, Kristen completed more than 180 hours of community service volunteering in a retirement home, in her parish and as a tutor for ESL students. She competed in the Euclid Mathematics Contest, as well as in the University of Waterloo's Chemistry Contest where she placed in the top 92 percentile.

The top TCDSB student in the former City of North York, who tied for the fourth top graduating student, is James Rassos who achieved an overall average of 98.33 in his final year at Brebeuf College School. James will be studying Health Sciences at McMaster University with plans for a career in medicine. James was a member of Brebeuf's Destination ImagiNation team, played hockey with the school team and volunteered with the Kiwanis Club at various community events.

Scarborough's top student, Nelson Furtado graduated from Pope John Paul II Catholic Secondary School's International Baccalaureate Program with a 97.83 average. He received a \$4,000 entrance scholarship from Carlton University where he will study journalism. He has many hours of volunteer work repairing computers and assisting in fundraising activities at his school.

The Toronto Catholic District School Board educates close to 90,000 students from diverse cultures and language backgrounds in its 201 Catholic elementary and secondary schools and serves 475,032 Catholic school supporters across the City of Toronto.