



## **International Women's Day Message from the Director of Education and Chair of the Board**

*"The feminine genius is needed in all expressions in the life of society..."*  
- Pope John Paul II

The Toronto Catholic District School Board is proud to celebrate March 8th as International Women's Day, joining in the global celebration focused on equity and social justice.

The TCDSB is proud of all the women that have been our teachers, support staff and our leaders, fostering rich heritage in our school community. Today is a day we get to celebrate all of the contributions and sacrifices made by women to support our students.

In honour of International Women's Day, TCDSB is proud to announce the first recipients of the Sister Evanne Hunter Award for Young Women in Leadership:  
Grade 8 Award: **Emily Karagossian, St. Kateri Tekawitha Catholic Elementary School**  
Grade 12 Award: **Adaeze Mbalaja, Madonna Catholic Secondary School**

This new annual award was created in honour of Sister Evanne Hunter, a Loretto Sister with the Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary and a longtime educator with the MSSB and TCDSB. The award is given to two exceptional female students of the TCDSB in their graduating year (one grade 8 student and one grade 12 student) in recognition of their leadership qualities and involvement in social justice efforts in their school and community.

Emily and Adaeze will be formally presented with the Sister Evanne Hunter Award for Young Women in Leadership at TCDSB Awards Night on Monday, May 6th, 2019.

TCDSB will hold a special International Women's Day Celebration on **Thursday, March 21, 2019** at the Catholic Education Centre. The event will feature Women of Distinction guest speakers, as well as student performances.

To everyone in our Toronto Catholic District School Board family, we hope you join us in taking the pledge to creating a more equal world. Happy Women's Day.

***Rory McGuckin***  
Director of Education

***Maria Rizzo***  
Chair of the Board

## **Opportunities for Students**

### **Student Trustee Elections**

For the last 20 years, the Toronto Catholic District School Board has implemented the position of Student Trustee. As a member of the board of trustees, the Student Trustee plays an important role in

advocating for the needs of 91,000 students across the TCDSB. The Student Trustee also chairs the Catholic Student Leadership Impact Team (CSLIT), a board-wide student leadership council.

Students/Principals are reminded to submit the [Online application](#) by no later than **Sunday, March 24th**

#### CRITERIA

- Grade 10 student (for a 2 year term)
- Maximum 1 nomination per school
- Applicant must be approved by the principal

#### IMPORTANT DATES

- March 24 - Application Due
- March 26 - Meet the candidates meeting (4:00 - 7:00) (Catholic Education Centre - 80 Sheppard Avenue East)
- April 30 - Election Day (4:00 - 7:00) (Catholic Education Centre - 80 Sheppard Avenue East)

All inquires can be forwarded to Student Trustees Joel Ndongmi ([joel.ndongmi@tcdsb.org](mailto:joel.ndongmi@tcdsb.org)) and Taylor Dallin ([taylor.dallin@tcdsb.org](mailto:taylor.dallin@tcdsb.org)).

Use this URL if the link above is inactive:

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdNA5ZW9CylY-CUI0iUKcnXn\\_YasG71nQtF3PPtIwVN0EwM8A/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdNA5ZW9CylY-CUI0iUKcnXn_YasG71nQtF3PPtIwVN0EwM8A/viewform)

### **Transitions for Youth March Break Workshop**

for Youths with Disabilities

**March 11 – 15th, 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. at [JobStart](#)** (219 Dufferin St., Toronto).

Topics include peer employment mentoring, health and wellness, job placement opportunity, and more.

Click here for [details and registration information](#)

### **Free Boxing at MJKO Champion Centre**

Mon-Thurs: 3pm - 7 pm

Friday: 3pm - 6 pm

Saturday: 9am - 12 Noon

For youth ages 8 - 18

Non-contact and full-contact classes available

186 Cowan Ave (Basement) Toronto, ON M6K 2N6

Tel: 416-886-7390; Email: [info@mjko.ca](mailto:info@mjko.ca) Website: <https://mjko.ca>

### **UTPA Scholarships for Students of Portuguese Descent**

The University of Toronto Portuguese Association offers two scholarships to students of Portuguese descent.

Information and applications are now open and available to download at

<https://theutpa.wixsite.com/utpa/scholarships>

### **Enrichment Studies at Queen's University--University Experience Program**

Students in grades 9-12 are invited to consider available spaces in Queen's University Experience program. Programs run May-August with program offerings including Pathology, Kinesiology, Chemistry, Writing Fiction. For more information: <https://esu.queensu.ca/>

## **Good News**

### **MusiCounts Announces \$1 Million of Musical Instruments to 96 Schools**

For the first time ever, MusiCounts will be awarding \$1 million in musical instruments and equipment to 96 schools across Canada, in part due to over \$130K raised by the London JUNO Host Committee. To-date the MusiCounts Band Aid Program has benefitted over 1,000 schools across Canada. 2019 recipient schools include: **St. Boniface Catholic School, St. Rene Goupil Catholic School, and St. Oscar Romero Catholic High School.** TCDSB thanks MusiCounts for their continued support of music in schools.

### **TCDSB Alumnae Part of first all-female space crew**

For the first time in history, an all-female crew will conduct a spacewalk at the International Space Station. Expedition 59 features NASA astronauts Anne McClain and Christina Koch who will carry out the spacewalk on March 29<sup>th</sup>, supported on the ground by Canadian Space Agency flight controller Kristen Facciol, who will be on the console at NASA's Johnson Space Center in Houston. Kristen Facciol is a graduate of the TCDSB. Congratulations!

## **Reminders:**

### **TCDSB Celtic Canadian Heritage Month Mass & Cultural Exposé**

Celebration will be held at Precious Blood Parish Hall (1737 Lawrence Ave E, Scarborough, ON M1R 2X7) on **March 29, 2019 from 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.** [Click here for more information.](#)

**FaithTalk—Radio Maria contest**—winner will be on air during Catholic Education talking about their faith. Submission deadline for your pitch is April 5, 2019

<https://www.tcdsb.org/Board/NurturingOurCatholicCommunity/rooted-in-christ/Pages/radio-maria.aspx>

**we Belong Celebration** coming in late May. Submission deadline has been extended to April 5<sup>th</sup>. School are invited to send in video, written work, artwork or song to demonstrated how they are embracing the values of inclusion, equity.

<https://www.tcdsb.org/board/nurturingourcatholiccommunity/rooted-in-christ/pages/we-belong-celebration.aspx>

Elementary students invited to submit artwork for the annual **Catholic Register Easter contest.** Deadline April 12<sup>th</sup>.

<https://www.tcdsb.org/FORSTUDENTS/OpportunitiesForStudents/Pages/EasterDrawingContest.aspx>

**Clock spring forward** on March 10<sup>th</sup>.

**Happy March Break** to students and staff!

*Don't forget to follow @TCDSB on twitter or visit our website at [www.tcdsb.org](http://www.tcdsb.org) to stay up to date with all the latest news and information about the Board, including opportunities for students and parents.*

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