STEPPING INTO THE FUTURE
2022 ILA YOUTH EXCELLENCE AWARDS AGENDA
Irving Oil Auditorium, 5257 Morris Street

ORDER OF EVENTS

Host — Dr. Barb Hamilton-Hinch, ILA Board of Director
1:00 p.m. Arrival & Youth STEM Demonstrations
1:30 p.m. Opening Prayer
    Lift Every Voice and Sing,
    Welcoming Remarks
1:35 p.m. Remarks from Invited Guests
1:40 p.m. Guest Speakers: Dr. Gopolang Mohlabeng and
    Ms. Shalyn Williams de Coteau, PEng
2:10 p.m. Spoken-word poem — Damini Awoyiga
2:15 p.m. Presentation of Awards
    • ILA-TD Opportunity Scholarships
    • Summer Student Research Scholarships
    • CMOS Scholarship
    • ILA Scholarship
    • Students of the Year
    • Mentor of the Year
    • Graduating Mentors
2:30 p.m. Student Testimonial
2:35 p.m. Appreciations & Closing Remarks
    Stakeholder appreciation
    Closing Remarks — Dr. J. Pemberton Cyrus, ILA Chair

GUEST SPEAKERS

Dr. Gopolang Mohlabeng, theoretical physicist, was born and raised in Pretoria, South Africa. He holds bachelor's degrees in physics and astrophysics from the Universities of Pretoria and Cape Town in South Africa, and earned his M.S and Ph.D from the University of Kansas. He is currently a UC Chancellor's Advanced Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of California, Irvine. His research focuses on phenomena beyond the Standard Model of particle physics. In particular, uncovering and understanding the particle nature of dark matter.

Ms. Shalyn Williams de Coteau, PEng grew up in the North End of Halifax and has roots in the African Nova Scotian (ANS) communities of East Preston and New Glasgow. She served 11 years with the Canadian Armed Forces Reserves and graduated in 2010 from Dalhousie University with an Electrical Engineering degree, making her the first ANS Female from HRM to do so. She has taught in Ghana, worked over 10 years at Lockheed Martin Canada, is the mother of two children, and is currently a Team Lead Sonar System Engineer at Ultra Maritime.

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SPECIAL PROJECTS

Yinjun Chen, Educational Material Development
Tori Ebanks, EVC
Amal Fashir, Activity Development
Renayre Forbes, EVC
Ibieni "Naomi" Ibiama, EVC & YGBFP
Danika Knight, EVC
Haley Matthews, EVC & YGBFP
Elizabeth Nkrumah, EVC
Damion Pollard, Educational Material Development
Manda Tchonlla, EVC
Ugo Onyekwere, EVC

EVC = Encouraging Vaccine Confidence
YGBFP = Young, Gifted & Black Future Physicists
UNIVERSITY GRADUATES
Leon Fearon, Civil Engineering
Rhandi Ferguson, Employment Relations (Acadia University)
Mary Lukindo, Medical Sciences
Patrick Nnoka, Chemical Engineering
Aisha Yaffa, Nursing

SUMMER STUDENT RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIPS (SSRS)
SSRS (Computer Science), $6500
Scholar: Ivagba Omoikhekpen (1st yr, Computer Science)
Research topic: Computer Science Education

SSRS (Dentistry), $6500
Scholar: Fana Jafer Idris (3rd yr, Dentistry)
Supervisors: Dr. Locke Davenport Huyer, Dr. Mark Filiaggi
Research topic: Design degradable polymer materials that can manipulate immunological functionality and develop materials capable of locally delivering antimicrobial therapeutics while facilitating new bone formation

SSRS (Engineering), $6500
Scholar: Chibuike Ekeadah (2nd yr, Engineering)
Supervisor: Dr. Jean-François Bousquet
Research topic: Underwater Communications using Acoustic Signals

SSRS (Health), $6500
Scholar: Mary Lukindo (4th yr, Medical Sciences)
Supervisor: Dr. Victoria Price
Research topic: Validation and French Translation of the Adolescent Menstrual Poverty Questionnaire (aMPQ)

SSRS (Science), $6500
Scholar: Herve Kazungu (2nd yr, Biochemistry and Neuroscience)
Supervisor: Dr. Paola Marignani
Research topic: Computational analysis of single-cell RNA sequencing datasets project (research focused on breast cancer)

SSRS (Medicine), $5000
Scholar: Tiara Mulder (1st yr, MSc Biology)
Supervisors: Dr. Francesca DiCara, Dr. Nicanor Gonzalez-Morales
Research topic: Exploring the expression pattern of TCA (citric acid cycle) enzymes oxoglutarate dehydrogenase and isocitrate dehydrogenase using in-vivo fluorescent tools in Drosophila melanogaster.

ILA-TD OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARSHIP
New Secondary-school scholars
Naomi Adewobale-Akinbulu ($500), Astral Drive Junior High, gr. 7 (potential: $5000/yr for four years)
Ebunoluwa Akitobi ($500), Fairview Junior High School, gr. 7 (potential: $5000/yr for four years)

Marlon Vernon Carpenter Donovan ($500), Kings County Academy, gr. 7 (potential: $5000/yr for four years)
Simisola Shodunke ($500), Dartmouth South Academy, gr. 8 (potential: $4500/yr for four years)
Tyra Obadan ($1000), Sydney Academy, gr. 11 (potential: $3000/yr for four years)
Nathan Amoah-Gyekeye ($2000), C. P. Allen High School, gr. 12 (potential: $2000/yr for four years)

Secondary-school scholars
Inioluwa Adara ($1000), Sacred Heart School of Halifax, gr. 8 (potential: $5000/yr for four years)
Lemuela Ajewon ($1500), Sydney Academy, gr. 11 (potential: $3500/yr for four years)
Tjasa Allen ($2500), Halifax West High School, gr. 11 (potential: $4500/yr for four years)
Emtenan Al-Taher ($4000), Citadel High School, gr. 12 (potential: $4000/yr for four years)
Mourisia Campbell ($4000), Cobequid Educational Centre, gr. 12 (potential: $4000/yr for four years)
Obed Harun ($2000), C.P. Allen High School, gr. 10 (potential: $5000/yr for four years)
Rachel Lavers ($4000), CEC, gr. 11 (potential: $4000/yr for four years)
Ethan Metzger ($1500), Fairview Junior High School, gr. 9 (potential: $5000/yr for four years)
Omolola Oshikoya ($3000), Fairview Junior High School, gr. 9 (potential: $5000/yr for four years)
Joshua Paris ($2000), Halifax West High School, gr. 11 (potential: $4000/yr for four years)
Elsa-Kaze Twagirayezu ($3000), C.P. Allen High School, gr. 12 (potential: $3000/yr for four years)
Eve Wedderburn ($3000), Citadel High School, gr. 11 (potential: $5000/yr for four years)

Post-secondary scholars
Elisabet Astatkie ($2000), Engineering, Yr. 2
Kareem EL-Beshbeeshy ($4000), Engineering, Yr. 2
Kailun Grant ($4500), Biology, Yr. 3
Carmahn McCalla ($4000), Applied Comp.Sci, Yr. 3
Oluwatobi Oshikoya ($4000), Engineering, Yr. 3
Monique Wright ($2000), Health Promotion, Yr. 3

CMOS SCHOLARSHIP
To be announced ($5000)

ILA SCHOLARSHIP
Jasmin Desmond ($2000), Psychology, yr. 4

STUDENTS OF THE YEAR
Junior
Neviah Agbonghae, gr. 7, Dartmouth South Academy

Intermediate
Amalia Nahimana, gr. 9, École Secondaire du Sommet

Overall
Nathan N’Da, gr. 12, École Secondaire Mosaïque

MENTOR OF THE YEAR
Oluwatobi “Tobi” Oshikoya, FLL Mentor