

Meet the 2013 Young Humanitarian Award Winners



JARON JOHNSTON
At five years old, Jaron Johnston of Carman Elementary School is one of the youngest MTS Young Humanitarian Award winners ever. “Where do people with no houses sleep?” asked the kindergarten one cold February night. His mom’s answer inspired him to collect “maybe even 100” blankets by the end of March for people who live in shelters and on the street. Jaron delivered those blankets to appreciative patrons of Siloam Mission and Devoted to You Street Ministries. He’s now working on a second batch.



MARA PINLAC
When Mara Pinlac learned that Dane, one of her Grade 4 classmates, had leukemia, she knew compassion was not enough. She spent the next two years making jewelry to raise funds for Dane and others through the Children’s Wish Foundation. Now a Grade 6 student at Oakenwald School in Pembina Trails School Division, Mara speaks passionately about raising money for kids with cancer. She wants their lives to be filled with love and hope.



SHANIA SVEINSON
Shania Sveinson of Gimli High School doesn’t draw attention to herself, but working with the Manitoba Council for International Cooperation (MCIC) she’s been a huge influence in establishing Gimli as a Fair-Trade-certified town. She’s also worked on Make Wake, for protecting the health of Lake Winnipeg; Eating Lower on the Food Chain; the Provincial Envirothon; the Gimli Film Festival and Matlock Music festival.



ABORIGINAL STUDENT GROUP (Teulon Collegiate)
Five Teulon Collegiate Students have a vision and a passion to highlight issues affecting First Nations communities in Manitoba. They set out to visit as many schools as they could to be positive role models, raise awareness of water issues on reserves, provide cultural opportunities to non-aboriginal people – and even provide a little entertainment. Many students, teachers, and staff members have been touched by their presentations. **FROM LEFT:** Sunny Backe Peters, Alayna Knott, Darell Ryle, Kris Ponee, Alex Knott



FREE THE CHILDREN CLUB (Fort Richmond Collegiate)
Fort Richmond Collegiate’s Free the Children Club may have only 12 members, but they have worked hard for an incredible number of worthwhile deeds this year. This self-directed student group has raised money and community-consciousness about the need for clean drinking water here and abroad, collected over 1,000 food items for Winnipeg Harvest, donated more than 300 pairs of jeans to homeless youth, collected toys for disadvantaged children and held a community craft sale which raised \$1,700. They’ve organized jewelry and bake sales, put caution signs around drinking fountains, painted murals and have organized fund- and consciousness-raising activities every second week or so throughout the entire school year. All to benefit their school and community projects. **TOP LEFT,** Abdal Muhammad, Brooklyn Friesen, Chris Rampersad, Zach Dark, Abbay Sadaway, Andrew Lee **BOTTOM LEFT,** Nicole Burns, Hongru Ren, Shafagh Daneshfar, Sarah Oresnik, Shuyi Wu **(MISSING FROM ABOVE, Adefikunola Adetoro FRONT COVER, ROW 3, 4TH PHOTO)**

Who have they helped?

Here are just some of the people, programs and organizations that benefit from the work of this year’s Young Humanitarian Award recipients.

- local & rural schools and communities
- northern Manitoba remote communities
- **Teens for Jeans (donated to homeless teens)** dosomething.org/teensforjeans
- **Winnipeg Harvest** winnipegharvest.org
- **Children’s Wish Foundation** childrenswish.ca
- **Canadian Red Cross** redcross.ca
- **Salvation Army** salvationarmy.ca
- **Siloam Mission** siloam.ca
- **The Fair Trade program in Manitoba** mcic.ca/fair-trade/
- **Adopt a Village, Clean Water & Sanitation** freethechildren.com/international-programming/our-model/clean-water-and-sanitation/
- **We Scare Hunger** freethechildren.com/get-involved/campaigns/we-scare-hunger

The Manitoba Teachers’ Society wants your feedback!

What did you think of the 2013 Young Humanitarian Awards?

We would love to know what you thought of tonight’s event. If you have any suggestions or comments, please share them with us via email at yha@mbteach.org or using Facebook or Twitter:

 facebook.com/manitobateachers

 [#yha2013](https://twitter.com/manitobateachers)

You can learn more about the annual Young Humanitarian Awards at www.mbteach.org/YHA/yha.html.

Know anyone who should be nominated in 2014?

Enjoy performances tonight by

Ace Burpee

Ace Burpee is the most recognized voice on Virgin 103.1, Winnipeg's number one hit music station. He was recently an emcee at TEDxYouth Fort Garry, an inspiring forum where Manitoba youth presented their ideas on the theme of Sharing Space: Rising to Challenges. A passionate connector and leader, Ace is extensively involved in community events in Manitoba. We are thrilled to welcome him back as emcee for the 16th annual YHA Night.



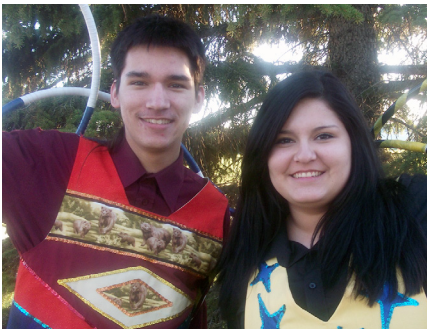
Mimoza Duot

This incredibly talented singer from Sisler High School was a finalist in YTV's The Next Star. She has scored a deal with a management company out of Toronto and is currently working on finishing her album. Wait till you hear her single "Love".



Dane Bjornson

Thirteen-year-old singer and songwriter Dane Bjornson, released his debut EP, "Lucky Day" in the fall of 2012. He has been performing on many acting and musical stages around Winnipeg, has appeared on YTV's, "The Next Star", and even shared the stage with "Down with Webster" a while back. Dane was also named one of Ace Burpee's most fascinating Manitobans of 2011.



Alex and Alayna Knott

This dynamic brother and sister duo have delighted student audiences with hoop dancing performances around Manitoba. They are also recipients of one of this year's Young Humanitarian Awards.

Wednesday, May 22, 2013, at 8:00 PM Fairmont Winnipeg

Greetings from the Emcee

Ace Burpee – Virgin 103.1

Student Greetings

Ayla and Van Hamilton, 2012 YHA Winners, Major Pratt School, Russell

"O Canada"

Tayman Turner, École Neil Campbell School

"Love," "Who We Are"

Mimoza Duot, Sisler High School

MTS Greetings

Paul Olson, President, The Manitoba Teachers' Society

Chairperson's Remarks

Arlyn Filewich, YHA Committee Chair, MTS Executive Member

YHA Individual Award

Presented to Jaron Johnston, Carman Elementary School
Introduced by Marcy Platt, School Secretary

YHA Individual Award

Presented to Mara Pinlac, Oakenwald School, Winnipeg
Introduced by Mary-Ann Mitchler, Teacher

YHA Individual Award

Presented to Shania Sveinson, Gimli High School
Introduced by Leona Groot, Vice-Principal

"Nothing Like a Best Friend," "Wanna Be"

Dane Bjornson, Highbury School

YHA Group Award

Presented to Free the Children Club, Fort Richmond Collegiate,
Introduced by Cathy Oresnik, Teacher

YHA Group Award

Presented to the Aboriginal Student Group, Teulon Collegiate
Introduced by Siobhan Faulkner, Teacher Advisor

"Hoop Dancing"

Alayna and Alex Knott, Teulon Collegiate

Join us for a reception in the Fairmont's mezzanine lobby after the show!

Everyone has something AMAZING to offer

The 16th annual Young Humanitarian Awards

Tonight we honour Manitoba public school students whose acts of compassion and caring inspire and encourage us to do the same.



Meet our 2013 recipients...

