

PERFORMANCES TONIGHT BY:



Ace Burpee

Ace is the most recognized voice on Virgin 103.1, Winnipeg's number one hit music station. A passionate connector and leader, Ace is involved in a plethora of events and is a champion of many causes in Manitoba making close to 300 hosting and guest appearances every year. He is the epitome of selflessness and hard work. We are absolutely thrilled to welcome this true humanitarian back as emcee for our 22nd annual YHA night.



Dance Tec Company

Dance Tec Company is Tec Voc High School's competitive dance group. Under the direction of Sofia Costantini and assistant Lee Banaga, DTC was created in 2005. A professional dancer, Costantini has taught dance and choreographed for professional dance companies, film/TV, theatre, high schools, and individual training programs.



Tec Voc Singers

The Tec Voc Singers under the direction of Sonya Williams are an unauditioned group of singers who have been together since September, meet three times a week to rehearse, and have enjoyed sharing their music across the city. They will be leading us while performing our national anthem in six different languages: English, French, Tagalog, Cree, Ojibway and Inuktitut."



TONIGHT'S SCHEDULE:

Greetings from the Emcee

Ace Burpee – Virgin Radio 103.1

"O Canada"

Tec Voc Singers (Tec Voc High School)

Performance

Dance Tec Company (Tec Voc High School)

Official Greetings

James Bedford, Vice-President, The Manitoba Teachers' Society

YHA Individual Award

Lexi Taylor, École Dugald School (SSD)
Introduced by teacher Manon Poulin

YHA Individual Award

Janine Brown, Collège Béliveau (LRSD)
Introduced by teacher Joel Tetrault

Performance

Spoken Word – Janine Brown

YHA Individual Award

Reece Estwick, W.C. Miller Collegiate (BLSD)
Introduced by Lisa Isaak Eisbrenner

YHA Individual Award

Gwen Eckstein; Minnetonka School (LRSD)
Introduced by teacher Amanda Jonker

Chairperson's Remarks

Jonathan Waite, YHA Committee Chair, MTS Executive Member

Special thanks to Technical Vocational High School teacher Sonya Williams and her students for sharing "O Canada" with us tonight in English, French, Cree, Ojibway, Inuktitut and Tagalog.

Join us for a reception and refreshments in the lobby after the show!

RECEPTION
& REFRESHMENTS
AFTER THE SHOW

YOUNG HUMANITARIAN AWARDS

The Manitoba Teachers' Society

Young Humanitarian Awards

MEET THE 2019 WINNERS!



GWEN ECKSTEIN

When Minnetonka Kindergarten student Gwen Eckstein saw a TV commercial on CNN about the plight of refugees, she said, "Mommy, we have to help those kids on the commercial." Gwen quickly hatched a plan to fill the family car with food, building supplies and police (to protect refugees from the bad guys) and drive to their countries. Her mom helped her come up with something more practical – painting and selling ornaments to hang on trees. Over \$3,000 worth of ornaments were decorated and sold with all proceeds going to IRCOM, the Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization of Manitoba. Wanting to help local refugee children is a natural part of Gwen's lovely humanitarian spirit.



LEXI TAYLOR

Grade 7 student Lexi Taylor has been working on two big passions. The École Dugald School student started "A Little Bit of Warm" with some birthday money and an intense desire to help people experiencing homelessness. Lexi makes and distributes bags containing new toques and mitts, hot chocolate and candy canes to help keep people warm. At about the same time, Lexi started volunteering with Got Bannock, an organization that made meals twice a month then shared them at the corner of Main and Dufferin Avenue. Lexi's three-year devotion to both of these causes has been nothing short of remarkable.



REESE ESTWICK

Reese Estwick, a Grade 12 student from W.C. Miller Collegiate in Altona, recently returned from Ottawa where she participated in the Forum for Young Canadians. Reese has always been an ally to those who are marginalized. She began high school making herself extremely vulnerable by starting a Gay-Straight Alliance at her school. She and her friend poured countless hours into creation of the GSA as well as all the meetings, activities and discussions associated with it. Reese wanted to make sure the group was built with best practices in mind. Despite the backlash she and her friend faced in the community, Reese continues to stand up to injustice, regardless of where it comes from and what form it takes.



JANINE BROWN

Janine Brown, a Grade 12 student at Collège Béliveau, is a proud humanitarian and a strong promoter of human rights. She's been an interpreter for the Anne Frank Exhibit, a ground floor organizer of the school's "I Have to Be Me" GSA. She came out in Grade 9 and is an outspoken advocate for reconciliation and Indigenous rights. She's equally at ease with planting trees along the Bishop Grandin Garden Greenway as with filling out funding applications for projects. She has taught survival skills to Scouts, been a Youth Pride Marshall, received a United Way Community Leadership award, and was the 2018 youth volunteer of the year for the Manitoba Association of Rights and Liberties (MARL). You can find Janine's spoken word poetry on her YouTube channel.

WHO ARE THEY HELPING?

Here are just some of the people, programs and organizations benefitting from the work of this year's MTS Young Humanitarians.

- The homeless in Winnipeg who need food, toques and mitts
- LGBTQ students and the cause of Indigenous Rights
- Refugees and newcomers at the Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization of Manitoba (IRCOM)
- Hungry families and kids who use Siloam Mission
- Girl Guides of Manitoba
- The Manitoba Association of Rights and Liberties (MARL)
- Ten- to 16-year-old Scouts who attended the Klondike Derby
- Anyone who uses Winnipeg Harvest
- Students who attended an Anne Frank exhibit
- The United Way, Manitoba Chapter
- Students who attended workshops on reconciliation

WE WANT YOUR FEEDBACK!

What did you think of the 2019 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 by using the hashtag [#mtsyha](https://twitter.com/mtsyha) and [#thankgoodness](https://twitter.com/thankgoodness) on these social media platforms:

 [facebook.com/
manitobateachers](https://facebook.com/manitobateachers)

 [instagram.com/
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You can learn more about the annual Young Humanitarian Awards at mbteach.org.

Know anyone who should be nominated in 2020?