



DISCOVER THE STARS

À LA DÉCOUVERTE DES ÉTOILES

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## PRESS RELEASE

« *DISCOVER THE STARS 2009* »  
October 7<sup>th</sup> 2009

### Awarding of Scholarships

#### Pointe-Claire, October 7th, 2009 – 12<sup>th</sup> Edition

On October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2009 at 7:30 p.m. at the salle Pauline-Julien of the Collège Gérard-Godin located in Sainte-Geneviève, the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Scholarship Award Ceremony of the “*Discover the Stars*” Program in conjunction with The West Island of Montreal Chamber of Commerce held it’s unveiling of the new scholarship stars for 2009.

The “*Discover the Stars*” Program grants financial support to West Island high school graduates who will go on to study in a science or technology program in Cegep. Since 1997, nearly 466 high school graduates from the public schools of the West Island of Montreal have shared \$466 000 in scholarships over the last twelve years. This year, 41 students from thirteen (13) high schools from the two participating school boards, Marguerite-Bourgeoys and Lester B. Pearson, each received a \$ 1 000 scholarship.

The (2) two most exceptional students of these winners were awarded an additional \$ 3000 scholarship from the “Aileen Proudfoot Memorial Award” which was established in 2000 by Andy and Grace Proudfoot to honour the memory of their daughter. This year marks the tenth anniversary of Aileen Proudfoot, a brilliant young student with similar hopes and aspirations to the students honoured on this evening.

This year’s 2009 winners are:

Pauline Obartel, École secondaire des Sources  
Michael Destounis, St Thomas High School

Organizations in technology, private companies and business as well as financial and educational institutions of the West Island of Montreal initiated this idea. Slowly but surely, year after year, dozens of students are made aware of this wonderful program by principles, teachers, counsellors and motivators from each school. The ultimate goal of this program is to motivate more young students to choose careers in the fields of science and technology.

The objective of this scholarship is to help lessen the financial burden of college students enrolling in a scientific technology or a science program leading to university studies. The choice of a science or technology program is mandatory. The students must be full-time and Secondary V graduates in one of the West Island High Schools from the Lester B. Pearson School Board and Commission Scolaire Marguerite-Bourgeoys sectors.

Mrs. Elizabeth Tropea, Director General of The West Island of Montreal Chamber of Commerce and this year's proud President of the "*Discover the Stars*" Program, edition 2009, had the opportunity to meet our "Stars" and the people who motivate them every day of their lives. Mrs. Tropea said; "these students represent the finest of our graduating classes; they distinguish themselves not only through their excellence in academic achievement but also through their volunteerism and involvement with many community projects in the West Island".

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**Sources:**

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Discover the Stars Committee

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