

TIA

2023
TECHNOLOGY
IMPACT AWARDS



BC TECH

2023 Scholarship Recipients

Since 2007, BC Tech has been providing grants to exceptional students pursuing a post-secondary education in technology in BC. A total of 96 scholarships have been handed out to date, many to students from groups traditionally under-represented in BC's tech sector, most of whom today, work in tech or tech-enabled businesses in BC. BC Tech is extremely proud to announce the recipients of the 2023 BC Tech Scholarships.

High School Students

Manuel Boada

An immigrant from Ecuador, Manuel is headed from Abbotsford Senior Secondary to SFU to enter the Bachelor of Applied Science Program. He was successful in maintaining a 4.0 grade point average, while playing rugby for Team Canada, and juggling three jobs. For fun, he's designed video games, a solid fuel custom 3-D printed rocket, an autonomous car, and a robotic prosthetic arm.

Manuel is now working on "Synergy" — an autonomous system that supports vertical hydroponic farming and robotic harvesting, which can be controlled by an app he has also designed. Manuel believes technology can play a vital role in solving climate change, world hunger, and poverty; he has been offered a robotic internship in the U.S. and an avionics internship at Cascades Aerospace and is also a nominee for the prestigious Schulich Scholarship Award. While at UBC, Manuel will major in computer engineering and pursue a double minor in electrical and mechanical engineering.

In addition to the BC Tech scholarship, Manuel is also a recipient of the Spirit of BC Tech Bursary.

Ari Mesrob Cholakian

Ari and his family moved to Canada in 2016 from Syria following the outbreak of the civil war. Curious about science and tech, Ari challenged himself by taking AP courses in school and volunteering more than 200 hours as a lab aid where he has repaired and maintained apparatus, assisted in set-ups and clean-ups, and mentored younger students.

Through school Ari has worked part time to support his family and looks to support his brother's education in addition to his own. As part of his AP Physics classes, Ari worked on potato launcher while using Java to calculate its air drag. His last experiment involved researching how to build a jet engine to run by mixing fuel and oxygen to create thrust. Ari is headed to UBC from Alpha Secondary in Burnaby to enter the Bachelor of Applied Science Program.

Daniel Mangmang

As a first-generation immigrant, Daniel is heading to the University of Victoria to complete his Bachelor of Engineering after graduating from Cowichan Secondary School. While being on the honor roll since Grade 10, Daniel is also an avid violinist and flutist with his school band. He describes himself as having two identities that he is proud of — his Filipino heritage and his Canadian citizenship, both have played in role in molding him into the person he is today.

Daniel is keen to give back to the community that has given him so much. This has led him to experience many volunteer opportunities which include building connections for new Syrian refugee families on their arrival in Canada and offering English tutoring to the younger arrivals. As a member of the District Student Advisory Board, he has represented his school at district meetings and is also founding member of his school's Eco Club. Aspiring to be a Civil Engineer, Daniel hopes to develop accessible housing projects with a sustainable support infrastructure to meet with the growing housing demands in smaller communities.

University Students

Aislinn Dressler

Aislinn is a second-year civil engineering student at the University of Victoria. From grades four through twelve, she has participated in regional science fairs and in grade ten, won the Ted Rogers Innovation Award for a project titled "Muscle Mate", a heated brace technology aimed at helping athletes with scar tissue injuries participate in sports.

Following graduation from high school, she participated in HighTechU's FortisBC project, which focused on improving the efficiency of biodigesters. Aislinn hopes to work within government as a civil engineer for infrastructure and public works as she believes accessible and pedestrian friendly communities can make a significant positive impact on society.

Katrina Jewell

From the millions of people fighting cancer, to the epidemic of diabetes across the world, to the recent COVID-19 pandemic, the need for advancements in biotech has never been clearer to Katrina. As a biomedical engineering student at the University of British Columbia, she has spent the last three years developing cutting edge technologies to greatly improve others' quality of life.

This year, now acting as Project Co-Lead for the Biochemical innovations team, she is exploring the impacts of chemical compounds extracted from cinnamon on increasing insulin production in a human cell model. The team believes this will support the development of more effective and affordable drugs to treat diabetes. To date, she has engineered three cell lines containing synthesized reporters which will be used in future experiments. Katrina hopes to work in the biotech industry, while pursuing an MBA or Masters in Engineering, and contributing towards building a global biotech hub here in British Columbia.

In addition to the BC Tech scholarship, Katrina is also a recipient of the Spirit of BC Tech Bursary.

Carmina Rocheleau

As a first-generation Canadian, Carmina's journey to pursuing a career in engineering has been marked by numerous challenges including childhood leukemia and the inability to access long term stable housing. She was accepted into Camosun College's Mechanical Engineering Technology Program and is now bridging to her third year at the University of Victoria.

Carmina is passionate about pursuing a career in Humanitarian Mechanical Engineering, with the goal of providing clean sustainable energy products to communities in need. This stems from her experience collaborating with a community in Uganda, Africa, as well as her involvement with Engineering Without Borders.

In addition to the BC Tech scholarship, Carmina is also a recipient of the Spirit of BC Tech Bursary.

Previous BC Tech Scholarship Recipients

2022 Evan Armstrong	2018 Brianna Carrels	2015 Samia Kamal	2010 Scott Jennings
2022 Adel Kuanysheva	2018 Kieran Halliday	2015 Jessica Peare	2010 Jonathan Kehler
2022 Andy Luo	2018 Johanna Jucutan	2015 Alice Zheng	2010 Dhruva Nathan
2022 Raeann Sherman	2018 Giulia Mattia	2014 Josh Ewart	2010 Christina Noel
2022 Rachel Shi	2018 Stephanie Nguyen	2014 Esther Inlayo	2010 Michael Peters
2022 Nathan Stewart	2018 Kaylan Wang	2014 Kulvir Sekhon	2010 Riana Sartori
2021 Juliana Angel	2017 Hannah Charnock	2013 Steven Huang	2009 Adam Gray
2021 Clinton Gaudet	2017 Cameron Hutchcroft	2013 Jesse Kazemir	2009 Keith Martin
2021 Daniel Kornlyo	2017 Hamza Kamal	2013 Jonah Kruesel	2009 Hui Bin Peng
2021 Stephanie Quon	2017 Kittie Lam	2013 Ashley Luft	2009 Tyler Poole
2021 Bryce Wilson	2017 Stanford Lin	2013 Henry Stoldt	2008 Remy Barois
2021 Joyce Xi	2017 Joshua Sam	2013 Perry Taylor	2008 Mary Cheung
2020 Jax Bailey	2017 Kevin Zhang	2012 Brandy Au	2008 Christy Hyde
2020 Ellie Gartrell	2016 Abdelwahab-Bebo Elhosary	2012 Stephanie Cutler	2008 Kyung Soo Kim
2020 Tiffany Quon	2016 Vivien Hui	2012 Trevor Engh	2008 Thomas Knudsen
2020 Muhammad Siddiqui	2016 Ken Lin	2012 Adam Grey	2008 Kylee Lothrop
2020 Philip Vargas	2016 Maryam Mobini	2011 Sophia Amin	2008 Jamie Schenkeveld
2020 Mona Yu	2016 Steven Richter	2011 Nolan Lee	2007 Matthew Drouin
2019 Ember Dickson	2016 Sterling Smith	2011 Anthony Martins	2007 Rajan Gandhi
2019 Rosalee Gingras	2016 Ryan Wright	2011 Michael Peters	2007 Mary Howie
2019 Kai Leong	2016 Eva Yu	2011 Alexander Toews	2007 Paul Kim
2019 Daphne Liu	2015 Christopher Bolton	2011 Jeremy Witmer	2007 Joel Kitching
2019 Beriwan Ravandi	2015 Michele Harjani	2010 Colleen Chau	2007 Niall McPherson
2019 Jobina Tamminga	2015 Nicholas Hu	2010 Scott Hirsch	2007 Ward Newman

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