



MANITOBA ABORIGINAL YOUTH ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

25th Annual Manitoba Aboriginal Youth Achievement Awards: Youth from across the Province to be honoured

The 25th annual Manitoba Aboriginal Youth Achievement Awards (MAYAA) will be held **Thursday, November 21, 2019 at Victoria Inn in Winnipeg.**

Since the early 90s, the MAYAAs have given out nearly 300 awards, thousands of dollars in scholarship and reached over 1600 attendees annually.

MAYAAs are presented to 20 outstanding Indigenous youth between the ages of 16 and 24 excelling in a variety of categories from cultural to academic, and this year includes two recipients for a special 25th anniversary award. MAYAA recipients are chosen by a committee of Indigenous youth from the community.

The awards were founded in 1994 as a way to combat negative images of Indigenous youth and to celebrate their achievements. “The youth have so many gifts and the MAYAA honours these milestones in their journeys” says MAYAA Co-Chair Helen Robinson-Settee.

In addition to the award portion of the evening, Buffalo Red Thunder will serve as host drum along with Opikihiwawin Dancers. Past recipient, Anishinaabe comedian **Elissa Kixen** will be the evening entertainment. Past MAYAA recipients **Luana Moar** and **Justin Langan** will host this year’s event.

“I am so honoured to have the privilege of working with the MAYAA organizing committee. We get to see the best of the youth in the community and know that the future is in good hands, “ says Darlene Daniels, MAYAA Co-Chair.

For 2019 two awards have been added; the 25th Anniversary Award and The James Golick Women in Computology Award presented to women who excel in technology.

This year’s event will also honour Leslie Spillett who founded the awards in 1994.

To learn more about the MAYAA and to purchase tickets for the event go to:
<http://www.mayaa.ca>

For more information, please contact:

Darlene Daniels, Co-Chair, Manitoba Aboriginal Youth Achievement Awards
Phone: (204) 330-2586

Helen Robinson-Settee, Co-Chair, Manitoba Aboriginal Youth Achievement Awards
Phone: (204) 782-4571



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2019 Recipients

CATEGORY	RECIPIENT	NATION/ COMMUNITY
Academic Senior	Cassandra Phaneuf	Métis Winnipeg, MB
Academic Junior	Elora Cromarty	Norway House Cree Nation
Athletic Senior	Morgan Wood	Winnipeg, MB
Athletic Junior	Nick Wakos	Pasqua First Nation Sagkeeng First Nation
Community/Volunteer Senior	Ashley Daniels	Swan Lake First Nation
Community/Volunteer Junior	Shay-Ann Scott-Jolicoeur	Métis St. Laurent, MB
Cultural Female	Kayleigh Lagimodiere	Anishinaabe/Cree Winnipeg, MB
Cultural Male	Darnell Salwan-Mason	Sandy Bay First Nation
Personal Achievement Senior	Raeden Bricklin	Metis Winnipeg, MB
Personal Achievement Junior	Carter Graveline	Metis Winnipeg, MB
Artistic Visual	Sarah Simpson-Yellowquill	Long Plain First Nation
Artistic Performance	Emillee Fronda	Metis Winnipeg, MB
Health North	Kiana Tait	Norway House Cree Nation
Health South	Taylor Catcheway	Pine Creek First Nation
Women in Technology	Katherine Patri	Metis Winnipeg, MB
Women in Technology	Lydia Robertson	Sandy Bay First Nation
25 th Anniversary Award	Erica Wilson	Winnipeg, MB
25 th Anniversary Award	Shaylean Skye	Bloodvein, First Nation