

CFIS AWARDS HANDBOOK

GENERAL INFORMATION, DESCRIPTION AND STANDARDS

MISSION

The Calgary French & International School develops each student's individual and academic potential through full French immersion, an international focus and the development of the whole student in a rich and dynamic learning environment.

VISION

Calgary French & International School graduates will be active global citizens with a foundation for life-long success, and our school will be the leader in French immersion and international education.

WE VALUE:

- Each student's unique potential
- The highest quality French language skills and academics
- Creative, innovative and critical thinking
- Development of the whole student by engagement in sports and the fine arts
- The school community of involved parents and students and the highest quality, committed faculty and staff
- Openness, inquisitiveness and understanding of our community and the world beyond our experience
- Leadership development and opportunities to lead at every age
- Global focus, cultural diversity and international perspectives
- Mutual respect and self-respect
- Ethical, responsible citizenship

CFIS AWARD CELEBRATIONS

Celebrations are held in the spring of each year to recognize student achievement consistent with our mission, vision and values. At this time students are recognized in the areas noted below.

GRADE 12 GRADUATION AWARDS

VALEDICTORIAN: One graduate is nominated and selected by her/his peers and teachers to speak at the graduation ceremony as a representative of the graduating class.

LES DOYENNES: Students who have continuously, without interruption, attended CFIS from kindergarten through Grade 12 are recognized, and one of "Les Doyennes" is chosen by the group to speak at the ceremony.

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AWARDS: Awards are presented to the top student in each 30-level subject course. These awards are selected by a panel of subject teachers and are based on academic performance and commitment to the discipline.

DR. DONNA FINLEY LEADERSHIP AWARD: Dr. Donna Finley, a CFIS parent, was a driving force behind CFIS's renewed vision. When the school lost its lease in 1999 and was at a major crossroads, her vision, leadership and fundraising efforts changed the school profoundly. Her efforts enabled the purchase of the Cougar Ridge site and the building of the new \$20 million facility. She facilitated school growth by expanding to junior and senior high levels, and broadened the program offering by introducing Spanish. Drawing on her networks, she expanded school funding opportunities and created innovative community partnerships. She was instrumental in developing the original concept and strategy for the LEADS program and the research partnership with the University of Calgary. Donna instigated the innovative SAIT partnership, enriching opportunities for CFIS students and staff. Her leadership also led to the organizational restructuring of the original Society into three distinct boards. She led this major transition by simultaneously chairing these three boards for 18 months, continuing in her President's role for another four and a half years and maintaining her board membership throughout this transition period. As President of CFIS for six years, Donna championed CFIS's position as a leader in language education in the province. This award is given to a student in Grade 12 who demonstrates the following traits:

- **INITIATING:** Takes charge by implementing steps to achieve his / her vision.
- **INSPIRING:** Received and maintained support for his / her activities from peers and the community.
- **MOTIVATED:** Has a desire to bring about change.
- **UNSELFISH:** Motivations are aligned toward improving the world for others.

- **RESPONSIBLE:** Willing to undertake difficult tasks and become accountable for his / her actions.
- **RESOURCEFUL:** Works with resources available to them and are creative about how he / she overcomes any limitations they encounter.
- **COLLABORATIVE:** Practices and encourage the spirit of teamwork toward reaching common goals.
- **INNOVATIVE:** Has the capability to think outside of the box, beyond the obvious.
- **COMMITTED:** Willing to see the project through to its end with a determined effort.

PREMIER'S CITIZENSHIP AWARD: The Premier's Citizenship Award is offered by the Government of Alberta to recognize students who have contributed to their communities through public service and voluntary endeavours. Nominated by the school, recipients must have displayed outstanding characteristics in citizenship, leadership, and community service and/or engagement in volunteer work, and must also have shown initiative and had a positive impact in the community or school.

UNESCO AWARD: Annually awarded to one student in Grade 12 who exemplifies the qualities of a global citizen through involvement in humanitarian initiatives within and outside of school. Nominated by faculty, this student demonstrates actions consistent with the vision and values of CFIS and UNESCO through action.

PIONEER AWARD: As is characteristic of a pioneer, this award is given annually to one Grade 12 student who has taken on a challenge with vigor and determination, demonstrating tenacity and the courage to persevere. Recipient is nominated and selected by faculty.

GRADE 9 CELEBRATION AWARDS

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AWARDS: Awards presented to the top student in each Grade 9 subject level course. These awards are selected by a panel of subject teachers and are based on academic performance and commitment to the discipline.

UNESCO AWARD: Annually awarded to one student in Grade 9 who exemplifies the qualities of a global citizen through involvement in humanitarian initiatives within and outside of school. Nominated by faculty, this student demonstrates actions consistent with the vision and values of CFIS and UNESCO through action.

LEADERSHIP AWARD: Awarded annually to one student in Grade 9 who effectively practices and implements Calgary French & International School leadership values.

PIONEER AWARD: As is characteristic of a pioneer, this award is given annually to one Grade 9 student who has taken on a challenge with vigor and determination, demonstrating tenacity and the courage to persevere. Recipient is nominated and selected by faculty.

EXTRA MILE AWARD: This award is given to one CFIS Grade 9 student who demonstrates going the extra mile for CFIS and the community at large through traits such as personal initiative, community involvement and contributions to extracurricular events. The award considers the following traits:

- **PERSEVERANCE:** Never giving up in the face of adversity. Shows a determination, but is not necessarily among the top performers, in academics, athletics and community work.
- **STAMINA:** An unlimited supply of energy for self and others: enduring, resilient and strong.
- **ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT:** A good student, but not necessarily at top of the class.
- **Initiative:** With a sense of what needs to be done and when, this student is inventive and plans and completes projects with little or no guidance.
- **COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:** A student not only giving to the school community, but actively involved in extracurricula activities in the broader community.
- **ATHLETIC:** Competitive and active in several sporting activities whether internally or externally—a good all-round athlete.

LOUISE MOORE AWARD: This award is given annually to a Grade 9 student, who demonstrates vision, commitment, and school spirit, while building the community of CFIS. Recipient is nominated and selected by faculty.

GALA DES MERITAS AWARDS

ACADEMIC AWARDS: Awarded to students in grades 7, 8, 10 and 11 and are selected by subject area teachers. These students may not be the top achiever of their class. However, these students have displayed exemplary characteristics of attitude, behaviour, and leadership over the course of the year. Each teacher, prior to distributing the awards, will list the characteristics upon which they based selection.

BAND AWARDS: Awarded to students in all grades in the Secondary School, these include awards for Most Improved, Most Valuable, Leadership, Skill in Horns and Rhythm Instruments and Musician of the Year. Recipient is nominated and selected by faculty.

MUSICAL AWARDS: Awarded to students in all grades in the Secondary School, these include awards for Best Lead Performance, Best Supportive Performance, Best Ensemble Performance, Most Improved, Most Valuable Orchestral Player.

GRADE 6 CELEBRATION AWARDS

**Recipients are nominated and selected by Elementary faculty.

LEADERSHIP AWARD: Awarded annually to two Grade 6 students who effectively practice and implement Calgary French & International School leadership values.

ACADEMIC AWARD: Awarded annually to one Grade 6 student for consistently demonstrating excellence in academics.

PIONEER AWARD: As is characteristic of a pioneer, this award is given annually to one Grade 6 student who has taken on a challenge with vigor and determination, demonstrating tenacity and the courage to persevere.

ATHLETICS AWARD: Awarded annually to one Grade 6 student for demonstrating athletic excellence, enthusiasm and sportsmanship.

VISUAL ARTS AWARD: Awarded annually to one Grade 6 student who demonstrates creativity, enthusiasm, dedication and talent in the visual arts.

MUSIC AWARD: Awarded annually to one Grade 6 student who demonstrates enthusiasm, dedication and talent in the art of music.

UNESCO AWARD: United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization Award is awarded annually to one student in Grade 6 who exemplifies the qualities of a global citizen through involvement in humanitarian initiatives within and outside of school.