

2008 Premier's One World Scholarship Recipients

Robyn Ashwell, Comox

Robyn has been attending Simon Fraser University since September 2006. She is currently studying political science and French toward a bilingual degree in community service and public administration. Robyn is a community advisor in residence, an organizer of recycling initiatives, a member of Oxfam SFU and the French Student Union, and participates in intramural soccer and volleyball.

Robyn plans to attend the Intitut d'Etudes Politiques of the Universite Robert Shuman in Strasbourg, France where she will study political science in French. Her studies at this prestigious and specialized school will further her education toward her future career in education or law.

Sera-Lys Huck-McArthur, Vancouver

Originally from Regina, Saskatchewan, Sera-Lys studied at the American Musical and Dramatic Academy in New York City in 2003, obtaining a professional certificate in musical theatre performance. Since September 2007, she has been attending Capilano College for a combined associate's degree of arts and theatre.

Sera-Lys' community and school involvement is in the arts and First Nations. She did an unpaid internship as assistant acting instructor at the Lyric School of Acting, is involved in independent theatre initiatives working primarily with youth, and is actively involved in the Capilano First Nations issues committee. Sera-Lys played a lead role in a CBC historical drama miniseries called "The Englishman's Boy". By portraying a victim of the Cypress Hills Massacre, Sera-Lys was able to depict the nearly extinct Native language of her people, the Nakota.

Sera-Lys plans to attend the East 15 Acting School at the University of Essex in Great Britain where she will obtain a Master of Arts in Acting (International) and further her skills as a performing artist.

Samantha Keller, Kamloops

Samantha is attending Thompson Rivers University. Since 2005, she has been working toward her Bachelor of Science degree in chemistry. Samantha is heavily involved in school activities as a research assistant in chemistry, teacher in science summer camps, participant in the chemistry biochemistry club and she sings in a choir. Her involvement extends to her community as a volunteer for regional science fairs, coach for figure skating and playing guitar for her local church.

Samantha plans to attend the Universidad Autonoma de Madrid in Spain, first working as a chemistry research assistant in the Department of Applied Physical Chemistry and then attending fall and winter semesters as a student in chemistry courses. In these courses, Samantha wants to experience new topics and learn a new language to enable collaboration in her future career as a researcher or professor of chemistry.

Ian Madison, Vernon

Ian has attended the University of Victoria since September of 2007 where he is working toward a degree in political science with an interest in European studies. Also active in his community, Ian works with bicycle advocacy groups, First Nations' rights and environmental organizations.

Ian has significant international experience, having done volunteer work in India and Egypt, paid work in Israel and Norway, and a year-long bicycle expedition across South America. His desire to experience political realities has led him to troubled regions in Asia, such as Indian Kashmir, Pakistan, Afghanistan and the Palestinian territories, poverty-stricken areas from Bangladesh to Burkina Faso and politically resurgent countries like Bolivia and Venezuela. From his travels, Ian has learned Spanish, French and Norwegian, and a smattering of other languages from Arabic to Hindi.

Ian plans to enroll in political science and Danish at the University of Copenhagen. His career goal is to be a foreign service officer, or an administrator with a non-government organization.

Julian Weideman, Vancouver

Julian has been studying toward an honours degree in history at the University of British Columbia (UBC) since September 2006. In early 2007 Julian was accepted into the Trois-Pistoles French Immersion School's Explores Program offered through the University of Western Ontario.

At UBC, Julian has been actively involved in a variety of areas. He was part of the men's varsity field hockey team, has helped run orientations for international students and has played cello in the UBC symphony orchestra. In the community, he has volunteered for various events and activities, including folk festival and physical education programs.

Julian plans to study global affairs and history at the Sciences Po University in Paris, France. His goal is to become fluent in French while in Paris, and after his undergraduate degree go on to get a graduate degree and become an academic historian or journalist.