

2012 Outstanding Volunteer Awards List

Name	Reason for Nomination
Ullah Aziz	Ullah is receiving this award for his work with <i>Ahmadiyya Muslim Community Canada</i> . Ullah volunteers for the Muslim community by providing social, religious and educational services. He organizes meetings and classes for the uplift of members of the community. Ullah goes above and beyond by providing transportation to those in need and by assisting members in their search for employment.
Simon Bak	Simon is receiving this award for his work with <i>Just the Little Lights Relief Organization</i> . Simon's time, effort and dedication to the organization make a significant difference in the community. As Chairman, he has been actively involved in achieving the organization's mandate - going above and beyond expectations, even donating 30 pounds of his own clothing to needy families.
Enza Barbieri	Enza is receiving this award for her overall <i>participation in the community</i> . Enza knows no boundaries when it involves giving of her time and energy. She is currently the Chair of Walk to Cure Cancer, an organization which raises thousands of dollars for cancer care initiatives, and is also a co-founder of the Santafest in Maple Parade, which has been putting a smile on children's faces for the past 11 years.
Robert Barone	Robert is receiving this award for his work with <i>Human Endeavour</i> , specifically his support of the organization's economic development program. In 2012, Robert voluntarily delivered a free tax filing service for low income individuals and families in Vaughan. Robert is a role model in demonstrating that physical disabilities are not a factor when it comes to achieving personal goals or extending a helping hand to others in need.
Zarina Bharwani	Zarina is receiving this award for her work with <i>The Islamic Shia Ithna-Asheri Jama'at of Toronto (ISIJ)</i> . Zarina has served as Chair of the ISIJ, where she was able to keep the well-being of the organization at the forefront. Her fundraising services have helped move the organization forward, allowing for growth within the community, collaboration with people from all backgrounds and uniting and inspiring individuals.
Gina Cicchelli	Gina is receiving this award for her work with <i>Villa Colombo Vaughan</i> , where she volunteers two to three times each week facilitating the gift shop and leading the resident feeding program. Gina's interaction with the residents of Villa Colombo is always respectful and imparts a sense of tradition and culture. With her dedication and commitment, Gina is a truly remarkable and compassionate volunteer.
Geoffrey Cormack	Geoffrey is receiving this award for his work with <i>1st Maple Scouts</i> . As Group Commissioner, Geoffrey provides leadership to the group and does not hesitate to step in as a cub leader when the need arises. He enjoys the task of ensuring that the scouts are a well-functioning group having a memorable experience. He is truly a selfless individual who puts the happiness of others above his own.
Donna Cultraro	Donna is receiving this award for her work with <i>St. Joseph the Worker School</i> . Donna has served on the school's council for over 10 years and has run the lunch program for over 15 years. She assists in a variety of events that benefit the school's students, and continues to exemplify Catholic values in all that she does. Donna is always positive and eager to assist, putting the children's needs far above her own.
Jesse Amber D'Angelo	Jesse Amber is receiving this award for her work with <i>Roccamandolei Social Club</i> . She travels quite a distance to assist the social club and happily volunteers over 200 hours per year. Jesse Amber is a true role model and never refuses the opportunity to help out someone in need. She continuously promotes the importance of heritage and cultural values to youth members, making her an inspiration to those both young and old.

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Alurvina DeBlois	Alurvina is receiving this award for her work with the <i>Filipino-Canadian Association of Vaughan</i> . Alurvina voluntarily chairs the group's committee meetings and always keeps an eye out for possible new members who might benefit from the group. She is involved in the participation of all cultural events, such as Filipino Day. Alurvina is a true role model, as she successfully encourages both youth and senior groups to participate in the association's various cultural events.
Beth Diamond	Beth is receiving this award for her work with <i>Reena</i> , where she has volunteered on a weekly basis since 2010, devoting her time and energy in supporting the organization's Learning and Development Department. Beth is always focused on suggesting ways to improve performance to streamline productivity. Her continued efforts in recruiting volunteers stem from her belief that reducing staff costs will free up some additional funds to support those who benefit from Reena.
Sandro DiPede	Sandro is receiving this award for his work with the <i>Vaughan Soccer Club</i> , where he has served as both Secretary and Treasurer of the board. Sandro has a passion to help keep kids active through the spirit of soccer, and as a true role model he coaches rep soccer as well as volunteers his Sunday mornings to helping children with disabilities learn and play soccer.
Linda Douglas	Pastor Linda is receiving this award for her work with <i>The Olive Branch for Children</i> . As pastor of Zion Lutheran Church, Linda has facilitated support for the Zion Home for Orphans & Vulnerable and raised funds to provide food, medical care and education to those in need. In 2010, she travelled to Tanzania to assist with a home-based care program for 35 men and women affected by HIV and AIDS. Pastor Linda is a tireless, selfless woman who has donated hundreds of hours in support of The Olive Branch for Children - all that she accomplishes demonstrates her generous heart and loving spirit.
Shafiq Ebrahim	Shafiq is receiving this award for his <i>overall participation in the community</i> . Shafiq has been a volunteer Board Member at Mackenzie Health for six years. He is Treasurer and Chair of the Finance & Audit Committee as well as a past member of the Strategic Direction, Quality & Performance and Nominations Committees. Shafiq is also a Director on the Board for Special Olympics Ontario and has served as a member of the Heart & Stroke Foundation for over five years. Shafiq truly believes and embodies the spirit of generosity. Motivated by the will to serve and a desire to improve the quality of life for his community and beyond, he continually demonstrates the qualities of compassion, knowledge and leadership in all that he does.
Aloysius Esnard	Aloysius is receiving this award for his work with the <i>Thornhill African Caribbean Canadian Association</i> . Aloysius has been a long-standing member since the association was established in 2005. He works tirelessly on the social committee and currently acts as Committee Chair. Aloysius fosters goodwill with all and partakes in the support of the St. Lucian community by procuring donated health equipment for those areas of the island which require the most assistance. He is truly a remarkable community builder.
Mike Falcone	Mike is receiving this award for his work with <i>Immaculate Conception Parish</i> , where he has been involved since its inception over 25 years ago. Mike is at church every Sunday to welcome parishioners and helps to create an environment where everyone feels welcome. Mike has the gift of being able to communicate with a genuine warmth and joy. His spirit sets a wonderful example for the church.
Michael Federico	Michael is receiving this award for his work with <i>The Vitanova Foundation</i> . His work as a Deputy Police Chief of Toronto has given him a deep appreciation of the impact of substance abuse and its impact on families and society. Michael's dedication has kept him on the Board for 14 years and his service is a natural extension of his career as a community-minded police officer.

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Anna Fornasier	Anna is receiving this award for her work with <i>Maple Pioneer Italian Seniors Club</i> . Anna has volunteered with the club for over ten years and is always ready to offer help in any capacity. She has assisted with the group's bingo nights, two times a week for the past ten years. Anna has also supervised the club's bowling activities for the last five years. She provides tireless service and devotion to the club and its members.
Giuseppe Galifi	Giuseppe is receiving this award for his work with <i>Pine York Seniors Club</i> , in which he has been actively involved since 1985. He has served on the Board of Directors and assists with multiple seniors' activities within the club. Giuseppe has been helpful in the planning and implementation of events that benefit all the members. His dedication and active involvement exemplifies the spirit of community service.
Sara Giaconi-Bonaguro	Sara is receiving this award for her work with <i>Vaughan Cares</i> . Her constant enthusiasm has motivated the members to achieve more. She truly believes in the vision and wants to see and maintain environmental responsibility in the community. Sara is a great example of the initiative and cooperation required to be a great role model.
Josie Guinto	Josie is receiving this award for her work with <i>The Philippine Heritage Band</i> . She continues to inspire and encourage participation from youth through her dedication. Josie assists in all fundraising activities and youth development opportunities, going beyond the call of duty to organize and plan youth initiatives and entertaining communities through performances.
Joseph Gulizia	Joseph is receiving this award for his work with <i>Mackenzie Health Foundation</i> . As Chair of the Foundation, Joseph helped to increase revenue from \$50,000 to over \$130,000 annually through the Strides for Stroke 5 KM Run/Walk. Joseph also plays a role in funds raised for universal care which is typically upwards of \$85,000 annually. He gives freely of himself, his ideas and his energy. As a strong role model, Joseph leads the way and sets a great example for the community.
Steven Justein	Steven is receiving this award for his work with <i>Reena Foundation</i> . Steven sits on the Board of Directors and goes above and beyond his duties. Steven played a key role in initiating a bowling fundraiser that raised over \$50,000 for the charity. His efforts to provide much needed funding for programs helps Reena assist people with developmental disabilities on a daily basis. Steven gives his full effort to ensure that others succeed, and his assistance in helping out hundreds of families has not gone unnoticed.
Rebecca Kekes	Rebecca is receiving this award for her work with <i>Yellow Brick House</i> , where she has volunteered every Wednesday since July 2011. She thoughtfully volunteers her time to women in need who are re-building their lives. Rebecca is a certified nail technician who happily performs countless manicures and willingly extends her sincere friendship, helping increase the self esteem of women living at the House. Rebecca is a true leader in volunteerism.
Steve Kerwin	Steve is receiving this award for his work with <i>Vaughan in Motion</i> , where he has served as a Director on the Board for nine years. He plays a key role in the organization's golf tournaments and donates many volunteer hours. Steve is always in a great mood and is an inspiration for other volunteers as his energy and enthusiasm are always his strong suit.
Elizabeth Langenberger	Elizabeth is receiving this award for her work with <i>Woodbridge Garden & Horticultural Society</i> . She is an active member on the executive committee who has helped organize garden tours and the maintenance of park clean-ups. Elizabeth collects and distributes information to the society and its members. She is dedicated to completing the required research so that the executive committee can make informed decisions.

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Vicky Young-Ok Lee	Vicky Yong-Ok is receiving this award for her work with the <i>Korean-Canadian Alliance</i> . As a Director on the board, Vicky Yong-Ok always participates in maintaining a pro-active environment. She assists in supporting the political, economical, cultural and educational well-being of Korean-Canadians. She is always willing to put forth the time and effort required to achieve the organization's goals.
Teresa Lentini	Teresa is receiving this award for her work with <i>Pine Grove Lodge</i> , where she assists with a weekly mass, leads a prayer group, and encourages residents to join in. Teresa does not hesitate to jump into a situation where help is required and typically assists in ushering residents back to their rooms after a gathering.
Vincenza Lio	Vincenza is receiving this award for her work with <i>Historic Wallace House</i> . She has donated endless hours to community groups and their involvement with this historic facility. Vincenza is a Director who also hosts knitting and quilting gatherings for the ladies. Above all this, she also finds the time to attend weekly and monthly meetings.
Alexandra Mandarin	Alexandra is receiving this award for her work with <i>Emily Carr Secondary School</i> . She has devoted numerous hours to her school through the Student Council, Drama Council, Jazz Choir and helping with fundraising events. Alexandra demonstrates excellence in all she is committed to. She always supports her peers and displays maturity beyond her years.
Dale McCleave	Lion Dale is receiving this award for his work with <i>Maple Lion's Club</i> , where he has dedicated countless hours in planning, organizing and executing events and activities. He began a new e-waste recycle program which has reached out to more than 60 clubs and is going province-wide this spring. Lion Dale is always thinks outside of the box as he finds non-traditional ways to encourage fundraising for the club.
Marcia Meyer	Marcia is receiving this award for her work with <i>Hospice Thornhill</i> . Marcia has served as a Board member and is an in-home client support volunteer helping with many events and fundraisers. She has changed many lives for the positive and is always willing to assist someone living with a life-threatening illness. Marcia is a role model who always gives without the need to rescue.
Rockson Ogor	Rockson is receiving this award for his work with the <i>Woodbridge Basketball Association</i> . Rockson spends the little spare time he has assisting the association in various ways, from website editing to creating programs which encourage families to engage in physical fitness. As a passionate volunteer, Rockson is a great role model with an inherent drive to always give back.
Jennifer Paiva	Jennifer is receiving this award for her work with <i>St. Gregory the Great Catholic Academy</i> , where she has been an active volunteer for six years, assisting with reading buddies, book fair, fundraising initiatives, hot lunches, spirit events and the chess club. While on Catholic School Council, Jennifer chaired the fundraising committee and successfully ran a Halloween fundraiser and dance-a-thon. Those funds benefited the overall educational experience of all students at St. Gregory the Great. No task is too small or challenging for Jennifer. Jennifer is a true community role model. Her intentions are honest, selfless and generous and she always puts the need of all St. Gregory students first.
Peter Pang	Peter is receiving this award for his work with the <i>York Central Chinese Association</i> , where he volunteers over six hours per week, helping out in classes, registration, dance leading, equipment set up and site management. Peter continuously assists with fundraising events for the association and a number of other organizations as well. He cultivates a positive environment in which he is always willing to help others in a variety of situations.

Name	Reason for Nomination
Alex Visal Peav	Alex Visal is receiving this award for his work with <i>Khmer Buddhist Temple of Ontario</i> . He is a high school student who has been involved with the Khmer community since he was seven years old. Alex Visal assists the temple by volunteering to perform traditional dances, reciting Cambodian poetry and chanting Buddhist mantra. No task is too small for Alex Visal, and he does not hesitate to help out with the maintenance of the temple's property through lawn mowing.
Daniel Peel	Daniel is receiving this award for his work with <i>Father Bressani Catholic High School</i> , where he guides and directs his fellow students on a daily basis. As President of the Drama Council, Daniel is integral to many school play performances and as a consistent member of the school's student government, he has participated in the 2012 regional Leadership Links Conference as the team spirit leader. His dedication also includes the giving of 633 hours of his personal time to his local parish over the past three years. He believes in the word of God as a way to reach out to those around him and he never refuses to help.
Giuseppe Polisano	Giuseppe is receiving this award for his work with the <i>Knights of Columbus- Father Luigi Monti Council No.13164</i> . Giuseppe has been involved with the group for the past ten years and donates hours of his time to both youth and seniors in the community. He always is able to make an important impact through assisting with food banks and various fundraisers. Giuseppe inspires upcoming volunteers to give all they can to those in need.
Michael Pozzulo	Michael is receiving this award for his work with <i>Glen Shields Futbol Club</i> , where he is a member of the Board of Directors. He is serving his sixth year in this position and has been with the club for ten years. Most recently, Michael played a large role in helping the Glen Shields Futbol Club secure a turf field in partnership with the City of Vaughan. Michael spent countless hours in meetings speaking of behalf of the club and lobbying support in order to see the club's dream of a turf field made a reality.
Jeremy Rakowsky	Jeremy is receiving this award for his work with <i>Neshamah Congregation of York Region</i> . Jeremy volunteers countless hours from negotiating contracts to physically moving around chairs and equipment for programs. Jeremy is the founding president who has worked towards having this congregation deemed a "charity". Jeremy helps to strengthen the community for the next generation.
Jeff Rands	Jeff is receiving this award for his work with <i>Million Dollar Smiles</i> . He has helped to build 20 playgrounds over the past few years and is one of the most valuable volunteers at Million Dollar Smiles. Jeff commits over 20 hours a week and is willing to travel all over Vaughan and the GTA to ensure work gets completed correctly. He always goes above and beyond, forming that friendly relationship and extending assistance to the families he meets.
Anthony Ricciuto	Anthony is receiving this award for his work with <i>Vaughan in Action Community Program Inc.</i> where he has dedicated much time and energy since 2011 to assist program participants with special needs. As a youth himself, Anthony is able to connect well with those in the program and because of this, individuals feel comfortable with his presence. Anthony always shows compassion and respect to those with special needs and clearly displays the act of selflessness to everyone he encounters.
Paolo Rinaldi	Paolo is receiving this award for his work with <i>Sara Elizabeth Centre - a Blue Veil Charity</i> . He has volunteered for the past seven years in many areas including youth camp counsellor and contributing to the organization by helping out with his graphic design skills. During his time volunteering, Paolo has developed a board game which was able to engage all the campers regardless of their abilities. He also took the time to create a new logo and had t-shirts made for all the campers to enjoy. Paolo's eagerness helps to encourage others to do the same, and this makes him the ideal role model.

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Shayna Rips	Shayna is receiving this award for her work with <i>The Friendship Circle</i> . She has contributed many hours over the past three years and is always ready to help out and also recruit other teens to take part. Shayna shadows a young boy with Down Syndrome each Sunday morning for two hours. She also helps out a teen boy with Aspergers. Her kindness attracts both children and staff, and her willingness to always assist makes her an ideal role model for youth.
Ana-Lisa Rossi	Ana-Lisa is receiving this award for her work with <i>Circle of Friends- Butterfly Kisses</i> . Ana-Lisa is an active committee member who gives numerous volunteer hours to ensure the organization's success. She has helped to raise funds for Hospice Vaughan and the Vaughan Hospital. Ana-Lisa is a person who goes above and beyond because she loves helping others and is an ideal role model.
Mirto Rui	Mirto is receiving this award for his work with the <i>Seniors Association of Vaughan Initiative</i> . Mirto donates his time organizing and implementing all card and bocce tournaments for seniors. He takes it upon himself to visit each and every club to ensure participation in these tournaments. Mirto fully executes these tournaments through planning, creating charts and ordering trophies. Mirto exhibits true dedication and a willingness to complete a job well.
Mike Saraceni	Mike is receiving this award for his work with <i>West Woodbridge Senior's Club</i> . Mike has been the club's President for the past 11 years, volunteering seven days a week, 365 days a year. He is responsible for running countless programs, and always goes above and beyond the call of duty. He is constantly looking to improve the club and always trying to secure donations which might benefit the senior members.
Joan Sax	Joan is receiving this award for her work with <i>Opera York</i> . As co-founder of Opera York, Joan serves on the fundraising and volunteer committees. She has volunteered countless hours and has raised 90% of the funds Opera York has received to help support emerging talent and provide culture to the community. Joan is a true supporter of the arts, also assisting with other initiatives outside and beyond this organization.
Susanne Sergi	Susanne is receiving this award for her work with <i>San Marco Catholic Elementary School</i> . Susanne is a lead in organizing fundraisers, hot lunches and Christmas activities. She always considers the safety of the children and holds their best interest first. Susanne has taken a lead role in the future plans for improvement of the school and truly believes that "It is in giving that we receive."
Karyn Sheffe	Karyn is receiving this award for her work with <i>Imagine a cure for Leukemia</i> . Karyn volunteered for a Camp Imagine event where she managed more than 50 volunteers, aged 8 to 45 years. Karyn took on a leadership role on her own and was extremely effective and organized. She always goes above and beyond what is expected and has played an integral part in the success of this event where \$18,200 was raised for Leukemia research.
Klaudiusz Stoklosa	Klaudiusz is receiving this award for his work with <i>St. David's Roman Catholic Parish in Maple</i> . He has provided faithful service for many years as a reader at Sunday mass. He inspires young people to be active and involved in the community, helps with seniors, and has also helped sponsor a family in Poland. Klaudiusz fulfills his volunteer services with generosity and joy.
Anna Storino	Anna is receiving this award for her work with <i>The Maple Health Centre</i> , where she volunteers over 10 hours per week in the centre's "Corner Store". Anna requires aids to overcome a personal disability. She does not allow this to set her back and instead Anna volunteers with capability and competence.
Florentina Teoderascu	Florentina is receiving this award for her work with <i>Mackenzie Health Volunteer Association</i> . She began as a volunteer when she was in grade 10 and has since graduated from university and is pursuing a medical degree. Florentina has assisted in many areas of the hospital and has helped to orchestrate the organization's food fair. She is well respected by her peers and brings enthusiasm and skills to the hospital.

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Lina Tolone	Lina is receiving this award for her work with <i>Sonoma Heights Senior Club</i> , where she helps to plan events such as: trips, bingo nights, dinner dances and much more. Lina always goes above and beyond in making sure everything has been planned out properly and that everyone is treated equally. She has patience and is always trying to understand people's different needs in order to help in the best possible way.
Rene Wan	Rene is receiving this award for his work with <i>First Chinese Seniors Association of Vaughan</i> - he has been with the organization since 2010. Rene is retired and dedicates all his spare time to the club. He has a strong background in science and technology and uses his knowledge to introduce new skills and activities to the seniors in the organization. Rene is a true role model for retired seniors and demonstrates that retirement can be a new and exciting time in one's life where people can still serve the community in various ways.
Dena Yanover	Dena is receiving this award for her work with <i>Gallanough Resource Centre</i> , where she has volunteered for over three years, happily giving many hours of her own time. Dena has been invaluable in assisting with library services and the Gallanough Book Club. The organization is dependent on the goodwill of hard working and dedicated individuals such as Dena.
Hyun-sook You	Hyun-sook is receiving this award for her work with the <i>Korean Community Centre for Multiculturalism</i> . Hyun-sook has been with the organization since 1999 and has become invaluable to the team. She is skilled at developing and implementing programs for the education of youth through offering resources such as heritage language and arts and crafts. Hyun-sook is a leader in initiating programs that reach out and create good relationships within the Korean community and beyond.