

# Youth Award of Merit

## *David Qiao*

*The 2022 Youth Award of Merit goes to David Qiao. At 15 years old, David already stands out in the community for his many accomplishments.*

*David is eager to help others and create positive change. He has tutored fellow students at school, served as student council president, and volunteered as a teaching assistant for the Chinese Heritage Language Learning program. He volunteers with the Royal Canadian Air Cadets at community events such as the Black Gold Rodeo and Blackjacks Christmas Dinner.*

*David found his true niche in public speaking and debate, winning numerous awards both on school teams and individually. In 2023 he placed third in the University of Alberta Debate Society's Sir Winston Churchill Speech and Debate tournament. He competed on the first-place senior writing team for the 2023 World's Scholars Cup, representing Canada on the world stage.*

*As vice-president of the Global Youth Philanthropy (GYP) Debate and Speech Club, David hosts debate classes featuring students from all over the world. He's interviewed several local members of government, including City of Leduc Mayor Bob Young and Edmonton city councillor Jennifer Rice. He received GYP's international student volunteer award for 2022-23.*

*Through hard work and dedication, David already exemplifies the positive change he is striving to create.*