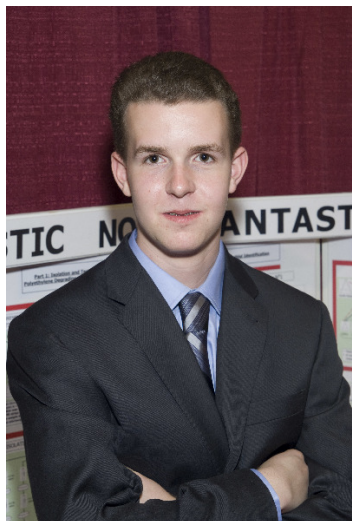


CWSF 2008 - Ottawa, Ontario



Daniel Burd

Plastic Not Fantastic

Division: Biotechnology / Environmental Innovation

Category: Senior

Region: Waterloo-Wellington

City: Waterloo, ON

School: Waterloo Collegiate Institute

Abstract: Plastic bags, made from polyethylene, are very popular in our daily lives and have a harsh environmental impact on our ecosystems. Two microbial strains belonging to the genus *Sphingomonas* and *Pseudomonas* were isolated from a soil microbial consortium and their ability to degrade polyethylene was investigated.

Biography

My name is Daniel Burd, a grade 11 student at Waterloo Collegiate Institute. I performed my first "science" experiment involving planting and observing growth of different types of tomato seeds on the balcony of our apartment in Waterloo eleven years ago. Since that time, the ideas and concepts behind the way things work have constantly aroused my interest and have posed numerous questions for me to consider. At school, I am on ABCD Student Council, Charity Controller, Environment club, a peer tutor, and Norse Star newspaper. When I was five years old, I started to play the piano and I have completed my grade 8 piano and grade 2 rudiments at the RCM. Currently, I am learning improvisation and jazz. My jazz music role model is Oscar Peterson. I am a member of Nordic Skiing club, ROW swimming club and Waterloo Tennis Club where I am training for tournaments. I am a volunteer at K-W Science and Technology Children's Museum. I help organize heritage events in K-W area and I run a charity dog-walking business in my neighborhood for people with disabilities. I fluently speak English, French and Russian and I enjoy spending free time with my friends.

Awards

Value

Awards	Value
The Manning Innovation Achievement Award Sponsor: Ernest C. Manning Awards Foundation	\$500
Dalhousie University Faculty of Science Entrance Scholarship Senior Gold Medallist - \$4000 Entrance Scholarship Sponsor: Dalhousie University, Faculty of Science	\$4 000
NSERC Undergraduate Student Research Award - Senior Gold Medallist Sponsor: Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC)	\$5 625
UBC Science (Vancouver) Entrance Award Senior Gold Medallist - \$4000 Entrance Scholarship Sponsor: The University of British Columbia (Vancouver)	\$4 000
The University of Western Ontario Scholarship Gold Medallist - \$2000 Entrance Scholarship Sponsor: University of Western Ontario	\$2 000
The University of Western Ontario Scholarship Silver Medallist - \$1500 Entrance Scholarship Sponsor: University of Western Ontario	\$1 500
University of Ottawa Entrance Scholarship Senior Gold Medallist - \$20,000 Entrance Scholarship (\$5,000 each year for 4 years) Sponsor: University of Ottawa	\$20 000
University of Ottawa Entrance Scholarship Senior Silver Medallist - \$3000 Entrance Scholarship Sponsor: University of Ottawa	\$3 000
Silver Medal - Environmental Innovation - Senior Sponsor: EnviroExpo, Presented by VIA Rail Canada	\$700
Gold Medal - Biotechnology & Pharmaceutical Sciences - Senior Sponsor: Rx&D Health Research Foundation	\$1 500
EnCana Platinum Award - Best Senior Project Sponsor: Encana Corporation	\$5 000
EnCana Best in Fair Award Sponsor: Encana Corporation	\$10 000
Total	\$57 825