

# CWSF 2008 - Ottawa, Ontario



## Justine Tarini

### Plant Coma: A New Tool For Forensic Scientists

**Division:** Physical & Mathematical Sciences / None

**Category:** Senior

**Region:** Sudbury

**City:** Sudbury, ON

**School:** Lockerby Composite

**Abstract:** This project was a study of plant coma - found in the dandelion family in order to determine if there are specific microscopic characteristics unique to the species. This could help link a suspect to a crime scene, or determine the original crime scene. In conclusion, I discovered that I could create two dichotomous keys from their unique characteristics.

#### Biography

My name is Justine Tarini and I am 17 years old. I was born in Sudbury, Ontario and I have been attending Lockerby Composite School for the past 3.5 years. I have been playing the piano for 12 years, dancing at Claire's school of dance for the past 3 years, working at Deluxe 17 Drive In for 2 years and playing the French Horn in the Lockerby Music Program for 4 years. I have been working with the music programs Music Council for 2 years as well as the music programs Band Yearbook for the past year. I volunteer at the Sudbury Regional Hospital during the summer months, which is something that I really enjoy doing. Next year, I will be attending Nipissing University in order to get a BSc in biology and eventually get a master and perhaps a PhD in biology. I am still indecisive on what career path I would like to go, but I believe I will eventually get a job with the Ministry of Natural Resources.

#### Awards

#### Value

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| Dalhousie University Faculty of Science Entrance Scholarship<br>Senior Silver Medallist - \$2000 Entrance Scholarship<br>Sponsor: Dalhousie University, Faculty of Science | \$2 000        |
| UBC Science (Vancouver) Entrance Award<br>Senior Silver Medallist - \$2000 Entrance Scholarship<br>Sponsor: The University of British Columbia (Vancouver)                 | \$2 000        |
| The University of Western Ontario Scholarship<br>Silver Medallist - \$1500 Entrance Scholarship<br>Sponsor: University of Western Ontario                                  | \$1 500        |
| University of Ottawa Entrance Scholarship<br>Senior Silver Medallist - \$3000 Entrance Scholarship<br>Sponsor: University of Ottawa  | \$3 000        |
| Silver Medal - Life Sciences - Senior<br>Sponsor: Pfizer Canada  | \$700          |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>\$9 200</b> |