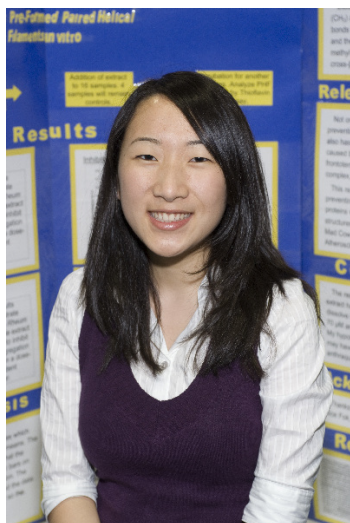


CWSF 2009 - Winnipeg, Manitoba



Linda Liu

Rhubarb to the Rescue!

Division: Life Sciences / None

Category: Senior

Region: Greater Vancouver

City: Surrey, BC

School: Sands Secondary

Abstract: Alzheimer's disease can be caused by the misfolding (aggregation) of tau proteins. Inspiration from Traditional Indian Medicine and Western research led to the testing of rhubarb extract on tau proteins to investigate whether the extract would inhibit aggregation and dissolve pre-formed aggregates. The data demonstrated that the extract prevented aggregation and dissolved aggregates, most likely as a result of compounds such as anthraquinones and tannins.

Biography

I am a grade 12 student at Sands Secondary School and the Greater Vancouver Regional Representative for SMARTS. I am passionate about science and humanitarianism and plan to pursue a career that combines these two areas. I am heavily involved in the international development community as a director of Youth Ending Poverty, a Youth Education Ambassador for the United Nations Association of Canada, co-founder of Translate This! Productions (an organization that plans benefit concerts for non-profits such as the Stephen Lewis Foundation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Covenant House in Vancouver), and president/founder of the Sands Secondary Global Issues/Environmental Club. My science background includes participation in the Heart and Stroke Foundation's Summer Research Program and the "Gene Researcher for a Week" program as well as participation in the Sanofi-Aventis Biotalent Challenge in 2008 and 2009.

Awards

Value

The Manning Innovation Achievement Award Sponsor: Ernest C. Manning Awards Foundation	\$500
The University of Western Ontario Scholarship Bronze Medallist - \$1000 Entrance Scholarship Sponsor: University of Western Ontario	\$1 000
University of Ottawa Entrance Scholarship Senior Bronze Medallist - \$1000 Entrance Scholarship Sponsor: University of Ottawa	\$1 000
Bronze Medal - Health Sciences - Senior Sponsor: Canadian Institutes of Health Research	\$300
Total	\$2 800