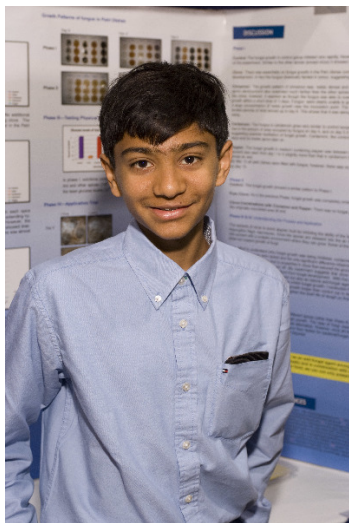


# CWSF 2010 - Peterborough, Ontario



## Indranil Balki

### More Than Mere Taste

**Division:** Life Sciences

**Category:** Junior

**Region:** Peel

**City:** Mississauga, ON

**School:** Tomken Road Senior P.S.

**Abstract:** "More than mere taste" was an effort to investigate the ability of spices, namely clove, cardamom, cinnamon and pepper to inhibit fungal growth (individually and in combinations). I found that clove significantly inhibited fungal growth and hence has a potential to be used as a natural preservative/antifungal agent in foods to lengthen their shelf life and incidentally add taste too.

### Biography

My first "Outstanding Achievement award", a golden apple, which I received in Dixon Grove elementary school, Toronto, while I was in Junior Kindergarten, was indeed a great inspiration and has been my first force of motivation to be competitive in life.

Eventually, I developed an extensive interest in mental math and completed 10-levels of a UCMAS mental arithmetic program during which time I won three national level medals, including championship once. I have recently volunteered at the UCMAS institute to teach students and assist teachers. My quest for knowledge in the field of science and maths was further fuelled in Tomken Road's Sci-Tech program, which provided me with an opportunity to represent my school at several Skills Canada competitions wherein I was honoured with "Stellar" awards for Animation and Health & Safety for two consecutive years. Meanwhile, I have developed hobbies such as swimming, tennis, soccer, skating, chess, horse riding, and watching movies. Playing piano and reading novels has been my passion as well. I am intrigued by the potential of health sciences to benefit society in many ways and wish to contribute my little bit by pursuing a career as a medical doctor.

### Awards

### Value

|   |         |
|---|---------|
| The University of Western Ontario Scholarship<br>Gold Medallist - \$4000 Entrance Scholarship<br>Sponsor: University of Western Ontario | \$4 000 |
| Gold Medal - Life Sciences - Junior<br>Sponsor: Pfizer Canada   | \$1 500 |
| Total   | \$5 500 |