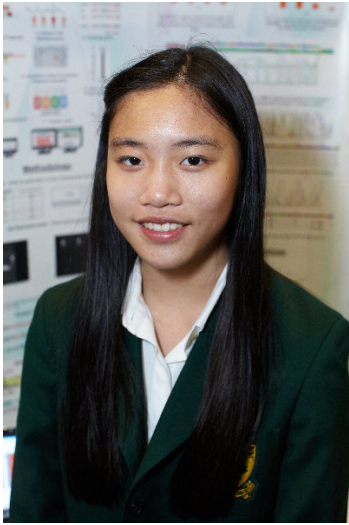


CWSF 2012 - Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island



Kayla Lee

Fish Egg-xaggeration? FINS and the Cytochrome "B"arcode

Challenge: Resources

Category: Senior

Region: Greater Vancouver

City: Vancouver, BC

School: York House School

Abstract: The journey from hook to dinner plate is sometimes ambiguous; the true fish identity can sometimes be masked along the supplier chain. The purpose of my project is to investigate the accuracy of food labeling in sushi fish eggs using DNA sequencing. I was successfully able to sequence the cytochrome b gene to see if smelt eggs were substituted for flying fish eggs.

Biography

Before conducting my experiment, I had never questioned the accuracy of food labelling in supermarkets or restaurants. It never occurred to me that filets labeled as "tuna" could be health hazardous or even an endangered species. After doing research, I was inspired to raise awareness around potential substitution for food items that people would not expect/suspect. To further investigate my project, I would conduct more trials to confirm my results. For students who are considering completing a science project, they should identify a day-to-day problem to solve, in order to have real life applications. Besides working on my science project outside of school, I also enjoy various styles of dance such as jazz, lyrical and contemporary. Another hobby of mine is musical theatre, which I have been involved in for the past 3 summers. I have completed several RCM levels in piano and play the flute in my school's concert band. In my spare time, I enjoy being involved in the community through various service events and youth organizations such as "youth parliament". After high school, I plan on attending university and studying different fields of science.

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