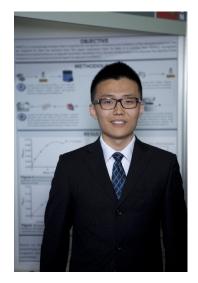




## CWSF 2013 - Lethbridge, Alberta



## Biography

Growing up, I have had a strong passion towards the biological sciences. Ever since the age of 5, I have wanted to pursue a medical profession. In Grade 10, I competed in the National Brain Bee - a competitive neuroscience competition - hosted at McMaster University. From the first science fair I ever did in Grade 7 (a study on human stress) to my Grade 11 project (studying the neuroprotective efficacy of a herbal drug), I have truly appreciated the sophistication and absolute beauty that the world of science entails. In the summer of my Grade 11 year, I was fortunate enough to work in the Bowdish lab at McMaster University as a student researcher. This experience led to my current project and has introduced me to the field of immunology. To students who wish to enter a science fair - regardless of topic - it should be done with no hesitation. From my experience (and the experience of others), entering these competitions is not for the great prizes but for the amazing and invaluable lessons one will learn. Without a doubt, every student who has a strand of curiosity for science should pursue a project.

## **Jason Fan**

Saving the World - One Ligand at a Time: Novel Streptococcus pneumoniae Ligand

Challenge: Discovery
Category: Senior
Region: Bay Area
City: Hamilton, ON
School: Westdale S.S.

Abstract: Streptococcus pneumoniae kills millions of individuals each year. Combated

by macrophages, surface protein receptors such as macrophage receptor with collagenous domain (MARCO) bind to ligands present on the bacteria. The purpose of this project was to elucidate the identity of such binding partner to MARCO via pneumococcal purification and NF-kB luciferase assays. The results suggest a non-protein ligand as a potential MARCO

binding partner.

Awards	Value
Excellence Award - Senior - Silver Medal	\$300
Sponsor: Youth Science Canada	
Dalhousie University Faculty of Science Entrance Scholarship	\$2 500
Senior Silver Medallist - \$2500 Entrance Scholarship	
Sponsor: Dalhousie University, Faculty of Science	
UBC Science (Vancouver) Entrance Award	\$2 000
Senior Silver Medallist - \$2000 Entrance Scholarship	
Sponsor: The University of British Columbia (Vancouver)	
University of Ottawa Entrance Scholarship	\$2 000
Senior Silver Medallist - \$2000 Entrance Scholarship	
Sponsor: University of Ottawa	
Western University Scholarship	\$2 000
Silver Medallist - \$2000 Entrance Scholarship	
Sponsor: Western University	
Total	\$8 800



