

# CWSF 2016 - Montreal, Quebec



## Harishitaa Prithiviraj

### Aromatherapy Delays Progression of Neurodegenerative Diseases

**Challenge:** Health

**Category:** Senior

**Region:** Chignecto West

**City:** Truro, NS

**School:** Cobequid Educational Centre

**Abstract:** Neuro-degenerative diseases like Alzheimer's disease and Parkinson's disease have become a major concern in recent years. While number of people affected is increasing at epidemic proportion cure for these diseases is still elusive. In this project volatile aroma compounds were tested to reduce or delay the progression of these diseases using *Caenorhabditis elegans* surrogate model, Chemical components of balsam fir needle oil showed promising results.

#### Biography

My name is Harishitaa Prithiviraj. I'm 17 years old and go to CEC, Truro, Nova Scotia. I am a grade eleven student in the IB program. I play piano, soccer, badminton, and guitar and like singing and dancing. I have competed in science fair since grade 4. In the 2012 Canada Wide Science Fair I won gold and in 2013 I received the Platinum award in Junior category. I was the recipient of 2013 Nova Scotia Youth Award for Science and Technology. I volunteer at the local hospital and the youth representative of regional chapter of Relay for life. Recently I started after school science program for elementary school kids. When I grow up, I would like to become a pediatrician and a researcher. For students who want to do a science project, do something you are interested and something from which you can learn.

#### Awards

#### Value

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