

# CWSF 2016 - Montreal, Quebec



## Ashleigh Larissa Brady, Reagan Alexandra Lawton

### Company in the Shower

**Challenge:** Discovery

**Category:** Senior

**Region:** North Bay

**City:** North Bay, ON

**School:** Widdifield Secondary

**Abstract:** *Serratia marcescens*, bacteria commonly found in the shower, were subjected to various temperatures to influence the production of prodigiosin. Prodigiosin is a red pigment which protects bacteria from excessive UV rays and fungi attack. The control of pigment production could lead to use as a therapeutic drug in innovative cancer treatments.

### Biographies

**Ashleigh Larissa - Ashleigh Brady** is a Grade 12 student at Widdifield Secondary School in North Bay, Ontario. She enjoys biology and chemistry and plans on pursuing a career in the field of biochemistry. The inspiration for her science project came from an interest in gene expression. Her teacher was able to provide a sample of bacteria with which Ashleigh and her partner could experiment. Learning the techniques of growing bacteria has piqued her interest and confirmed her decision to pursue post-secondary studies in science. Ashleigh plays the clarinet in her senior high school band, swims on the school swim team, is an assistant editor of her school newspaper...

**Reagan Alexandra - My name is Reagan Lawton.** I am currently a grade 12 student at Widdifield Secondary School in North Bay. I began at Widdifield in 2013, for grade 11. After completing that school year, I did a 10 month exchange to Ecuador. During my exchange I picked up Spanish, grew in confidence, and most importantly, lived in and learned about a whole new culture. After 10 months away from home, I came back to North Bay for my last year of high school. At Widdifield, my favourite subject is biology. My biology teacher was the one who introduced my partner and me to the idea of using *Serratia marcescens* in our science fair project. Working with the bacteria...

### Awards

### Value

|   |                |
|---|----------------|
| Excellence Award - Senior - Bronze Medal<br>Sponsor: Youth Science Canada   |                |
| University of Ottawa Entrance Scholarship<br>Senior Bronze Medallist - \$1000 Entrance Scholarship<br>Sponsor: University of Ottawa | \$1 000        |
| Western University Scholarship<br>Bronze Medallist - \$1000 Entrance Scholarship<br>Sponsor: Western University                     | \$1 000        |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>\$2 000</b> |