

## Westmount Charter Alumna receives \$48,000 scholarship from Canada's #1 university

Calgary's Christina Free is the recipient of a Bell Scholarship at New Brunswick's Mount Allison University — the #1 undergraduate university in Canada (*Maclean's* 2008). The entrance award, with a total value of \$48,000 over four years (\$12,000 annually), is the University's most prestigious scholarship.

Christina, a graduate of Westmount Charter School, is studying arts with plans to major in philosophy. She plans to pursue a career as a university professor or a corporate advisor. And she's pleased she chose Mount Allison for this first step. "The main reason I wanted to attend Mount Allison was because of its great reputation, both in Canada and internationally. This was very important to me as I am looking toward continuing my education as far as the graduate level. The small class sizes were also very appealing."



It's not all books for Christina though. In Calgary, she founded VITAL — a charity group that supports nutrition programs for war-affected students in Sierra Leone. She also organized a gala fund raiser that raised \$10,000 for a school to start a hot lunch program in Koromansilia, Sierra Leone. At Mount Allison Christina writes for the *Argosy*, Mount Allison's independent student newspaper, is a member of the Rights and Democracy delegation, and volunteers as a gymnastics coach for Windsor Gymnastics in Sackville. Christina is a multi-talented musician, playing piano, violin, and singing and has also been involved with GlobalVision, PeaceJam, and worked as a campus counsellor and ESL tutor in Calgary.

Although the first in her family to attend Mount Allison, Christina certainly doesn't think she'll be the last. She says, "Mount Allison is one of the most beautiful universities I have ever seen in Canada! My classes are interesting and the professors are involved. What I found amazing was that on the first paper I got back, there was so much constructive criticism and so many comments! On that one short essay, I received so much helpful feedback."

*Christina is the daughter of Tim and Diana Free of Calgary.*

*About the Bell Scholarships and Achievement Awards at Mount Allison University*

The Bell Scholarships and Bell Achievement Awards are awarded annually to first-year students at Mount Allison University, celebrating students who have demonstrated strong academic ability, leadership potential, good citizenship, and who have shown commitment to volunteer work, extracurricular activities, and work experience. Both funded generously by the Bell family, the scholarships are valued at \$12,000 annually while the achievement awards are \$9,000 annually.

The Bell Scholarships and Achievement Awards were established in memory of the Bell Family and their significant contributions to Mount Allison University. Dr. Ralph Pickard Bell, named the first Chancellor of Mount Allison University in 1960, graduated from the institution in 1907 with a Bachelor of Arts degree and received a Degree of Doctor of Civil Law (Honoris Causa) from Mount A in 1944. Marjorie Young Bell, wife of Dr. R. P. Bell, received an Honorary Doctorate of Laws from Mount Allison in 1958 while Dr. Winthrop Bell, Ralph's brother, graduated in 1904 with a Bachelor of Arts degree (Honours in Mathematics) before pursuing further study at McGill, Cornell, Harvard, Cambridge, and Göttingen.

*About Mount Allison University*

Ranked the #1 Undergraduate University by *Maclean's* Magazine and receiving several As in this year's *Globe and Mail* University Report Card, Mount Allison University has always been highly regarded for its unique approach to learning and its commitment to the total development of its students. The University has also produced 47 Rhodes Scholars — the latest being Dara MacDonald '08 of Halifax. Because of its small size, location within a small community, and residential nature, Mount Allison offers a broad range of social, cultural, athletic, and academic opportunities and areas for active involvement. These influences help shape our students as future leaders, many of whom have gone on to top positions, around the world, in a multitude of fields ([www.mta.ca](http://www.mta.ca)).

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