

### **INTERNATIONAL STUDENT WINS PRESTIGIOUS AWARD (May 4, 2005)**

A grade 12 international student at Dr. Charles Best Secondary has been awarded a “UBC International Leader of Tomorrow” Award.



Ling-Yi Chen is one of just over 20 students from around the world offered one of the University’s prestigious international scholarships. The awards range in value from \$14,000 to \$34,000 CAD, and are pegged to the deferential tuition fees international students pay and a student’s level of financial need.

Ling-Yi will enter UBC’s Faculty of Science this fall with an award of \$20,200 which is renewable for another three years for a maximum of four years. All winners are also given an additional one-time grant of \$2,500 to help defray first year costs and the transition to UBC.

“We are so proud of Ling-Yi,” said International Program Coordinator/Teacher Jean Wong. “She is an exceptional young lady who plans to become a scientist in the future”.

Ling-Yi is from Taiwan and has been a student at Dr. Charles Best for two-and-a-half years. Ranked as one of the top students in her class, Ling-Yi impressed the UBC International Awards Selection Committee with her breadth of interests, not just in math and science subjects, but also music. She plays the cello and is currently first chair in the Vancouver Youth Symphony Orchestra. She has also volunteered throughout the community in several capacities. The Committee was also struck by her clearly focused goals in her goal to pursue a career in biomedical research.

UBC’s Selection Committee reviewed a total of 163 completed nominations from schools around the world. It proved a challenging task to choose winners from among so many outstanding students who provided clear evidence of high

academic achievement, leadership potential, active involvement in their communities and extra curricular activities, as well as significant financial need.

In total, UBC made offers to 22 international students from 16 different countries. Of the 19 students who accepted, 16 are from secondary schools and three are college transfer students from B.C. colleges or universities.

Ling-Yi is quick to credit others for her accomplishments so far. "I've been so lucky to have supportive parents, teachers and friends. They have changed my life, and I'm hoping in turn to change the lives of others".

Patricia Gartland, District Principal of Coquitlam School District's International Education Program welcomed the news of Ling-Yi's accomplishment.

"UBC has already recognized our school district as their leading source of international students. This is another example of an outstanding achievement by a student who adds much to her school and her community. Congratulations to Ling-Yi and the staff of Dr. Charles Best for this accomplishment".

**Editors:** *For more information, contact Jean Wong at Charles Best Secondary at 604-461-5581.*

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