

Two local students receive scholarships for academic perseverance

Montreal, Quebec, February 22, 2018 – On February 20, Caisse Centre-est de Montréal and Educaid, a non-profit organization that provides financial assistance to students, awarded \$500 scholarships to two students at John F. Kennedy High School. The money empowers students to persevere and get their high school diploma.

Since 2002, Educaid has been giving scholarships to underprivileged students to encourage them to stay in school. The organization awards \$500 to students in secondary 3. Recipients who demonstrate the will and determination to complete their high school studies can have their scholarship renewed every year until they receive their diploma. This scholarship program is made possible today by Educaid's partnership with the [Desjardins Foundation](#).

"We want to provide equal opportunity to as many students as possible so they can pursue their studies and reach their full potential," said Tina Fournier Ouellet, General Manager of Educaid. "We sometimes overlook the challenges some of these teens are facing. This can be the financial boost that helps them reach new heights and achieve the life they want," she adds.

"This scholarship can make all the difference to these students. If we encourage them to persevere, it may very well be the push they need. If we show a student who's struggling that we believe in them, they will start to believe in themselves," said Nancy Lee, Manager of the Desjardins Foundation.



Front row (left to right): Nathalie Charland, Manager, Human Resources and Communications; the two Educaid scholarship recipients; and Marcella De Piano, board member of Caisse du Centre-est de Montréal.
Back row (left to right): Ostis Delaney, Principal; and members of the school staff.

ABOUT EDUCAID

Founded in 2002, Educaid is a non-profit organization established to help underprivileged students by providing scholarships to encourage them to stay in school. Since its inception, Educaid has given \$1.8 million to 1,500 students in schools across Quebec. Graduation rates for Educaid scholarship recipients is 89%. For more information, visit www.educaid.ca/en | facebook.com/fondseducaide.

ABOUT THE DESJARDINS FOUNDATION

Established in 1970, the [Desjardins Foundation](#) is a charitable organization that contributes to young people's academic success by awarding [prizes](#) and [scholarships](#) and partnering with [recognized organizations](#). In 2017, the Foundation provided nearly \$2.1 million in funding through various programs, making a difference to 130,000 young people in Quebec and Ontario. The Desjardins Foundation is the philanthropic arm of Desjardins Group, Canada's leading cooperative financial group. The Foundation helps enrich the lives of individuals and communities by promoting education.

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