

Live audaciously. Those were the words of Celina Caesar-Chavannes a former member of parliament who I had the opportunity to meet. She was one of many presenters that I've met through Leadership by Design. A group focused on empowering young Black students by fostering community, enhancing leadership skills, and providing academic support through workshops, seminars, and mentorship. Through this program, I have improved my leadership abilities and demonstrated a commitment to personal and collective growth within my community. For some reason, the words "live audaciously" stuck with me the first time Celina said them and the more she said those words, the more I considered how I want to lead that kind of life. Throughout the presentation, I counted the phrase "live audaciously" six times, but Celina never explicitly defined the phrase. In my opinion, an audacious life is one filled with courage, resilience, and the readiness to pursue my passion despite adversity. Furthermore, it is the ability to help others realize their own potential and live their lives without fear of rejection or failure.

For the past 2 years, I have had the privilege of tutoring a student named Ayman for math. It is rewarding to see how my efforts have improved Ayman's academics. Demonstrating that we can all have an impact in someone's life, big or small. I believe that in the time that I've known Ayman, I have taught him to live audaciously and be successful in all that he does, regardless of his setbacks. I am grateful for all of my experiences and the people I've met through my work as a tutor, canvasser and foodbank volunteer because they reinforced the idea, that I want my life to serve my community. These ideas for my future were solidified in 2022 when I was diagnosed with Chron's Disease (IBD). I've never personally known someone who has a chronic illness or disability, so experiencing it myself has given me a new perspective. This diagnosis taught me that I can overcome the worst of circumstances and achieve my goals despite having every excuse not to. I learned that my life is not over because I have a disability, but rather, it has just begun. I now have the opportunity to teach others about a disability that is so often overlooked and dedicate my passion for science to being a voice for those with the illness. On social media, academically or through face-to-face conversations.

I've decided to study human kinetics with the goal that I will become a healthcare professional who can help those who are in a similar situation to me and be like the doctors and nurses who give me comfort. Whether that be in the form of a geneticist to understand the genetic factors that affect the disease, a gastroenterologist to help individuals live with their diagnosis or even a scientist who can one day invent a medicine that can better treat IBD. Although IBD is less prevalent among the black community, it does occur with a higher rate of morbidity and unnoticed symptoms. This is completely unnecessary considering that IBD is a treatable illness and can be improved with the right education and understanding of the disability. I had never heard about IBD before my diagnosis. Perhaps, if it had been discussed more in my community, my family and I would have noticed the very telling symptoms that I was experiencing. Maybe we would have taken better action before my condition worsened to the point of weighing 76 pounds, having a hemoglobin (blood) count of 46, which is a count that many nurses said was the lowest they had ever seen and missing two months of school.

I wish to pursue a career in STEM so that I can eventually be in a position where I can educate individuals on a larger scale and be a part of the solution for an illness that is not heavily researched. So that the experience of others who have IBD will not mirror the daily debilitating experiences that I've had with the disability. This scholarship would help me reach these goals because it would offset some of the costs associated with going to med school, therefore allowing me to focus on my studies and advocate for those around me. Although these goals may sound ambitious, because I have adopted to phrase "live audaciously", I have every confidence that I will be able to achieve them all. If you haven't noticed while reading, I've said the phrase "live audaciously" six times, like Celina did, and, I'm going to say it one more time. So that someone reading this essay can be inspired by these words just like I was. Live audaciously.

By: Johanni Edwards

ABBVIE IBD SCHOLARSHIP PROOF OF DIAGNOSIS FORM

This section to be completed by Scholarship Applicant

Applicant Name: Johanni Ashia Edwards
Health Care Provider Name: Rosalie Suarez, RN/Dr. Peter Church
Hospital or Clinic Name: The Hospital for Sick Children
Street Address: 555 University Avenue
City: Toronto
Prov: Ontario Postal Code: M5G 1X8
Office telephone: 416 813 7270
Health Care Provider E-mail: rosalie.suarez@sickkids.ca

This section to be completed by Health Care Provider

Please provide a brief summary of the applicant's medical history as it relates to their diagnosis of inflammatory bowel disease.

Johanni Ashia Edwards was diagnosed with Crohn's disease in March 2022. She is maintained on Remicade and has regular follow up appointments with Dr. Church.

I certify that this applicant is under my medical care and has been diagnosed with:

- ☒ Crohn's disease
☐ Ulcerative colitis
☐ Or another form of inflammatory bowel disease

Signature: *RSuarez, RN* Date: 12 / 05 / 2024

Credentials: Registered Nurse, IBD Clinic, SickKids Hospital for Dr. Peter Church



Johanni Edwards <johanniedwards@gmail.com>

Congratulations from the University of Guelph!

1 message

Admission Services U of Guelph <admission@uoguelph.ca>
To: johanniedwards@gmail.com

4 March 2024 at 14:39

UNIVERSITY of GUELPH



University of Guelph ID: 1334456

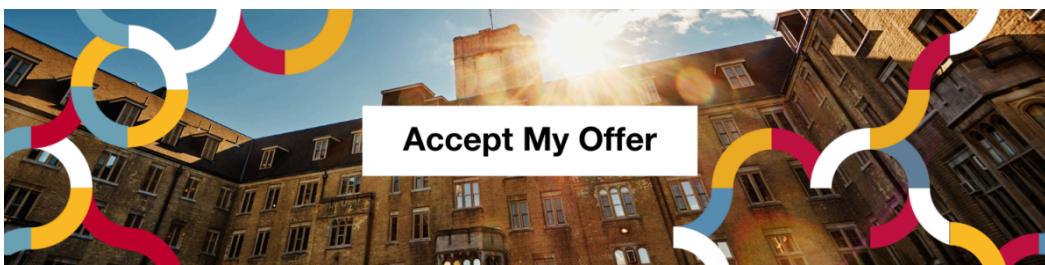
CONGRATS, JOHANNI - YOU'RE IN!

Congratulations! You have been admitted to the Bachelor of Science, Honours Major Human Kinetics at the University of Guelph for the fall 2024 semester.

Your offer of admission is conditional upon the following:

- Completion of the Ontario Secondary School Diploma
- Subject Requirements: ENG4U, EAE4U or FEF4U; MHF4U; 2 of the following 3 courses: SBI4U, SCH4U, SPH4U; plus two additional 4U/4M courses
- A minimum final admission average of 70%

To reserve your space in the program, you must **ACCEPT YOUR OFFER** through the OUAC by June 3, 2024. Your offer of admission will appear on OUAC within 3 business days.



Details about next steps are available on our [Congrats site](#)! Here you'll find information about:

- Alternate offers
- Applying for residence
- Funding your education
- Important dates and deadlines

If you have any questions, we're here to answer them! Check out our [FAQ Page](#), send us an email or give us a call.

We can't wait to meet you in September!

The Admission Services team

Email: admission@uoguelph.ca

Phone: 519-824-4120, Ext. 58721



**Accepting this offer of admission indicates that you acknowledge that failure to meet/complete all conditions of your offer will result in the offer of admission being revoked. If you were awarded an entrance scholarship, you must register as a student in both fall and winter semesters in order to keep your entrance scholarship. Changing your program and/or immigration status may impact your eligibility for this award. Other conditions may apply as outlined on the Student Financial Services website: uoguelph.ca/registrar/entrancescholarships.*

admission.uoguelph.ca | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#) | [TikTok](#) | [Spotify](#)

To whom it may concern,

My name is Yome Huynh and I am writing this letter to recommend Johanni Edwards for the "DCCI Scholarship for Canadian Students with Disabilities". I am a secondary school mathematics teacher at Streetsville S.S. I taught Johanni Grade 10 Academic Math in 2021/2022 and Grade 11 Functions in 2022/2023. I have been teaching at Streetsville for 17 years, and can confidently say that Johanni is a student who stands out because of her drive to succeed within and beyond the classroom, while dealing with health struggles. Through these many years of teaching, I have been able to assist many students through the scholarship process and truly believe that Johanni embodies all the qualities and characteristics of a recipient of your scholarship.

Johanni's academic abilities are exceptionally strong and she is very dedicated to her learning. Despite missing two months of school during her Grade 10 academic year, she consistently achieved high marks on her assessments, and regularly completed her homework with great time management. Johanni put in exceptional dedication and effort into her work, ensuring that she attained a 99% in the course. In the following year in Grade 11, Johanni continued to achieve high marks, ending with a 91% in the course. She continuously asked clarifying questions, staying on top of her work and organizing her time, in spite of missing school for doctor appointments, illness or her various other extracurricular activities. Johanni also portrays resiliency, as she consistently sought learning opportunities to improve her abilities. She displays attention to detail and analytical skills when completing tests and Johanni consistently gives 100% in everything she does and always goes above and beyond.

Johanni is an excellent student and is an exceptional role model for her peers and in our school community. Johanni demonstrates drive and leadership in all that she does. I have seen Johanni's strengths both inside the classroom and through her extracurriculars. At Streetsville she is an active member of our community; a member of our Black Student Alliance, Yearbook committee, a SAC Grade Representative in Grade 11, and helped run many leadership events throughout our school. In one of these events, Johanni was a leader for our Grade 9 Orientation where she welcomed new students to our school, led small group games, and supported new students through this transition. I observed her ability to welcome new students with her compassionate nature and engaging personality. This exemplified not only her leadership abilities but her other character traits such as empathy, responsibility and patience.

Finally, I would like to reiterate that Johanni is a resilient, intelligent, courageous and goal-oriented individual. I wholeheartedly support her for this scholarship without any doubt. If you would like to discuss Johanni further with me, please feel free to call me at Streetsville Secondary School at 905-826-1195 ext 551. I can also be reached by email at yome.huynh@peelsb.com

Yours sincerely,

Yome Huynh

Surname	Given Names	OEN / MIN	Student Number	Year	Date of Birth Month	Day
Edwards	Johanni	397-053-596 /	704720	2006	07	05
Name of District School Board / School Authority	Number	Name of School	Number	Year	Date of Entry Month	Day
Peel District School Board	66125	Streetsville Secondary School	945978	2020	09	08

Date Year Month	Course Grade / Level	Course Title	Course Code	Percentage Grade	Credit	Compulsory	Note
2020 11	9	French Immersion	FIF1D	91	1.00	X	F
2020 11	9	Healthy Active Living Education	PPL1O	93	1.00	X	
2021 02	9	Exploring Family Studies	HIF1O	96	1.00	X	
2021 02	9	Sciences	SNC1D	95	1.00	X	F
2021 04	9	Principes de géographie du Canada	CGC1D	94	1.00	X	F
2021 04	9	English	ENG1D	93	1.00	X	
2021 06	9	Music	AMU1O	88	1.00	X	
2021 06	9	Principles Of Mathematics	MPM1D	98	1.00	X	
2021 07	10	Éducation à la citoyenneté	CHV2O	95	0.50	0.50	F
2021 07	10	Exploration des choix de carrière	GLC2O	97	0.50	0.50	F
2022 02	10	Introduction to Business	BBI2O	100	1.00	X	
2022 02	10	English	ENG2D	85	1.00	X	
2022 02	10	French Immersion	FIF2D	91	1.00		F
2022 02	10	Introduction to Computer Studies	ICS2O	97	1.00	X	
2022 06	10	Visual Arts	AVI2O	97	1.00		
2022 06	10	Histoire du Canada au XXe siècle	CHC2D	92	1.00	X	F
2022 06	10	Principles Of Mathematics	MPM2D	99	1.00	X	
2022 06	10	Science	SNC2D	92	1.00	X	
2023 01	11	Regional Geography: Travel and Tourism	CGG3O	95	1.00		F
2023 01	11	Intro to Anthropology, Psychology, & Sociology	HSP3U	96	1.00		
2023 01	11	Biology	SBI3U	93	1.00		
2023 01	11	Chemistry	SCH3U	75	1.00		
2023 06	12	Le Canada et le monde: Une Analyse Géographique	CGW4U	90	1.00		F
2023 06	11	French Immersion	FIF3U	93	1.00		F
2023 06	11	Functions	MCR3U	91	1.00	X	
2023 06	11	English: Contemporary Indigenous Voices	NBE3U	92	1.00	X	
2023 07	12	English	ENG4U	88	1.00	X	
2024 01	12	French Immersion	FIF4U	87	1.00		F
2024 01	12	Advanced Functions	MHF4U	80	1.00		
2024 01	12	Biology	SBI4U	85	1.00		

SUMMARY OF CREDITS

29.00 18.00

Community Involvement

Provincial Secondary School Literacy Requirement

Secondary School Online Learning Requirement

☐ Completed ☐ N/A☒ Successfully Completed ☐ N/A☒ Successfully Completed ☐ N/A

Diploma or Certificate

Date of Issue
Year Month

Authorization

The collection and maintenance of this information are authorized under the Education Act, R.S.O., 1990, c.E.2, s.266. Users of this information are supervisory officers and the principal and teachers of the school.
This is the official record of the student's educational history. The contact person regarding the collection of this information is the principal of the school.

