Masaryk Memorial Institute

Scholarship Assistance Program

Academic Year 2021-2022

There are in our community young students that have excelled not only academically but have demonstrated a strong, ongoing commitment to their Czech / Slovak ancestry. It gives me great pleasure on behalf of the Masaryk Memorial Institute (MMI) to recognize **Adriana Bacon** and **Theoharris Oldrich Pavlou** as the MMI scholarship assistance recipients for the 2021-2022 academic year.

The following is a profile for Adraina Bacon. Theoharris Pavlou will be featured in the March edition of Novy Domov.



Adriana Bacon graduated from high school as an Ontario Scholar and is now a first-year student at Carleton University in Ottawa. Since early childhood she marvelled at the images in her mother's *Velká kniha rostlin* (Large Book of Plants) and when she was 12 years old, asked for a microscope for her birthday. It is not surprising then that Adriana is studying science at university with a major in chemistry.

Czech culture has always been an important part of Adriana's life. This includes attending Czech school in Kladno up to grade 3; spending her summers at her grandmother's house in the Czech Republic; and, volunteering at the Czech Embassy in Ottawa to organize and catalogue the Skvoretsky Memorial Library. This past summer (2021) Ariana stepped in at the last minute to serve as camp counsellor at Camp Hostyn near Montreal.

As her transcripts attest, Adriana is a truly remarkable student. She is also the first ever Ontario High School Graduate to have completed Czech for Credit classes within the Ontario-Carleton District School Board's International Languages Program.

Adriana's engagement in the local community extends well beyond her Czech roots. She has been involved in swimming, kin-ball, ballet and seven years of gymnastics which led her to qualify and compete at the Ontario provincials.

In her high school community, she was instrumental in founding an art club; amending the dress code at an allgirls school; and, participating with the theater club including set building, props, designing and managing the lighting for the shows.

Congratulations to Adriana and best wishes for continued success in her studies and future endeavours.

Herb

Herb Dubsky - Secretary Masaryk Memorial Institute / Toronto