

Mayfield student gets prestigious scholarship from Guelph Humber

By Bill Rea

There are some things that are not surprising about Nicole Oziel.

It's not surprising that the Grade 12 student at Mayfield Secondary School has had a lot of academic success, and that she recently received more when it was announced that she's a recipient of the Founder's Academic Merit Scholarship from University of Guelph Humber.

But the announcement itself was a surprise, as she walked into the school auditorium to cheers from those assembled, including her parents and grandmother.

"Oh my gosh!" was the thought she said went through her head when she realized what was going on. "I actually got it!"

Erica Wright, liaison communications co-ordinator at Guelph Humber, said this scholarship, worth \$20,000, is the most prestigious award the institution presents.

Oziel plans to attend the Humber North Campus next year to major in media studies.

She said she loved the Hunger Games, and started to write her own screenplays. "I really love to do them every day," she said.

She hopes to eventually find herself directing films.

Oziel has had an impressive career at Mayfield.

In a letter to Guelph Humber, recommending her for the award, Guidance Counsellor Charlene Grant cited her involvement with the school's LINK Crew Program, which has senior students acting as mentors for those entering Grade 9, helping to organize and run orientation events.

"Nicole took it upon herself to lead these events and those around her," Grant wrote in her letter. "She did this with style, compassion, willingness, grace and demonstrated exemplary leadership qualities and made a significant contribution to our school and community."



Nicole Oziel was surrounded by Erica Wright, liaison communications co-ordinator at Guelph Humber, her mother Beverly, grandmother Marguerite Mongeon, father Naftali and Travis Westlake, liaison events co-ordinator at Guelph Humber, as it was announced she was recipient of the Founder's Academic Merit Scholarship. Photo by Bill Rea