

Celebrating Young Canadian (2024-2025)



- 1 At age 15, Canadian inventor **Ann Makosinski** developed a flashlight powered by the heat of the human hand.
- 2 **Aurélie Rivard**, originally from Quebec, was born with an underdeveloped left hand. Her perseverance brought her several medals and she was named an International Athlete in 2020.
- 3 **Hannah Alper** started her own blog at the age of 9. She is a journalist and motivational speaker who addresses issues such as the environment, anti-bullying and social justice.
- 4 Classical piano prodigy **Daniel Clarke Bouchard** from Quebec, played at the Carnegie Hall of New-York at the age of 12.
- 5 **Anthaea-Grace Patricia Dennis** is the youngest graduate of the University of Ottawa's biomedical science program. She obtained her degree at just 12 years of age.
- 6 **Keely Shaw**, a 29 -year-old para-athlete from Saskatchewan, began her career at age 23 and has won multiple medals in Para-cycling competitions.
- 7 At the age of only 12, **Alex Deans** from Windsor, Ontario invented the "iAid", a navigation device for the blind.
- 8 In 2018, at age 28, Québécois writer **Gabriel Allaire**, originally from Saint-Hyacinthe, was awarded the internationally recognized Robert Walser Prize for his first novel.
- 9 At age 8, Canadian **Hannah Taylor** of Winnipeg established a foundation to combat homelessness.
- 10 Indigenous student **Autumn Peltier** of Ontario has become a renowned water-rights advocate. She addressed the United Nations on the issue of water preservation at age 15.
- 11 Repeatedly bullied, Nova Scotia's **Elsie Morden** created the "No Time for That" tour during her final year of high school. She shared her story with students from more than 450 schools.

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- 12 At age 13, **Ta’Kaiya Blaney** of British Columbia, became the youngest person ever to have intervened at the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.
- 13 The original event of the Pink Shirt Day or Anti-Bullying Day was organized in 2007 by twelfth-grade students **David Shepherd** and **Travis Price** of Berwick, Nova Scotia.
- 14 At age 17, Vancouver’s **Raymond Wang** won a major science award for his work on air purification.
- 15 At age 14, Ontario painter **Evan Sharma** partnered with CAN Fund, donating a painting that was auctioned in support of Canadian Athletes.
- 16 At age 11, Toronto-based **Rachel Parent** became a vocal advocate for GMO labeling and transparent food policies.
- 17 **Farah Alibay** of Saint-Charles-Borromée, Québec, is an aerospace engineer currently working at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, a space research centre affiliated with NASA.
- 18 At age 12, **Michelle Liu** of Vancouver, British Columbia became the youngest golfer to play in the 47-year history of Canada’s national women’s championship.
- 19 At age 13, **Tanmay Bakshi** of Brampton, Ontario became the youngest IBM Watson programmer and AI advocate.
- 20 **Rebecca Schofield** (1999–2018) — Although she passed away in 2018, New Brunswick teenager Becca Schofield’s #BeccaToldMeTo movement inspired acts of kindness and community engagement across Canada.
- 21 At age 16, **Penny Oleksiak** of Toronto, Ontario won multiple Olympic medals in swimming, including a gold medal.
- 22 Tennis player **Bianca Andreescu** of Mississauga, Ontario won the US Open championship at just 19 years of age.
- 23 **Craig Kielburger** is a well-known Canadian activist who co-founded "Free The Children" (now known as "WE Charity") at the age of 12

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- 24 At just 17, **Emma Stevens** received international recognition for her involvement in promoting and protecting the Mi'kmaq language through her music and educational initiatives.
- 25 At the age of 15, **Maya Burhanpurkar** from Orillia, Ontario conducted physics research for which she was awarded the Platinum Award at the Canada-Wide Science fair.
- 26 At age 25, Quebec's **Thomas Le Duc-Moreau** became the youngest assistant conductor in the history of the Orchestre symphonique de Montréal.
- 27 **Elle Mills** is a Canadian YouTuber known for her creative and humorous videos. She won the "Breakout YouTuber" category at the 10th Shorty Awards in 2018.
- 28 At age 17, **Daniel Burd** of Waterloo, Ontario discovered a method that can potentially degrade plastic bags in only three months.
- 29 At age 14, **Annaleise Carr** of Norfolk County, Ontario became the youngest person to swim across Lake Ontario in 2012, raising funds for charity in the process.
- 30 **Aidan Aird** and **Keeley Aird** co-founded STEM Kids Rock, an organization that promotes Science, Technology, Engineering and Math education for children.
- 31 **Florence Saint-Yves** of Lanaudière, Québec, who has Down's Syndrome, has been building her own microgreen business with her parents since she was 11. She also won Les 15 jeunes essentiels competition.
- 32 Professional Canadian tennis player **Félix Auger-Aliassime** of Montréal made his ATP Tour debut as a 17-year-old in 2018.
- 33 Actor **Jacob Tremblay** of Vancouver, British Columbia started acting at age 7 and became known for his critically acclaimed performances in films such as Room and Wonder.
- 34 Born in Mississauga, Ontario, **Alessia Cara** became a YouTube sensation at age 13 and rose to international acclaim with her music.

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- 35 At age 14, Canadian **Sabrina Cruz** started Answer in Progress, a popular YouTube channel featuring videos on a wide range of topics. It continues to get millions of views to this day.
- 36 **Hayley Wickenheiser** of Saskatchewan is a Canadian former ice hockey player. She started playing at a young age and became one of the most decorated female hockey players in history.
- 37 At age 15, Canadian **Melissa Bazely** helped found the Builders for Change Organization whose mission is to relieve poverty in developing nations.
- 38 Six-time Olympic medalist and sprinting sensation **Andre De Grasse** of Toronto inspired Canadians with his athletic achievements. He won his first race in high school.
- 39 At age 16, **Madeleine Desjardins** of Québec launched her first philanthropic initiative: comfort boxes containing surprises for all family members affected by the disease.
- 40 Toronto-born **Bilal Rajan** is a fundraiser, motivational speaker, author, UNICEF Canada's child ambassador and founder of the Making Change Now organization. He began fundraising when he was 4 years old.
- 41 Sudbury's **Sophia Mathur** environmental lobbying to politicians began at age 7 and has taken her all the way to the US Congress and the Canadian Parliament.
- 42 Professional golfer, **Brooke Henderson** of Smith Falls, Ontario won the Women's PGA Championship at the age of 18. She was the event's youngest winner ever.
- 43 Vancouver born, **Finn Wolfhard** got his start as an actor playing Mike Wheeler in the Netflix series Stranger Things at just 13 years of age.
- 44 **Roberta Bondar** of Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario was Canada's first female astronaut in space. She conducted experiments in her basement lab when she was just a child.
- 45 Toronto teens **Mathew Ho** and **Asad Muhammad**, both 17, used a weather balloon ordered online and a make-shift Styrofoam spacecraft to send a plastic astronaut 24 kilometers into the stratosphere.

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- 46 **Jordin Tootoo** is the first Inuk hockey player to play in the National Hockey League.
- 47 **Abel Makkonen Tesfaye**, also known as The Weeknd, is a Canadian singer-songwriter. He was just a teenager when he started anonymously releasing his music on YouTube.
- 48 Considered the first superstar of modern women's ice hockey, **Angela Diane James** has been honoured by numerous halls of fame.
- 49 Montreal's **Onye Nnorom** took part in a summer camp during which she became interested in science. She is the President of the Black Physicians' Association of Ontario.
- 50 At age 9, **Faith Dickinson** from Lakefield, Ontario created Cuddles for Cancer. She made more than 3,500 blankets, distributed around the world, to comfort women fighting breast cancer.