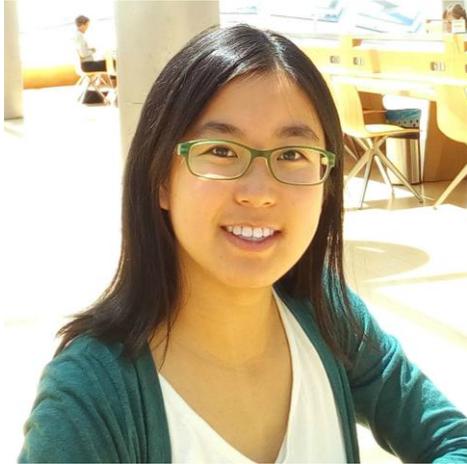


## 2016 CPAC Special Scholarship

**Recipient: Yiqiao Chen**



The CPAC Special Scholarship is awarded to an outstanding student that played an active and leading role in a meaningful project or initiative in a humanitarian, environmental, or social justice issue. Our recipient for this year's Special Scholarship is Cindy Chen, currently in grade 12 at Leaside High School's Extended French Program.

Cindy's thirst for knowledge, autonomous initiative, and deep concern for social justice has defined her philosophy to learn, lead, and lend. In January 2016, she founded Vision Exchange, a non-profit mentorship program connecting blind people in China with sighted English speakers. Her mission is to leverage the potential of blind people and promote equal opportunity and inclusive education. Vision Exchange now has over 150 members in 30 cities across three countries.

Cindy's other accomplishments include serving as the youngest member of her community round table. She has received grants from United Way to spearhead her community's first free music theory workshop and science camp for youth. She founded her school's business club in 2015 and trained over 40 members for competitions. Her proficiency in French has led her to becoming an English-French translator and the only high school editor of the nationally acclaimed *Journal for Student Science and Technology*. On top of all this, she managed to achieve a 95% average in her past academic year.

As a well-rounded student with eclectic interests, one can find Cindy playing tennis, writing political editorials, or composing a symphony for the Esprit Orchestra.

