

For Immediate Release

## **24 Calgary Youth Selected as Finalists for the 2019 Youth of Distinction Awards**

**Calgary, AB, Canada (April 20, 2019).** Twenty-four exceptional young Calgarians have been selected as finalists for the 16th annual Youth of Distinction Awards (YODA) hosted by Youth Central. YODA is about recognizing young Calgarians, ages 12 - 18, for their non-academic achievements. The Awards focus on their success in leadership, friendship, overcoming adversity, and community service.

“One of my favourite experiences with Youth Central was receiving the Perseverance Award at the Youth of Distinction Awards in 2017. I was really proud of myself on that day, and it showed me that it’s possible to overcome hardships and become a better person,” said 2017 Perseverance Award Recipient, Savanna Sturm.

Youth Central received over 130 nominations for the 2019 Awards, from the nominations the YODA steering committee, reviewed and selected 24 finalists. On Saturday, May 4, 2019, one award recipient will be announced for each category representing: Advocacy, Leadership, Arts and Culture, Environment, Peer Support, Perseverance, Sportsmanship, and Volunteerism.

The YODA ceremony will take place on Saturday, May 4, 2019 at The Calgary Zoo from 10:30am - 1:00pm. For more information or to join Youth Central at the event please contact, [communications@youthcentral.com](mailto:communications@youthcentral.com)

-30-

### **About Youth Central**

Youth Central, established in 1992, is a charitable non-profit organization playing a vital role in shaping the lives of Calgary’s youth, aged 12-18, by empowering them to be active citizens through leadership and volunteer programs. Youth Central builds Calgary’s leaders of today and tomorrow.

### **For more information, contact:**

Chelsey Tattrie  
Communications Coordinator, Youth Central  
[communications@youthcentral.com](mailto:communications@youthcentral.com)  
P: 403-266-5448  
C: 587-985-8877