



FOR RELEASE

***Calgary student Craig Fiedorek merges music and math for new melodies;
Webber Academy student wins Manning Innovation Achievement Award***

FREDERICTON, NB (May 15, 2015) – Craig Fiedorek, 16, a Grade 11 student at Webber Academy in Calgary loves music and math. Combining these passions garnered him a number of recognitions at the 54th Canada Wide Science Fair (CWSF) held at the University of New Brunswick campus this past week. The 400 projects in three age categories involved 468 finalists, representing the top one percent of science fair projects conducted across Canada this year.

One of Craig Fiedorek’s honours was being named a Manning Innovation Achievement Award winner, which includes a \$500 award from the Ernest C. Manning Awards Foundation, and membership in a network of nationally recognized innovators.

Other awards included a Gold Medal of Excellence (\$250) in the Senior Category, and the CWSF Challenge Award for the Information Category.

Fiedorek’s project *“Capturing the Value of Melody”* combines his passions for music and math to create music. Strongly believing “that absolutely everything can be described mathematically” Fiedorek used this motivation to create new music, discovering the basic formula of “Top 10 Singles”, 49 in total.

Fiedorek created an algorithm that would analyze the melodies and back chords of popular songs, and how they fit into the song itself (such as the chorus or the hook). His unique algorithm was able to analyze very subtle details that were present in all successful songs analyzed and determine which aspects were most commonly found in the successful songs. Based on the data analyzed by the algorithm, it was then able to produce specific notes in sequence that were new.

The innovation Achiever hopes that his work will be the next tool in any songwriter’s toolbox making computerized song writing a reality.

“The caliber and ingenuity of Fiedorek’s project is proof that age is no barrier to innovation,” said Jennifer Diakiw, President of the Ernest C. Manning Awards Foundation. “For the past 23 years, the Foundation has been celebrating outstanding young Canadians competing at the Canada Wide Science Fair. The 2015 winners are passionate and creative visionaries and we and our sponsors believe supporting them is critical to creating a culture of Canadian innovation.”

The Ernest C. Manning Awards Foundation introduced its Young Canadian Program in 1992 to recognize outstanding high-school students at the Canada-Wide Science Fair. Each year, the Manning judging team selects eight winning projects, to receive a \$500 Manning Innovation Achievement Award. From the eight, four are further honoured with the Manning Young Canadian Innovation Award, which includes a \$7,000 prize. More information about the Manning Awards is available at www.manningawards.ca, Twitter @ManningAwardsCA Facebook/ManningAwards.

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