

Sauvé Scholars Program

The Sauvé Scholars Program exists for young leaders under the age of 30 from across the globe who want to change the world. The Scholars are chosen above all on the basis of criteria laid out by the Right Honourable Jeanne Sauvé:

- Initiative
- Motivation
- Vision
- Imagination
- Demonstrated communication skills
- Awareness of international and domestic issues
- A strong desire to effect change

Now entering its sixth year, the Sauvé Scholars Program has welcomed 74 Scholars from 39 different countries. Launched in 2003, the Sauvé Scholars Program has evolved from the Jeanne Sauvé Youth Foundation, created in 1991 by the late Jeanne Sauvé, the first woman to serve as Governor General of Canada, the country's Head of State and Commander-in-Chief.

The Right Honourable Jeanne Sauvé was a woman of strength and vision. Throughout her distinguished career as youth activist, journalist, Minister of the Crown, Speaker of the House of Commons and ultimately Governor General, she remained at the forefront of the most socially progressive issues of her day, and was deeply committed to advancing the role of young leaders.

Each year, up to 14 remarkable young leaders are invited to come to Montreal for the academic calendar year. They live together in a beautifully restored mansion, enjoy unlimited access to McGill University's academic programs and other resources – including lectures, conferences and events suited to the advancement of their individual professional and intellectual goals – while benefiting from the communal life and multi-faceted exchanges with their fellow Scholars.

The Sauvé experience, a period of personal and professional growth, is founded on:

- Intense exchange of ideas and experience, supported by communal life
- Extensive intellectual freedom, allowing each participant to develop according to his or her needs and aspirations
- Focus on action accompanied by a clear commitment to the community—including the host community
- Commitment to dialogue among cultures, which allows participants to understand and assimilate viewpoints built within multiple frames of reference

Program Overview

Sauvé Scholars are highly motivated independent thinkers under the age of 30 with demonstrated skills as agents of change, who are offered a unique opportunity to spend nine months away from

their studies, careers or other formal commitments, for a period of reflection and self-realization – both personal and professional.

In August of each year, a dozen young men and women from around the world gather in Montreal – one of North America's most vibrant international, multicultural cities – to embark on a rewarding personal and intellectual program combining reflection, study, travel and community engagement along with participation in conferences, seminars, cultural and sports events.

The academic home of the Sauvé Scholars is internationally-renowned McGill University, in the heart of Montreal, where the student body of about 33,000 includes students from some 160 countries. Through a formal Memorandum of Understanding, Sauvé Scholars enjoy a unique status at McGill: they may audit courses at the undergraduate or post-graduate level (but not for credit) and may participate in the array of university activities and facilities for every taste and interest.

In addition, the Sauvé Scholars enjoy an enriching private program of seminars with eminent journalists, political figures and leaders in business, academia and the arts.

Each Scholar is expected to undertake a new project in his or her chosen field – for example, arts, advocacy, business, communications, government or research – or complete one that is underway. Scholars are also invited to participate in some form of social or civic engagement for the benefit of the Montreal community.

The Sauvé Scholars Program is the principal focus of activity throughout the term of the Award. All Scholars are expected to be at Sauvé House in Montreal for the major part of the Award term in order to participate fully in the activities organized by and for the Program, which begins in August and ends in May of the following year.