

CAMWS Subcommittee on the Fauci Award in STEM and Classics  
2023 Report

I am making this report on behalf of the members of the Subcommittee on the Fauci Award in STEM and Classics: Kenneth Kitchell of the University of Massachusetts Amherst, Nathalie Roy of the Glasgow Middle School in Louisiana, Tyler Jo Smith of the University of Virginia, and Bronwen Wickkiser of Wabash College. The committee worked well together and I am grateful to my colleagues for all the time and consideration they gave to a very challenging job.

This year the committee received thirty-nine excellent applications (thirteen more than last year). Clearly the word has gotten out about this award and there are a significant number of students engaged in the serious study of both Classics and STEM in North American colleges and universities. It was difficult to determine a winner among so many worthy students. In their application essays the students themselves articulate many advantages to the study of both Classics and STEM. So do many of the professors who wrote letters of recommendation on their behalf. Their application essays and their letters of recommendation all speak eloquently of the value of combining the studies of STEM and Classics. Last year the subcommittee created a list of bullet statements about the ways that the applicants feel their two disciplines interconnect. This list is posted on the CAMWS website at <https://camws.org/sites/default/files/FauciStatements.pdf>. A similar list based on this year's applications is also planned. The subcommittee hopes that such lists will serve as inspiration for other students to follow in the footsteps of Dr. Fauci and of these applicants in the study of two challenging academic tracks.

Although we chose to designate only one award recipient, the subcommittee awards honorable mentions to the following students (listed alphabetically): Madeleine LaChance of the University of Rochester, Stephanie Morgan of Duke University, Jake Morrin of William & Mary, and Matt Thomas of Yale University.

The recipient of the 2023 Anthony Fauci Award in STEM and Classics is Will Dowling of Dartmouth College. Will is a senior majoring in both Mathematics and Classical Languages and Literature. He has excelled in courses like accelerated multivariable calculus and algebraic combinatorics as well as advanced courses in both Latin and Greek. In his statement Will contrasts the intense specialization of the modern sciences with ancient Greek defiance of such specialization. "The picture one finds, with the Greek philosophers and throughout the Classical corpus," Will writes, "is one not of compartmentalized specialists but of minds exhilarated by all forms of knowledge to which they had access, and of inquiries frequently crossing boundaries of field." In his letter of recommendation, Will's Greek professor at Dartmouth observes that Will himself is imitating the ancients in his pursuit of an honors thesis dealing with ways that Aristotle's writings on animals intersect with modern debates about animal rights and the moral status of animals.

On behalf of the other members of the subcommittee I would like to thank all of those CAMWS members who have supported this award by their financial contributions as well as by their promotion of the award among their students and STEM colleagues. We conclude this report by congratulating not only the winner and recipients of honorable mention but also all those studying both STEM and Classics.

Respectfully submitted,  
Tom Sienkewicz, Chair