Memorial Awards (updated April 2012)

**Becca Haberman Memorial Music Scholarship**
Becca Haberman very much enjoyed her years at Claude Watson where she excelled in piano, performance and composition. She was vibrant, creative and original. Becca’s sister had also attended Earl Haig, and her father occasionally visited the school and lectured to Grade 12 and Grade 13 students. She became ill in her last year at Claude Watson. This award is presented to a graduating Claude Watson student who has demonstrated excellence in performance and/or composition.

**Douglas Napier Memorial Award**
Mr. Napier had three sons who attended Haig. He taught his sons and children of the Haig community the value of good sportsmanship. His one son, Mark, went on to be a professional hockey player. The Napier family believed strongly that sports is a valuable way to teach young people how to value life.

The recipient of this scholarship is pursuing a rigorous amateur or semi-professional sport vocation while at the same time, completing their high school education.

**Jeff Collum Memorial Award**
Jeff Collum was in the prime of his life when he was struck down by an impaired driver. He had just graduated from Earl Haig and was going to study environmental sciences at Waterloo. He was a very special and sensitive young man. His brother Phil also attended and subsequently taught at Earl Haig. His mother was also a teacher in North York.

The recipient of this scholarship has demonstrated good citizenship, good academic performance, and is a student who has contributed to the atmosphere of the school through personal deeds or extracurricular involvement. The most important criterion is that the student has been able to overcome some obstacle in life, whether physical or emotional.

**Jenny Isford Memorial Award**
Jenny was a bright, beautiful and sensitive young woman. She had a lovely voice and she held lead parts in Haig’s annual musicals. She planned a future career in the Arts, but was murdered one evening after leaving a bus on her street. At the time of her death, she was practicing to be an Argo cheerleader.

The recipient of this award will have demonstrated high scholastic achievement and creativity in the field of Arts, and as well, these talents will have been applied to extra-curricular activities. The student is dedicated to the dream of pursuing a career path in the field of the Arts.

**Kana Jeon Memorial**
Kana was a wonderful young man who died of cancer in his first year at Waterloo. He was an excellent basketball player. Kana also was a top student who contributed actively and thoughtfully to student government, clubs and social activity. He had a love for life and he never was without a big smile and a hug.
**Nick Vanderboom**
Nick was a student of Earl Haig who died in a car accident in October 2005. After his friends and family, the most important aspect of Nick’s life was sports – he was an elite athlete who loved the competition, the camaraderie, the physical exertion, the opportunity to stretch his skills past his natural talent and, most significantly, the connections he made by playing games.

The Nick Vanderboom Scholarship is awarded to a person who excels at sports but at the same time, has a wide scope of interests in academics, in the arts, in social causes – in any of the wonderful aspects of life and its pursuits.

**Paul Lavertu**
Paul was an excellent student and athlete. He lost his life while crossing Finch Avenue to catch a bus. His family has continued to honour his memory through his sister Helene. Paul had everything to live for – he was a caring, bright young man.

This award is intended for candidates in their graduating year who reflect the outstanding academic leadership and athletic qualities evidenced by Paul Lavertu.

**Thomas Tu Memorial**
Background on Thomas Tu: Dr. Tu was a wonderful teacher, scholar, husband and father. His four sons all participated in Haig’s Academy Program. Dr. Tu was a chemist who loved to learn and inspire his children to love learning. He believed that education must be well-rounded, including sports and co-curricular activities. He was a strong supporter of all that we value at Haig.

The recipient must have achieved the status of an Ontario Scholar and must have shown a strong interest in pursuing a degree in the sciences at the university level. This award is not necessarily intended for the student with the highest grades, but rather, for the student who has made a considerable contribution to the school through his or her participation in extra-curricular activities.

**William Thomason Memorial**
The William Thomason Memorial Award was established last year by the Palumbo family in honour of Bill Thomason, a neighbour and wonderful friend to young and old alike.

Bill Thomason especially delighted in talking to young people about their future goals in life. He was an ardent supporter of the public school system and spent many hours encouraging young children and teenagers to remain in school, study hard, follow their hearts and to always give something back to the community that served them so well. He was fond of music of all types, most particularly jazz. He attended many student events at Haig and enjoyed the range of music performances and the talent of the young musicians. Michael and Kathryn Palumbo are both graduates of Ear Haig and Bill would come to all their events and performances.
This award goes to a student who best exemplifies leadership in music and who intends to pursue music, especially jazz, as her or his vocation.