



## ***MEDIA RELEASE***

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Claudia Dettenmaier to receive Governor-General's Academic Medal**

This year's recipient of the prestigious Governor-General's Academic Medal, is Claudia Dettenmaier. Graduating from Niagara College's Early Childhood Education program, Dettenmaier completed her program with a 97 per cent academic average.

Originally from Germany, she grew up in Buchloe in Bavaria and Gummersbach, near Cologne. Dettenmaier currently resides in Niagara-on-the-Lake and works as an early childhood educator in St. Catharines. She aspires to be a resource teacher, and hopes to return to Niagara College to pursue post graduate studies.

"My time at Niagara College was a very good experience for me," says Dettenmaier. "It was hard work, but my teachers were very supportive and the Early Childhood Education program provided me with excellent skills. I feel well prepared for my work in the field and I'm grateful for the high-quality education I have received."

The first medals of the Governor-General were awarded in Canada in 1873 for achievement in fields such as marksmanship, skating, cricket, and aquatics. The Earl of Dufferin, the third Governor-General after Confederation, inaugurated what has now become one of the most prestigious awards a student in a Canadian educational institution may receive – the Governor-General's Academic Medal.

There are four levels of the award, each reflecting the highest academic standing achieved at the various levels of study: Gold at the graduate level; Silver at the undergraduate level; Collegiate Bronze at the post-secondary diploma level; and Bronze at the secondary school level.

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