



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Canada's Top Student Scientist Recognized at Sanofi Biogenius Canada National Final

Tasnia Nabil, 16, of Vincent Massey Secondary School in Windsor Recognized for Cancer Treatment Research

Montreal, Quebec – May 10, 2017 – Tasnia Nabil from Vincent Massey Secondary School in Windsor, Ontario has been awarded top honours at the national final of the prestigious Sanofi Biogenius Canada (SBC) competition in Ottawa. The 16-year-old student was chosen by the judges for her research project, *A Novel Computational Approach to Advance Ferromagnetic NanoTherapy as a Therapeutic Solution for Cancer*, which was realized with the support of mentor Dr. Alison Adams, Senior Oncology Scientist, London Regional Cancer Program.

One of the country's most prestigious student competitions, Sanofi Biogenius Canada pairs exceptional young scientists at the high school level with academic mentors to pursue real-world research projects. These enriching partnerships have resulted in many promising breakthroughs across various scientific fields.

Hosted in Ottawa by the National Research Council of Canada (NRC), the competition's national final featured the winners of all nine Sanofi Biogenius Canada regional competitions across the country. The nine finalists presented their research projects to a judging panel of esteemed members of the scientific community.

"Tasnia's research project demonstrates the caliber of scientific talent in Canada, and Sanofi strongly believes in empowering our country's next generation of innovators," said Niven Al-Khoury, General Manager of Sanofi Canada. "We are proud to support a program that pairs promising young researchers with mentors who will help them realize their greatest potential. We are also pleased to support a unique forum for students to showcase their work on the national stage, an experience that is an important stepping stone to future opportunities."

Tasnia receives a cash prize of \$5,000, a portion of which will go to her school, and she will now progress to the 2017 International BioGENEius Challenge in San Diego in June, where she will submit her work to a panel of pre-eminent international scientists.

Runners-up in this year's national SBC competition were awarded cash prizes ranging in value from \$1,000 to \$4,000.

Second prize went to Justin Lin, 17, a student from St. John's-Ravenscourt School in Winnipeg, Manitoba. Justin earned high praise for his research project that examines a potential diagnostic test for ALS. Currently, there is no definitive diagnostic for the disease, and Justin's project proposes a new tool that could assist with early detection and improved patient prognosis. His mentor was Dr. Jiming Kong of the University of Manitoba.

Third prize was awarded to Jody Mou, an 18-year-old University of Toronto Schools student, for a project that unlocks the potential of 3D printing to create models of tumors.

About Sanofi Biogenius Canada (SBC)

Sanofi Biogenius Canada is a national science research competition open to high school students, which since 1992, has helped almost 5,000 young Canadians pursue real-world scientific research projects that have been the launch pads to future studies and careers. Coordinated by Partners In Research, the initiative is sponsored by Sanofi Canada, the National Research Council Canada/Conseil national de recherches Canada (NRC-CNRC), Centre for Drug Research and Development (CDRD) and DelMar Pharmaceuticals.

For more information, visit biogenius.ca, or follow SBC on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/SanofiBiogenius) (facebook.com/SanofiBiogenius) or Twitter (@biogeniusca) using the hashtag #SBC2017.