

King's Medal 2019

The King's Medal is awarded to the graduating student who stands highest in an Honours programme in an Arts or Science subject.

The winner of the King's Medal for 2019 is **Clare Sully-Stendahl**.

Clare came to King's in 2015 from Sir Winston Churchill Secondary in Vancouver, BC. She was awarded a King's University Entrance Scholarship and enrolled in the Foundation Year Program as a Bachelor of Science student. By conclusion of the year, she placed on the King's President's List.

Her outstanding first year foretold a stellar academic career. During Clare's time at the University of King's College, she has consistently placed on the King's President's List and has been awarded the Dr Kathleen Margaret (Peggy) Heller Memorial Foundation Year Prize, the Norah & Alban Bate Prize, and the King's University Scholarship for three consecutive years. Today she was also awarded the University Medal in Contemporary Studies.

Contemporary Studies professors describe her as a perfect representative of King's academic excellence. Much of Clare's success is due to her impressive preparation—she does every assigned reading, poses difficult questions, listens patiently to her peers, and contributes thoughtfully to group discussions—but she is also a creative researcher whose work is not only insightful but also original. She has mastered the art of reading and dissembling difficult philosophical texts with both brilliance and beauty; at the same time, she always challenged herself to step outside the box of critical theory.

In addition to her exemplary academic work, Clare has also been an active member of the King's community and a true leader on campus. From 2016-2018, Clare served as President of The Haliburton Society, Canada's oldest literary society. She has been a terrific and generous leader, making sure that everyone feels equally welcomed to participate in the society's bi-weekly meetings. Clare has also demonstrated her commitment to student life in many other ways. Clare has served as both Copy Editor and Editor-in Chief and Project Manager of CANON, an undergraduate journal that aims to diversify the academic canon by bringing focus to marginalized voices and topics. This year, despite the difficulty of balancing a heavy science course load and honours thesis, Clare also served as both the Communications Executive of the Contemporary Studies Student Society and the Treasurer of the King's Co-Op Bookstore's Executive Board, among other volunteer activities in the community.

Today, Clare receives a Bachelor of Arts degree with First Class Honours in Contemporary Studies and Biology and an Undergraduate Certificate in Art History & Visual Culture. Given the level of success she achieved at King's, we know Clare will move on to achieve extraordinary things in the future and will remain a source of inspiration for her colleagues and classmates.

It gives me great pleasure to present the King's Medal to **Clare Sully-Stendahl**.