

# The Brock Leaders Citizenship Society

Fall 2016

The Leader's Link



## Who we are

The Brock Leaders Citizenship Society (BLCS) is a group of exceptional students recognized for their high academic achievement and personal leadership abilities prior to attending Brock University. As Brock students, members of the BLCS maintain a high standard of academic excellence while producing ongoing opportunities for meaningful engagement with campus, local and global communities.

## Vision

Passionate Brock University students channeling their strengths to inspire themselves and others to invoke positive change within the Brock, local and global communities.

## Mission

The Brock Leaders Citizenship Society unites exceptional students and nurtures their growth into the leaders of tomorrow. We foster their desire to learn, strengthen their character and encourage fellowship. An emphasis on academic excellence, leadership development and philanthropic community service helps us to achieve this objective.

## Motto

Lead the change!

## A Message from the BLCS President



This year, the BLCS has accomplished more than ever before. I am extremely proud of the hard work and time that our members dedicate to the BLCS, Brock University and the greater Niagara community. Every year, I am inspired by the drive and enthusiasm that our members possess. Each member is unique and defines a new meaning of the word leadership. Collectively, they bring unique skill-sets and leadership styles that are the driving forces behind the highly successful initiatives that the BLCS carries out. As president, it has been my pleasure and honour to keep this momentum going by supporting each member in pursuing their passions, and developing innovative strategies to foster the leadership within the society.

The BLCS has put on a record-breaking number of events this year, including the BLCS leadership retreat, the eighth annual Play for Memories Ball Hockey tournament for Alzheimer's, the second annual Denim Diamonds and Diplomas event for DSBN Academy students, and our continued participation in the Walk for Alzheimer's. I am particularly proud of the initiative taken by our first-year students to start new initiatives within their first few months on campus. Last year's Hairless for a Cure and the upcoming Rockin' the Spectrum Dodgeball tournament are key examples the immediate passion that our members have to make a change in the Brock and Niagara communities.

I would like to recognize the 2016-2017 executive team for their commitment this year. Your leadership is inspiring and has truly shaped the culture of the BLCS. You embody what it means to lead the change. After meeting with the executive team for the upcoming year, I am confident that we will see positive growth and innovation within the BLCS. I look forward to seeing all that you will accomplish together and know that you will all excel and grow in your roles.

Thank you for an incredible year, and continue to lead the change in all that you do.

**Megan Brown**

## BLCS Meet and Greet



Sept. 6, 2016: The BLCS Meet and Greet is the society's first official gathering of the new school year. The event welcomes and introduces our new members and provides an opportunity for members to catch up and mingle with the rest of the society, alumni and Brock University administrative staff.

## Brock Bazaar



Sept. 10, 2016: The BLCS held the first annual Brock Bazaar, a community-wide yard sale in Academic South at Brock University. The event consisted of amazing bargains, fun activities, music and treats. All proceeds were donated to support Alternative Reading Week Bursaries for Brock University students.

## BLCS Retreat and Homecoming



Sept. 16-17, 2016: The BLCS held the second annual BLCS Retreat, complete with icebreakers, leadership activities, amazing race challenges and the ropes course. The retreat was topped off with the Red Dinner on Saturday evening with fellow BLCS members and alumni.



## Hairless for a Cure



Nov. 30, 2016: Second-year member Jonah Graham orchestrated the second annual Hairless for a Cure event, an initiative created to help raise donations for Relay for Life and Movember. Since growing and shaving a moustache is not always a possibility for individuals wishing to support Cancer research efforts, Jonah initiated the event so that all individuals could participate by having their arms and legs waxed in return for donations to the Canadian Cancer Society.

## Walk for Alzheimer's



Jan. 29, 2017: The Walk for Alzheimer's took place in Ian Beddis Gym to raise awareness and funds to support local Alzheimer's programming and services in the Niagara region. Second-year BLCS member Melissa Yeo was instrumental in helping to organize this event, which included educational and health-related stations and activities, characters, musical entertainment and a raffle table.

## BLCS Appreciation Lunch



Feb. 6, 2017: Members of the BLCS joined distinguished Brock faculty members for our annual BLCS Appreciation Lunch at Alphie's Bistro. The Brock community celebrated the Brock Leaders for their ongoing dedication, achievements and contributions.



## Second annual Denim, Diamonds and Diplomas



Feb. 11, 2017: The BLCS held the second annual Denim, Diamonds and Diplomas event at Club Roma in St. Catharines. The evening was filled with a three-course prime rib dinner with corresponding wine and beer pairings and a silent auction. The event raised a total of \$20,500 to create bursaries for the current and future students of the DSBN Academy, a St. Catharine's school that caters to the needs of students who face social and financial challenges that may create barriers to attending college or university. The BLCS was overwhelmed with the support from the Education Foundation of Niagara, the Rotary Club of St. Catharines South and the surrounding community. We are looking forward to witnessing the success of next year's formal!

## Eighth annual Flora Broley Play for Memories Ball Hockey Tournament



March 25, 2017: The BLCS held the eighth annual Flora Broley Play for Memories Ball Hockey Tournament at the Ballhockey.com Athletic Centre in St. Catharines. The tournament welcomes players of all ages and skills levels to join a day of 3 on 3 ball hockey games, raffle prizes and mini games. This year, the tournament successfully raised a total of \$9,381.91 for the Alzheimer's Society of Niagara.

## Rockin' the Spectrum Dodgeball Tournament



March 31, 2017: The BLCS held the first annual Rockin' the Spectrum Dodgeball Tournament this year. This free event was spearheaded by Celyn Ouellet, a first year member in the BLCS who wanted to promote the awareness and acceptance of autism in the Brock community. The day was filled with awesome games of dodgeball, along with educational material presented by four representatives from the Niagara Region Chapter of Autism Ontario.



# BLCS Year End Formal Awards



April 10, 2017: Since 2013, BLCS has hosted an annual year-end formal event, where we gather to eat and celebrate another successful year at the Stone Mill Ballroom in St. Catharines. As always, community members and Brock administrative staff who support the members and the society are invited to join the BLCS for this wonderful evening. The evening recognizes and awards members of the BLCS who have been exceptionally dedicated to the society, academia and humanitarian activities in and around Brock University. These awards and their recipients include:

## **Award of Merit**

Awarded to the Brock Leaders Citizenship Society member who has contributed the most volunteer hours this year.

Recipient: Rachel Easterbrook

## **Spirit of the Brock Leaders Citizenship Society Award**

Awarded to the Brock Leaders Citizenship Society member who has shown a particular commitment to BLCS.

Recipient: Miranda Wayland

## **BLCS Alumni Award**

Awarded to a graduating member who will be pursuing graduate studies and, through their time at Brock University, demonstrated leadership and made significant contributions to the Brock and/or global community.

Recipient: Rachel Easterbrook

## **Lasting Impression Award**

Awarded to a Brock Leaders Citizenship Society member who made a lasting impact on BLCS.

Recipient: Megan Brown

## **Society Advancement Award:**

Awarded to a new and successful Brock Leaders Citizenship Society initiative that has furthered the reach and impact of the society.

Recipient: Rockin' the Spectrum Dodgeball Tournament

## Brock Leaders Citizenship Society Honorary Membership



A Brock Leaders Citizenship Society honorary membership was presented to Kristen Smith, Manager of the BLCS and Golden Key International Honour Society. As a Brock University graduate, Kristen has thrived in her professional roles at Brock University and in the greater community. Kristen is presently the Manager of Student Community and Outreach, and her commitment was recognized when she was awarded the Brock University Distinguished Service Award. She is also

the co-founder of the Student Life and Community Experience department at Brock University and is an active volunteer with the YWCA, Brock United Way and Brock for Refugees. The BLCS is inspired by her commitment to leadership and is extremely thankful for the continuous support she provides for all BLCS members.

## Contact Information:

[brocku.ca/blcs](http://brocku.ca/blcs)

E [brockleaders@gmail.com](mailto:brockleaders@gmail.com)

 [facebook.com/brockleaders](https://facebook.com/brockleaders)

 [@brockleaders](https://twitter.com/brockleaders)