

# INSIDE THE LION'S DEN

April 2024



@pmlionsden

## PM LIONS REPORT

# Leo Craft Design Team's Triumph: From 3D Printing Puzzles to 2024 Herc NASA Success!

## CREATING A LEGACY IN SURREY'S STEM SCENE

By now, everyone is familiar with PM's Leo Craft Design Team; they have accomplished a great deal this year.

Spearheaded by Jeevan Sandhu and consisting of members Mehul Bhannot, Omar Arain, Parneet Dhesi, Jasmeet Dhaliwal, Harmeet Sond, Manroop Padda, Haardik Garg, Alex and Victor Gupta, the team has recently made it to NASA's HERC competition - a competition for high schools and university students, where teams are challenged to design, build, test, and compete with a human-powered rover capable of traversing challenging terrain. Only one team -our Leo Craft Design Team- was chosen from all of Canada for this exclusive competition.

*Read more on page 3*



## Which PM teacher are you?



[https://www.buzzfeed.com/charmingghost47/which-pm-teacher-are-you-4xyzu0vsoc?utm\\_source=dynamic&utm\\_campaign=bfsharecopy](https://www.buzzfeed.com/charmingghost47/which-pm-teacher-are-you-4xyzu0vsoc?utm_source=dynamic&utm_campaign=bfsharecopy)

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## Feature: Leo Craft Design Team's Triumph: From 3D Printing Puzzles to 2024 Herc NASA Success!

The club was founded by team lead Jeevan, who was inspired by a TikTok video to try his luck at this competition. He acted swiftly and reached out to everyone possible to join him on this ambitious endeavour. Jeevan and his team began their submission only two days before the deadline, putting them at a major disadvantage. Due to this, they were quite surprised when their efforts paid off and they were awarded a prestigious position in the HERC NASA Competition.

As one can imagine, this impressive undertaking posed many challenges, especially on such short notice. One such setback was in obtaining the wheels for their rover. Parneet Dhesi, who oversees STEM engagement for the team, provided insight into the difficulties encountered throughout Rover development. She mentioned that “it seemed impossible to find a company that could 3D print on the necessary scale.” But eventually, they made contact with a Burnaby-based business, which helped them overcome these size constraints by outsourcing from China and making sure their Rover's wheels complied with the strict specifications of the competition.

When they're not jumping hurdles in their quest to construct a victorious rover, the Leo Craft Design Team is sharing their passion for STEM with the community through youth STEM engagement. It took some difficulties for their funding application to be approved, but once it was approved, it opened up many more opportunities for ongoing support and engagement with high school students in Surrey.

The group also reflected on an amusing anecdote, recounting the day before the proposal was due. In a whirlwind of three hours, the team, led by Mr. Uppal, their enthusiastic cheerleader, dove into proofreading a 30-page report and finalizing a PowerPoint presentation. This unexpected rush encapsulated the team's dynamic energy and dedication. Jeevan's wisdom resonated as he highlighted the importance of taking chances, emphasizing the value of experience, even if it doesn't always mean immediate positive outcomes.

The Leo Craft Design Team have made many connections during their journey one of them is a local role model, Bardia Alizadeh. A UBC student and the force behind a Coquitlam-based company, Bardia, played a pivotal role by making their 3D-printed wheels a reality for under \$20,000, an attribute not maintained by any other Canadian company. As for the rover, the team takes inspiration from older models from prior years. By examining several different designs, the team was able to come with fresh ideas to enhance their own rover. Jeevan had also been motivated by various books that he had read over the years which sparked new ideas for the rover, allowing their proposal to stand out among the others.



The team spends a lot of time working on the rover, frequently staying after school and participating in early morning meetings discussing safety protocols led by Mehul, the team's safety officer.

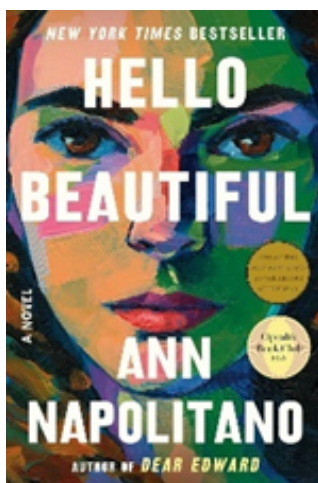
Their determination and passion for the challenge is undeniable. For the last six months, these brilliant students have continued to put in incredible effort into the creation of their rover. Their determination, hard work, and positive attitudes will never go unnoticed, and the home of the lions will continue to cheer on these profound members as they head to the Herc Nasa competition which takes place in Alabama this April. Their dedication continues to lead them to success because after all "what do they have to lose?"-Jasmeet Dhaliwal.

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# Library News

## TOP LIBRARY PICKS

By Jashandeep Kaur and Anhadpreet Randhawa



**Hello Beautiful by Ann Napolitano**

"She was no longer who she used to be, and she wasn't yet whoever she was becoming."



**Yellowface by R.F. Kuang**

"Awards don't matter—at least, I am told this constantly by the people who regularly win them."



## **They Wish They Were Us by Jessica Goodman**

"Sometimes it's hard to know which qualities really define you, and which ones have been affixed to you by others so many times that you actually begin to believe them and claim them as your own."



## **The Inheritance Games by Jennifer Lynn Barnes**

"If there's one thing the Hawthorne family isn't, it's fine. They were a twisted, broken mess before you got here, and they'll be a twisted, broken mess once you're gone."



## **Unnecessary Drama by Nina Kenwood**

"We rarely consider that we're also formed by the decisions we didn't make, by events that could have happened but didn't, or by our lack of choices, for that matter."



## **Ace Of Spades by Faridah Abike Iyimide**

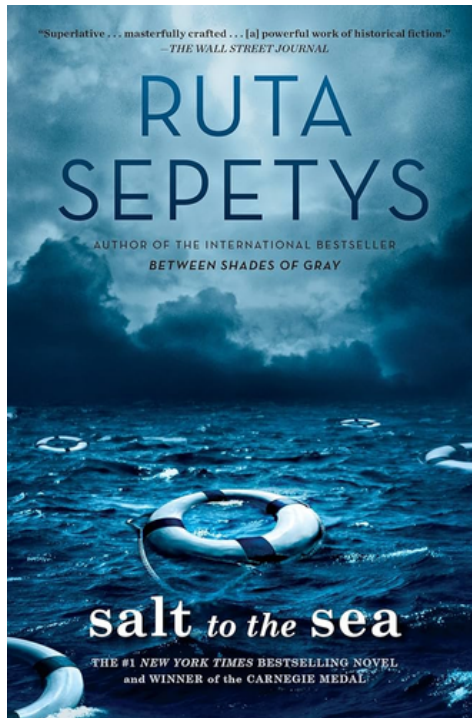
"They say life is full of surprises. That our dreams really can come true. Then again, so can our nightmares.."



## **Better Than the Movies by Lynn Painter**

"Because of things like car accidents and lost loves, life and death and broken hearts, we should grab every moment and absolutely devour the good parts."





## Salt To The Sea By: By Farwa Arain

Author: Ruta Sepetys

*World War II, refugees, gore, maritime disaster (drowning), dictatorship, sexual assault and rape, death, Nazis, the Red Army*

*Salt to the Sea* is a heartfelt historical fiction based on true events, including the well-known tragedy of the Wilhelm Gustloff's sinking during WWII. Something I found out was that this disaster had a death toll 9 times more than the Titanic, making it one of the deadliest maritime tragedies in history. This book looks through the lenses of four young individuals. What I find intriguing is how after each chapter, the perspective flips between Joana, Florian, Emilia, and Alfred, which adds complexity and variety to the narrative of each character's struggles and secrets. Joana, a Lithuanian nurse. Florian, a

***"I wept because I had no shoes, until I met a man who had no feet."***

Prussian a restoration artist. Emilia, a Polish orphan. And Alfred, a boastful Nazi. My favourite character has to be Alfred. His delusional mindset establishes a tapestry of human emotions against a backdrop of war. His perspective is primarily based on his poetic love letters to his sweetheart childhood neighbor Hannelore, a Jewish girl who rejected his love for her only for him to inform the Germans of her whereabouts... Ironic, isn't it? The devastating story of the Wilhelm Gustloff's tragedy makes me think of the thousands of untold sacrifices made during that era. The author of the book relates to this on a personal level because of her family's connection to the ship. Sepetys' writing is powerful, providing a voice to the forgotten victims of war. This novel is more than just a story; it is an inspiring example of the bravery and resilience that can emerge in the face of wartime challenges. This book would be a great read for people who are into major historical events.



## **To Change or Not to Change: That is the Question - Should we change our school name? Opinion**

By: Sarah Hussain, Gunveer Sandhu, Gavleen Purewal



### **Change the name:**

Our school is a very diverse community full of people from different backgrounds. Considering a name change for our school, Princess Margaret Secondary, requires careful reflection on the values and associations linked to the current name. While it holds historical significance, it also brings to mind controversies surrounding Princess Margaret's personal life. The existing name, Princess Margaret Secondary, raises concerns as it is associated with a historical figure from a colonial background. Princess Margaret, being part of the British royal family, symbolizes a colonial era that might not resonate well with the diverse student body at our school. In an educational environment that celebrates diversity today, a name associated with colonial history may seem at conflict with our values. Selecting a name free of colonial overtones becomes crucial since it symbolizes our dedication to diversity and takes into account the many backgrounds of our students to create a more inclusive environment. A name that is both sensitive to cultural differences will better reflect the diverse makeup of our student body and promote an atmosphere that is inclusive and reflective of our current time.

### **Keep the name:**

Princess Margaret Secondary- a school, a community, a history. Our school has been named Princess Margaret since its founding in 1950 - 74 years, 74 batches of graduates, countless students who consider Princess Margaret a part of their identity. Changing the name of our school would be like altering that identity. Every student who has ever graduated from PM and every student who will, are all connected to the school and each other by the memories of their time spent here at Princess Margaret. That name is a way for all of us to connect and creates a feeling of belonging for all students who have ever studied here. Princess Margaret is the identity of our school in this community; our PM lions have always represented our school under this name - it's tradition. Changing our school's name would break this tradition and it would almost be like a restart for all our accomplishments in areas such as sports and other legacies. Every other school in Surrey, and in the Lower Mainland, has known us as Princess Margaret since the very first day; it's who we are. Like it or not, Canada is still part of the Commonwealth, and we still have a connection to England and its history. Even if we were to ignore these reasons, the actual process of finding a new name isn't anywhere near easy. There are a variety of variables such as the history behind the name and we would have to consider and evaluate numerous options; this would take a fair amount of time.

The decision is between honouring a 74-year-old tradition, or having a fresh start with a new and more inclusive school name.



# SPORTS HIGHLIGHTS

Written by Hazel Pacamparra, Keerat Lally, Kloie Gareau

## Wrestling Team Wrestling Championship

We are thrilled to announce that our school's wrestling team has qualified for the provincial wrestling championship! This is a significant achievement, and we are very proud of our team's hard work and dedication. The team owes much of their success to their coach, Mr. Sanghara, who has been an exceptional mentor throughout the season. During the competition, our team gave their best effort, and we are pleased to report that two of our players emerged victorious by placing significantly higher than their competitors. Congratulations to Harjot Singh for placing gold and Udaypartap Billen who won bronze, and to our wrestling team for their incredible sportsmanship and hard work!



## Senior Boys Basketball

The Princess Margaret Senior boys basketball team had a tough but good run at the season. With a core grade 11, a few grade 12s and one grade 10, the boys played their best against some of the top teams in the Province, exceeding their own expectations. Balraj Dhaliwal had a huge improvement in his play from the previous season. Playing with a confidence that led him to be the leading 3 point shooter on the team. Harpuneet Singh, the only grade 10, had an amazing impact on the team and their success. Being the starting point guard, and one of the leaders, Harpuneet helped elevate the play of those around him. Gurshaan Dhaliwal, in the words of their coach, Adam: "I would call him the Mr. Reliable on the team". He would be one of the more consistent players on the court from game to game. His confidence levels were very high, attacking the rim against taller defenders. Lastly, Humaid Abbasi, our 6th man and our energy booster, our work horse. Humaid would bring the intensity coming off the bench to help lift the teams spirit to battle against the AAAA teams. We are all very appreciative of the hard work and dedication these players have put towards this season.





## Senior Girls Volleyball

With the majority of last year's team graduating, a lot of new and fresh faces were on the senior squad this year - what they lacked in experience, however, they more than made up for with determination and effort. With two of last year's star players deciding to return to Princess Margaret as coaches, our new group was in good hands. Under the experienced instruction of recent grads Sree Sivadas and Puneet Chahal, this year's senior girls volleyball team significantly improved and came together as a group as the season went on, making the district playoffs. Though they came short of their goal of a championship, the season was still one to be very proud of. Great job, seniors!



## Grade 8 Girls Volleyball

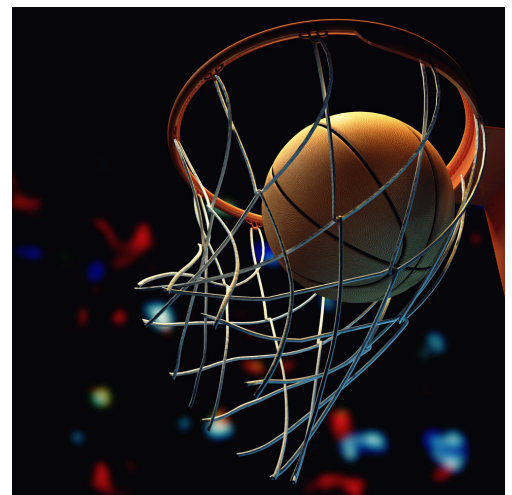
Our grade 8 girls had a successful season, making it to the playoffs where they nearly defeated the top seeds in the district. Considering the team had little to no formal volleyball experience, this was a massive accomplishment, and one the whole squad was proud of! The group practiced hard and improved immensely as the season progressed, and has continued to improve through off-season practices - this will be a group to watch as they move into the junior ranks next year. Stand-out players include Shreya Bali and Geann Valdez. Great work, girls!

## Grade 8 Boys Basketball

The Grade 8 Boys Basketball had a fantastic season. They worked hard and had many successes!

## Grade 8 Girls Basketball

The grade 8 girls basketball team had an incredible year - they not only made the playoffs, but were within a basket of making it to the district finals. Though the finish was disappointing, the entire team made the Princess Margaret family proud with how they progressed and improved through their season. With another batch of recent PM grads coming back to coach, the squad worked extremely hard in practice and learned a lot throughout the year. Stand-out players include Japnoor Nagra and Gurman Sandhu. Amazing season, team!





## Senior girls' basketball

We are also excited to share that our senior girls had an outstanding basketball season! With dedication and commitment from every team member, with the support of their coach Mr. Webber, they scored an impressive win of 54 to 47 against Immaculata. Their talent and hard work were undeniable, and we are incredibly proud of their performance. Despite a recent loss to Earl Marriott with a score of 63 to 50, we want to remind everyone that this does not diminish the incredible plays made by each team member. We are confident that the girls gave it their all and left everything on the court. To the senior girls, we want to express our gratitude for the excitement and joy you brought to the school this season. Your hard work and passion were truly inspiring, and we know that you will continue to achieve great things in the future. We can't wait to see what you accomplish next!

## Junior Boys Basketball

The Junior Boys basketball team had an eventful season as they competed in the toughest division in Surrey. The team had an uphill battle all season as a primarily grade 9 team competing against teams comprised of mostly bigger grade 10s. The goal was to grow as a team and show that they belonged, and they did just that, setting them up as a force to be reckoned with next year.

The team competed in 4 different tournaments over the course of the season, with highlights including Harman Nijjar scoring 24 points against Walnut Grove, Simar Hundal scoring 23 points against Earl Marriott, Wisdom Flomo hitting a huge go-ahead 3-pointer with 15 seconds left in the game to overcome Salish, the team qualifying for the A-side of the Surrey RCMP Tournament for the first time in years, and Partap Bhangu taking home an all-star award in the final tournament at Killarney Secondary in Vancouver. While the team struggled for regular season wins in division that included 3 teams that ended up in the top-15 in the province, but showed they can compete with a dominant win over LA Matheson at home. Look for this team to make some noise next year!





# ASK LEO THE LION!



**I'm really nervous about graduating and moving on to the "real world." How can I deal with these big changes and transitions?**

Well, first it's always important to remember that any feelings during this moment in your life are valid, and it's normal to feel overwhelmed and anxious. Sometimes you just need to stop and clear your mind. Do something you enjoy that'll distract your mind because extra stress will not make this process any easier. It's a huge change in your life but nobody should ever feel that they are alone in their journey to post-graduation. Having a strong support system, like your loved ones, can help you feel more comfortable and provide some wise advice. And if you feel like you don't have anyone close to help, you can always reach out to trusted adults or there are many online resources to use that will help with answering any questions. As well, it's normal to miss your friends at school and family, especially if you're moving away. You'll feel upset at times and alone. But always remember that this is a good change in your life, one that will lead you to success in the future and bigger opportunities. Your loved ones will always be there to support you. Staying in touch with old friends and trying keep a positive mindset will help you during your change into post-graduation life. Implementing a consistent healthy, balanced life-style can greatly help during times of change. Make sure you are exercising on a regular basis, getting enough sleep (7-9 hours a night) and eating a balanced diet. If you need help, remember you can find both school-based and community counsellors to help guide you through times of transition.



**There are so many challenges I'm facing now, the biggest one being my insecurities. How do I deal with these insecurities?**

Insecurities is a sensitive subject that many people avoid, but I think it's important to talk about. Everyone has their own unique insecurities and deals with it in their own way, especially during puberty. High school is when adolescents feel the most insecure, and that's normal. The most important thing to remember is don't let it get to your head too much. It's normal to have insecurities, but it's not okay to beat yourself up for it. Constant self criticism and hatred is unhealthy and you deserve more respect for yourself. I'm not saying you should automatically love your insecurities instantly because that's a very hard thing to do, but eventually you'll learn to embrace your insecurities instead of hating them. Surrounding yourself with people who make you feel confident and loved is always a great start to making you feel good about yourself and even repeating positive affirmations daily. Also, keeping a positive mindset will help with your journey to learn how to love yourself.

## Join a club today

### ***A-Team (PM Volunteer Club)***

A-Team is a group of students who volunteer for various jobs and events within and outside the school. We currently have an amazing A – Team built up from previous years and welcome any new participants interested in volunteering.

**Contact: Ms. Singh, Career center**



### ***The Book Club***

The PM Book Club is a space where students who love to read can read and discuss books without inhibition. Every month, we choose a book and then meet the following month to discuss – often, there are treats! Please see Ms. Ranu in room 212 if you are interested in joining.

**Contact: Ms. Ranu / room 212**

### ***Ethics Bowl Team***

Are you interested in debate, philosophy, ethics, or just have strong convictions that you want to advocate for? If so, Ethics Club might be for you! We work towards developing critical thinking skills by analyzing relevant social issues and discussing them amongst ourselves. We also work towards exciting goals such as competing in the Regional Ethics Bowl held at SFU in February. If this sounds like something you're interested in, come to our meetings every Monday in Ms. Patel's room.

**Contact: Ms. Patel Room 112**



***PM Newspaper – Inside the Lions Den***

PM's Newspaper – Inside the Lion's Den – focuses on written journalism, where we reach out to the PM Community with news, sports, and opinions. This newspaper covers a variety of information. If you love to write, are interested in journalism, or just want to be a part of an amazing team.

**Please see Ms. Ranu in room 212.**

***Punjabi Cultural Planning Committee***

The goal of this club is to spread the appreciation of Punjabi language, culture, history and customs in our school community and community at large in Surrey by providing them the volunteer opportunities to get involved in community events

**Contact: Ms. Chhina room 209**

***Chess Club***

For anyone who loves chess and would like to join in on some fun competition join the Chess Club! Online games with your peers.

**Contact: Mr. Vizvary room 105**

***PM Osul Club***

The PM Osu! club is a club about the popular computer rhythm game Osu! This involves club members playing said game in a friendly competition on Fridays in the CPU lab 118. Please make sure to bring a pair of wired headphones and optionally a keyboard and mouse.

**Contact: Ms. Bhupal Room / Location: Computer Lab Room 118**

**Time: Fridays at lunch**

***Grad Council***

If you're a Grade 12 student who'd like to help to make your last year of high school a memorable one, consider joining the Grad Council as a General Member. We're always looking for new ideas, suggestions for events, and help to make events successful. Volunteer callouts and General Meeting invitations will be posted on the Grade 12 Team regularly (check the "Grad Information" channel) and via the @pmgrad24 Instagram account.

**Contact: Mr. Lam Room 210 / Ms. Patel Room 112**

***Peers Club***

This is a club for students previously enrolled in PEERS to maintain and grow connections and skills learned through the program.

**Contact: Ms. Myers and Ms. Penpenia Room 100A or 100B**





## ***GSA Gender-Sexuality Alliance Club***

The PM GSA provides all students who identify as 2SLGBTQIA+ and their allies, to meet informally once a week as part of a safe and supportive group. We often discuss topics related to social justice and current affairs. Each June, we aim to collaborate with other clubs in the school to organize Pride Month activities, to encourage a spirit of inclusivity and education amongst the school community.

**Contact: Mr. Lam Room 210 / Ms. Brule 110**

## ***Green Team***

To educate our school community about the causes, consequences, and mitigating measures in relation to climate change by valuing Indigenous ways of knowing and learning.

**Contact: Ms. Panesar room 117**

## ***Multicultural Club***

Raise awareness and build community around Princess Margaret's diverse population.

**Contact: Ms. Myers room 100A**

## ***REACH***

Reach is an employment readiness program for Grade 10/11/12 students. This program will be delivered through weekly 1.5 hour sessions facilitated by Community Schools Partnership staff and partner groups. REACH will prepare and guide students to immediate jobs in recreation and youth/youth programs as well as hospitality. Sessions include lessons and activities around themes of leadership, community, recreation, and health. Students will also gain work experience in after-school and spring break programs and receive important certifications including: First Aid, Customer Service, Principles of Healthy Childhood Development and Food Safe.

**Time: Tuesdays & Thursday's 3:00-4:30 / Certification days 3:00-6:30**

**Location: Library**

**Note: There are a few spots left open for this program.**

**Contact: Yousif Shaboo**

## ***YoBro / YoGirl***

YBYG A mixed-martial arts program that gives students the tools to achieve their full potential and work with positive role models, while avoiding negative behaviors. We cultivate resiliency in at-risk youth and empower them with tools to avoid the perils of drugs, gangs, crime and violence. Early identification of risk factors and outreach to those most vulnerable has been proven to be an effective crime prevention technique. The Yo-Bro / Yo-Girl focuses on prevention of gang involvement, violence and substance use among boys and girls in Elementary and Secondary schools. An after-school mixed martial arts program used to engage the most at-risk youth.

**Time: Afterschool Friday's 3-5pm**

**Location: Princess Margaret Secondary / Gym and Theatre Room**

**Contact: Yobro / YoGirl Staff**



# PM Career Centre News



## ***PM Scholarship Winners:***

Congratulations to Aamna Mushtaq for becoming a finalist in the Loran Scholars Foundation Scholarship with over 4,700 applicants and 90 finalists. She is a passionate and dedicated student who is part of the PM Lions Eid committee. Actively exhibiting involvement within community service and leadership, Aamna Mushtaq has proven to be a role model for all PM students.

## **PMSS Punjabi Language Community Scholarship**

1 scholarship for \$500 Available to students who have taken Punjabi 12 Class at PM.

**Deadline: May 17, 2024, at 3:00 p.m.**

## **How to Apply:**

– Write an essay or make a Power Point in Punjabi (min 250 words) answering one of the 3 questions listed on PM scholarship website.

Submit to the Career Centre or Email: [singh\\_shareen@surreyschools.ca](mailto:singh_shareen@surreyschools.ca)

## **Eligibility:**

- Has or is taking Punjabi 12 at PM
- Demonstrates excellent work ethic in class
- Minimum grade of 86% in all or any Punjabi classes taken from grade 8-12



## **Parent Workplace Scholarships:**

Often overlooked scholarship opportunities are parent/guardian employer scholarships. Numerous companies provide employees scholarships only eligible to their children. Don't miss out on the chance of a unique scholarship to you – know the scholarships offered by your parents.

## **10 Words or Less Scholarship**

1 scholarship for \$1,000 is available for any student between the ages 14-25 applying for post-secondary in fall 2024. **Deadline: April 15, 2024**

How to Apply:

- Visit the website below and place a comment on any post you see answering you deserve the \$1,000 scholarship in 10 words or less.
- Like the Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/myscholarships](https://www.facebook.com/myscholarships)



**It is highly recommended to research the numerous other scholarships and visit the PM scholarship website which lists more scholarships including their deadlines, details, and eligibility. The above list only depicts a few of the countless scholarships available [princessmargaretscholarships.weebly.com](https://princessmargaretscholarships.weebly.com)**