

# Richmond's youth rock out

## Over 100 U-Roc Awards handed out



U-Roc Award winners gather for a group photo. Stephanie Ip photo

by Stephanie Ip

It was a classy affair, but not without a little touch of youthful rebellion. While most attendees were dressed in formal wear according to an Academy Awards theme, there were still those who sported not-so-common hair colours, rock band t-shirts, and more than a few pairs of Converse sneakers. But this was one event that celebrated those quirky qualities.

May 1 saw the takeover of Richmond's City Hall for the 2007 U-Roc Awards Ceremony where over 100 awards were given out to recipients ranging from youth, youth groups, adult mentors, and youth-friendly businesses. The goal of the U-Roc Awards is to recognize the outstanding sources of

support from Richmond's youth and youth-related organizations.

"It was spectacular," notes Erin Rochard, one of Richmond's two roving leaders. "It was great to see so much positivity and to see Richmond celebrating its youth." Together with fellow roving leader Sharon McLean, Rochard led a team of youth in transforming City Hall's lobby into a red carpet, star-studded event, where Mayor Malcolm Brodie also addressed the crowd.

While there were awards for a variety of things ranging from enthusiasm about fixing community center equipment to tireless promotion of anti-idling, or even just being great about hanging out with youth, one thing is for sure: Richmond's youth ROCK.



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# U-ROC

## 2007 Richmond Outstanding Community Awards

Congratulations on being a U-ROC Award Recipient!

**Ian Lai**

Adult Mentor

Ian runs the Terra Nova Schoolyard Project, where he helps children and youth learn how to grow their own fruits and vegetables, prepare food and make donations to the Richmond Food Bank. Ian is a kind and patient teacher with an amazing attitude and a motivating personality. His caring and generosity make him an outstanding mentor for youth in the Richmond community!