

## A.Y. Jackson Key Club - Service During the Pandemic

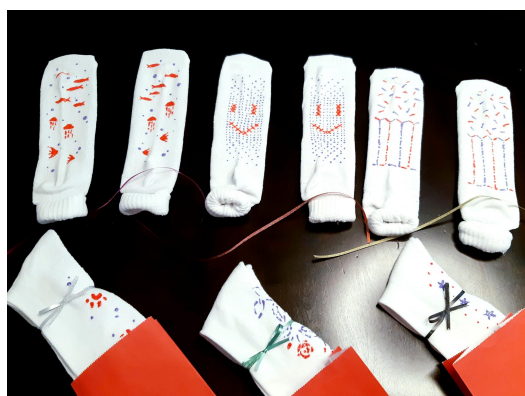
As co-presidents to Key Club, we felt an increased pressure to plan and execute events this year under pandemic circumstances. We want to make this year the best year while following all necessary protocols. Thanks to the executive team's hard work, the club members' dedication, and the support from the advisors, our club can have a positive influence on the community. Through service projects, fundraising events, and club activities, we learned that one can still contribute to the world regardless of how turbulent their environment may be.

In September, we started our club off with Key Club Challenge Week. In the week of Oct. 12 to 16, we encouraged Key Clubbers to participate in positive or productive activities, all assigned different numbers of points. Activities included: Learn a dance move, write a list of things you are grateful for, compliment five friends, run 5km, learn and perfect a magic trick, and many more. The member with the most points, Jessie Han, received a club meeting shout-out.



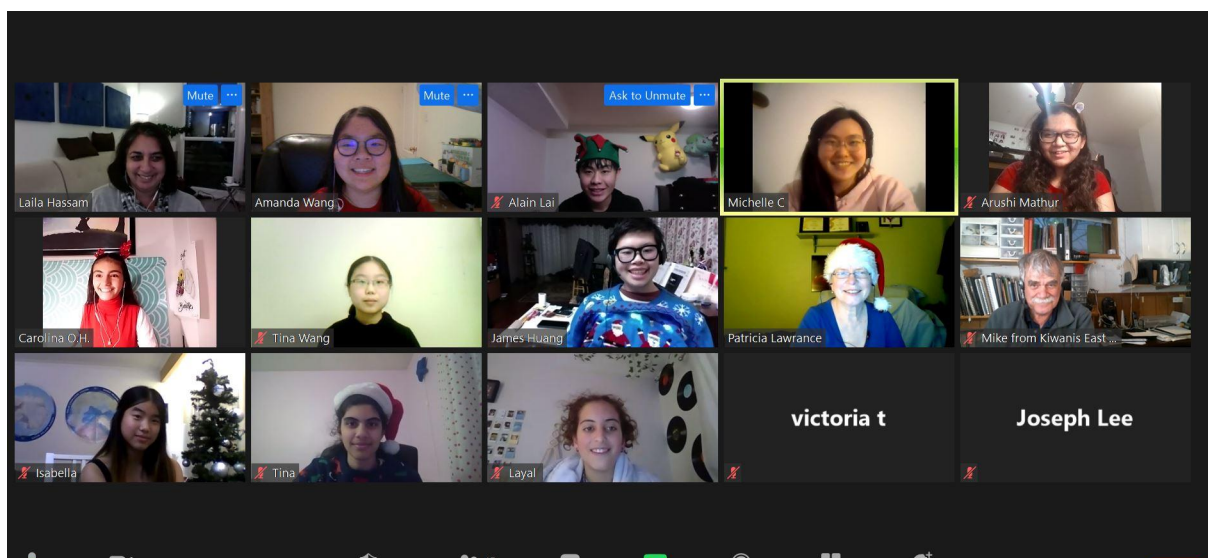
This past October, the government advised people against going Trick-or-Treating. As a result, we introduced an online UNICEF donation opportunity. Key Clubbers could donate however much they wanted; the person who donated the most, Carolina Oliveira Hinojosa, won a \$20 Staples gift card. In total, we raised \$217 for UNICEF this year.

After knowing about the shocking statistics about fall accidents in hospitals, Key Club made a total of 150 pairs of non-slip socks during October to November. Thanks to Kiwanis Youth Opportunity Fund ([YOF](#)) for funding this service project! Key Clubber painted the socks with various beautiful patterns using fabric paint. These non-slip socks will deliver our warm wishes to the recipients at the North York General Hospital while decreasing the likelihood of falls.



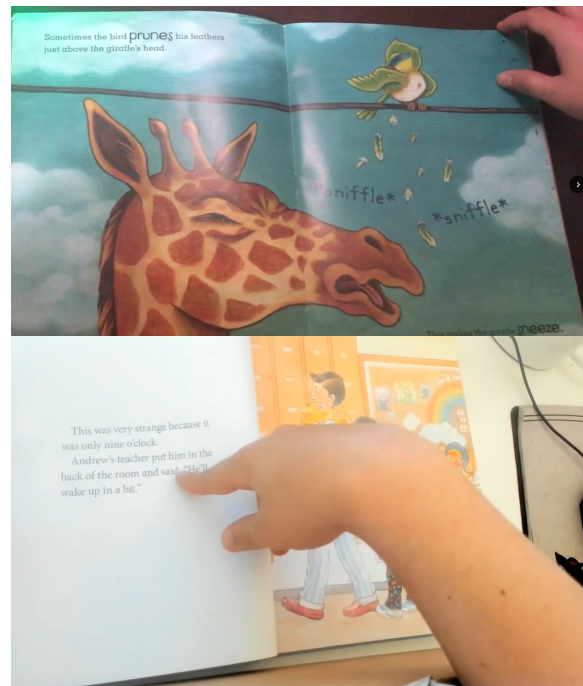
To promote happiness and self-awareness in these hectic times, Key Club executives worked in pairs to plan Happiness Week. From Dec. 7 to 11, we hosted four social media prompts and a game night. People also posted about their favourite recipes, spending time with family, as well as things they are grateful for.

We ended 2020 with a Christmas Party in our own cozy homes, directed by fundraising chair Carolina Oliveira Hinojosa. We also invited our Kiwanis advisors to join in on the fun. The executive team put together a music playlist and a full-packed party agenda. The party started with some Christmas trivia, transitioning into drinking hot chocolate, breakout room games, a Kahoot!, and a raffle. Lastly, the co-presidents and faculty advisor said closing words to thank our members' hard work and dedication. In addition to the celebration of Christmas and the New Year, our Key Club made virtual ornaments to spread the joy of the holiday season to the community.





To increase productivity amongst our younger students during remote learning our club organized a “Young Reader’s Program”. Our Key Clubbers participated in this program during December 2020 and January 2021, organized by Navya Ahuja, our Key Club’s volunteer coordinator. They recorded themselves reading children’s books. These videos will be shared with day care centers and elementary schools. We hope the children will have a fun and imaginative time when watching these recordings, as well as developing their language and listening skills.



Overall, as Key Club excelled under the new virtual environment, it was a meaningful and pleasant experience to serve the community. We hope that through our Key Club's initiatives, we can make positive changes to the world and pass the message that the pandemic will not stop leadership and service to others.

Our goal over the next few months will be to raise awareness and start a campaign for the [Bleed the North](#) program, participate in the fully virtual Eastern Canada District Education and Leadership Conference ([DELCL 2021](#)), collaborate with the Art Council and run a Mental Health Poster Competition, as well as a “Letters To Seniors” project. We are also preparing to use our 2020/2021 YOF grant towards making blankets for [Project Linus](#).

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