

Central Technical School

NEWSLETTER

June 2, 2026



May has been an incredibly busy month at our school, filled with remarkable student achievements and memorable celebrations. We kicked off the month with outstanding success at the Ontario Skills Competition, where our students brought home an impressive four medals! Our school's artistic and musical talents were also on full display this month through the Contact Photography Festival, our annual Fashion Show, the Art Showcase, and a spectacular spring concert.

Our graduating class has had a fantastic month as well. Students danced the night away at their Prom at the Eglinton Grand, and later came together for a wonderful celebratory lunch to mark their final few weeks of high school. Amidst all these events, we also hosted a successful Wellness Week to support our students as they work hard preparing for their final evaluations.

Looking ahead to June, our calendar is filled with both vibrant school events and important opportunities for reflection and learning. We are excited for our upcoming Freedom Fest (Juneteenth) celebration, the Athletic Banquet, and our Film Festival, all leading up to June 25th, when we look forward to officially wishing our graduates farewell at our Commencement Ceremony.

June also marks **Pride Month** and **National Indigenous History Month**, two vital opportunities for our school community to celebrate diversity, honour our shared histories, and foster an environment where every student feels a deep sense of belonging. We encourage families to use this month to engage in meaningful conversations together. To support this learning at home, here are some excellent resources:

National Indigenous History Month: Explore the curated collection of [Indigenous Stories on CBC Gem](#), which features incredible films, documentaries, and series highlighting the rich cultures and heritages of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples.

Pride Month: For resources, toolkits, and educational games that celebrate diverse families, visit [Egale Canada](#). Additionally, [pflag Canada](#) offers excellent community connections and peer support resources for 2SLGBTQIA+ individuals and their loved ones.

Thank you for your continued partnership and support as we head into this final, exciting month of the school year!

Indigenous Word of the Month:

This month's Indigenous word is **strawberry**. The strawberry holds great significance in many Indigenous communities because it's the first fruit of the year to be harvested. Check out this [article](#) from *CBC News* to learn more. Here are those words in the language of the groups recognized in the TDSB Land Acknowledgement:

Anishinaabe: **ode'imín** (courtesy of the [The Ojibwe People's Dictionary](#); includes pronunciation)

Haudenosaunee: **niyohontéhsa** (courtesy of [Mohawk Language in the Workplace](#) pg. 7)

Wendat: **tihchiont** (courtesy of the [English-Wendat Dictionary](#))

2026 Ontario Skills Competition:

The 2026 Ontario Skills Competition offers a unique opportunity for top students to demonstrate that they are the best of the best in their field. Over the two and a half days, they turn the heads of their educators, family, friends and prospective employers. Winners are awarded with Gold, Silver or Bronze medals, and some with monetary awards. We would like to congratulate all of our students who represented Central Technical School.

Special congratulations goes to.....

Milo Hennig who received a **Silver** medal for **Fashion Design**.

Miley Furtado who received a **Silver** medal for **Hairstyling**
Daniel Zhang who received a **Silver** medal for **Plumbing**
Timothy Lee who received a **Bronze** medal for **Plumbing**



Library Learning Commons:

Akil Augustine spoke to students in the CTS Library Learning Commons (LLC) about how to find their “Main Character Trait” and examine the upside and downside of this attribute. Augustine also spoke openly about the trauma he has overcome in his lifetime and the importance of not letting personal challenges prevent a person from achieving their goals and dreams. Augustine is a sideline reporter for the Toronto Raptors during home games and is a host and content creator for NBA TV Canada. Augustine has also appeared in various documentaries, such as *Undocumented*, which explores his journey of arriving in Canada at the age of four without his parents.



Science students from Ms. Filip, Ms. French, Mr. McGreal and Ms. Spizzirri's classes participated in an exciting workshop led by Resident Doctors from SickKids Hospital. Students got to try casting patients and participated in medical mythbusting trivia as well as an exploration into various careers in

the medical field.

On May 7, the LLC coordinated with the Guidance Department to host our annual Health and Wellness Fair. The event allowed students to get information and make connections with various community organizations to support their mental well being. Students were also able to enter a draw to win a gift basket.



We celebrated Asian Heritage Month in the LLC. This year's theme was *Asian Heritage: Roots, Connections, Innovations*. This theme underscores the deep roots that affirm identities, the strong connections shaped through collective

cultural pride, and the future innovations that will continue to strengthen communities and create opportunities for Asian Canadians in Canada and around the world.

We also celebrated Jewish Heritage Month, which provides an opportunity to recognize Jewish history, identity, and culture, and to support learning that promotes understanding, belonging, and respect. This work remains connected to the ongoing commitment to addressing antisemitism and all forms of hate.



Visual Arts:

On May 8th, our senior drawing and painting (AWM) students stepped out of the studio and into the professional art world with a trip to OCAD University's **GradEx**. Students toured the massive exhibition at 100 McCaul St., exploring the thesis works of the university's graduating class. It was an inspiring afternoon and students got a firsthand look at post-secondary art and design pathways.



One City Scholarship Ceremony:

The One City Scholarship recognizes that growing up with difficult life circumstances should not preclude young people from becoming leaders, innovators and changemakers. The mission of the One City Fund is to support incredible high school students who will be pursuing their post-secondary studies. In order to be considered, students submitted applications that included written statements, a teacher's reference letter and video presentations. This year's scholars were honoured at a joyous celebration on May 30th. Included in One City's Class of 2026 are CTS students, Aminata Darboe, Bianca Dunkley, Sarah Gordon and Mihana Sivakumar.



For many applicants, this is the first time they have been acknowledged for their scholastic excellence and their leadership potential. Once recipients become part of the One City community, they are supported with mentorship, encouragement, and access to a network of alumni who have walked the walk before them. Receiving this type of award isn't just about "one and done." This is about building relationships and confidence that will serve these students through their post-secondary years and beyond.



Congratulations to our CTS recipients. For more information about the scholarship, visit [One City Fund](#).

Construction and Art Collaboration!

Students in our Construction and Visual Arts classes recently collaborated on a meaningful real-world community project in partnership with SPCA and Constance Lake First Nation. In the first semester, students in the construction class designed and built seven custom, insulated dog houses. In the second semester, students in the Grade 11/12 Visual Arts class worked as mural designers. As part of an authentic client-based design process, Visual Arts students virtually met with the community representative from Constance Lake First Nation to review the creative brief, gather information about the community's vision, and discuss themes, and artistic direction for the murals. Students then developed original design concepts,

submitted them for client feedback and approval, and painted the final murals onto the dog houses. This interdisciplinary project provided students with valuable experience in communication, collaboration, design thinking, and community-responsive building and artmaking. The completed dog houses will be delivered to Constance Lake First Nation by SPCA, where they will be used for the community dogs.



Woodworking and Construction:

At the end of May, students in the design, woodworking and construction classes participated in a collaborative fence building project at the Island Public/Natural Science School, located on the Toronto Islands. Over the course of 8 days, students were able to use their skills to bring a student-created fence design to life and help the community by building a project which they will be able to see for years to come!



Track and Field

Congratulations to all students who participated in the TDSSAA Track and Field season this spring. Central Tech delivered an impressive performance at regionals, the city finals and OFSAA. Thank you for your hard work, dedication, and school spirit throughout the season!



Curtis Whylie at the start of his gold medal run in 200m at Regionals



Janai, Ralo, Anthony, and Yemaya pre-race



Anthony Edemivwaye at the start of his Bronze medal run at Metros

From the Land - CTS's Annual Art Exhibition:

From the Land, Central Technical School's annual student art exhibition, welcomed students, families, alumni, and community members on May 21 for an evening showcasing student work from across the Visual Arts and Specialized Arts programs. The exhibition featured portraiture and surrealism/symbolism-inspired art, photography, cyanotypes on glass, plaster cast sculptures, works inspired by Linda Sormin that were previously exhibited at the Gardiner Museum, and a preview of student-designed ceramic maquettes inspired by medicinal plants that will be installed in the school's main building in the coming months.



The event also featured a student-directed fashion show led by Rosalind Hyatt Orme and Frida Kelly, with assistant director Julia Cholette, highlighting the dedication and talent of dozens of student organizers, participants, and volunteers who helped bring the exhibition to life.

Guests included OCAD University President Ana Serrano, and the evening concluded with the launch of former CTS teacher Dustin Garnet's new book, *Drawing from History: Central Technical School and the Roots of Canadian Art Education*, which documents the school's longstanding influence on arts education in Canada.

The exhibition, currently on display in the art building, remains open to the school community until the end of the school year, and all are welcome to visit.



Kinesiology Beyond the Classroom:

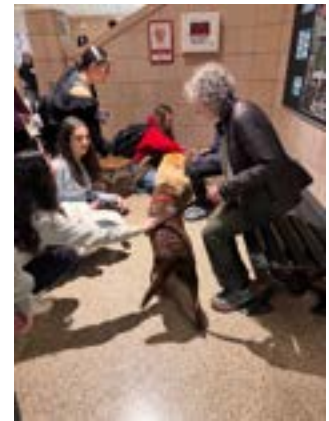
Our PSK4U - kinesiology class visited St. Michael's Hospital to participate in their "Stop the Bleed" program, where students learned how to provide emergency first aid for serious wounds using tourniquets.

Nurses from Sunnybrook also visited our kinesiology class to demonstrate how to properly cast a broken bone. These interactive experiences provided students with valuable hands-on exposure to emergency response techniques and medical injury care.



Therapy Dogs!

As part of Mental Health Awareness week, Central Tech was visited by a number of pups from Sunshine Therapy Dogs of Toronto. Students and staff had the opportunity to spend time with the therapy dogs during lunch in our front foyer, creating a calm, welcoming, and positive atmosphere. The visit brought many smiles to our students' faces and provided a meaningful chance to relax, connect with some furry friends, and de-stress during a busy time of year. Central Tech is fortunate for these experiences as they highlight the importance of mental wellness and foster a sense of comfort, and joy within our school.



Montreal Trip:

From May 15–18, students from the Specialized Arts and Hospitality programs enjoyed four days of exploration in Montreal. The itinerary included visits to the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts, Old Montreal, Notre-Dame Basilica, Mount Royal, and the Botanical Garden, offering students firsthand experiences of the city's art, history, architecture, and culinary culture. Students also visited a traditional Quebec sugar shack, where they learned about the province's maple syrup industry and experienced a longstanding cultural tradition that combines maple syrup production, local food, music, and hospitality. With beautiful weather throughout the trip, students embraced the opportunity to learn, explore, and connect with one another, making for a memorable and rewarding experience.



WildHearts Cafe Art Show

This summer, a selection of artwork by students from Central Technical School's Specialized Arts Program will be on display at Wildhearts Café from mid-June through mid-July. The exhibition will include paintings, drawings, and student-designed album covers created for original mixtape projects. Drop in for a coffee, spend some time with the artwork, and support our emerging young artists. Opening and closing receptions are being planned, so stay tuned for dates and details in the coming weeks.

LAWS:

Students in the grade 11 LAWS program were fortunate to step out of the classroom and into the heart of Ontario's democracy with a guided tour of the Legislative Assembly at Queen's Park.

The trip offered students a front row seat to the history of Ontario's provincial governance. Walking through the hallways of the Richardsonian Romanesque building, students observed the historic architecture, learned about the democratic process and how a bill becomes a law, and visited the legislative assembly.



CTS helps BCI for their Musical!



Through its ongoing collaboration with Bloor CI and BloorARTS Production, Central Tech's senior hairstyling class provided hair and makeup for *The Little Mermaid, the Musical*.

Over three days and six performances from April 30 to May 2, CTS students Samira Abdullahi, Miley Furtado, Von Grumbo, Mihana Sivakumar, and Nico Toffoli created makeup looks for shimmering mermaids, moody pirates, the king of the sea, and the sea witch, along with slicked-back and ruffled hair,

braids, and soft waves. They also fitted lace-front wigs on the lead actors. Throughout the run, the students pushed themselves to bring each character to life and refine their skills. The

experience showed them how powerful it can be to create something that helps a person feel confident and at their best.

Grade 9 Contemporary Crafts:

After studying *Medicines to Help Us: Traditional Métis Plant Use*, by Christi Belcourt, Grade 9 Craft students have created ceramic relief sculptures of healing plants that are native to Turtle Island. Look for these pieces to be installed on the walls of the third floor wellness area in June!



Senior Ceramics:

Senior Ceramics students have been working on their culminating independent pieces. Each student designs a personal project to show off the skills they have developed all semester.



Grade 10 Communications:

Students in Ms. Rosen's Grade 10 Comm Class worked with student teacher Ms. Bensason to create a stunning stained glass project. Each student designed a panel in Illustrator, representing their cultures, personalities, families, interests, hobbies, and beliefs through symbolism. We then used the laser engraver to etch the illustrations into glass, and soldered them together to create three collaborative glass pieces to hang in the school windows.



OYAP:

On May 12th CTS welcomed guidance counsellors and co-op teachers from various elementary and secondary schools for a full day of learning and exploration in Skilled Trades, Specialized OYAP programs and Apprenticeship Pathways. Throughout the day, guests had the opportunity to work alongside our skilled trades teachers, participate in hands-on workshops, and learn more about the unique opportunities available to our students. The PD was an incredible success and highlighted the talent and dedication of our staff and students. A special thank you goes out to Mr.Fam, Ms.Kalerante, Ms.Leckie, Mr.Schrader, Mr.Stavole, Mr.Zalewski and OYAP leads Mr.Bradley and Ms.McLeod, who planned and facilitated engaging workshops to make this such an informative and memorable experience for our guests.



Guidance

SUMMER SCHOOL

Summer school will be delivered in 4 different formats in 2026:

In-person Full Credit (8:45am - 3:30pm, July 2 - 25). Registration runs April 28 - June 12, 2026.

Remote Full Credit (8:45am - 3:30pm, July 2 - 25). Registration runs April 28 - June 12, 2026.

Remote Credit Recovery (8:45am - 11:45am and/or 12:30 - 3:30pm). Registration runs April 28 - June 12, 2026.

More information can be found here: [TDSB Summer School](#)

Registration for these programs begins April 28. The registration page can be found at [Summer School Registration](#)

e-Summer School is another remote learning option available in both July and August. The program is primarily **asynchronous** with direct teaching for about one hour/day and teachers available for the rest of the school day to hold office hours, small group sessions, individual tutorials and respond to student questions via email

Registration for July e-Summer School runs from April 15 - June 7 (August course registration runs April 15 - July 9)

[e-Summer School Registration](#)

Summer SWAC & Dual Credits

Students with 28 credits by June 30 may be eligible to earn their final two credits in July! Students can earn high school credits and college credits in July.

Check out this link for more information: [Summer SWAC & Dual Credit Info](#)

See your guidance counsellor for details and to sign up :)

POST-SECONDARY INFO:

- If you have accepted an offer to University or College, please be sure to carefully review all correspondence. Your **tuition deposit** should be due soon! If you do not meet this deadline, your offer will be rescinded!

- June 3 - [Admission Information Service](#) will be available through the Ontario Universities Application Centre. This service will let students know which **University programs are still accepting applications**. Go to <https://www.ouac.on.ca/ouac-101/>, and click “Open Programs”. Good luck!

- To see which **College programs** are still accepting programs, go to www.ontariocollege.ca and search programs.

- **OSAP - Ontario Student Assistance Program:**

As soon as a student has accepted an offer, they may apply for OSAP to help fund their tuition for the post-secondary education.

[OSAP Application link](#) - the application portal is now open.

[How to Apply for OSAP](#)

SCHOLARSHIPS

Congratulations if you have received a scholarship for next year. Please notify Mr. Cormier of the name and amount of the scholarship as soon as you can, so this can be announced at our Commencement ceremony on June 25th!

Here are a couple of upcoming deadlines for scholarships:

- [Brian Maxwell Memorial Scholarship](#), **Deadline:** June 8, 2026
- [The Bridges EDU Scholarship - June 30, 2026](#)
- The Black Foundation of Community Networks (BFCN) has rich scholarship resources (directory, workshops, etc.) for black students. Check out their website: <https://bfcn.ca/scholarships/>

For a list of scholarships and awards compiled by us, click: [Scholarships & Awards](#). Be sure to pay attention to the tabs at the bottom of the sheet!

SWAC & DUAL CREDITS FOR SEPTEMBER 2026

Dual Credits allow you to earn an **additional credit** (plus a free college credit!) in a semester! **SWAC** allows students to earn up to **7 credits in one semester** if they are within graduation range. Dual credit and SWAC registration is now open. For more information about dual credit visit the [TDSB Dual Credit Website](#) and the [SWAC information page](#).

See your guidance counsellor for details or to sign up :)

Need Volunteer Hours?

You can set up a phone meeting with a volunteer advisor. Click the link below: <https://www.volunteertoronto.ca/page/BookAppointment>

Learning Buddies are looking for volunteer tutors
<https://www.learningbuddiesnetwork.com/mentor-application-form>

Huron School Spring Picnic

June 4th 4-8pm

Sign up at <https://volunteersignup.org/LQRA7>

Earn Volunteer Hours and CPRC training

St. Albans one week LIT Summer Program July 6, 13, 20 and Aug 10

Contact infor@stalbansclub.ca

Looking for a Summer Job?

Check out Youth Employment Services. YES runs programs where they provide paid training for students and then find them work. <https://www.yes.on.ca/>

The Neighborhood Group

Resume Support, access to job leads, summer job support, 1 on 1 support, Interview prep, virtual and in person help

Email infoETC@tngcs.org

Graduation Reminders

Please review important information for graduation at this [link](#).

Free Math Help - Grade 6 - 12

It's not too late to register for Mathify, free online math tutoring! Get help preparing for your final culminating assignment and exam.

- <https://www.tvomathify.com/students>

Help and Distress Lines

- [Kids Help Line](#)
- [What's Up Walk In](#)
- [Mental Health TO](#)
- [Black Youth Helpline](#)
- [LGBT Youthline](#)
- [Naseeha](#) - Mental health hotline, resources, workshops, web therapy and more for Muslim and non-Muslim youth and individuals.
- [Indigenous Youth Help Line](#)
- 911

Google Classroom Codes:

Grade 9/10: [invite link](#)

Grade 11/12: [invite link](#)

Grade 7 Day

On May 28th Central Tech hosted a grade 7 day where we hosted 200 students from our feeder schools. Students were given the opportunity to try out some great activities in the areas of electrical, plumbing, carpentry, hairstyling, baking, art, LAWS, physical education, design, and automotive run by our fantastic teachers and student volunteers. Special thanks to Mr. Fam, Mrs. Rosen, Mr. Waldie, Mr. Rasmussen, Mrs. Kalerante, Mrs. Leckie, Mr. Schrader, Mr. Stavole, Mr. Zalewski, Mr. Frade, Mrs. Cho, Mrs. Bunting-Fraser, Mr. Savo and Ms. Cuevas for all their hard work! The grade 7's had an amazing day!

Important Upcoming Dates:

June 2nd: Juneteenth

June 9th: Athletic Banquet

June 25th: Commencement