

## Vanier College's Jailson De Lima wins the 2018 Beaumier Award for High School and Cegep Chemistry teachers



Montreal, October 4, 2018. Vanier College is proud to announce that Jailson De Lima is the recipient of a 2018 Beaumier Award for High School/CÉGEP Chemistry Teachers. Sponsored by the Beaumier Churcott Foundation, the Beaumier Award is presented in recognition of excellence in teaching chemistry at the high school or CÉGEP level and to encourage and promote chemistry at the high school and Cégep level in Canada. Jailson De Lima received the award for the *Art and Science Project* he initiated in his chemistry classes. The Award was presented to him by Dr. Fabien Hammerer from the Chemical Institute of Canada, Committee Chair in Montreal, on behalf of the Beaumier Churcott Foundation at a ceremony held at Vanier College recently. The award is accompanied by a cheque for \$1,000.

Inspired by the ideas of the Imaginative Education Research Group from Simon Fraser University and by the works of Mihaly Csikszentmihalyi and Ken Robinson, Jailson de Lima who has been teaching at Vanier College since 2000, decided to explore the use of creativity and imagination within the constraints of the curriculum of Quebec's CEGEP system.

In 2009, Jailson started the *Art & Science Project*, which uses a cross-disciplinary integration between visual arts and the natural sciences to promote a deeper understanding of the role of models in chemistry by enhancing student engagement, sparking curiosity, and conveying an emotional significance to the material. His pedagogical approach has been presented at both local and international conferences, in journal articles, and on the website of the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts. His work has also caught the attention of universities in both Canada and Germany and continues to evolve through fruitful partnerships and collaborations with them and others.

Jailson credits his frustration as a high-school science student as the motivation for exploring the uncharted waters where science and art meet. The lack of excitement and sense of wonder in traditional schools started him on a journey to try to imagine a different kind of learning environment and reinvent his teaching practice from scratch.

In receiving his award, Jailson de Lima spoke about the gratitude he felt for this recognition and for the support he has always received from his department in his pursuit of new ways of teaching his students.

Congratulations to Jailson De Lima.