

2020

# BERMUDA AWARD NEWS

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EQUIPPING YOUNG PEOPLE FOR LIFE

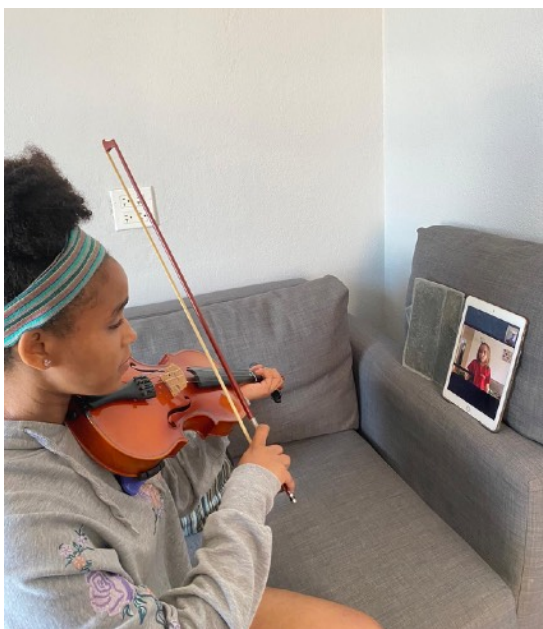


# THE AWARD DURING COVID-19

The Award is extremely proud of the way in which our participants haven't let staying at home stop them from reaching their goals and helping others during the COVID-19 crisis.

Within two weeks of the stay-at-home order, the Award had adapted its requirements to enable the program to continue to run smoothly whilst retaining the integrity of the program. Participants have been sewing masks, mentoring others virtually in social skills and empowerment groups, giving violin tutorials, creating physical recreation challenges with their teammates, taking up Yoga, planting and growing vegetables, baking and cooking (just to name a few). [Click here to see what they have been up to!](#)

Gold participant Angel Seaman, pictured on the cover, has been sewing much needed face-masks for family and friends and explains, "I just want to encourage everyone to find something they enjoy doing at this time and make the most out of it. Stay safe!"





# THE VIRTUAL AWARD

The Award staff have started piloting several virtual experiences for our participants. We are pleased that our programme has continued to run at a high standard and is becoming more accessible for those who might not have been able to take part previously for physical reasons.

The Award is collaborating with the Bermuda Zoological Society (BZS) and Bermuda National Trust (BNT) to share virtual learning resources. The Silver Group who are waiting to do their Adventurous Journey (AJ) on the Spirit of Bermuda, have engaged with the BZS's virtual Earthday and have been exploring virtual programming on endemic plants and shipwrecks as part of their practice journey.

In partnership with the National Trust, we are developing AJ's which will have our participants exploring and researching Trust Properties, Cemeteries and the African Diaspora Trail. Depending on the isolation regulations, participants will be able to explore these journeys virtually on Google Maps or in their teams. The Award participants will also give back to the BNT by helping them conduct valuable research and assist with clearing of invasive species (see below), documenting native flora and fauna, mulching, filament checking, conducting Bioblitzes and taking rock and soil samples.



Pictured above, Silver Award participant, Jelani Simmons from CedarBridge Academy engaging in the BZS virtual Earthday Celebrations by learning about and taking the freediving challenge of holding his breath for one minute.



Oliver Baron and Brady Sullivan, from Saltus Grammar School (pictured left) are enhancing the area within Paget Marsh by removing invasive plants and planting endemic species of trees. The boys have a detailed 13 week plan to ensure they meet both their goals and the aim set by the National Trust. By giving a minimum of one hour a week, these young boys are making meaningful impact on the environment and on the wider community as a whole!

# 2020 SILVER AWARD SPIRIT OF BERMUDA

In August, 2020, a Silver Award group will take part in their Adventurous Journey on the Spirit of Bermuda. Participants from various public and private schools will be learning to sail, exploring shipwrecks and engaging in conservation projects during their journey.



# 2020 GOLD AWARD USAIL BERMUDA

This year the Gold Level participants will take part in a local water-based Adventurous Journey with USail (pictured below). Participants will earn their Level 1 and 2 sailing certificates, a water safety and boating certificate and be involved in several conservation projects on Paget Island and in Harrington Sound for their residential component. This is Bermuda's first water-based sailing Adventurous Journey and we are excited to see how they get on!



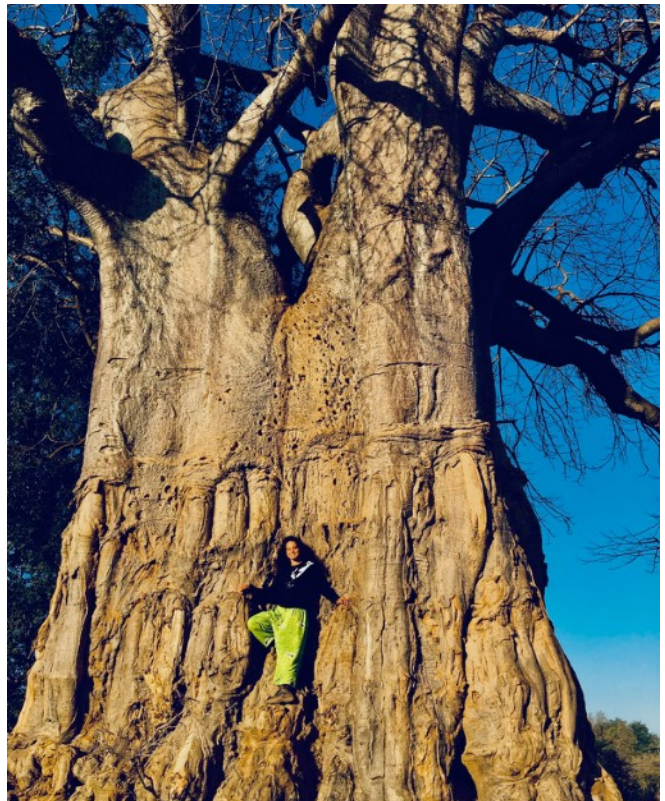


# GOLD AWARD IMPACT - BRYANA BELL

*“Taking part in the Duke of Edinburgh, both Bronze and Gold, has shaped who I am today. In today’s world, it is so easy to get caught up in materialistic things and worry about problems that won’t matter in the future. This program has not only allowed me to reprioritize but it also showed me how far I can push myself to complete out of the ordinary tasks. Being able to volunteer at Windreach, and working with the therapy animals, has open my eyes to the key roles that they play in our community (pictured below). This allowed me to understand the ever-growing importance of wildlife conservation in Zambia because of the important roles animals have.*

*It was amazing to learn about Zambia, it’s culture and to help out a couple schools for my Adventurous Journey and Residential (see right). I’ve made countless memories and lifelong connections with people in such a short time I will continue to be involved in this program as an Award Leader in Training. Programmes like this teach many skills that you cannot learn in the day-to-day life, I would recommend it to everyone.”*

*Bryana Bell, Gold Award Holder & Award Leader in Training*





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