

COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS

QUINN

CALLANDER



THANK YOU, QUINN! YOU TRULY ARE AN INSPIRATION. READ ABOUT OUR COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS AT: [MAPLERIDGE.CA/2016](https://mapleridge.ca/2016)

GET INSPIRED BY QUINN

SCOUTS CANADA

QUINN ON DR. PHIL

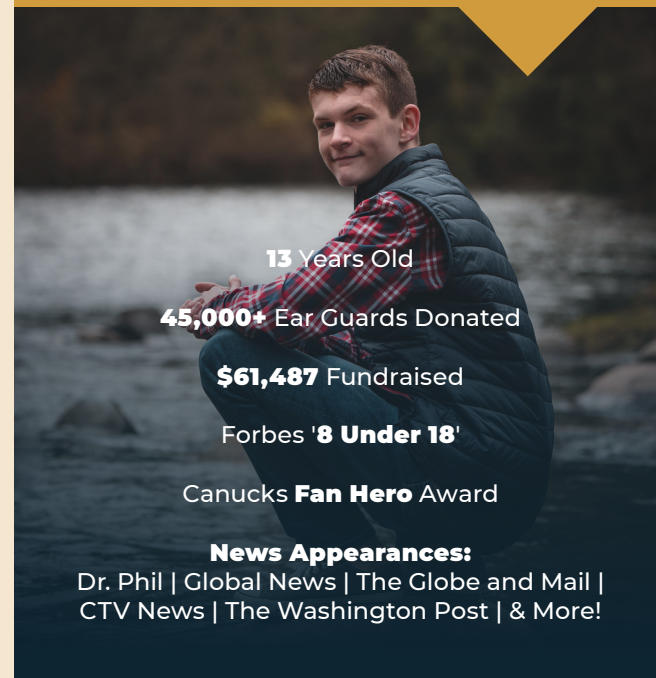
QUINN FEATURED IN FORBES

QUINN ON THE MARILYN DENIS SHOW

Tell us about yourself.

My name is Quinn Callander, I am thirteen years old and live with my Mom (Heather), Dad (Freddie), dog (Bowie) and cat (Raya). I have lived in Maple Ridge my whole life.

My favorite thing about living in Maple Ridge is all of the natural beauty that surrounds us. I really like getting out for a hike in the forest and exploring the vast amounts of trails we are so fortunate to have. When I am out on the trails looking at the trees and lush greenery, I feel like I am home.



13 Years Old

45,000+ Ear Guards Donated

\$61,487 Fundraised

Forbes '8 Under 18'

Canucks Fan Hero Award

News Appearances:

Dr. Phil | Global News | The Globe and Mail | CTV News | The Washington Post | & More!

You've recently been featured on various news sources around the world and in Forbes' '8 Under 18' list for your incredible contribution of ear guards created using your 3D Printer. Can you tell us the story?

I started printing the ear guards when my Mom was tagged in a post on Facebook by a friend who knew I had a 3D printer. The post was from a nurse who was looking for help to make a device to help medical professionals relieve the pressure off the backs of their ears from wearing the masks all day. My Mom asked me if I would like to help out. I was excited to put my machine to good use and I printed off two prototypes for our friend (who is a nurse) to test. When she picked the best model, I started printing them 24 hours a day.

At first, I was donating the ear guards to hospitals in the lower mainland only. Then my Mom entered me in a photo contest for Scouts Canada to show what Scouts are doing while quarantined at home. I didn't win but the post went viral and was shared over **462,000 times worldwide**. Hundreds of thousands of requests started to come in from all around the world. I would fulfill as many requests as possible but soon we realized I couldn't keep up. So, we enlisted volunteers from different countries. When a request would come in from another country, we would email

the volunteer the address and they would print and donate the ear guards. It was amazing to see that we were all regular people who came together to solve a simple problem.

All of the attention this project received was noticed by several manufacturers in Canada, the USA and the Philippines. These manufacturers were inspired to create a mold of the Ear Guard and start producing them using an injection molder. This is a much faster way of making them. They were generous enough to donate thousands of them to me so I could continue distributing them across Canada and the USA. To date, **my family has sent out more than 45,000 ear guards**. At first our focus was medical professionals but now we also focus on anyone that wears a mask to keep us and themselves safe.

We realized from the emails we received that people who wear a turban or hijab have a difficult time wearing a mask because their ears are covered. The Ear Guard solves this issue. My Mom also works with people who wear hearing aids and her company makes sure that the clients get a Ear Guard so they don't accidentally lose their hearing aids when they take their mask off.

Your Ear Guards were not your first adventure in volunteerism. Can you tell us about the lemonade stand? When I was 7 years old my friend Brayden, who has cerebral palsy, needed to have a surgery that was only done in New Jersey. I came home from school and asked my parents if I could have a lemonade stand for him to raise the money. My Mom set up an online fundraiser so our family from out of town could donate. But the local newspaper heard about the lemonade stand and it was picked up by Global News. The lemonade stand was a success and **we raised \$61,487!** The doctor in New Jersey was so happy about all of the publicity that he waived the fees for the surgery. We were able to surprise another family and **help their little girl have the surgery too.**

The most important part of this experience for me was seeing how an entire community can come together to support people in their time of need. I felt good that I was able to help my friend and we also got to enjoy some cool opportunities because of the experience.

Why is volunteering important to you?

I mainly enjoy being able to contribute to something in whatever way I can. It does not always have to be big gestures, sometimes just the smallest act is enough to make a difference to someone else. Being a Scout has taught me that it is important to live my life in a way that I always do my best to make a positive difference in this world.

"Try your best to help your community and make a difference in the world around you. And if someone tells you that you are too young to make a difference, you tell them:

WATCH ME!"

