



**MIDDLE
SCHOOL**
At Home. In the World.

**Science Award
2020
Grade 8
Stephnie Essien'24**

“In the fall of 2019, Stephnie put herself into an entirely new scholastic environment.

Stephnie left home and moved into the Wilbraham & Monson Academy Middle School Dorm. As a first year student, all of her teachers and fellow students were new, requiring her to develop relationships and build an understanding of the community norms. In the science room, Stephnie remained calm, cool and collected.

This was consistent behavior even when faced with challenges of computer technology, during an in-classroom experiment or even through a community issue. Her confidence allowed her to remain even-keeled in the science class, thus making great observations, conclusions and decisions based on her original observations.

Stephnie’s ability to remain focused during lectures helped build a great understanding of the material covered and prepared her for lab experiments. Her leadership was then demonstrated in the classroom when working with lab partners. This well-rounded science classroom experience positioned her well to complete her individual work at night to perfection. For these reasons and many others, it is my honor to award Stephnie Essien the Barber Prize for Science 8.”

- Mr. Pelletier