



APRIL 10, 2018

Albany Capital Center  
Albany, New York  
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## CHANCELLOR'S AWARD *for Student Excellence*

The Chancellor's Award for Student Excellence acknowledges students who have received recognition for distinguished achievements. It is the highest honor bestowed upon a student by the University. This year, 249 students from 64 campuses will receive this award.

Nominations are sought for students who have best demonstrated and been recognized for their integration of academic excellence with other aspects of their lives including leadership, campus involvement, community service, arts (creative or performing), athletics, and/or career achievement.

# *Welcome & Remarks*

**Dr. Kristina M. Johnson**  
Chancellor

**Erin Hamlin**  
SUNY Empire State College Alumna  
*4-time Olympian, 2-time World Champion, 2014 Olympic Bronze Medalist*

# *Presentation of Awards*

# *Reception*



April 2018

Dear Students, Families, Faculty, Staff, and Friends:

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the 2018 Chancellor's Awards for Student Excellence ceremony. Today, we recognize 249 of the most outstanding students from throughout the SUNY System.

To be selected from among the more than 600,000 students pursuing their higher education degrees at SUNY, those nominated for the Chancellor's Award have not only demonstrated that they excel academically, but that they are champions outside of the classroom — actively involved in improving both campus life and their communities. These students have proven to be exceptional leaders, athletes, volunteers, and visionaries. Their achievements reflect hard work and dedication, along with the support of their family and friends, and the faculty and staff at SUNY. We are extremely proud of them all.

On behalf of the entire State University of New York, I congratulate each of these amazing students on their distinguished achievements, and wish them the best of luck in their future endeavors.

Warm regards,

Kristina M. Johnson, PhD  
Chancellor



*Music Performance by*  
SUNY Oneonta's A Cappella group Pitch Slapped

Lauren Giacalone (President)  
Rebecca Roffi (Vice President)  
Jaidin Tonneson (Treasurer)  
Kayleigh Fournier (Musical Director)  
Denny Burhan (Musical Director)  
Monica Kelly (Public Relations)  
Lindsay Weber (Public Relations)  
Amber Triebwasser  
Claudia Maynard  
Demetra Russian  
Dory Fitzpatrick  
Hannah Smith  
Larken Ewing  
Mairéad Farinacci  
Nicole Lanni  
Selena Hackshaw  
Taylor Metz

## SUNY ADIRONDACK

### Theresa Betz

*North Lawrence, NY  
Business Administration*

Theresa graduated in January 2018 with her Associate's degree in Business Administration. She has been on the President's or Dean's list every semester during her time at SUNY Adirondack. She served as President of Phi Theta Kappa and led the group officers to the New York Regional Conference in October 2017. Theresa is continuing her education in Management and Human Resources at Siena College.

### Stephanie McLain

*Pottersville, NY  
Nursing*

Stephanie is a double major in Nursing and Liberal Arts at SUNY Adirondack, while also pursuing her Bachelor's degree in Nursing from SUNY Plattsburgh. In Spring 2017, she traveled to Guatemala on a medical mission — partnering with Refuge International — to care for the people of Chocoma. She volunteers with community flu clinics and organizations dedicated to Lyme research. Stephanie desires to become a nurse so she can serve her community and care for those in need around the world.

## UNIVERSITY AT ALBANY

### Anna Agnes

*Oakdale, NY  
Political Science*

Anna Agnes is very involved on campus and in the classroom. She currently serves as the Vice President of the UAlbany pre-law chapter of Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity, a Senator at Large in the Student Association, the Vice Chairwoman of the Board of Finance, and the President of the College Republicans. She is also a member of Phi Beta Kappa, the Presidential Honors Society, and the club field hockey team.

### Julia Alford

*Melville, NY  
Political Science*

After attending a program as a freshman that encourages women to run for office, Julia has stepped into multiple leadership roles at UAlbany in Student Association: AAUW, Pi Sigma Alpha, Omicron Kappa Delta, and College Democrats of New York. A strong believer in applied learning, she has spent almost every semester interning, including for members

of Congress, advocacy groups, and private firms. Julia currently works for Senator Charles E. Schumer as a Staff Assistant.

### Gourav Bhowmik

*Bokaro Steel City, India  
Nanoscale Engineering*

Gourav is a technology entrepreneur and student leader devoted to promoting diversity on campus as Chairman of UAlbany's biggest annual diversity event — Diwali Night. His involvement includes leading diverse socio-cultural groups in international student engagement as President of the Indian Student Organization, creating new opportunities for researchers in cutting-edge nanotechnology as President of the Nano Graduate Student Organization, teaching STEM undergraduates as an Educational Opportunity Program tutor, and supporting campus initiatives for student career advancement.

### Melissa Galeano

*Queens, NY  
Political Science*

Melissa is an honors student in the Rockefeller College of Public Affairs and Policy and recently completed her thesis, which focused on the militarization of the U.S. immigration system. She has worked for the Department of Residential Life and served as a Peer Mentor for the Writing and Critical Inquiry Department. Melissa interned at the NYS Assembly, the Queens District Attorney's Office, and at the Office of Barack and Michelle Obama during the Semester in Washington program.

### Harlan Ginsburg

*Albany, NY  
Business Administration*

Harlan is a leader on campus with the Albany Business Leaders Emerging as Community Service President, Vice President, and President; the Albany Sports Business Organization as Co-Founder and President; and the Emerging Student Leaders Program. He has held internship roles with UAlbany Athletics, Special Olympics New York, and the National Basketball Association. Harlan is a Student Assistant for the Student Organization Resource Center and a Purple and Gold Student Ambassador.

### Rosemary Herbst

*Hamburg, NY  
Accounting*

Rosemary is an accounting major at the University at Albany. Since her admission to UAlbany, Rosemary has

been a member of the Honors College and Presidential Honors Society. She currently serves as the Internal Vice President of Beta Alpha Psi, which is an honorary organization for accounting students. This summer, she will be interning at the Big Four accounting firm, EY, in Washington D.C. After graduating a year early, she will pursue a Master's in Forensic Accounting.

### Minqi Huang

*Tengxian, China  
Human Biology*

Minqi (or Maggie) has served as a Resident Assistant, Housing Manager, Research Assistant, and Tour Guide at UAlbany. She is especially proud to have been an international orientation assistant and mentoring other international students. Maggie is a member of the Presidential Honor Society, the Lambda Alpha Anthropology Honor Society, and the Alpha Phi Omega community service fraternity. In recognition of her commitment to the community, she has received the Alumni Spirit scholarship, Spellman Achievement Award, and Student Association Community Service Scholarship.

### Madeeha Khan

*New Delhi, India  
Computer Science*

Madeeha is a member of the Honors College and the Omicron Delta Kappa National Leadership Honor Society. She currently serves as the elected Vice President of the Undergraduate Student Government and represents UAlbany as a Purple and Gold Ambassador. She has received several President's Awards for Leadership as well as a Spellman NIA Alana Scholarship Award for academic and leadership excellence. Additionally, she has served as an Orientation Leader and a Resident Assistant.

### Ryan Maestre

*Bay Shore, NY  
Communication & Journalism*

During his time at UAlbany, Ryan demonstrated spectacular leadership skills as a three-year Resident Assistant, the Director of Public Relations for the Student Association, a brother and e-board member of Alpha Phi Omega National Community Service Fraternity, an intern for the Student Affairs Media Team, and a Purple and Gold student ambassador, all while maintaining an above 3.65 GPA. After graduation, Ryan wishes to pursue a career in broadcast journalism.

**Michael Watts**

*Brooklyn, NY  
Political Science*

Michael has flourished in the UAlbany community since transferring from Morgan State University and overcoming homelessness. He joined the Honors College, was selected to be a football walk-on, and completed hundreds of hours of community service as both a founder and leader of multiple student organizations on campus. He has dedicated himself to public service and will be enlisting in the National Guard.

**ALFRED STATE COLLEGE****Katherine Holmok**

*Prattsville, NY  
Business Administration*

Katherine has served as Senior Representative for the SUNY Student Assembly as well as a two-term President of the Student Senate at Alfred State. As President, she authored a resolution to ensure timely notification of campus construction is accessible to students with visual and mobility impairments. This resolution was eventually recommended to all 64 campuses by the SUNY Board of Trustees. Katherine is also a Civic Engagement Advocate and liaison to the local Village Board.

**Hannah Vuozzo**

*Salt Point, NY  
Interdisciplinary Studies*

Hannah held an internship in communication at the Sant'Anna Institute in Sorrento, Italy while studying abroad as a liaison for the SUNY Student Assembly. As an Executive Vice President for the Student Senate and Managing Editor for the college newspaper, Hannah has been a tireless advocate for leadership through civic engagement at Alfred State. In addition, Hannah held leadership positions with the Architecture Club, Programming Board, as well as the Student Success Center.

**NYS COLLEGE OF CERAMICS AT ALFRED UNIVERSITY****Kade McGarrity**

*Angola, NY  
Ceramic Engineering*

Kade is a currently a Materials Science and Engineering PhD student at Alfred University, where he completed his Bachelor's degree in Ceramic Engineering. Kade works with Dr. Holly Shulman in studying the high-temperature structural and

mechanical properties of ceramics. He is part of several musical ensembles on campus, and is a four-year member of the AU men's soccer team. Kade has ambitions to start his own company and to help fill holes in the high-tech materials industry.

**Jesse Plass**

*Poughkeepsie, NY  
Art & Design*

Jesse, who has consistently been on the Dean's List, has excelled academically at Alfred University and is very active on campus. Using humor and working class current events, Jesse's sculptures, installations, performances, and events explore social and political narratives. His work forges relationships between diverse social groups and examines personal identity through the gravity of nostalgia.

**BINGHAMTON UNIVERSITY****Jonathan Aranov**

*Perfield, NY  
Business Administration*

Jason majors in Business Administration and minors in Environmental Studies. He plans to bring these interests together to promote alternative energy and sustainable business practices. He is a Binghamton University Scholar and Price Waterhouse Cooper Scholar. He has served as a mentor to fellow Scholars, an Admissions Tour Guide, and a Resident Assistant. Jason speaks Spanish fluently, is President of the Spanish Club, has tutored children in Peru, and has worked to conserve sea turtles in Costa Rica.

**Tamar Ashdot**

*Brooklyn, NY  
English and Judaic Studies*

Tamar Ashdot has a GPA of 3.98 and double majors in English and Judaic Studies. She is a published poet was recognized by the Academy of American Poets College Prize for Undergraduates, and received the Andrew Bergman Creative Writing Award. She has fostered cultural exchange across borders, connecting student Pen Pals, teaching languages, and curating photo exhibitions in Binghamton and Argentina. Tamar is also a Jewish Foundation for Education of Women SUNY International Relations and Global Affairs Scholar.

**Rebecca Grzybowski**

*Massapequa, NY  
Nursing*

Rebecca is a Binghamton University Scholar majoring in Nursing with a

minor in Education. Rebecca demonstrates excellence in both the classroom and clinical setting. Her current cumulative GPA is a 3.975 with a nursing GPA of 4.0 in a program with a very rigorous curriculum. She is also involved with many campus and community-based activities: she tutors undergraduates and public school children and is an Admissions tour guide.

**Shafeen Hemnani**

*Rego Park, NY  
Psychology*

Shafeen excels academically and is a natural leader whose positive attitude and work ethic have enabled him to contribute extensively to many aspects of campus life. He is a Resident Assistant, valued Research Assistant and reliable Lab Manager at Binghamton University, and has also been named to Phi Beta Kappa.

**Ashley Hilfman**

*Plainview, NY  
Business Administration*

Ashley is a Business Administration major with a 3.88 GPA. She supports her peers on campus through work at the Fleishman Center for Career and Professional Development and Student Support Services. She was selected for a competitive internship with Ernst and Young and to participate in the Deloitte International Women's Day Conference. Ashley has helped raise tens of thousands of dollars for the American Cancer Society and for Greek Life at Binghamton University.

**Sara Hobler**

*Buffalo, NY  
History and Sociology*

Sara is majoring in Sociology and History with a minor in Spanish. She maintained a 4.0 GPA while being active in labor and immigration rights issues. After freshman year, Sara was selected for the Summer Scholars and Artists Program and completed a study of women through the ideology of the Russian Revolution. She studied abroad in Mexico and her research examining LGBT movements across the US-Mexico border was published in the Binghamton Journal of History.

**Rachel Levy**

*East Northport, NY  
History; Philosophy, Politics, and Law;  
Political Science*

Rachel is an engaged leader in all she does. Her remarkable work ethic is evident as she pursues an ambitious triple major while holding several jobs to help fund her education.

Rachel has achieved a meaningful immersion in scholarly work through challenging courses, independent study, research-oriented internships, and service as a Teaching Assistant. An accomplished poet, she also excels in Mock Trial, as a writer, and as a planner of campus coffeehouse events.

### Alexander Resnick

Plainview, NY

*Linguistics; French Language and Linguistics; and Russian Area Studies*

Alexander is on a mission to encourage compassionate coexistence through language learning. An engaged scholar capable of unusual insights, he earned a 3.97 GPA and was named to Phi Beta Kapa while developing competencies in Russian and French. Alexander pursued a triple major and still managed to spend a semester in France. A natural leader and team player, he also excels as a singer with one of Binghamton's a cappella groups.

### Sonia Reyes

Staten Island, NY

*Sociology*

Sonia excels academically with a 3.78 GPA. She is a Resident Assistant who has inspired students to find their passion and engage in public service and is seen by her peers as a nurturer and someone to depend on. She is a vocal proponent of mental health and educating others about issues and resources on campus. Sonia's academic, leadership, and community service ethic have been recognized by Binghamton's President's Award for Undergraduate Student Excellence.

### Kayden Stockwell

Long Beach, CA

*Psychology and Human Development*

Kayden has excelled academically with a 3.78 GPA. He is a recipient of Binghamton University's Scholarship of Excellence and was selected for the three-semester Freshman Research Immersion Program. Kayden is dedicated to research on autism and helping children and adults with behavioral and cognitive disorders. He is also a student leader, founding the Association for Applied Behavioral Sciences and acting as Editor in Chief of The Undergraduate Psychological Review.

### Che Sun

Shijiazhuang, Hebei Province, China

*Economics and Math*

Che, a senior at Binghamton University, is pursuing a double-major in

Economic Analysis and Mathematical Sciences. He is the recipient of several academic honors and has devoted significant time to service and scholarship, serving in leadership roles both within and outside the classroom. Having excelled in rigorous master's- and doctoral-level classes, as well as research pursuits as an undergraduate, Che is planning to pursue a PhD in Economics.

## THE COLLEGE AT BROCKPORT

### Kiara Alfonseca

Middletown, NY

*Journalism & Broadcasting and English*

Kiara is one of five journalists of color nationwide chosen as a ProPublica Emerging Journalist; 275 students competed for the honor. She spent Summer 2017 as a Fellow with the Knight Foundation/CUNY Graduate School of Journalism's Diversity Initiative. Kiara, a Delta College student with GPA of 3.82, is a double major in Journalism & Broadcasting and English with a Language Certificate in Spanish. She served as Editor-in-Chief of the student newspaper, The Stylus.

### Justin Galardi

Chili, NY

*Biochemistry*

Justin, a member of Brockport's Honors College program, has participated in several semesters of independent research along with being employed as a Laboratory Teaching Assistant for General Chemistry, Organic Chemistry, and Physics. He was accepted into two separate undergraduate research internships, including the University of Rochester's Chemistry Research Experience for Undergraduates program and Argonne National Laboratory's Student Research Participation program. Justin has also won several academic awards, including the 2017 ACS Organic Chemistry Award.

### Mei La

Brooklyn, NY

*Nursing*

Mei has excelled academically and has always aspired to "be the change you want to see." Her call for greater diversity and inclusion earned her a position as a leader on campus in Residential Life. She takes acts on being the change by actively improving the quality of patient care within the hospitals she works with in the Rochester region.

### Cheryl Limer

Vestal, NY

*Computer Science and Psychology*

Cheryl has excelled in the classroom, research, professional development, and as a leader. She is a double major in Computer Science and Psychology and in the Honors College with a 3.99 GPA. She won the Computing Sciences Departmental Award and the Vishal Anand Memorial Scholarship, given for excellence in academics and research. Because of her leadership potential, Cheryl was hired as a STELR (Science, Technology, and Engineering Leadership Rotation) Engineer at SRC in Syracuse.

### Melissa Szurgyi

Williamsville, NY

*Sociology and Women & Gender Studies*

In addition to being placed on the Dean's List with Honors and President's List throughout her college career, and culminating a 3.90 GPA, Melissa has also excelled outside of the classroom by getting involved any way she can. Melissa is an Honors Peer Mentor, Leadership Development Program member, and Secretary of Brockport's Habitat for Humanity chapter. Additionally, she has a passion for community service, shown through her receipt of the President's Service Award in 2017.

## SUNY BROOME COMMUNITY COLLEGE

### Monica Hollenbeck

Endicott, NY

*Arts General Studies, Teacher Education, and Early Childhood*

Monica has excelled as an Education major and serves as Treasurer of the Broome Educators of Children Association. She is a member of Phi Theta Kappa and has been on the President's List every semester, all while maintaining a job at a local daycare. Monica has also been active in her community and abroad, volunteering in local hospitals, creating healing rooms for children through A Room to Heal, and traveling abroad on the Health for Haiti service learning trip.

### Danika McMurray

Endicott, NY

*Liberal Arts: Individual Studies*

Danika made the Dean's list while studying Liberal Arts at SUNY Broome, and now majors in Political Science at Binghamton University. Committed to civic engagement and equal opportunity, she interned with

Kim Myers for Congress and Senate Minority Leader Charles E. Schumer. Additionally, she co-founded the campus' College Democrats chapter and serves as the Vice President of Broome County Young Democrats. On campus, Danika was Vice President of Phi Theta Kappa, a student ambassador, and a peer-tutor.

### Erin Page

*Johnson City, NY*  
*Liberal Arts: Communication & Media Arts*

Erin has always played sports, such as volleyball and softball, while maintaining her grades at an exceptional level. At SUNY Broome, she maintained a 3.9 GPA while playing for the SUNY Broome volleyball and softball teams her freshman year. She is a member of Phi Theta Kappa, a Student Ambassador, and the Vice President of SUNY Broome's Communication Club. Erin also works for the Binghamton Rumble Ponies with the Video Production team at NYSEG Stadium.

## BUFFALO STATE COLLEGE

### Matthew Burch

*Perry, NY*  
*Wood/Furniture Design and Industrial Technology*

Matthew, an Army veteran and McNair Scholar, is an accomplished musician and instrument maker who used his Undergraduate Summer Research Fellowship to design and build a modernized guzheng, an ancient Chinese stringed instrument. He is a recipient of the college's Dr. Margaret E. Bacon Best of Studio Award for wood/furniture design. In addition, he co-founded the Buffalo Furniture Factory, an ADA-compliant company that won the 2017 New York State Business Plan Competition regional championship.

### Emily Cloutier

*Buffalo, NY*  
*Philosophy*

As the founding President of the college's Alpha Beta chapter of Phi Sigma Tau, the international honor society in philosophy, Emily secured donations for an annual speaker series, coordinated a food drive for the Buffalo State campus food pantry, and organized a Philosophy Department community library. She served as President of the Intercollegiate Ethics Bowl Club and earned an Undergraduate Summer Research Fellowship to study the ethics of parenting.

### Mohamed Koanda

*Bronx, NY*  
*Computer Information Systems*

Mohamed, a native of Burkina Faso, Africa, serves as an EOP Freshman Mentor and Tutor at the EOP Academic Center for Excellence. He is also a Buffalo State Scholar-Athlete Award winning member of the men's track and field team, a University Police Student Assistant, and Residence Life Resident Assistant, where he was named Most Valuable Paraprofessional in 2017. He has also completed the National Leadership Development Institute Course sponsored by INROADS.

### John Latona

*Frewsburg, NY*  
*Multidisciplinary Studies*

John, the first Buffalo State graduate student to concentrate his studies in fiber design, created artwork selected for the juried Art in Craft Media exhibit at the Burchfield Penney Art Center as well as the International Minitextile Exhibition and "Hands On" Buffalo State Fibers Exhibit in Bratislava, Slovakia. He also traveled to Rwanda with the college's Anne Frank Project, which influenced his work as a teacher at the Charter High School for Applied Technology in Buffalo.

### Samantha Stanford

*Williamsville, NY*  
*Psychology*

Samantha, who earned an Undergraduate Summer Research Fellowship to conduct research on addictions, is completing a senior year honors thesis on prenatal cigarette and marijuana exposure. A member of the college's Muriel A. Howard Honors Program, she has been inducted into the international honor societies for psychology and sociology. She has served as a Student Success Associate for the college's COMPASS Program, Research Assistant at the Institute for Autism Research, and teacher at St. Luke's Lutheran Church.

## UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO

### Devashish Agarwal

*Agra, India*  
*Computer Science*

Devashish, an international student from India, will graduate with a Bachelor of Science in Computer Science and minor in Management. He is an Honors College Scholar serving as President of the Honors Student Council for three years. In addition, he is the Chairperson of

Student Senate, organized the first TEDx talk in UB's history, and has been an International Orientation Leader, Senator for Residence Hall Association, and a Teaching Assistant. He is also on the Future Alumni Leadership Council.

### Marla Beyer

*Amherst, NY*  
*Psychology*

Marla is a University Advanced Honors Scholar. She's a research assistant at UB's Research Institute on Addictions, John R. Oishei Children's Hospital, and Buffalo General Hospital, where she has worked on projects pertaining to prenatal substance use and pediatric asthma. Marla has presented research at multiple national and regional conferences. She has also served as a volunteer Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Counselor.

### Harman Paul Brar

*Buffalo, NY*  
*Political Science and Economics*

Harman Paul will graduate with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and Economics with a minor in Statistics. He was selected as a US-UK Summer Fulbright Institute Scholar. A Presidential Scholar, Harman Paul has been a Tutor at the Valley Community Center, the President of the Sikh Student Association, and a Co-Captain on UB Bhangra. He has also interned in the Office of Senator Kirsten E. Gillibrand and with the 2016 Clinton campaign.

### Mary Canty

*Buffalo, NY*  
*Biomedical Engineering*

Mary will graduate with a Doctorate of Philosophy in Biomedical Engineering. She is a Western New York Prosperity Fellow and was the recipient of the 2017 Western New York Buffalo Emerging Technology Awards Showcase's "Women in Technology" award. Mary was also a Presidential Fellow in the Department of Biomedical Engineering where she conducted research in the Orthopedics Research Laboratory focusing on the prevention of orthopedic implant infections.

### Rachael Cardinal

*Depew, NY*  
*Pharmacy*

Rachael will graduate with a Doctorate of Pharmacy. She was selected as the Robert H. Guntow Scholar of her pharmacy class and was nationally recognized as an American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy Walmart Scholar. Rachael also

served as President of the Student Society of Health-System Pharmacists and Rho Chi Honor Society; two organizations within the University at Buffalo that promote student professionalism, involvement, and success throughout pharmacy school and after graduation.

### **Mikayla Fayó**

*Washingtonville, NY*

*Biomedical Sciences and Psychology*

Mikayla will graduate with a Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Sciences and a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology. She is a Community Assistant and a Leadership House Mentor. Mikayla has been a Resident Advisor for the Leadership House Living Learning Community and a psychology Research Assistant and Teaching Assistant. She has also served as Vice President of UB Amnesty International and is currently an active member of the UB Choir.

### **Randy Fernando**

*Buffalo, NY*

*Architecture*

Randy will graduate with a Master of Architecture. He was awarded the Arthur A. Schomburg Fellowship for maintaining high academic credentials in the face of adversity. He also received the Fred Wallace Brunkow Fellowship, designating him as the editor of *Intersight*, the international journal of the School of Architecture and Planning. Randy founded B/a+p Chats as a means to amplify the student voice in academic settings and pulseArt, an artist collaborative.

### **Marco Gangarossa**

*West Seneca, NY*

*Accounting*

Marco has excelled academically and is the President of the University at Buffalo Accounting Association. He has been a Course Assistant, Committee Leader, Representative for Becker Professional Education, and was the recipient of the prestigious Excellence in Accounting Scholarship. Marco has also won the highly competitive PricewaterhouseCoopers case competition and the PricewaterhouseCoopers Corporate Responsibility Challenge which is awarded to ten students across the country.

### **Walker Gosrich**

*Plattsburgh, NY*

*Mechanical Engineering*

Walker, who has excelled academically, is an active member of Professor Napp's robotics research group at UB and is the Music

Director of The Enchords. He is also a FAFSA Completion Intern serving the local College Success Centers in the Buffalo Public Schools. Walker has received the Barry Goldwater Scholarship and the UB Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering (MAE) Humanitarian Award for his work.

### **Seamus Lombardo**

*Nanuet, NY*

*Engineering*

Seamus has excelled academically at UB. He is the Program Manager of the UB Nanosatellite Lab and also participated in research through UB's NASA Microgravity project and the UB Biomechanics lab. He has also held internships at Millennium Space Systems, SpaceX, NASA Goddard, and NASA Langley. Additionally, Seamus is the Vice President of the UB College Democrats, and has consistently participated in STEM outreach.

### **John McCarthy**

*Painted Post, NY*

*Biological Sciences*

John graduates with a Bachelor of Science in Biological Sciences. He is a University at Buffalo Presidential Scholar and member of the Honors College, and he also works in an Ecology research lab. John is the Captain of the University at Buffalo Cross-Country and Track and Field teams, and has competed on those teams for four years. A theatre minor, John has appeared in two productions at the University at Buffalo.

### **Michael Paraszczak**

*Syracuse, NY*

*Architecture*

Michael is a University Honors College Scholar. He won the UB Architecture Academic Excellence Award three years in a row and the UB Architecture Design Excellence Award his junior year. He is a self-taught musician and an intern at Macknight Architects. Michael volunteers as a Teacher and Assistant Director for the Ukrainian-American Youth Organization, and dances for the ODESSA Ukrainian Dance Ensemble.

### **Kayleigh Reed**

*East Amherst, NY*

*English and Asian Studies*

Kayleigh has excelled academically at UB. She was a David L. Boren Scholar travelling to India from 2016-2017, where she studied Urdu intensively. A University Honors Scholar, she volunteered at Journey's End Refugee Services and Lafayette High School in Buffalo, where she

mentored refugees. Kayleigh has also served as Secretary of the Honors Student Council and as a Teaching Assistant for the UB Honors College.

### **Philip Schneider**

*Williamsville, NY*

*Engineering*

Philip will graduate with a Doctorate of Philosophy in Electrical Engineering. He is co-founder, President, and CTO of La Salle Concepts. As a Western New York Prosperity Fellow, his focus is merging his research with his entrepreneurial goals. His research includes healthcare wearable technologies, biometrics, and test phantoms. Philip's works have resulted in three patents, \$200,000 in funding, and numerous scientific papers. He currently sits on the WNY Invention Convention Board.

### **Katherine Ups**

*Wollongong, New South Wales, Australia*

*Biomedical Sciences*

Katherine, an international student from Australia, has excelled academically at UB. In addition, she is a member of the UB women's basketball team, and led her team to a MAC Championship in March 2016. Katherine made the Mid-American Conference Distinguished Scholar List and was named to the All-MAC Academic Team. As a 2016 nominee and 2017 winner of the Chrisy Dickerson Unsung Hero Award, she has also volunteered regularly in the Buffalo community.

## COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY AT CANTON

### **Jessica Lyn Fischer**

*Williamsville, NY*

*Mechanical Engineering Technology*

Jessica has participated in transforming student involvement in sustainability initiatives on campus by establishing and presiding over the SUNY Canton Environmental Change Organization. She volunteered abroad with the WindAid Institute along with a team of individuals in Peru to manufacture and install wind turbines for rural communities. Jessica also initiated a comprehensive, pre-consumer food waste composting operation and conducted research, testing the quality of compost with SUNY Canton as the primary case study.

### **Kaitlyn Tibbetts**

*Farmingville, NY*

*Criminal Investigation*

Kaitlyn was awarded an Investigative Support Assistant Student Intern

position with the U.S. Secret Service at the Resident Office in Knoxville, Tennessee, for the duration of her undergraduate and graduate studies. She also received the Dr. McBride Criminal Justice Student Achievement Award through New York State University Police Chief's Association in Fall 2017, as well as being recognized as the Outstanding Associate Graduate in 2016, graduating with highest honors, —Associate in Criminal Justice —from SUNY Canton.

## CAYUGA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

### Glyn Davenport

Skaneateles, NY

*Liberal Arts and Sciences: Math & Science*

Glyn has shown over his time at Cayuga Community College that he is not only a gifted student but also a dedicated and involved student leader and advocate. He has excelled academically and is President of the local Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society where he encourages high academic standards and service to the community.

### Mitchell Phillips

Oswego, NY

*Liberal Arts and Sciences: Math & Science*

Mitchell has demonstrated academic excellence, strong student leadership, and community service throughout his time at Cayuga Community College. He has maintained high academic standards while also taking on many leadership roles. Mitchell is the Student Government Organization President in Fulton, a Student Ambassador, an Orientation Leader, a member of Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, and a dedicated Tutor.

## CLINTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE

### Carleen Provost

West Chazy, NY

*Liberal Arts: Humanities & Social Science*

Carleen's commitment to assisting others in discovering purpose and opportunity is evidenced in her service to the campus community in her roles on the Lower Judicial Board, leading fundraisers, and actively contributing her time to local community service projects while serving as Secretary of the Alpha Pi Tau Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa (PTK). Her academic excellence is impressive with special recognition for academic achievement in history

as well as nomination for the PTK/All USA Academic Team.

### Joshua Stone

Morrisonville, NY

*Liberal Arts: Humanities & Social Science*

Joshua is an outstanding leader on campus not because he seeks others to follow him, but because he seeks others to discover their own inspiration and talents and follow those. In addition to his academic excellence, his commitment includes service to our country as a United States Army Military Police Veteran, to the Lower Judicial Board where he served as a role model/mentor for students, and involvement on campus and within the local community.

## SUNY COBLESKILL

### Mary Greagan

Selkirk, NY

*Wildlife Management*

Mary has excelled as a scholar, athlete, and student leader. A member of the Honors Program, she has presented her research at several conferences and has a patent pending. She was also co-captain of the cross-country team and served on the Student Athlete Advisory Council. In addition, Mary was an active member of the Woodsmen and Archery clubs.

### Jaimee Lord

Mechanicville, NY

*Applied Psychology*

Jaimee is a member of Phi Theta Kappa and received the most outstanding early childhood student award. She serves as a Senior Resident Assistant, is a leader of the softball team, and has won the Excellence in Student Leadership Award. Jaimee is devoted to community service and helping to improve many people's lives.

## COLUMBIA-GREENE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

### Brooke Baum

Catskill, NY

*Nursing*

Brooke has excelled academically and is completing her Honors Clinical Program by providing health care to local migrant workers. She volunteers at the Athens Cultural Center, is a member of the Health Promotion Club, and assists with Flu Clinics and other health related education at C-GCC. Brooke was also chosen

by the nursing faculty to receive the Freida Eising Scholarship for her outstanding grades and nursing potential.

### Phillip Proper

Kinderhook, NY

*Business Administration*

Phillip plans to become an entrepreneur by earning his Bachelor's and MBA. He is a member of the C-GCC men's baseball team, earning the 2017 NJCAA Third Team All American All Academic Honors, 2017 NJCAA Region III All Academic All Region Honors, and Region III Male Athlete of the Week, and is nominated for the 2018 Phi Theta Kappa All American Award. In addition, Phillip has designed game boards and logos for three different companies worldwide.

## CORNELL – NYS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE & LIFE SCIENCES

### Danielle Clark

Fayetteville, NY

*Communication*

Danielle Clark has the Department of Communication's highest GPA and is President of the Communication Student Advisory Board (CSAB). Her rigorous academic path includes a minor in business and working in a research lab, and she has received two competitive undergraduate research grants. Her academic excellence is matched by multiple campus leadership roles, community service, and significant career achievement. American Express offered Danielle a full-time position after graduation based on her performance there last summer.

### Nicholas Karavolias

Smithtown, NY

*Agricultural Sciences*

Nicholas is an ambitious student dedicated to addressing social justice issues at a global and local level. His undergraduate career has been fruitful academically and beyond. He founded a library dedicated to addressing class disparities and spearheaded the opening of a grocery store to help students eat well. He also dedicated himself to research aimed at improving global food security through improving crop genetics. He will pursue a PhD with similar goals in mind.

## Elizabeth Thayer

*Framingham, MA*

*Food Science*

Elizabeth is a senior Food Science major, with a Business minor to support her future career in the food industry. In addition to excelling in academics—including achieving the Dean’s list each semester—Elizabeth is Captain of the Cornell Varsity Swim Team, and is engaged in the Student Athletic Advisory Committee, Big Red Leadership Institute, and Body Positive Cornell. She’s an Undergraduate Teaching Assistant, member of a faculty search committee, and has completed two internships.

## CORNELL – NYS COLLEGE OF HUMAN ECOLOGY

## Elizabeth Ashton Brewster

*Chestnut Hill, MA*

*Policy Analysis and Management*

Elizabeth is pursuing a major in Policy Analysis and Management with a minor in Business at Cornell. On campus, she is the Head Teaching Assistant for the introductory course to her major, the former President of the Society for Women in Business, and an active member of Delta Sigma Pi Professional Business Fraternity. After graduation, Elizabeth will be working at J.P. Morgan in Consumer & Retail Investment Banking.

## Cooper Walter

*Emerald Hills, CA*

*Human Biology, Health, and Society*

Cooper is an exemplary student, community member, and leader. He prioritizes community engagement and personal development in addition to academics. While excelling academically with one of the highest GPAs in his program, Cooper is actively involved on campus and beyond, notably through his leadership in Cornell Minds Matter, a program that aims to destigmatize mental health issues.

## CORNELL – NYS COLLEGE OF INDUSTRIAL & LABOR RELATIONS

## Samantha Camy

*Caribou, ME*

*Industrial and Labor Relations*

Samantha has excelled academically and has completed internships with IBM, Verizon, and Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP. She was a Founding Partner for the Black Ivy Pre-Law Society and Treasurer for Urban

Blaze Dance Troupe and the Cornell Caribbean Students Association.

Samantha also served the greater community as General Manager for Cornell College Mentors for Kids.

## Derrick Rice Jr.

*Brooklyn, NY*

*Industrial and Labor Relations*

Derrick has excelled academically and completed an internship as a Legislative Aide in the New York State Senate. He interned for the New York League of Conservation Voters and served as a Policy Analyst for the Cornell Roosevelt Institute. Derrick was also awarded the President’s Award for Community Service for contributions as a Volunteer Coordinator for the Food Recovery Network at SUNY-ESF.

## CORNELL – NYS COLLEGE OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

## Rachel Gates

*Shrewsbury, MA*

*Veterinary Medicine*

Rachel has excelled academically, is a leader in community outreach and philanthropy, and has served as President or co-President of several student organizations—some at the national level. She has volunteered at a local clinic to provide pet care for low-income families and heads a non-profit to benefit students in underprivileged areas of the world. Rachel has also participated in international research projects related to conservation and human-animal interactions, leading to improved water quality and monitoring.

## Caitlin Hepps Keeney

*Baltimore, MD*

*Veterinary Medicine*

Caitlin has distinguished herself as a student leader and maintained a record of academic excellence. She has served as a student representative on several college committees related to curriculum, hospital operations, and wellness. Caitlin has also served as a Teaching Assistant for the neuroanatomy course required of all DVM students, and is a leader of student organizations including co-President of Veterinary Players, Vice President of the Zoo and Wildlife Society, and co-President of the Veterinary Education Club.

## CORNING COMMUNITY COLLEGE

## Elizabeth Kleinschmidt

*Corning, NY*

*Liberal Arts and Sciences: Mathematics and Science*

Desiring a career in healthcare, Elizabeth received certification as a Certified Nursing Assistant and became employed at Elcor Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Horseheads, NY. She is also a Pharmacy Technician at Wegmans Food Markets in Corning as well as a Peer Writing Tutor and Biology Lab Assistant at Corning Community College. The Empire State Association of Two-Year College Biologists has awarded her the Bonnie Glickman Memorial Scholarship, recognizing her as an outstanding biology student.

## Charisse Spier

*Corning, NY*

*Chemical Technology*

After receiving a degree in Human Services in 2009, Charisse decided to return to Corning Community College to provide greater support for her family of six, and her return has proved successful. Excelling academically, she received the American Association of University Women scholarship this year and has achieved President’s List of the Dean’s List every semester. Her hard work and dedication toward her family and herself has culminated in a job offer from Corning, Inc. in Corning, NY.

## SUNY CORTLAND

## Laura Barnstead

*Elmira, NY*

*Political Science and Professional Writing*

Laura is a student of remarkable accomplishment in and out of class. She is a dual major with a 4.07 GPA and is a model student. Laura has been deeply involved in service and professional activities, has written prolifically for the student newspaper and served as its News Editor. She has also served as a Resident Assistant and a Student Government Officer, was designated a “Campus Champion” for her service activities, and has won prestigious writing awards.

## Kaley Clavell

*Middletown, NJ*

*Childhood & Early Childhood Education*

Kaley is a scholar, researcher, extraordinary student leader, and accomplished student employee.

Her activities, accomplishments, and awards are numerous. Among many others, she is the recipient of student leadership awards; President of SAFER, which organized SUNY's "Got Your Back" program and successful Take Back the Night events; and a leader in the C.U.R.E. (Cortland's Urban Recruitment of Educators) program. Kaley has devoted herself to becoming an educator and advocate.

**Eryn Griep**  
*Marathon, NY*  
*Criminology*

Eryn is an exceptional student leader and a role model in her engagement both inside and outside the classroom. Her exemplary GPA and her membership in two national honor societies are evidence of her hard work and commitment to success. Her perspective is sought throughout campus as she serves on multiple committees. She has also received numerous honors for her leadership and involvement.

**Marisa Lobelson**  
*Ridgefield, CT*  
*Therapeutic Recreation*

Marisa has excelled academically at SUNY Cortland. She was recognized at Cortland's Honors Convocation for ranking in the top 5% of her class and graduated Summa Cum Laude. She is currently pursuing her certification as a Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist. Marisa was active on and off campus and served as a volunteer Catholic youth ministry leader. Her career goal is to work in the realm of mental health to continue advocacy work for individuals living with mental health conditions, with a specific focus in the area of leisure counseling and American Indian youth suicide prevention.

## SUNY DELHI

**Angelica Gorman**  
*Brooklyn, NY*  
*Nursing*

Angelica immigrated to the U.S., and although she was without a high school diploma, she rose to meet her academic challenges, excelling in her work inside and outside the classroom at Delhi, and achieving her goal of becoming a nurse. Now a highly successful graduate of SUNY Delhi's BSN program, Angelica is dedicated to providing healthcare for a marginalized population. This passion can be seen in her work with New York City's Project Renewal,

where Angelica is striving to make a difference in the opioid epidemic in lower Manhattan.

**Kassandra Mott**  
*Middletown, NY*  
*Architecture Design & Build*

Kassandra has proven herself to be an invested learner, going beyond the classroom to broaden her architectural knowledge. She has traveled to Italy to fine tune her sketching and watercolor abilities and has competed in a national construction design contest. Her academic abilities have attracted three scholarships and a Peer Tutor role within her major. Kassandra is a confident student leader, serving many leadership roles in campus clubs and for Residence Life.

## SUNY DOWNSTATE MEDICAL CENTER

**Patrick Eucalitto**  
*Jupiter, FL*  
*Medicine*

A medical student at SUNY Downstate's College of Medicine, Patrick plans to specialize in Obstetrics and Gynecology to pursue a career in global women's health. As Chief Operating Officer of the student-run Anne Kastor Brooklyn Free Clinic, he helps expand access to primary care for the uninsured by promoting teamwork and social justice among healthcare students. Fluent in Haitian Creole, French, and Spanish, Patrick consistently uses his skills to improve the lives of others.

**Zoila Rojas**  
*Brooklyn, NY*  
*Occupational Therapy*

An advocate for under-served and undocumented populations in New York City, Zoila has bridged her academic, clinical, and leadership skills as a Community Health Worker, lecturer, and volunteer. Compassionate, generous, and intuitive, she was instrumental in serving her class, finding unique ways to improve their quality of life. As an Occupational Therapist, she is committed to a career dedicated to the service of others who are less fortunate.

## DUTCHESS COMMUNITY COLLEGE

**Elizabeth Bellissimo**  
*Pleasant Valley, NY*  
*Engineering Science*

Elizabeth has a 3.94 GPA and received the Charles E. Conklin Entrepreneurial Scholarship for

commitment to Engineering Science. Her goal is to pursue an engineering degree in the field of robotics, exploring specialization in prosthetic design. Elizabeth is active on campus as a member of Phi Theta Kappa and a Peer Tutor in physics. She is also active in her community conducting workshops to encourage young girls and boys to pursue engineering, science, and math.

**Lilith Fichtmueller**  
*Clinton Corners, NY*  
*Human Services*

Lilith has excelled both inside and outside the classroom and is a member of the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society. She plans to pursue a Bachelor's degree in Psychology, then attend medical school. Lilith has maintained a 4.0 GPA throughout her studies. As Student Government President and Student Trustee on the college's Board of Trustees she has advocated and helped students, clubs, and the campus, and actively supported the community.

**Stacie Woodard**  
*Dover Plains, NY*  
*General Studies*

Stacie has excelled academically, earning a GPA of 3.75 while balancing her studies with working with the developmentally disabled and raising her children. Stacie is a member of Phi Theta Kappa and an EOP peer mentor. She is committed to her community through coat drives, the Red Cross, and other charities. Stacie's passion is helping people. Her goal is to be a Trauma Nurse in an inner city hospital.

**Xiang Feng (Alan) Wu**  
*Hyde Park, NY*

*Business Administration Transfer*  
Alan is a first-generation college student, pursuing a career in accounting and finance. He is active on campus as a member of Phi Theta Kappa, Alpha Beta Gamma, and Business and International clubs. At age 11, Alan, his parents, and older sister emigrated from China to the U.S. for a better life. Alan is a Peer Mentor in the TRIO and EOP programs. He is passionate about inspiring others to learn, dream, and be more.

## EMPIRE STATE COLLEGE

**Christopher Bowman**  
*Pinellas Park, FL*  
*Documentary Photography*

Chris enrolled at SUNY Empire State College in 2013 as an adult with the goal of earning his Bachelor's

in Documentary Photography. He enjoys not only the work he does at school but also exploring galleries and attending photography talks outside of class. Study groups are one of Chris's favorite ways to learn, as he finds interaction with other Empire students invaluable. He is proud to be finishing with a 3.94 GPA.

### Justice Favor

*Rockaway, NY*

*Labor Studies*

Justice's maternal and paternal grandfathers served in the U.S. military, so the importance of education was instilled early on. His father often quoted "a mind that remains in the present atmosphere never undergoes sufficient development to experience what is commonly known as thinking," from the book, "The Miseducation of the Negro," which is their favorite book. He has excelled academically and is active at ESC as a Student Representative from the Harry Van Arsdale Jr. Center for Labor Studies on the Student Affairs Committee. He is a proud father of four and has been married to his wife for nine years.

### Jacqueline Hannon

*Baldwinsville, NY*

*International Business and Global Leadership*

Work, life and school balance is something that all SUNY Empire State College adult students must be able to accomplish in order to receive their degree. Jacqueline does this very successfully, consistently going above and beyond curricular and co-curricular expectations. She is an exemplary student leader, community activist, and single mom working full time who takes on all of her duties with passion, ardor, and enthusiasm, which leads to her impressive successes.

### Nandar W. Kerr

*Yangon, Burma (Myanmar)*

*Public Affairs, Law, and Public Administration*

Nandar is a participant in the Student Leadership Institute at SUNY Empire. She was a recipient of a 2016 President's Volunteer Service Award as Team Leader and a volunteer with New York Cares for over 90 projects, completing nearly 300 service hours. Having experience as a Public Advocate Lawyer in Myanmar, she completed ESC coursework modeling transitional justice movements with aims to further the development toward a stronger legal and democratic system.

### Nechelle Stolzenberg

*Brooklyn, NY*

*Healthcare Leadership*

Nechelle has more than two decades of healthcare administrative experience. She holds a Master's in Public Administration and a Bachelor's in Business and Management from SUNY Empire State College. She is scheduled to graduate with an MBA in Healthcare Leadership from SUNY Empire State College. Nechelle has excelled academically, and she has helped start the Yeled v'Yalda (YvY) WIC (Women, Infants and Children) Program, a highly regarded program which services approximately 10,000 low-income participants in New York City.

## COLLEGE OF ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE AND FORESTRY

### Jet'aime Lewis

*Murietta, CA*

*Environmental Biology*

Jet'aime combines her passion for learning with her desire to help the world around her. While attending ESF, she performed research projects focusing on the transmission of Mycobacterium spp. in model organism Danio rerio (zebrafish) and the impacts of climate change on Northeastern populations of salamanders. She is a Resident Assistant and traveled to South Africa to volunteer at a primate rehabilitation center while still graduating in three years with an Applied Statistics minor.

### Benjamin Taylor

*Panama, NY*

*Environmental Resources Engineering*

Ben has excelled both in and out of the classroom. He has been the President of the Undergraduate Student Association for two years. His leadership has led to accomplishments such as the ESFgo app, various campus improvements, resolutions, and increased student involvement. Ben has plans to do meaningful work after graduation in engineering, ministry, or business.

## ERIE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

### Rakia Akter

*Buffalo, NY*

*Liberal Arts: Childhood Education*

Rakia overcame the odds as a high school dropout and single mother of two, and has excelled academically achieving Dean's List for three semesters. With support of the EOP center, advisement, and the childcare

facility at ECC, Rakia was able to excel beyond her dreams. She has also been actively involved on campus, mentoring students in the Teacher Preparation Program.

### Priscilla Green

*Niagara Falls, NY*

*Paralegal*

Priscilla serves as Secretary of the North Campus Student Government Association and has progressed to serve in other positions since. Among them are Events Promoter, Student Ambassador at City Campus, and Student Government Association Vice President for North Campus and the College Senate. She is the Youth Choir Director at several churches and volunteers at area hospitals and at the Community Soup Kitchen in Niagara Falls. Priscilla exemplifies resilience, leadership, and academic excellence by maintaining a 3.767 GPA.

### Amanda Hart

*Hamburg, NY*

*Social Science*

Amanda has excelled academically and has achieved Dean's List. In addition, she is actively involved in the community as a Volunteer Catechist at St. Francis of Assisi and a Lifeskills Teacher at The Franciscan Center, and her mural artwork has been featured throughout the region.

### Aashish Khadka

*Buffalo, NY*

*Engineering Science*

Aashish has excelled academically and is actively involved on campus. Among his many accomplishments, he has achieved Dean's List every semester, serves as an exceptional tutor in the Math Lab, is a member of the International Students Club and the American Society for Engineering Education, and is Vice President of the National Society of Professional Engineers.

### Chelsea Simmeth

*Hamburg, NY*

*Social Science*

Chelsea has excelled both in and out of the classroom. In addition to being on the Dean's List, she has served as Student Government Vice President and the sole Student Government Representative at South Campus. She took on the role of four, while working in the trenches planning, organizing, and running all of the activities with the help of the officers and advisors from other campuses. Chelsea is an incredible advocate for students and works to improve SUNY Erie to benefit all.

**Garry Turner***Buffalo, NY**Liberal Arts and Science: Humanities and Social Science*

Garry has excelled academically at ECC. After being homeless for months he turned to the Buffalo City Mission & the “Dream Program” and he now maintains a 3.867 GPA. Garry is actively involved with Men of Merit and Distinguished Speaker meetings and remains active with theatre productions. He participates in focus groups and tutors students. Additionally, he volunteers with Friends of the Night People and the Buffalo City Mission.

**FARMINGDALE STATE COLLEGE****Robert Adolfsen***Holtsville, NY**Mechanical Engineering Technology*

Robert earned a Bachelor’s degree in Business Administration from SUNY New Paltz and a Master’s degree in Education from Dowling College. His passion of engineering led him to Farmingdale State College to pursue his Associate’s and Bachelor’s degrees in Mechanical Engineering Technology. He has excelled academically at Farmingdale. Robert is currently serving as an Instructional Support Personnel for the Automotive Department. His background in education and engineering makes him a unique and valued member of the department.

**Bradley Correia***East Meadow, NY**Nursing*

Bradley has excelled both in and out of the classroom. He earned the 2017 SUNY ACT Award for Student Excellence and the 2016 Farmingdale Orientation Leader of the Year Award. He is treasurer of the Student Nurse Association, and volunteers as a peer mentor and on “SIM” squad. In addition, Bradley has been inducted into the Chi Gamma Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau and the Golden Key Society. He intends to continue to pursue his education and earn a master’s degree, and has a goal of teaching nursing.

**Emily Mc Cue***Deer Park, NY**Nursing*

Emily has received Dean’s and President’s List honors and earned the 2018 Lillian Kiely Excellence in Nursing Scholarship. Emily is a member of the Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing. She volun-

teers at flu clinics for senior citizens, and at nutrition centers providing food to people in the community. In addition, Emily is a leader and Board Member of the Student Nurse Association. She has also organized bake sales on campus and raised money for cancer research.

**Daniel Parks***Amityville, NY**Mechanical Engineering Technology*

Daniel is an aspiring materials scientist and crystallographer and completed his Bachelor’s degree in Mechanical Engineering Technology as the Fall 2017 Valedictorian. He has pursued research in the fields of mechanical engineering and experimental condensed matter physics where he has discovered two entirely new materials. Daniel is presently preparing his first manuscript for submission to a peer-reviewed scientific journal, and he plans to pursue a PhD in Materials Science.

**Matthew Schinasi***Oceanside, NY**Applied Psychology*

Matthew has excelled in academics, maintaining a 4.0 GPA, and received numerous academic scholarships. He is an active member on campus, serving as Vice President of the Golden Key Honor Society and Senator for the Student Government Association. Matthew is a passionate student and leader who has demonstrated a strong commitment to the Farmingdale and local communities. He will pursue his Master’s degree in Industrial/Organizational Psychology.

**FASHION INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY****Veronica Apsan***Park Ridge, NJ**Fashion Design*

Veronica is a very engaged student and is committed to making a positive impact through fashion. She mentors youth and inspires them to exceed expectations in personal growth, leadership, business, and the arts. Her work has been in collaboration with Culture for One Foster Care Program, Make-A-Wish America, United Federation of Teachers, and Children of United Nations Foundation. She launched a fashion media start-up, [www.fashiontv.nyc](http://www.fashiontv.nyc), and competed in the BioDesign challenge and other contests.

**Arpi Dayian***Dallas, TX**Interior Design*

In addition to being on the Dean’s List every semester while studying Interior Design at FIT, Arpi is the Public Relations Officer for the Interior Design Club, a volunteer for the National Cancer Society, and a two-year Team Captain for the volleyball team. Arpi is also a member of the winning team for the NFLxFIT Visual Design Competition, whose products will be sold in the NFL Shop and Target.

**Gina Gargiulo***Bay Shore, NY**Advertising & Marketing**Communications*

Gina served as the President and Editor In Chief of Blush, one of FIT’s student-run magazines. She coordinated a successful fundraiser in 2017, winning the FIT Student Government Association’s Best Fundraiser Award. While doing so, she collected beauty items for Dress for Success and volunteered for the non-profit organization. She is a member of Phi Theta Kappa and has interned at four media and fashion-related companies.

**Nermeen lleiwat***Clifton, NJ**Advertising & Marketing**Communications*

Nermeen is a first-generation Syrian & Palestinian Muslim American. She belongs to FIT’s Honors Program and Phi Theta Kappa. Her accomplishments include multiple academic scholarships and a semester spent studying in Rome. Upon graduation, she will have six minors in addition to her Advertising & Marketing major. She was able to accomplish this while working two part-time jobs, completing various internships as an Editorial intern, and writing for the FIT student newspaper.

**Joanna Del Priore***Staten Island, NY**Fashion Business Management*

Joanna has been recognized for many leadership initiatives and internship experiences. She is the founder and president of IN.dustry Club, a new, interdisciplinary organization for professional development. She serves as Secretary for the Production Management Club, and has held management roles in the Merchandising Society. Joanna completed seven internships while balancing school and a retail position. She has earned academic honors and mentors students.

## William Rossi

Lindenhurst, NY

*International Trade and Marketing for the Fashion Industries*

William is a highly involved student, serving in multiple leadership roles, hosting events, and maintaining rigorous academics — for which he was awarded several scholarships. He has served as Director of Sustainability for student government and fostered student-led initiatives that drive sustainability efforts at FIT and beyond. William aims to become an influential leader of the global fashion industry, helping to mold a sustainable future. His maxim challenges all to “be good and do good.”

## FINGER LAKES COMMUNITY COLLEGE

### Althea Jones-Johnson

Aurora, NC

*Human Services*

Althea has excelled academically and is actively involved on campus. In addition to working as a Student Aide in the general tutoring department, she has served as Peer Mentor. Althea is the President of Phi Theta Kappa and the student multicultural organization AALANA. She is currently interning with the Canandaigua Veterans Association in the Office of Diversity and Inclusion. Althea plans to pursue a Bachelor's in Communication.

### Dylan Marshall

Bath, NY

*Communication*

Dylan takes great pride in his involvement both on campus and in his community. He has taken on several leadership roles, while serving his community and enhancing his global perspective through travel opportunities. He is passionate about subjects involving culture, communication, and government. After graduating from Finger Lakes Community College with a degree in communication, Dylan plans to further his academic career by studying globalization and minoring in foreign languages at the University at Albany.

### William Maskrey

Pittsburgh, PA

*Business Administration*

Albert Einstein gave this advice, “Try not to become a man of success, but rather try to become a man of value.” This quote has acted as Will's North Star since the day his grandfather shared these words with him when he entered high school. Having de-

played his entry into college for almost 16 years, coming to FLCC has provided Will with an opportunity to live out this axiom with greater understanding and greater opportunity. He has excelled academically and is actively involved in student government.

## SUNY FREDONIA

### Zachary Jones

Grand Island, NY

*French Adolescence Education*

Zach has excelled both in and out of the classroom. A senior French Adolescence Education major with dual minors in Spanish and European Culture Studies, Zach aspires to be a teacher and linguist. His undergraduate studies and summer work experience have allowed him to travel to nearly 10 countries. From studying as an American exchange student in the south of France, to his summer work as an international trip leader in Costa Rica and French-speaking Canada, he feels he has already begun his career.

### Brittany Sanford

Niagara Falls, NY

*Music Education*

A Music Education major, Brittany's primary instrument is percussion. Her recognitions at Fredonia include being on the Dean's List for seven semesters and earning the Howard Marsh, Louise E. Wilder, and Marion Sonnenfeld Scholarships. She served as chair of the Fredonia School of Music Student Leadership Council, and was the President of the Fredonia Percussion Guild. In addition, she has worked as a Unit Head at Camp Seven Hills Girl Scout Camp.

### Kerri Williamson

Rochester, NY

*Dance*

Kerri has excelled academically and has been actively involved on campus. She worked as a Resident Assistant her sophomore year, Learning Center Tutor in Biology her junior year, and an Aerobics Center Instructor her senior year. Kerri has participated in extracurricular activities including the Fredonia Biology Club, Health Professions, TriBeta National Biological Honor Society, the Resident Assistant Advisory Board, and the Golden Key International Honor Society. This summer she will attend medical school at Midwestern University - Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine.

## FULTON-MONTGOMERY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

### Jarisa Escalante

Brooklyn, NY

*Health Sciences*

Jarisa is a first-generation college student. She is involved on campus in theater, and volunteers to visit a local schools as part of the CSTEP program. She became a Student Senate Association representative, and was inducted into Phi Theta Kappa in the spring of her first year. In addition, she became a Resident Assistant, and now serves as the Chair of the Student Senate. Jarisa plans to transfer upon graduation from FMCC.

## GENESEEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

### Glenn Holmes

Ireland

*Sports Management*

Born in Ireland, Glenn traveled to the United States to attend Genesee Community College. In three semesters, Glenn has earned a 3.88 GPA, and has made the President's list twice, the Dean's List once, and is a member of Phi Theta Kappa. In addition, he captained the GCC men's soccer team to their first-ever National Title. Glenn has also been selected as a 1st Team Scholar All American and NJCAA Men's Soccer All American.

### Benjamin Martis

Willemstad, Curaçao

*Theater Performance & Theater*

*Technology*

Benjamin is a resident of Willemstad, Curaçao. Since starting his education at Genesee Community College, he has excelled academically, and has become very active on campus. He is a member of the Forum Players Theatre company, an orientation leader, resident assistant, student government representative, and student voting representative on the GCC Board of Trustees. Benjamin will graduate this spring with two degrees in Theater.

## SUNY GENESEEO

### Jeffrey Doser

Penfield, NY

*Biology and Mathematics*

Jeffrey is a double-major in biology and mathematics, a member of the honors program, and a champion swimmer for the Genesee men's swimming and diving team. Carrying

a 3.86 cumulative GPA, Jeff has excelled both in the classroom and in the pool. He received the prestigious Goldwater Scholarship, earned membership to Phi Beta Kappa, presented at the North American Ornithological Conference, and is a nine-time SUNYAC individual champion.

### **Justen Geddes**

*Dryden, NY*

*Mathematics*

Justen is a Mathematics major with a minor in Anthropology, and a Presidential Scholar who holds membership in Phi Eta Sigma, Golden Key, and Pi Mu Epsilon. Justen is also a math tutor and teaching assistant. He has conducted mathematical research on cancer protein-protein interaction networks, and anticipates publication of this research in Spring 2018. He is an Emergency Medical Technician and also Crew Chief and Chief of Operations for Geneseo First Response.

### **Kaitlin Pfundstein**

*Wantagh, NY*

*English*

Kaitlin is an English major with a certification in Adolescent Education, and a minor in Psychology. She is a member of Phi Eta Sigma and Sigma Tau Delta. Kaitlin has served two terms on the Student Association Executive Committee, first as the Director of Inter-Residence Affairs, and now as President, advocating for students on campus and SUNY-wide. Additionally, Kaitlin was a Resident Assistant for two years in a first-year Living Learning Community.

## **HERKIMER COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

### **Brendan Murphy**

*Whitesboro, NY*

*Business Administration*

Brendan is currently the President of the Student Government Association and is a member of the college's Board of Trustees. As a Business Administration major, he has a 3.73 overall GPA, which has placed him on the President's List the past two semesters. In addition, he is a member of Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society and President of the Peer Tutor Club.

### **Emma Vanderwerken**

*Frankfort, NY*

*Human Services*

Emma is a Human Services Major with a 3.98 overall GPA. She plans on transferring to SUNY Polytechnic

Institute in the fall to complete her Bachelor's degree within the Community Behavioral Health program. She is President of Phi Theta Kappa, as well as President of Amnesty International. In addition, she is a Student Ambassador, a member of the Women's Club, and past president of the Human Service Club.

## **HUDSON VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

### **Skylar Blankenship**

*Rensselaer, NY*

*Liberal Arts, Honors*

Skylar has excelled academically at HVCC, and is in the Honors Liberal Arts program. She is actively involved on campus and in her community. Skylar is President of the American Sign Language Club on campus, and is a regular contributor to the award-winning student newspaper, The Hudsonian. After Hudson Valley, Skylar plans to earn degrees in both English and Recreational Therapy.

### **Jordan Harris**

*Cohoes, NY*

*Human Services*

Jordan has excelled both in and out of the classroom at HVCC. She has earned Dean's List and President's List recognition, and was drawn to the Human Services program after her own experience working in the mission's field in Guatemala. Jordan was elected Phi Theta Kappa Chapter President and is a member of the Student Christian Association. She will graduate in May, and plans to continue her education at the University at Albany.

### **Inesa Pengu**

*Pogradec, Albania*

*Engineering Science*

Inesa is from Pogradec, Albania, and moved to the United States to pursue an Engineering Science degree. She has maintained a 4.0 GPA, is a member of the PTK Honor Society, and received the Kenneth M. Barber Award for Excellence in Experimental Physics. In addition, Inesa led a campaign highlighting the risk of water contamination in her hometown of Pogradec, which involved testing well water, and educating those whose water tested positive for Coliform Bacteria on effective treatments.

### **Julio Rodriguez**

*Amsterdam, NY*

*Individual Studies*

Julio Rodriguez has a 3.9 GPA, is a member of Phi Theta Kappa, and has

been named to the President's List every semester. Julio was elected as the Editor-in-Chief of The Hudsonian the exclusive student-run and award-winning newspaper of the college. Additionally, he has been published in Threads, Hudson Valley's journal of student writing and art. In the future, Julio plans to attend law school and pursue a career in employment law.

### **Nathanael Savasta**

*Coxsackie, NY*

*Business Administration, Honors*

Nathanael has excelled academically and is actively involved on campus. His various activities include participation in Student Government, the Investment Club, the Entrepreneurship Club, and he also serves as the student trustee on the HVCC Board of Trustees. Nathanael strives to improve the lives of students in any way he can, and he plans to continue this passion in the future.

## **JAMESTOWN COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

### **Katelyn Hackett**

*Bolivar, NY*

*Individual Studies*

Katelyn excelled both in and out of the classroom at Jamestown. She graduated in three semesters, receiving the Dean's List honor every semester. Katelyn is a member of Phi Theta Kappa and is very involved in her community. She spends much time volunteering at summer camps and her local school district. Katelyn also enjoys coaching a variety of youth sports.

### **Riley Stedman**

*Springville, NY*

*Environmental Science*

Riley has excelled academically and has been named to the Dean's List every semester, while maintaining her 4.0 GPA. She was also awarded the Freshman Chemistry and Freshman Environmental Science Award. Riley interned for two weeks at the Cornell Little Moose Field Station where she studied the brook trout population and assisted graduate students with their projects. She is also very involved on campus, serving as a Student Government Senator and Chair of Service, as well as President of the Residence Life Hall Council organization.

## SUNY JEFFERSON

**Mikayla Lasek***Brownville, NY**Mathematics and Science: Allied Health*

Mikayla began her studies at Jefferson while still in high school, earning perfect grades in the five courses she completed. She continued as a full-time student in the Math and Science/Allied Health program, earning recognition on the President's List every semester and membership in Phi Theta Kappa. In addition, Mikayla serves as a Supplemental Instructor for A&P courses, is a member of the CSTEP advisory board, and is an active volunteer in her community.

**Morgan Warren***Dexter, NY**Individual Studies*

Morgan is a model of academic excellence, leadership, and volunteerism. She graduated high school a year early and received the Jefferson-Can Scholarship for academic achievement. Morgan is enrolled in Jefferson's Honors program and is one of Jefferson's top student leaders, as witnessed by her campus involvement and serving as Vice President for both Phi Theta Kappa and the National Society of Leadership and Success.

## SUNY MARITIME COLLEGE

**Christopher Deddo***Staten Island, NY**International Transportation and Trade*

Christopher is a leader in the classroom and the athletic arena, and is very active on campus. He is a three-year starter on the baseball team, and served as President of the Maritime Student Government. He truly exemplifies Maritime College's principles of "loyalty and valor" in all of his endeavors.

**Jasmine Ferguson***Nassau, Bahamas**Marine Engineering*

Jasmine Ferguson is an international student from Nassau, Bahamas. She currently serves as President of the Cultural Club, previously serving as Vice President and treasurer. She is a Lead Ambassador for the tour guide program and is a Resident Advisor. Jasmine is a member of National Society of Black Engineers, STAR, SWE, and the Bahamian Society of Merchant Mariners. She was voted International Student of the year, served as Secretary of the Society of Merchant Mariners, and is

the Academic Excellence Chairperson of NSBE.

## MOHAWK VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

**Christine Edwards***Illion, NY**Air-Conditioning Technology:**Refrigeration*

Christine is a non-traditional student returning for a second degree after a 30-year career in Marketing. She is a refrigeration technology major. Christine has maintained a 4.0 GPA, is an Honors student, and is the recipient of several MVCC scholarships. She is engaged on campus and is also highly active in community service in her home town of Norwich, NY. She has two school-aged boys and grew up on a farm outside Ilion, NY.

**Mya Kyaw***Myanmar, Burma**Biology*

After immigrating to the U.S., Mya began her studies at MVCC in 2015 as a Biology major, and aspires to become a doctor. During her time here, Mya excelled academically and personally. Mya is the President of her Phi Theta Kappa chapter, a Peer Tutor, and a mentor for international students. She is also a member of CSTEP, Student Congress, and is active in many clubs. She is eager to learn new things and help others.

**Claire Parisi***Utica, NY**Engineering Science*

Claire is committed to excellence by maintaining her high GPA while balancing extracurricular activities. She is the Vice President of Scholarship of her Phi Theta Kappa chapter, a member of the Future Engineers Club and Student Congress, and is a participant in the MVCC Student Leadership Academy. Along with her on-campus activities, Claire interns at the Rome Airforce Research Lab, provides private math tutoring for high school students, and volunteers at FIRST Robotics tournaments.

## MONROE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

**Corrin Collins***Rochester, NY**Biology*

Corrin has excelled both in and out of the classroom. Actively involved on campus, she was the Vice President and then President of Biology Club. Her significant contributions

to the club aided in the organization receiving the Club of the Year award in 2017. Corrin also participated in the Annual Scholars Day Event in 2016 and 2017, and received awards for her research presentations both years.

**Ian Davies***Marion, NY**International Business*

Ian has excelled academically, he is a member of Phi Theta Kappa, and has a 3.97 GPA. He is involved on campus, serving as a Resident Assistant and Secretary of the Travel and Tourism Club. He is an avid baker, and in his free time he loves baking all kinds of different delicious treats for friends and family. Ian is the oldest of seven siblings and enjoys traveling and learning about different cultures and languages.

**Tessa Engel***Batavia, NY**Liberal Arts: Health Related*

Tessa has excelled in the classroom, on the volleyball court, and in the community for Monroe Community College. She is an award winning, two-year member of the Tribune volleyball team and served as Team Captain during the 2017 season. Tessa earned National Junior College Athletic Association academic honors during the 2016-2017 academic year, and has helped spearhead her team's community service efforts.

**Jaimee Prass***Rochester, NY**Global Studies*

Jaimee has excelled both in and out of the classroom. She has been on the Dean's List every semester, and is a Vice President of the Honors in Action project in Phi Theta Kappa. In addition, Jamie is a Peer Navigator for the Admissions department.

**Jessica Rich***Webster, NY**Liberal Arts: General Studies*

Jessica is a very involved student at MCC. Graduating with a Liberal Arts: General Studies degree and a 3.8 GPA, Jessica has served as a Vice President of MCC's Phi Theta Kappa chapter, is currently serving as the Western New York Regional Vice President of PTK, and is a Coca Cola Leaders of Promise scholarship recipient. She is the President of the Brighton Campus Student Government Association, and sits on the Shared Leadership Coordinating Council.

**Daniel Skerritt***Bronx, NY**Health Related Studies*

Daniel has been an active student leader during his entire time at MCC. He has held numerous leadership positions in Student Events and Governance Association, most recently as President. He is also an active member of Phi Theta Kappa as well as a student Peer Leader, in addition to working numerous part-time jobs. Daniel will graduate in June with an Associate's degree in Liberal Arts, and plans to continue in a Bachelor's program for nursing.

**Kimberly Statt***Hamlin, NY**Alcohol Chemical Dependency*

Kimberly, a proud first-generation college student, will be graduating with an Associate's Degree in Addictions Counseling. She has been extremely active in the campus and college community during the past few years. Kimberly has held leadership positions in Student Events and Governance Association (SEGA) and in the Peer Leader program, while also consistently maintaining a GPA of 3.5 or higher. In addition, Kimberly is a single mom raising five children and one grandchild.

**Irvin Williamson***Rochester, NY**Human Services*

Irvin has been an actively involved student leader at MCC since his first semester. He has been a Peer Leader since the summer of 2015. In addition, Irvin served as President of Students Events and Governance Association at MCC's Downtown Campus, and this year he is the Brighton Student Government Association liaison with the Downtown campus. Irvin has also organized several programs and community service activities to engage students both on and off campus.

**MORRISVILLE STATE COLLEGE****Haley Kilmartin***Fort Plain, NY**Human Performance & Health Promotion*

Haley is a senior in the Human Performance and Health Promotion Program, who has been on the Dean's List every semester at Morrisville State College. In addition to her academic success, Haley is also a Captain of the women's basketball team, is an MSC Orientation Leader, and was a member of the Human

Performance and Health Promotion Club. Haley has enjoyed volunteering in the community at the local elementary school and nursing home.

**Latorsha Washington***West Hempstead, NY**Criminal Justice*

Latorsha is very involved on campus, serving as the Campus Activity Board Chairperson; Secretary of the National Criminal Justice Honor Society, Mu Beta Chapter; and Vice President of Mo'Pride. She is currently interning at Morrisville's University Police Office, preparing for her career as an NYPD Officer. She has spent much of her time at Morrisville lending a helping hand to her campus community.

**NASSAU COMMUNITY COLLEGE****Natasha Gibson***Valley Stream, NY**Nursing*

Natasha is a Nursing major, a working mother, and a dedicated student veteran who presently serves as the President of the Student Veterans Association, NCC Chapter. She has received numerous scholarships, including the SUNY Empire State Diversity Honors Scholarship and the Nassau County JFK Memorial Scholarship. Natasha has been actively involved in organizations and campus activities, and was instrumental in acquiring a Veteran's Center initiative grant to help establish the Veterans Resource Facility at NCC.

**Yasmine Koutsivos***Elmont, NY**Medical ABT*

Yasmine is an outstanding and compassionate Medical ABT major at NCC. Overcoming many challenges, she has excelled academically. In addition, she has held several leadership positions on campus, including President of the NCC Newman Catholic Society. Yasmine also volunteers her time to many charitable causes and efforts with great enthusiasm.

**Annabelle May***Port Washington, NY**English: Creative Writing*

Annabelle is a Creative Writing major at NCC with a 4.0 GPA. She holds three part-time jobs: a Freelance Writer and Editor, the Assistant for a program that brings literature to special needs children, and also works for a not-for-profit theater. Annabelle is actively involved on campus as the Vice President and Treasurer of

the Creative Writing Club. She is also Co-Editor in Chief for Luna's 2018 publication (student literary journal), as well as an intern for The Nassau Review.

**Morgan McKinnis***Hempstead, NY**Liberal Arts*

Morgan has excelled in and out of the classroom at NCC. She has been a member of Phi Theta Kappa, the Honor's Club, the Programming Board, and has been on the Dean's List every semester during her time at NCC with a 3.76 GPA. In pursuit of her life-long ambition of becoming a doctor, Morgan has already become certified as an EMT and a Nursing Assistant all while attending school full-time at NCC.

**Wanpeng Meng***Merrick, NY**Biology*

Wanpeng came to the U.S. two years ago from China with limited skills in English. Today, with a GPA of 3.96, he is an outstanding student, leader, and campus problem solver. As the elected SGA Representative to the college's Academic Senate, he has frequent problem-solving conversations with NCC's President Keen about issues that concern the student body. Additionally, he founded a campus club, was a student Orientation Leader, and volunteers in his community as an EMT.

**Remonda Missha***Levittown, NY**Liberal Arts*

Remonda displays leadership and initiative as a Student Leader and Philanthropist. She is the President of the SGA Programming Board; a Board Member of the Junior Presidents Society; an Orientation Leader; Chief Executive of Global Model United Nations; and a Board Member of Nassau Empowerment and Support for Tomorrow (NEST), NCC's food pantry. In addition, Remonda is a Phi Theta Kappa member and has been on the Dean's List for four semesters.

**Sandra Riano***Port Washington, NY**Liberal Arts*

Sandra is a humanitarian, a philanthropist, and a leader. She excels academically and in her work on and off campus. At the United Nations, Sandra was delegated to the Summer Youth Assembly, where she was a Facilitator for the Delegate Deliberations. She was the Opinions Editor for the Vignette, NCC's student

newspaper, and a 10-time winner in forensics and public speaking tournaments. Sandra's passion for peace-building resulted in a study abroad course in Bogota, Columbia, which led to many published pieces regarding her journey in the country.

### **Therese Russell**

*Floral Park, NY*

*Liberal Arts*

Therese is a Liberal Arts Honors Program student with a GPA of 4.0. She has actively been involved in campus life, leadership, and community service. Therese is the elected representative for the student body of 20,000 students as a Voting Member of the NCC Board of Trustees, and she serves on the Academic Senate. In addition, she is a member of the State Champion NCC Speech and Debate Team, which has won many Statewide and Regional Championships.

### **Jonathan Salazar**

*Flushing, NY*

*Liberal Arts*

Jonathan is the President of the NCC Marketing Club and the Public Relations Chair of the Junior Presidents Society. With a GPA of 3.89, his honors include induction into Phi Theta Kappa as well as the Dean's List. He has volunteered for numerous community service ventures on and off campus for various charities and causes. Jonathan has also generously offered his expertise in graphic design for numerous campus clubs, organizations, and events.

### **Julia Stackpole**

*Hicksville, NY*

*Liberal Arts*

Julia has excelled both in the classroom and within the campus community. She has achieved a 3.96 GPA while serving as President of the Intramural Sports Club, Vice President of the Fit for Life Club, and Secretary of the Wall Street Club. Julia earned an internship at Bower Law, and has found time to volunteer at the NCC NEST, the campus food pantry.

## SUNY NEW PALTZ

### **Reem Ahmed**

*Floral Park, NY*

*Business: Accounting*

Reem has excelled academically in the Honors Program with a 4.0 GPA, and plans to attend law school. As a student leader in the School of Business, she was on the Dean's Student

Advisory Board, served as a leader in the Wells Fargo Sophomore Leadership Conference, and participated in the Beta Gamma Global Leadership Summit. In addition, she coordinated the Honors Program Peer Mentoring Program, and co-founded the School of Business Peer Mentoring Program.

### **Trisha Chabria**

*Old Bethpage, NY*

*Biology & Psychology*

Trisha has excelled academically with a dual degree Biology (B.S.) and Psychology (B.A.) and is pursuing a career in medicine. During her time at SUNY New Paltz, she has participated in numerous extracurricular activities, such as Absolut A cappella, Global Medical Brigades, and the South Asian Cultural Association. After medical school, Trisha aims to work on mental health initiatives to improve policy around the world.

### **Julian Chipkin**

*Brewster, NY*

*Mechanical Engineering & Physics*

Julian is a third-year Resident Assistant double major in Mechanical Engineering and Physics. He was a thermodynamics Teaching Assistant, tutored students in math and physics, and performed energy analysis for the Office of Campus Sustainability. Julian has presented his summer research at numerous conferences and participated in various math competitions during his undergraduate career. He is a Co-Founder and Treasurer of the New Paltz chapter of American Society of Mechanical Engineers.

### **Julia Friedman**

*Centerport, NY*

*Communication Disorders*

Julia has excelled both in and out of the classroom. She has worked directly with clients who have had strokes resulting in aphasia. She was instrumental in creating an advocacy newsletter, helped organize a community forum on aphasia, and continues to be an active group volunteer. A student-athlete, Julia has served on the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee and served as a One Love Workshop Facilitator. Her goal is to become a leader in her field in a large culturally diverse hospital in New York City.

### **Katrina Scarimolo**

*Staten Island, NY*

*Psychology*

Katrina is an Honors Program student who is deeply committed to the

success of fellow students. A leader across campus, she serves as a Peer Academic Success Coach, Honors Program Peer Mentor, Vice President of the Students for Inclusion Club, and a member of Hall Government for all semesters. She has presented research at five conferences across the United States, and held multiple internships. With a 3.89 GPA, Katrina is applying to graduate programs in psychology.

## NIAGARA COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

### **Jenny Ames**

*Niagara Falls, NY*

*Business Accounting*

Jenny has just completed her Associate's degree in Business Accounting in December of 2017 with a 3.89 GPA, fulfilling a lifelong dream. She has been the President of NCCC's Phi Theta Kappa since April 2017, and is also a mother and wife at home. Jenny would like to continue her education and attend Niagara University for a Bachelor's in Accounting. Jenny also excelled in the areas of career achievement, community service, and leadership.

### **Gerald Gillis, III**

*East Amherst, NY*

*Public Communication*

Gerald has excelled both in and out of the classroom. He has earned a 3.9 GPA while attending Niagara Community College, and is a Team Captain of NCCC's men's baseball team. He plans to continue his education at Cedarville University to where he received a full scholarship.

### **Casey Gruarin**

*Sanborn, NY*

*Sports Management*

Casey has excelled academically with a 3.91 GPA and is very active on campus. Casey has also volunteered in several different capacities, and is one of the Team Captains of the Niagara County Community College men's baseball team. Casey also received the NCC Distinguished Scholar Scholarship Award and won the 2016 and 2017 NCC Sports Management Major of the year.

## NORTH COUNTRY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

### **Chloe Nott**

*Tamworth, NSW, Australia*

*Sports & Events Management*

Chloe Nott is a collegiate student

athlete from Australia studying Sports and Events Management. She is a standout in the classroom and on the soccer field. Chloe has earned a 4.0 GPA, and has lead the NCCC women's soccer and lacrosse teams as Captain. She has also received numerous awards and acknowledgements for her academic and athletic achievements and abilities. In addition, Chloe is an avid musician and banjo player.

#### **Victoria Smith**

*Massena, NY  
Nursing*

Victoria is committed to serving and helping people and is very excited to be pursuing a Nursing degree. She will also earn a degree in Health Sciences. Victoria has volunteered on mission trips to India and Uganda, and participated in a medical brigade to Honduras in March 2018. She has a passion for learning, and was awarded the Barbra Rexilius Nursing Award, given to students with a love for nursing.

### OLD WESTBURY

#### **Brianna Levy**

*Bronx, NY  
Mathematics*

Brianna has demonstrated outstanding academic achievement as a Mathematics major. As a STEM student, she has had the opportunity to study at the Big Data Summer Institute at the University of Michigan. Brianna is also the proud recipient of the SUNY Old Westbury Certificate of Academic Excellence in Mathematics. In addition, she is a member of the Honors College, and is the layout editor for Synesthesia, the Honors College literary magazine.

#### **Joshua Stickell**

*Huntington Station, NY  
Politics, Economics, & Law*

Joshua has excelled academically at Old Westbury, and was inducted into the Tau Sigma National Honor Society with a 4.0 GPA. Joshua is also a regular volunteer at Huntington High School's Civil War Games and World Court Games, where he helps students conduct research in preparation for historical debates. In addition, he is an active member of the Diversity & Inclusion Council and the Politics, Economics, and Law Club.

### SUNY ONEONTA

#### **Kayla Belush**

*Hubbardsville, NY  
International Development Studies*

Kayla is a student athlete who has demonstrated excellence in the classroom and in leadership roles on and off campus. She represented the college as a Study Abroad Ambassador in Colombia, performed community service and volunteer work in Bolivia, and taught a soccer workshop in Canada, all while maintaining an exceptional GPA. On campus, she has worked as a Resident Advisor, tutors classmates, and is active in several clubs and honor societies.

#### **Daniel Prince**

*Tully, NY  
Computer Science and Mathematics*

Daniel has established himself as a talented mathematician and computer technician, all while maintaining a perfect GPA. He is a member of three honor societies, has held leadership positions in the Apollo Music Club, and is a Peer Tutor for numerous subjects. Daniel has distinguished himself with his research, dedication to his role within the college's Information Technology Services department, and impressive score on a prestigious national mathematics exam.

#### **Jonelle Reyes**

*Ridgewood, NY  
Environmental Science*

Jonelle is a well-rounded student who excels academically, and is passionate about the environment. Along with consistently making Dean's List, he has earned several impressive awards for his participation in research activities and conferences, and was invited to present at a prestigious sustainability conference in Arizona. Outside of class, Jonelle serves as a Student Sustainability Coordinator, and is dedicated to multiple service efforts, including the college's Red Dragon Thrift Shop, which he helped establish.

#### **Anthony Vecere Jr.**

*Fishkill, NY  
Professional Accounting*

Anthony has excelled academically, earning membership in the philosophy and business honor societies, was awarded the Outstanding Senior Award by his academic department, and has presented research at conferences on and off campus. He holds positions in several clubs and serves on the Student Advisory Council for the School of Economics

and Business. After graduation, he will pursue a Master's in philosophy and public policy at the London School of Economics.

### ONONDAGA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

#### **Blake Carter**

*Jordan-Elbridge, NY  
Business Administration*

Blake has excelled both in and out of the classroom, and was inducted into Phi Theta Kappa in Fall of 2016. He joined the Business and Politics clubs, and received a Letter of Resolution for his work with the politics club. In addition, he presented an Honors Project at the SUNY Undergraduate Research Conference. In Fall 2017, Blake became President of Alpha Sigma Zeta, and interned as part of a class with Assemblywoman Pam Hunter. He has also earned an Honors minor.

#### **Ifrah Hassan**

*Utica, NY  
Liberal Arts: Math and Science*

Ifrah was the first in her family to pursue higher education. She has been in the Honors Program since her freshman year, and was inducted into Phi Theta Kappa during her second semester. Ifrah became an Ambassador for the Honors Program and Collegiate Science and Technology and Engineering programs. She is an aspiring medical student and completed a summer research program at Binghamton, and she hopes to one day become an obstetrician.

#### **Matthew Honeywell**

*Syracuse, NY  
Human Services*

Matthew is 47 years old, and grew up in the foster care system where he endured much abuse. He overcame his obstacles, and has excelled academically at Onondaga. Matthew is a member of PTK; has been married for 20 years; and has two children, one of whom is also currently enrolled at OCC. Matthew wants to continue his education to help other children acquire the voice they often times do not know they have.

#### **Hien Lam**

*Vietnam  
Mathematics and Science*

Hien was born in Vietnam, and has excelled academically. He is a member of PTK Honor Society, and loves nature and learning. Hien came to the U.S. in January of 2016 with an American dream to become

a pharmacist, and plans to use his knowledge and kindness to help communities in need.

### **Fabrizio Tucci**

*Valencia, Carabobo, Venezuela*

*Electronic Media Communications*

Fabrizio is from Valencia, Venezuela, and moved to the United States to attend Onondaga Community College in 2016. He's fluent in Spanish and English, and is an avid tennis player. Fabrizio is a Phi Theta Kappa Officer, and works as a Resident Assistant at OCC. He has excelled academically, and has been on both the President's and Provost's Lists.

## COLLEGE OF OPTOMETRY

### **Tristan Barrueco**

*Basking Ridge, NJ*

*Optometry*

Tristan entered SUNY College of Optometry after serving as an Officer in the United States Navy. At the college, he flourished both academically and clinically, winning numerous awards and placing at the top of his class. He has also been devoted to volunteer work attending eye clinics in Nicaragua, Tanzania, and rural Virginia, as well as the New Jersey Special Olympics.

### **Jennifer Nguyen**

*Cupertino, CA*

*Optometry*

Jennifer grew up in Cupertino, California and later attended UCLA where she received a Bachelor's degree in Bio-Engineering. She moved to New York, and has excelled academically while pursuing an Optometry degree as well as a Master's degree in Vision Science. She serves on the SUNY Lions Club leadership team, helping to coordinate the Homework Helper Program by providing free tutoring to vision therapy patients.

## SUNY ORANGE

### **Reuben Buck**

*Washingtonville, NY*

*Mathematics*

Reuben has overcome financial hardship, and excelled both in and out of the classroom at SUNY Orange. He's a member of the PTK and a Dean's List student, and has also served as President and Treasurer of the Newburgh Criminal Justice Club. After graduating from SUNY Orange, Reuben transferred to SUNY New Paltz to continue his education. Following graduation from SUNY New

Paltz, he will work toward a career in law enforcement.

### **Renita Johnson**

*Montgomery, NY*

*Nursing*

Renita earned two degrees in 2017: an Associate's in Math & Science—GPA 3.97—and an Associate's in Nursing—GPA: 3.71. She was SUNY Orange's first-ever PTK First Team All New York, and served as the 2017 Student Commencement Speaker. Renita ran for SUNY Orange's first women's cross country team, earning all-conference honors and a spot at the DIII championship race; served as an active Student Senator; and tutored peers in various programs.

### **Emma Paradies**

*Middletown, NY*

*English*

Emma is in the SUNY Orange Honors Program and is pursuing an Associate's degree with an English concentration. She has served as an Honors Program Peer Mentor for incoming freshmen in the program for three semesters. Additionally, she presented at the Northeast Regional Honors Conference in Spring 2017. Emma also serves as Secretary of her school's Sociology Club where she helps to organize events that educate the SUNY Orange campus on social justice.

## SUNY OSWEGO

### **Rachael Bishop**

*Fulton, NY*

*Communication & Social Interaction*

Rachel has presented on the political engagement of college students at the National Communication Association Convention. Based on her research in patient-provider communication, she has served as a guest lecturer at healthcare provider trainings. Rachel also designed and delivered a strengths-based course for eating disorder recovery for St. Joseph's Hospital Health Center. In addition, she is the recipient of numerous grants, awards, and scholarships, and is a member of Omicron Delta Kappa National Leadership Society. Her GPA is 4.0.

### **Ian Evans**

*Phoenix, NY*

*Physics*

Ian has received multiple NSF grants and awards, including a fellowship to study inorganic perovskite solar cells and gold terminated graphene. He has presented at numerous

national conferences, including at the Conference on the Physics and Chemistry of Surfaces and Interfaces, and has published papers. Ian is also a percussionist on the drumline of the Buffalo Bills, and serves as the Marching Percussion Director at an area high school. His GPA is 3.95.

### **Stephanie Facchine**

*Rochester, NY*

*Zoology*

Stephanie's area of research is climate change and endangered mutualisms, specifically the impact of increased temperatures on pollinator activity. She is a National Science Foundation fellow and presented at several national and regional conferences. Stephanie serves as the Student Coordinator of the Shining Waters Initiative to increase awareness of Great Lakes environmental issues. Additionally, she is an Executive Board Member of the Newman Center, and has coordinated an alternative break trip to Nazareth Farm. Her GPA is 3.94.

### **Zachary Hiris**

*Bowling Green, OH*

*Meteorology*

Zachary earned a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration scholarship to conduct research with the National Weather Service. He is President of the Meteorology Club and Co-director of the Lake-Effect Storm Prediction and Research Center (LESPaRC). Zachary is also a five-time winner in the national Weather Challenge forecast contest. In addition, he is a member of the SUNY Oswego men's golf team, and was named to the Commissioner's List and All-American team for 2015-2016. Zachary's GPA is 3.79.

### **Holly Reitmeier**

*Oswego, NY*

*Human Computer Interaction*

Holly's research project, "Delphi Pilot Study", was accepted by Wiley Publishers as a chapter in the book "Cyber Security in Parallel and Distributed Computing: Concept, Techniques, Applications and Case Studies." She presented at the Business Research Consortium in Spring 2018, and was the only graduate student invited to present at the Digital Humanities Summer Institute in June 2018. Holly volunteers with Habitat for Humanity, the American Hiking Society, and Toys for Tots. Her GPA is 4.0.

## SUNY PLATTSBURGH

**Lindsey Davenport***Webster, NY**Biology and Spanish*

Lindsey is a Presidential Scholar, which is reserved for just five incoming students each academic year. She spent five weeks in Nicaragua engaged in a health care service learning experience. Lindsay has also conducted genetics research with a faculty mentor, and she presented about the findings at an undergraduate research symposium. In addition, she is a three-season student athlete, and was recognized by the NCAA as a two-time All-Academic in women's cross country.

**Samantha Johnson***Schuyler Falls, NY**Art History*

Samantha is a Presidential Scholar, which is reserved for just five incoming students each academic year. She received one of six awards for best paper at the annual Phi Alpha Theta conference. Samantha has also participated in two historical research experiences: one in Republic of Georgia and the other in Canada. In addition, she has acquired numerous awards and internships related to her major.

**Vrinda Kumar***Nikol Naroda Ahmedabad, India**Individualized Studies: Public Health and Social Justice*

Vrinda has served as both the President and Vice President for Academics in the SUNY Plattsburgh Student Association. She is also a Regional Representative serving four SUNY campuses for the SUNY Student Assembly. In addition, Vrinda has received numerous awards recognizing her academic and leadership achievements. She has led campus and local community efforts to serve people, students, and non-students who are struggling with immigration issues.

SUNY POLYTECHNIC  
INSTITUTE**Celine Fucci***Cortland Manor, NY**Interactive Media and Game Design*

Celine has excelled both in and out of the classroom. Her academic accomplishments include developing a mobile application to

increase awareness of Title IX. Celine is engaged in the campus community serving as a Resident Advisor; Admissions Ambassador; PolyLEADs participant; and President of Wildcat Cares, a service club. She has been involved with Relay for Life, Make-A-Wish Foundation, and also developed a website for Guardians of Freedom Memorial.

**Kumari Regmi***Utica, NY**Family Nurse Practitioner*

After spending 17 years in a refugee camp, Kumari entered the U.S. in 2008. She is a first-generation student, Resident Nurse, and will complete her Master's in Family Nurse Practitioner in May. Kumari organizes events including blood drives, ESL/citizen classes, and cancer awareness. She has received the Ellen P. Coher Award, the 2017 American Red Cross Real Hero Award, and the Star Student Award for On Point. In addition, Kumari is on the Board of Directors for Thea Bowman House.

## SUNY POTSDAM

**Katie Agar***Saugerties, NY**Sociology and Speech Communication*

Katie is a Presidential Scholar completing a research project entitled, "The School-to-Prison Pipeline: Causes, Impacts, and Best Practices for Disruption". Active in her campus community, she serves as a Peer Tutor, a Teaching Assistant, and is on the Bias Incident Response Team. Katie has aided in the facilitation of many campus events and presentations to further the college's diversity, equity, and inclusion goals. She is also a volunteer with Albany's Center for Law and Justice.

**Torie Keeton***Waterford, NY**Community Health*

Torie is a Community Health major at SUNY Potsdam with a 4.0 GPA. She is the President of Eta Sigma Gamma, SUNY Potsdam's chapter of the National Professional Honorary Society in Health Education, and leads the campaign to establish a tobacco-free policy on campus. Her career aspiration is to contribute to the creation of a comprehensive and coordinated psychiatric system that more effectively covers, prevents, identifies, and treats behavioral health disorders through evidence-based means.

## SUNY PURCHASE

**Dolan Wells Gallagher***Brooklyn, NY**Literature and History*

Dolan is candidate for a Bachelor's in both Literature and History with a minor in Gender Studies. The recipient of several merit based scholarships, Dolan is active on campus, a radio DJ, Peer Mentor, and member of several PSGA clubs. Her professors greatly admire her intellect, multi-faceted interests and abilities, and especially her joy for learning and sharing knowledge, which has benefited all campus constituents that she has engaged.

**Hayley Restivo***Jamestown, NY**Literature and Music*

Hayley will graduate in May from Purchase College with a Bachelor's in Literature and a Bachelor's in Music Composition. She has excelled academically with a 3.94 GPA, and is a multi-talented student athlete who has been a leader and conscientious contributor to Purchase College for the past four years. Hayley has been recognized with several athletic awards including Rookie of the Year in swimming, the Coach's Award for cross country, and the Scholar/Athlete Award. Her music major is manifest in her two albums and forthcoming third.

**Joy Marie Thompson***Rochester, PA**Dance*

Joy Marie will receive her Bachelor's from the Conservatory of Dance, Purchase College in May. She is an exceptional student, dancer, and choreographer who has garnered a number of scholarships and awards. Active on campus, Joy Marie has served as a Resident Advisor, Student Government Representative, and Student Representative on search committees and on the Dean's Student Advisory Committee. She also is involved with numerous off campus activities within the dance world.

ROCKLAND COMMUNITY  
COLLEGE**Kevin Lynch***Nyack, NY**Performing Arts*

Kevin has the distinction of being one of RCC's top students with a cumulative GPA of 3.97. He maintains this while also being heavily involved

in RCC's dynamic Performing Arts program, and while serving as a volunteer firefighter with the Nyack Fire Department. Kevin has had lead roles in "Noises Off", "The Comedy of Errors", and "West Side Story", and performed as Romeo in the Rockland Shakespeare Company's production of "Romeo and Juliet".

### Shannon Thomas

Garnerville, NY

Mathematics and Science

Shannon has exemplified herself as a dedicated and hardworking student, maintaining a 3.89 GPA in RCC's Mentor Talented Students Honor's program. She is the recipient of the 2017 SUNY Chancellor's Student-Athlete Award, and is a 3rd Team Academic All American for volleyball players. Shannon is also active in the Rockland County community, volunteering for Good Samaritan Hospital, the East Ramapo Central School District, and the Knanaya Catholic Church.

### Angela Ulysse

Monsey, NY

Paralegal Studies

Angela is one of RCC's most outstanding paralegal students. She is the winner of the 2017 Paralegal Studies Mock Trial Competition, is Vice President of the Paralegal Club, and is the winner of the Paralegal Studies Scholarship. Outside of RCC, she contributes to the welfare of individuals in Rockland County, serving as a crisis counselor at the Center for Safety and Change and as a Big Sister for Big Brothers Big Sisters.

## SCHENECTADY COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

### Jessica Diskin

Chatham, NY

Culinary Arts

Jessica is a U.S. Air Force veteran, and received an honorable discharge in 2013. She has excelled both in and out of the classroom at SCCC. Jessica has achieved Dean's List and President's List recognition, is also a member of the ACF junior chapter at SCCC, and has become part of the hot food culinary competition team.

### Gishana Kuldip

Schenectady, NY

Humanities/Social Science

Gishana moved to the U.S. from Guyana in 2014. She overcame challenges with a new culture and went straight to college, cultivated friendship, excelled in academics,

and delved into volunteerism and helping others. She has excelled both in and out of the classroom at SCCC. Gishana is a member of PTK, and serves as President of the Students Volunteer organization.

## STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY

### Sydney Bryan

Medford, NY

English

Sydney graduated magna cum laude in December 2017 from the English Honors Program and Teacher's Education program with a minor in Africana Studies. She served as a Commuter Assistant and Freedom School intern; was on the Black History Month Planning Committee and the Dean's Student Advisory Board; and chaired the Undergraduate Student Government Elections Board. As a student in the BA/MA program in English, Sydney will continue her education as a graduate student in the spring.

### Michael D'Agati

Miller Place, NY

Electrical Engineering

Michael is a 2016 Goldwater Scholar, and has been engaged in research at Stony Brook University since high school. He enjoys finding answers to new questions and challenging his limits as a student. Michael is involved in many areas on campus including the SBU crew team, IEEE-HKN honor society, and he is a Student Ambassador. Michael also enjoys playing piano and painting.

### Samantha DiSalvo

Lynbrook, NY

Biology

Samantha is a Biology major who has excelled both inside and outside of the classroom. She has maintained a 3.99 GPA while being a part of the Stony Brook women's lacrosse team, one of the top Division I programs in the nation. As a member of both the Student Athlete Advisory Committee and the Red Watch Band Care Team, she is very active within the campus community, and is involved in many campus-wide events.

### Christopher Giuliano

Hauppauge, NY

Applied Mathematics & Statistics and Chemistry

Chris is an Applied Mathematics and Chemistry double major in the Honors College who conducts research under Dr. Steven Glynn and Dr. Jason Sheltzer, and has published two co-first author papers

on his work. Chris is a recipient of the Goldwater Scholarship, the AACR Bardos Scholarship, and is a founding member of the Stony Brook Synthetic Biology Society. After graduation, Chris plans to continue his research career by earning a PhD in cancer biology.

### Sarika Hira

Valley Stream, NY

Biology

Sarika is an aspiring physician who conducts cancer research at SBU, helps children affected by a parent's cancer through Camp Kesem, and volunteers in Cytology at Stony Brook Hospital. She is a University Scholar, was elected into Phi Beta Kappa, and graduated summa cum laude in December 2017. Sarika has also served as a Resident Assistant and an Undergraduate Fellow in Tabler Quad.

### Andrew Kumpfbeck

Smithtown, NY

Biomedical Engineering

Andrew is an aspiring physician majoring in Biomedical Engineering. With a mother who is a nurse and a father who is a retired FDNY firefighter, Andrew had an early exposure to medicine and to the values of giving back to and caring for others. Andrew has combined these passions at Stony Brook as a Peer Mentor, Hospital Volunteer, Orientation Leader, and Student Researcher in the Biomedical Engineering and Pharmacological Sciences departments.

### Justin Lerner

Nesconset, NY

English

Justin is an English major pursuing research in British Renaissance poetry. He specializes in religious texts, such as those of George Herbert. Since transferring from Suffolk County Community College, he has pursued academic research and leadership opportunities. Justin is an Orientation Leader, Commuter Assistant, Writing Tutor, member of the English Honors Program, Vice President of Brothers and Sisters in Christ (B.A.S.I.C.), Historian of the English Honor Society, and has presented at various research conferences.

### Jessica McKay

Blooming Grove, NY

Social Work

Jessica is an aspiring policy maker with a passion for research. She is involved as the Co-Founder of Stony Brook's Chapter of I AM THAT GIRL,

and is also a Resident Assistant, Member of the President's Council of Student Advisors, Student Ambassador, and Red Watch BandCARE Team Member. Inspired by her fellowship with Teach for America, Jessica plans to obtain a Master of Social Work degree with a concentration in economic development. She aspires to run for office.

### Ho Nam Nguyen

*Vung Tau, Vietnam  
Physics and Astronomy*

Ho Nam is an Honors College student majoring in Physics and Astronomy with a minor in Mathematics. He has worked closely with students as a Resident Assistant and a Residential Tutor. Ho Nam was inducted into Phi Beta Kappa and Sigma Pi Sigma honor societies. In addition, he has worked at CERN, the world's largest particle physics laboratory, in Summer 2017. Ho Nam is also the first author on a paper submitted to Physical Review D journal.

### Michelle Olakkengil

*Plainview, NY  
Psychology and Sociology*

Michelle is an aspiring advocate for women's health. She graduated Phi Beta Kappa with a double major in Psychology and Sociology. She is a recipient of the Benjamin Gilman International Scholarship, which allowed her to study abroad in Madagascar and research women's sexual and reproductive health. Michelle attributes her campus involvement and achievements to university mentors. Michelle is currently a Global Youth Advocacy Fellow for Planned Parenthood, and will soon start her Master's in Public Health.

### Alessandra Riccio

*Hicksville, NY  
Biochemistry*

Alessandra is an aspiring physician who intends to fuse her undergraduate experiences in leadership, research, and outreach into her future medical school career. At Stony Brook University, Alessandra has connected with many students in her roles as an Orientation Leader and Resident Assistant. Her clinical experiences at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center and in Guatemala have shown her the humanistic aspect of medicine that she hopes to emulate as a future physician.

### Lydia Senatus

*Brooklyn, NY  
Economics*

Lydia is a Charles B. Rangel International Affairs Fellow, a JFEW-SUNY

International Relations and Global Affairs Scholar, and was a Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholar. As a student leader, she has served in the Student Government, on numerous committees and councils, and as a Student Ambassador. Lydia interned at the U.S. Mission to the UN, and studied abroad in China. After earning her Bachelor's degree, she will pursue her Master's degree in International Relations.

### Amanda Stoerback

*St. James, NY  
Biology*

Amanda is pursuing an Interdisciplinary Biology degree while minoring in Health & Wellness and Business. Her diverse involvement includes teaching, mentoring, research, service, and various leadership positions. Amanda is involved in clinical psychology research, working on processing electroencephalogram (EEG) data from children on and off the autism spectrum. She is also a Lead Peer Academic Success Coach at the tutoring center, and has completed a clinical scholars program at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center.

### Lyle Suh

*New York, NY  
Biology: Neuroscience*

Lyle has experienced the importance of diversity, exploration, and education. She takes an active role in her community, founded a non-profit organization for girls' education, is a Red Watch Band Care-team member, and serves as a Peer Assisted Learning leader. Lyle has done research in two labs and also was involved in a student-led research project for iGEM. She has found a passion for neuroscience and education through the opportunities at Stony Brook.

### Omar Zainul

*Dix Hills, NY  
Pharmacology*

Omar is an aspiring physician with an immense ambition to uncover the brain's unknowns. He is currently developing novel neural tracers to image the brain's neural connectome, and has publications in the journals *The Royal Society of Chemistry* and *The Journal of the American Chemical Society*. Aside from his research, Omar works as a Personal Trainer, volunteers at a drug rehab clinic, and is passionate about enjoying the outdoors.

## SUFFOLK COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

### Theresa Grillo

*Kings Park, NY  
Liberal Arts: General Studies*

Theresa, a Liberal Arts General Studies major with a 3.8 GPA, has earned Dean's List recognition every semester during the last two years. She is an Honors student and serves as the Program Coordinator for Campus Activities Board, Peer Mentor, and Editor-in-Chief of *Cassandra*, the literary magazine for the Grant Campus.

### Sarah Feder

*Commack, NY  
Liberal Arts: Math*

Sarah, a Liberal Arts Math major with a 3.6 GPA, has earned Dean's List recognition, and serves as an Officer of Communications for Phi Theta Kappa. She is an Honors student, Get There From Here scholar, and an Orientation Leader. Sarah is also a Catechist for a third grade religion class at Christ the King Church in Commack.

### Kevin Herrera

*Riverhead, NY  
Engineering Science*

Kevin has excelled academically at Suffolk Community College with a 3.9 GPA, and has earned Dean's List recognition every semester during the last two years. He is also actively involved on campus, serving as a Student Scribe and Peer Mentor, and is a Get There From Here scholar.

### Alexzandra Mojica

*East Meadow, NY  
Liberal Arts*

Alexzandra has excelled academically at Suffolk Community College with a 4.0 GPA, and has earned Dean's List recognition every semester during the last two years. She is also active on campus, serving as President of the Psychology Club, Vice President of the Association of Latino American Students (ALAS), and is also an Honors student.

### Felicia Molzon

*Mastic Beach, NY  
Communications Studies*

Felicia has excelled academically at Suffolk Community College with a 3.9 GPA, and has earned Dean's List recognition every semester during the last two years. She is also actively involved on campus, serving as President of Phi Theta Kappa, Vice President of the Honors Club, and as a Peer Mentor.

## Tri Minh Nguyen

Farmingville, NY

*Liberal Arts: General Studies*

Tri Minh has excelled academically at Suffolk Community College with a 3.8 GPA, and has earned Dean's List recognition every semester during the last two years. He is a Get There From Here Scholar and Honors Student. In addition, Tri Minh is active on campus, serving as an Orientation Leader, Campus Activities Board Finance Executive, and a Senator in the Student Government.

## Katelyn O'Brien

Greenlawn, NY

*Business Administration*

Katelyn has excelled academically at Suffolk Community College with a 3.9 GPA and has earned Dean's List recognition every semester during the last two years. She is also active on campus, serving as President of the Business and Accounting Club, Vice President of the Student Government, an Orientation Leader, and is also a Get There From Here Scholar.

## Samantha Savvides

Dix Hills, NY

*Liberal Arts*

Samantha has excelled academically at Suffolk Community College with 3.7 GPA, has earned Dean's List recognition, and is an Honors Student. She is also active on campus, serving as a Peer Mentor, President of Phi Theta Kappa, and is a member of the Student Government's Food Service Committee.

## Faiz Shakir

Brentwood, NY

*Accounting*

Faiz has excelled academically at Suffolk Community College with a 3.8 GPA, and has earned Dean's List recognition every semester during the last two years. Faiz is also active on campus, serving as Vice President of Student Government, Captain of the Speech and Debate Team, and Student Representative on the Campus Scholarship Committee.

## Bethany Weniger

Middle Island, NY

*Liberal Arts: General Studies*

Bethany has excelled academically at Suffolk Community College with a 3.8 GPA, and has earned Dean's List recognition every semester during the last two years. She also serves as Managing Editor to Compass, the school newspaper; is a Get There From Here Scholar; and Honors student.

## Marta Wyszynski

Riverhead, NY

*Liberal Arts: General Studies*

Marta has excelled academically at Suffolk Community College with a 4.0 GPA, and has earned Dean's List recognition every semester during the last two years. She is also active on campus, serving as Vice President of Leadership for Phi Theta Kappa, and as a Senator in the Student Government Association.

## Amina Zahid

Bayshore, NY

*Liberal Arts: Biology*

Amina has excelled academically at Suffolk Community College with a 3.9 GPA, and has earned Dean's List recognition every semester during the last two years. She is involved on campus as a Peer Mentor and Student Government Association secretary, and is also an Honors student.

## SUNY SULLIVAN

### Rosemary Guerra

White Lake, NY

*Business Administration*

Rosemary has excelled academically and is actively involved on campus. She has been a part of SUNY Sullivan's Student Government Association since her first semester, beginning as Vice President, and assuming the role of President, in January 2017. In the fall of 2017, Rosemary was recognized by the SUNY System Student Government Association as an emerging leader and was elected as the Community College Representative by, and for that body. She was later appointed as Secretary by, and for the SUNY System Student Assembly.

### Julia Kehrley

Barryville, NY

*Liberal Arts and Sciences: History*

Julia has excelled both in and out of the classroom, and she is a member of Delta Psi Omega Theater Honor Society. In addition, Julia is an active member of the SUNY Sullivan Performing Arts Club, and now serves as the Vice President. She also helps with recruitment at the New York State Theater Education Association festival. In addition, Julia has performed in two talent shows, and helped with the World AIDS Day fundraiser, both of which were sponsored by the Performing Arts Club.

## TOMPKINS CORTLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE

### Jonathan Hatala

Cortland, NY

*Environmental Studies*

Jonathan is a nontraditional student who has returned to college to pursue a goal of environmental and social justice. He is proud of maintaining his sobriety while working and going to school full time. He has achieved an exceptional 4.0 GPA while being involved in campus organizations like STAND and Phi Theta Kappa. Jonathan also serves as a Peer Career Coach, and is currently a TA for the Study Abroad program in Columbia.

### Kaitlin Tagliaferri

Binghamton, NY

*Communication: Broadcast Production*

Kaitlin has excelled both in and out of the classroom. Her extensive campus involvement has included roles as a Resident Assistant, Vice President and NELA winner with the campus chapter of the National Society of Leadership and Success, inductee and Treasurer for Phi Theta Kappa, and Co-Founder of the Television Club. Kaitlin is also a Student Talent Showcase winner, is a member of the Student Government Association, and has been on the Dean's List every semester.

## SUNY ULSTER

### Michael Burke

Newburgh, NY

*Environmental Studies*

Michael, a member of the Honors Program and TRiO, has an overall GPA of 3.45, and serves as President of the Environmental Club. A recipient of the 2017 Barnabas McHenry Hudson Valley Award offered through The Open Space Institute, which honors "exceptional young leaders who are working to protect and enhance the Hudson River Valley," he plans to transfer to a four-year institution with a career goal of working for the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation or the NYC Department of Environmental Protection.

### Marianne Jenkins

New Paltz, NY

*Nursing*

Marianne, a member of the TRiO and EOP programs and Phi Theta Kappa, with an overall GPA of 3.55, is very involved in campus life, with service that includes Vice President of the

Biology Club. A Campus Connect Orientation Leader, Marianne plans to transfer to a four-year institution, ultimately pursuing her Master's degree in Nursing with a career goal of obtaining a certification to administer chemotherapy, and to work as a nurse on a pediatric oncology floor.

## UPSTATE MEDICAL UNIVERSITY

### Kathleen Iles

*Skaneateles, NY  
Medicine*

Katie has excelled academically and is a committed leader. Serving as President of Upstate's AOA chapter, she was elected by her peers to the Gold Humanism Honor Society for dedication to humanistic patient care. Katie has served as Clinic Coordinator for the Refugee Clinic; was elected to the Learning Community Advisory Council; and volunteered in "Peds Pals," supporting children with cancer. She also served as Special Events Chair for the Campus Activities Governing Board.

### Heather Nelson

*Northville, NY  
Cell & Developmental Biology*

Heather joined the Biomedical Sciences PhD program at SUNY Upstate Medical University in 2012, and is completing her doctoral research in Cell and Developmental Biology with Dr. Michael Roe. Her research is focused on molecular mechanisms that regulate intracellular calcium signal transduction. Heather is a leader in student government, and she enjoys long-distance running, soccer, and triathlons.

## WESTCHESTER COMMUNITY COLLEGE

### Johnnie Asibuo

*Ghana  
Business Administration*

Johnnie has excelled academically, and is a Kathryn Davis Global Scholar, a SUNY Empire State Diversity Scholar, and a Cambridge University Study Abroad Scholar. She is actively involved on campus, serving as the Secretary of the Philosophia Honors Society, Vice President of the Business Honors Society, an officer in the Mount Vernon Club, and co-founder of the alternative spring break program. In addition, she volunteers as a Peer Tutor, and works as an Accounting Clerk.

### Daniel Barr

*Bedford Hills, NY  
Cybersecurity*

Daniel decided to return to school after many years in the hospitality industry to change careers and pursue the field of Cybersecurity. He has excelled academically, and is actively involved on campus. Daniel is the President of the Cybersecurity Club, received a National Science Foundation's Scholarship for Service, and volunteers as a Cybersecurity/Computer Information Systems Tutor.

### Jesus Blanco

*Michoacan, Mexico  
Marketing*

Jesus immigrated to the United States with his family in January 2002. He has excelled both in and out of the classroom. Jesus serves as a College Steps Mentor, Social Media Intern for the Department of Cultural Affairs, and Social Media Coordinator for Westchester Events Board. In addition, he has served as both an Orientation Leader and Orientation Coordinator. Jesus is motivated to increase awareness about involvement on campus, and plans to continue his education after graduating from WCC.

### Melany Davila

*Guatemala  
Environmental Science*

Melany was born and raised in Guatemala, and moved to New York at the age of 14. The transition was challenging due to language barriers, differences in cultures, and unfamiliarity with the American educational system. After enrolling as a part-time student at Westchester Community College, she has excelled both academically and through her campus involvement, serving as an active member of the Student Government and Phi Theta Kappa.

### Christine Fils-Aime

*Stamford, CT  
Psychology*

Christine has excelled both in and out of the classroom. As a Kathryn W. Davis Scholar, she implemented a STEM Enrichment Program for the children at The Virginia Marx Center. As a Commit to Change Participant, she has developed an entrepreneurial program for the students of WCC. Additionally, as a Senator of the Student Government, she promotes aspects of diversity and inclusion on campus. Christine plans to pursue her bachelor's degree after graduating from WCC.

### Daniela Hirsch

*Simbach am Inn, Germany  
Journalism*

Daniela is equally passionate about helping people, learning languages, and writing. After moving to New York and starting at Westchester Community College, she has excelled both in and out of the classroom. Danielle serves on the college newspaper, The Viking News, and during her four semesters at the college she has worked as a Staff Writer, Opinions Editor, and currently as the co-Editor in Chief. She also has served as an Orientation Leader and Peer Advisor.

### Keenan Long

*Brewster, NY  
Liberal Arts: Social Science*

Keenan has consistently achieved academic excellence at WCC, earning President's List each semester he's been enrolled. He was recognized for his work with the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) on campus as Club Officer of the Year. In addition, Keenan has helped shape the future for new WCC students as an Orientation Coordinator, and serves as Treasurer for the Student Government, helping maintain financial stability and equity for the Association and its members.

### Nicholas Singh

*Trinidad & Tobago  
Engineering Science*

Nicholas migrated from the twin islands of Trinidad and Tobago in 2015. Since enrolling at WCC, he has excelled academically, and has been actively involved on campus. Nicholas has hosted a program on the campus radio station, WARY; serves as the Student Trustee for the college; is Vice President for Membership for Phi Theta Kappa; received the Katherine Davis Global scholarship; and has made both the President's and Dean's list during numerous semesters.







CHANCELLOR'S AWARD  
*for Student Excellence*

APRIL 10, 2018

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