Empire State Plaza Convention Center
Albany, New York
www.suny.edu

APRIL 5, 2017

CHANCELLOR'S AWARD
for Student Excellence

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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, 256 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
Marc Cohen
Student Trustee and
President of the Student Assembly
STUDENT VIDEO MONTAGE

Remarks
Dr. Nancy L. Zimpher
Chancellor
VIDEO PRESENTATION

Presentation of Awards
RECEPTION IMMEDIATELY
FOLLOWING THE CEREMONY
April 2017

Dear Students, Faculty, and Friends,

It is my pleasure to welcome you to this year’s Chancellor’s Awards for Student Excellence program. Today we recognize 256 of the most outstanding students from throughout the SUNY system.

Every year, more than 600,000 students pursue their dreams of higher education at SUNY, whether on campus or online, or both. Students selected for the Chancellor’s Award have demonstrated that not only are they excellent students, but they go above and beyond—developing their talents and skills to contribute the best of themselves to their campuses and communities. These students have proven to be exceptional leaders, founders, helpers, and athletes. And their achievements reflect not only their hard work and dedication, but the support of their families and friends and SUNY’s world-class faculty and staff. We could not be more proud of them all.

The State University of New York is the largest comprehensive public university system in the nation. This means that we are the door to opportunity for every New Yorker, and we take that responsibility to heart. It is our unwavering goal to provide the broadest education access, to put every measure in place to help students complete their degrees, to ensure the 7,500 degrees we offer are meaningful in the modern world, and to always build upon our role as the state’s leading economic, innovation, and quality-of-life driver.

I know I can speak on behalf of the entire State University of New York system when I congratulate these students on their distinguished achievements and wish them the best of luck in their future endeavors.

With best wishes,

Nancy L. Zimpher
Chancellor
Diana Camp
Lake George, NY
Hospitality and Tourism Management
Diana moved to the United States from Romania when she was 20 years old with a dream of pursuing a career in hospitality. During her time at SUNY Adirondack, she has served as president of the hospitality industry from the classroom into the workforce, and enjoys giving back to the community through her work.

Alexandra Juliano
Queensbury, NY
Liberal Arts – Math and Science
Alexandra has been on the Dean’s List every semester at SUNY Adirondack and is also the president of the college’s chapter of the American Association of University Women, a non-profit organization that advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research. Her mission trip to Costa Rica to help victims of sex trafficking has helped guide her path at Adirondack and her passion to help the world.

David Bunn
Amityville, NY
Biology
David is a member of the Honors College, Phi Beta Kappa—the nation’s oldest academic honor society—and Omicron Delta Kappa National Leadership Honor Society. David has sat on committees to help direct change at UAlbany, such as in the residence halls as a member of the Residential Life Advisory Board and as a member of the Biology Department’s Graduate Recruitment Committee to help diversify its graduate program.

Cassandra Edwards
Brampton, Canada
Psychology
Cassandra is an international student from Brampton, Ontario, Canada. She is graduating with a bachelor’s in honors psychology and a minor in criminal justice and has already started her graduate program, working toward a master’s in mental health counseling. Besides excelling in the classroom, she is an honors program scholar, undergraduate research assistant, and community volunteer. Cassandra is a prominent member and two-year captain of the University at Albany Women’s basketball team.

Kayla James
Baldwin, NY
Criminal Justice and Psychology
Kayla began her involvement in the Emerging Student Leader Program, where she serves as a leadership coordinator. Additionally, she has served as orientation leader, resident assistant, EOP tutor, Intercollegiate Athletics Advisory Board member and represents UAlbany as a Purple & Gold Ambassador. She is a Presidential Honors Society and Omicron Delta Kappa National Leadership Honor Society member. Additionally, she is a research assistant, exploring pro-social decision making while enrolled in the criminal justice combined bachelor’s/master’s program.

Ermida Koduah
Bronx, NY
Political Science / Globalization
Ermida’s academic excellence has been displayed by receiving multiple awards and scholarships, including the Dr. Seth W. Spellman Achievement Award, U.S. Department of State study abroad scholarships, and the Rockefeller College Advisory Board Scholarship. As the current president of Sankofa Africa Organization, she is active in the Albany community by mentoring high school students. Additionally, she has performed dance for the university’s annual performance hosted by Black Theatre Productions.

Akeela Makshood
Albany, NY
Political Science & History
Akeela will be graduating with honors in political science and history. She has been a recipient of the Dr. Seth W. Spellman Achievement Award for three consecutive years as well as the Undergraduate Research Endowed Fellowship for research on Islamic Art and American Society. She has served as the student activist coordinator for Amnesty International in the Capital Region. Throughout her years at UAlbany, she has been a dedicated leader of the Muslim Students Association.

Naomi McPeters
Albany, NY
English
Born and raised in Albany, Naomi is one of four children homeschooled from childhood through high school. Since admission to UAlbany, Naomi has been a member of the Honors College and is now in the English Honors Program. She has served as peer advisor, photographer, and community assistant for a Living-Learning Community, and Humanities Senator. Eleven of her photographs are permanently installed in campus offices, and she plans to pursue documentary filmmaking when she graduates.

Stuti Misra
Dubai, UAE
Computer Science / Mathematics
Stuti is a double major in computer science and mathematics. She is a member of the Honors College, Omicron Delta Kappa, and Presidential Honors Society. Stuti has presented her research in wireless networks at multiple conferences. She co-founded Cultural Connections and served as its president. She was also the vice chair of ACM-W UAlbany Chapter, and documentation specialist of ASIS&T UAlbany Chapter. She will be joining Amazon as a full-time software developer in July.

Aritra Saha
Holli, NY
Nanoscale Engineering
Selected as a Fellow in the College of Nanoscale Science and Engineering, Aritra co-founded the College of Nanoscale Engineering, Aritra co-founded and served as president of Theta Tau, the national engineering fraternity, and conducted research on microtubule networks and proton exchange in fuel cells. A student senator in the College of Nanoscale Science and Engineering, Aritra co-founded the debate team, served as assistant director in the College Democrats of New York, and served as legislative aide for New York State Senator Leroy Comrie.
Robert Mahany  
Orchard Park, NY  
Construction Management  
Robert was offered and accepted a full-time project engineer position upon graduation from the company for which he interned, Balfour Beatty Construction of Washington, D.C. He has also received several men's soccer awards for his performance while on the Alfred State team. In addition, Robert held many student leadership positions during his time at Alfred State, including co-captain of men's soccer, civic engagement advocate, leadership assistant, and Alfred Programming Board member.

Mary Rose Ricotta  
Derby, NY  
Forensic Science Technology  
Mary Rose has been very involved at Alfred, organizing an on-campus assembly featuring David King, founder of the iMatter Foundation, speaking to students about the importance of mental health awareness. In addition, she volunteered with Habitat for Humanity during spring break 2016 in Myrtle Beach and will return as a student leader during spring break 2017. Mary Rose also serves as president of Alpha Sigma Sorority and liaison for a new student group seeking recognition as a Greek organization.

Madeleine Flint  
Caledonia, NY  
Ceramic Engineering  
Madeleine is a Dean’s List student and a member of Tau Beta Pi Honor Society, where she currently serves as treasurer. She has held internships at both the Air Force Research Lab and Owens Corning Inc. She is a member of the Alfred University women’s basketball team and participated in an outreach program for elementary and middle school students exploring materials science and engineering. Madeleine also serves as an academic tutor and a supplemental instructor.

William Larsen  
Ithaca, NY  
Family Nurse Practitioner  
William will obtain a Doctor of Nursing Practice degree from Binghamton University this May. He serves as a family nurse practitioner of internal medicine and endocrinology at Ithaca Med and as a volunteer family nurse practitioner for the Ithaca Free Clinic. In 2015, he developed and implemented the Ithaca Health Alliance Chronic Care Program, which provides evidence-based, multispecialty care to the region’s under-insured. William also served as a volunteer nurse in the Dominican Republic in 2014.

Kaitlin Biagiotti  
St. James, NY  
Cell and Molecular Biology and Music  
A Phi Beta Kappa member, Kaitlin has received a number of university scholarships and awards, among them the President’s Award for Undergraduate Student Excellence. She and her sister, also a Binghamton student, were awarded a Harpur Fellows grant to develop, equip, and implement a music program for disadvantaged students in two after-school programs in Peru. As a member of two choirs, she has performed at campus and local concerts.

Jesse Cole  
Garrett Park, MD  
Integrative Neuroscience  
Jesse is an integrative neuroscience major who will start medical school next fall. A member of the University Scholar’s Program and Phi Beta Kappa, he received a University premed scholarship. He has conducted neuroscience research at Binghamton, Rutgers, and George Mason University. University funding enabled Jesse to pursue an independent research project during Summer 2015, and he is now writing a senior honors thesis. In addition, Jesse has played trombone with the Harpur Jazz Ensemble since 2013.

Joseph DiBenedetto  
Ridgewood, NY  
Human Development  
Joseph is a senior human development major pursuing a minor in Italian and a certificate in Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies. He is a recipient of the 2016 Binghamton University President’s Award for Undergraduate Student Excellence and several additional campus awards. In addition, he is an active proponent of LGBTQ rights and is committed to serving underprivileged and marginalized populations both on and off campus.

Emily Venezia  
Glensford, NY  
Nursing  
Emily is a consistent Dean’s List recipient and member of the Binghamton Scholar’s Program. She is also participating in a research project on the use of nitrous oxide during labor and delivery that will assist in developing a policy to be implemented and evaluated at a local hospital this spring. Also, as president of the University’s Habitat Scholarship Committee, she volunteers for multiple organizations in the Binghamton community and is an orchestra violist.

Sarah Safer  
East Brunswick, NY  
Business Administration: Finance & Psychology  
Sarah is a double-degree student studying business administration and psychology with a global studies minor. She is a recipient of the Binghamton University President’s Award for Undergraduate Excellence and the Binghamton University Undergraduate Scholarship. Sarah is also a two-time Binghamton University President’s Award for Undergraduate Student Excellence and a recipient of the 2016 Binghamton University President’s Award for Undergraduate Student Excellence. She is also a two-time Binghamton University President’s Award for Undergraduate Student Excellence. She is a recipient of the 2016 Binghamton University President’s Award for Undergraduate Student Excellence.

Katherine Tashman  
Ithaca, NY  
Mathematical Sciences  
Katherine will graduate from Binghamton University with a bachelor of science in mathematics in May 2017. She is pursuing minors in engineering and chemistry, and is the recipient of two University scholarships for academic excellence. Katherine is also a campus leader, most notably serving as the vice president for finance of the Student Association. In addition, she conducted statistical research at the Harvard T. H. Chan School of Public Health in summer 2016.

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Jessica Wohlrob
Parsons, NJ  
Human Development
Jessica graduated magna cum laude with a Bachelor of Science in Human Development in December 2016. She was chair of the Grant Writing Committee at a center for adult survivors of abuse and interred with an organization that provides services for individuals with development disabilities. She volunteered to build homes in Binghamton, West Virginia, and South Africa. Jessica served as coxswain of the Binghamton crew team and was a member of the Dzidefo African Choir.

Li Xi
Zhenjiang, China  
Geography
Li graduated magna cum laude with Departmental Honors in Geography in December 2016. She is a Phi Beta Kappa member and president of the honors society in Geography. She completed an honors thesis and two professional internships in her field, one in Zhenjiang, China. She plays the pipa, a traditional Chinese instrument. Li performs at campus and community events with the orchestra of the Confucius Institute of Chinese Opera and also as a solo artist.

THE COLLEGE AT BROCKPORT

Clayton Brady
Fairport, NY  
Biology and Math
Clayton has excelled academically and is active in the community and on campus. He has participated in research at Brockport for four years and spent two summers at the Mayo Clinic. He has served as the president of the men’s club soccer team, an honors peer mentor, and works as an EMT. He will be attending medical school in the fall with the goal of earning an MD/PhD degree.

Madison Hornung
Orchard Park, NY  
Physical Education
In her time at The College at Brockport, Madison has dedicated herself to excellence in academics, campus and community involvement, professional leadership opportunities, and athletics as a Division III cross country runner. She is a physical education major and also served as the NYS AHPERD Future Professionals section president. Madison was honored as NYS Mayor of the Year and plans on becoming a quality physical educator with the mission of creating a physically literate future.

Tambria Schroeder
Norwich, NY  
International Studies and Women and Gender Studies
Tambria has always aspired to “be the change.” Her call for greater diversity and inclusion earned her one of only two collegiate positions on the National CDK Society Board of Directors. She also served on the Dean’s Student Council. Her commitment to service is reflected by her experiences as a volunteer in Peru, a tutor for refugees, and as a tutor for Brockport. Tambria enjoys running and traveling.

Melissa Stoj
Orchard Park, NY  
Biology and Psychology
Melissa’s dedication to academic excellence resulted in her acceptance to University at Buffalo School of Dental Medicine as a sophomore. During her time at Brockport, Melissa has served as vice president of Circle K, assisted in mitochondrial research, and has served on the Dean’s Student Council. Her commitment to service is reflected by her experiences as a volunteer in Peru, a tutor for refugees, and as a tutor for Brockport. Melissa enjoys running and traveling.

Elizabeth Wilson
North Tonawanda, NY  
Nursing
Elizabeth is a senior captain of Brockport women’s soccer team and a nursing peer mentor, and participates in the athletic leadership programs and captain’s counsel at Brockport. She is a scholar-athlete for her team and The College at Brockport two years in a row, SUNYAC All-Academic team three years, and SUNYAC All-Conference two years. Elizabeth has done extensive volunteer work in her community and received a nursing internship with Catholic Health over the summer.

SU N Y BR O O ME C O M M U N I T Y C O L L E G E

Jiongzheng (Wilson) Chen
Binghamton, NY  
Engineering Science and Physics
Jiongzheng (Wilson) has been a resident assistant at SUNY Broome for two years and excels academically with a 4.0 GPA. As an international student, he faced additional challenges and has burst through those barriers. Wilson recently highlighted at a Faculty/Staff Assembly drone footage he recorded in conjunction with the campus marketing team.

Heather Coggin
Harpursville, NY  
Business Administration
Heather is a non-traditional student who has come back to college with a mission: to be very involved on campus. She came back to school with a thirst to impact life around her. While balancing her work and family life, she has served as president of Student Assembly and is active in the Women’s Discussion Group and Phi Theta Kappa.

Amanda Soto
Bronx, NY  
Health Science
Amanda has excelled academically at SUNY Broome, being accepted into Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society as she works hard on her health sciences curriculum with the goal of one day becoming an occupational therapist. In addition, she was elected president of Student Assembly and worked diligently with the team to attain the students’ goals during an extremely successful year.

B UFFALO S T A T E C O L L E G E

Jon Battison
Elmira, NY  
Computer Information Systems/Electrical Engineering Technology
Jon, an Army veteran who served a tour in Afghanistan, was president of the Buffalo State chapter of Student Veterans of America and successfully lobbied for a new student veteran lounge on campus. A Dean’s List student, he was awarded a summer research fellowship and three small grants for research in his majors. Jon worked in local high schools—with teachers and students—to promote science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and computer science (STEM+C) curriculum.

Alexia Matos-Mateo
Bronx, NY  
Criminal Justice
Alexia, an Army ROTC student, was inducted into the Alpha Phi Sigma Criminal Justice Honor Society and the Alpha Kappa Delta International Sociology Honor Society. As a resident assistant, she was recognized with the First Year Mentor of the Year award. She also served as a resident director for the Educational Opportunity Program. In addition, she completed the Legacy Leaders Program and the Emerging Student Leaders Program on campus and studied abroad in Chile and Haiti.
Monique Owens  
Buffalo, NY  
Public Administration  

Monique, an Erie County Democratic Committee member, participated in the Open Buffalo Emerging Leaders Program and was a committee member for the Miss Borinquen Leadership Development Program, designed to empower young Latinas in the community. She will present her master’s project at the 2017 American Society for Public Administration conference. In addition, she was inducted into the Buffalo State chapter of the Global Honor Society for Public Affairs and Public Administration.

Jeremiah Perez-Torres  
Bronx, NY  
Criminal Justice  

Jeremiah, a member of the Muriel A. Howard Honors Program and a McNair Scholar, received the Northwell Health 2016 Spirit Award regional scholarship for his community service and commitment to others. He was coordinator of the University Police Student Assistant Program, supervising students who work with campus police. He also served as an officer of both the Criminal Justice Club and the Buffalo State chapter of Alpha Phi Sigma, the National Criminal Justice Honor Society.

Carly Pershyn  
Buffalo, NY  
Psychology/Arts & Letters  

Carly was named the college’s Outstanding Philosophy Student in 2016–2017. She received a grant to fund research for her honors thesis in psychology and represented the Philosophy Department on the Arts and Humanities Student Council. She founded and was president of the Generation Action chapter on the Buffalo State campus and was a member of the Women in Philosophy Club and the Psychology Club. In the community, she worked as a women’s health advocate.

Lydia Sigurdson  
Pendleton, NY  
Psychology  

Lydia, who conducted original research for her honors thesis on the effects of race and personal characteristics in a legal setting, was selected to present her findings at the American Psychology Law Society’s annual conference. She also was inducted into Psi Chi National Psychology Honor Society. In addition, Lydia participated in more than 500 hours of community service during her college career, working with refugees at Jewish Family Service and homeless and runaway youth at Compass House.

UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO

Madelaine Britt  
Rochester, NY  
Environmental Design, Political Science  

Madelaine has spent her collegiate career advocating for communities both in and outside of Buffalo. She served on the board of her local neighborhood association, taught eighth grade students in the Buffalo Public Schools, and is an AmeriCorps Vista alum. She is dedicated to public service and is the first Truman Scholar from the University of Buffalo.

Jacob Caldwell  
Frewsburg, NY  
Biomedical Engineering  

Jacob has committed himself to the service of others inside and outside the classroom. He has been a resident advisor, orientation leader, president of the Residence Hall Association, and a teaching assistant for UB’s first-year engineering seminar. He also contributes to research in biofilm detection and prevention in UB’s Orthopedic Research Laboratory.

Meghan Capeling  
Bridgeport, NY  
Chemical and Biological Engineering  

In her time at UB, Meghan served as president of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers, contributed a winning poster for her engineering research at the 2016 Celebration of Student Academic Excellence, and organized an after-school program for Buffalo Public School students. She also received the Grace W. Capen Award for Outstanding Academic Achievement from the UB Women’s Club.

Akhsha Chaudhary  
Pittsford, NY  
Biomedical Sciences  

Akhsha has served as a teaching assistant for cell biology, human anatomy, and honors colloquium, and has volunteered in local hospitals and conducted research in the Division of Behavioral Medicine. She has also mentored Leadership House students, served as a campus ambassador for the Office of Admissions and Honors College, and competed with UB Aces club tennis team. In addition, Akshata is a University at Buffalo Presidential Scholar.

Won Woong (Tyler) Choi  
Bellevue, WA  
Political Science – Economics Joint Major  

After studying abroad in East Africa freshmen year, Choi launched his own initiative, “Hugs for Tanzania,” in which he delivered over 2000 school supplies to students at Kitwo Primary School in Tarime, Tanzania. He then co-founded the University at Buffalo Rotaract Club. Choi is a seeker of creative innovation and aspires to make the world a better place.

Hannah Griffith  
Bemus Point, NY  
International Studies & Spanish  

Hannah is currently vice president of service for the UB National Residence Hall Honors. She served as a teaching assistant for the Honors College and has studied abroad in Mexico and Russia. For four years, Hannah has also volunteered with a local non-profit that works to bring clean water to the people of Sierra Leone.

Anna Jacquinot  
Guilderland, NY  
Biomedical Sciences & Mathematics  

Anna served as president of the Amnesty International Chapter at UB, taught English as a Second Language at Riverside High School, and participated in the UB Presidential Scholarship Program. She has also been awarded the New York State Scholarship for Academic Excellence for the duration of her undergraduate education.

Barrett Kemp  
Shinglehouse, PA  
Biological Sciences  

Barrett has spent more than 800 hours conducting research in a taste physiology lab and works as a volunteer in the emergency room lobby at Kenmore Mercy Hospital. Additionally, he was a teaching assistant for cell biology and a recipient of UB’s Presidential Scholarship. Outside the classroom, he has competed and twice been captain for UB’s cross country team.

Andrea Niper  
Pennington, NJ  
Economics  

In addition to her economics major, Andrea is pursuing minors in international business and world trade and German. She has played Division I soccer for University at Buffalo for four years, while also being a part of the UB Honors College. Additionally, Andrea served as a head teaching assistant for a macroeconomics class and was in the professional business fraternity, Delta Sigma Pi.

Emily O’Brien  
Clarence, NY  
Biomedical Sciences  

Emily has served as a research assistant in a social psychophysiology lab at UB. She also was team leader for an alternative break trip and worked as a scribe in the ER, all while working at a ski shop on the weekends. She aspires...
to practice medicine internationally and to teach about cultural competency in medicine. She was recently accepted into medical school.

**Alexander Salinas**  
Queens, NY  
Nursing Departmental Honors  
Alexander, originally from the Philippines, will be graduating with a bachelor of science in nursing with recognition as a Ronald E. McNair Scholar. He is the president of the Multicultural Nursing Student Association and he has traveled to Guatemala for medical missions. He is currently the national student guest author of nurs.com and is currently on a mental health research team for patients who have chronic pain opioid use.

**Jacob Schupbach**  
East Aurora, NY  
Studio Art (Graphic Design) & Business Administration  
(Marketing)  
Jacob is a member of UB’s Honors College. In addition, he is part of Hulu’s Social Media Team, and has helped develop and implement the #IconicUB social media activation and lead a team of student developers in creating the Buffalo Connect website, a project aimed at bringing free Wi-Fi to the City of Buffalo.

**Georgios Sklivanitis**  
Athens, Greece  
Electrical Engineering  
George is earning his Doctorate of Philosophy in Electrical Engineering and has co-authored more than 20 research articles. He was the first finalist and winner of the Nutaq Software-Defined Radio Academic US National Contest. In addition, George was also the recipient of the 10th ACM Demo Award, the Graduate Student Excellence Award and the Break A Leg Award, recognizing academic achievements in the engineering technology curriculum, and an active member of six clubs and societies on campus, including the ASCESSteel Bridge Team that competes nationally.

**Emily Slominski**  
North Tonawanda, NY  
Biomedical Science  
Emily has been on the Dean’s List at UB every semester of college and next year will be attending medical school with plans to enter the field of pediatrics. She regularly volunteers at local hospitals and works in a research lab studying pediatric obesity. In addition, she likes to spend her time doing various athletic activities including soccer, golfing, and skiing.

**Hailie Suk**  
Amherst, NY  
Environmental Engineering  
Hailie is passionate about alternative energy and served as president of the UB Chapter of Engineers for a Sustainable World. She intends to further her education in graduate studies in mechanical engineering. Hailie is dedicated to making a positive impact on the world using her scientific training through research and education.

**College of Technology at Canton**

**Poornima Rathika**  
Balasubramaniam Nanayakkara  
Nugegoda, Sri Lanka  
Health & Fitness Promotion  
Poornima works as a tutor in several subjects, a health advocate for Davis Health Center, and a resident assistant. In fall 2016, she was awarded the Break A Leg Award, recognizing a devoted resident assistant accomplishing all tasks while overcoming a severe injury. Poornima successfully completed two research papers in fall 2016 and is currently completing an original research project for the honors program.

**Sarah Nuss**  
Wynantskill, NY  
Civil and Environmental Engineering Technology  
Sarah is vice president of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) student chapter, member of Tau Alpha Pi National Honor Society (which recognizes academic achievements in the engineering technology curriculum), and an active member of six clubs and societies on campus, including the ASCESteel Bridge Team that competes nationally.

**Cayuga Community College**

**Lisa Church**  
Fulton, NY  
Math and Science  
Lisa not only excels in the classroom with a 4.0 GPA, but she is active on campus with SGO, PTK, and Tutor Club. Outside of school she is active in the community through personal health and fitness and she volunteers for the children’s volleyball league. In addition, she serves as a respite mentor at ISS providing extensive care and companionship to an individual with disabilities.

**Amanda Deavers**  
Fulton, NY  
Psychology  
Presidential Scholar, PTK, Honors, Dean’s List, and Who’s Who student, Amanda also models and shares her talents as a CRLA certified tutor. On campus she serves as a leader as SGO president and treasurer as well as orientation leader and student ambassador. While active in many campus clubs, outside of school Amanda is involved with music as well as girls’ soccer, serving as coach and referee.

**Clinton Community College**

**Deborah Jolicoeur**  
Champlain, NY  
Business Administration  
As a third generation war veteran of our armed forces, Deborah’s tradition of service continued in her role as president of Clinton’s Veteran’s Club, fundraising for Honor Flight, and organizing Christmas cards for airmen. Her commitment to academic excellence led to her induction into Phi Theta Kappa and nomination for the All-State/All-USA Academic Team. She served on numerous campus committees with distinction and invested in the future success of classmates as a volunteer mentor and tutor.

**SUNY Cobleskill**

**Jason Ratchford**  
Chariton, NY  
Fisheries & Aquaculture  
Jason is dedicated to improving and protecting our natural resources. With a 3.72 GPA, he has excelled in his studies. He has conducted and presented on two original research projects. Jason is actively engaged in various conservation organizations and has volunteered many hours to clean ponds and reservoirs. He is also a Boy Scouts youth leader and studied abroad in Peru.

**Angela Zhu**  
Staten Island, NY  
Biotechnology  
Angela has demonstrated excellence in academics, leadership, and civic engagement. She has a 3.75 GPA and has presented her research at a conference. An active leader, Angela serves as a resident assistant, founded the Beta Beta Beta Biological Honor Society, and is a member of the Bio-tech and Circle K clubs. Her volunteer efforts have focused on beautification programs, fundraising, food banks, and serving as a docent at the New York Aquarium.

**Columbia-Greene Community College**

**Mercury Mason**  
Chatham, NY  
Associate of the Arts  
Mercury will pursue his bachelor’s and MD and upon completion he hopes to become a psychiatrist. He is the student trustee on the Columbia-Greene Community College Board of Trustees. He is a student representative on the Omega Psi Phi fraternity.
Ahmed Mukhtar Ahmed  
Rochester, MN  
Biological Science  
Ahmed is a first-generation Somali college student who was born in a refugee camp in Kenya. He is passionate about service and giving back to local communities, peers, and disadvantaged students. He was recently awarded a 2017 Rhodes Scholarship to study at Oxford University. The Rhodes Scholarships are considered to be one of the world’s most prestigious scholarships.

Jeremy Pardo  
Wesley Hills, NY  
Plant Science  
Jeremy has excelled in academics and his research throughout his undergraduate career has led to an honors thesis. He was a Geneva Summer Research Scholar and won a prestigious Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship from the American Society of Plant Biologists. He is a resident advisor in Ecology House, was an undergraduate teaching assistant, and has been a leader in Outing Club, Project Greenhouse, and other environmental programs.

Rebecca Schwartz  
Napa, CA  
Communication  
Raised in California, Becca became fascinated with the intersection of technology, communication, and gender. While studying at Oxford last spring, she pursued her passion to draft a novel, which is poised for publication in 2017. For more than a decade, she has been involved in California 4-H leadership and youth development, pioneering statewide conferences and orchestrating programs. In addition, Becca holds leadership roles in many campus groups.

Lauren Cantor  
New York, NY  
Human Biology, Health, and Society  
Lauren has balanced an unusual and challenging academic path with intensive leadership in the Cornell creative community as well as community service—and she has excelled in all areas. With a business minor to her HBHS major, Lauren has merged her current and potential career interests in maternal and child health, nutrition, issues related women’s rights and access to healthcare globally, and business and economics.

Marissa Grill  
Plainview, NY  
Policy Analysis and Management  
Marissa is a dedicated policy analysis and management major who is committed to work in STEM education and education reform. She has interned at the U.S. Department of Education and for Senator Chuck Schumer (D-NY), and completed minors in demography and law and society, to further her understanding of education issues. In addition, Marissa is a volunteer tutor for local students. Outside of academics, Marissa loves to sing and serves as president of the Cornell Chorus.

Jonathan Goldstein  
New York, NY  
Industrial and Labor Relations  
Jonathan is an active leader on campus in various student organizations, all while maintaining a 4.0 GPA. He is a member of the Student Government Association, a Public Service Scholar, and the VP of the Multi-Cultural Living Learning Unity. Jonathan has held several internships with prestigious companies, such as Bloomberg and PepsiCo.

Lauren has maintained a cumulative 4.0 GPA at CCC and has also received the CCC Nursing Careers Scholarship in both the 2015-2016 and 2016-2017 academic years. She was a peer mentor and work study tutor within both the Corning Community College music and nursing departments.
Jacob Zelko
Horseheads, NY
Engineering Science
Jacob was interviewed by the Elmira Star-Gazette newspaper and made front page news on September 14, 2016. The article was titled "CCC Student Developing Sustainable Water Filter System." Jacob was subsequently contacted by various humanitarian organizations and companies interested in his work. He also wrote a scientific research paper, "Silver Nanoparticle Water Filters – Revolutionizing the World One Drop at a Time," which won first place in CCC’s 2015 Library Research Contest.

Tara Sweeney
State Island, NY
Biomedical Sciences
Tara has frequented the Dean’s List, President’s List, and the SUNY Cortland All-Academic List through athletics. She is a member of the Phi Kappa Phi honorary, treasurer of the Beta Beta Beta Honor Society, and is captain of the Cortland varsity gymnastics team. Tara is also volunteer gymnastics coach for the children of the Cortland community. In addition, she is vice president of the Pre-Med club and plans to attend medical school in the fall.

SUNY DELHI
Morgan Hulbert
Cadyville, NY
Veterinary Science Technology
Morgan chose Delhi as a first step in following her dreams of becoming a veterinarian. Her outstanding academic record has earned her three scholarships, including one from a leading pharmaceutical company. Student ambassador, orientation leader, peer tutor, and athlete are a few of the roles Morgan serves to represent her college. This spring, Morgan participated in a field project where she assisted in veterinary care and surgical services for developing communities in Nicaragua. She also earned the Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals Scholarship. As part of this scholarship, Morgan leads a project to computerize all patient records at the college’s large animal teaching facility.

Allison Schumann
North Salem, NY
Exercise Science
Allison embodies student excellence as shown by her high GPA, multiple semesters on the President’s List, and recipient of undergraduate research awards all while competing at a very high level as a 4-year multi-sport athlete in collegiate track and cross-country. Allison has academic drive, is inquisitive, and very conscientious. She plans to complete her doctorate in physical therapy.

Nicholas Roberts
Poughkeepsie, NY
Business Administration Transfer
Nicholas is a business administration student focused on a career in business. He is the pro-tempore president for the Student Government Association, a member Phi Theta Kappa and Alpha Beta Gamma, and an orientation leader. He serves the community through his work with the American Red Cross, Sparrows Nest, and...
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service. Nicholas’s resiliency and commitment to his education is an inspiration to his Dutchess Community College peers.

**Morgan Wells**
Patchogue, NY  
**Art Studies**
Morgan is an art studies student focused on using the arts to make a difference in the community. She is the president of the Visual Arts Club and a member of the Television Club where she designs sets. Her community service work includes the Poughkeepsie Children’s Home and Wappinger’s Climate Action Group. Morgan’s creative work and her passion for reducing climate change represents the diverse spirit of Dutchess Community College.

**EMPIRE STATE COLLEGE**

**Daniel DeBrucker**
Syracuse, NY  
**Community and Human Services**
Daniel is a tireless advocate for the homeless population; he volunteers part-time as the national organizer to the Presbyterian Network to End Homelessness and for Tiny Homes for Good and works part-time as a crisis hotline worker. Additionally, he serves on the SUNY Student Assembly, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee, and the Disabilities Sub-Committee. He has also developed a webinar related to Human Trafficking using applied learning and academic research.

**Kristina Kwacz**
Stuyvesant, NY  
**Liberal Studies**
Kristina is a student in the Master of Arts in Liberal Studies Program at SUNY Empire State College, combining a love of photography and history in her work on the emigration of Poles to the United States. Her final project, an exhibition titled In the Shadow of the Twenty, carefully examines her family’s history through family photographs, original photography, and historical artifacts.

**Robyn McGee**
Patchogue, NY  
**Community and Human Services**
Ronyn spent fifteen years helping differently-abled adults pursue their goals before she finally chased and achieved her own. In four years, motherhood, a marathon, and two degrees finally became realities. She will return to the workforce with her humor and freshly honed skills to help the vulnerable populations that she has always been driven to help. Graduate school and another marathon loom on her horizon, but fear of the unknown no longer does.

**Lori Mould**
Delevan, NY  
**Higher Education/Veteran Services**
Lori is a disaster relief volunteer and has arranged over 30 disaster relief trips to the Gulf Coast region and Staten Island. She’s a student advocate and leader on her SUNY campus—sand in the SUNY Student Assembly. She studied abroad in Italy and China. Lori is passionate about the success of our SUNY Military/Veteran/Dependents students. She is a two-time recipient of the SUNY Chancellor’s Award for Student Excellence.

**Scott Rachon**
Marcy, NY  
**Business, Management and Economics**
After completing previous course work at several other colleges, Scott came to SUNY Empire State College to complete a BS in Management while also working full-time with the NYS Police and on active duty with the Air National Guard. He was deployed several times outside the US but continued his studies during the deployments. Scott is also deeply committed to his roles as husband and father and volunteers in several community organizations.

**Jawana Richardson**
Hempstead, NY  
**Business, Management and Economics**
Jawana serves on the college’s Alumni and Student Government of Governors and is an active committee member on the college’s Pay-It-Forward Initiative, Wellness Committee, and Safety Committee. She serves as the vice president of SUNY Empire State College’s Black Male Initiative, is an inaugural member of the Student Leadership Institute, and is an advocate in her community for transportation safety and improved services for children with special needs.

**College of Environmental Science and Forestry**

**Terrance Caviness**
Syracuse, NY  
**Environmental and Forest Biology**
Terrance chose SUNY-ESF in order to pursue a degree that would allow him to work with both plants and people. ESF was an institution filled with students, faculty, and staff that inspired him to become involved on campus and to dive into environmental studies. During his time at ESF, he has sought to better the campus and give back to the future students of ESF.

**Erika Sykes**
Farport, NY  
**Paper Engineering**
Erika is actively involved in student government and holds the position of Board of Trustee’s student representative. She was the head orientation leader and is a class marshall. Erika is a part of the Campus Programming Board and plans the December and spring banquets to recognize graduating seniors and distinguished faculty and staff. She volunteered with the Global Student Embassy in Ecuador on reforestation and community garden projects.

**ERIE COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

**Yasir Alqaysi**
Amherst, NY  
**Science**
Yasir started on the ESL track working hard to prepare himself for English Composition and within a year he received an award for mastering English skills as an ESL student. Consistently on the Dean’s List, he is also an EOP honor student and a member of the Multi-Cultural Club. In addition, he is a tutor for ESL students. Yasir will continue his degree in pharmacology at D’Youville College.

**Rachael Battles**
West Seneca, NY  
**Early Childhood Education**
Rachael is a student ambassador who has consistently been on the Dean’s List at ECC. She is also a member of PTK Honor Society, joined the Honors Program, became the president of the Pride Alliance club, and received the Outstanding Student Leadership Award from the Student Government Association, all of which has lead her to graduate with an honors distinction.

**I’Jaz Eberhardt**
Tonawanda, NY  
**Humanities**
Despite being born into poverty and battling Vertigo since childhood, I’Jaz has overcome many obstacles and has made exemplary progress at ECC, beginning in 2014 when she enrolled in and completed the Pathways to Success program. She has excelled in her curriculum, maintaining a 4.0 GPA. In addition, 11 of her poems have been published in ECC’s literary and arts journal.

**Robert Flynn**
Williamsville, NY  
**Humanities & Social Science**
Robert has excelled in academics, earning a spot on the Dean’s List with a cumulative GPA of 3.75. In addition, he served an important role in ECC’s production of Everything Groovy. Robert is currently continuing his education at SUNY Buffalo.

**Evan Gestwick**
East Amherst, NY  
**Liberal Arts/Social Science**
Evan is a member of both Phi Theta Kappa and the Honors Program at
Erie Community College, as well as a student ambassador. With a GPA of 3.97, Evan has earned his spot on the Dean’s List and is planning to become a mental health therapist.

**Neal McCallum**
Buffalo, NY
Business Administration/Entrepreneurship
Neal serves as the SGA president and trustee and is a member of the ECC Honors Program as well as PTK. He has maintained a 4.0 cumulative average throughout his time at ECC all while dedicating his time to fellow students to help make ECC a great place for everyone.

**Hibbah Mojawalla**
Grand Island, NY
Liberal Arts and Science: Childhood Education Grades 1-6
Hibbah is a resilient individual. She has taken seven classes, worked two part-time jobs, babysat her younger siblings for more than 48 hours per week, and tutored elementary students, all in the fall semester of 2016. She received the Commitment to Excellence Scholarship, has a 4.0 GPA, and is a member of PTK.

**FARMINGDALE STATE COLLEGE**

**Jessica Ann Daddino**
Seaford, NY
Nursing
Jessica has maintained a GPA of 3.95 and achieved recognition on the President’s list each semester. In June of 2016, she received the American Nurses Association-New York Future Nurse Leaders award, and in December of the same year, she was selected to receive the Student Award for Academic Excellence. Jessica is a member of the nursing honor society and is active in community service projects.

**Kristine Lycke**
Bay Shore, NY
Applied Psychology
Kristine returned to school full time after being diagnosed and treated for breast cancer. She has achieved a 4.0 GPA in the three semesters since, all while raising a toddler and volunteering in her community. She was recruited to join the RAM Program team and will serve as one of their inaugural research assistants in Spring 2017. Her academic excellence has been recognized with admission to both the Golden Key and Psi Chi honor societies.

**Oscar Polanco-Reynoso**
Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic
Applied Economics
Oscar is an international student from the Dominican Republic. During his three years at Farmingdale, Oscar has excelled academically. He was on the President’s List for both the spring and fall 2014, while also working in several different departments at the college. In addition, during spring 2016, he was accepted into the Washington Internship Institute program, where he interned at Jubilee USA Network.

**Shaquille Saillant**
Levittown, NY
Visual Communications
Shaquille’s passion for design drives him to use his talents to make the greatest impact possible through his creativity. Whether honing his skills through three different internships and a work-study position, or applying his talents to a non-profit organization such as S.T.R.O.N.G. Youth, he has embraced the opportunity to concurrently experience interpersonal, academic, and professional growth. Furthermore, he has excelled academically as a visual communications student while contributing his time to his personal and educational community.

**Samantha Stettnisch**
Lindenhurst, NY
Bioscience
Samantha is a bioscience student at Farmingdale State College who aims to pursue a career researching genetic diseases. She is an intern in a laboratory at Farmingdale State College where she assists in researching viral infections. Samantha excels in her major and was honored with a scholarship from Forest Laboratories, Inc. at the 2016 Long Island Business Hall of Fame Gala. She is also the recipient of the Presidential Scholarship for academic excellence.

**Carly Vittoria**
St. James, NY
Nursing
As a fourth year student in Farmingdale’s highly competitive nursing program, Carly excels with balancing her academics, athletics, campus involvement, employment (both on and off campus), and community outreach. Her accomplishments as a sorority president, Orientation Leader of the Year, and an active member of the International Honor Society for Nursing are indicative of her well-rounded personality driven by excellence.

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**FASHION INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY**

**Ashley Attianese**
Old Bridge, NJ
Fashion Business Management
Ashley served as president and was a founding member of Runway27, one of FIT’s largest student organizations. She spearheaded four successful student-run fashion shows on campus. Her leadership skills helped make each event true interdisciplinary initiatives, involving students from all majors. She rounded out her experience by studying abroad in Florence. After completing a successful internship last summer with Macy’s Merchandising Group, she was offered early acceptance into their prestigious Executive Training Program upon graduation.

**Sonne Bajwa**
New York, NY
Fashion Business Management
Sonne is a firm believer in leading the change he wants to see. He serves as the president of the National Retail Federation Student Association. In addition, he is the digital brand manager for the Style Shop, an leadership ambassador, and also a member of the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society. His commitment to leading a positive change in his community goes beyond FIT, being an active volunteer at an animal shelter and various events around the city.

**Vanessa Bennish**
Salisbury, MD
Photography
Vanessa is a member of the Presidential Scholars, FIT’s honors program, and she is the recipient of a Gordon Park’s Foundation Scholarship (in partnership with Macy’s). She competed in volleyball where she was recognized with numerous NJCAA awards. Vanessa juggled part-time employment as a caregiver for an individual with special needs and launched her own photography business while at FIT. PROMO Magazine has offered her a Creative Director position she will begin upon graduation.

**Gabriella Manduca**
Staten Island, NY
International Trade and Marketing for the Fashion Industries
Gabriella is FIT’s first youth delegate to the United Nations. She is a peer writing consultant in the FIT Writing Studio, a certified swim coach for Special Olympics, and a Presidential Scholar in FIT’s Honors Program. She studied in Florence with the Jerome L. Greene Scholarship and is a recipient of international trade scholarships. While completing her senior thesis...
accomplishments include serving as president of the campus multicultural group AALANA and serving as a student representative on the SUNY Diversity Taskforce.

Felicia Showers
Waterloo, NY

Environmental Studies
Felicia is currently a full time student at Finger Lakes Community College. While balancing a 3.8 GPA, she also works between classes as a peer tutor in mathematics, a customer service manager at Tops Markets, and an active member in the NY Army National Guard. She’s active in the campus community as vice president of the Wildlife Society Club and president of Phi Theta Kappa. Her hobbies include hiking, sky diving, and time with family.

SUNY FREDONIA

Zachary Ek lum
Jamestown, NY

Biology
Zachary is a senior honors student at SUNY Fredonia majoring in biology and minoring in chemistry and psychology. He will enter the SUNY Upstate Medical University’s College of Medicine Class of 2021 this coming fall. As the valedictorian of his high school class, Zachary was accepted into Medical School as a high school senior, via an early assurance program offered at SUNY Fredonia. He is very involved in campus, participating in many clubs, including Health Professions Club, The Golden Key National Honor Society, tennis, biology, and rugby. Zachary is very interested in rural health and is considering various medical specialties.

FINGER LAKES COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Karen Luong
Rushville, NY

Horticulture
Karen’s greatest passion is aiding farmers in growing sustainable crops while minimizing disease impacts. She has interned at Cornell’s New York State Agriculture Experiment Station and is president of FLCC’s Horticulture Club and a member of PT K. Karen plans on continuing her education so that she will have a career in plant pathology. In addition to her academics, she enjoys attending horticultural seminars, planting trees in the community, and learning Japanese.

Lester Mayers
Bronx, NY

Theatre
Lester Mayers is a disciplined and ambitious individual. Since the beginning of his duration at FLCC he has made great strides and accomplishments, all while becoming the epitome of how far hard work and dedication can bring you. Some of his extensive accomplishments include serving as national Biological Honor Society. Rebecca has been participating in cell biology research and will be completing her undergraduate honors thesis before graduation. She was an integral part of developing many programs to help incoming freshman adjust to college.

FULTON-MONTGOMERY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Kendra Griffin
Saint Johnsville, NY

Accounting
A returning adult student, Kendra is earning an associate’s degree in business: accounting. She was inducted into Phi Theta Kappa and has been on the Dean’s List every semester. She is also a member of the Biz Hub as the president and is a member of the Wall Street.

GENESEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Julia Bailey
Newark, NY

Fashion Business
Julia is a fashion business graduate of GCC and is currently pursuing her bachelor’s in advertising and marketing communications at FIT. At GCC, Julia was actively involved on campus as an orientation leader, board member on GCCA, and co-produced the largest fashion show in Western New York. In the future, she hopes to work with brands to reach new levels of transparency when it comes to the products they are selling.

Seonggyung Choe
Busan, Republic of Korea

Fashion Design
Seonggyung Choe is a fashion design student from South Korea. She has successfully maintained a 4.0 GPA and has been given the honor of being named to the President’s List for all semesters. In addition, she is co-president of GCC’s Multicultural Communications Club and acting secretary for Phi Theta Kappa. She is a student who persistently works hard academically and constantly tries to improve herself by participating in college activities and volunteer work.
Hannah Loo  
Flushing, NY  
Biology and Music (Vocal Performance)  
Hanna is a double major in biology and music (vocal performance), a minor in chemistry, and carries a 3.82 GPA. She is a Presidential Scholar, a member of Phi Beta Kappa, and Phi Delta Epsilon International Medical Fraternity. She is a recipient of the prestigious Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship, co-founder of the Journal Club, and founder/organizer of the first TEDxSUNY Geneseo event. Hannah has co-authored papers, tutored and mentored students, and pursued two biological research directed studies.

HERKIMER COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
Milnalis Diese  
Bronx, NY  
Fashion Buying & Merchandising  
Milnalis is a fashion buying & merchandising major with a 3.64 GPA. She is also a Dean’s List student, member of Phi Theta Kappa, and very active on campus as a peer tutor, resident assistant, student ambassador, athletic advisor, and member of the Honors Program.

JAMESTOWN COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
Courtney Aldrich  
Daytona Beach, FL  
Individual Studies  
Courtney will graduate in May 2017 from Jamestown Community College with her associate’s in science degree for individual studies. An actively involved student, Courtney serves as vice president of Student Senate, is a member of Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, is a Dean’s List student, and interns with the Jamestown Jackals, a not-for-profit professional basketball team.

JAMESMONT COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
Leah Ratterman  
Springfield, NY  
Occupational Therapy Assistant  
Leah Ratterman of Springfield will graduate in May 2017 from James-town Community College with her occupational therapy assistant degree. An officer of JCC’s Student Occupational Therapy Association, Leah plans to continue her education and become an occupational therapist. She has been named to the Deans’ list each semester, is a member of Phi Theta Kappa, and is a peer mentor. Leah
also serves as student representative on the “SUNY Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Teaching” committee.

SUNY JEFFERSON

Emily Bush
Gouverneur, NY
Mathematics and Science
Emily is an outstanding math and science student, earning recognition on the President’s List and membership in the Phi Theta Kappa honorary society. Presented by the National Society of Leadership and Success, Emily was awarded the prestigious Academic Excellence Scholarship. She is a member of the women’s soccer and women’s basketball teams at Jefferson. Emily volunteers extensively in the community and her church.

Harry Werner
Watertown, NY
Engineering Science
Harry is a model of academic excellence, recently nominated as one of two college representatives for the state and national levels of the 2017 All American Community College Academic team. Harry was a research intern at the Stanford Linear Accelerator Center in summer 2016. He has worked as an EMT and a volunteer Wilderness Rescue Technician. In addition, Harry is a physics supplemental instructor and a chemistry tutor, and earned a black belt in Isshin-Ryu karate.

SUNY MARITIME COLLEGE

Brittany Storr
Nassau, Bahamas
Marine Transportation
Brittany has been actively involved on campus throughout her time at Maritime College. She is an exemplary international student who is an accomplished cadet in the Regiment. Whether it is her involvement on the crew team, her work as a student ambassador for admissions, or her volunteer efforts to help establish new programs with the Caribbean Maritime Institute, Brittany stands out as a responsible and bright student who has many talents.

Eric Wallace
West Point, NY
International Transportation and Trade
Eric Wallace has been a fully engaged and model student athlete at Maritime College, attaining qualification for graduation with honors in just seven semesters. He has contributed to student advisory committees in government, academics and athletics, and has been recognized on campus and nationally for excellence in character, dedication, and performance in academic and athletic endeavors. He has interned at the US Congress and the Ronald McDonald House and volunteered with local charity organizations.

MOHAWK VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Amila Muhovic
Utica, NY
Liberal Arts and Sciences: Mathematics and Science
Amila has achieved great academic excellence and has become an active member of the Mohawk Valley Community College student body. Amila has participated in multiple campus groups and clubs. She is an active member of CSTEP, Sustainability club, ATOM-E Science club, and WISE. Amila has been a study group leader for CSTEP and is the current president of ATOM-E. Her future plans are to attend pharmacy school.

Bruna Rosic
Croatia, Europe
Liberal Arts and Sciences: Childhood Education, English
Bruna Rosic has achieved academic and personal success as a student of Mohawk Valley Community College. She completed her English as a Second Language program with excellent grades and will graduate with her degree in Early Childhood education. Bruna has been an active member of Phi Theta Kappa Honors Society in which she holds the officer position of vice president of scholarship. Bruna also works in the Learning Commons where she helps her fellow students succeed.

Almir Tricic
Utica, NY
Engineering Science
Almir has achieved academic success earning a cumulative 3.80 GPA. He exhibits intelligence while participating in college activities and volunteer opportunities. Almir captained the men’s soccer team, received the Alumni award, and has served as student assistant coach of the men’s soccer team. He is a member of Student Congress, president of the Indoor Soccer Club, and the Future Engineers Club. Almir maintains a part-time job and tutors for the MVCC Learning Commons.

MONROE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Catrice Adu
Liverpool, NY
Liberal Arts
Catrice is a liberal arts major with a criminal justice focus. She has been on the Dean’s List and mentors new and returning students in the Academic Advisement Center. In addition, Catrice is actively involved on campus, serving as Vice president of Phi Theta Kappa membership team.

Carmyn Gomez
New York, NY
International Business
Carmyn excels academically and is very involved at Monroe Community College. Carmyn has been on the Dean’s List every semester and is a member of Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society. She is a senator on the SGA and holds a resident assistant position. In addition, Carmyn is a member of the college’s Coordinating Council and is participating as a delegate in MCC’s Model UN program representing Samoa.

Gialeigh Liou
Farport, NY
Liberal Arts
Gialeigh Liou is a liberal arts major with a concentration in chemistry. She is president of the Alpha Iota chapter of Phi Theta Kappa at Monroe Community College and is also the recipient of the Wentworth Family scholarship. Gialeigh is also an active volunteer in her community, assisting the Benincasa Hospice and the Adult Learn to Row programs.

Blake Moore
Rochester, NY
Liberal Arts
Blake is a dedicated student and student leader. He has excelled academically and has served two terms as president of the Student Government. He was a Model UN delegate, and is a member of many organizations and committees including Phi Theta Kappa, the college’s Coordinating Council, Strategic Planning Committee, and Vice Chair of the MCC Board of Directors. Blake has been named to the Dean’s List every semester and has received several awards and scholarships for his accomplishments both in and outside of the classroom.

Casey Moore
Lima, NY
Criminal Justice
Casey separated from the United States Marine Corps in June 2015 after five years of active duty and started his academic career at Monroe Community College in September that same year. He is a very active student leader on campus, working as a peer leader and serving as roundtable coordinator for Student Events and Governance Association. He maintains a 3.84 GPA, and is energetically engaged in the college community, working with students, staff, and faculty.
Victor Ortiz
Rochester, NY
Computer Science
Victor is a dynamic and hard-working student and student leader, active in multiple organizations including the Engineering Leadership Council and Unmanned Aerial Systems. He recently founded a new student group, Students for the Exploration and Development of Space. Victor was a member of the team that received a first place award for their Human Computer Interaction Process demonstration and presentation at MCC’s Scholars Day.

Charity Warner
Penfield, NY
Liberal Arts
Charity Warner developed the love of lacrosse in 7th grade and has been playing ever since. Not only did she help her team to a NJCAA National Championship in the spring of 2016, she also excelled academically, achieving a 3.85 GPA. Charity is a child of two deaf parents, and one of four children. She learned ASL at a very young age, which taught her to become responsible and adaptable.

Abby White
Rochester, NY
Liberal Arts
Abby has excelled academically at MCC, earning a spot on the Dean’s List. She also serves as the women’s basketball team captain. Family means the world to her and she says she wouldn’t be where she is now without them. Abby is involved in activities both on and off campus, volunteering when she can and embracing her position as a role model for other student athletes.

MORRISVILLE STATE COLLEGE

Byron Evans
Cazenovia, NY
Automotive Management/Automotive Technology
Byron is a consistent Dean’s list recipient. He also served as captain of the cross country team and won Men’s Overall Champion in the NEA Conference his senior year. Byron enjoys volunteering and giving back. He served as admissions ambassador and as the head sound technician at his local church. In addition, he helps elderly members of his community, and is a partner in his family’s business.

Joseph Hubert
Delanson, NY
Criminal Justice
Joseph graduated with Dean’s List Honors from Morrisville State College with a bachelor of technology degree in criminal justice. He was the team captain of the Morrisville State College men’s basketball team and served as the president of Alpha Phi Sigma, Mu Beta chapter, the national criminal justice honor society. He is currently compiling the soon-to-be-published “Student-Athlete Career Guide” with Career Services, to aid student-athletes at the institution in their career exploration.

Christian Bossio
East Meadow, NY
Engineering Science
Originally from Honduras, Christian has created his own business and won many awards and scholarships. Actively involved, he serves as the vice president of Nassau Community College’s Engineering Society, volunteers at the Engineering and Physics Help Center, and has organized a blood drive. Excelling academically, Christian has a 4.0 GPA.

Lucy Donahue
Stewart Manor, NY
Liberal Arts
Lucy immersed herself in NCC through student life, community service, and academic excellence. She achieved associate membership status in the national biological honor society and quickly became president of the college chapter. Accepted into the Honors Program, she was chosen student representative for the college. Involved in the Biology Club, NCC’s Peer Mentor Program, community service, and coach of a travel volleyball team, Lucy has had an impact on her department, her peers, and her community.

Catherine Hernandez
Uniondale, NY
Biology
Catherine is a member of the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society and the Beta BetaBeta Honor Society. She is also treasurer of the Biology Club and the Tri-Beta Honor Society historian. Catherine has greatly contributed to the local community through work at Horse Ability as well as the worldwide community through work in Ghana. She has pursued work in biological research through the Bio Prep program at SUNY Stony Brook.

Mia Jensen
Elmont, NY
Liberal Arts, Math/Science
Mia has maintained a 4.0 GPA while being very active at NCC as vice president of Beta BetaBeta honor society, which she helped to create. In addition, her presentation at the Regenerative Medicine Conference earned the second place award. Mia has been very involved in community service through several charitable activities, volunteering at the Long Island Festival of Trees, raising money for the Cerebral Palsy Foundation, chairing the toy drive for Big Brothers Big Sisters, and chairing the Ghana Book Drive.

Jaslin Kaur
Floral Park, NY
Liberal Arts
Jaslin is the president of Nassau Community College’s Women’s Student Association and the NCC Speech, Debate, and Acting Team. She convened with young leaders from around the world at the United Nations for the annual International Young Leaders Assembly. Her honors include induction into the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, Phi Rho Pi Forensics Honor Society, and New York Pi Kappa Delta National Forensics Honor Society.

Nicole Lichtman
North Babylon
Liberal Arts
Nicole displays leadership and initiative as a student leader and philanthropist. She is the president of Nassau Concerts, founder of a campus committee, and recipient of a Nassau County Legislature Presidential Student award. Nicole independently donated to the campus child care center for student families in need. She is a Phi Theta Kappa member and has been on the Dean’s List for 4 semesters.

Roosevelt Morring
Garden City, NY
Dietary Management
After serving in the US Army and now attending NCC, Roosevelt’s honors include five scholarships from the NCC Foundation and a TRiO Grant award for academic excellence. Roosevelt applied for and received major grants for NCC from the Student Veterans of America, and as president of the NCC Student Veteran’s Club has conducted numerous fundraising activities including efforts for Habitat for Humanity, toy drives for a foundation supporting women in the military, and a drive to collect used phones.

Melissa O’Brien
Bellmore, NY
Fashion and Buying Merchandising
Melissa has been selected to the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society and has served as a student senator to the Student Government Association. She has also been invited to the Honors Program at NCC. In addition, Melissa has been a volunteer advisor at the Autistic Child Care Center as well as a religious education teacher in Sacred Heart Parish. Melissa has accomplished all this while maintaining a 3.88 GPA.
Decia Roach  
West Hempstead, NY  
Teacher Education Early Childhood  
As the president of the Multi-cultural Club, Decia coordinates many activities and supports endeavors created by the student body. In addition, as a mentor for the Achilles project she serves students with special needs by aiding to navigate them along their college career choices. Decia has made the Dean's List on several occasions, is a student orientation leader and a Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society member who strives for excellence.

Donnamarie Serio  
East Islip, NY  
Legal Studies/Paralegal  
Donnamarie’s achievements, academic accomplishments, and leadership skills have proven to be a great asset to NCC. She is president of the Paralegal Society and has excelled academically, being inducted into two honor societies and nominated for the Phi Theta Kappa All-USA Community College Academic Team. She is also the recipient of several academic scholarships and has been actively involved in the community with the Boy Scouts. In addition, she has had several displays in New York art galleries.

Rohandeep Singh  
Hicksville, NY  
Computer Science  
Rohandeep has been very involved in NCC student life. He has earned a Certificate of Merit for the AMATYC Student Mathematics League and a certificate of completion of one hour of code awarded by the Mathematics and Computer Science Department. As an NCC orientation leader, he helped hundreds of incoming freshmen learn about NCC. He serves on the executive board of the Nest Food Pantry at NCC, and is an elected student senator on the SGA.

SUNY NEW PALTZ

Nicole Gottschalk  
Gastonbury, CT  
Communication Disorders  
Nicole has excelled academically at New Paltz while always striving to be involved and help others. Maintaining a 3.95 GPA, she has been on the Dean’s List every semester at college. She is part of the Emerging Leaders program, is captain of the lacrosse team, and has studied abroad in Ecuador. In addition, she is the founding member of the Love Your Melon Campus Crew New Paltz chapter, helping promote awareness and raise funds for children battling cancer. Nicole plans to pursue her doctorate in audiology.

Tina Lloyd  
Massapequa, NY  
Marketing  
Tina Lloyd has demonstrated exceptional leadership in both her academic field and her co-curricular experiences. She has earned a spot on the Dean’s List every semester while at New Paltz. Tina began her leadership experience as president of Bever Hall Government before becoming a resident assistant, serving on the executive board of the National Residence Hall Honorary during the inaugural year of Dance Marathon, hosting her own FM radio show, and serving as a student ambassador.

Kyle Marra  
Clifton Park, NY  
History  
Kyle Marra, an Honors Program student, is a campus leader. He has been on the Dean’s List every semester at New Paltz as well as being very involved on campus. Kyle has served as senior orientation leader, peer mentor for orientation, resident assistant, choreographer for the Epic-Glee club, vice president and secretary for Absolut Acappella, greeter for the Welcome Center, and president of the Dance Association. He was a teaching assistant for the New Paltz Theatre Department and appeared in campus theatre productions. In addition, Kyle interned at the National Museum of Dance in Saratoga Springs, New York.

Gina Rondon  
Brooklyn, NY  
Communication Disorders  
Gina has excelled academically at New Paltz while consistently being very involved on campus. She has been awarded Dean’s List every semester since her freshman year. In addition, she served as the webmaster for Circle K International, interned at Citizen Schools which is an educational non-profit, and served as an operations intern at Methodist Hospital, performing research on patient compliance with mammography testing.

Jessica Weeks  
Dunkbury, CT  
Biology  
Jessica Weeks, an Honors Program student, is a campus leader. She has a 3.96 GPA and will attend medical school. Jessica has been a resident assistant for three years. Her strong academic background in STEM makes her a valued tutor in math and biology. Her devotion to service is exemplified in her work as a tutor at a residential center for youth, as a volunteer at campus Saturdays of Service, and as a participant in Alternative Spring Break.

NIAGARA COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Emily Benes  
Buffalo, NY  
Liberal Arts and Sciences  
Emily is a very active student on campus. She is the captain of the women’s basketball team and also plays soccer and softball at Niagara Community College. She also enjoys volunteering at Community Missions and will continue to do so in her free time. Emily plans to continue her education at Alfred State in the Diagnostic Medical Sonography program in the fall of 2017.

Danielle Dirks  
Lockport, NY  
Fine Arts  
Danielle has excelled academically with a 3.94 GPA and is also very involved on campus. She is a member of the Senate Programming Board and is actively involved with the Fine Arts department and the campus art gallery. Her work has been included in the SUNY-wide student exhibition in Albany. After graduating with her associate’s degree in fine arts at Niagara County Community College, she plans to further her education by completing a bachelor’s degree in both visual communication design and sociology.

NORTH COUNTRY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Alexandria Elliott  
Gabriels, NY  
Environmental Science  
Alexandria earned President’s List recognition in 2016 and is also a member of Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society. She is involved on campus as president of the Environmental Club and treasurer of the Outing Club, as well as helping implement a campus newspaper. In addition, she is leading the college’s Climate Action Plan, which reflects her concern for our environment. Alexandria hopes, through her studies and actions, to make a difference in our world for our future.

Marcus Johnson  
Camden, NY  
Environmental Science and Wilderness Recreation Leadership  
Marcus is a member of Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society and has achieved a spot on the President’s List in both 2015 and 2016. He is also very involved on campus. He founded the Outing Club and served as its president, and is also a member of the Environmental Club. Utilizing his Leave No Trace trainer certification, Marcus has educated others on how to respect and enjoy the wilderness of
the Adirondack Mountains. When he is not volunteering his time on campus, Marcus can be found painting, traveling, and playing guitar.

OLD WESTBURY

Sara Bey
Merrick, NY
Chemistry and Mathematics
Sara is a scholar-athlete double majoring in chemistry and mathematics. She has maintained a 3.89 GPA while receiving 11 awards for her athletic accomplishments. Sara has served in multiple leadership positions, including student government representative and is the recipient of the Her Story Community Service award. Sara has two journal publications and has presented her work at a national conference. Both intelligent and creative, Sara built a human-size Foosball game for homecoming.

Alicia Fyne
West Babylon, NY
Psychology
Alicia is an exceptional student who is a member of multiple organizations including Tau Sigma National Honor Society and Omicron Delta Kappa National Leadership Society. Alicia’s commitment to social justice has led her to study street harassment of women through a Women in S.T.E.M grant and to serve as a student leader and advocate for Old Westbury’s Women’s Center. Alicia is also a student activist working to support disenfranchised people around the country.

Nadia Hameed
North Bellmore, NY
Biology
Nadia Hameed, a member of the Honors College, is an accomplished S.T.E.M. student who has interned with Brookhaven National Lab, is conducting cancer cell research with her biology professor, and is serving as the editor of the Honors College art and literature journal, Synesthesia. Nadia is also a mentor for the College Science and Technology Entry Program. In addition, Nadia actively works in her community organizing events and speaking to promote religious tolerance.

SUNY ONEONTA

Daniela Gutierrez
Hampton Bays, NY
Communication Studies and Spanish
Daniela, a first-generation bilingual student, has excelled in both academic and co-curricular activities. She has held numerous leadership positions, including serving as an academic peer mentor and a new student orientation leader, and she contributed to an award-winning book of autobiographical vignettes by Latino/a students and alumni. After graduation, Daniela plans to pursue her passion for service and education, either as an AmeriCorps member or through an advanced degree in education or museum studies.

Sprha Sanjay
New Delhi, India
Psychology
Sprha is an international student who has demonstrated excellence in the classroom and as a student leader. She achieved SUNY Oneonta’s highest leadership program level by serving as a peer mentor and helping to recruit and welcome new students. She earned numerous Dean’s List honors and completed a five-credit internship developing campus programming to raise awareness about safe sex and sexual assault. After graduation, Sprha plans to pursue a master’s in industrial or organizational psychology.

Rachel Shine
Clifton Park, NY
Psychology
Rachael has established herself as a top student athlete at both the conference and national level. She earned multiple NCAA Division III All-American honors and set SUNYAC records in the 800- and 1,500-meter indoor and outdoor track events. Coupled with this are her leadership in the St. Jude Giants club and her excellent academic performance, which has resulted in two honor society inductions and consistent external recognition as a scholar athlete.

Jillian Young
Sidney, NY
Meteorology
Jillian has earned national recognition as a scholar in the field of meteorology. She was selected to receive three highly competitive national scholarships, and she interned in two offices of the National Weather Service. In 2014, she planned and co-led social media efforts for the American Meteorological Society (AMS) annual meeting, where she presented her original research on lightning this year. After graduation, Jillian plans to pursue a master’s degree with a focus on hydrology.

ONONDAGA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Hassina Adams
Syracuse, NY
Liberal Arts and Sciences: Humanities & Social Sciences
Hassina Adams demonstrated high academic standards throughout her time at OCC. She was inducted into the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society and has managed to maintain a 3.687 GPA. She is active on campus and has held numerous positions, such as the president of the History Club and international Students Club student associate. Despite being the guardian of her family after her mother’s death, Hassina continues to persevere and is a role model to her community.

Heather Fiewelling
Liverpool, NY
Liberal Arts & Sciences: Humanities & Social Sciences
Heather enrolled at Onondaga Community College at age 32. After one year she became a part of OCC’s Honors Program and was inducted into Phi Theta Kappa. In 2016 she was awarded an OCC Trustee award for a documentary she helped produce in her honors women’s studies course. Heather currently holds a 3.9 GPA and is pursuing both honors and women’s studies minors all while being a full-time mom. She will graduate in May.

Ashley Haskins
Sandy Creek, NY
Nuclear Technology and Electrical Engineering
Ashley decided to pursue a technical education after teaching for three years on the Rosebud Indian Reservation in South Dakota as a corps member of Teach for America. She is a member of Phi Theta Kappa honor society and is a tutor for the learning center at OCC. In addition, Ashley is involved in several local organizations in various capacities, including serving as a firefighter/EMT and a library trustee. Ashley plans to continue serving her community and enjoys her work as an associate plant operator at Nine Mile Point nuclear power station in Oswego, NY.

Chloe Hoffman
Syracuse, NY
Liberal Arts & Sciences: Humanities & Social Sciences
Chloe excels academically at OCC with a 4.0 GPA and is part of the OCC Honors Program. She also worked as an honors ambassador, travelling to local high schools and working at open houses to talk about her program. Chloe plans to transfer to a four-year institution to study history and education.

Betheny Witherell
Central Square, NY
Liberal Arts & Sciences: Mathematics & Science
Betheny is a nontraditional student who found her way to Onondaga Community College after pursuing a
career as a NYS licensed massage therapist. An interest in rock climbing rekindled her interest in math and science, in particular geology. In the summer of 2014, Betheny applied to OCC as a STEM student and found herself engaging in research opportunities throughout her coursework that has led to her completion of an associate’s degree in math and science with a 4.0 GPA. She also served as secretary for the OCC Geology Club.

COLLEGE OF OPTOMETRY

Karen Levy
Beacon, NY
Optometry
Karen Levy is a fourth year student at SUNY College of Optometry. She is the secretary of Beta Sigma Kappa, the optometric honor society, and has been involved in tutoring both class and clinic material. Karen volunteered annually as a student representative for VisionWalk, where she fundraised for retinal research. She has excelled academically, receiving numerous scholar and clinical awards. Karen will graduate as valedictorian in May and looks forward to starting her Optometric career.

Derek Radich
Newburgh, NY
Optometry
Derek has proven his natural leadership abilities by being elected president of both his undergraduate international fraternity and of Beta Sigma Kappa, the optometric honors society. He has been dedicated to community service by volunteering with Geneseo First Response during college and providing optometric services to Special Olympic athletes. He has also excelled academically and professionally at SUNY Optometry including being awarded Dean’s List and attending the Alcon Academy for Eye Care Excellence program.

SUNY OSWEGO

Abigail Boyce
Lockport, NY
Finance
A two-year captain on track and field, Abigail set school records in six events. She received the 2016 USTFCCA All Academic Award for excellence in academics and national athletic ranking. Abigail was selected and served as research team leader in a global competition with the Chartered Financial Analyst Institute, served as the advertising manager of The Oswegonian, sector leader of Investment Club, vice president of the Financial Management Association, and as a tutor on campus.

Tatiana Gregory
Brooklyn, NY
Biochemistry
Tatiana conducted research with a team of Oswego biochemists and served as a Research Assistant at the Federal University of Paraiba in Brazil in the cardiovascular pharmacology laboratory. She is president of SAWC (student-run ambulance corps) with over 800 hours of service, and was recognized as Director of the Year. She is a resident assistant, member of Sigma Xi, (a research honor society), and has volunteered for several years with an agency in her hometown distributing food and clothing to families in need.

SUNY PLATTSBURGH

Grace DeSantis
East Aurora, NY
Environmental Science/Environmental Planning & Management
Grace is a Presidential Scholar which is reserved for just five incoming students each academic year. She is the recipient of the prestigious Environmental Protection Agency Greater Research Opportunities Fellowship, which provided her grant dollars over two years to attend an environmental conference and a summer internship. Grace also studied abroad in Costa Rica.

Grace is a Presidential Scholar which is reserved for just five incoming students each academic year. She is the recipient of the prestigious Environmental Protection Agency Greater Research Opportunities Fellowship, which provided her grant dollars over two years to attend an environmental conference and a summer internship. Grace also studied abroad in Costa Rica.

Natalie Gramegna
Massapequa, NY
Audio Radio Production & Digital Media Production
Natalie excelled academically receiving the SUNY Plattsburgh Academic Excellence Award, while also dedicating much of her collegiate career serving in numerous roles for the two college radio stations, including general manager at both stations. A member of the National Broadcasting Society, Natalie was a grand prize winner two years in a row. She has also acquired numerous awards and internships for her talent in both audio and video production on campus and regionally.
Ambar Jimenez  
New York, NY  
Biology

An accomplished student, Ambar has presented at seven research conferences. She is the recipient of the national ABRCMS Student Travel Award. In addition, Ambar was a paid intern at Brown University’s Department of Laboratory Medicine and Pathology. She also helped found a peer mentoring program on campus and involved herself in numerous organizations including the Plattsburgh State Gospel Choir.

Hope VanBrocklin  
Dexter, NY  
Ecology and Environmental Science

Hope is a presidential scholar which is reserved for just five incoming students each academic year. She has published three independent research articles/posters on DNA Analysis of Lyme Disease. Hope is also a four-year member and three-year captain of the softball team. She has received SUNYAC and National Fastpitch Coaches Association academic recognition all four years. In addition, she serves as the president of the Student Athletic Advisory Committee.

Bikash Regmi  
Syracuse, NY  
Nursing (FNP)

Bikash, a registered nurse, arrived in the USA in 2009 as a refugee. Patients have recognized him for his outstanding care and compassion. He is the student representative for the Nursing Department Curricula Committee, has achieved academic excellence, and has been involved in organizing charitable events including a breast cancer awareness program, ESL classes for refugees, and a blood drive. He is an advocate for fellow refugees and has helped them with cultural orientations and interpretations. He also serves on the advisory board for the Munson Williams Proctor Museum and is a member of nursing honor society, Sigma Theta Tau.

Rebecca Sheely  
Schenectady, NY  
Civil Engineering

Rebecca will be graduating with her B.S. in civil engineering with a minor in physics in May 2017. She has received Dean’s List status her entire time at SUNY Poly. Rebecca is very involved on campus, notably as the founding member of the SUNY Poly Society of Women Engineers Club. She plans on attending graduate school at University at Buffalo in fall 2017 to pursue her MS in civil engineering with a concentration on structures and earthquake engineering.

SUNY POTSDAM

Kate-Nicole Hoffman  
Horseheads, NY  
Music & Philosophy

Kate is an Honors student with a 3.8 GPA double majoring in music and philosophy. She has earned scholarships and awards in philosophy, music, and poetry. As a Presidential Scholar, Kate completed research on animal cognition and ethical considerations. She has performed in six campus and community productions and was a soloist at Carnegie Hall. Kate has served as a resident assistant, on the Honors Advisory Council, and as vice president for two clubs.

Lindsay Johnson  
Star Lake, NY  
Biochemistry

Lindsay is an Honors student with a 3.96 GPA majoring in biochemistry with a minor in biology. She has served as a research assistant in both organic chemistry and biochemistry and presented her work at the American Chemical Society Northeast regional meeting. Lindsay is a varsity athlete on the women’s cross country team, has performed in three campus productions, and is an engaged student club leader and community volunteer both at home and in Potsdam.

Dana Reid  
Antwerp, NY  
Exercise Science

Dana has a 3.94 GPA with a major in exercise science and minors in chemistry and biology. She belongs to two honor societies: Gamma Sigma Epsilon (chemistry) and Alpha Sigma Lambda (adult learners). Dana is a dedicated paramedic and has served with the Potsdam Volunteer Rescue Service and with the Indian River Ambulance Service. In addition, she is a member of Health and Fitness Advocates and has certified 24 students in CPR and AED.

SUNY PURCHASE

Natalie Black  
Queens, NY  
Arts Management

Natalie has maintained a spot on the Dean’s List for three consecutive years. In addition she was co-captain of the Purchase Step Team. She enjoys mathematics, performing arts, and self-expressive courses. Her passion for music has led her to perform as a singer-songwriter for both her church and on campus. In addition, Natalie has volunteered in her church community, and on campus for the Great Potential Program, an EOP panel on study tips and guides.

Sarah Goldstein  
Brooklyn, NY  
Psychology

Sarah has been on the Dean’s List since her first semester at Purchase. She has divided most of her time between developing research experiments and working at Footsteps, a nonprofit located in downtown Manhattan that assists and reaffirms formerly ultra-Orthodox Jews. As vice president of the Psychology Club, she has helped grow the budget from $50 to over $1,000, while getting students excited about psychology. She won the Outstanding Junior in Psychology award and became a mentor in bystander intervention, teaching incoming students how to respond in situations of crisis.

Emily Tatham  
Olathe, KS  
Dance

Graduating from the Conservatory of Dance at the top of her class, Emily Tatham will receive a BFA from Purchase College in May. She enjoyed additional study at Codarts University in the Netherlands. As an ambassador for JUNTOS Collective, Emily has traveled throughout Central America to build community through dance performance and instruction. Emily has represented the Conservatory of Dance in high profile events with guest artists Joanna Gleason and Pig Iron Theatre Company.

ROCKLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Yehides Moskovits  
Monsey, NY  
Humanities and Social Science

Yehides has earned a 3.9 GPA, is a Coca-Cola Leaders of Promise Scholar, has won numerous college scholarships, and is the recipient of an Excellence Award from the Northeast Conference on the Teaching of Foreign Languages. He has also co-founded the Humans of RCC student group, based on the Humans of New York organization, which seeks to create a positive environment that will make each RCC student feel unique, yet part of a beautiful community.

Chaya Wagshal  
Monroe, NY  
Mathematics and Science

Chaya is an outstanding student who has shown a deep commitment to diversity at RCC. In addition to her 3.8 GPA, Chaya was instrumental in the creation of a “local gallery” at RCC which transformed a portion of the...
campus and showcases flags from every country represented by an RCC student. Chaya is also the co-founder of the Humans of RCC club in which students from many cultural backgrounds have shared their personal stories.

Ummeikhair Zuhair  
Spring Valley, NY  
Business Administration

Umme is an example of a student whose contributions will not only be felt on campus during their time as a student, but for years to come. In addition to serving as vice president of the Student Government Association, Umme is the co-founder of the Center for Muslim Life, as well as the founder of the Muslim Students Association at RCC, which serves to provide an inclusive environment for RCC’s Muslim students.

SCHENECTADY COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Stephanie Brackeen  
Aurora, Missouri  
Human Services

Stephanie has shown herself to be intelligent and hard-working, with excellent communication and leadership skills. She has held a number of officer positions with the Student Volunteer Organization and is an active member of that group. Stephanie has maintained a 3.81 GPA at SCCC and plans to continue her studies in social work.

Giovanni Lontoc  
Phillippines  
Culinary Arts

Giovanni was born and raised in the Philippines where his family owned a restaurant. He moved to the United States to look for new opportunities for him and his family. Giovanni has consistently been on the President’s List with a 3.98 GPA and is captain of the SCCC Hot Food Team. He is currently a business partner in EZ Healthy Cooking LLC.

STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY

Taylor Brant  
Shoreham, NY  
Psychology

Taylor is a psychology major who quickly became involved helping new students acclimate to Stony Brook’s campus by being an orientation leader and student ambassador. Through these two roles and an internship through her honors program, she has amassed a great appreciation for helping others succeed personally and academically. By assisting on various research projects through Stony Brook Medicine’s Department of Psychiatry, she is working towards her goal of becoming a clinical psychologist.

Megan Cooney  
Centennial, CO  
Health Science

Megan is a health science major and an aspiring registered dietitian. A Division I student-athlete, she has balanced her commitments to the Stony Brook cross country and track & field teams with a strong dedication to her studies and to community service. She is further involved with National Residence Hall Honorary, University Scholars, and the Senior Legacy Council. Megan has also interned with Alternative Spring Break Outreach and currently serves as the organization’s treasurer.

Bella Gurevich  
Smithtown, NY  
English

Bella is majoring in English and double minor in writing and art history. Pursuing a career in academia and curating, she energetically promotes the cultivation of an artistic community within and outside of Stony Brook. During a summer internship at The Met Cloisters, she conducted nine weeks of research culminating in a special gallery talk, while leading daily workshops for children. She is currently integrating machine learning with archival research to determine an artistic attribution.

Sonia Joshi  
Jericho, NY  
Biochemistry

Sonia participates in the Women in Science and Engineering (WISE) and Scholars for Medicine programs. She serves as Vice Chair for President Stanley’s Council of Student Advisors, is a mentor for WISE, a student ambassador, and a researcher in the Department of Medicine. Her research at SBU and the Feinstein Institute has led to co-authorship of two publications. In her spare time, Sonia performs Indian classical dance and plays the bass clarinet.

Gabrielle Khalife  
Commmack, NY  
Biology

Gabrielle is an aspiring pediatrician with a passion for helping others. If she’s not in the lab conducting research in cancer biology, you may find her in the office, committed to preventing deaths from alcohol overdose through her work with the Red Watch Band CARE Team. Gabrielle strives to diversify her experiences though her involvement in teaching, community service, and outreach. In her spare time she enjoys baking, reading, and traveling.

Joel Kovoor  
New City, NY  
Biology

Joel is a deeply involved senior who is committed to the betterment of his community and university. Inspired by the loving and nurturing environment provided by his parents, Joel continues to balance a full-time academic load with an array of leadership positions, research internships, community service, and a stellar academic record. He will be matriculating into medical school next fall to pursue a dynamic career as a clinician, educator, and leader.

Cole Lee  
Staten Island, NY  
Political Science

Cole is a first generation college student who has devoted his life to public service and to making a difference in the lives of others. As a former intern for elected officials at the federal, state, and city level, Cole’s love and passion for his community and public service led him to become just the fourth student in Stony Brook University history to serve two terms as student body president.

Rima Madan  
Bethpage, NY  
Biology

Rima is a student ambassador, an Honors College peer mentor, and has been named a URECA Researcher of the Month. After studying abroad in Madagascar, Rima did a project on disease transmission in lemurs and became founder and president of Students Helping Malagasy Students, a club that aims to provide educational tools and resources to underprivileged children in Madagascar. Rima is an aspirng physician and will attend SUNY Upstate Medical University.

Naveen Mallangada  
Jericho, NY  
Biology

Naveen is in the Scholars for Medicine Program (BS/MD) and is a pancreatic cancer researcher in the Division of Cancer Prevention. He has designed beautification projects, (Heart Beats of Stony Brook & Piano Steps), and promotes interdisciplinary collaboration through the SBU Innovation Lab. He is a student ambassador, Honors College mentor, and received the Gelfond Leadership Scholarship and Outstanding Future Alumni Award. Naveen maintains a 4.0 GPA and will attend SBU School of Medicine.

Janki Patel  
Binghamton, NY  
Biochemistry

Janki’s interests in science, teaching, and serving communities led her to
pursue medicine. She was able to foster her passions at Stony Brook through experiences in leadership, teaching, and service. Janki's academics have been complemented by her many roles on and off campus, including president of Undergraduate Biochemistry Society, an intern and volunteer at Stony Brook Hospital, a teaching assistant for chemistry, an intern at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, and a researcher in biochemistry.

Krista Pullen
New Milford, CT
Applied Math & Statistics, Biology
Krista is very involved in Stony Brook's campus community. She has studied abroad in New Zealand and participated in a medical brigade in Nicaragua. She conducted research in locomotor learning and big data analysis. In addition, Krista is a student ambassador, a mentor in the Women in Science and Engineering program, and a marching band member. She advocated for gender equality as one of the original student members of Stony Brook's HeForShe steering committee.

Ioana Soaita
Danbury, CT
Biomedical Engineering
Ioana is an aspiring research scientist who wishes to develop novel biomedical approaches to counter the suffering associated with metabolic diseases such as diabetes. She is a 2016 Goldwater Scholar, a member of the Honors College and a biomedical engineering major. She has a passion for teaching as well as research, and is an internationally certified tutor with over 200 hours of tutoring experience.

Joseph Sweeney
Hicksville, NY
Pharmacology
Joseph is a pharmacology major and music minor and uses his love of both science and music to guide his experiences at Stony Brook. In addition to being a member of Stony Brook's marching band and the vice president of SB Live, a student-run jazz band, Joseph conducts biochemistry research concerning the endocannabinoid system under the guidance of Dr. Dale Deutsch. As an aspiring physician scientist, Joseph plans to pursue an MD-PhD degree after graduation.

Joselin Vargas
Brooklyn, NY
Biology
Joselin is a first-generation college student with a strong academic record and profound leadership experience outside the classroom. She has received numerous fellowships and scholarships and she is a University Scholar and student ambassador. She is an active undergraduate researcher and instructor and has presented at numerous scientific meetings. Joselin's future career goals include becoming a physician-scientist in the field of oncology.

James Vassallo
Bellport, NY
Biology, Sociology
James is a student leader devoted to enriching the overall student experience on campus and increasing transparency between students and administration. His involvement includes leading institutional research projects as executive chair of the President's Council of Student Advisors, creating new opportunities for commuter student engagement as president of the Commuter Student Association, volunteering with pediatric patients and families as vice president of Project Sunshine, and supporting campus initiatives for gender equality and against toxic drinking.

SUFFOLK COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Arif Ariful
Rankinoma, NY
Accounting
Arif has excelled academically with a 4.0 grade point average and has earned Dean's List recognition every semester during the last two years. In addition, he is very active on campus, serving as vice president of the Business and Economics Association, senator in the student government, and is a Get There from Here scholar.

Joan U. Bolanos Martinez
Hempstead, NY
Business Administration
Joan is an exceptional student with a 3.9 grade point average who has earned Dean's List recognition since fall of 2016. He is also involved on campus, serving as a senator in the student government and a peer mentor. In addition, he has been accepted as an official player in the U.S. National Amputee Soccer Team.

Christopher Chiusa
West Islip, NY
Liberal Arts Social Science-Psychology
Christopher has excelled academically with a 3.8 grade point average and has earned Dean's List recognition every semester during the last two years. He is very involved on campus, serving as vice president of the student government, a peer mentor and an actor in the Theatre Club. In addition, Christopher is an Honors student and a member of Phi Theta Kappa.

Sean Deery
Hampton Bays, NY
Business Administration
Sean has excelled academically with a 4.0 grade point average and has earned Dean's List recognition every semester during the last two years. Active on campus, he serves as president of Phi Theta Kappa, student representative for Tree Campus USA, and is a Back Yard Garden Group member. In addition, Sean was recently selected as a nominee for the Phi Theta Kappa All-State and Coca-Cola Scholarship competition.

Leonard Giambalvo
Islip Terrace, NY
Accounting
Leonard has excelled academically with a 3.7 grade point average and has earned Dean’s List recognition every semester during the last two years. He is very involved on campus, serving as executive financial chair of the Campus Activities Board, an orientation leader, and a Get There from Here scholar. He was also recently selected as a nominee for the Phi Theta Kappa All-State and Coca-Cola Scholarship competition.

Jaclyn Kletckha
East Islip, NY
Liberal Arts General Studies
Jaclyn has excelled academically with 3.8 grade point average and has earned Dean’s List recognition every semester during the last two years. She is active on campus, serving as president of the Alpha Zeta Nu chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, a Get There from Here Scholar and a member of SCCC’s Honors Program. In addition, Jaclyn was recently selected as a nominee for the Phi Theta Kappa All-State and Coca-Cola Scholarship competition.

Lucia Mallozzi
Holbrook, NY
Liberal Arts and Sciences: Science Emphasis-Geology
Lucia has excelled academically with a 3.9 grade point average and has earned Dean’s List recognition every semester during the last two years. Involved on campus, she is president of the Geology Club, an orientation leader, and a National Science Foundation – STEM scholar for 5 consecutive semesters.

Anthony Mercurio
Holtsville, NY
Chemical Dependency Counseling
Anthony has excelled academically with 4.0 grade point average and has earned Dean’s List Recognition every semester for the last two years. He is involved on campus, serving as president of Phi Theta Kappa, a Student...
Advisory Board member of the CTEA Local Advisory Committee, and is a Get There from Here scholar.

Jamie Parente  
Mount Sinai  
Liberal Arts General Studies  
Jamie has excelled academically with a 3.9 grade point average and has earned Dean’s List recognition every semester during the last two years. An active student, Jamie is Captain of the Suffolk softball team, a member of Phi Theta Kappa and Pi Alpha Sigma, and is a 2016 NUCAA Region XV All-Region 1st Team Athlete.

Anthony Sorisi  
Hicksville, NY  
Accounting  
Anthony has excelled academically with a 4.0 grade point average and has earned Dean’s List recognition every semester during the last two years. He is involved on campus, serving as co-president of the Honors Club, a peer mentor and a SGA senator and Finance Committee member. In addition, he is a member of Phi Theta Kappa and is a bookkeeping assistant for the Office of Campus Activities.

Sumayyah Uddin  
West Babylon, NY  
Liberal Arts General Studies  
Sumayyah has excelled academically with a 4.0 grade point average and has earned Dean’s List recognition every semester during the last two years. Active on campus, Sumayyah serves as editor-in-chief of the Western Student Press and Cassandra Magazine, secretary of the Women’s Club, and as a peer mentor. In addition, she is a member of the Honors Program and Phi Theta Kappa.

Tylar Vigliarolo  
Nesconset, NY  
Business Administration  
Tylar has excelled academically with a 3.8 grade point average and has earned Dean’s List recognition every semester during the last two years. Very involved on campus, Tylar serves as president of the Business and Accounting Club, a senator in the student government, and a Get There from Here scholar.

Cassidy Whelan  
Center Moriches, NY  
Liberal Arts General Studies  
Cassidy has excelled academically with a 3.9 grade point average and has earned Deans List recognition every semester for the last two years. She also serves as student representative for the concierge desk at the eastern campus, a Get There from Here scholar, and is a regular volunteer for the Kent Animal Shelter.

Sar Espinosa  
Brooklyn, NY  
Psychology and Math  
Sarah has excelled academically with a 3.91 GPA and is a member of the National Honors Society. She is also the president of the Psychology Club and is a volunteer tutor for students. In addition, she published a book, “Tribute to Mommy’spr in 2011. Sara plans to pursue a psychometrics and a quantitative psychology degree from Fordham University.

Daisy O’Bryan  
Los Angeles, CA  
Liberal Arts: Humanities  
Daisy is a member of the Honors Program, and was instrumental in helping SUNY Sullivan’s Help for Hunger program, planning all logistics and obtaining all sponsorships. In addition, she has travelled extensively abroad, volunteering at refugee camps. Daisy possesses a maturity beyond her years which is evident in her art, her studies, and her actions.

Christina Carden  
Cortland, NY  
Human Services  
Christina is a December graduate with an AAS in human services and a 4.0 GPA. She is a member of both Phi Theta Kappa and the National Society for Leadership and Success. Christina was also a recipient of multiple leadership scholarships. She interned with Access to Independence of Cortland County and volunteers at fundraisers and events for the organization. In addition, she was also an officer in the campus Gay Straight Alliance. She is also legally blind.

Brigid Jackson  
Oneonta, NY  
Early Childhood Education  
Brigid has earned Dean’s list every semester and was inducted into Phi Theta Kappa. Her activities include membership in the Theatre Society, Welcome Crew, the National Society of Leadership and Success, and the Student Government Association. She has also served as secretary for the Outdoor Adventure Club, and as a resident assistant, and she is employed in the campus library. In addition, Brigid supports the campus athletic teams by serving as the school’s mascot and performing the national anthem.

Christina is a December graduate with an AAS in human services and a 4.0 GPA. She is a member of both Phi Theta Kappa and the National Society for Leadership and Success. Christina was also a recipient of multiple leadership scholarships. She interned with Access to Independence of Cortland County and volunteers at fundraisers and events for the organization. In addition, she was also an officer in the campus Gay Straight Alliance. She is also legally blind.

Simone Arvisais-Anhalt  
Plattsburgh, NY  
Medicine  
Simone has maintained an outstanding academic performance since arriving at Upstate. She is an M.D. student who will be graduating in May, 2017. Simone also has an amazing record of campus involvement, serving on the Student Health Committee and as an orientation advisor. In addition, she is extremely committed to giving back to her community and serves as a volunteer at Amaus Pediatric Clinic.

Diana Dunn  
Angola, NY  
Biochemistry & Molecular Biology  
Diana has excelled academically, earning a Ph.D. in biochemistry and molecular biology in just four years. In addition, she is involved in matters relevant to the graduate student experience on campus. She is also committed to community service and her significant contributions to cancer research directly impact patients in Central New York. She is well-respected by peers, administrators, and staff.
Medwin Ghabae
Yonkers, NY
Communication/Media Arts
Medwin has traveled the world as a naval enlisted man. Father of four children, he balances an active family life with academic and work responsibilities. Interested in serving any community of which he is a part, Medwin writes for the Viking News and serves as a student ambassador, orientation leader, and peer advisor. He also hosts radio shows and poetry slams.

Marco Lazaro
White Plains, NY
Culinary Arts Management
Marco has been a DACA student at Westchester Community College for the last four years. While working toward both of his degrees, Marco has developed his skills through continuously seeking new opportunities through the Department of Student Involvement. During his journey, he has participated as an orientation leader and peer advisor, the Westchester Events Board, and now works as the marketing coordinator for the Department of Student Involvement.

Stella Lemel
Dobbs Ferry, NY
Nursing
Stella is a graduate from SUNY Oswego, who decided on a career change. She applied and got accepted into Westchester Community College’s nursing program. While taking prerequisites for the program, she found the importance of involvement on campus and her passion for mental health advocacy. Stella served as an orientation leader and peer advisor, president of NAMI on campus, attended the Clinton Global Initiative, and received a scholarship to attend the NAMI-NYS Annual Educational Conference.

Abel Ngegba
Sierra Leone, Africa
Accounting
Abel is originally from Sierra Leone. Because of a civil war, he spent his childhood in a refugee camp in Guinea. He is one of seven children and is inspired by his dad who told him to follow his dream, which came true when he came to the U.S. In addition to excelling academically, Abel works at a nursing home and is active on campus as an officer for the Accounting Club and participating in Commit to Change. Abel is pursuing an accounting degree and hopes to become a forensic accountant.
CHANCELLOR’S AWARD
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