



# CHANCELLOR'S AWARD for Student Excellence

*APRIL 2, 2015*





April 2, 2015

Dear Students, Family, Faculty, and Friends,

It is my pleasure to welcome you all to recognize some of the most gifted and talented students at SUNY. The achievements of these students reflect their impressive hard work and dedication, as well as the support provided by their families and friends and SUNY's world-class faculty.

The State University of New York is proud to be not only the largest comprehensive public university system in the nation but also New York's leading economic driver and partner in creating better opportunities and a better quality of life for all New Yorkers. SUNY's relationship with its communities in every part of the state is so important to our state's vibrancy — and it is exceptional students like those we are honoring today who will be instrumental in building a better, stronger, healthier New York in the years to come.

The students we recognize today have combined outstanding academic excellence with significant contributions to their institutions and communities. We are extremely proud of their achievements, and I know I can speak on behalf of the entire State University of New York system when I congratulate each of you on your distinguished achievements and wish you the best of luck in the years to come.

With best wishes,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Nancy L. Zimpher". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Nancy L. Zimpher  
Chancellor



## **WELCOME**

**Lori A. Mould**  
Student Trustee and  
President of the Student Assembly

## **REMARKS**

**Dr. Nancy L. Zimpher**  
Chancellor

## **PRESENTATION OF AWARDS**

RECEPTION IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE CEREMONY

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## SUNY ADIRONDACK

**Madison Paquin**

Queensbury, NY  
Liberal Arts

Madison was on the dean's list for four consecutive semesters and served as captain for Relay for Life events. In 2014, she finished first in the nation for digs/sets in Volleyball.

**Daniel Roberts**

Hadley, NY  
Liberal Arts

Daniel received the Senator Roy MacDonald Scholarship, the Tri-County Council of Vietnam Era Veterans, and Gold Star Mother scholarships. He served as a student trustee for five semesters and received the Senator of the Year Award.

## UNIVERSITY AT ALBANY

**Francis Agyemang**

Bronx, NY  
Human Biology

Francis has been the recipient of numerous academic awards and scholarships. He was the founder of organizations that provided educational necessities to children in impoverished African Countries. He was active in the Student Association and in several campus service-oriented organizations.

**Rose Avellino**

Fayetteville, NY  
Public Policy

Rose served as director of community engagement and outreach for the Student Association. She founded and served as president for UA Alive (A Life is Valuable Enough) and served as treasurer of UAlbany's circle of Omicron Delta Kappa National Leadership Honor Society.

**Derek Ellis**

Glenville, NY  
Criminal Justice and Sociology

Derek served as director of academic affairs for the Student Association as well as founding president of Kappa Alpha Pi Co-Ed Pre-Law Fraternity. Derek also served as president of UAlbany's circle of Omicron Delta Kappa National Leadership Honor Society.

**Peter Hooley**

Hahndorf, South Australia  
Journalism and Psychology

Peter has earned various athletic distinctions including the America East Co-Scholar Athlete of the Year, was co-captain of the America East Champion basketball team and was named America East Most Outstanding Player. He was very active in fundraising work for cancer treatment and research.

**Frank Mota**

New York, NY  
Biology

Frank was recipient of the 2014 SUNY Research Foundation Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Research Fellowship. He served as a resident advisor with the Summer Research Program. He received a full scholarship to attend Hofstra North Shore-LIJ School of Medicine.

**Kelsey O'Leary**

Arlington, MA  
Biology and Psychology

Kelsey received the 2013 SUNY Research Foundation Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Research Fellowship. She served as lab manager at the University at Albany McNay Behavioral Neuroscience Lab and presented at the NYCAP Research Alliance Symposium.

**Stephane Owusu-Sarpong**

Valley Stream, NY  
Biology

Stephane was a recipient of the Ben Smith Science Scholar scholarship, the Dr. Spellman Achievement Award and was on the dean's list for several semesters. She was a tutor and fundraiser for campus medical and science organizations. She was an active member of the campus volunteer ambulance service.

**Lee Stanton**

Greenwood Lake, NY  
Political Science

Lee received numerous awards for academic achievement, served in several senior officer roles in the Student Association, and was very active in community service organizations. He founded Project READ, an organization that created weekly reading programs for children.

**Fathima Najwa Zarook**

Altamont, NY  
Accounting and Business

Najwa was a recipient of the Dr. Spellman Achievement Award, and the Women's Outstanding Leadership Award. She served as a Purple and Gold Ambassador, president of the Dean's Leadership Council in the School of Business, and secretary of Albany Business Leaders Emerging (ABLE) organization.

**Jamie Zieno**

Norwich, NY  
Political Science

Jamie was a member of the Pi Sigma Alpha Political Science Honor Society, and the National Society of Collegiate Scholars. He was active in the Student Association serving in community outreach, and voter registration projects. He held senior positions in the College Democrats of New York and coordinated a statewide convention.

## ALFRED STATE COLLEGE

**Jessica Baier**

Greece, NY

Baking and Pastry Production and Management

Jessica was a member of the National All-Academic Team, and was active in NYS Skills USA. She received campus and US Collegiate Athletic Association awards for her achievements on the women's soccer team.

**Tyler Ribble**

Elmira, NY

Business Administration

Tyler received a Samuel A. Student Senate Leadership Scholarship. She served as orientation coordinator, and was active in the Pi Rho Zeta fraternity. She was involved in campus performing arts, the swim team, and community Relay for Life fundraising events.

## NYS CERAMICS AT ALFRED UNIVERSITY

**Joanna Carroll**

Rochester, NY

Art & Design

Joanna received the Dean's Scholarship, was in the Honor's Program, and served as director and co-director of the Turner Gallery School of Art and Design. Joanna was a prominent participant in community art exhibitions and shows.

**Dianne Mattar**

East Amherst, NY

Ceramic Engineering

Dianne received the Scholes Scholar Award and the Award for Ceramic Engineering and Material Science. She was a graduate of the Women's Leadership Academy and the Gary Horowitz Leadership program. She served as president of the college ski club.

## BINGHAMTON UNIVERSITY

**Jennifer Bertollo**

Kinnelon, NJ

Psychology

Jennifer was a member of the International Honor Society in Psychology, served as a tutor in the Student Athlete Success Center and the Career Development Center. She worked as a research assistant in two labs and presented research at a state-wide conference.

**Mohammad Bishawi**

Poughkeepsie, NY

Accounting, Philosophy, Politics &amp; Law

Mohammad received the President's Award for Undergraduate Student Excellence, he was on the dean's list numerous times and has been a resident assistant for four years. He served on the student conduct board and was a student volunteer at the Tioga Learning Center.

**Joshua Cohen**

Yorktown Heights, NY

Bioengineering

Joshua is a recipient of the President's Award for Undergraduate Student Excellence. He has conducted research in four labs and presented at national research conferences. He has also been on the varsity crew team for three years.

**Leah Ferentinos**

Binghamton, NY

English, General Literature and Rhetoric

Leah has conducted research and presented at a national conference on the topic of AIDS. She is also the 2013 and 2014 recipient of the Joel D. Robinson Memorial Scholarship in recognition of her community service in the Binghamton area.

**Raymond Futia**

Delmar, NY

Cell and Molecular Biology

Raymond conducted independent research as a Binghamton Summer Scholar and presented at a national conference. He taught hands-on science to Binghamton area grade school children and served as the program director for the campus radio station.

**Luis Gonzalez**

New York, NY

Geography

Luis is a member of three national honor societies, participated in numerous research projects and co-authored a book chapter. He served as head mentor for the Black Student Union program that mentored incarcerated youth.

**Don Greenberg**

Teaneck, NJ

Management Finance, Computer Science, and Mathematical Sciences

Don is a member of an honor society in international computing sciences, and in the Beta Gamma Sigma business honor society. He served on the campus judicial board, the campus life advisory board, and the campus Convocations Committee.

**Dali Lu-Grobe**

South Salem, NY

Management

Dali was a recipient of the Ernstrom Scholarship from the School of Management. She won a prestigious international grant that focused on elimination of e-waste and computer literacy. She volunteered at the Entrepreneurship Start-Up project.

**Justin Mulvaney**

Baldwinsville, NY

Economics and Mathematics

Justin was a recipient of the Department Excellence in Economics award and is a member of Phi Beta Kappa. Justin founded and served as president of the Student Music Association. He also served as a lead tutor for University Tutoring Services.

**Stephanie Sheintul**

Baldwin, NY

Philosophy and Philosophy, Politics and Law

Stephanie was the 2014 recipient of the Pell Prize for best honors thesis in her major. She served as a field manager for Grassroots Campaign, and played clarinet in the Binghamton University Wind Symphony.

**THE COLLEGE AT BROCKPORT****Riley Bauer**

Cortland, NY

Computer Science and Mathematics

Riley received scholarship awards and academic recognition for his work in computer science; he has conducted research at an NSF program, and co-authored a paper based on that work. He was active in the Student Government, and campus and community music groups.

**Daniela Bulos**

Bronx, NY

Psychology

Daniela is a member of the Women's Studies Honor Society, received the SUNY Emerging Leader Award, was awarded the Campus Action Project Grant from the American Association of University Women, and received the NASPA Rising Star Award.

**Elise Cade**

Churchville, NY

Chemistry and Biology

Elise published articles in the Journal of Chemical and Engineering Data, presented research over six times at various conventions, and held honors peer mentor position for three years. She served as president of the Student Association.

**Ryan Hutchings**

Canandaigua, NY

Psychology

Ryan co-authored scholarly articles and has presented at local and national conferences, received grants to fund lab research, and was a two-time recipient of the Herbert Fink Scholarship and two-time finalist for Psychology Department Scholar Award.

**Rachel Malone**

Fairport, NY

Nursing

Rachel was the recipient of the SUNY Chancellor's Scholar Athlete Award. She was a four-time All-American in Cross Country and Track & Field, led many community service efforts for the Track and Field team.

**SUNY BROOME COMMUNITY COLLEGE****Michelle Brunschmid**

Endwell, NY

Individual Studies

Michelle served on the executive board of Phi Theta Kappa, was on the president's list and was a regular volunteer at the local Humane Society.

**Ashley Cable**

Endwell, NY

Individual Studies

Ashley was on the president's and dean's list, served as vice president of service for Phi Theta Kappa, and volunteered at Wilson Hospital, Occupation Therapy Department.

**Spencer Nagle**

Windsor, NY

Liberal Arts

Spencer served as president of the college's Phi Theta Kappa Chapter, received NJCAA Region Three All-Region Team Honorable Mention for Men's Soccer, and was named to the president's list four times.

**SUNY BUFFALO STATE****Diamond Briggs**

Bronx, NY

Sociology

Diamond was a member of the college's Muriel A. Howard Honors Program and Ronald E. McNair Scholars Program. She served as a resident assistant and first-year mentor and tutor for the Educational Opportunity Program (EOP).

**Chelsea Davidson**

North Syracuse, NY

Elementary/Exceptional Education

Chelsea was a member of the SUNY All-Academic Team for cross-country, indoor, and outdoor track and field and served on the Student Athlete Advisory Committee. She was inducted into Kappa Delta Pi, a national education honor society.

**Stephanie Kahn**

Fairport, NY

Dietetics &amp; Metals and Jewelry Design

Stephanie was a member of the college's Muriel A. Howard Honors Program and served for four years as a resident assistant. She volunteered as the nutrition education coordinator for the Priscilla Project, serving pregnant refugee women.

**Amy Marciniak**

Lackawanna, NY

Childhood Education

Amy was awarded the Norma Payne Scholarship, and received the Kappa Delta Pi academic honors award. She was active in clubs and organizations that served area schools and worked to promote literacy in Buffalo schools.

**James Martin**

Brooklyn, NY

Forensic Chemistry

James was a member of the college's Muriel A. Howard Honors Program and Ronald E. McNair Scholars Program. He was awarded the 2014 Mentor of the Year award for his volunteer work and received the Best Presenter Award at Michigan State University's 2014 Summer Research Opportunities Program.

## UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO

**Matthew Eldred**

Rochester, NY

Law

Matthew served as executive editor of the Buffalo Law Review, and is ranked in the top 5 percent of the 200 members of the UB Law School's Class of 2015. In addition, he is a law clerk/first-year associate at Harris Beach PLLC.

**Sara-Ann Fox**

Syracuse, NY

Biomedical Science

Sara-Ann discovered unique haplotypes of the MUC7 gene, and will publish her findings. She served as a summer youth enrichment specialist for the Say YES to Education program. She was Captain of UB's Division I women's rowing team.

**Ryan Hauser**

Cheektowaga, NY

Business Administration and Psychology

Ryan is the founder of his own business, ResearchU, and led a school playground construction project in Ecuador. He has been accepted as a Yale Silver Scholar.

**Karin Hsieh**

Webster, NY

Biomedical Science and Philosophy

Karin is the third author of a scientific paper published in the American Journal of Physiology. She received the Mary C. Whitman Scholarship from the Department of Philosophy. She served as senator of the UB Student Association.

**Tara Kaczorowski**

Amherst, NY

Special Education

Tara is president of the Department of Learning and Instruction's Graduate Student Association and founder/treasurer of the UB student chapter of the Council for Exceptional Children. She is the author of three publications, and received a grant to support her dissertation research.

**Elizabeth Lakota**

Port Byron, NY

Pharmacy Practice and Pharmaceutical Sciences

Elizabeth received the Daniel H. Murray Professional Development Award. In addition, she has presented at four national and international conferences, and served as president of the Student Society of Health Systems Pharmacists.

**Chams Mballo**

Dakar, Senegal

Mechanical &amp; Aerospace Engineering

Chams is the co-founder of an SAT preparatory program, served as a tutor, counselor and mentor for war refugees and underprivileged students in Buffalo and was as an undergraduate teaching assistant for Applied Mathematics and Dynamics. He is the recipient of a grant to pursue research.

**John O'Brien**

Westbury, NY

English and Urban &amp; Public Policy Studies

John worked with the University Heights Tool Library on the ReTree the District project. He served as an assistant manager with Buffalo Bikeshare, and interned in the offices of Sen. Charles Schumer and Rep. Brian Higgins.

**Megan Pszonak**

Eden, NY

Nursing

Megan worked on research projects that will be submitted for publication. She was selected as one of four student performers to play in a Buffalo community event. She was a volunteer leader for the Wyldlife ministry.

**Christopher Reinhardt**

Mount Kisco, NY

Biological Sciences and Chemistry

Christopher was published in the Journal of the American Chemical Society and presented at three conferences. He worked as an Interdisciplinary Science and Engineering Partnership mentor and intern in the Buffalo Public Schools.

**Chelsea Reinhardt**

Clarence, NY

English and Health &amp; Human Services

Chelsea was a student coordinator in the UB Libraries. She was an intern at the Kensington and Chelsea Youth Offending Team in London, England, and trained for and ran two marathons.

**Nathaniel Sundholm**

Brooklyn, NY

Communicative Disorders &amp; Sciences

Nathaniel was a student ambassador for the College of Arts and Sciences, served as president of the Student Association of Speech and Hearing. He was principle investigator on a study about vocal fatigue and language production.

**Mackenzie Ward**

Clarence, NY

Computer Science and Mathematics

Mackenzie was a resident advisor for the Honors College Shared Interest Housing Program, and served as president and vice president of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers. He also served as a teaching assistant the Honors College and the Department of Computer Science and Engineering.

**Chelsea Wheeler**

Orchard Park, NY

Psychology

Chelsea was the undergraduate research assistant for the Global Health Initiative in UB's School of Public Health. In addition, she participated in two separate service trips to the Dominican Republic, and volunteered for more than 1,500 hours with the high school ministry, Young Life Buffalo South.

**Jennifer Whittaker**

Frewsburg, NY

Urban and Regional Planning

Jennifer conducted research on the role of local government in facilitating sustainable food systems and healthy communities. She co-authored an article on the first regional food systems plan for the Buffalo region dedicated to ensuring healthy food, viable farms and a prosperous Buffalo Niagara region.

**SUNY CANTON****Pierre Nzuah**

Yaoundé, Cameroon

Electrical Technology

Pierre is a member of Phi Theta Kappa, Tau Alpha Pi and Golden Key international honor societies. He has won numerous academic and civic awards during his four years at SUNY Canton.

**Danielle St-Denis**

Massena, NY

Veterinary Technology

Danielle is a licensed veterinary technician and a former president of the student Veterinary Technician Association. She's a member of the Golden Key International Honor Society and volunteered at the Massena Humane Society and worked at SUNY Canton's Newell Veterinary Technology Center.

**CAYUGA COMMUNITY COLLEGE****Brittany Androsko**

Weedsport, NY

Biology

Brittany was in the College Honors program, was a member and secretary of Phi Theta Kappa. She is a College Reading & Learning Associate Certified Math Tutor at the Center for Academic Success.

**Dakota Marshall**

Auburn, NY

Liberal Arts and Science

Dakota is the recipient of the New York State Engineering Technology Association Scholarship and is also the President and Treasurer of the CCC Engineering Tech Club. He was the Vice-President of the Student Government Association.

**CLINTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE****Brielle Cerne**

Cadyville, NY

Liberal Arts

Brielle was vice president of the Honor Scholar's Association and was active in the SUNY Oswego Orchestra while attending Clinton Community College. She was active in fundraising events that benefited community organizations.

**Mary-Ali Taft**

Morrisonville, NY

Liberal Arts

Mary-Ali was Salutatorian at the December 2014 graduation, secretary of Phi Theta Kappa at Clinton Community College and student representative on the Judicial Board.

**SUNY COBLESKILL****Kristi Confortin**

East Meadow, NY

Wildlife Management

Kristi was recognized as Outstanding Wildlife Management Student of the Year, conducted bat research with the North American Society for Bat Research, and the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation. She was senior captain of the Women's Cross Country Team and has won three consecutive NEAC Conference Championships.

**Emma Tiner**

Richmondville, NY

Communication in Technology

Emma served as president of Phi Theta Kappa and Epsilon Pi Tau Honor Societies. She received the SUNY Chancellor's Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society All State Academic Team Award and Editor's Choice Award. She won first prize for a poem published in Teen Ink Magazine.

**COLUMBIA-GREENE COMMUNITY COLLEGE****Marion Coyne**

Round Top, NY

Nursing

Marion served as president of the Alpha Sigma Lambda Honor Society, was listed on the president's list for academic achievement for five consecutive semesters and volunteered as a tutor for nursing students. She was an active member of the Health Promotion Club.

**Nathan Issler**

Valatie, NY

Individual Studies

Nathan was a recipient of the campus President's Scholarship, served on the baseball team as Tri-Captain and on the college sports council. He received the Chancellor's Scholar Athlete Award.

**CORNELL-AGRICULTURE & LIFE SCIENCES****Alexa Bakker**

Holland, MI

Science of Natural and Environment Systems

Alexa was the recipient of the Hunter R. Rawlings III Cornell Presidential Research Scholar and selected for participation in an FDA research project. She served as president of the Society for Natural Resources Conservation.

**Aaron Match**

Harrisburg, PA

Atmospheric Science

Aaron was the recipient of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Award and the Barry Goldwater Scholarship. He co-founded a community Project Greenhouse and is published in the Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society.

**Maia Vernacchia**

San Luis Obispo, CA

Food Science

Maia was recipient of multiple Institute of Food Technologists Undergraduate Scholarships, served as team captain for the Varsity Gymnastic Team. She also served as writer and copy editor for Spoon University.

**CORNELL-HUMAN ECOLOGY****Emily Clark**

Fayetteville, NY

Policy Analysis and Management

Emily was a member of the National Society of Collegiate Scholars, received the NYS Scholarship for Academic Excellence, and was on the dean's list for five consecutive semesters. She was a recipient of the Scholastics Photography Portfolio Gold Key award. She was co-founder of the Cornell Young Life Collegiate Chapter.

**Owen Lee-Park**

Ellicott City, MD

Human Biology, Health and Society

Owen was recipient of the Barist Family Scholarship, the Donald and Prescott Miller Scholarship, and was on the dean's list for seven consecutive semesters. He was president of a student publication that featured the literary and artistic works of the inmates at the Auburn Correctional Facility. He was co-chair of a volunteer group that provided laugh therapy at community agencies that served children and the elderly.

**CORNELL-INDUSTRIAL & LABOR RELATIONS****Atticus DeProspo**

Goshen, NY

Industrial &amp; Labor Relations

Atticus served as a member of the Varsity Men's Soccer Team, as president and founder of Cornell Ally, and was a resident advisor. He was active in community work that served LGBT youth.

**Rachel Harmon**

Champaign, IL

Industrial &amp; Labor Relations

Rachel was selected as a Rhodes Scholar and a Public Service Center Scholar. She served as a teaching assist for the Cornell Prison Education Program.

**CORNELL-VETERINARY MEDICINE****Katherine Bibi**

Katonah, NY

Veterinary Medicine

Katherine served as founder and president of the CVM Dance Collective, was founder and general board chair for the Initiative for Personal and Professional Enrichment, and served as a student representative on the New York State Veterinary Medical Society.

**Patrick Satchell**

Milford, NE

Veterinary Medicine

Patrick served as the class of 2015 representative for four years, co-founded the CVM Initiative for Personal and Professional Enrichment, and volunteered on the CVM Peer Support Network.

**CORNING COMMUNITY COLLEGE****Andrea Gridley**

Canton, NY

Liberal Arts &amp; Sciences

Andrea was a recipient of the Bonne Glickman Memorial Scholarship, and was on the president's list for academic achievement. She served as a lab assistant, tutor, and volunteer at the Elmira Corning Astronomical.

**SUNY CORTLAND****Davon Clarke**

Middletown, NY

Childhood Education &amp; Spanish

Davon was honored for academics and best practices with Cortland's Urban Recruitment of Educators (C.U.R.E) Award. He was vice president of the Black Student Union and was a recipient of the Unity Champion Award.

**Boyan Cox**

Binghamton, NY

Childhood Education

Boyan presided over the Educational Opportunity Program Executive Board and delivered remarks at Academic Convocation in 2012. She served as a teaching assistant, resident assistant and president of the wellness-oriented FIT Club.

**Sarah Kelly**

Watervilet, NY

Spanish &amp; Communication Studies

Sarah led college orientation efforts and excelled in internships across every campus division. She earned the Irmgard Mechlenburg Taylor Award, and is a member of the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society.

**Rebecca Studin**

Ithaca, NY

Sport Management &amp; Spanish

The National College Golf Association named Rebecca a three-time Academic All-American. She has co-chaired an annual charity golf tournament to support the local community and tutored children at an orphanage in Costa Rica.

**SUNY DELHI****Patricia Eberhard**

Millbrook, NY

Veterinary Science Technology

Patricia served as a peer mentor for the Veterinary Science Technology program. She served as a volunteer at the Heart of the Catskills Humane Society and was mentor to the freshman class in the Veterinary Science Technology program.

**John Nolis**

Nichols, NY

Mechatronics Design

John served as president of Tri-Atelier, a construction management fraternity, was captain and NJCAA Academic All-American for cross country, indoor, and outdoor track teams, and as co-founder and president of the Health and Fitness Club.

**SUNY DOWNSTATE MEDICAL CENTER****Katherine Fischer**

Brooklyn, NY

Medicine

Katherine served as vice president of the Alpha Omega Alpha National Medical Honor Society. She obtained Urology Residency at the prestigious Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania and participated in research which resulted in two submissions to academic journals

**Isaac Naggar**

Brookline, MA

Medicine

Isaac received awards and scholarships for excellence in research. He authored several academic papers and a book chapter, as well as a patent for a medical device. He served as a tutor and mentor to high school students and was an active contributor to many in his religious community.

**DUTCHESS COMMUNITY COLLEGE****Emily Avis**

Red Hook, NY

Liberal Arts and Science

Emily was a member of the Eleanor Roosevelt Community College Emerging Leaders Program. She served as president of the Christian Fellowship Club and as associate justice for the Student Government Association.

**Abdullah Kinan**

Poughkeepsie, NY

Liberal Arts and Science

Abdullah served as president pro tempore of the Student Government Association. He was a member of the Eleanor Roosevelt Community College Emerging Leaders Program and served as a representative on the National Model United Nation.

**Una Kittel**

Poughkeepsie, NY

Liberal Arts and Science

Una served as chair of charters & by-laws committee for the Student Government Association, as a representative on the National Model United Nation, and as intern and continuing correspondent at UC Magazine.



**Zoe Kozma**

Poughkeepsie, NY  
 Liberal Arts and Science

Zoe served as president of the Student Government Association, was in the honors program in Liberal Arts and Humanities, and was a member of the Eleanor Roosevelt Community College Emerging Leaders Program.

**Heather Polgrean**

Lagrangeville, NY  
 Liberal Arts and Science

Heather served as president of the Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society, was an All USA Candidate for Phi Theta Kappa, and was a member of the Eleanor Roosevelt Community College Emerging Leaders Program.

**EMPIRE STATE COLLEGE****Dwight Anderson**

Englewoods Cliffs, NJ  
 Labor Studies

Dwight served as the first African-American IBEW (International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers) Local 3 "A" Division Negotiating Committee Chairperson, co-founded a scholarship and mentoring program at CUNY and participated as a delegate to the International Labor Organization.

**Laura Dreyer**

New York, NY  
 Art

Laura was awarded scholarships for academic excellence. She planned events and activities to raise awareness about Brazilian music. She volunteered at charitable events for the elderly, and participated in benefit concerts to raise money for music education.

**Tamla Htoo**

Liverpool, NY  
 American Sign Language

Tamla served as a leader of the Syracuse Deaf Refugee Community and received recognition for her work with the deaf refugee community in Syracuse. She served as leader of mission trips to Thailand and Burma.

**Edward Shevlin III**

Rockaway Park, NY  
 Irish and Irish American Studies

Edward was twice awarded a Fulbright Scholarship for Irish Language Summer Study and he has been the recipient of the Thomas Manton Award given by the New York City Council. He received the Distinguished Service Award from the NYC Department of Sanitation.

**ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE AND FORESTRY****Peter Connell**

Oceanside, NY  
 Environmental Resources Engineering

Peter served as president of the Undergraduate Student Association. He was active in student leadership and was a student representative on the ESF College Foundation Board of Directors and the ESF Alumni Association Board of Directors.

**Kristy Northrup**

Marmora, NJ  
 Environmental Science & Chemistry

Kristy is a participant in the ESF Honors Program and was president of the ESF Music Society. She served on the National Resource Conservation Science Earth Team, and participated in a sub-aqueous soil survey effort in the central-coastal region of New Jersey.

**ERIE COMMUNITY COLLEGE****Lylia Alkhatib**

Cheektowaga, NY  
 Entrepreneurship

Lylia was on the dean's list, served as a campus tour guide, student ambassador, and served as facilitator for Celebrate ECC. She served as a volunteer with WNY's Precious Paws.

**Kevin Barnes**

Philadelphia, PA  
 Mental Health and Substance Abuse

Kevin was a Hank Pirowski and Michael Washousky Memorial Scholarship recipient, served as an academic mentor, a volunteer football coach and youth minister at a community church.

**Sorren Cooke**

Cheektowaga, NY  
 Criminal Justice

Sorren was on the dean's list, received the Jason R. Yoder Memorial Scholarship, served as a student ambassador, and performed volunteer work with Buffalo's family-focused Gateway Longview. He published articles in The Buffalo News.

**Terrin Harris**

Buffalo, NY  
 Dental Hygiene

Terrin was on the dean's list, served as student ambassador, and campus tour guide. Terrin served as facilitator of both ECC's Open House and New Student Orientations, and participated in the college's annual Pet Supply Drive and Give Kids a Smile Day.

**Aaron Lewis**

Fort Myers, FL  
 Business Administration

Aaron has served as a student ambassador, vice president of the Student Government Association, is a Phi Theta Kappa member, and was enrolled in ECC's Honors Program.

**Derek Reimer**

Buffalo, NY  
 Office Management and Administration

Derek is a U.S. Army combat veteran who served as the Student Government Association president and ECC's Board of Trustees' student trustee. He also volunteered with the Wounded Warrior Project, and is a member of Phi Theta Kappa.

**FARMINGDALE STATE COLLEGE****Elizabeth Calvente**

Massapequa, NY  
 Biology

Elizabeth was named Veteran of the Year by Student Veterans of America (U.S. Navy). She created a veteran-to-veteran tutoring system, and was president of the campus Veterans Club.

**John Campbell**

Melville, NY  
 Bioscience

John won four different scholarships in 2014, while working as a Peer Tutor to chemistry and biology students. As an EMT he also won the Top Responder award from his local volunteer fire department.

**Kristen Rinaldo**

Commack, NY  
 Dental Hygiene

Kristen is a member of the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, and received an honor society scholarship for academic excellence. She was also a top performer on the college's Women's Lacrosse team, which won its conference championship in 2014.

**Vianna Reyes**

Farmingdale, NY  
 Business Management

Vianna was a member of the Golden Key Honor Society, and the Sigma Beta Delta Business Honor Society. She was president of the Student Government, and was the campus delegate to the SUNY Student Assembly.

**Shannon Vollmer**

West Islip, NY

Applied Mathematics

Shannon presented at the Mathematics Association of American. She has been an active member of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Long Island, and volunteered with an organization in her community that served children with special needs.

**FASHION INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY****Micaela Burke**

Phoenix, NY

Advertising and Marketing Communications

Micaela served as the chair of the campus-wide Student Affairs Committee and the vice president of the FIT Student Association for Residential Life. As a resident assistant, she served as the president of the Residence Hall Community Council.

**Matar Cohen**

New York, NY

Advertising Design

Matar won a Best Advertising Campaign award by Spotify and received a full-page article about her artistic achievements at a leading newspaper. She won Best App Concept Award by the Media Design Club and published an article on a leading advertising agency's website.

**Estefania Garcia-Corra**

New York, NY

International Trade and Marketing

As president of the Latin American Student Association, Estefania organized the Latin American Musical Celebration, which was supported by a grant from the FIT Diversity Council. She was also the international London and Paris fashion week correspondent for The Source magazine.

**Emilee Koss**

Clarence Center, NY

Textile/Surface Design

Emilee re-instated the Textile and Surface Design Club, served as its president for the past two years. She won the Textile/Surface Design Adobe Illustrator class competition, and her designs will be printed and sold in The City Quilter's Shop.

**Elizabeth Pulos**

Brooklyn, NY

International Trade and Marketing

Elizabeth was awarded three International Trade and Marketing Scholarships. She served as president of the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Club, and she co-authored the Open SUNY Textbook Good Corporation, Bad Corporation: CSR in the Global Economy.

**Wen Zhao**

Hurstville, NSW, Australia

Textile Development and Marketing

Wen served as president of the American Association of Textile Chemists and Colorists at FIT. She won of the 2015 YMA Geoffrey Beene Scholarship Competition. She served as a member of the 2013 Future Retail Challenge Student Competition at the World Retail Congress in Paris.

**FINGER LAKES COMMUNITY COLLEGE****Haley Pasquale**

Livonia, NY

Liberal Arts &amp; Science

Haley received an Honors Certificate. She served as president of Leader Corps, a club dedicated to serving the student body in activities that build leadership skills, and was senior success assistance with the TRiO Grant.

**SUNY FREDONIA****Kaitlyn Crossan**

Dunkirk, NY

Biology

Kaitlyn performed research at the University of Rochester's Strong Children's Research Center Summer Scholars Program and was accepted into the Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine. She was a member of the Women's Softball Team and participated in Fredonia's Honors Program.

**Meghan Devine**

Clarence, NY

Communication-Audio &amp; Radio Communication-Media Management

Meghan was general manager of Fredonia Radio Systems and nominated for two Intercollegiate Broadcasting System awards. She served as captain of the Track and Field Team for two years, and was also involved with Habitat for Humanity and the Move-In Crew.

**Courtney Loiacono**

St. James, NY

English &amp; Interdisciplinary Studies-Women's and Gender Studies

Courtney served as an intern at U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand's Buffalo office, was president of the Women's Student Union, and a winner in the Rosa Parks Scholarship Competition. She was also a tutor in the university's Learning Center and a mentor for FredLEADS.

**FULTON-MONTGOMERY COMMUNITY COLLEGE****Sonali Kumar**

Amsterdam, NY

Criminal Justice

Sonali served as Student Government Association Treasurer, Peer Tutor Club Treasurer and Club Senator, and the Student Representative on the Fulmont College Association Board of Directors. She received the Fulmont Association of College Educators Scholarship.

**Leanne Mercadante**

Latham, NY

Digital Communication

Leanne served as Student Government Association Senator for the Graphic Arts and Photography Club and the Club's Vice President. She created graphic designs for many clubs and functions on campus and her artwork was selected for display in the Spring 2014 Student Art Show.

**GENESEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE****Ryan Cooper**

Akron, NY

Accounting

Ryan served as president of Phi Theta Kappa and as an orientation leader and student ambassador. He won a resume contest.

**Ami Cornell**

Pittsford, NY

Fashion Business Merchandising

Ami served as the student trustee on the campus Board of Trustees and as an orientation leader and student ambassador. She also served as assistant to the director for the Annual Fashion Show.

**Maryssa Peirick**

Batavia, NY

Biotechnology

Maryssa served as a member on the Sustainability and EcoFest Committees and a member of the Genesee County Bike Look Trail Project. She won the Spirit Award in the NYS Business Plan Competition.

**SUNY GENESEO****Chelsea Butkowski**

Tonawanda, NY

Communication &amp; Art History

Chelsea wrote the top paper for the Eastern Communication Association James C. McCroskey and Virginia P. Richmond Undergraduate Scholars Conference, founder of the annual Geneseo Dance-a-thon for the Arts and served as feature editor, art & entertainment editor and editor-in-chief of the student newspaper.

**Jack Caradonna**

Markham, Ontario  
Biology

Jack was the captain of the men's ice hockey team for the past two seasons, has been a recipient of SUNY Athletic Conference Awards for outstanding academic and athletic performance. He volunteered at an Ontario hospital doing research in the Surgical Oncology department.

**Gordon Lyons**

Amherst, NY  
Accounting

Gordon was named 2014 Capital One Academic All-American, has received numerous awards as an outstanding scholar-athlete and was named Division III Basketball Player-of-the-Year. He was an elected member of the Phi Eta Sigma National Honor Society for academic achievement.

**Michael Yee**

Clifton Park, NY  
Philosophy & Sociology

Michael founded the Phi Alpha Delta Pre-law fraternity, was named a Presidential Scholar and organized free LSAT preparation courses for Geneseo students and members of the community.

**HERKIMER COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE****Korey Bunal**

Rome, NY  
Liberal Arts Sciences

Korey is an honors student and a member of Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society. She played on the 2013-14 women's basketball team and the 2014 national runner-up softball team. She served as a volunteer in community organizations providing meals to the elderly.

**Rhiannon Steele**

Little Falls, NY  
Travel & Tourism

Rhiannon was a member of Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, was a student ambassador, served as president of the Herkimer College Travel Club, and was on the swim team. She also completed an internship at the Utica Zoo where she helped coordinate special events.

**HUDSON VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE****My'Asia Colon**

Cohoes, NY  
Individual Studies

My'Asia served as a freshman senator and vice president of the Student Senate, was active in the college's Black and Latino Student Union. She established the Cheerleading Club and Pep Squad.

**Grace Harrison**

Hudson, NY  
Individual Studies

Grace served as president of the Student Senate and served on the college Board of Trustees. She represented the college at the National Conference on Student Leadership and obtained leadership certification.

**Nathalie McNair**

Schodack Landing, NY  
Computer Information Systems

Nathalie served as secretary of the Student Senate and as a member of the women's soccer and women's golf teams. She was the founder of the Web Design, Development and Programming Club, and was a board member of the Faculty Student Association.

**Alison Wimmer**

Troy, NY  
Physical Education Studies

Alison served as a board member of the Faculty Student Association and as vice president of the Physical Education Majors Club. She was on the women's soccer team and received the Region III Academic Award for student athletes with the highest academic average.

**JAMESTOWN COMMUNITY COLLEGE****Shannon Gunnell**

Falconer, NY  
Occupational Therapy

Shannon was the Captain of the Volleyball Team, won the Freshman Scholar Athlete Award, and was selected as a WNYAC All-Conference 1st Team member in the NJCAA Division III Conference.

**Sierra Rose**

Cuba, NY  
Criminal Justice

Sierra served as president of Phi Theta Kappa, was an officer in the Criminal Justice Club, and worked as a peer mentor and Certified College Reading and Learning Association Level I tutor.

**SUNY JEFFERSON****Danielle Scott**

Watertown, NY  
Business Administration

Danielle served as president of Student Government and as student representative on the Faculty Student Association board of directors. She is a member of the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society and National Society of Leadership and Success.

**Mikayla Warren**

Chaumont, NY  
Mathematics and Science

Mikayla served as the student leader of Jefferson's CORE (Campus Orientation and Registration Educators) student staff and served as secretary for the dance club. She volunteered for the Center for Community Studies, Super Science Saturday, and National Science Week.

**MARITIME COLLEGE****Marissa Castellano**

Mohegan Lake, NY  
Marine Transportation

Marissa was the chief navigator aboard the college training vessel, managed a team that planned a voyage to various ports in the North Atlantic. She served as a Learning Center tutor and assistant to the campus' Licensing Director.

**Charles Scott Kuhn**

North Babylon, NY  
Marine Business and Commerce

Charles served as regimental commander. He also served as the lead tutor and assistant coordinator of the Learning Center. He was on the Admiral's list for academic achievement seven times.

**MOHAWK VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE****Elizabeth Brigham**

Whitesboro, NY  
Graphic Design

Elizabeth received several academic honors including the Phi Theta Kappa Honors Scholarship, the President's List, and the Northern Vice President of the Phi Theta Kappa New York Region. She was an ambassador for the art programs and received recognition in Signature Magazine.

**Melanie Carlson**

Ramsen, NY  
General Studies

Melanie received the MVCC Foundation's Presidential Scholarship, is in the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society and the Honors Program. She was captain of the MVCC's Region 3 Tournament-winning women's soccer team, and has participated in the Boilermaker 15K Road Race.

**Jennifer Rothrock**

Boonville, NY  
Business

Jennifer received the President's List Achievement Award for three consecutive semesters. She served as secretary and treasurer for the Returning Adult Student Association, and was elected the vice president of service for the Lambda Beta chapter of the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society.

**Devin Sonne**

Barneveld, NY  
Chemistry

Devin received the President's List Achievement Award. She served as president of Student Congress, founded the Sustainability Club and the Women in Science and Engineering club. She was active in the Math Club, was the Program Board, and was president of the Music Appreciation Club.

**MONROE COMMUNITY COLLEGE****Bethany Fletcher**

Webster, NY  
Dental Hygiene

Bethany was on the Dean's List since fall 2012. She founded the MCC Spirit Committee, worked as a resident assistant and received the Spring 2014 Programming Award.

**Paulette Hall**

Rochester, NY  
Human Services

Paulette served as treasurer of the Honorable Women Club and participated in several outreach events. She is a member of the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, the Peer Assistant Network, and an ordained deacon of the Unity Fellowship Church.

**Ekaterina Jones**

Canandaigua, NY  
Liberal Arts

Ekaterina was vice president of Phi Theta Kappa and chairperson of the Honors in Action Project of her chapter. She was a delegate on Model United Nation Team and served as student trustee for MCC's Board of Trustees.

**Michael Klugo**

Horseheads, NY  
Hospitality Management

Michael served as co-president of the Travel Club and was a resident assistant. He was awarded MCC's Athlete of the Week, the Region III Athlete of the Week in 2014, and three All American titles as a swimmer.

**Rosalyn Louk**

Rush, NY  
Biotechnology

Rosalyn is a member of Phi Theta Kappa and the MCC Honors Institute. She was named Region III Swimming Regional Championships MVP in 2014 and is certified in CPR/AED, first aid, and as a lifeguard with the American Red Cross.

**Sarah Love**

Buffalo, NY  
Addictions Counseling

Sarah was a peer leader in the Damon City Campus First Year Experience Program and is a member of Phi Theta Kappa. She has worked on numerous Rochester inner city community projects and was certified as a crisis pregnancy counselor.

**Sawinee Sachdev**

Bangkok, Thailand  
Liberal Arts

Sawinee is a member of Phi Theta Kappa, served as Honors in Action chair and as a resident assistant. She was chosen to present at the Northeast Regional Honors Conference and at the MCC Scholars Day program on her research about sex trafficking.

**Lacey Thomas**

Rochester, NY  
Health Studies

Lacey is a member of Phi Theta Kappa and served as editor of MCC's Cabbages and Kings literary and arts magazine. She served on the Creative Writing Committee and won several awards including the John H. Koch Scholarship and the National Student Literary Competition.

**Staci Williams**

Rochester, NY  
Human Services

Staci was vice president of the Human Services Club at MCC and a peer leader on the Damon City Campus. She was selected to represent the student population on the Diversity Council and mentors with Women Helping Girls.

**Zhihao Yun**

Gansu, China  
Business Administration

Zhihao is a member of Phi Theta Kappa, served as vice president of the College Project. He has been awarded the Phi Theta Kappa Global Leaders of Promise Scholarship and Most Distinguished Chapter Officer.

**MORRISVILLE STATE COLLEGE****Gilroy Alvarez**

Bronx, NY

Business Administration

Gilroy was a member of the men's soccer team, two-time captain and two-time NEAC All-Conference Selection. He served as a campus tutor/mentor and campus ambassador, and he was selected twice for the New York Model Senate Project.

**Shannon Greene**

Sauquoit, NY

Horticulture, Greenhouse Management

Shannon was a leader in the creation and design of the college's Living Green Wall, served as a teaching assistant and was selected to participate in a campus panel on Genetically Modified Organisms. She started the Sauquoit Valley Youth Community Garden and was an American Youth Soccer Organization coach in her community.

**SUNY NASSAU****Priscilla Braak**

Oceanside, NY

Nursing

Priscilla was the co-founder of Rejoicing Spirits Ministry. She founded the Justice League, a mentoring organization for youth. She was nominated for the Phi Theta Kappa All-USA Community College Academic Team.

**Peter Branche**

Seafood, NY

Multidisciplinary Studies

Peter served as president of the campus chapter of the Phi Theta Kappa National Honor Society, served as a senator in the Student Government Association, and the treasurer of the Pre-Law Club.

**Hugo Concha**

New Hyde Park, NY

Hotel and Restaurant Technology

Hugo founded the Nutrition Club, was a new student orientation leader, and was a longtime volunteer at Happiness is Camping – a camp for children with cancer.

**Stacy Ebby**

East Meadow, NY

Liberal Arts

Stacy was the president of the Programming Board, was a student lobbyist for Nassau Community College at the local and state government levels, and was a new student orientation leader.

**Chantal Evans**

Jamaica, NY

Liberal Arts

Chantal was the treasurer of the Speech and Debate Team and won awards in regional and national competitions. She has been the owner of an e-commerce web site, and is a member of Phi Theta Kappa.

**Victor Hillergren**

Westbury, NY

Liberal Arts

Victor was the news editor and a writer for the student newspaper, the "Vignette", and was an All-USA Team Nominee for Phi Theta Kappa. Additionally, he served as a fundraiser and marathon runner for Team for Kids, a charity that promotes healthy lifestyles.

**Krystal Holland**

Hempstead, NY

Communication Arts

Krystal was the president of the Transfer Club, was a volunteer coach of the Uniondale School District PAL Swimming Team and Aqua Club, and was the Head Lifeguard of the Uniondale Community District.

**Lisa Lay**

Hewlett, NY

English

Lisa was a writer for student newspaper, the "Vignette," and the school's literary magazine, "Luna". She was an active member of the Writing Club and the Environmental Club, and regularly performed her music and poetry at community events.

**Candace Lopez**

Farmingdale, NY

Liberal Arts

Candace served as president of the Student Government Association, was a member of the Board of Directors of the Faculty Student Association, Inc., and was a student member of the College's Academic Senate. She received the "Long Island's Best" award for young artists for three consecutive years.

**Sarah Nolan**

Oceanside, NY

Media-Communications

Sarah was president and founder of the Communications Honor Society, Sigma Chi Eta. She volunteered as a conversation partner in the Language Immersion Program for non-native English speakers, and was an intern at News 12 Long Island.

**Paul Oddo**

Massapequa, NY

Liberal Arts

Paul served as vice president of the College Chapter of Student Veterans of America, and founded the NCC Veterans Textbook Library. He volunteered many times at the College's Days of Service.

**Wei-Chieh Tseng**

Carle Place, NY

Liberal Arts

Wei-Chieh Tseng served as president of the Asian-American Club and the Vice President of the Biology Club. He performed internationally as a violinist with the World Civic Orchestra.

**Sarah Turkiew**

Bethpage, NY

Music

Sarah has been acknowledged as a highly accomplished saxophonist with numerous performances in a wide variety of venues. She performed at music events on a regular basis to raise awareness of autism and for other worthy charities in communities on Long Island.

**SUNY NEW PALTZ****Fatima Ismail**

Red Hook, NY

Math

Fatima served as a research aide for the Research Foundation for the State University of New York. She was a member of the SUNYAC All-Academic Team and the Commissioner's List and has been acknowledged for her contributions in Dr. David Clark's Real Analysis textbook.

**Anne Jacobs**

New Rochelle, NY

Communication &amp; Media and Media Management

Anne served as the NPC-TV station manager, the College's student-run television station, and was president of the Phi Phi Chapter of Alpha Epsilon Phi Sorority. She completed internships at The Daily Show with Jon Stewart and VH-1.

**Brittany Noble**

Schenectady, NY

Early Childhood &amp; Childhood Education B-6

Brittany served as a student ambassador and tour guide for undergraduate admissions. She served as a participant of the College's Alternative Spring Break Program and was a Regional Investigative Judicial Council Team Member for the Kappa Delta Phi National Affiliated Sorority.

**Alyssa Stock**

Morris Plains, NJ

Adolescent Education in Earth Science

Alyssa was a member of the National Honor Society of the Earth Sciences. She served as captain of the College's field hockey team and was recognized as member of the National Field Hockey Coaches Association NCAA III North Atlantic Region First Team.

**Miriam Ward**

Rye, NY

History and Digital Media Production

Miriam was awarded competitive scholarships from the New York Women in Communications Foundation, Meredith Corporation, Broadcast Education Association and National Association of Broadcasters. She held internships at The Rachel Maddow Show, Thirteen WNEPT, Meredith Corporation, New York Women in Communications Foundation, among others, and was a presenter at the CUNY Graduate School Medieval History Conference.

**NIAGARA COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE****Brigitte Arnet**

Blasdell, NY

Nursing

Brigitte served as the Student-Faculty Curriculum Liaison for the Student Nurses Association. She volunteered for Locks of Love since 2002, and was a member of Phi Theta Kappa and the Student Nurse Association.

**Emma-Lee Gray-Blasczienski**

Fulton, NY

Animal Management

Emma-Lee served as president of the Resident Hall Association, vice president of the Student Programming Board, leader of the fall 2014 Orientation Committee, volunteered for Bald for Bucks and the Cancer Awareness Relay for Life, and served as a member of the Zoo Crew.

**Olivia Spitzer**

Lockport, NY

Human Services

Olivia served as president of the Student Programming Board and student trustee of the Student Senate and Board of Trustees, volunteered for Locks of Love, Western New York Developmental Disabilities Services Organization, Weinberg Nursing Home, and the Niagara County Community College Foundation 5K Run.

## NORTH COUNTRY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

**Courtney Boyea**

Chateaugay, NY  
Individual Studies

Courtney served as the captain of the women's soccer team and was a member of the basketball and softball teams. She was the recipient of the 2014 Outstanding Math Award and recognized by Rotarians for providing Service above Self.

**Jedediah Brown**

Saranac Lake, NY  
Wilderness Recreation Leadership

Jedediah was a member of Phi Theta Kappa and was recognized for his experience as an educator in the environmental and wilderness field. He designed a volunteer internship program for the Wilderness Recreation Leadership department. In addition he tutored students in psychology courses.

## OLD WESTBURY

**Yuvraj Singh**

Valley Stream, NY  
Biological Sciences

Yuvraj served as vice president and public relations officer of the Science Club, co-authored a scientific research paper, and volunteered as a tutor and mentor for the Honors College.

**Melody Tomlinson**

Manhasset, NY  
English

Melody was a writing consultant in the Writing Center, published six pieces in Harmonia, the Creative Writing Journal and Discordia, the Scholarly Journal. She volunteered at a local church.

## SUNY ONEONTA

**John Anthony Barnas**

Verplanck, NY  
Music

John Anthony received two grants to study orchestral conducting and comparative analysis of classical composers, won an award for residence hall programming, and was chosen to perform an original composition at New Music Focus week.

**Colton Cox**

Washingtonville, NY  
English

Colton served as managing editor of Art & Scope Literary Magazine, and chaired the New Critics Literature and Composition Conference in 2013 and 2014. He was the first recipient of the college's English Department Scholarship and won an Alumni Association Scholarship and Wellman Scholarship.

**Marvin Rodriguez**

Greenport, NY  
Computer Science

Marvin interned at the White House Initiative on Educational Excellence and participated in the SUNY Brain Summer Scholars Program. He received the Susan Sutton Smith Student Award for Academic Excellence, Richard Siegfried Student Scholar Award, and the Best & Brightest Award, and is a member of the Chi Alpha Epsilon and Phi Eta Sigma national honor societies.

## ONONDAGA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

**Karim Abdel-Razek**

Port Said, Egypt  
Architectural Technology

Karim has been on the president's list each semester, served as an honors program student ambassador, and worked as a docent at Lincoln: The Constitution and the Civil War National Endowment for the Humanities traveling exhibit.

**Sai Aung**

Yangon, Myanmar  
Business Administration

Sai served as the vice president of the Student Association, student advisor for the Learning Center Student Advisory Council, and peer connector, helping students register for classes.

**Bertina Bailey**

Marathon, NY  
Criminal Justice and Humanities

Bertina was on the President's List, served as a resident assistant, and received the Student Leader of the Semester Award.

**Alena Cerro**

Liverpool, NY  
Electronic Media Communication

Alena served as vice president for public relations for the Alpha Sigma Zeta chapter of the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, was an honors program student ambassador and committee student representative. She was an intern at the External Relations and Marketing & New Media departments.

**Robert Greg Freitag**

Syracuse, NY  
Hospitality Management

Greg was medaled at the Empire State Games and has been accepted to compete in two events at the National Senior Games in Minneapolis. He has been recognized for high academic achievement.

**Gregory Guevara**

Weedsport, NY  
Liberal Arts & Sciences

Greg served as president of Alpha Sigma Zeta chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, presented an Organic Chemistry Environmental Research project at the Green Works Expo, and organized a fundraiser for a pediatric cancer charity.

## COLLEGE OF OPTOMETRY

**Kathleen Abarr**

Hope Valley, RI  
Optometry

Kathleen served as vice president and fellow of the student chapter of the American Academy of Optometry. She was the first author on a poster presentation at the organization's annual meeting in 2014 and a member of the International Optometric Honor Society, Beta Sigma Kappa.

**Rima Bakhru**

Edison, NJ  
Optometry

Rima served as Student Council president and as a teacher and mentor for CSTEP students. As a volunteer she conducted eye exams at homeless shelters as part of NYSEE 20/20, and at the Special Olympics event. Rima organized a month-long diabetes awareness campaign for the community.

## SUNY ORANGE

**Moriah Brock**

Middletown, NY  
Engineering Science

Moriah is president of SUNY Orange's Middletown campus Student Senate, was a member of the College's Honors program and served as a tutor in the Math Lab and Library.

**Shane Laden**

Chester, NY  
Liberal Arts

Shane served as president of the College's Veterans Club, was elected as a member of the Student Senate and served on the College's Veterans' Task Force investigating additional ways in which SUNY Orange could integrate and support veterans.

**Matthew Romano**

Newburgh, NY

Business Administration

Matthew served as president of the Newburgh campus Student Senate and treasurer of the secretary to the campus Board of Activities. He presented research papers at College and regional conferences, and volunteered the local Humane Society.

**SUNY OSWEGO****Dianora De Marco**

Bronx, NY

Accounting

Dianora served as president of the Student Investment Club, was on the team for the 2013 College Fed Challenge and served on the School of Business Student Advisory Board. She and her sorority established a fundraiser for an Oswego boy with a rare cancer.

**Joshua Drake**

Fulton, NY

Biology

Joshua served as president of the Habitat for Humanity Club, was a volunteer with Mentor Oswego, Head Start and Oswego Hospital. He received college grants for work in evolutionary genetics and presented scholarly posters at a symposium.

**Molly Matott**

Liverpool, NY

Meteorology

Molly served as Chief Meteorologist at the student station, WTOP-TV. She coordinated research for a multi-university lake-effect study and appeared on the Weather Channel with Al Roker. She was A Meteorology Club officer and peer tutor, she was active in the Del Sarte dance club.

**David Owens**

Cato, NY

Studio Art

David presented a solo show at the Auburn's Schweinfurth Memorial Art Center. He was a cartoonist for the student newspaper, was a church volunteer, and founder of a company to accept freelance work.

**Eyub Yegen**

Schwaebisch Gmuend, Germany

Finance and Applied Mathematical Economics

Eyub has presented his research internationally, including China and Dubai; published articles in peer-reviewed journals; and has been a SUNY Big Data Fellow and president of the Turkish Culture Club, International Student Association, Financial Management Association and Future Alumni Network Advisory Board.

**SUNY PLATTSBURGH****Franco Figueroa**

Torreon, Mexico

Latin American Studies

Franco was designated head delegate to the 2015 Washington, D.C. Model Organization of American States, served as president of the SUNY Plattsburgh Inter-Fraternity Council and as an intern for Aaron Woolf, the 2014 Democratic candidate for Congress.

**Yessenia Funes**

Uniondale, NY

Journalism, Magazine and Environmental Studies

Yessena served as editor-in-chief of the award-winning in-flight magazine, DoNorth: Touring the Adirondack Coast, and presented at the College Media Association National Conference, was selected to participate in the New York Times Student Journalism Institute, and has been a contributing writer for USA Today College, Yes! Magazine and the Grist Organization.

**Abigayle Ploetz**

Eden, NY

Music and Theater

Abigayle has studied abroad at Florence University of the Arts representing the SUNY system abroad, was selected to perform and compete for the Irene Ryan Scholarship at the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival, and served as an intern at the Springville Center for the Arts.

**Natalie Spiess**

Sharon Springs, NY

Political Science &amp; Gender and Women's Studies

Natalie served as president for the Center for Womyn's Concerns, served as chief organizer for the annual Take Back the Night rally and march for campus and community members for the last three years, and served as an intern in Washington, D.C. at EMILY's List, the nation's largest political action committee and resource for women in democratic politics.

**SUNY POLY****Jenjira Htoo**

Utica, NY

Information Design &amp; Technology

Jenjira helped found a regional student group that helped refugees begin new lives in Utica and organizes activities to promote peace and understanding between cultures. She was invited to be a guest lecturer at Webster University to speak on war and conflict in Burma.

**Jeffrey Reed**

Broadalbin, NY

Electrical Engineering Technology

Jeffrey coordinated student mentors for a series of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) workshops for inner city, elementary school children. He worked to develop a nonprofit organization to promote effective recycling of e-waste in NYS.

**SUNY POTSDAM****Gregory Shilling**

New Windsor, NY

Music Education

Gregory wrote, produced and performed original music to raise awareness and funds for various charities through his Keep Livin' Project, named after a song he wrote for his sister. He has raised funds for the Synovial Sarcoma Research Fund, and created a new "Mr. and Ms. Universe-ity" contest, which raised funds for SUNY Potsdam's Greatest Needs Fund.

**Brady Turner**

Potsdam, NY

Speech Communications &amp; History

A dedicated admissions ambassador, Brady has led more than 50 tours on campus, served as the food and hospitality chair for Relay for Life. He assisted the student conduct office as an intern, where he studied trends in alcohol violations.

**Bailey Weigel**

East Amherst, NY

Business Administration

Bailey is a recipient of the Mount Emmons Scholarship. She was captain of the Women's Basketball Team and was a member of the Women's Lacrosse Team, wherein she was an All-Conference Selection and honored with the Chancellor's Scholar Athlete Award.

**PURCHASE COLLEGE****Steven Brown**

New York, NY

Arts Management

James served as a Campus Outreach Intern for the Office of Community Engagement as well as a Resident Assistant. He received the Gilman Scholarship and became a Study Abroad Advocate. He received the ACT Award for Excellence and Student Initiative Scholarship.

**Anna Krol**

Freeport, NY

Latin American Studies and Sociology

Anna served as captain of the swim team. She was presented with the Outstanding Junior in Sociology Award for a strong academic record. She volunteered to provide care and companionship to terminally ill patients with Hospice of Westchester. She excels at her sport by serving as Captain of the Purchase Swim Team.

**Tyler Madell**

Buffalo, NY

Environmental Studies and Political Science

Tyler conducted research on the political movements that brought about NYS fracking ban and has been invited to present at a National Conference. He served as PSGA Director of the Broken Spokes Bike Shop and he served 10 weeks in Costa Rica as a Tropical Ecology Field Research Assistant.

**SUNY ROCKLAND****Aaminah Aleem**

Spring Valley, NY

Mathematics and Science

Aaminah served as a member of the Diversity Council Committee. She earned induction into Phi Theta Kappa and the National Society for Collegiate Scholars, and interned more than 140 hours at Good Samaritan Hospital.

**Patricia McEniry**

Chestnut Ridge, NY

Liberal Arts and Criminal Justice

Patricia established the Veterans Textbook Lending Library on campus. She was inducted into the SALUTE Veterans National Honor Society and the Speech National Honor Society and received nine awards for academic success and leadership, including the Criminal Justice Certificate of Achievement in Academic Excellence.

**Ellen Mutter**

Piermont, NY

Mathematics

Ellen conducted research at Stony Brook University on a neurological condition while at Rockland Community College, studied at the University of Cambridge's Shakespeare Summer School, and served as president of the Gay Straight Alliance on campus.

**SCHENECTADY COUNTY CC****Sean Cochrane**

Schenectady, NY

Human Services &amp; Chemical Dependency Counseling

Sean served as president of the Veterans Club, was a student mentor, and was a member of Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society. He has volunteered as a basketball coach with the Boys and Girls Club.

**Casey Frankowski**

East Greenbush, NY

Liberal Arts

Casey was a member of the Women's Bowling Team - NJCAA National Champions, was awarded All-American status by the National Junior College Bowling Coaches Association. She was a member of Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, served as a member of the Student Affairs Committee, and participated in World Youth Day in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

**STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY****Cassandra Dix**

Stanwick, NY

Biochemistry

Cassandra was a teaching assistant, won two America East Championships with the tennis team and was named to the America East Conference All-Academic Team.

**Jheison Giraldo**

Brentwood, NY

Biochemistry

Jheison was a teaching assistant and a dancer in the Stony Brook Performance Dance Ensemble and served as a member of the Undergraduate Biochemistry Society. He also worked as an emergency medical technician in the busiest district for Emergency Medical Services on Long Island.

**Shannon Grogan**

Eastampton, NJ

Coastal Environmental Studies

Shannon was a two-year captain of the NCAA Division I women's soccer team and was on the America East Conference Women's Soccer All-Academic Team. She also served as a student ambassador.

**Qurat-ul-ain Gulamhussein**

Levittown, NY

Psychology

Qurat-ul-ain was the recipient of a Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship and a URECA (Undergraduate Research & Creative Activities) Summer Fellowship. She received a President's Volunteer Service Award from the National Society of Collegiate Scholars.

**Julia Joseph**

Pelham, NY

Biochemistry

Julia served as vice president of PACE (Planning to Achieve Collegiate Excellence) and editor-in-chief of Stony Brook Young Investigators Review. She also was the recipient of a Rockefeller University Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship Award.

**Jaclyn Lattanza**

Port Jefferson Station, NY

Journalism

Jaclyn was a Golden Key International Honour Society Scholarship recipient, served as a student ambassador and was voted Homecoming Queen of 2014.

**James Leonard**

Greenport, NY

Biology

James was awarded a \$10,000 Livestrong Community Impact Project Grant and founded the Stony Brook chapter of Camp Kesem, a summer camp for children who have had a parent with cancer. He also served as a student ambassador.

**Jay Loomis**

Stony Brook, NY

Music

Jay was the recipient of the Angela & Dexter Bailey Award – URECA (Undergraduate Research & Creative Activities) Summer Research Grant and an Arthur S. Lambert Memorial Scholarship for music. In addition, he was a presenter and performer at a Stony Brook University TEDx event.

**Marina Mestres**

Medford, NJ

Chemical and Molecular Engineering

Marina was named to the Academic Honor Roll of the Intercollegiate Women's Lacrosse Coaches Association and elected captain of the Women's Lacrosse Division I Program. She was a member of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers.

**Janagan Naahanathan**

Richmond Hill, NY

Biology

Janagan was a teaching assistant and a participant in the URECA (Undergraduate Research & Creative Activities) Explorations in STEM program. He organized and participated in medical and educational volunteer programs at a Sri Lanka refugee camp.



**Sanat Patel**

New York, NY

Biochemistry &amp; Philosophy

Sanat served as vice president of the Biochemistry Society and volunteered more than 600 hours of service as an AmeriCorps Education Award Program participant. In addition, he was a pediatric anesthesiology intern with Children's Hospital of NY-Presbyterian.

**Matthew Sacco**

Massapequa, NY

English &amp; Philosophy

Matthew was a member of the National Society of Collegiate Scholars and the founder and president of SUFA (Students United for Action). He also was the founder of the Light Up the Dark peer education campaign, which focused on sexual assault awareness and prevention.

**Olivia Sanchez**

Baldwin, NY

Psychology &amp; Italian Studies

Olivia was named a JFEW-SUNY Global Affairs and International Relations Scholar and served as the founding secretary and president of the Stand Up Charter Against Bullying and Homophobia. She also was selected for an internship at the Carnegie Council for Ethics in International Affairs.

**Eric Speakman**

Napier, New Zealand

Business Management &amp; Economics

Eric was named a two-time America East individual champion in cross-country, was the recipient of an Outstanding Academic Achievement Award and a Chancellor's Scholar Athletic Award. He also was the men's school record holder for the indoor mile and outdoor 1500m.

**SUFFOLK COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE****Melissa Burmester**

East Moriches, NY

American Sign Language Studies

Melissa served as vice president for the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society and was a Get There From Here Scholar. She was a recipient of the Coca-Cola Leaders of Promise Award administered by Phi Theta Kappa.

**Nicholas Contess**

Smithtown, NY

Business Administration

Nicholas is a Phi Theta Kappa All-New York Recipient, served as president of the Alpha Zeta Nu Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa and was recognized by Alpha Zeta Nu as a distinguished member. Nicholas has earned dean's list recognition for overall academic achievement.

**Steven Curcio**

Patchogue, NY

Liberal Arts

Steven is a Phi Theta Kappa All-New York Recipient, served as a senator of the Student Government and event coordinator of the Community Service Club. He helped organize the College's first spirit week and represented the student body at various political and legislative meetings.

**Brianna DiPaola**

Bayshore, NY

Liberal Arts &amp; Sciences

Brianna was a Get There From Here Scholar, was a member of Phi Theta Kappa and was a recipient of the Fischer Scholarship, and the Service and Leadership Award for the Theatre Club.

**Larissa Ellerman**

Sayville, NY

Liberal Arts

Larissa was captain of the Women's Basketball Team, volunteered as a tutor, helping students with calculus and physics. She represented Suffolk County Community College's Intramural programs through various fundraising events.

**Julie Heitleband**

Patchogue, NY

Liberal Arts &amp; Sciences and Paralegal Studies

Julie was a Get There From Here Scholar, served as campus orientation leader and peer mentor. She was a member of the College's Equestrian Team and volunteered at Island Veterinary Hospital of Coram.

**Brittany Improte**

Lynbrook, NY

Baking and Pastry Arts

Brittany is a member of Phi Theta Kappa, and has earned Dean's List Recognition for three consecutive semesters. Brittany interned with an experienced pastry chef at a well-known café in Florence, Italy.

**Carmeline Jean-Francois**

Brentwood, NY

Liberal Arts

Carmeline was a Get There From Here Scholar and served as president of the African American Student Union. She represented the student body at various political and legislative meetings. She worked as a Student Aide in the College's Advising and Testing Office.

**Victoria Lohwasser**

Farmingdale, NY

Liberal Arts &amp; Sciences

Victoria, a member of Phi Theta Kappa, earned dean's list recognition for three consecutive semesters. She was Editor-in-Chief of the Western Student Press and served as Sigma Kappa Delta Historian.

**Satoko Matthews**

East Patchogue, NY

Culinary Arts

Satoko, a Phi Theta Kappa All-New York Recipient, was president of the Culinary and Baking Arts Club and served as a senator in the Student Government Association. She was captain of the Knowledge Bowling Team and was a member of the American Culinary Federation.

**Raymond Page**

Sayville, NY

Liberal Arts

Raymond was editor-in-chief for the Compass News and a former 2-term Vice President of Fellowship, Phi Theta Kappa (Alpha Zeta Nu Chapter). He also served as the Ammerman Campus Liaison of the Academic Integrity Committee.

**Emily Rooney**

West Islip, NY

Liberal Arts &amp; Sciences

Emily, a Phi Theta Kappa All-New York recipient, was in the College Honors Program, served as president of Phi Theta Kappa: Alpha Delta Gamma Chapter, and was a recipient of the Presidential Transfer Scholarship, Stay on Long Island Initiative (SoLI).

**Tricia Wildman**

Huntington, NY

Liberal Arts &amp; Sciences

Tricia, a Phi Theta Kappa All-New York Recipient, served as senator on the Student Engagement Committee, was vice president of Scholarship for Phi Theta Kappa. She was a Peer Mentor and planned the College's first Spirit Week.

**SUNY SULLIVAN****Anna Dexheimer**

Woodborne, NY

Psychology

Anna served as secretary of the Psychology Club and received the Student Government Association Club Award for her participation in the Psychology Club. She serves as a squad crew member for the Neversink Ambulance.

## TOMPKINS CORTLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE

**Nola Booth**

Ithaca, NY

Liberal Arts and Sciences

Nola organized a fundraiser, Walk Against Hunger, raised money for the Ithaca Kitchen Cupboard. She received the President's Citation, the College's most selective academic recognition. She also earned a prestigious Bartels Science Illustration Internship at Cornell University's Lab of Ornithology.

**Margaret Carleton**

Ithaca, NY

International Studies

Margaret founded the TC3 Intercultural Club, to offer a place for students to learn about new places, new people, and new perspectives. She received a President's Citation and is a member of Phi Theta Kappa and presented a peer-to-peer workshop for professional college tutors.

**Amy Moore**

Dryden, NY

Nursing

Amy was a member of Phi Theta Kappa and served as co-president of the College's chapter. She organized a roadside cleanup event and served as a member of the Panther Welcome Crew in support of the College's orientation program.

## SUNY ULSTER

**Lindsey Dugan**

Kerhonkson, NY

Business Administration

Lindsey served as an association director of the Student Government Organization and attended SUNY Ulster tuition free as a College Scholar for her rank in the top 10% of her high school graduating class. She is a member of Phi Theta Kappa, and was an intern in the Admissions Office in the Digital Media Ambassadors Program.

**Brody Maloney**

Saugerties, NY

Humanities &amp; Social Science - Early &amp; Childhood Education B-6

Brody was on the Baseball and Basketball Teams, volunteered as an Assistant Basketball Coach for the Saugerties Athletic Association. He is a member of Phi Theta Kappa, and has been named to both the President's and Dean's Lists for his academic achievements.

## UPSTATE MEDICAL UNIVERSITY

**Thomas Franzone**

Syracuse, NY

Medicine

Thomas served as president of the Alpha Omega Alpha medical honor society, was a voting member of the College of Medicine Admissions Committee, and was inducted in to the Gold Humanism honor society. He received the first place award at the New York College of Physicians Poster Competition.

**Samuel Mackenzie**

Syracuse, NY

Medicine &amp; Neuroscience

Samuel served as the sole student representative to the American Medical Association board of trustees. He received the National Research Service Award as well as the Combining Clinical and Research Careers in Neuroscience Symposium Travel Award.

## SUNY WESTCHESTER

**Kyria Aho**

White Plains, NY

Business Administration

Kyria was an Honors student, studied at Cambridge University in England during a special summer program and was named to the position of Phi Theta Kappa Vice President of the New York Southern District. She was a Kathryn W. Davis Global Scholar and earned a full scholarship.

**Thomas Cobb**

Cortlandt Manor, NY

Liberal Arts and Sciences

Thomas was the president of the Student Government Association and served as an orientation coordinator. He served as treasurer of the college's Making A Difference Club, which was involved with service and civic responsibility projects.

**Craig Codella**

New Rochelle, NY

Liberal Arts &amp; Humanities

Craig served as the president of the Westchester Events Board, and served as Orientation Leader/Peer Advisor. He was a participant in the Clinton Global University which involved projects to address pressing challenges in contemporary society.

**Emily Eliseo**

Valhalla, NY

Business Administration

Emily was an Honors Program student, received a Key Award, the college's highest honor for contributions to student life. She was also the President of the Entrepreneurship and Networking Club.

**Gregory Gaafar**

Yonkers, NY

Liberal Arts

Gregory was a member of the college's Board of Trustees. He volunteered at a local soup kitchen and served as an orientation leader and peer advisor.

**Jason Isolini**

Lake Peekskill, NY

Visual Arts

Jason was named A Chi Alpha Epsilon Honor Society member. He created and facilitated the Build-a-Board skateboarding program for elementary school students, and his artwork was selected for display at a SUNY art show.

**Santiago Leon Martinez**

Croton on Hudson, NY

Business Administration

Santiago Leon was a participant in the highly selective Commit to Change Leadership Series, and was vice president of the Phi Theta Kappa Honors Society's College Project, which involved working with the college administration on a special outreach project to former students.

**Nicole Robertson**

Garrison, NY

Radiologic Technology

Nicole served as the vice president of the Student Government Association. She was a Kathryn W. Davis Global Scholar, served as New York State representative to the American Society of Radiologic Technologists Student Leadership Development Program.

**Sakile Stephenson**

Mount Vernon, NY

Liberal Arts

Sakile served as secretary of the Student Government Association, was a member of the Honors Program, and volunteered with the Larchmont Volunteer Ambulance Corps.

## The Chancellor's Award for Student Excellence

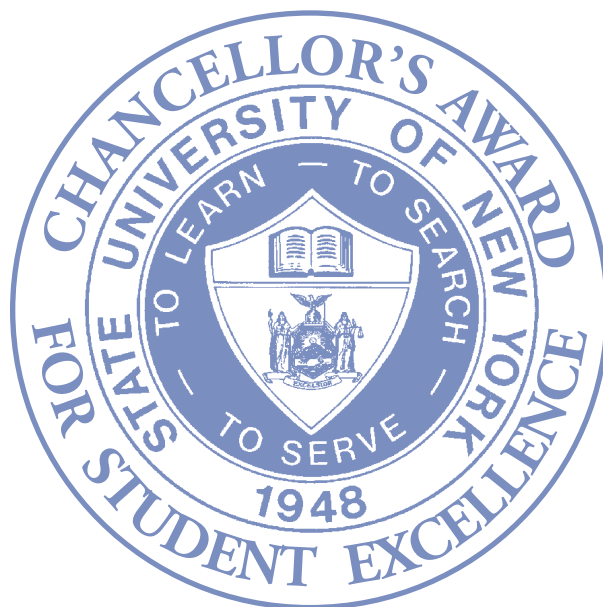
The Chancellor's Award for Student Excellence was created to recognize students who have best demonstrated and been recognized for the integration of academic excellence with accomplishments in the areas of leadership, campus involvement, athletics, community service, creative and performing arts, or career achievement.

Each campus president established a selection committee, which reviewed exemplary members of their college communities who are graduating this year. Nominees were forwarded to the Chancellor's Office for a second round of review, and finalists were recommended to the Chancellor to become recipients of the Chancellor's Award for Student Excellence.

This year, we honor 256 students from each of the 64 institutions within The State University of New York. Recipients of this year's award have an overall grade point average of 3.7 and records of significant contributions to their campuses and communities.

Each recipient receives a certificate and a medallion that may be worn at commencement.

Congratulations to this year's awardees!





# CHANCELLOR'S AWARD for Student Excellence

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