



APRIL 5, 2016

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



CHANCELLOR'S AWARD *for Student Excellence 2016*

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, 248 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

Thomas Mastro
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

Music Performance
by SUNY Cortland
Student Gospel Choir



April 5, 2016

Dear Students, Families, Faculty, and Friends,

It is my pleasure to welcome you all today to recognize some of The State University of New York's most accomplished students.

These 248 stand-out students from our 64 campuses embody opportunity. They came to our campuses eager to make the most of their college experience, to not only excel academically but to develop and contribute the best of themselves to their campuses and communities. They are exceptional leaders, founders, helpers, and athletes. And the achievements of these students reflect not only their impressive hard work and dedication, but the support of their families and friends and SUNY's world-class faculty and staff.

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 presence in communities in every part of the state is an important and unique contributor to our state's vibrancy—and students like today's awardees are sure to be leaders in building a better, stronger, healthier New York in the years to come.

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

With best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nancy L. Zimpher". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Nancy L. Zimpher
Chancellor

SUNY ADIRONDACK

Nadir Babck

*Lake George, NY
Nursing*

Nadir was born in Afghanistan and lived in other countries as a refugee before coming to the United States. He had no formal education yet taught himself how to read and write. He is fluent in six languages and served in the U.S. military as a Linguist and Culture Advisor. Nadir represented SUNY Adirondack at the Innovation Exploration Forum in 2014; was a recipient of several awards and scholarships; served as a peer mentor, lab supervisor, and assistant; and was a member of the advanced volleyball team.

Gerald Hmura

*Saratoga Springs, NY
Adventure Sports*

Gerald (J. R.) will graduate in May 2016 with an Associate in Applied Science degree, concentrating on Adventure Sports. He is a full-time student and works full time. J. R. has made President's List or Dean's List every semester, maintaining a 3.80 GPA, and spends his spare time with clubs such as Phi Theta Kappa, Apiary, and Adventure Sports. In J. R.'s freshman year at SUNY Adirondack, he competed on two varsity sports: soccer as a defensive left back and baseball as a center-fielder and pitcher. He enjoys school and looks forward to continuing his education.

UNIVERSITY AT ALBANY

Janeen Bell

*Niskayuna, NY
Biology*

Janeen is the recipient of multiple scholarships and has been recognized for academic excellence. She volunteers her time at the Ronald McDonald House and Albany Medical Center and is a member of the Presidential Honors Society and Omicron Delta Kappa National Leadership Honor Society. She has conducted poster presentations at multiple research conferences. Janeen competed on the women's lacrosse team at the Division I level for three years.

Justin Berger

*Kendall Park, NJ
Psychology*

In his time at UAlbany, Justin has excelled in the classroom, on the lacrosse field, and in the community. He serves in leadership positions in the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee and Intercollegiate Athletics Advisory Board, and also works with the Sports Information staff keeping statistics at various UAlbany athletic events. Justin plans to attend medical school. He represented the America East Conference at the Division 1 SAAC Conference at the 2016 NCAA Convention.

Marc Cohen

*Buffalo, NY
Political Science*

Marc joined the Honors College shortly after starting at UAlbany. He has been an active member of several organizations, serving as vice president of the UAlbany Student Association and chief of staff of the SUNY Student Assembly. He is also a member of the UAS Board of Directors, Rockefeller College Dean's Leadership Council, the Presidential Honors Society, and the College Democrats.

Habeeb Famuyide

*Inwood, NY
Business Administration – Finance/
Marketing*

Throughout his college career, Habeeb has been involved in community organizations. He has founded organizations, worked with the Student Association, and provided tutoring and mentoring. He has been recognized for his academic achievements, leadership, campus involvement, community outreach, and career achievements. Habeeb served as chief of staff for the UAlbany Student Association and was a two-term president of the UAlbany chapter of the National Association of Black Accountants.

Samantha Hutchins

*Salem, NH
Human Biology*

Samantha is a biology major, member of the Honors College, and Presidential Scholar at UAlbany. A founding member of the Pre-Physician Assistant Club, Samantha is a CPR/AED trainer and EMS attendant for Five Quad Volunteer Ambulance Service, a student-run ambulance agency. She also works as a patient care assistant at Albany Medical Center and has served as both a residential and orientation assistant.

Matthew Leger

*Fitchburg, MA
Public Policy*

Matthew transferred to UAlbany in the spring of 2014, where he is majoring in public policy and was recently accepted into UAlbany's Master of Public Administration program. He has earned multiple designations for his academic excellence and received multiple leadership awards. He is the founder and president of Save the Memories Alliance, an organization focused on fundraising for Alzheimer's research. Matthew aims to attend Officer Candidate School for the United States Navy after completing his master's degree.

Cristian Palma

*Nanuet, NY
Business Administration & Management
and Marketing*

Cristian has been recognized for his academic excellence via multiple scholarships and honor society memberships. He has served as a resident assistant and secretary of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity. Cristian has held multiple roles within the Educational Opportunity Program through which he advocated for funding, organized athletic tournaments, and mentored students. Cristian has also completed multiple highly competitive Fortune 500 internships and leadership-development training programs.

Karan Verma

*Chicago, IL
Public Policy & Public Administration*

As a junior, Karan was accepted into the combined BA/MPA program, a status usually granted to senior students. His campus leadership work includes serving as vice president of the Great Danes Debate Team and president of UAlbany's Toastmasters International. Karan is a co-founder and chief of innovation for the UAlbany/Albany Center for Entrepreneurship, a social incubator that provides training to student entrepreneurs and coaches students for the New York State Business Plan Competition.

Nicole Wallack

*Staten Island, NY
Physics*

Nicole is a physics major with minors in film studies, mathematics, and computer science. She is a model of academic excellence exemplified by her studies regarding space, through which she has already made discoveries in the frontiers of astronomy. She has presented her research at several national conferences and completed several internships in her field, including as an astrophysics intern at the American Museum of Natural History. Nicole has also devoted countless hours of service to the local community.

Ijala Wilson

*New York, NY
Human Biology*

Ijala is the recipient of multiple scholarships, and is a three-time recipient of the Dr. Seth W. Spellman Achievement Award. She is the liaison to local chapters of the Minority Association for Pre-health/Premedical Students (MAPS) and serves as a volunteer at Albany Medical Center. Ijala participated in the Harvard T. H. Chan School of Public Health's Multidisciplinary International Research Training (MIRT) Program in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. As a future health professional, she aims to address disparities in health and medical care locally and internationally.

ALFRED STATE COLLEGE

Katelynn Andera*Ellicottville, NY**Forensic Science Technology & Biological Science*

Growing up, Katelynn spent most of her time playing sports, working on her family farm, and enjoying time with her extended family. As a student, Katelynn has been active in research conferences and events on campus and state-wide. She has received honors and awards in academic excellence, leadership, athletics, and community service. Her future plans are to become a high school teacher using her degree in forensic science to teach biology, chemistry, and forensics.

Anna Campbell*Geneseo, NY**Business Technology Management*

Anna, one of ten children, enjoys spending time with her family, playing guitar, and writing music. She has been involved in equestrian polo from a young age and is currently interning with the United States Polo Association. Anna was the founder and captain of the campus women's polo team and received national awards for collegiate and athletic excellence. She served on campus student engagement committees, was a recipient of the Phi Theta Kappa Transfer Scholarship, and is passionate about helping those around her.

NYS COLLEGE
OF CERAMICS AT
ALFRED UNIVERSITY**Margaret Schrecongost***East Aurora, NY**Art & Design*

Margaret, an exceptional student, has taken full advantage of the opportunities Alfred offers, including studying abroad, curating shows of student work, and teaching art classes in the community. She has served as co-president of the Painter's Alliance Club. During her summers, Margaret works at a Girl Scout camp teaching leadership to young girls.

Kathryn Tierney*Lewiston, NY**Ceramic Engineering*

Kathryn, a member of the New York Sigma chapter of Tau Beta Pi, is an excellent student, maintaining a 3.99 in her final semester. Currently she spends the majority of her time in the ceramic powder processing labs under the direction of Dr. William Carty. There, she assists in the research efforts of the group, teaches and trains incoming students proper lab practices, instrumentation, general powder processing/colloidal theory, and assists in maintaining the lab facilities.

BINGHAMTON UNIVERSITY

Alyssa Berkowitz*Suffern, NY**Bioengineering & Chinese*

Alyssa is a senior pursuing a double degree in bioengineering and Chinese, on track to graduate summa cum laude. She was the recipient of second place in the 14th Chinese Bridge competition in Changsa, China, for singing Chinese opera. Alyssa has numerous academic and professional accomplishments. She served as captain of the Binghamton University Dance Team for over three years and has held various additional leadership roles on campus.

Alexandra Cain*Mahopac, NY**Political Science & History*

Alexandra is a senior pursuing a double major with honors distinction; she is on track to graduate magna cum laude. Alexandra is a JFEW-SUNY International Relations and Global Affairs scholar. She conducted research on the Cold War and completed an honors thesis. She has held three professional summer internships and studied abroad in Florence, Italy. Alexandra also served as the vice president for a residential community on campus.

Fannie Chen*Brooklyn, NY**Psychology*

Fannie is a McNair scholar majoring in psychology (applied behavior analysis) and minoring in education. She is on track to graduate summa cum laude. Fannie has conducted research for the Institute for Child Development and the Miller Learning Lab at Binghamton University and has presented her work at three professional conferences in New York State. She is vice president of ChinaScope Cultural Club and is highly involved in organizations on campus and in the community.

Leigha Jarett*East Setauket, NY**Biomedical Engineering*

Leigha is a senior pursuing a biomedical engineering degree with a concentration in computational biosystems. She has participated in many research opportunities and has presented her work at professional conferences and meetings. She is on track to graduate magna cum laude. Leigha is president and founder of the Engineering World Health Organization at BU and has been recognized for community service as a certified figure skating coach.

Lily Kuong*Brooklyn, NY**Electrical Engineering*

Lily holds leadership positions with three national honor societies and is the president of the Asian Student Union. She is on track to gradu-

ate summa cum laude. Lily is an application and test engineer intern at Microchip Technology in Endicott, NY. She was a 2015 junior recipient of Binghamton University President's Award for Undergraduate Student Excellence. She is active on campus in student service and professional organizations and has been active in dance and athletic groups.

Jenny Li*Brooklyn, NY**Electrical Engineering*

Jenny is on track to graduate summa cum laude. She received a Lockheed Martin Honors Scholarship and is a member of two national engineering honor societies: the Tau Beta Pi Engineering Honor Society and Eta Kappa Nu Student Honor Society of IEEE. Last summer she was a guest researcher at the National Institute of Standards and Technology and a plenary speaker for the SURF program. Jenny founded and serves as president of the Cosplay Club, a Student Association-chartered group that brings together students with interests related to the art of cosplay, and is secretary of the Comic Club.

Kristen Mulvena*Bellerose, NY**Psychology*

Kristen is a consistent Dean's List recipient and a member of Phi Beta Kappa and Psi Chi International Honor Society in Psychology. She has interned at three outpatient facilities to prepare for a career as a clinical therapist. She is an award-winning resident hall assistant, a member of two student theater groups, an undergraduate teaching assistant, and an EOP tutor. Kristin served as chair of Binghamton University's "Out of Darkness" walk to benefit the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, led a team that designed a week of programs to "Aspire to Inspire," and chaired a sub-committee of the Education minor Steering Committee that developed a new class, Mental Health in Education.

Mallory Schmackpfeffer*Rochester, NY**English*

Mallory graduated magna cum laude in December 2015, with a major in English and minor in environmental studies. She served as social chair of the Binghamton Scholars Council, president of Peace Action BU, and a student organizer for Peace Action NY. She was a BU Nature Preserve guide, an intern with BU's Food Sustainability Group, a DJ on campus radio, and volunteered with a community group that facilitates art therapy for people with special needs.

Shirley Shum

*Staten Island, New York
Nursing*

Shirley is a nursing major with a minor in health/wellness and a consistent Dean's List student with a 3.77 GPA. She is a member of Binghamton Scholar's Program and recipient of four scholarships. She was an orientation advisor, peer mentor for Student Support Services, and worked with the Student Volunteer Center. Shirley is a resident assistant, research assistant on the Tobacco Research Program, a volunteer at Lourdes Hospital, and an active, long-time member of numerous campus clubs and organizations.

Emily Tier

*Dryden, NY
Public Administration & Social Work*

Emily is a graduate student in the Master of Public Administration and Master of Social Work programs with a 4.0 GPA. She has a long history of volunteer work at the national, divisional, and local levels with the American Cancer Society. She has interned at United Health Services as part of a palliative care team and at Family & Children's Services of Ithaca in Youth Services.

THE COLLEGE AT BROCKPORT

Randy Chase

*Sanborn, NY
Meteorology – Water Resources*

Randy is an excellent student and a natural leader. As a first-generation college student, he excelled in the classroom and was active in campus organizations. He was awarded the American Meteorological Society's David S. Johnson scholarship, was selected to participate in a Penn State research project, received the U.S. Tennis Association's Campus Leader of the Year Award, and was an active member of the Brockport Jazz Ensemble.

Nikole VanWie

*Brockport, NY
Biology*

Nikole is an excellent student dedicated to the goal of becoming a physician. She co-authored a publication in the Academy of American Pediatrics, served as assistant head coach of the Brockport gymnastics team, is a capstone student in the Leadership Development Program, and is a member of biology honor programs and coordinator of a student leadership conference. Nikole was also active in campus dance groups as a performer and choreographer.

Michelle Whittom

*Webster, NY
Biochemistry*

Michelle has achieved academic excellence and is active in community service and campus activities. Many of her extracurricular activities reflect her interest in the healthcare field. She served as a health volunteer in Peru,

conducted biochemistry research and presented her work at a national conference, and plans to submit her honors thesis for publication. Michelle enjoys undergraduate research and musical performance. In the future, she hopes to become a physician and serve underserved populations.

SUNY BROOME
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Steven Burnette

*Vestal, NY
Liberal Arts*

Steve, a returning student, is making the most of his college experience. He was awarded Phi Theta Kappa's Distinguished Chapter Officer award for the New York Region, was recruited to tutor in the college's math help center and, as a part of the Chemistry Club, performed exciting chemistry experiments at local schools and the college's child care center. Steve was on the President's list every semester, served as president of the Philosophy club, and received many honors for work on academic and community service projects.

Richard Connolly

*Vestal, NY
Liberal Arts – Individual Studies*

Richard is majoring in Individual Studies with a focus in Creative Writing. He has published articles and served on the editorial board of Breaking Ground, the campus literary magazine. He was inducted into Phi Theta Kappa and in Spring 2015 was elected to the society's student board. In these roles he was engaged in many campus events, from Convocation Day to the campus ethics conference.

Kellie Harrison

*Vestal, NY
Liberal Arts*

Kellie is a member of SUNY Broome's Honors Program and Phi Theta Kappa. She has always been eager to get involved both inside and outside the classroom and has been active in internships, charity events, and political activism projects. Through her political activism, she found her passion for politics and law and aspires to someday fight injustice as a human rights lawyer. Kellie attributes her many accomplishments to the encouragement of professors and staff at SUNY Broome.

Chandler Prouty

*Oneonta, NY
Physical Therapy Assistant*

Chandler is fulfilling her passions of playing basketball, studying the human body, and learning how to assist others in their times of need. She was named to the SUNY Broome President's List, is a member of Phi Theta Kappa, and received the NJCAA National Superior Academic Achievement Award. Chandler served as captain of the women's basketball

team, and was an active member of the SUNY Broome Physical Therapists Assistants club. She was active in several events that benefitted the Binghamton community.

BUFFALO STATE COLLEGE

Kenise Adams

*Bronx, NY
Higher Education &
Student Affairs Administration*

Kenise founded the International Student Mentoring Program at Buffalo State to assist first-year international students. She was selected to be a SUNY Student Fellow at the 2015 SUNYCON conference and worked with system leadership on issues in higher education. She served as chair of the Professional Development Committee of the Graduate Association of Student Personnel Administrators. She also served as a resident director, supervising 20 resident assistants.

Devan Brady

*Cheektowaga, NY
Media Production & Public Communication*

Devan was president of the student board of the college's Muriel A. Howard Honors Program. She served as president of the college's chapter of Lambda Pi Eta, the honor society of the National Communication Association, and as a student member of the Buffalo State College Foundation Board of Directors. She was the line producer overseeing the daily organization of the filming of Cappuccino Jones, a television pilot produced by Buffalo State television film arts students.

Leanna Kalinowski

*Lackawanna, NY
Psychology*

Leanna was accepted in the Ronald E. McNair Post-baccalaureate Achievement Program and participated in its summer research program. She was awarded an Undergraduate Summer Research Fellowship, served as president of Psi Chi, the international honor society in psychology, and established the Buffalo State Psi Chi Research Team, which provides undergraduates the opportunity to conduct research and present findings at a regional conference.

Elizabeth Malinowski

*Williamsville, NY
Childhood Education*

Elizabeth was captain of the Buffalo State women's soccer team and earned SUNYAC All-Academic honors for four consecutive years. As a member of the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee, she led "I Am College Bound" and "Kid's Night Out" activities for local schoolchildren. She is a member of Kappa Delta Pi, the international honor society in education, and was awarded an Undergraduate Summer Research Fellowship.

Sasa Vann*Mastic Beach, NY**Psychology & Hospitality Administration*

Sasa was captain of the Buffalo State track and field team and a two-time All-American in the 4 x 400 meter relay. She received the Chancellor's Scholar-Athlete Award. Sasa was accepted into the McNair Scholars Program and Psi Chi, and was chair of the college's chapter of the National Society of Minorities in Hospitality. She served as a site leader for the Alternative Fall Break program and Bengals Dare to Care Day.

Ashley Weselak*Depew, NY**English Education 7-12*

Ashley, a senator in the Graduate Student Association, was selected to be a SUNY Student Fellow at the 2015 SUNYCON conference. She served as an AmeriCorps volunteer, was a teacher in the ESL program, and organized citizenship courses. Ashley was the first non-theater student to participate in the Anne Frank Project's service trip to Rwanda, and was selected to present her findings about drama-based education in Rwanda to the National Association for Professional Development Schools.

UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO

Caroline Brown*Baldwin, NY**Speech and Hearing Science*

Caroline is a student-athlete balancing academic and athletic commitments. She was a research assistant engaged in the work of the American Speech and Hearing Association, is an honored member of the Student Association for Speech and Hearing at UB, and has been accepted early admission to the Graduate Program for Speech-Language Pathology at the University at Buffalo. Caroline served as captain of the UB Division I cross country/track and field teams, practicing a minimum of 20 hours a week and learning the importance of physical fitness in academic success.

Dylan Burns*Buffalo, NY**Architecture*

Dylan was inspired by the architectural marvels of his hometown to study the field. At UB he has focused on embracing a well-rounded approach to exploring architecture by studying design, construction, urban planning, and historic preservation. Dylan was a Habitat for Humanity House Leader, a Fulbright Commission Summer Institute participant, and the coordinator of the GRoW Buffalo team, winning second place in the U.S. Dept. of Energy Solar Decathlon. Dylan was active in many campus academic and nonacademic clubs and organizations.

Ashley Cercone*Amherst, NY**Anthropology & Classics*

Ashley has studied Mediterranean archaeology through excavations in three different countries and wrote an honors thesis on Bronze Age ceramics from Turkey. She received the Academic Enrichment Award and a NSF Fellowship, won first prize in the Annual Anthropology Poster Competition, and is a member of Phi Beta Kappa-Omicron. In the fall, she hopes to continue her studies by pursuing a PhD in archaeology, specifically studying the import and imitation of ceramics during the Bronze Age.

Steven Coffed*Depew, NY**Mechanical & Aerospace Engineering*

Steven studied mechanical and aerospace engineering and was engaged in a vibrant community of passionate engineers at UB. He served as an intern for two summers at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory, was president of the Students for the Exploration and Development of Space, and studied at France's Institut Supérieur de l'Aéronautique et de l'Espace. Steven was active in volunteer work helping elementary school students in art and science-related activities.

Max Crinnin*Fredonia, NY**English*

Max served as a research assistant at Evergreen Health Services, was selected for the Western New York Prosperity Fellowship, and won major poetry awards: the 2014 John Logan Prize and the 2015 Academy of American Poets University & College Prize. He served as editor of the student newspaper, and was active promoting and implementing green practices for the UB dining areas. His dream is to become a physician.

Ethan Hayden*Erie, PA**Music*

Ethan is an active composer, performer, and author, and works as director of a Buffalo-based music ensemble. His community service has included work with Young Audiences of Western New York. Ethan is a recipient of the UB College of Arts and Sciences Dissertation Fellowship, and has been active in after-school community music programs that have reached many school children and people with special needs.

Dante Iozza*Lewiston, NY**Physics & Mathematics*

Dante emigrated with his family from Italy to the United States, and at an early age he developed a passion for science. He is the winner of the 2015 COMAP Mathematical Contest in

Modeling and received the Mathematical Association of America Prize. He is first author on a paper in the Journal of Physical Chemistry and was inducted into Phi Beta Kappa. Dante served as college ambassador and on the executive board of the sailing team.

Patricia Johnson*Liverpool, NY**Chemistry*

In her early years, Patricia excelled in many dance, art, and music endeavors yet was drawn to science. Chemistry challenged and fascinated her. Patricia's research experience led her to work with "smart" materials, molecules for camouflage, self-cleaning, and self-healing. Her goal is to use creativity as an asset to design elegant and practical materials, first in graduate school and later as a professional research scientist. Patricia is the cello section co-leader in the University at Buffalo Symphony Orchestra.

Elizabeth Kaltenbach*Webster, NY**Sciences & Dance*

Graduating in May from the Honors College with a double major in biological sciences and dance, Elizabeth seeks to make the most of her college experience by getting involved in biology, pre-health, dance, honors college, and volunteer opportunities. She will be attending Le Moyne College to pursue a MS in physician assistant studies in August 2016. After graduate school, she plans to continue to pursue dance career opportunities while working as a physician assistant.

Minahil Khan*East Amherst, NY**Special Studies - Advocacy and Argumentation*

Minahil is a Buffalo native who is very dedicated to the growth of the Western New York region. She is extremely passionate about women's empowerment, particularly prevention of violence against women. She plans to use her passion to pursue a career in domestic violence prosecution. Her plan is to earn a law degree at the Georgetown University Law Center.

Kristen Milleville*Tonawanda, NY**Biomedical Sciences*

Kristen was active in the campus field hockey team, taught multiple courses, and published a neuropsychology research article and presented her findings at a campus conference. Kristen was active as a volunteer working in a community shelter and at a local hospital emergency room. She discovered her love for medicine at UB, and she is excited to learn more and to help others achieve the best health possible.

Natasha Singh

*Buffalo, NY
Biomedical Sciences & Psychology*
Natasha's early experiences with cancer—a friend's death from leukemia and her own mother's battle against brain cancer—were early catalysts for her exploration of medicine. Her goal is to provide essential and accessible primary medical care to underserved areas as a MD/MPH. She has volunteered at hospitals and clinics, and went to the Dominican Republic on two service trips. Natasha enjoys tennis, photography, yoga, and dance.

Timothy Van Oss

*Buffalo, NY
Civil Engineering*
Timothy is active in the engineering community, representing UB Engineering at conferences around the globe from Istanbul to San Diego, hoping to bring a global perspective to solve local issues. He served as president of the Civil Engineering Graduate Student Association and advisor for the UB Chapter of the American Society of Civil Engineers, and was a volunteer for the Buffalo Niagara Riverkeepers. He plans to contribute to his community by rehabilitating distressed structures.

Alexandra Van Hall

*Owego, NY
Chemistry*
Alexandra received several scholarships and academic awards in chemistry, served as president of the Honors Student Council of Public Service, and was very active in the Buffalo Concert Band. Alexandra's academic interests include medicinal chemistry, biological chemistry, and pharmaceuticals. She has an extensive service background, teaching in Buffalo and the Dominican Republic, and improving infrastructure in Costa Rica. She wants to research pharmaceuticals to improve the lives of others.

Mingcong Zhang

*Amherst, NY
Computer Science*
Mingcong served in the United States Army, receiving honors. He was granted multiple scholarships, was engaged in a NASA internship, and has received multiple job offers. He founded Snowberg Inc., a software company partnering with UB and Google Launchpad. Mingcong is an immigrant and recently helped his mother successfully immigrate to the United States.

COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY AT CANTON

Rebecca Burns

*Pine City, NY
Veterinary Science Technology*
Rebecca is a SUNY Canton Honors member. She has made history and science presentations on campus and

in the community. She serves as a veterinary technology, chemistry, and biology tutor. She has received several scholarships for academic excellence and has been inducted into the Veterinary Technician Honor Society.

Codi McKee

*Barker, NY
Civil & Environmental Engineering Technology*
Codi is president of the SUNY Canton ASCE student chapter and the Engineering Club. He is a member of four performance groups and is a part of SUNY Canton's award-winning National Steel Bridge Team. He has been recognized for academic excellence as an NSF S-Stem Scholar, received a housing scholarship for academic excellence, is a member of the Golden Key International Honor Society, and has been on the President's List every semester.

CAYUGA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Martha Caster

*Fulton, NY
Math & Science*
Martha is a kind and curious student with a 4.0 GPA. She is the recipient of the ACC/CCC Alumni Association Scholarship, Ward Family Scholarship, and Seymour Memorial Scholarship. She is a PTK member and has been named to the Dean's List. Martha has been active on the women's soccer team, is a musician and vocalist in a community church, and is a member of many campus organizations, including Chemistry Club, History Club, and Tutor Club.

Rebecca McDonald

*Seneca Falls, NY
Business Administration*
Rebecca is on the Dean's List, a member of the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, a Phi Beta Lambda Business Club officer, and was an award-winning participant in PBL State and National Conference competitions. She is a band leader and business leader for Rebecca Colleen and the Chore Lads, serves as host of the Brantling Bluegrass Festival, and has been active as a campus ambassador and student government representative.

CLINTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Joshua Bu

*Hudson, NY
Nursing*
Joshua Bu was inducted into the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society for academic excellence. He was elected and served as the student trustee on the Clinton Community College Board of Trustees and serves as the CCC Student Senate chief of staff. As president of the CCC Nursing Club, he founded the Nursing Club Mentorship

Program. He represented the campus in his roles as student ambassador and new student orientation leader.

Krista White

*Champlain, NY
Liberal Arts - Humanities & Social Science*
Krista graduated valedictorian with a GPA of 3.9 in December 2015. She served as a delegate to SUNY's Student Association as Clinton Community College's representative. As a sophomore, she was selected into the prestigious NYS Senate Undergraduate Session Assistants Program, an honor typically reserved for upperclassmen. Her exemplary work as an intern for NYS Sen. Joseph Griffo resulted in her being hired in a professional position.

SUNY COBLESKILL

Clara Richardson

*Vernon Center, NY
Biotechnology*
Clara served as president of the Student Government Association, served on the college council, and was acknowledged for exceptional campus involvement that included work on search committees for student affairs, the President's Retention Task Force, the Student Life Advisory Committee, and the campus Wellness Task Force. She is in the Epsilon Pi Tau National Honor Society and the club council, and was active in undergraduate research projects.

Megan Trigg

*Galway, NY
Communications*
Megan is a recipient of the SUNY ACT Award for Academic Excellence and Community Involvement and the Cobleskill Excellence in Leadership Award. She served as president of the Circle K Community Service organization, president of the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, and as a senior resident assistant. She was active on the campus personal safety committee, the Quality of Student Life Advisory Council, and several Schoharie County community organizations.

COLUMBIA-GREENE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Shannon LaChance

*Hudson, NY
Education-English (Childhood)*
Shannon is a College in the High School Scholar, student worker, member of women's cross country and track and field teams, and 2015 Female Student Athlete of the Year. She has been named to the President's List multiple times. Shannon will transfer and pursue a BS in special education and aspires to work with youth in special education.

Chance Ryan

South Cairo, NY

Individual Studies

Chance is a College in the High School Scholar, student trustee for the College Board of Trustees, student senator, student worker, and member of the men's basketball team. He has been named to the President's List multiple times. Chance will transfer to pursue a Bachelor's in public affairs. He aspires toward a career working with youth and recreation.

CORNELL – NYS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE & LIFE SCIENCES

Sarah Nadeau

Rochester, NY

Biological Engineering & Plant Science

Sarah's passion for biology and natural aptitude in math and science led her to double major in biological engineering and plant science at Cornell University. She is an avid and competitive athlete and an outdoor enthusiast. Sarah is a natural researcher and has investigated storm water salinity following road salt applications, greenhouse gas emissions from septic systems, and microbial gene distributions across a watershed.

Dhruv Patel

Chandler, AZ

Biological and Plant Sciences

Dhruv is a first-generation college student who received honors for his academic achievements. He served as a peer research mentor for the Cornell Undergraduate Research Board, engaged in scientific research at four different institutions, and wrote for *The Triple Helix*, a journal that explains science to nonscientists. Dhruv was a leader of a traditional Indian dance troupe and served as a resident advisor for 90 undergraduates.

CORNELL – NYS COLLEGE OF HUMAN ECOLOGY

Julie Gordonson

Jericho, NY

Design and Environmental Analysis

Julie began her studies in environmental science and sustainability and brought that perspective to her current design work. In addition to green design, Julie spends her time as president of two clubs on campus, the Cornell Ski and Snowboard Club and Sustainable Building Connection. Julie spearheaded the Cornell chapter of Sustainable Building Connection.

Amanda Rubin

Morganville, NJ

Human Development

Amanda is a recipient of the Class of 2016 Outstanding Achievement award and is a Marquis Scholar and recipient of the Thomas W. Wilson Sr. Scholarship. Her minors are in film and creative writing, and she founded a Best Buddies chapter at Cornell and

was active on the Cornell University EMS. Her academic and community service work has inspired her to pursue a career in occupational therapy after graduation.

CORNELL – NYS COLLEGE OF INDUSTRIAL & LABOR RELATIONS

Honore Johnson

Saunderstown, RI

Industrial & Labor Relations

Honore has been active in a wide range of activities, community service, and leadership. She was an invited speaker at the "A New Wave of Leaders" symposium, a Rotary exchange student in Lima, and a Mosaic Taiwan Fellow at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Taiwan. Her international interests led her to serve as a student researcher on the Engaged Learning Program in Ho Chi Minh City. She has worked as a facilitator and guide with the Cornell Outdoor Education program and Team and Leadership Center, where she has planned and led wilderness trips.

Daniel Muniz-Garcia

San Bernardino, CA

Industrial & Labor Relations

Daniel began his undergraduate studies at Cornell University in the Prefreshman Summer Program. He has been active as a campus leader and has held numerous paid positions of increasing responsibility during the academic year as well as the summer. While he has been involved in numerous campus activities he has maintained an outstanding academic record. Daniel has been on the Dean's List every semester.

CORNELL – NYS COLLEGE OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

Rebecca Calder

Shelburne, VT

Veterinary Medicine

Rebecca participated in several research projects and specialized training programs for dairy-oriented students. Her contributions to the college environment and the veterinary profession are reflected in her dedication to her peers and colleagues and to the promotion of bovine health and dairy agriculture. She has helped organize major college events for professional development and the general public, led a student organization, and represented Cornell nationally.

Casey Cazer

Canandaigua, NY

Veterinary Medicine

Casey has distinguished herself as a student leader and maintained a record of academic excellence. She served as a student representative on a number of college committees and co-founded the college's Student Wellness Initiative. Casey co-authored four scientific

papers, served as producer and stage manager for the Veterinary Players, and in 2015 was a volunteer and veterinary student coordinator for the New York State Fair Dairy Birthing Center.

CORNING COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Lindsey Colon

Corning, NY

Liberal Arts and Sciences – Mathematics and Sciences

Lindsey has a deep appreciation of nature and the scientific process, especially as it relates to animals. She served as veterinary assistant, has done independent study in genomic research, served as president of the Student Veterans Association, is the recipient of prestigious scholarships, has been on the Dean's List, and is a member of Phi Theta Kappa. She is hard-working and enthusiastic and greatly admired by her peers and faculty.

Alan Smith

Beaver Dams, NY

Liberal Arts and Sciences – Mathematics and Sciences

Alan is a student with a strong academic record, who has an exceptional record of volunteerism and leadership outside the classroom. He was on the President's List and has received an Outstanding Chemistry Achievement Award, an Honors Diploma, and Honor Project awards in biology and ecology, among many other awards. He was active in organizing an outreach program to engage school children in science and worked on community projects to help maintain parks and rivers.

SUNY CORTLAND

Brittanie Daugherty

Marathon, NY

Sociology

Brittanie is a first-generation college student who has earned several leadership and academic awards, including being named to the Dean's and President's lists, and is in the top 5 percent of her class. She is a campus tour guide, Student Activities board president, resident assistant, office assistant, and a teaching assistant. She studied abroad in Mexico and interned in the Diversity Office. She plans to continue her education in the field of student affairs at Michigan State University.

Kyle Davis

Cortland, NY

Political Science & Communication Studies

Kyle is a model student who exemplified scholarship, leadership, and community service. He graduated summa cum laude with a dual major. He was a leader on campus as a COR 101 TA, peer tutor, tour guide, intramural participant, student club leader, and a volunteer and leader in his local church. His goal is to receive an MPA and work as a public administrator or at a non-profit organization.

Ricardo Destinvil

*Brooklyn, NY
Political Science*

Ricardo is currently an intern in SUNY Cortland’s Multicultural Life and Diversity Office while pursuing an undergraduate degree in political science with a concentration in law and justice. He is creator and director of a short PSA called #DontBoxMeIn, focusing on the institutionalization of discrimination in society. Creating substantial changes for those in any community has always been a personal goal. With intentions to continue his education in the field of student affairs/higher education, Ricardo wants to promote healthy behavior and conversations in relation to race inclusion.

Jennifer Scheu

*Centereach, NY
Psychology*

Jennifer volunteered with the YMCA Aid to Victims Violence program and the Crown Center for Rehabilitation Nursing department. She received the Psychology Academic Excellence Award and the Academic Achievement Award, and was inducted into the Psi Chi International Honor Society in Psychology. She was president of the women’s club volleyball team. Her community service and campus involvement have been acknowledged with several awards. Jennifer has applied to doctoral programs in clinical psychology and hopes to attend this fall.

SUNY DELHI

Rachelle Cassatt

*Buffalo, NY
Restaurant and Food Service Management*

Rachelle Cassatt, a native of Buffalo, will earn a BBA in Restaurant and Food Service Management. She is a recipient of a Student Life Leadership Award and International Food Service Executive Association Worthy Goal Scholarship, and was a Super Storm Sandy relief volunteer. Rachelle is devoted to improving her community. She has been acknowledged for her efforts to improve the campus community for her peers by organizing programs, advocating for fellow students, and being a role model.

Samantha Travis

*Cortland, NY
Carpentry and Building Trades*

Samantha is a Presidential Scholar, a nationally recognized Scholar Athlete in swimming, and recipient of the Student Life Emerging Leader Award. She volunteered at Habitat for Humanity to help construct a home for a local family. Samantha would like to build her own house and explore sustainable building alternatives.

SUNY DOWNSTATE MEDICAL CENTER

Nathan Boucher

*Providence, RI
Public Health & Community Health Sciences*

Nathan has experience in health care as a clinician, health care administrator, and educator, working in various settings, including critical care medicine, emergency medicine, hospice services, and health care quality management. He has written extensively on end-of-life and palliative care and is nationally involved, including founding the End-of-Life/Palliative Work Group of the Aging & Public Health Section of the American Public Health Association. He has taught at Touro College, SUNY Downstate, and LIU.

Douglas Pfeil

*New Brunswick, NJ
Medicine & Molecular and Cellular Biology*

Douglas is an exceptional MD/PhD candidate who completed his dissertation on “High Density Near-Infrared Cerebral Monitoring in Cardiac Surgery: Prediction of Perioperative Cognitive Decline.” He has served as president of Downstate Performing Arts, as the elected student member of the Downstate College Council, and as a voting member of the Student Center Governing Board.

DUTCHESS COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Paul Christian

*Duluth, MN
Engineering Science*

Paul returned to school eleven years after graduating high school. He was on the President’s and Dean’s lists, has received awards and scholarships for student excellence, and has won creative writing contests. He was a tutor at the campus writing and math centers. Paul plans to transfer to SUNY New Paltz to finish a bachelor’s degree and pursue a career related to robotics.

Eric Ortiz

*Brooklyn, NY
Exercise Science and Wellness*

Eric completed the Smart Start program at Dutchess in 2014, giving him a solid academic foundation. He received several awards, a scholarship, and was invited to be a motivational speaker to other students. His goal is to transfer to Stony Brook University and pursue a career in physical therapy. His passion for exercise led him to become the vice president for the ESW Club, a certified personal trainer and a group instructor.

Eric Tomik

*Del Rio, TX
Business Administration*

Eric, a non-traditional college student and business major, enjoys English and tutors at the DCC Writing Center. He volunteers at a local church that helps prepare and serve meals for underprivileged individuals and families. Eric is the recipient of the Alexander Cutonilli Memorial Scholarship, which is awarded for scholarship and community involvement. He is a member of Alpha Beta Gamma and Phi Theta Kappa. Eric wrote, produced, and acted in the inaugural Writing Center Play for Dutchess Community College.

Danielle Van Ostrand

*Poughkeepsie, NY
Nursing*

Danielle, a non-traditional student and full-time mother of three young children, returned to school to pursue her dream of becoming a nurse. She successfully maintained a balance between her education, campus involvement, community service, and her family. She is the recipient of the Vassar Brothers Medical Center Scholarship and served as vice president of the Dutchess Community College Nursing Club.

EMPIRE STATE COLLEGE

Layla Abdullah-Poulas

*Mastic, NY
Liberal Studies*

Layla is the founder and president of the ESC Minority Students in Action club. She authored a scholarly paper that will be published and is active on the campus newsletter, writing articles focused on academic success. She is the recipient of the Foner Fellowship in Work, Culture and Social Change and the Multicultural Service Award, and participated in the Student Leadership Institute.

Jamie Lopez

*Corona, NY
Labor Studies*

Jamie is a tireless volunteer. He created a museum exhibition dedicated to the electrical industry, organized a worker’s pavilion, helped lead the “Fight for \$15” campaign, and works to support immigrant families in his neighborhood. In 2012 Jamie traveled to Geneva to participate in an International Residency Course concurrent with the 316th Session of the International Labor Organization (ILO). Jamie serves on the Wage and Policy Committee of IBEW Local 3, helping determine the contract negotiations of Local 3 members.

Omar Richards

Brooklyn, NY
Social Science

Omar started two clubs and served in leadership roles on other organizations. He produced video diaries that focused on difficulties faced by formerly incarcerated people. He was active in the Black Male Initiative and worked to encourage persistence and academic excellence and wider engagement with nontraditional students. Last year, Omar was selected as the graduation speaker.

Kim Russell

Metairie, LA
Interdisciplinary Studies

Kim is an active advocate. She marched with the National Federation of the Blind on Capitol Hill and spoke in front of Congress and the Senate to help enforce the rights for the blind and elderly blind. Kim published "The Phone Call That Changed My Life" for the Louisiana Center for the Blind newsletter and was the keynote speaker for the SUNY FACT2 Disability Symposium. She has volunteered for Habitat for Humanity and the Homeless Veterans of the Greater New Orleans Area. She is in the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society and has received a regional Excellence Advisor Award.

Eric Schultz

LeRoy, NY
Social Science & Anthropology

Eric served in the U.S. Army as an infantry soldier. As a returning student he is now completing his bachelor's degree and has been accepted into the PhD program for anthropology at the SUNY Graduate School of Arts and Sciences. Eric was selected as a presenter at the 2013, 2014, and 2015 SUNY Empire State College Student Academic Conference, is the founder of the Western New York Osteological Survey, and has been a volunteer research associate at University at Buffalo Archaeological Survey and University at Buffalo Rats Island Research Lab since 2014.

COLLEGE OF ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE AND FORESTRY

Margaret Foley

Fredonia, NY
Environmental and Forest Biology

Margaret is a bright and extremely hard-working student who possesses a seriousness of professional purpose, a passion for the study of environmental biology, and rare leadership skills. She has served her fellow students and the entire college with vision and determination. She has been a member of the Undergraduate Student Association since her first year, currently serving as president and having previously served as first-year class senator and director of campus life.

Margaret has been a resident assistant since her sophomore year and serves as an undergraduate teaching assistant for dendrology and biology laboratories.

Fareya Zubair

Manlius, NY
Biotechnology

Fareya is a hardworking student dedicated to making a change in the lives of youth and her peers. She served as a research assistant on the American Chestnut Research and Restoration Project, was selected as one of two class marshals for the Class of 2016 and has been an active member of the Undergraduate Student Association, currently serving as the director of student affairs and diversity, and previously serving as junior and senior class senator.

ERIE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Maria Camilla Arboleda

Lake View, NY
Business Administration

Maria has served as a student ambassador and START orientation leader for the college. She is a Dean's List student, a member of Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, and a member of Alpha Beta Gamma International Business Honor Society. Maria has participated in fundraisers and food and clothing drives. She plays flute and piano, and her poetry has been published in the literary magazine, Ubiquity.

Valeria Jean Garlock

Vero Beach, FL
Dental Hygiene

Jean has served as the ECC Dental Hygiene Club president and is an American Dental Hygienist's Association student delegate and advisory group member. She is a Student Government Association member and a Dean's List student. Jean volunteers as a dental assistant at Good Neighbors Dental Clinic and Harvest House Ministries. She participated in Give Kids a Smile Day 2015.

Ryan Hornberger

Hamburg, NY
Liberal Arts and Science – General Studies

Ryan has served as a student ambassador for the college and ECC KATS ice hockey captain. He is a Dean's List student and volunteers at Autumn View Health Care Facility and Women and Children's Hospital of Buffalo. Ryan is a two-year Commitment to Excellence Scholar.

Brenda Mbiabo

Douala, Cameroon
Liberal Arts and Science – Science

Brenda has served as a student ambassador and START orientation leader for the college. She is a Dean's List student, a member of Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, and a member of the National Society of Professional

Engineers Student Chapter. She is in the ECC Honors Program and currently serves as president of Campus Ministry Club. Brenda has been instrumental in organizing charity events, such as food and clothing drives, at ECC.

Eric Nowak

Depew, NY
Dietetic Technology

Eric is a Dean's List student and a member of Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society. He participates in many community events, such as United Way Day of Caring and Kids Day for the Buffalo News. He has served as team captain for the Buffalo Gay Men's Chorus team for AIDS Walk Buffalo and is a member of the Buffalo Gay Men's Chorus.

James Summers Jr.

Corfu, NY
Business Administration

James has served as vice president of Student Government Association and as vice president of the Auxiliary Services Board of Directors at ECC. He is an Honors Program and Dean's List student. James has been involved with fundraising for Roswell Park Cancer Institute, the "Stuff a Stocking" Drive, and the Holiday Food Drive at ECC. He has volunteered with Habitat for Humanity and the Crohn's and Colitis Walk.

Wilfred Turner

Lackawanna, NY
Criminal Justice

Wil has served as a student ambassador and START orientation leader, and was the president of Criminal Justice Club for the college. Wil also volunteers his time helping in the SGA Office. He is recipient of the James Leigh Memorial Outstanding Student Leader Award.

Julio Montalvo Valentin

Bronx, NY
Liberal Arts and Science – General Studies

Julio is a Dean's List and Honors Program student. He is a member of Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society. Julio is very active in the poetry community in Buffalo and formed the "Cringe-worthy Poetry Collective" with other Honors Program students with the goal of highlighting the growing Buffalo poetry scene.

FARMINGDALE STATE COLLEGE

Kristin Bonura

Smithtown, NY
Nursing

Kristin is a member of Sigma Theta Tau, has received President's and Dean's lists honors, has been active on the Student Nursing Association, and has completed missions to Guyana to work in remote areas to provide medical assistance. She currently works in the Huntington Hospital Emergency Department and is involved in the Nursing Honor Society and other peer mentor nursing programs.

Kimberly Gleason

Holbrook, NY

Applied Psychology

Kimberly has received President's and Dean's lists honors and served as treasurer of the Psychology Club. She also served as a leader in Psi Chi and the International Honor Society for Psychology. She maintained a 4.0 GPA during both semesters of 2014, and in the summer of 2015 was selected for Columbia University's RA Program.

Kinza Nadeem Kasher

Commack, NY

Visual Communications

Kinza has combined bioscience with her studies in visual communications. She has done extensive research on Multiple Sclerosis, held leadership roles on campus as a Rambassador, and had her work exhibited at the Babylon Arts Festival. Kinza has assisted Haitian immigrant families and maintains a GPA that keeps her on the Dean's and President's lists.

Alexa Artemis Toyas

Massapequa Park, NY

Professional Communications

Alexa created a chapter of Hugs Across America at Farmingdale State College in January 2014, which provides teddy bears to children in crisis world-wide. She studied abroad in Athens, was inducted into the Golden Key International Honor Society, received the Student Award for Academic Excellence, and was the valedictorian of her December 2015 graduating class. She also was a candidate for a Fulbright Scholarship/Teaching Assistant in Greece.

FASHION INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Christina Castonguay

Mt. Laurel, NJ

Fashion Business Management

Christina was valedictorian of her class when she completed her associate degree at FIT. She is a Presidential Scholar and has served as treasurer of the Merchandising Society, FIT's largest and oldest club. After a successful internship at Kleinfeld Bridal, she was hired as an assistant to one of their top designers and she continues to thrive there.

Veronique Ehamo

Freeport, NY

International Trade and Marketing

Veronique is a global learner who has contributed to campuses on three continents and is a Soroptimist International of NY scholarship recipient. She has studied abroad in London and Shanghai. Since 2008 she has volunteered for a project in the Democratic Republic of Congo that has built 118 primary and secondary schools. Veronique interns with the High Commissioner of Human Rights Office at the U.N.

Lisbeth Jimenez

Bogota, NJ

Interior Design

Lisbeth is an outstanding example of one who has integrated her studies with civic engagement. She helped lead the Interior Design Relief Project that helped families in Long Beach, NY, after Superstorm Sandy, updated spaces in a women's shelter, and built a school from plastic bottles in Guatemala, among other projects. She participated in internships and graduated summa cum laude.

Eleonora Mazzetti

Houston, TX

Fashion Business Management

Eleonora is a member of the FIT honors program (Presidential Scholars). She was selected to represent FIT at the 2016 World Retail Congress in Dubai, where she and her team will compete with students from around the world. She serves as a resident assistant and student ambassador coordinator. Eleonora has been secretary and president of the Merchandising Society, FIT's oldest and largest club.

Kim Nguyen

Houston, TX

Fashion Design

Kim is the first FIT student to receive a full scholarship from Michael Kors to pursue her bachelor of fine arts degree in fashion design. She is currently studying in Milan and has studied in Florence while completing her associate degree. She has interned and worked in various fashion companies. Kim established Colturra, her own label, through which she has sold garments online, organized a fashion show, and received media coverage.

Christopher Wallace

Brooklyn, NY

Production Management – Fashion and Related Industries

Christopher Wallace is a Baker Scholar who revitalized the Theatre Ensemble and served as president of the FIT Student Association. He is a member of the SUNY Student Assembly, where he is deputy director of communications, digital strategist. He has contributed to a number of strategic planning committees at FIT, all while succeeding at internships and in his courses.

FINGER LAKES COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Kellie Damann

Canandaigua, NY

Horticulture

Growing up on a farm, Kellie was taught that hard work and determination pay off. She took these experiences with her when she returned to Finger Lakes Community College to further her education. Kellie has served as an orientation leader and secretary and president of Horticulture Club. She worked at the New York State Agri-

cultural Experiment Station in summer and fall 2015, where she was able to further her interest in plant pathology. Kellie was part of field research on plant diseases and worked in a laboratory setting studying the effects.

Kristen Karam

Corning, NY

Liberal Arts and Social Science

Kristen aspires to be a psychiatrist. She is recognized for her hard work, dedication, and dependability. She has an optimistic, "get it done" attitude and demonstrates leadership qualities that inspire other students to want to do the same. Aside from being a member of the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, Kristen is involved in several departments on campus.

Taylor Rose Perez

Horseheads, NY

New Media

Taylor Rose served as president of Student Corporation, has been a resident assistant, and has been inducted into the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society. She has received FLCC Foundation scholarships and has been an active member of the softball team. Taylor has been very active in student life on campus. She feels that Finger Lakes Community College has become her home away from home. In fall 2016 Taylor will be attending RIT to study new media marketing.

SUNY FREDONIA

Tatianna Baker

Perry, NY

Communication Disorders and Sciences

Tatianna is a member and president of Alpha Lambda Delta Honor Society and the Golden Key International Honour Society. She has been on the Dean's List every semester and was an intern at the Campus and Community Children's Center and the Buffalo Hearing and Speech Center. She served on the campus Student Health Advisory Committee and was a member of the Fredonia National Student Speech Language Hearing Association.

Kearstin Derrenbacher

Dansville, NY

Communication Disorders and Sciences

Kearstin is a communication disorders and sciences major with a minor in school counseling psychology. She's a member of the Golden Key International Honour Society and Alpha Lambda Delta National Honor Society. She's a research assistant and head teacher at the Campus and Community Children's Center. Kearstin is a member of Fredonia for St. Jude, Friends Across Borders, and Voices for Autism. She also volunteered with the Belize Service Learning Project.

Caeli Faisst

Morrisville, NY
Theater Arts

Caeli is a theater arts major with a minor in English. A Keeper of the Dream Scholar, she participated in the Advanced Leadership Development Program and was involved in several campus events, including Relay for Life. She served as an outreach intern at Elevation Church in Charlotte, NC, and presented at the SUNY Undergraduate Research Conference (SURE).

Olivia Kaltenbach

Brocton, NY
Communication Disorders and Sciences

Olivia is a communication disorders and sciences major with a minor in sociology. She was involved in numerous campus and community service projects and is the recipient of nine academic awards. She holds several leadership positions, including president of Fredonia National Student Speech Language Hearing Association. Olivia participated in independent studies and internships, and travelled twice to Belize for study abroad learning projects.

FULTON-MONTGOMERY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Winnie Blackwood

Johnstown, NY
Communication and Broadcast Media

Winnie became involved in her major of communication and broadcast media by delving into work on the college newspaper, The Gateway. She was inducted into Phi Theta Kappa-Alpha Alpha Upsilon and is a recipient of the Hadley "Stretch" DePuy Scholarship and the Fulmont Association of College Educators Scholarship.

Taiwo Ekundayo

Lagos, Nigeria
Radiologic Technology

Taiwo came to study at FMCC in the spring 2012 semester as an adult international student from Lagos, Nigeria. He had previously earned his baccalaureate degree from his home county and wanted to pursue higher education in the healthcare field. He has been very involved on campus by participating in clubs and committees. Taiwo was inducted into Phi Theta Kappa-Alpha Alpha Upsilon and is a recipient of the Fulmont College Association of College Educators Scholarship in May 2014.

GENESEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Jessica Rush

Charlotte, SC
Fashion Merchandising Management

Jessica is a fashion merchandising major with a passion for design. She has been active in Phi Theta Kappa, has served as an orientation leader, resident assistant, and student govern-

ment leader. She is a 2016 PTK All-New York Academic Award recipient, volunteers for Habitat for Humanity, and is a 2016 recipient of Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities.

Amanda Starczewski

Darien, NY
Teacher Education

Amanda has a passion for education. She keeps busy between college and career with her involvement in Phi Theta Kappa and Education club, working in the GCC Child Care Center, and participating in field observations in area schools and volunteer work at the Darien Center Chemical Fire Company. Amanda is a 2016 PTK All-New York Academic Award recipient and a 2016 recipient of Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities.

SUNY GENESEO

Meghan Barrett

Penfield, NY
Biology & English/Creative Writing

Meghan is one of Geneseo's most active students. She not only has a full curricular schedule but is very much involved with campus activities and organizations. She belongs to numerous honor societies, including Phi Beta Kappa, Sigma Tau Delta International English Honor Society, Tri-Beta Biological Honor Society, Golden Key International Honour Society, and Phi Eta Sigma. She has been awarded countless awards and scholarships, and is very active in the Geneseo community as a volunteer.

Gurnaina Chawla

Saint James, NY
Accounting

Gurnaina is an outstanding student and mentor. She has been inducted in numerous honor societies including Phi Sigma Iota, Beta Gamma Sigma, and Phi Eta Sigma. She is the recipient of the Ambassador Apartments Scholarship in Accounting and the Pettinella Senior Leadership Scholarship. Gurnaina is a fully engaged student who not only volunteers her time at SUNY Geneseo but in the Geneseo community as well. She truly represents Geneseo's best.

Ashton Hughes

Fairport, NY
Geography

Ashton is a tremendous leader and role model for SUNY Geneseo athletics. She captained the cross country and track teams her junior and senior year. She led the cross country team to a second place finish at the NCAA Championship. A four-time NCAA participant, Phi Beta Kappa National Honor Society member, vice president of Gamma Theta Upsilon Geography Honor Society, and an Academic All-American, Ashton is the paragon of student-athletes at SUNY Geneseo.

HERKIMER COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Timothy McKenzie

Central Islip, NY
Liberal Arts Science – General Studies

Tim is very active on campus. He is a resident assistant, admissions tour guide, Judicial Review Board Member, peer tutor, and starter for the men's basketball team. He has been named to the Dean's List. Tim works with Student Activities and Residence Life to promote weekend events. He sponsored the first Herkimer College Dance Battle and hosted a Dating/Domestic Violence Forum for students and the Welcome Back Campus Meadows BBQ.

Lindsey Parese

Herkimer, NY
Liberal Arts Sciences

Lindsey is a Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society Member and President's List honoree. She is captain of the women's softball team and led the team to take second place in the NJCAA Division III National Championships in 2015. With a 3.78 GPA, Lindsey is a member of the College Honors Program.

HUDSON VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Taylor Delisle

Mechanicville, NY
Liberal Arts and Science – Humanities and Social Science

Taylor has been a competitive cheerleader since childhood and is currently the president and captain of the cheerleading and pep squads. She participates in many campus events and fund-raising efforts. She volunteers regularly for the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network and Avery's Angels and is an assistant coach for Pop Warner cheerleading. Taylor's goal is to become a creative arts therapist.

Josiah Dillon

Loudonville, NY
Business Administration

Josiah served as president of the HVCC Investment Club, was treasurer of the Student Senate, and was a board member of the HVCC College Foundation. He was on the President's List and is a member of the College PTK chapter. He has been active as a basketball camp volunteer and is a member of the Hudson Valley cross country team.

Brody O'Connor

Ballston Spa, NY
Business Administration

Brody is very active on campus, serving as the student representative on the school's Board of Trustees and as an officer of the Investment Club, Entrepreneurs Club, and Student Senate. He is also a regular volunteer with AARP's tax-aid program. Brody plans to go to law school.

Erika Pelletier*Petersburgh, NY**Early Childhood*

Erika graduated with honors in December 2015, with an associate degree in Early Childhood. At Hudson Valley, Erika was actively involved in student government as a freshman and senior senator and served on the college's Academic Senate Student Life Committee. She was president of the Early Childhood Club and was a member of the Tour Guide, Culture and Cheerleading clubs. Erika was assistant coach of a Pop Warner cheerleading team.

Erica Shudt*Melrose, NY**Liberal Arts and Science – Humanities and Social Science*

Erica is a Liberal Arts student with a goal of pursuing a career in clinical psychology. She is currently the president of the Psychology Club, vice president for membership for the Alpha Xi Sigma Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, and head captain of the college's women's basketball team. Erica is an AAU basketball assistant coach of The Uncle Sam Lady Hoopsters and a registered tutor for students with disabilities.

**JAMESTOWN
COMMUNITY COLLEGE****Connor Aitcheson***Frewsburg, NY**Adolescent Education*

Connor is an individual who strives for equality. From tutoring Spanish-speaking friends, to working with blind students to better their experience, Connor greatly contributed to the sense of equality at JCC. He is involved in the Black Student Union and contributes to the Latino outreach program. Connor served as Student Senate president, Student Success Seminar teacher's assistant, and FSA Activity Board vice president. Connor is motivated to better himself and help others.

John Gordnier*Olean, NY**Business Administration*

John is a veteran who was deployed three times, twice to Afghanistan and once to Iraq. After returning home, he worked as a recruiter/instructor for St. Bonaventure University's ROTC program. He is involved with the student veterans' organization, Club Valor. John uses his leadership skills working as a peer tutor and a student ambassador at JCC.

**JEFFERSON
COMMUNITY COLLEGE****Cailey Burrows***Watertown, NY**Mathematics and Science*

Cailey is a member of Phi Theta Kappa and the National Society of Leadership and Success. She is a certified nursing

assistant and maintains a 3.8 GPA.

Cailey has been very active on campus as the treasurer of Student Government, chair of Budget Finance Committee, board member of the Faculty Student Association, and the student member of the Board of Trustees. After Jefferson, she will be pursuing her dream of being a physician's assistant at D'Youville College.

Michael Pitts*Theresa, NY**Business Administration*

Mike has been involved in the Veteran Services Education Office as a Veteran's Administration work-study for one year. He assists and advises hundreds of veterans and their family members in understanding and completing the required VA Education paperwork. Mike has 21½ years active duty military service and has been deployed to Iraq, Afghanistan, and Haiti. He has received the Bronze Star, Purple Heart, Meritorious Service Medal, and the Army Commendation Medal. Mike is a very strong academic student who applies his leadership and attention to detail to every facet of his life.

SUNY MARITIME COLLEGE**Jawad Azam***Bayshore, NY**Electrical Engineering*

Jawad's strong work ethic and sharp skill set are unmatched. Jawad took time away from Maritime to enlist in the Air Force Reserves, a goal that he had always wanted to achieve. Jawad is serving our country while attending school as a full-time student, earning Dean's List three times. He is an active and effective participant in Maritime's housing and residential life programs, the Educational Opportunity Program, and orientation. Jawad's positive attitude leaves a lasting impact; he is a role model for students and staff alike.

La'Quey Smith*Freeport, Bahamas**Marine Transportation*

La'Quey earned Gold Stars for being placed on the Admiral's list for five semesters and was selected for the Athletic Directors Honor role for athletes maintaining a GPA of 3.0 or above each year. She has been active in leadership positions in the Bahamian Club and the Cultural Club. La'Quey has been a member of the women's crew team for four years.

**MOHAWK VALLEY
COMMUNITY COLLEGE****John Lowman***Liverpool, NY**Engineering Science*

John has been named to the President's List for his academic achievements and is involved in all areas of campus life, including research,

tutoring, and government. John has also taken time to serve the community by volunteering at the MVCC Hawks Against Hardship Dinner.

Kevin Parker*Rome, NY**Welding Technology*

Kevin amassed a large number of academic awards and honors at MVCC. His service as an assistant with MVCC's Student Orientation and Registration program has had a direct and positive impact on many of MVCC's incoming students by ensuring that they successfully navigate the enrollment process.

Starkisha Robinson*New York, NY**Liberal Arts and Sciences – Psychology*

Starkisha has received many academic awards and honors. She is vice president of both Student Congress and Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society. Additionally, she is a CSTEP mentor, president of the Psychology Club, and is involved with the College's Strategic Planning Council. Star serves the community through her work with the Utica Rescue Mission and has recently received foster parent certification.

**MONROE
COMMUNITY COLLEGE****Kiamsha Bynes***Piscataway, NJ**Liberal Arts*

Kiamsha, "Kik," is a two-year member of the MCC women's basketball team and currently serves as a team captain for the Lady Tribunes. Through three semesters, she has accumulated 48 credit hours, earned a 3.71 GPA, and has made the Dean's List each semester while also engaged in many community service projects.

Lisa Denmark*Rochester, NY**Nursing*

Lisa is president of the Student Nurses Association. She enhanced the mentoring program for the freshman nurses. She is a member of Phi Theta Kappa, is a Frank Lanza Memorial Scholar, and completed the MCC Mathematics Certificate. She works full time while completing her nursing studies.

Nouralhusain Hasan*West Henrietta, NY**International Business*

Nour was born in Baghdad, Iraq, later moved to Syria, and eventually immigrated to Rochester, NY. He is a student aide in the Engineering Learning Center, a two-time Region III Champion with the MCC Tribunes, and a member of Phi Theta Kappa and the Global Union Organization. Nour is fluent in Arabic and English and has worked in the community as a translator and volunteer coach.

Tyticka Hill*Rochester, NY
Human Services*

Tyticka is an outstanding student leader and mentor. She has been a student at MCC for over two years, and she has been actively involved from the beginning of her time there. She is outgoing and friendly to all, and she is always willing to lend a helping hand. She has been active in the SEGA student organization, has served as a campus peer leader, and is a valued member of the Student Service Center.

Morgan Lackey*Rochester, NY
English*

Morgan would like to teach creative writing. Her writing has been published in Monroe Community College's literary magazine, Cabbages and Kings, and has served as its editor. She is the current president of the Alpha Theta Iota chapter of Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society and is the lead researcher and writer for the Honors in Action Project.

Tamara Miler*Rochester, NY
Fine Arts*

Tamara is a model student-athlete. As an international student from Slovenia, her first challenge was to master the English language. She accomplished this and has excelled in the classroom with a cumulative GPA of 3.75. In her first year, she set eight school records and won two individual national championships in the 500 and 1650 freestyle events. She is a leader who inspires through example.

Samantha Schantz*Webster, NY
Human Services*

Samantha is a Global Studies major and president of the Holocaust, Genocide and Human Rights Project. She planned several activities on campus for the college community and organized a 5K walk with middle schools to benefit Water for South Sudan, raising over \$2,000. Samantha is also a member of Phi Theta Kappa.

Amanda Smith*Fairport, NY
Hospitality Management*

Amanda is a hospitality management major and enjoys planning events. Her planning skills were put to use as vice president of Phi Theta Kappa. She organized several Completion Day activities that focused on encouraging her peers to graduate. Amanda was instrumental in the new "My College of Choice" campaign that helped to increase school pride.

Montana Vescovi*Leroy, NY
Liberal Arts/Nutrition*

Montana is a dedicated student athlete. She is majoring in nutrition and has

been a member of the Monroe Tribunes volleyball team for the past two seasons with an overall record of 85-7. Montana has been the captain of the team these past two years. She was named to the National Junior College All Tournament Team at the National Tourney in Rochester, MN, was a two-time National Junior College participant in 2014 and 2015, was named to the Region III First Team in 2015, and made the 2015 All-Tournament team at the Tournament of Champions in Northampton, PA.

MORRISVILLE STATE COLLEGE**Cheyenne Beach***Waterville, NY
Natural Resources Conservation*

Cheyenne epitomizes the well-rounded environmental science student. Completing multiple degrees with a 3.87 GPA, Cheyenne is the only student to win the Jeffrey Beach Scholarship twice. In addition to serving as a teaching assistant, she has served in multiple capacities on many societies, boards, and projects. She completed internships with Headwaters YCC, Canadarago Lake Improvement Association, and Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge, and will be working this summer at the Audubon National Wildlife Refuge.

Erin Marchefka*Herkimer, NY
Dietetic Technician/Nutrition*

Erin has worked hard to overcome personal challenges and return to her educational pursuits. While parenting a child with special needs, Erin has managed to maintain a job she loves and her commitment to school. She has a passion for nutrition and works as a Diet Tech Clerk at St. Luke's Hospital. Erin was involved with Hunger and Homelessness Week, and she has since begun to develop a project to assist other students in need of food.

NASSAU COMMUNITY COLLEGE**Jennifer Borzym***North Bellmore, NY
Liberal Arts*

Jennifer has immersed herself into Nassau Community College's student life as a student trustee, freshman senator, Honors Club social chair, and orientation leader. She has excelled academically, having been inducted into Phi Theta Kappa and selected for the Honors Program. Jennifer has also received Bellmore's Kiwanis Honoree Student Award and has been promoted to lead two departments at her job at Brands Cycle and Fitness.

Elizabeth Buccheri*Wantagh, NY
General Liberal Arts*

Elizabeth's outstanding academic record has earned her consistent recognition with honors, such as

Dean's List and membership in Phi Theta Kappa. She is a strong leader, acting as vice president of the NCC Honors Club, and volunteers as a coach to high school girls. Elizabeth is also devoted to making her community a better place, fundraising for worthy causes, volunteering at a local soup kitchen and caring for animals in a no-kill animal shelter.

Frank Cutrone*Valley Stream, NY
Liberal Arts*

Frank is an excellent student whose future goal is to combine sports management and coaching. At Nassau Community College, he has focused not only on his own academic achievements but on creating a better opportunity for his fellow students and improving the college. The skills he has learned as a peer mentor, writer, and volunteer with the campus food pantry will allow him to help as many people as possible.

Juliana Dijkstra*Bellmore, NY
Liberal Arts*

Juliana holds the prestigious position as president of Nassau Community College's Student Government Association. She has fully immersed herself into the campus by being a part of the Presidential Search Committee and as an orientation leader. Her honors include receiving a New York State Assembly Citation and induction into the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society. Juliana has also volunteered for community service ventures, including NCC's food pantry and at the Child Care Center on campus.

Kayleen Freyre*West Hempstead, NY
Liberal Arts*

Kayleen demonstrates a strong commitment to human rights as a member and president of the Nassau Community College Amnesty International Club. She has devoted many hours to community service via working with food pantries and anti-gang organizations. Kayleen helped establish a college-based food pantry. She was a Voice of Democracy Award second-place winner.

Caitlyn Gaffey*Garden City South, NY
Liberal Arts*

Caitlyn has overcome tremendous personal challenges to become one of the most successful students at NCC. Despite tragic losses and struggles within her family, Caitlyn has earned A's in nearly all of her classes. She is very active in the Orientation Program, the Cultural Program, and in working with students with disabilities. In every endeavor, she quickly rises to a leadership position because of her intelligence, motivation, and her wonderful style of communication.

Tianna La Rosa

*East Meadow, NY
Hotel Tech Administration
and Restaurant Tech*

Tianna is a second-year student at Nassau Community College, majoring in Hotel Tech Administration and Restaurant Tech. She is a member of Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society and is president of the Hotel and Restaurant Club. Tianna is involved in many volunteer groups at Nassau Community College, including a food pantry.

Sarah Mael

*Lawrence, NY
Liberal Arts*

Sarah is a very motivated, intelligent, and compassionate young woman. In addition to her academic excellence, Sarah works as a life-skills counselor for children and young adults with intellectual disabilities. She has worked on campus as an orientation leader and was elected to represent the student body as a sophomore senator.

Stephen McMahon

*Levittown, NY
Liberal Arts*

Stephen is a Liberal Arts major with a 3.64 GPA. He is a member of Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society and is treasurer of the SGA and a student aide on campus. Stephen has contributed to the American Heart Association and a foundation focused on raising funds for research on liver disease and brain tumors. He plans to attend Adelphi University, where he will pursue a bachelor's degree in business.

Jillian Pallone

*Mineola, NY
Liberal Arts – Education-Social Studies*

Jillian is a Liberal Arts major with a 4.0 GPA, majoring in secondary education/social studies. She has been awarded the Cavallaro Scholarship for her volunteer activities and is a member of Phi Theta Kappa. She is president of the Future Teachers Club and volunteers as an Achilles Mentor. Jillian also works as a tutor and is a conversation partner for ESL students.

Randy Perez

*Queens Village, NY
Liberal Arts*

Randy's honors include three scholarships from the NCC Foundation and he is a Forensics Honor Society member. His leadership activities include chair of the SGA Programming Board Social Committee, freshman student orientation leader, member of the speech/debate team, and SGA freshman senator and presidential candidate. Randy has volunteered as an assistant scoutmaster for the Boy Scouts of America, was awarded the BSA Eagle Scout Award, and has completed an internship at The Cradle of Aviation Museum.

Edwin Jon Rodriguez

*Lynbrook, NY
Studio Recording Technology*

Edwin is a well-rounded student and a dynamic leader both on campus and at home. As a member of the executive boards of several clubs, he has helped with many fundraisers and cultural events. He is a recipient of the Presidential Award. Off-campus, Edwin works for a youth group in an under-privileged community where he is a mentor and role model.

SUNY NEW PALTZ

Dani Ackerman

*Nesconset, NY
Communications Disorders*

Dani has led the New Paltz field hockey team to a conference championship in four years of playing. A two-year president of SAAC, she organized a Kids Sports Nite program for local area elementary school children, to enlist student volunteers for Special Olympics and to mobilize student-athletes to rake leaves for elderly homeowners. Dani helped establish and launch a peer-mentoring program for student-athletes named STAR (Students Trained as Resources).

Jenisse Bouret

*New York, NY
Journalism and Spanish*

Jenisse is a bilingual student-journalist and campus leader at SUNY New Paltz. She strives to give back to her community as a resident assistant, cultural advocate, and campus ambassador for the T. Howard Foundation. Her experiences include studying abroad in Ecuador and working with Telemundo journalist Madelyn Rodriguez, Time Warner Cable's NY1 Noticias, and radio network UrRepublic. Currently, she is a Viacom intern for Nick Jr. and Station Manager for WNPC-TV, New Paltz Campus Television.

Dylan Rose

*Larchmont, NY
Mathematics*

Dylan is a leader in the Honors Program and founder/coordinator of the peer-mentoring initiative. He has been involved in many activities on campus, including senior resident assistant and student ambassador/admission assistant. He has interned as a summer analyst at U.S. Trading Products and Capital Market Operations at Bank of Montreal in New York City.

Sabrina Sarro

*Glen Oaks, NY
English – Creative Writing*

Sabrina is a leader in the Honors Program, Scholar's Mentorship Program, Residence Life, Saturdays of Service, Campus Welcome Center, New Paltz Bloggers, and Transfer Student Engagement. During the summer, she studied in Italy and participated in the prestigious

Santa Barbara Writers' Conference. Sabrina is an upper staff member at Oasis/Haven: SUNY New Paltz Suicide Prevention Center and hotline.

**NIAGARA COUNTY
COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

Brandon Czerwinski

*North Tonawanda, NY
Business Administration*

Brandon is a U.S. Navy veteran of six years who came to NCCC to start his college education. He participated in a great many campus and community activities, including serving as president of the Student Veterans Association and as principal actor in several NCC theater productions and a member of Phi Theta Kappa. Brandon plans to attend to Niagara University after he graduates this semester.

Jessica Dirks

*Lockport, NY
Digital Media*

Jessica is currently finishing her last semester at NCCC and will be graduating with a 4.0 GPA in digital media. She was a stage manager for theater and dance productions, was active in a dance troupe, and served as vice president of the Videomakers Club. Jessica coordinated a project that benefited local women, Girl Scouts, and victims of domestic abuse. In fall 2016, she will continue her education at a four-year college as a theater major.

Nina Frye

*Niagara Falls, NY
Physical Education Studies*

Nina is a recipient of the Gerald L. Miller Family Memorial Scholarship, "Major of the Year" Award, and an Under Armour All-Star of the Month Award. She plans to continue her studies and earn a bachelor's degree at SUNY Brockport. At Brockport she will study health and wellness, and she aspires to find a way to encourage a healthy lifestyle in others.

**NORTH COUNTRY
COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

Nicole Blackburn

*Holley, NY
Health Science*

Nicole serves as a student ambassador and shares a welcoming perspective with students and families new to the college community. She is also the captain of the North Country Community College women's basketball team. As a result of her academic success, she is the recipient of the North Country Scholar of Promise Award and the Trudeau Institute Biology Award.

Wyatt Willis

*Brainardsville, NY
Human Services*

As a former member of the U.S. Coast Guard involved with homeland security following 9/11, Willis takes the initiative to engage and support his community. He volunteers as a dropout-prevention specialist and counsels youth on job skills. He is active with campus clubs and is committed to supporting the local food pantry and programs for child-safety awareness. As a sculptor, Wyatt creates images to highlight social issues and areas of concern in our country.

OLD WESTBURY**Jawad Chaudhry**

*Valley Stream, NY
Business Administration*

Jawad is pursuing a bachelor's degree in business administration while following a pre-med track. He serves as the president of the Old Westbury Honors College and is working as a research intern at North Shore University Hospital. He is working on a research project with a cardiologist and plans to work in a clinical research position after graduation.

Sidrah Masood

*Huntington, NY
Psychology*

Sidrah worked with faculty on research in neuroscience, contributing to a poster presentation at the Society for Neuroscience Conference in Chicago in 2015. She will give an oral presentation at the SUNY-wide Undergraduate Research Conference at Cobleskill in Spring 2016. Sidrah was a teaching assistant, tutoring students in research methods. She will be inducted into Psi Chi International Psychology Honor Society.

SUNY ONEONTA**Samuel Afriyie**

*Bronx, NY
International Development Studies*

Samuel has distinguished himself as a senior student leader who models hard work, compassion, and a concern for justice. He demonstrates well-developed interpersonal, technological, communication, and intellectual skills and eagerly uses these skills to serve those around him, often in leadership positions. He has received many awards and has made a positive impact on his peers and the campus community.

Melissa Haig

*Levittown, NY
Mathematics*

Melissa completed her bachelor's degree in three and a half years with a dual major in mathematics and statistics and a minor in economics, and an almost-perfect GPA. She is a co-author on a peer-reviewed publication. In a focused pursuit of one of her career goals, she passed the first actuarial

exam in one attempt. Melissa has also actively participated in fundraising events for various advocacy purposes.

Kevin Sutton

*Afton, NY
Mathematics*

Kevin has excelled academically at Oneonta as a dual major in mathematics and theater. During his time at Oneonta, he has demonstrated exceptional skill in integrating his academic success with extracurricular endeavors. He is a leader within his workplace (shift supervisor at Oneonta's call center), serves on the LGBTQA Speakers' Bureau, and plays an active role in many student clubs and organizations. His contributions have significantly enriched the lives of those around him.

**ONONDAGA
COMMUNITY COLLEGE****Leighann Bulch**

*Lake George, NY
Emergency Management*

Leighann served as vice president for service for Phi Theta Kappa Chapter of Onondaga Community College and as a resident assistant, and is a certified EMT. After completing her degree at Onondaga Community College, Leighann plans to transfer to The University of Nebraska at Omaha. Her educational and career goal is to continue to gain hands-on training and experience responding to disasters.

Toni Jones

*Syracuse, NY
Humanities and Communication Studies*

Toni Jones is an adult learner who has made the best of her college experience. She received the 2015 Trustee Award for work on a planning committee for the NEA traveling exhibit entitled, Lincoln: The Constitution and the Civil War. She has contributed images to the OCC webpage and other publications and works to recruit students in the Study Abroad Program, the Honors Program, and other programs and activities offered by the college.

Jade Lewis

*Silver Creek, NY
Electronic Media Communications*

Jade is a hardworking and active student. She received the Faculty Award for Academic Excellence, was on the President's List every semester, and was a member of the women's soccer team. Jade was an RA and held a part-time job, and maintained a high GPA.

Daniel Quackenbush

*Clay, NY
Computer Information Systems/Electronic Media Communications*

Daniel has a passion for technology and its use in communications and volunteerism, logging more than 500 hours of volunteer work over the

last two years. Daniel is a recipient of the Faculty Award for Academic Excellence and Civic Engagement Recognition Award, and was twice named to the President's List.

Iga Szczepanik

*Swidnica, Poland
Business Administration*

Iga is an international student from Poland. She graduated from Bishop Grimes in 2014. Now she's majoring in Business Administration with minors in both Women's Studies and Honors. She is a member of Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society and is the president of OCC's chapter this year. After earning her degree in May 2016, Iga plans to transfer to a four-year college and pursue a degree in international business.

**COLLEGE OF
OPTOMETRY****Vanessa Fimreite**

*Laguna Hills, CA
Optometry*

Vanessa served as president of the Student Council and delegate during the AOA annual congress, has published articles related to brain injury and visual performance, and is a member of the Beta Sigma Kappa Honor Society. She participated in a mission trip to Mexico to provide eye care and glasses to indigenous populations.

Ellen McCrary

*Newbury Park, CA
Optometry*

Ellen was an active member of SUNY AOA-PAC and encouraged student engagement and participation in congressional advocacy conferences in Washington, DC. On a mission trip to Peru she helped to provide free vision and eye health evaluations. She is a member of Beta Sigma Kappa Honor Society. Ellen has been on the Dean's List and has received multiple scholarships and awards for her academic achievements.

SUNY ORANGE**Allyson Andryshak**

*Middletown, NY
Liberal Arts*

Allyson is a recipient of the Honors Program President's Scholarship for Outstanding Academic Achievement. She is a member of the Honors Program, currently working on her capstone thesis. Allyson is president of the campus's chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, passionately involved in the theatre arts as an actress in campus productions, and the treasurer of the Apprentice Players theatre group. She plans to major in world religions with a theatre minor and earn a master's degree in journalism.

Elaine Horton

*Westtown, NY
Art*

Elaine started SUNY Orange in the Honors Program, exploring media production and then switching to visual arts. In the Honors Program, she assists with fundraisers and events and serves as a peer mentor for five freshmen. She is active in Phi Theta Kappa and the media production program and is the treasurer for the Feminism Club. Additionally, Elaine completed more than 45 hours of community service. She plans to continue her education in art.

Bryon Imbarato

*Middletown, NY
Elementary Education, English*

Bryon is an outstanding student. He has been named to the Dean's List each semester, was inducted into the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, and was awarded two academic scholarships. In education classes he stands out among his peers for his preparation, responsibility, insight, and enthusiasm. Bryon assisted with a Family Literacy Project and participated in the Relay for Life. He is an officer in the Future Teachers Association. Bryon's goal is to be an elementary school teacher.

SUNY OSWEGO

Juanita Diaz

*Cincinnati, NY
Zoology*

Juanita served as a resident assistant, has been a member of the Oswego Diversity & Inclusion Task Force, and has provided significant leadership to campus Pride Alliance as treasurer and president. She has served as a research assistant investigating the End Devonian Mass Extinction and is completing work on a comparative analysis of trace fossil, metal, and pyrite framboid diameter data. She presented a poster at the Northeastern Regional Geological Society of America Conference.

Tyler Pelle

*Sparta, NJ
Meteorology & Applied Mathematics*

Tyler is a double major in meteorology and applied mathematics and recently completed the Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) Program at the Haystack Observatory at MIT. He was funded to attend two Annual American Meteorological Society meetings, and his research has been presented at the Great Lakes Atmospheric Science Symposium and Quest Research Symposium. Tyler mentors incoming STEM freshmen, volunteers for Adopt-A-Grandparent, and Team Red, White and Blue, serving veterans with PTSD.

Iain Thompson

*Buffalo, NY
Biochemistry*

Iain has worked as a nationally certified personal trainer (NASM) and a surf instructor, and recently completed an apprenticeship at the National Brain Research Centre in New Delhi, India. He is president and co-founder of the Oswego Pre-Health Club, is an intern and volunteer at the Oswego Hospital Emergency Room, and has shadowed physicians and surgeons at the Mayo Clinic. Iain coordinated a 5K race, raising over \$15,000 for a rare genetic disorder, Friedreich's Ataxia.

SUNY PLATTSBURGH

Grace Carlic

*Marcellus, NY
Anthropology – Latin American Studies*

Grace contributed significantly to the Anthropology Department as the president of the Anthropology Club and by volunteering to create a month-long series of speakers and programs. Her outstanding service to her community has been well recognized. In addition, Grace has been a delegate representing her campus at the Model Organization of American States conference.

Kevin Clayton

*Manorville, NY
Entrepreneurship, Business Administration, International Business & Political Science*

Kevin excelled academically while dedicating much of his collegiate career to serving his peers in the Student Association. After serving in two other elected positions, Kevin was elected as Plattsburgh's student government president. He also was active in several student clubs, including Model UN and the entrepreneur student organization. Kevin has developed two mobile applications for the Android platform.

Adam Saccardi

*East Setauket, NY
History, Political Science & Economics*

Adam Saccardi is a triple major in history, political science, and economics. With a perfect GPA, Adam excelled both inside and outside the classroom. He is recognized by the various academic departments and presented academic papers at regional conferences. He dedicated a significant amount of time to the Student Association and involvement with Model UN and his fraternity, Tau Kappa Epsilon.

SUNY POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE

Shannon Kern

*Whitesboro, NY
Sociology*

As a mother of three and caregiver for her husband, a combat veteran, Shannon's success both in and outside the classroom is reflective of her ded-

ication to excellence. Carrying a 3.75 GPA, Shannon worked as a research assistant, is secretary for the Student Veterans Club, and represented SUNY Poly at the SVA National Conference in Orlando. She also volunteers regularly at a veterans' organization.

Kyle Waldeck

*Sauquoit, NY
Electrical Engineering*

Kyle excels inside and outside the classroom. Earning a 3.94 GPA, Kyle has worked as an intern with NYSTEC at the Air Force Research Lab. He also served as a student assistant in the College of Arts and Sciences at SUNY Poly, assisting faculty members with projects, and served on the advisory board for ECE.

SUNY POTSDAM

Thomas Giffune

*Verona, NY
Biology, Chemistry & Physics*

Thomas is a triple major in biology, chemistry and physics, with a math minor. He has done research in all three of his major fields and has numerous papers published in multiple scientific journals. After graduation, Tom will be working at the Naval Surface Warfare Division of the Department of Defense in Virginia, where he will pursue a PhD in either chemistry or physics.

Michael Oyelola

*Brooklyn, NY
Speech Communication & Sociology*

Michael is an extraordinary student leader who is admired by students, faculty, and staff. He has served as an orientation leader, resident assistant, board member for Emerging Leaders, admissions ambassador, and president of the Black Student Alliance. Michael was awarded the SUNY Association of Council Members and College Trustees Award for Excellence and Student Initiative Scholarship, the first student from Potsdam to have received this honor.

Chelsey Pitcher

*Baldwinsville, NY
Business Administration*

Chelsey has been a strong leader from her first days on campus, while maintaining a high GPA and earning memberships in numerous honors societies, including Omicron Delta Kappa Leadership and Phi Kappa Phi All Discipline. She was very engaged in the Emerging Leaders program and served in the role of student ambassador. Chelsey is described as truly committed to SUNY Potsdam and student success.

SUNY PURCHASE

Eleanor King

*New York, NY
Visual Arts*

Eleanor holds Fulbright and Social Justice Fellowships at Purchase College. She has exhibited solo and group exhibitions throughout Canada, the U.S., and Europe, and her work has been featured in C Magazine and Canadian Art. Residencies include The MacDowell Colony, Yaddo, and The Banff Centre, and she received grants from the Canada Council and Arts Nova Scotia. Eleanor was a finalist for the 2012 Sobey Art Award, and is represented by Diaz Contemporary in Toronto.

Aaron Schwartz

*Nyack, NY
Biology & Chemistry*

Aaron wants to study the molecular dynamics of basic cellular functions and their applications to clinical medicine. He is currently a double major in biology and chemistry at Purchase College and intends to pursue this goal through graduate research and medical education. Currently, he is researching the early developmental processes in zebra fish and sea urchins. Beyond science, Aaron enjoys playing jazz piano, swimming, hiking, and travel.

Megan Singer

*Brooklyn, NY
Theatre and Performance & Literature*
Megan is a double major in Theatre and Performance and Literature. She will be the first in her family to graduate from college. Megan was elected to Purchase Student Government Association three years in a row and was awarded the Outstanding Senator award during her junior year.

ROCKLAND
COMMUNITY COLLEGE**Sidra Ijaz**

*Spring Valley, NY
Liberal Arts – Math/Science*

Among her accomplishments at Rockland Community College, Sidra is the recipient of five different scholarships, maintains a 3.8 GPA entering her final semester, and is a member of both Phi Theta Kappa and Phi Sigma Omicron. Outside of the classroom, Sidra is a member of the Student Government Association and has been instrumental in the creation of a Muslim Student Association and Center for Muslim Life on RCC's campus.

Gene Steinberg

*Monroe, NY
Liberal Arts – Social Humanities*

Being raised in an Ultra-Orthodox Hasidic, Yiddish-only speaking community, Gene did not receive any secular education. He taught himself English and has excelled in the MTS Honors

program, holding a cumulative GPA of 3.94 going into his final semester. He serves as the founder and organizer of OTD meetup, an outreach organization for members of insular religious communities looking to leave, like the one in which Gene grew up.

Johanna Svensson

*Pearl River, NY
Biology – Pre-Medical Studies*

Johanna is one of RCC's brightest students, maintaining a 3.92 GPA while majoring in biology. She is the recipient of the American Chemical Society's New York Section Achievement Award, a member and treasurer of the Beta Beta Beta National Biological Honor Society, and a member of Phi Theta Kappa and the National Society of Collegiate Scholars.

Julian Vega

*New York, NY
Criminal Justice*

Julian maintains a 3.96 GPA in the RCC Criminal Justice program, is a member of Phi Theta Kappa and the National Society of Collegiate Scholars, and won a \$1,000 Coca-Cola Leaders of Promise Scholarship. He has received letters of achievement from local, state, and federal legislators and was awarded with an RCC Hispanic Heritage Student Achievement Award.

SCHENECTADY COUNTY
COMMUNITY COLLEGE**Christa Agans**

*Troy, NY
Computer Information Systems*

Christa devotes herself to helping others. She is a returning student, finding balance in family and education, and is an avid volunteer with her church and community organizations. Christa is very proud to have recently worked to re-establish an internship in her curriculum that opens new doors for other students. She secured the first internship position in Computer Information Systems since 2012, taking the initiative and completing the required formalities.

Tristian Banchs-Ponce

*Schenectady, NY
Criminal Justice*

Tristian has been involved in the Educational Opportunity Program at SCCC since 2014. He exhibits an exemplary attitude towards education and is highly motivated. He is an active student leader, has a great sense of humor and a positive personality, and continuously expresses his desire to succeed in all aspects of life. Tristian has been on the President's List consistently, earning a 4.0 GPA in his third semester. He was inducted into Phi Theta Kappa National Honor Society and is committed to his education, family, and faith. His goal is to become a police officer in New York State.

STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY

Anirudh Chandrashekar

*Westbury, NY
Biomedical Engineering*

Anirudh is a biomedical engineering major in SBU's Scholar for Medicine program. Currently, he is doing research at Stony Brook Medicine's Vascular Research Lab, working on a pilot clinical study to further understand Deep Vein Thrombosis and other vascular diseases. Anirudh is a student ambassador for the Dean of Students office, a peer mentor for CEAS, and a member of the President's Council of Student Advisors.

Meaghan Coyne

*Floral Park, NY
Biology*

Meaghan was a young girl when she discovered the phrase "carpe diem." While in college she used this maxim as her guide. At Stony Brook University, she was afforded a plethora of opportunities. From science to music to athletics, she has thrived at Stony Brook both in and out of the classroom. Meaghan was awarded the Student Life Award for Recreational Leadership, completed a research internship at the New York Blood Center, and is conducting an IRB-approved study in the Stony Brook Emergency Room.

Dhruv Dixit

*Hopkinton, MA
Physics & Mathematics*

Dhruv is a 2015 Goldwater Scholar and graduated magna cum laude from Stony Brook University with a mathematics and physics double major. He grew up in India and moved to the U.S. at age 12. Dhruv was selected to participate in the College of Arts & Sciences Student Advisory Board. Prior to starting a PhD graduate program in physics, he is working at CERN, the world's most powerful particle collider, in spring 2016.

Martin Giordano

*Weston, FL
Mechanical Engineering*

Martin is a Division I Student-Athlete and campus leader, currently in the combined bachelor's-master's degree program in mechanical engineering. A captain of the men's soccer team, Martin is a member of Pi Tau Sigma Mechanical Engineering Honor Society, Golden Key International Honour Society, the National Society of Collegiate Scholars, Tau Beta Pi Engineering Honor Society, and the University Scholars program.

Maryam Ige

Saint Albans, NY

Biomedical Engineering

Maryam was born and raised in New York City, and attended secondary school in Nigeria prior to starting college at Stony Brook. Her experiences in Nigeria have made her realize the importance of giving back to the community and have played an instrumental role in her decision to pursue medicine as a career. Maryam has explored her interests in research and teaching at Stony Brook, and dedicated much of her time to community service. She is president of the Pre-Medical Society at Stony Brook, a club dedicated to providing academic support and uniting pre-med students through community service.

Ashwin Kelkar

Syosset, NY

Biochemistry

Ashwin's interest in research began in high school, while studying inflammation under the direction of Dr. Kevin Tracey of the Feinstein Institute. Ashwin continued doing research at Stony Brook as an undergraduate, working under the guidance of Dr. Yusuf Hannun on the study of molecular pathways that can lead to cancer. In addition to research, Ashwin enjoys playing piano, swimming, reading, and watching films.

Robert Maloney

Rocky Point, NY

Mathematics

Robert gives credit for his successes to those who have supported him. He is a recipient of Undergraduate Recognition Awards for Outstanding Achievement in Leadership and in Community Service, was on the U.S.A. Rugby National Collegiate Academic Honor Roll and is a mathematics instructor and tutor for the Educational Opportunity Program and Biology-Mathematics Learning Center.

Japbani Nanda

East Meadow, NY

Biology

Japbani aspires to become a physician who understands the patient and makes a difference in the world through her medical practice and writing. She is an Honors College Peer Mentor (Big Sibling) and student ambassador; member (singer) and secretary of YUVA, a South Asian a cappella group; and a recipient of the Outstanding Academic Achievement Award.

Alisa Rybkin

Staten Island, NY

Biochemistry

Alisa is a pre-medical student who values the importance of a well-rounded, interdisciplinary undergraduate experience. Her goal is to diversify her education in every facet of her life.

Through wide-ranging involvements in research, teaching, and service, and a strong passion for writing and dance, she displays a robust range of personal interests. Alisa published a research paper based on her work at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center and gave a research talk at Rogosin Institute of Weill Cornell Medical College.

Heather Savino

West Babylon, NY

Social Welfare

Heather is in the School of Social Welfare and plans to obtain a master's degree in social work with a concentration in public policy and social action, a law degree, and to run for elected office. Her goal is to work to create policies that create a more inclusive and affirming United States for all identities. Heather was part of the team that hosted National StandUp against Bullying Day and worked to make Stony Brook University this year's Northeast LGBT Conference host.

Ruchi Shah

Ronkonkoma, NY

Biology

Ruchi is involved as a founding member of SBU Camp Kesem, a student ambassador, a board member of the Hindu Student Council, and homecoming queen. She is the CEO of her own company, conducts cancer research, and was a science writer for the National Institutes of Health. Ruchi will attend SBU School of Medicine and is pursuing a career as a physician and medical correspondent.

Bryan Szeclin

Blue Point, NY

Biochemistry

Bryan is an aspiring physician from Blue Point, NY. He has spent significant time conducting research at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, focused on improving our understanding of cancer. He has also been committed to promoting literacy and education in underprivileged schools through the Scholars Book Drive. Bryan's artistic pursuits in graphic design and music also flourish as a newsletter editor and marching band clarinetist.

Casey Vieni

Massapequa, NY

Physics

Casey graduated summa cum laude with a degree in physics and minors in biology and chemistry. While at Stony Brook, he dedicated much of his time to research at Brookhaven National Laboratory. Casey plans to pursue an MD/PhD and continue research in structural biology or biomedical imaging. He coauthored an article submitted to the journal "Biochemistry" and is a six-time recipient of the Academic Achievement Award.

**SUFFOLK COUNTY
COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

Michael Brenkert

Lake Ronkonkoma, NY

Liberal Arts

Michael has earned Dean's List recognition every semester during the last two years. He served as vice president of the Philosophy Club and president of the Biology Club. He is a Get There from Here Scholar who demonstrated academic excellence, campus involvement, and community service.

Elisandra Fini

Huntington, NY

Chemical Dependency Counseling

Elisandra maintains a 4.0 GPA and has earned Dean's List recognition every semester during the last two years. Elisandra serves as vice president of Phi Theta Kappa, is a Get There from Here Scholar, and represents the student body in a variety of ways, including speaking at the county executive's inauguration ceremony.

Menely Genao

Port Jefferson Station, NY

Liberal Arts

Menely is a two-time National Champion member of the 2015 NJCAA Division III women's cross-country national team champions and four-time 400-meter relay national champion in track and field. Menely has earned Dean's List recognition every semester during the last two years, receiving a 4.0 GPA every semester.

Alisha Hartman

Center Moriches, NY

Liberal Arts - Biology

Alisha has earned Dean's List recognition every semester during the last two years. She is a Get There from Here Scholar and an orientation leader and serves as president of the Community Service Club. She was recently selected as a nominee for the Phi Theta Kappa All-State and Coca-Cola competition.

Rachel Heinicke

East Northport, NY

Liberal Arts - Psychology

Rachel Heinicke has earned Dean's List recognition every semester during the last two years. She served as vice president of fellowship for Phi Theta Kappa, founder and president of Student-Parents for a Better Tomorrow Club, and vice president of the Social Science Club. She is also the recipient of the Honors Foundation Scholarship.

Abigail Heins

Peconic, NY

Criminal Justice

Abigail has earned Dean's List recognition every semester during the last two years. She serves as an orientation leader, peer mentor, editor of the veterans' newsletter, secretary of the Student Veterans Association, president of the Backyard Garden Group, and is a member of Phi Theta Kappa. Abigail also received two scholarships: The Fredrick Strybing Scholarship and The Full Deck Scholarship.

Dawson Kopp

Aquebogue, NY

Liberal Arts

Dawson has earned Dean's List recognition every semester during the last two years. He served as president of the Honors Club and organized trips to colleges and universities for Eastern Campus students. Last semester Dawson helped reestablish the Eastern Campus's local Phi Theta Kappa chapter and became its vice president.

Justin Lerner

Nesconset, NY

Liberal Arts

Justin has earned Dean's List recognition every semester during the last two years. He serves as an orientation leader and Honors Club vice president. Justin works as an information booth attendant and building manager of the Babylon Students Center, a supervisor in the Cafeteria Alcove, and as the school's advertising assistant.

Anam Rabbani

Bayshore, NY

Liberal Arts - Biology

Anam serves as president of the Grant Campus's Phi Theta Kappa Chapter and vice president of the STEM Journal Club. She is the recipient of the Honors Program Foundation Scholarship and the J. Robert Fisher Diversity Scholarship. She also earned Dean's List recognition every semester during the last two years.

Matthew Sclafani

Lake Grove, NY

Business Administration

Matthew has earned Dean's List recognition every semester during the last two years. He serves as founder and president of Lazarus Rising, secretary of the Student Government, and as an orientation leader. He is a member of SCCC's Honors Program and Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society.

Emily Vaughan

Medford, NY

Liberal Arts

Emily has earned Dean's List recognition every semester during the last two years. She served as a senator and then secretary of the Student Government. She is also an orientation leader, Get There From Here Scholar, and an Honors student.

Leorelkys Villar

Brentwood, NY

Nursing

Leorelkys is a Get There from Here Scholar, Frank Lanza Memorial Scholarship recipient, co-president of the Nursing Club, vice president of fundraising for Phi Theta Kappa, and a student representative for the CTEA Local Advisory Council. She has recently been selected as a nominee for the Phi Theta Kappa All-State and Coca-Cola competition. Leorelkys assists with teaching English as a second language for low-income minorities families at a non-profit organization.

SUNY SULLIVAN

Andrew Martinez

Liberty, NY

Criminal Justice

USMC reservist Andrew Martinez, despite homelessness and difficult domestic circumstances, faithfully attended high school, participating in football, wrestling, and music programs. Andrew also wrestled for SUNY Sullivan. He remains an avid volunteer with many high school, SUNY Sullivan, and community events, having volunteered hundreds of hours to the athletics department, including multiple charity events and Amanda Ward's campaign for town justice. Andrew will be pursuing his bachelor's degree in homeland security and disaster management this fall.

Johnathan Murphy

Hankins, NY

Liberal Arts

Johnathan is a non-traditional student who returned to school to earn his degree. He is a very dedicated student who not only does well in his classes but also is very involved on campus. Johnathan is the president of the National Society of Leadership and Success, member of the Garden Club, and founder of the running club. You can always find Johnathan taking initiative on campus and being a great role model to other students.

TOMPKINS CORTLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Deep Patel

Ithaca, NY

Engineering Science

Deep is currently serving as student body president for the Student Government Association. He also serves as the vice president of the Faculty Student Association. He has been a member of the TC3 Theater Society, the Intercultural Club, and the campus chapter of the National Society of Leadership and Success. Academically, he is on the Dean's List and is an inductee to Phi Theta Kappa.

SUNY ULSTER

Richard Ayers

Southbury, CT

Humanities & Social Sciences

Richard is a non-traditional student who came to SUNY Ulster after a career as a business owner. His wide array of involvement in campus activities, in addition to his commitment to academic excellence, is an inspiration to many of his peers. As a student leader on campus and a member of SUNY Ulster's Honors Program, Richard is also an Advanced Certified Tutor (Level II) and assists peers in the Writing Center.

Sean McCabe

Saugerties, NY

Engineering Science

Sean has an overall GPA of 3.94 and is very involved in campus life, serving as the SGO treasurer, an active member of the Math Team, an active member of the Physics Club, and as a student admissions ambassador. He is a past member of the Eleanor Roosevelt Community College Emerging Leaders (ECCEL) program and believes in the importance of giving back to the community at large.

UPSTATE MEDICAL UNIVERSITY

Nicole Cifra

Fayetteville, NY

Medicine & Master's of Public Health

Nicole is a proven leader. As president of Student Government, she has served on numerous leadership committees: Leadership Council, Upstate Council, Faculty/Student Association, and many award committees. She was selected by the Upstate Council Chair to represent the student body on the presidential search committee. Nicole is dedicated to working with adolescent youth in the Syracuse community to educate them on eating disorders. She has demonstrated her prodigious musical skills at many university functions.

Ellie Garbade

Conklin, NY

Medicine

Ellie has combined impressive academic achievement with outstanding service and leadership throughout medical school. She is president of the local Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Society chapter, a campus student advisor and study buddy dedicated to mentoring younger medical students, a site leader for the university dialysis center, and a former treasurer of the Upstate chapter of the American Medical Women's Association (AMWA). Ellie is the recipient of several prestigious honors, including the Robert V. P. Hutter, MD '54 and Ruth L. Hutter Scholarship, Lynch Family Scholarship, Student Citizen Award, Association of Pathology Chairs Honor Society, and the Gold Humanism Honor Society.

**WESTCHESTER
COMMUNITY COLLEGE****Antonio Del Vecchio**

*Tuckahoe, NY
Natural and Health Science*

Antonio was a member of the Honors Program, participated in an intensive study abroad program in Cambridge, was on the President's List, served as captain of the wrestling team and president of the European Club, and was a very active member of student government.

Brulinda Frangaj

*Yonkers, NY
Natural and Health Science*

Brulinda moved from Albania to the U.S. at the age of 15. She is very active on the WCC campus in the Chemistry Club and SGA while maintaining a perfect 4.0 GPA. She is a Kathryn W. Davis Scholar, Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society member, and Volleyball All Conference Second Team member. After earning her associate degree at WCC, she plans to pursue a major in biological sciences with a minor in chemistry.

Philip Gigante

*Yonkers, NY
Humanities*

Philip was active as an orientation leader and peer advisor, served as president of the Student Government Association, was active in the student Leadership Series, and served as a peer tutor at the Writing Tutorial Center. He earned a yellow belt in judo and earned awards at WCC in the campus judo competition.

Jordan Grey

*Mount Vernon, NY
Electrical Engineering*

Jordan is an excellent student and active community member. He has served as orientation leader/peer advisor and peer mentor, and has been active in Student Government and the Commit to Change Leadership Development Program. He is always willing to help improve his college to make it more welcoming for students.

Carmen Guillen

*Sleepy Hollow, NY
Accounting*

Carmen is a recipient of the Kathryn W. Davis Global Community Scholar Scholarship and the Carol M. Greco Memorial Fund Scholarship. She is a member of Alpha Beta Gamma Delta, an international business honor society, and completed the Student Leadership and Professional Development program. Carmen was selected as a participant in the workplace culture coaching program.

Maria Isabela Kobilaski do Couto

*Port Chester, NY
International Business*

Maria Isabela is currently majoring in global business and hopes to pursue a bachelor's degree in economics and continue her studies to obtain a degree in corporate law. In addition to being a vice president of Honors in Action of Phi Theta Kappa, Maria Isabela is an officer of Alpha Beta Gamma Business Honor Society and has participated in Commit to Change, a leadership and social change program.

Annamarie Springer

*Hopewell Junction, NY
Pre-Med – Biology*

Annamarie is a Kathryn W. Davis Global Scholar, Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society member, and Honors Program participant. She will graduate this May with a Liberal Arts-Math and Science degree. She plans to transfer to a four-year institution to continue on with her studies. Annmarie will eventually attend medical school as she is an aspiring physician.

Naim Youssif Traore

*Yonkers, NY
Computer Science*

Naim, an Italian-born Ghanaian, is a first-generation college student. He migrated to the U.S. in December 2013, and soon after enrolled at SUNY Westchester, where he pursues an associate degree in computer science. Naim also has artistic interests in photography and fashion. His long-term goal is to be a software engineer, while seeking to bridge the worlds of technological and artistic human expression.



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