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, 210 students from 64 campuses will receive this award.

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

Dr. Kristina M. Johnson
Chancellor

Presentation of Awards
Reception
April 24, 2019

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

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the 2019 Chancellor’s Award for Student Excellence ceremony. Today, we recognize 210 of the most outstanding students from throughout The State University of New York System.

Students nominated for the Chancellor’s Award have demonstrated academic excellence and are actively involved in improving their campuses and communities. They stand out among the more than 424,000 students pursuing degrees at SUNY, and are proven leaders, athletes, volunteers, and visionaries. Their achievements reflect hard work and dedication, as well as the support of family, friends, and faculty members. We are extremely proud of them all.

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

Warm regards,

Kristina M. Johnson, Ph.D.
Chancellor
Music Performance by
University at Albany’s a capella group EarthTones

Yafet Andemariam
Liam Callahan
Josh Joseph
William Kimler V
Tyler Kluge
Michael Murman
Adam Norovich
Mathew Posa
Dorian Wenig
SUNY ADIRONDACK
Crystal Curry  
Rockaway Beach, NY  
Liberal Arts; Humanities & Social Science  
Crystal is a student trustee, a resident assistant, Community Food Source worker, and among the first Social Justice Scholars at SUNY Adirondack. She is a member of the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, and the recipient of the PTK All-USA Award. She has remained on both the Dean’s List and/or President’s List throughout out her college career. She is a NASPA Certified Peer Educator, and certified in Writing Composition and Tutoring Theory.

Jaerin Grandy  
Ulsan, South Korea  
Nursing  
Jaerin decided on a nursing career as a young undergraduate in Hawaii. During the intervening 20 years, she married, had three children, worked numerous jobs, and amassed countless experiences. She graduated cum laude in January 2019 with an associate degree in applied science in nursing. At her pinning ceremony, she received “The Five C’s of Nursing” Award, which represents compassion, competence, commitment, confidence, and conscience. She is employed by Albany Medical Center.

UNIVERSITY AT ALBANY
Nana-Hawwa Abdul-Rahman  
Clifton Park, NY  
Chemistry (Honors)  
Nana-Hawwa maintained high academic standards while fully engaged in research, leadership, and community service. Her efforts have yielded several awards, including the following: Larry Snyder Organic Chemistry Award, Susan Van Horn-Shipherd Scholarship, President’s Award for Leadership, Spellman NIA ALANA Scholarship, and Ekow King Advocacy Scholarship. Nana-Hawwa tutors students in STEM courses and is the vice president of Omicron Delta Kappa and the Muslim Students Association. She has presented her research at multiple conferences.

Dillon Asmus  
Ridge, NY  
Business Administration  
Dillon has taken advantage of opportunities available to him through the university and beyond. He is a recipient of several campus awards and scholarships, including the President’s Award, School of Business Scholarship, and the NYS SPARC Scholarship. As a student leader, Dillon has founded campus organizations and served in leadership positions. Additionally, he is a research assistant focused on addressing national cybersecurity problems, and works with the NYS Office of Information Technology Services.

Alondra Berroa  
New York, NY  
Political Science & Emergency Preparedness, Homeland Security and Cybersecurity  
Alondra is currently a master’s in public administration student at the Rockefeller College for Public Affairs & Policy. She graduated from the University at Albany in December 2018 with a bachelor’s degree in political science & emergency preparedness, homeland security, and cybersecurity. Alondra has had the amazing opportunity of being very involved on campus and served on the University Council and the University Auxiliary Services Board. She also worked for the Student Organization Resource Center.

Langie Cadesca  
Brooklyn, NY  
Criminal Justice  
Langie is a senior at the University at Albany, studying criminal justice with a minor in Africana Studies. In her time at UAlbany, she was a part of Residential Life, a Purple and Gold Ambassador, a sister of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., president of the National Pan-Hellenic Council, president of the Student Association and more. These roles have allowed her to become a mentor and learn valuable skills for her future.

Fu Yee Chua  
Flushing, NY  
Biology with Honors; Psychology; Economics  
Fu Yee is a member of the Honors College, Phi Beta Kappa Society, Omicron Delta Kappa National Leadership Honor Society, and Alpha Phi Omega Community Service Fraternity. She is the president of the Neuroscience Club, and conducts neuroscience research at Albany Medical College. Fu Yee received the Spellman Academic Achievement Award, the Heritage Circle Society Scholarship, and other scholarships. She has also volunteered at Albany Medical Center.

Melissa Fertl  
Park Falls, WI  
Counseling Psychology  
Melissa will earn her master’s in counseling psychology this spring. She is actively engaged in research on how identity intersects with health-related quality of life, health risk behaviors, and health disparities among historically marginalized populations. Despite only beginning her career, she is a prolific researcher, having already published 12 manuscripts in peer-reviewed academic journals and given 49 presentations at academic conferences. She will earn her Ph.D. in counseling psychology in May 2021.

Nicholas Gonzalez  
Brooklyn, NY  
Political Science  
Nicholas was chosen to speak on the student panel at the SUNY Expo in April 2018 where he spread the positive word about SUNY and the University at Albany to prospective students and their families. Nicholas has also attended several admissions events throughout New York State to share his positive experience as a student of the University at Albany.

Teniola Olafuyi  
West Hempstead, NY  
Public Health and Political Science  
During her time at the University at Albany, Teniola has excelled in the classroom and in the community. She has served as the programming chair for Sankofa Africa, tutored at Albany High School, and is a UAlbany Votes Ambassador. She presented her research about the rate of preeclampsia among minority women at the 2018 McNair Undergraduate Research Symposium, and interned at Strategic HealthCare, a leading consulting firm, during her time in the Semester in Washington Program.

Subha Tasnim  
Queens, NY  
Emergency Preparedness, Homeland Security, and Cybersecurity; Criminal Justice  
An ambitious student leader who gives back to the community that has rewarded her with so much growth, Subha has served four consecutive terms as an elected senator for the Student Association, where she is also the chairwoman of the Board of Finance. She is a Purple and Gold Ambassador, and a member of Omicron Delta Kappa National Leadership Honor Society and Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity International. Subha has been recognized with the Spellman and President’s Awards for both academic and leadership excellence.
ALFRED STATE COLLEGE

Carolyn Wright
Franklinville, NY
Agricultural Business
Carolyn’s experience in agriculture is exceptional. As the president of Alfred State’s Collegiate FFA and the Treasurer of CAL Club, she is always involved in the fundraising, support, and advocacy of these organizations. Carolyn has volunteered her time at local livestock events, competed at regional dairy challenges, and participated in international dairy judging events as a member of the Alfred State College Dairy Judging Team.

Peter York
Akron, NY
Construction Management Engineering Technology
Peter’s achievements at Alfred State and for the SUNY system have been defined by leadership through civic engagement. On campus, he has served in leadership positions in Student Senate while sitting on the Board of Directors for Auxiliary Services. Peter is also a member of Alfred State’s elite Presidential Aspiring Leaders Program. For SUNY SA, he serves as the deputy director of sustainability, helping to reduce plastic bag use on SUNY campuses.

NYS COLLEGE OF CERAMICS AT ALFRED UNIVERSITY

Allison Piedmonte
Cato, NY
Fine Art
Allison received her BFA with honors at Alfred University in December 2018. She had the intention of becoming an engineer, but the transition into sculpture led her to consider both utility and concept. An introduction to foundry enabled her to combine a life-long love of fiber with metalworking. Her involvement in the AU Women’s Leadership Academy has influenced her desire to explore femininity, nostalgia, and gender identity through her art.

BINGHAMTON UNIVERSITY

Jasper Arey
Brookhaven, NY
Human Development
Jasper is a senior earning a degree in human development and a minor in women, gender, and sexuality studies with a 3.88 GPA. She is particularly active with TRIO Student Support Services, where she is a tutor, mentor, and office intern. She is a researcher in the Human Sexuality Lab, and an experienced teaching assistant in the Human Development Program. She has developed multiple presentations on transgender rights and issues for campus audiences.

Kajol Bahl
Queens, NY
Integrative Neuroscience
Kajol is a senior integrative neuroscience major on the pre-med track with a cumulative 3.77 GPA. Her research experiences include the role of the AXL gene in breast cancer metastasis and the relationship among fad diets, mood, stress, and eating patterns in college students. She serves as a tutor and teaching assistant for chemistry and biology courses, and enjoys volunteering at doctor’s offices and at an assisted living facility.

Toni Barbarino
Kings Park, NY
Nursing
Toni is a senior with a 3.93 GPA, majoring in nursing and minoring in health and wellness. She is a Binghamton University Scholar, and a member of the Decker School of Nursing Honors Program, where she researched the impacts of massage therapy and kinesthetic touch on preterm infants. She is currently developing this into a continuing education program for neonatal intensive care unit nurses. Toni also serves as the campus March of Dimes president.

Ashley Berlot
Moscow, PA
Integrative Neuroscience
Ashley is a December graduate who earned a 3.85 GPA while majoring in integrative neuroscience. She is an avid volunteer, working with the Southern Tier AIDS Program, Traditional Home Health and Hospice, and The Magic Paintbrush Project, to name a few. Ashley also participated in a highly competitive internship at Robert Packer Hospital, where she conducted research on rectal squamous cell carcinomas.

Emily Bibby
Brooklyn, NY
Psychology and Vocal Music Performance
Emily is a senior psychology and vocal music performance major with a 3.88 GPA, and a recipient of the President’s Award for Undergraduate Student Excellence in spring 2018. Accepted into the Opera Ensemble in her first year, she also participated in a prestigious Italian language study abroad experience for singers in Urbana, Italy. Additionally, she has conducted research on the neurobiology of cognition and on the effects of mindfulness on personality and experience.

Maria Dubin
Carmel, NY
Philosophy and Russian Language and Culture
Maria is a senior with majors in philosophy and Russian language and culture. She earned the Dillon Award for the best Philosophy Honors Thesis for her paper titled, “The Highest Human Good in Aristotle: Philosophical Contemplation in Conjunction with Moral Virtue.” She studied abroad in Russia, where she taught English and edited articles translated from Russian to English for publication in a Russian newspaper. She was a competitive swimmer and a classical pianist.

Michael Jean
Lido Beach, NY
Political Science
Michael is a December graduate who majored in political science. He was the recipient of the President’s Award for Undergraduate Student Excellence in spring 2018. He served as co-chair of the National Leadership Team for the American Cancer Society’s Relay for Life. Michael has worked as a camp counselor at a daycamp on Long Island and volunteered with underprivileged children as a member of the SUNY Kids Executive Board.

Ryan Martin
Suffern, NY
English and Political Science
Ryan is a senior with majors in English and political science, a certificate in global and international affairs, and a minor in Chinese language. He has a 3.83 GPA, and has interned with a U.S. Senator, a U.S. Congresswoman, and in the U.S. Department of State. Ryan participated in a study abroad experience in China, and won national awards for speech and debate. He also organized a voter registration project in conjunction with local businesses.

Josue Minaya
Rockland County, NY
Integrative Neuroscience
Josue will be attending medical school in the state of New York in the fall. Josue’s hobbies include computer refurbishment, volunteering, and weight lifting. His intellectual interests include medicine and physics.
Shelby Schaefer  
Queensbury, NY  
Biochemistry  
Shelby is a senior majoring in biochemistry with a GPA of 3.7. She is pursuing a career in medicine, and currently works as a live-in volunteer Emergency Medical Technician. She serves as VP for Active Minds, an organization that advocates for mental health awareness on college campuses. She is a member and student assistant for the Student Support Services office. Shelby was the recipient of the President’s Award for Undergraduate Student Excellence in spring 2018.

Vivian Wu  
Brooklyn, NY  
Accounting and Management Information Systems  
Vivian is a senior majoring in accounting and management information systems. She serves as president and CEO of Enactus, where she coached 35 members on six projects, addressing real-world problems and affecting local and global communities. The group advanced to the Top 32 in both regional and national competitions. She also excelled in an internship with KPMG last summer, and they offered her a full-time position as a Risk Consulting Associate upon graduation.

THE COLLEGE AT BROCKPORT

Antonio Bottos  
Baldwinsville, NY  
Psychology and Biology  
Antonio, a first-generation college student majoring in psychology and biology, is a proud member of the Honors College and CSTEP/McNair program. He is principal investigator on his own independent research project; engages with fellow students as a tutor, lab assistant, and community ambassador; and advocates for underserved individuals. Outside of college, Antonio supports persons with developmental disabilities in both clinical and community settings. He intends to pursue a career as a physician and researcher.

Shelby Schaefer  
Queensbury, NY  
Biochemistry  
Shelby is a senior majoring in biochemistry with a GPA of 3.7. She is pursuing a career in medicine, and currently works as a live-in volunteer Emergency Medical Technician. She serves as VP for Active Minds, an organization that advocates for mental health awareness on college campuses. She is a member and student assistant for the Student Support Services office. Shelby was the recipient of the President’s Award for Undergraduate Student Excellence in spring 2018.

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Grace Kelly  
Neversink, NY  
History  
Grace graduated from The College at Brockport in December 2018, with a bachelor’s in history and an elementary education certification. Throughout her college career, Grace was involved in many areas across campus. She served as a resident assistant, an intern for Student Accessibility Services, and an activities coordinator for student government, and graduated from the Leadership Development Program. Grace earned a 3.97 GPA and was a member of several honor societies.

Cody Sponholz  
Dansville, NY  
Athletic Training  
Cody has excelled academically, achieving a 3.90 GPA, while receiving numerous academic awards such as the Clark V. White Award and Merrill J. Melnick KSSPE Graduate Scholarship. Cody was elected as the president of the Brockport Sports Medicine Club, and serves as a member of the Brockport Student Government Academic Club Council. He has shown a strong passion for community service, volunteering for the American Red Cross and various campus events, and coaching youth sports.

Angelica Whitehorne  
Kenmore, NY  
Women and Gender Studies; English; International studies  
Angelica is a triple major in women and gender studies, international studies, and English: creative writing. She is the president of Gender Equity Movement, a club on campus devoted to empowering and uplifting all identities. She has studied abroad in Oxford, UK, and Paris, France. Her future aspirations include becoming a women and gender studies professor, writing a novel, and seeing as much of the world as possible.

SUNY BROOME COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Orion Barber  
Endicott, NY  
Mathematics and Paralegal Studies  
Orion is a tutor, Phi Theta Kappa Mu Eta chapter president, All-USA Scholar, and thrice elected student trustee. He is also a Congressionally commended Eagle Scout and renaissance man. Orion consistently challenges himself and welcomes new experiences. Having entered college with a love of mathematics and finding a love of law, he aims to pursue graduate degrees in both fields. Orion has presented at several conferences including: SUNY Pride, SUNY Applied Learning, SUNY Student Assembly, and Broome’s own Interdisciplinary Ethics Conference.

Rachael Klug  
Owego, NY  
Criminal Justice  
Rachel overcame many personal challenges to maintain a 4.0 GPA, achieve the President’s List every semester, and receive several scholar- ship awards and awards. A member of PTK, ABG, and CJESSA, she serves by leading, mentoring, tutoring, and participating in fundraisers and volunteer activities. She volunteers with victims of domestic violence and those with addiction issues. Rachael will attend College of St. Rose, majoring in forensic psychology and pre-law, with a goal of becoming a drug court judge.

BUFFALO STATE COLLEGE

I’Jaz Eberhardt  
Tonawanda, NY  
Journalism  
I’Jaz is the student president of the Muriel A. Howard Honors Program, and board member of the Honors Advisory Board. She serves as associate news editor of the college’s student newspaper, The Record. She presented her Honors capstone project findings on the future of print journalism in the digital age at Buffalo State’s Student Research and Creativity Conference. She also volunteered with the Alternative Break service trip to Yabucoa, Puerto Rico, to help rebuild homes destroyed by Hurricane Maria.

Nicholas Gray  
Williamsville, NY  
Psychology  
Nicholas is a Muriel A. Howard Honors Program student and captain of the track and field team. He earned an Undergraduate Summer Research Fellowship to examine personal- ity and social factors that impact performance, and is presenting his findings at the Eastern Psychological Association annual conference and
the Buffalo State Student Research and Creativity Conference. He serves as president of the Buffalo State chapter of Psi Chi, the national honor society for psychology students.

Hibbah Mojawalla
Grand Island, NY
Childhood Education

Hibbah, a Muriel A. Howard Honors Program student, is the founder of the Buffalo State Muslim Student Association. She collaborated with the college’s president to create the first prayer/meditation space on campus, and organized biweekly congregational Friday prayers as well as interfaith panel discussions. A two-time Educational Opportunity Program (EOP) awardee for academic excellence, she presented her research on how service learning enhances the preparation of teachers at the Buffalo State Student Research and Creativity Conference.

Zhanna Reed
Buffalo, NY
Arts and Letters

Zhanna concentrated her studies in dance, music, and theater. She also played the leading role in Casting Hall Productions’ staging of "The Color Purple," modeled at the college’s Runway 9.0 fashion show, and performed at the Buffalo State Scholarship Gala in 2017 and 2018. Zhanna is a past president of the Buffalo State Dance Association and an Educational Opportunity Program academic excellence award winner. She has also earned the Outstanding Undergraduate Service-Learning Course Participant award for her work in Kinesthetic Learning Methods and Practice course.

Allison Torsey
Depew, NY
Applied Mathematics/Physics

Allison is a Muriel A. Howard Honors Program student and president of the Buffalo State Math Club. She has twice presented her mathematics research at the Joint Mathematics Meeting, the world’s largest mathematics conference. She also participated in Research Experience for Undergraduates at the Mathematical Biosciences Institute at Ohio State University. As president and philanthropy chair of Beta Gamma chapter of Alpha Epsilon Phi, she helped raise money for the Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation.

UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO

Jacob Bleasdale
Depew, NY
Biomedical Sciences

Jacob graduates with a bachelor of science in biomedical sciences with minors in pharmacology & toxicology and public health. He is a University Honors College Scholar, and has conducted research at the School of Medicine, the School of Public Health, and the Erie County Medical Center. Jacob has served as a teaching assistant, an intern in the Intercultural Diversity Center, and a health educator with the Erie County Department of Health.

Dylan Burns
Buffalo, NY
Master of Architecture and Master of Urban Planning

Dylan graduates with a master of architecture and a master of urban planning. A Western New York Prosperity Fellow and Presidential Scholar, he participated in the Fulbright Commission Summer Institute, volunteered as house leader for Habitat for Humanity, and served as an architecture studio teaching assistant and a research fellow in the IDEa Center. Dylan also won second place in the U.S. Department of Energy Solar Decathlon, and served on UB's GRoW team.

Julia Cordani
Lewiston, NY
Linguistics

Julia graduates with a bachelor of music and a bachelor of the arts in voice performance and linguistics. She is a University Honors College Scholar, a former teaching assistant, a research assistant in the Department of Linguistics working on the Seneca language, and an avid performer in the Department of Music and the Buffalo community. Julia also volunteers with two music education nonprofits: Buffalo String Works and Buffalo Girlchoir.

Destiny Diaz
Buffalo, NY
Mathematics

Destiny graduates with a bachelor of science in mathematics and a minor in Spanish. She is a University Honors College Scholar and an ambassador for the College of Arts and Sciences. Destiny is a Western New York Prosperity Fellow, and volunteered on an alternative break trip to the Dominican Republic. She has completed research dedicated to increasing STEM enrollment, and works at the Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center as a research apprentice.

Benjamin Gutsin
Orchard Park, NY
Business Administration

Benjamin graduates with a bachelor of science in business administration. He is both a University Honors College Scholar and a member of the School of Management Honors Program. Benjamin has been a teaching assistant for several courses, a representative to UB’s Intercollegiate Athletic Board, and a research assistant for UB’s Behavioral Medicine lab. He currently serves as the clinic manager for Cornerstone Manor, a shelter for homeless women and children.

Gunnar Haberl
Elma, NY
Political Science and Legal Studies Dual Degree

Gunnar graduates with a bachelor of science in political science and legal studies. He is a University Honors College Scholar and the Student Association president. Gunnar was selected as UB's Center for the Study of the Presidency and Congress Fellow, and was nominated for the Harry S. Truman Scholarship. He has worked as a legislative aide in the NYS Assembly, and serves on the Iroquois School District’s Board of Education.

Shaun Nowicki
Hamburg, NY
English

Shaun graduates with a bachelor of arts in English. He is a University Honors College Scholar, has been president of the Undergraduate English Club, a teaching assistant and an ambassador for the English department, and an editor of NAME Magazine. Shaun has also worked as a crew member for the Department of Theatre and Dance’s production of “10 Out of 12,” and co-dramaturge for their production of Shakespeare’s Julius Caesar.

Philip Nii Okai Odonkor
Accra, Ghana
Mechanical Engineering

Philip graduates with a Ph.D. in mechanical engineering. His NSF-funded research has been featured in journal publications, and earned him first place in UB’s 3-Minute Thesis and Transforming Our Tomorrow competitions. Philip is a 2018 Ph.D. Teaching Fellow, an NC State Building Future Faculty Fellow, a SEAS student ambassador, and an invited speaker at 2018 TEDxBuffalo. He
also serves as a mentor for UB’s BEAM and Science is Elementary outreach programs.

**Katherine O’Donnell**  
*Williamsville, NY*  
**Biomedical Sciences**  
Katherine graduates with a bachelor of science in biomedical sciences and a minor in nutrition. She is a published author, University Honors College Scholar, president of the Association of Pre-Medical Students, teaching assistant at Buffalo String Works, an artist, and a tour guide for Admissions. Katherine has traveled the country to present her research on exercise and concussions, and has funded her travels through grants from the university.

**Jessie Pelosi**  
*Guilford, CT*  
**Biological Sciences/Environmental Geosciences**  
Jessie graduates with a bachelor of arts in biological sciences and a bachelor of science in environmental geosciences. She is a University Honors College Scholar, a member of the Phi Theta Kappa Honors Organization, and a minor in nutrition. She is a published author, University Honors College Scholar, president of the Association of Pre-Medical Students, teaching assistant at Buffalo String Works, an artist, and a tour guide for Admissions. Katherine has traveled the country to present her research on exercise and concussions, and has funded her travels through grants from the university.

**Cheryl Porzi**  
*Rochester, NY*  
**Occupational Therapy**  
Cheryl graduates with a combined bachelor’s and master’s of occupational therapy. She is a University Honors College Scholar, president of the OT Honor Society, and vice president of her graduating class. Cheryl has held leadership positions in the Residence Hall Association, National Residence Hall Honorary, the Student Association, and Faculty Student Association. She has been a research assistant and teaching assistant, and just completed writing her first book, which is in publication.

**Julia Quebral**  
*Williamsville, NY*  
**Physics; Mathematics**  
Julia graduates with a bachelor of science in physics and a bachelor of arts in mathematics. She is a University Honors College Scholar and a Physics Honor Society member, and has served one year as president of the Society of Physics Students. Julia visited Montana State University as a solar physics REU student, completing a project on solar flares. She has also served as concertmaster for the UB Symphony Orchestra.

**Tara Strade**  
*Orchard Park, NY*  
**Psychology and English**  
Tara graduates with a bachelor of arts in psychology and English with an education minor. A University Honors College Scholar, she is a senior resident advisor and vice president of the UB ASL Club. Tara has served as a teaching assistant for Honors Colloquium, conducted social psychology research, served as a writing tutor, and acted as a mentor for the Interdisciplinary Science and Engineering Partnership in Buffalo Public Schools.

**Conor Sullivan**  
*Lancaster, NY*  
**Business Administration; Economics**  
Conor graduates with a bachelor of science in business administration and a bachelor of arts in economics. A University Honors College Scholar and Western New York Prosperity Fellow, he has volunteered with a dozen local community organizations. Conor serves as a teaching assistant for the Economics Department and the Honors College, and is a Leadership House peer mentor. He is also a cellist, and performs regularly throughout Western New York.

**Anthony Taboni**  
*Tonawanda, NY*  
**Political Science and Mathematics**  
Anthony graduates with a bachelor of arts in political science and mathematics. He is a University Honors College Scholar, and has been president of the Honors Student Council, a SUNY SA delegate, an Honors ambassador, a Faculty Student Association board member, and a teaching assistant. Winner of the Robert Stern Award for Best Undergraduate Political Science Paper, Anthony worked as a research assistant, contributing to work on the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

**Hughes Martial Ntwari**  
*Yaounde, Cameroon*  
**Management**  
Hughes has been on the President’s Honors List, earning a 4.0 GPA; is a Resident Assistant in Kennedy Hall; and volunteered as a translator for The International Games in Lake Placid in January 2019.

**Ryan Schubert**  
*Centereach, NY*  
**Criminal Investigation**  
Ryan is graduating with a bachelor of technology in criminal investigation, with double minors in forensic science and economics, which she completed in three years. In the summer of 2018, she did an internship with the NYPD Forensics Investigation Division, and received the Google Cloud CoSIDA First Team Academic/All-District athletic award (the second student athlete ever to receive this award in SUNY Canton history).

**Mikaela Klinger**  
*Cato, NY*  
**Liberal Arts and Sciences: Humanities and Social Sciences**  
Mikaela has been on the Dean’s List and the President’s List, and is a member of the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society and the National Society for Leadership and Success. She is a tutor for the Center for Academic Success, and has been a member of the Dance Club, the GIS Club, and president of the History Club. Anthony received the Burke Memorial Library Research Award twice, and a member of the Peggy Carroway Scholarship.

**Jessica Rigby**  
*Plattsburgh, NY*  
**Liberal Arts: Humanities & Social Science**  
Jessica strives for excellence and is recognized by many for her breadth and depth of accomplishments. She is an Honors Program student, member of PTK and Student Senate, and a celebrated artist. Jessica is also known for her commitment to diversity and inclusion. She is a...
leader on campus, taking on roles in Lower Judicial as well as service on the Regional Council of Community Colleges.

**SUNY COBLESKILL**

**Allison Finch**  
Binghamton, NY  
Animal Science

Allison has demonstrated excellence in academics, leadership, and civic engagement. She maintained a 3.88 GPA while serving in leadership roles in four campus organizations, and is currently the vice president of the Student Government Association. Allison has presented two research projects at the Northeast Regional Honor Council Conference. She has also assisted students through her roles as teaching assistant, orientation leader, and student assistant in the Career Center. Allison continues to serve the campus through community projects.

**COLUMBIA-GREENE COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

**Randy Dunham**  
Haines Falls, NY  
Liberal Arts & Social Sciences - Psychology Concentration

Randy currently serves as the student representative on the college’s Presidential Search Committee. He is also president of the college’s Student Senate, which is charged with recognizing, supporting, developing, and assisting in the funding of student clubs, organizations, and intercollegiate athletic teams. Randy is a peer tutor in the academic support center. His academic success includes being on both the President and Dean’s Lists.

**CORNING – NYS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE & LIFE SCIENCES**

**Hannah Fuller**  
Portland, OR  
Plant Science and International Agriculture and Regional Development

Hannah grew up in Portland, Oregon, attended pre-school in Germany, and is fluent in German. With a dual major in plant science and international agriculture & rural development, she also minors in community food systems. She is president of the Programming Team for Anabel’s Grocery, and has travelled to India, Nicaragua, and Belize for agricultural studies. Her goal is to pursue global work in food systems and agriculture development.

Joshua Popp  
Syracuse, NY  
Biological Engineering

Joshua is an enthusiastic and driven student studying biological engineering. He has done extremely well in the classroom, taking difficult classes and working with department administration to expand and improve the curriculum. To prepare for a career as a professor, he has performed research and is now a teaching assistant for an upper-level bioengineering course. Outside the classroom, he teaches outdoor education courses, and is the president of the Engineers Without Borders project team.

**CORnell – NYS COLLEGE OF HUMAN ECology**

**Nicole Agaronnik**  
Brooklyn, NY  
Nutritional Sciences

Nicole finished her bachelor’s in nutritional sciences a semester early so she could continue research she began as an undergraduate the previous summer. Nicole is an outstanding student in every measure, with impeccable academic achievements, an impressive record of scientific research and communication, and a list of accolades related to a career in dance, all underpinned by a sense of service.

**Amber Lee**  
Portland, OR  
Human Development

Amber’s compassion for people and passion for understanding public health is reflected in her record. She recently submitted a co-authored scientific article on substance use intervention, and was selected for an honor’s thesis examining the impact of culture on children’s memory. Amber volunteers in Cornell Public Service Center organizations, holds campus leadership positions, competes with the Cornell Figure Skating Team, and was selected for the Dean’s Undergraduate Advisory Council for the College of Human Ecology.

**CORnell – NYS COLLEGE OF INDUSTRIAL & LABOR RELATIONS**

**Niyyah Barber**  
Mansfield, TX  
Industrial and Labor Relations

Niyyah is the editor-in-chief of Perspectives, the Cornell Undergraduate Disability Studies Journal; vice president of Academics for the Black Ivy Pre-Law Society; and a resident advisor in a freshman residence hall. She has completed internships for the Houston Astros in baseball operations and Disneyland Resort in labor relations.

**CORNELL – NYS COLLEGE OF VETERINARY MEDICINE**

**Isabel Jimenez**  
Westport, CT  
Veterinary Medicine

Isabel has distinguished herself as a student leader, and maintained a record of academic excellence. She was a student representative on college committees related to admissions, curriculum, and hospital operations. Isabel is first author on four research publications, and has presented her work at national conferences. Isabel is a leader in several student organizations, including serving as president of the Surgery Club, wildlife representative of the Zoo and Wildlife Society, and vice president of the Veterinary Education Club.

**CORNING COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

**Samantha Orr**  
Campbell, NY  
Nursing

Samantha’s Corning Community College team was co-winner of the 2018 Aging Innovation Challenge sponsored by the New York State Department of Health. They won the Top Innovator Award for their development of GripMB, a device that allows the aging population to remain independent as long as possible. She has received a scholarship from the American Association of University Women, and will begin an emergency room fellowship after her studies.

**SUNY CORTLAND**

**Alexandra Fischer**  
Honeoye Falls, NY  
Inclusive Childhood Education

Alexandra is an inclusive education major with a concentration in English language arts. She is a member of the varsity golf team and served as vice president of the Colleges Against Cancer club. Allie was inducted into Phi Kappa Phi in the spring of 2018, and received Scholar of the Year from the SUNY Cortland chapter in the fall of 2018. She aspires to be a special education elementary school teacher.

**Olivia Lindsay**  
Bronx, NY  
Sport Management

Olivia has three on-campus jobs, volunteers with numerous campus
Elise is a standout student in all her Architecture Design & Building Red Creek, NY enthusiasm, respect, and a smile. He approaches each situation with a unique ability to connect with people, representing his department with a life and always there when you need him. As a president of the Student Senate, as a member of the Student Activities Board and as a member of the Student Government Association executive director of the Mentorship & Wellness Program, a peer-led and evidence-based intervention that addresses the mental health needs of medical school students. His program has expanded to multiple medical schools, including Columbia University and New York Medical College. Robert remains committed to under-resourced populations as the previous director of RISE, a free HIV/ Hepatitis C counseling organization. Next year, he will be an emergency medicine resident.

DUTCHESS COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Jason Baker
Poughkeepsie, NY Liberal Arts & Sciences - Mathematics
Jason is an avid learner who hopes to be the first in his family to receive a bachelor’s degree. He’s an active member of Phi Theta Kappa and Student Government. Jason ran for City Council in his hometown of Poughkeepsie, and helped organize March for Our Lives Hudson Valley. He is passionate about encouraging others to be their best self. Jason hopes to become a math teacher, inspiring future generations and sharing his love of mathematics.

MARIAM A. CEESEY
Beacon, NY

Liberal Arts & Sciences - Science
Mariama believes the many opportunities provided by DCC have empowered her to excel academically and become a strong student leader. As a role model for young women, she is committed to promoting women pursuing STEM careers. Her passion for education is evidenced through her involvement in numerous campus initiatives, including the Student Government Association and New Student Orientation. Mariama is a well-respected student who is often found tutoring students or helping at SGA events.

Amanda Fultz
Beacon, NY Liberal Arts & Sciences - Humanities
Amanda is a first-generation college student. As a Conklin Scholarship recipient and a member of DCC’s honors program, she earned a 4.0 GPA. Amanda has taken on service learning projects promoting literacy, understanding climate change, and addressing hunger. On campus she is a member of Democracy Matters. A passionate writer, she’ll pursue journalism at SUNY Purchase. Amanda constantly strives to better herself by doing what she loves and standing up for what she believes in.

Trevor Tatunczak
Poughkeepsie, NY Communications & Media Arts
Trevor strives every day to live with integrity and be a campus role model. As a recipient of the Conklin Scholarship for Academic Excellence, he maintained a 3.96 GPA, earning President’s List recognition each semester. Trevor is a strong advocate for voting, and has participated in events to engage local young voters. On campus, he has encouraged respectful discourse through Phi Theta Kappa, helped lessen student food insecurity via donations, and promoted financial literacy.

EMPIRE STATE COLLEGE

Wales Brown
Schenectady, NY Adult Learning
While working on behalf of the underserved population of Schenectady, NY, Wales also advanced his learning at Empire State College. He is the single father of four adopted sons and, as a Parent Educator, works to improve connections between parents and children in both traditional and foster care settings. He was the 2018 recipient of the Schenectady County Bar’s Liberty Bell Award in recognition of his service to a variety of social justice issues.

Lynn Ann Hinds McCoy
Sylvan Beach, NY Adult Learning
Lynn Ann is a lifelong learner. After many years of pursuing her college degree while juggling work, raising children, and volunteering, she found her home at Empire State College, and completed a B.S. in business management and economics. The
unique experience at ESC ignited her desire to facilitate other adult students to successfully complete their academic goals, and in doing so, she returned to Empire and has earned her M.A. in adult learning.

Tatiana Parker
North Syracuse, NY
Social and Public Policy
Tatiana is a community advocate, working to address social challenges facing the Central New York community. Through collaboration with community members, research- ing community issues, and active involvement in community activities and organizations, Tatiana serves as a conduit for information and opportunity, and supports the empowerment of all in Central New York.

Julian Wylie
The Caribbean
Masters in Business Administration
Julian is a proud two-time alum of Empire, most recently earning his MBA. While attending Empire, he was heavily involved in supporting clubs and also played a role in forming one. He served on the boards of Black Male Initiative, Society for Entrepreneurship, and the Graduate Student Collaborative. He also was a member of the Student Affairs Committee, the Graduate Student Policy Committee, the Academic Master Plan Committee, and the Provost Search Committee.

COLLEGE OF ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE AND FORESTRY

Marissa Lathrop
Baldwinsville, NY
Environmental Education & Interpretation
Marissa is determined and goal-oriented, and strives to treat every obstacle in life as an opportunity to grow. She was the individual winner of the USCAA 2018 Cross Country Nationals, and the first individual woman to win the nationals at ESF. Marissa published an article in Beaver Tales, and has been named to the President’s and Dean’s Lists multiple semesters. Her goal after college is to share her passion of science with people and promote environmental stewardship.

ERIE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Fahmo Abdullahi
Buffalo, NY
Liberal Arts & Sci - General Studies
Fahmo was born in Somalia and moved to a refugee camp in Kenya at the age of 10, where she lived for nine years as a refugee before coming to the United States. She obtained her high school diploma from Thomas R. Proctor High School, and enrolled at SUNY Erie Community College as a general studies major. She has followed her inner calling to a career in nursing as she hopes to save people’s lives.

Tokunbo Adebayo
Buffalo, NY
Liberal Arts and Science - Humanities
Tokunbo is majoring in liberal arts with a social science concentration, with the goal of becoming a clinical psychologist. He plans to begin his career as a researcher, and then possibly teach at the higher education level. He is one of eight children, and was raised by his father who inspired him with an unwavering work ethic. Tokunbo’s plan is to remain in Western New York, complete his Ph.D., and give back to the community.

Kyle Harris
Buffalo, NY
General Studies
Kyle is a student athlete who excels in the classroom and on the court. After being out of high school for a year to work and help with his family’s needs, he went to SUNY Erie and played guard for the basketball team. Kyle has been recognized for his leadership and academic performance by coaches and mentors in the athletic department for his display of academic excellence, while overcoming adversity and maintaining his Dean’s List status.

Ernie Creekmore
Strongsville, OH
Aerospace Engineering Technology
Ernie began his academic journey at Erie Community College and transferred to the University of Toledo. He is pursuing his degree in Aerospace Engineering Technology with a focus on aircraft design and engineering. Since entering EC3, he has maintained a 3.51 GPA and has been on the President’s List each semester. In his free time, he enjoys playing basketball and volunteering at local community events. He aspires to work at a leading aerospace company, applying his knowledge and skills to innovate and contribute to the industry.

Messiah Gaymon
Deer Park, NY
Science, Technology, and Society
Messiah is currently the president of the Student Government Association, and will be graduating in the spring of 2019. In addition, he is the recipient of the Farmingdale State College Award for Student Leadership, as well as the 2017 winner of the campus Veteran of the Year.
Jennifer Newins  
Levittown, NY  
Medical Technology  
Jennifer is a fall 2018 graduate of Farmingdale State College. She completed her bachelor’s degree in the Medical Laboratory Technology Department, finishing with a 3.9 GPA. Jennifer also received the departmental Academic Excellence Award, and held several leadership roles in student organizations.

Luke Rossi  
Sayville, New York  
Bioscience  
Luke graduated with a bachelor’s of science in bioscience in the fall of 2018. He earned a 3.95 GPA, and was so well liked that the Department of Biology hired Luke shortly after graduation to work as an instructional support technician. From Sayville, NY, Luke excelled in one of the more rigorous majors on campus.

FASHION INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Samantha Berger  
New York, NY  
Fashion Design  
Samantha is passionate about children’s clothing. She designed hospital gowns for pediatric cancer patients and created a fashion camp for middle schoolers. As FIT, Samantha is a Presidential Scholar. She studied abroad in Italy, and was goalie on the women’s soccer team, all while completing multiple internships and minors in art history and Italian. Samantha also won the Critic’s Choice award for her garment in the Associate’s Degree Fashion Design exhibition.

Kiana Brooks  
Sandy Springs, GA  
Fashion Business Management  
Kiana is a member of the Presidential Scholars Program at FIT, and vice president of the Black Retail Action Group (BRAG). She pursued two specializations, two minors, and numerous prestigious internships, all while maintaining a 3.98 GPA. Kiana was captain of the FIT tennis team and is a two-time national champion. Her love for languages pushed her to add both Spanish and Italian to her language repertoire.

Zainab Koli  
Flushing, NY  
Fashion Business Management  
Zainab is a leader who sees needs in her communities and challenges herself to respond. She is the co-found-

Joanna Mingo  
Islip Terrace, NY  
Fashion Business Management  
Joanna has served as director of programming and vice president of the FIT Student Government Association. She has been an orientation leader and a resident assistant. In addition to her product development specialization, she has attained three minors and completed five internships at prestigious brands such as Marc Jacobs and Givenchy. Joanna’s dream company, Macy’s, has offered her a full-time position that she will begin after graduating in May.

Kathleen O’Brien  
Stony Brook, NY  
Advertising and Digital Design  
Kathleen’s hustle, responsibility, and dedication have helped her excel inside and out of the classroom at FIT. She’s been a leader on campus through her role as a senior resident assistant, a member of FIT’s Student Government Association, and as president of the Advertising Design Club. She will be graduating with a BFA in advertising & digital design along with three minors.

FINGER LAKES COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Jillian Bond  
Canandaigua, NY  
Liberal Arts & Sciences; Humanities; Fine Arts  
Jill is a fall 2018 graduate of Finger Lakes Community College, where she earned humanities and fine arts degrees. She has received several academic awards, and presented at the National Collegiate Honors Council Conference. Jill has held several leadership roles, including being an orientation leader, tutor, and supplemental instructor. She has also artistically influenced her college by working on the literary magazine, marketing events, and as the scenic artist of a theatrical production.

Blinne Krieger  
Fairport, NY  
Liberal Arts & Sciences: Humanities  
Blinne graduated from FLCC in December 2018 with an associate degree in humanities. Now she attends Baldwin Wallace University, majoring in history and minoring in religion. She is an ardent student and is always searching for opportunities to better her learning as well as her surrounding community. It is her goal to become a librarian so that she can continue to pursue her love of learning while helping others on their own paths.

SUNY FREDONIA

Celina Kryk  
Spencerport, NY  
Communication-Media Management  
A December 2018 graduate, Celina earned a dual degree in public relations and media management, while simultaneously participating in two study abroad programs. She’s held leadership positions in the Student Association and Enrollment & Student Services, where she mentored first-year students, represented her class, and trained students. She organized youth programming for local and international non-profit organizations, and works with the Belize Police Department to create and deliver diverse programming for at-risk teenagers.

Stephanie Wojnowski  
Rochester, NY  
Communication Disorders and Sciences  
A graduate of Eastridge High School in Rochester, NY, Stephanie is a double major in communication disorders and sciences and French. While at Fredonia, she has been involved with various organizations and has volunteered with different groups within the community. She plans to attend graduate school and become a practicing bilingual speech-language pathologist.

FULTON-MONTGOMERY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Michelle Ferraino  
East Berne, NY  
Liberal Arts & Science: Science  
Michelle is a first-generation college student who studied liberal arts and science: science concentration at FMCC. As a residential student, Michelle became involved in many campus and community activities and was fully engaged on the campus. She was on the Dean’s List each semester, inducted into Phi Theta Kappa, and is graduating with a 3.98 GPA.
GPA. Michelle embodies a student who took full advantage of the FMCC student experience.

GENESEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Natsumi Sasabe
Tokyo, Japan
Theater Arts
Natsumi has performed in five different productions during her time at GCC. She is cast as a main character in another show this spring. Natsumi is involved in Student Government, and is an RA in our Residence Life program, and also finds time to be involved in Phi Theta Kappa and GCC’s Multi-Cultural Communications Club. She will be joining GCC’s Honors program this spring.

Luis Valencia Huerta
Inuyama, Aichi, Japan
Business Administration
Luis is a multilingual student tutor in accounting, and through his translation skills, he has helped dozens of students better understand accounting. Luis also finds time to be vice president of Phi Theta Kappa and co-president of the GCC Multi-Cultural Communications Club. He volunteers in the local community church, delivering Friday fish fries to those who are home-bound, and with Foodlink, assembling bags of food for those in need.

SUNY GENESEO

Patrick Buckley
Elmira, NY
Biochemistry
Patrick is a Presidential Scholar, and member of the Edgar Fellows Honors Program and Phi Beta Kappa. He is an Andrew Goodman Foundation Vote Everywhere Ambassador, member of the College Task Force on Voter Registration & Engagement, and office manager of Geneseo Opportunities for Leadership Development. Patrick was the 2017 James Houston ’80 Ambassador in Innovation, culminating in the development of the Discovery Café program.

Emily Janiszewski
Hamburg, NY
Business Administration
An All-American goalkeeper for the SUNY Geneseo women’s soccer team, senior Emily has excelled at Geneseo. A Dean’s List regular, she has volunteered with Special Olympics, and served as a mentor with the Council for Exceptional Children. In addition to being a four-time All-Conference selection, including 2018 SUNYAC Defensive Player of the Year, and leading the Knights to the NCAA Tournament twice, Emily served as the advertising sales director for Geneseo’s student newspaper.

Elena Kleinhenz
Delmar, NY
Biology and Spanish
Elena is a member of the Golden Key International Honour Society, and TriBeta, Phi Sigma Iota, Phi Eta Sigma, and Phi Beta Kappa honor societies. Also an active volunteer for several organizations, Elena has conducted research at SUNY Geneseo, the Wadsworth Center of the New York State Department of Health, and the Neurology and Research Services of the VA Medical Center in Albany, NY.

HERKIMER COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Elizabeth McDonald
Montgomery, AL
Science
Elizabeth has a 3.67 GPA. She is a member of Phi Theta Kappa; president of Peer Tutor Club; and fiction editor of Phaethon, a literary & arts publication. She is also a member of the Psychology Club, Campus Christian Fellowship, Science Club, and General’s Theater Group. In addition, she maintains two part-time jobs, one of which is her own business.

HUDSON VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Deborah Brannan
Catskill, NY
Liberal Arts and Sciences
Deborah maintains a 4.0 GPA, and is a member of the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society. She received the Excellence in Theatre Arts Award, is a member of Theater Club, and participated in the art exhibit “Postcards from the Trail” in her community. Deborah also volunteers at churches in Greene County to serve dinners to those less fortunate.

Christopher Calicchia
Loudonville, NY
Engineering Science
Christopher has a 3.8 GPA, is a member of Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, and was named to the NJCAA Academic All-American Third Team as a member of the men’s lacrosse team. He also is a member of the Engineering Club, and is a student worker for the college’s Athletics Department. Chris volunteers at the Albany City Mission and at his church.

JoElla Lane
Dunkirk, NY
Liberal Arts & Sciences: Mathematics and Science
JoElla will graduate in May 2019 with her associate in science degree in liberal arts & sciences: mathematics and science. She earned her GED in 1998, and returned to JCC in 2016. Since returning, JoElla has received the Dean’s List honor every semester, is a member of Phi Theta Kappa honor society, is a recipient of the Varmee Medical Professionals scholarship, as well as a founder of the Health & Wellness Club, all while maintaining a 3.9 GPA.

Jamison Jarosz
Schaghticoke, NY
Engineering Science
Jamison currently serves as Student Senate president, a board member on the college’s Faculty Student Association, and the student representative on the college’s Strategic Planning Committee. He is also a student athlete in track and field, and is the current president of the Investment Club on campus. Jamison does volunteer work in his community, and is a small business owner.

Sayema Matin
Waterford, NY
Biological Sciences
Sayema has a 3.8 GPA, and plans to attend medical school. She has been actively involved on campus as treasurer/secretary of the college’s chapter of Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, vice president of the Foreign Language and Culture Club, and a member of the Public Speaking Club. She also served as a freshman and senior class senator.

JAMESTOWN COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Kendyl Austin
Lakewood, NY
Individual Studies
Kendyl will graduate in May 2019 with her associate in science degree for individual studies. She was the captain of the two-time, regional champion volleyball team for JCC, and is the current president of the Jamestown Athletics Association. Through these two organizations, she has been an active volunteer both on and off campus.

JoElla Lane
Dunkirk, NY
Liberal Arts & Sciences: Mathematics and Science
JoElla will graduate in May 2019 with her associate in science degree in liberal arts & sciences: mathematics and science. She earned her GED in 1998, and returned to JCC in 2016. Since returning, JoElla has received the Dean’s List honor every semester, is a member of Phi Theta Kappa honor society, is a recipient of the Varmee Medical Professionals scholarship, as well as a founder of the Health & Wellness Club, all while maintaining a 3.9 GPA.
Cara Aguirre
Theresa, NY
Hospitality and Tourism
Cara is a non-traditional student who represents the true meaning of academic excellence and leadership. She has achieved the President’s List designation every semester. Cara is president of the HAT/Business Club, secretary of Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, and was awarded Honor Student of the Month. In addition, Cara is co-authoring an international research paper with two of her professors that was presented in Portugal in March 2019.

Joseph Butterworth
Massapequa Park, NY
Mechanical Engineering
Joseph has excelled in every aspect of his career at Maritime College. He is a role model in the Regiment of Cadets and as president of the Student Government Association, and Cadet Butterworth also serves as a communications officer. Joseph played quarterback on Maritime’s football team, and serves on the Student Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC). He also is a member of the College Council, where he has helped to advance the college and its mission.

Ahmat Adam Djourna
Sudan
Liberal Arts and Science Public Policy
Ahmat is a public policy major who will graduate with his associate degree in May. He has been able to maintain an impressive GPA while completing multiple internships and helping take care of his family. Ahmat is a refugee from Sudan, and he is also blind. He is known to lead by example and is an advocate for individuals with disabilities. Ahmat plans to continue his education, earn a law degree, and work in government.

Julie Anderson
Camden, NY
Liberal Arts and Science General Studies
Julie is a non-traditional student, earning two associate degrees and a baccalaureate degree while balancing her family life and career. As a member of Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, she graduated from SUNY Canton, where she studied dental hygiene. While practicing, she is also an adjunct clinical instructor, continuing to mentor future dental hygienists. She has published articles in her field, and has been awarded scholarships for leadership, performance, and having a positive impact in her profession.

Taryn Rackmyer
Frankfort, NY
Business Accounting
Taryn began her campus involvement during her first semester as Student Government treasurer. Since then, she has excelled academically and contributed to the college as a peer tutor, a member of Phi Theta Kappa Honors Society, a member of the Student Leadership Academy, and various other student organizations. Taryn serves as coordinator of Campus Engagement for SUNY Student Assembly and as student liaison to the Faculty Council of Community Colleges.

Greysen Chudyk
Mendon, NY
Engineering Sciences - Electrical
Greysen is a second semester sophomore, and will be graduating with an A.S. degree in engineering science. When Greyson first arrived at MCC, he quickly got involved with many co-curricular activities, including the Engineering Leadership Council and the MCC Drone Design Team. He works hard at achieving the best grades possible to get ready for the University at Buffalo and his career in the electrical engineering field.

Margaret DeLaRosa Nunez
Rochester, NY
Surgical Technology
Margaret is a member of the Alpha Theta Iota chapter of Phi Theta Kappa at MCC, and is currently serving as chapter co-president. Margaret has also been actively involved in creating academic and social events for over 600 Phi Theta Kappa members. She has presented her academic research at MCC’s annual Scholars Day, and was awarded two scholarships.

Taryn Rackmyer
Frankfort, NY
Business Accounting
Taryn began her campus involvement during her first semester as Student Government treasurer. Since then, she has excelled academically and contributed to the college as a peer tutor, a member of Phi Theta Kappa Honors Society, a member of the Student Leadership Academy, and various other student organizations. Taryn serves as coordinator of Campus Engagement for SUNY Student Assembly and as student liaison to the Faculty Council of Community Colleges.

Collin Tumbiolo
Waterloo, NY
Mechanical Engineering
Collin is a well-rounded student who will be receiving his engineering degree this spring. He excels academically, and is a member of the Alpha Iota Chapter at MCC, and currently serves as the co-president. Collin also volunteers as a health aide at Monroe Community Hospital.

Zainab Jimoh
Staten Island, NY
Applied Psychology
Zainab has worked with multiple departments on campus, including the Tutoring Center, Office of Educational Opportunity Program, Residence Life, Campus Judicial, Campus Activities, and Admissions, while consistently remaining on the Dean’s List. She is a member of the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, and has maintained multiple leadership positions. Zainab has been a resident assistant, teacher assistant, and mentor to Educational Opportunity Program freshmen.

Layne Martin
Findlay, OH
Nursing
Over the past five years, Layne has learned to perfect a balancing act. He completed his AAS degree in nursing in 2017, and will complete his BSN this spring. During this time, he was also a four-year member of the
men’s ice hockey and golf teams, a peer tutor, a residence hall director, full-time employee, and new husband. Layne sets high standards for himself and continues to be an outstanding scholar, who has received two scholarships.

NASSAU COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Lauren Arceri
Massapequa, NY
Liberal Arts

Lauren is currently at NCC pursuing a degree in liberal arts and sciences. As the elected secretary of the NCC Biology Club, Lauren will be instrumental in organizing and initiating activities that promote education opportunities for biology students. She has received many honorable recognitions, made the Dean’s List, and continues to be a volunteer in the community. Lauren strives for excellence in her educational goals and career aspirations.

Andy Diaz
New Hyde Park, NY
Accounting

Andy is an accounting major with a 4.0 GPA who has exceptionally high values and integrity. He works four part-time jobs to help his family pay their mortgage. As a volunteer fireman and a trained EMT, he has saved children from drowning. Andy voluntarily tutors his fellow students, has acted as a UNCC conversation partner, and has assisted in disaster relief in Puerto Rico. He has received numerous scholarships as well.

Rocco Distefano
Garden City Park, NY
Social Work

Rocco is an innovator, leader, and example of resilience and resurgence. As an NCC student in 1998, Rocco recognized the absence of support for LGBTQ students and founded the NCC Pride Club. After an 18-year hiatus, Rocco returned to NCC and is maintaining a 4.0 GPA. An Honors Program member, vice president of the Speech & Debate Team, owner/coach (4-8th grade) and a track coach, Rocco is a tremendous asset to NCC and the community.

Jane Jeong
Flushing, NY
Liberal Arts

A liberal arts major with a 4.0 GPA, Jane plans on a career as an international human rights attorney, and is the president of the Honors Club. She has organized three voter registration drives and volunteers with the New York Immigrant Coalition, I Eat Green, and the New York Civil Liberties Union. In January, she started an internship studying human rights in Argentina.

Seung Won Seo
Plainview, NY
Food Service Administration and Restaurant Management

A food services major with a 4.0 GPA, Seung is vice president of the Student Veterans of NCC, a mentor to NCC student veterans, a volunteer in food preparation at his church, and a volunteer for Youth With A Mission in Korea and India.

Cassandra Skula
Seaford, NY
Teacher Education/Early Childhood

Cassandra is currently at NCC pursuing her dream of becoming a licensed RN. As the newly elected president of the National Student Nursing Association (NSNA), Cassandra will be the lead representative for the NCC chapter. She was a mentor for the Achilles Project, where she worked with students with special needs and helped them navigate their college experience. She also has received numerous honorable recognitions, made the Dean’s List, and is a leader in her community.

Lauren Taglienti
East Meadow, NY
Liberal Arts

Lauren is a liberal arts student who currently serves as the president of the Women’s Student Association, head copy editor of Vignette, NCC’s student newspaper; vice president of communications for Sigma Chi Eta Honor Society; and press secretary of the Junior President’s Society. She is actively involved in leadership roles while maintaining a 4.0 GPA. Lauren is the recipient of numerous scholarships and awards, and has volunteered and engaged in fundraising activities for many causes.

Lauren Tyson
Malverne, NY
Liberal Arts, Humanities

Lauren is on the Dean’s List every semester, president of the Phi Theta Kappa Club, vice president of the Honors Club, vice president of the International Club, an Ernest Frederick Scholarship winner, and member of the Honors Curriculum Committee. Lauren also volunteers as a chess coach (4-8th grade) and a track coach (K-3rd) with Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) of Long Island.

SUNY NEW PALTZ

Mirza Ahmed
Jamaica, NY
English/Comparative Literature (Contract Major)

An honors student obtaining a double major with a minor, Mirza is an accomplished student excelling in academics, mentoring, and service. She presented her research at the 2017 Undergraduate German Studies Conference, and received the Goethe Prize, a literature award for her archival research on exile literature of World War II. Mirza founded the German Club, and is a member of Delta Phi Alpha. She volunteers with Students4Refugees, Give Something Back to Berlin, and other organizations.

Isabelle Hayes
Warwick, NY
Political Science/Communication Studies

Isabelle is a member of the Honors Program, and a double major in political science and communication studies. She has been active on campus as the Honors Program summer orientation liaison, an Office of Campus Sustainability ambassador, a student senator, and co-founder/president of the SUNY New Paltz Climate Action Club. Isabelle has interned at the Benjamin Center at SUNY New Paltz, NYPIRG at SUNY New Paltz, and the New York City Department of Education.

Michelle Javier
New York, NY
Spanish/Black Studies

Michelle is double majoring in black studies and Spanish, with a minor in Latin American and Caribbean studies. She is currently the vice president of finance in the Student Association. Michelle is also a resident assistant, Student Ambassador, member of the National Collegiate Hispanic Honor Society and EOP Honor Society, and board member in the Spanish Club. Michelle has studied abroad in Guatemala and South Korea, and has an extensive record of volunteerism and service work.

Nicholas Piaquadio
Wallkill, NY
Electrical Engineering/Physics

Nicholas is an Honors Program student, and is a double major in electrical engineering and physics. He has been actively involved in research in both disciplines, and teaches both as a teaching assistant for Circuits Lab and as an instructor at SUNY Ulster. Nicholas is president of the Chess Club and the New Paltz
Chapter of IEEE–HKN. He also serves as a peer tutor, and is a clarinetist in the Symphonic Band.

NIAGARA COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Vincent Chiarenza
Grand Island, NY
Business Administration
Vincent has a 3.6 GPA, and has been accepted into Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society. In his first year at NCCC, he earned First Team All-American Honor, First Team All-Region Honor, and First Team all WNYAC. Vincent is a Gold Glove recipient for our region. After graduation, he plans to further his athletic career and education at Canisius College.

Emily Welch Ruth
Lockport, NY
Computer Information Systems
Emily has attended NCCC for almost two years, and she has a 4.0 GPA. As a child, she was intrigued by computers and their systems. After graduating from Niagara County Community College, she plans to attend the University at Buffalo for management information systems and business administration. Emily would like to combine computer science and management in her future career.

NORTH COUNTRY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Alicia Cook
Chateaugay, NY
Radiologic Technology
Alicia is a collegiate student athlete, and a standout in the classroom and on the field, maintaining a 3.8 GPA, as well as leading the 2018 NCCC Women’s Soccer team as captain and MVP. She was named NJCAA First Team All-Region and United Soccer Coaches Second Team All-American. While at NCCC, Alicia has received numerous awards, and volunteered at Elderwood Senior Care and Petrosa Elementary School.

OLD WESTBURY

Gissel Marquez
Uniondale, NY
Psychology
Gissel is a first-generation college student who has experienced a great deal of success at SUNY Old Westbury, as evidenced by her 3.99 GPA. She expects to graduate in May as a member of the Honors College with a B.A. in psychology and a double minor in Spanish and global studies. She has been recognized during SUNY Old Westbury’s Research Day for her work with Dr. Runi Mukherji on the experiences of first-generation students.

Josselin Paz Torres
Merrick, NY
Industrial and Labor Relations
Josselin is an outstanding Honors College student, majoring in industrial and labor relations. As an active part of the Old Westbury community, she serves as executive vice president of the Student Government Association, and is an innovative and consistently hardworking student with an appreciation for scholarship. She is the founding president of the Undocumented Student Alliance, as well as vice president of the Politics, Economics and Law Club, all while maintaining a 3.87 GPA.

Evan Rufrano
Patchogue, NY
Politics, Economics, Law
Evan has been an active and influential member of the SUNY Old Westbury community since he first arrived on campus. As an Honors College student majoring in politics, economics, and law, he has served as the SUNY Student Assembly representative and president of the Student Government Association. Evan has been a catalyst for change on campus, and has done this while maintaining a 3.98 GPA.

SUNY ONEONTA

James Bethel
Saugerties, NY
Communication Studies
James is a three-time NCAA All-American, who has represented SUNY Oneonta at several NCAA conventions, and has twice been named SUNY Oneonta Male Athlete of the Year. He is a member of three national honor societies, serves as president of the Student Athletic Advisory Committee, and has performed hundreds of community service hours. His research on the prevalence of motion sickness among student athletes while traveling has been accepted for a national presentation this May.

Madeline T. Frank
Syracuse, NY
Biology
Madeline’s stellar GPA has consistently landed her on the Provost’s List, and earned her membership in two national honor societies. As a basketball player, Maddy was a Second Team All-SUNYAC conference player, and made the SUNYAC All-Academic Team and the SUNYAC Commissioner’s Academic Honor Roll. She is tireless in her pursuit to become a physician assistant and has racked up more than 450 service hours volunteering at area hospitals and serving as an EMT.

Rosario Rodriguez
Greenport, NY
Mass Communications
Rosario is an exceptionally driven student whose outstanding grades have consistently earned her a spot on the Dean’s and/or Provost’s Lists. She is deeply involved in coordinating events and fundraisers for two national honor societies and her sorority, Mu Sigma Upsilon. Rosario is passionate about serving others, volunteering her time as a peer mentor and host to prospective students. With several impressive internships under her belt, Rosario hopes to go into the film industry.

Karly Schuhart
Penfield, NY
Child and Family Studies
Karly’s excellent GPA earned her a consistent spot on the Dean’s/Provost’s List, won her two scholarships, and gained her entrance into a national honor society. She excelled in multiple leadership positions, including resident adviser, teaching assistant, and peer facilitator. Karly’s continual fundraising and volunteering efforts have benefited multiple schools and organizations in her hometown and in Oneonta. After graduating, she will work as a registered behavioral therapist at the Center for Autism and Related Disorders.

ONONDAGA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Seth Bae
Los Angeles, CA
General Studies
Seth was born in Seoul, South Korea. His family moved to Los Angeles, CA when Seth was 17 years old. Seth decided to join the United States Army, and while stationed at Fort Drum in NY, he began to attend a church in the Syracuse area. Seth always wanted to study outside of California, so he applied to Onondaga Community College, and transferred to Harvard University in spring 2019.

Nathan Burroughs
Homer, NY
Engineering Science
Nathan was raised on his family farm in the town of Homer, NY. After high school, Nathan went to the Word of
Kevin Corvino
Newburgh, NY
Liberal Arts and Nursing
Kevin has just completed a challenging AAS degree in nursing while simultaneously completing an A.S. liberal arts degree, working as a peer tutor and as a paramedic, and periodically organizing trips abroad to provide medical/humanitarian aid. Kevin is a member of Phi Theta Kappa, and is consistently on the Dean’s List. He was asked by his peers to deliver the student address at December’s pinning ceremony, and plans to continue his medical studies in the fall.

Harrie Mule
Newburgh, NY
Liberal Arts
Harrie is a December graduate from SUNY Orange, currently pursuing her B.A. at SUNY New Paltz. While attending SUNY Orange, Harrie was a peer advisor, vice president of Phi Theta Kappa, and received many scholarships and awards. Harrie completed the I Am A Leader and ECCEL programs for leadership and professional training, and her writing has been published in the college’s literary magazine, The PULP. Outside of school, Harrie is a certified life coach.

David O’Keefe
Washingtonville, NY
New Media
David is a media technology student whose professional and volunteer experiences enable him to share his talents and efficient work ethic with community institutions and charitable organizations. His audio engineering work has led him to develop contacts across the New York Metropolitan area. David is a goal setter who enjoys challenges, and he is a Presidential Scholar, Honors Program student, a member of Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, and a constant on the SUNY Orange Dean’s List.

Manna Job
Yonkers, NY
Biology
Manna is the recipient of multiple awards and grants, including an NSF/STEP grant, and has served as a research assistant for three departments on campus: Psychology, Biological Sciences, and Chemistry. She has volunteered at Oswego’s local hospital, the International Volunteer Headquarters in the Philippines, and a children’s home in India. She has presented her research regionally and nationally, and was recently accepted into the Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine. Her GPA is 3.93.

Jennifer Ofodile
Brooklyn, NY
Biochemistry
Jennifer will graduate with a 4.0 GPA in biochemistry. She emigrated from Nigeria just a few years ago, and is the recipient of multiple awards, including the Stoper Math Award and the Monroe Scholarship for Physical Chemistry. Jennifer has served as a resident advisor, teaching assistant, tutor, and lab coordinator, and volunteers regularly both on and off campus. She works as a grain analyst for Purdue, Inc. at the Port Authority of Oswego.

Joely Rice
DeRuyter, NY
Broadcasting & Mass Communication
Joely has completed three internships in New York City, while completing her Oswego degree online. After a career as a teen model, represented by one of the top modeling agencies in the world, she turned her efforts to supporting and empowering aspiring teen models. Through live streaming apps, Joely has over 450,000 followers where she uses her platform to empower young women to gain confidence and to follow their dreams. Her cumulative GPA is 3.93.

Dylan Richmond
Johnson City, NY
Physics
Dylan was the lead author on research published in the Journal of Visualized Experiments, entitled “Inkjet Printing All Inorganic Halide Perovskite Inks for Photovoltaic Applications.” Starting as a Possibilities Scholar at SUNY Oswego, he has presented his research locally, state-wide, nationally, and internationally. Dylan completed two separate undergraduate research projects: one through the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and the other at the Max Planck Institute for Solar System Research in Göttingen, Germany. His GPA is 3.52.

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SUNY PLATTSBURGH
Arnold Barretto
Dubai, United Arab Emirates
Art
Arnold served as vice president of the Arts in the SUNY Plattsburgh Student Association, and he led a team of five designers as the art director of DoNorth Magazine. Arnold has published prints, photos, and video production, and is a regular contributor to local, regional, and national outlets. He also performed in several student productions, and has been recognized for his photography by various international competitions.
Ameet Kumar  
Karachi, Pakistan  
Economics, Finance, Accounting, Business Administration

Ameet balanced four majors, while completing seven internships, and participating in robust co-curricular experiences. He served as a head resident assistant where he provided leadership to peer staff members and support for an entire residence hall of undergraduates. Ameet was an officer for the Accounting and Finance Association, the Collegiate Entrepreneurs Organization, and the South Asian Student Association.

Miya Wickramasinghe  
Saranac, NY  
Theatre

Miya has extensive experience in theater as an actor and a variety of production positions, including stage manager, lighting designer, master electrician, makeup designer, and sound designer. She won the Award for Excellence in Allied Craft and the Honorable Mention Award for Makeup Design at the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival. Miya founded a charity “The Last Hope Fund,” which sponsors pre-teens/teenagers in third world countries to help them receive clean food/water, medical aid, and education.

SUNY POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE

Yangzi (Isabel) Tian  
Chino, CA  
Nanotechnology

Isabel received her Ph.D. in nanoscale engineering from SUNY Polytechnic in December 2018. During her graduate career, she served as the president of the SUNY Poly Graduate Student Government, advocating for additional services and more professional development opportunities for soon-to-be graduates. Isabel also led the NANO Mentoring Program, training new mentors and instructing over 300 middle/high school students in hands-on nanotechnology curriculum. Her passion for science communication has also led to illustrations in more than 15 scientific journals.

SUNY POTSDAM

Kadiatou Balde  
Bronx, NY  
Biology & Speech Communication

Kadiatou is a proud Guinean-American raised in Guinea and the Bronx. She is an Honors student and Presidential Scholar, double majoring in biology and speech communication, with a minor in Arabic studies. Kadiatou studied abroad in Morocco at the University of Al-Ahawayn, enhancing her language proficiency and doing research on Muslim women. She is a strong campus leader, serving as president of the Student Government Association and Ummah, and a member of the Bias Incident Team as well as numerous other capacities.

John Paliakkara  
Manlius, NY  
Biochemistry & Biology

John is a passionate, dedicated, and research-driven senior, double-majoring in biochemistry and biology who will start medical school next fall. He has excelled in academics and research throughout his undergraduate career, and has been recognized with many campus awards, including Mount Emmons, Alexander G Major, Ram Chugh, and Kilmer Fellowship. John has presented his research in chemistry at local and national American Chemical Society conferences. He is also a peer tutor with TRIO and an engaged student leader.

SUNY PURCHASE

Takashi Mukoda  
Higa-Hiroshima, Japan  
New Media/Mathematics/Computer Science

Takashi hails from Hiroshima, Japan, majoring in new media and mathematics/computer science with an impressive 4.22 GPA. He is fascinated by technology and its new art forms. Takashi has integrated his academic excellence with leadership, campus involvement, community service, creative and performing arts, and career achievement. Respected by his peers and faculty, he is a learning assistant for several courses and a technical reviewer for publishers.

Bailey Vaughn  
Ocala, FL  
Dance

Bailey is a dance major with a composition concentration minor in arts management. She will graduate from this rigorous and demanding program this May with a near-perfect GPA. Bailey has been featured in numerous roles from classical ballet to contemporary dance, and has created five original works. She is a resident assistant and an active volunteer who uses her dance to enrich communities. Bailey has received a contract to dance professionally after graduation.

ROCKLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Solange Hybel  
Nyack, NY  
Liberal Arts: Humanities and Social Sciences

With a 3.96 GPA, Solange has achieved great success at RCC. She is also president of Impulse, RCC’s literary magazine. Outside of the classroom, she is dedicated to her community, volunteering her time at the Nyack Library, and within the Edward Hopper House Museum in Nyack. She states it best when she says that she refuses to allow labels and price tags to drag her down.

Pinchas Kreizel  
Monsey, NY  
Liberal Arts: Humanities and Social Sciences

Pinchas grew up in an ultra-orthodox community in Monsey, NY that valued religious studies over secular subjects. Pinchas came to RCC with very little formal education. Despite this, he has secured a 4.0 GPA while balancing a culinary career on the side. He also contributes to the campus community by taking care of the grounds as a member of the Organic Gardening Club.

Zuzu Tadeushuk  
Chestnut Ridge, NY  
Liberal Arts: Humanities and Social Sciences

Zuzu excels in the classroom at RCC, obtaining a 4.0 GPA through the fall 2018 semester. She is a worldly individual, having initially deferred college to travel the world as a professional model, walking the runway for Valentino and Chanel and posing for French Vogue and Harper’s Bazaar. Using her experiences, Zuzu created an independent study on body image and the thin ideal.

SUNY SCHENECTADY COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Valerie Lenigk  
Niskayuna, NY  
Biology Concentration

Valerie was homeschooled until the age of 16, and at 15, she started taking college classes and made plans to major in science. During her time at SUNY Schenectady, she has been inducted into Phi Theta Kappa Society, and is on the President’s List. She serves as the Student Government Association president, putting in many hours for the success of the association.
Chandra Williams
Schaghticoke, NY
Biology Concentration
Chandra is a first-generation college student who is well-rounded and has the grit to succeed no matter what the obstacles are. She has demonstrated that she is remarkably intelligent and hard-working, with excellent leadership skills as well. She has maintained a GPA of 3.87, while also being an active member in her community and doing volunteer work at the college.

STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY

Peter Alsalam
Yonkers, NY
Biology
Peter is an aspiring physician in the Honors College who majors in biology and conducts medicinal chemistry research under Dr. Iwao Ojima. He is passionate about making science accessible to the public. He serves as president of Young Investigators Review, an undergraduate-run scientific research journal. Peter maintains a 4.0 GPA while serving his community as assistant vice president of Student Life & Programming in the Undergraduate Student Government and as head teaching assistant for organic chemistry.

Abigail Bishop
Greenfield Center, NY
Physics and Astronomy
Abigail is a physics and astronomy major at Stony Brook University who intends to pursue a Ph.D. and a career in research and education. She is a leader in the Women in Science and Engineering honors program, Special Olympics club, marching band, and the on-campus technology support office. Abigail has been engaged in astronomy and physics research on campus since May 2016. During summer 2018, she worked at CERN, the European organization for nuclear research and home of the world’s largest particle accelerator.

Carolyn Carrera
Riverhead, NY
Civil Engineering
Carolyn is a Division I scholarship student athlete on both the lacrosse and soccer teams at Stony Brook University. She is a civil engineering major, specializing in structural engineering and construction materials, with a minor in mechanical engineering. Carolyn mentors student athletes, tutors high school students, and has had four different engineering internships throughout college. She received the Class of 2018 Award for Academic Excellence in Civil Engineering, and is now pursuing her professional engineering license.

Ana Maria Carrion Rodriguez
Cadiz, Spain
Political Science; Spanish Language & Literature
Ana is a double major in political science and Spanish literature, who has served as captain of the women’s varsity tennis team, as a Student Ambassador, and as a Student Athlete First Year Seminar teaching assistant. She is also the recipient of the Joel Strum Kenny Athletic Scholarship. Ana attended the NCAA Apple Conference, and was named one of Stony Brook University’s Society of Distinguished Scholar Athletes. Ana is passionate about languages, and is bilingual in English and Spanish.

Janie Choi
Herndon, VA
Biochemistry
Janie is an aspiring physician and biochemistry major in University Scholars who has shadowed a pediatrician, worked as a geriatric intern at Stony Brook Primary Care and as an EMT at Port Jefferson EMS, and volunteered at Georgetown University’s Research Pharmacy. She conducts fMRI research on Parkinson’s Disease with Dr. Hoi-Chung Leung at Stony Brook University, and is a Korean Honor Scholarship recipient. By graduation, Janie will have worked as a teaching assistant for nine classes.

Thor Hawrey
Mastic, NY
Political Science
Thor is a political science major whose main interests are law, research, and service to his community. While achieving academic success at Stony Brook University, he has discovered many ways to explore and use his skills and interests to improve the lives of those around him. He has served on the President’s Council of Student Advisors, led CentriSeed Innovations, and organized fundraisers and coalitions to better the campus and world community.

Maitreyee Kale
Stamford, CT
Biochemistry
Maitreyee is a biochemistry major in the University Scholars honors program. She is chapter leader of the Hindu Students Council; promotes cultural awareness on campus; organizes Garba, Diwali, and Holi events; and is working to create a chaplaincy and temple room on campus. Maitreyee is passionate about education: she served as a teaching assistant for three courses, conducted research in chemistry education, and tutors children at the hospital.

Ryan Kawalerski
Elma, NY
Applied Math, Biochemistry
Ryan is a Goldwater Scholar and an applied mathematics and biochemistry double major in the Honors Colleges, who conducts research with Drs. Kenneth Shroyer and Luisa Escobar-Hoyos in pathology and Dr. Richard Moffitt in bioinformatics at Stony Brook Medicine. He currently leads the Stony Brook President’s Council of Student Advisors and Synthetic Biology Society. Ryan intends to earn his MD/Ph.D. degrees following graduation, and to pursue a career in clinical pathology and cancer research.

Jamie Kunzmann
Fairport, NY
Applied Math, Computer Science
Jamie is an applied mathematics and computer science double major in the University Scholars program who has received the Undergraduate Recognition Award for Academic Excellence, presented research at a national conference, and worked as a software engineering intern at Google. She demonstrated her passion for giving back through her roles as a peer mentor; teaching assistant; and mentor for kidOYO, a non-profit providing computer science educational outreach. Jamie also competed on the club soccer team.

Annet Kuruvilla
East Meadow, NY
Biochemistry
Annet is an aspiring physician, majoring in biochemistry in the Women in Science and Engineering (WISE) and Scholars for Medicine (BS/MD) programs. She is a Student Ambassador, a researcher in the Stony Brook Cancer Center, and is involved in two Indian dance teams on campus.

Ashley Schuette
Smithtown, NY
Nursing
Ashley is actively involved in both her school and state Student Nurses’ Associations Board of Directors. Her leadership experience includes community and campus involvement as
a mentor, athlete, teaching assistant, and student advocate. Ashley was a clinical intern in Cohen Children’s Medical Center’s Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, and plans to continue her career as a registered nurse in neonatal care.

Nicole Soder
Sound Beach, NY
Applied Math & Statistics
Nicole is an applied mathematics and statistics major in the Honors College at Stony Brook University with a minor in music theory. She is a research assistant at the Institute for Advanced Computational Science, and has worked as a research intern at Brookhaven National Laboratory. Nicole has also served as a teaching assistant, a peer tutor, commuter assistant, and concertmaster in the University Orchestra. She is currently applying to graduate school programs in operations research.

Kevin Tan
Staten Island, NY
Chemistry
Kevin is an aspiring physician in the University Scholars program pursuing a degree in chemistry at Stony Brook University. He conducts research in a chemical neurobiology lab, where he designs and synthesizes molecules to study the brain’s connections. Kevin is passionate about teaching, was the head undergraduate teaching assistant for molecular science, and was awarded the Paul Licht Teaching Fellowship. He is a runner, and competed in the 2017 Brooklyn Marathon.

Xicheng Zhou
Queens, NY
Social Welfare
Xicheng is a social welfare major at Stony Brook University, who has served as president of the Stony Brook HeForShe student chapter, and is a member of the Male Completion Team Initiative and the Student Life Advisory Council. He is a photographer for the Community of Awesome, a teaching assistant, an Undergraduate College Forever Fellow, and a dedicated campus tour guide. He believes in the importance of social justice and of helping those in need.

SUFFOLK COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Joseph Adelmann
Huntington, NY
Radio & Television Production
Joseph has a 4.0 grade point average, and has been on the Dean’s List every semester for the last two years. Joseph serves as program director of Suffolk Community College’s Internet Radio and as a crew member, covering the live remote broadcast of the NJCAA Division III Basketball Tournament.

Timothy Atchison
Babylon, NY
Liberal Arts Psychology
Timothy, who has a 4.0 grade point average, has earned Dean’s List recognition every semester during the last two years. He serves as a peer mentor, Orientation Planning Committee member, student scribe, and student representative for conduct hearings.

Jerome Bost
Riverhead, NY
Liberal Arts General Studies
Jerome has a 3.8 grade point average, and has served on SCCC’s Board of Trustees for the past two years. He also served as vice president of the Student Government Association, and is a Get There From Here Scholar.

Allessandra Domingo
Babylon, NY
Communication Studies
Allessandra has a 3.7 grade point average, and has earned Dean’s List recognition for the past two years. Allessandra serves as a peer mentor, Student Government Association vice president, and Orientation Planning Committee member.

Blake Gifford
Oakdale, NY
Liberal Arts
Blake has a 3.9 grade point average, and has been on the Dean’s List every semester for the past two years. Blake serves as vice president of leadership for Phi Theta Kappa, and is a Get There From Here Scholar and a licensed captain for the Coast Guard.

Corianna Lipira
Manorville, NY
Human Services
Corianna has a 3.8 grade point average, and has been on the Dean’s List every semester for the last two years. Corianna serves as the Student Government Association secretary, and is an orientation leader and a Get There From Here Scholar.

Chioma Oghenekome
Lindenhurst, NY
Liberal Arts
Chioma, who has a 3.8 grade point average, has earned Dean’s List recognition every semester during the last two years. Chioma serves as a peer mentor, vice president of services for Phi Theta Kappa, and college committee director for the Student Government Association.

Amanda Pacholik
West Sayville, NY
Liberal Arts Mathematics
Amanda, who has a 4.0 grade point average, has earned Dean’s List recognition every semester for the last two years. Amanda serves as vice president for scholarship for Phi Theta Kappa, and is an orientation leader and a Get There From Here Scholar.

Kristen Quere
Commack, NY
Criminal Justice
Kristen has a 4.0 grade point average, and has earned Dean’s List recognition every semester for the past two years. Kristen serves as president of the Student Government Association and SUNY SA deputy director of Campus Safety, and is a peer mentor as well.

Michelle Wilcox
Westhampton, NY
Business Administration
Michelle has a 4.0 grade point average, and has earned Dean’s List recognition every semester for the past two years. Michelle serves as chapter president of Alpha Eta Psi, Alpha Beta Gamma, and Alpha Sigma Lambda. She is also a Get There From Here Scholar.

SUNY SULLIVAN

Marissa Gennaro
Monticello, NY
Biology
Marissa, who came to SUNY Sullivan on a Presidential Scholarship, aspires to be a plastic surgeon. In addition to earning Dean’s List, and achieving a 3.42 GPA, Marissa was inducted into the National Society of Leadership and Success this past May. She was recently accepted into the Bridges to Baccalaureate Summer Research Program. Outside the classroom, Marissa is an active member of the GAMA Club, and has served as president of the club for the past two years.
Promotion.

as a Lerner Fellow for Public Health and advocacy, including selection for leadership, community service, work, and has won many awards for published scientific papers and literary recollections and workshops. She has published scientific papers and literary work, and has won many awards for her leadership, community service, and advocacy, including selection as a Lerner Fellow for Public Health Promotion.

WESTCHESTER COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Rafakatu Abubakar
Accra, Ghana
Business Administration
Rafa was born in Accra, Ghana, and throughout her life she has strived for excellence in higher education while engaging in community service and leadership roles. Despite coming from a community where women’s education is not prioritized, she had an interest in education, which began at an early age. At WCC, she is an admissions ambassador, participant in the Commit to Change Leadership Program, student representative for the Clinton Global Initiative, and Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society member.

John Henry
Valhalla, NY
Engineering Science
John has been an active community member while enrolled at WCC. He has made the President’s List numerous times, and is both an officer of the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society and secretary of the Student Government Association. He was also an orientation leader, for which he received the Lauren D’Amato Orientation Leader Award. John also received grant money for a community project pertaining to food insecurity and malnutrition while volunteering for other organizations on campus.

Priscila Largo
Ossining, NY
Liberal Arts Math & Science
Priscila is a first-generation high school graduate and college student. At WCC, she is an active leader of the campus chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, and she currently serves as the PTK President. She also is the vice president of Retention & Recruitment for WEB, the campus’ programming board, an admissions ambassador, and an orientation Leader/peer advisor. Priscila hopes to show students that anything is possible with determination, consistency, and resilience.

Elizabeth Lugones
Rye, NY
Liberal Arts Math and Science
Elizabeth has served as president and vice president of Honors in Action for Phi Theta Kappa Honors Society. She is a recipient of the Rice Family Computer and Technology Scholarship and the Kathryn Davis Global Community Scholarship. Elizabeth was also selected for the Workplace Culture Coaching Program,

TOMPKINS CORTLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Nicholas Brown
Spencer, NY
Computer Science
While at Tompkins Cortland Community College, Nicholas was consecutively on the Dean’s List. He was the president of Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, served on the Faculty Student Association Board of Directors as a student representative, and was a Finance Committee member.

Austin Kulas
Moravia, NY
Criminal Justice
Austin was a member and captain of the men’s basketball team, serving on the Athletic Advisory Board. He consecutively achieved the Dean’s List, and is a member of Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society.

SUNY ULSTER

Rae Anderson
Saugettes, NY
L.A. Humanities & Social Sciences
Rae, an Honors Program student with an overall GPA of 3.98, is committed to campus life, serving as an association director, Phi Theta Kappa member, and Student Government representative for the LGBTQ club. A founder of the first annual “PRIDESgiving” on campus for the LGBTQ community, Rae volunteers in SUNY Ulster’s Food Pantry, and has worked on Title IX awareness, advocating for survivors. A three-time President’s List recipient, Rae plans to pursue a career in Library Science.

UPSTATE MEDICAL UNIVERSITY

Jordana Gilman
Rochester, NY
Medicine & Public Health
While completing MD and MPH degree programs, Jordana pursued her passion for advocacy and public policy by addressing healthcare access for vulnerable populations. She completed projects in public health and trans health medical education, and presented her work at conferences and workshops. She has published scientific papers and literary work, and has won many awards for her leadership, community service, and advocacy, including selection as a Lerner Fellow for Public Health Promotion.

Manuel Tejeira
Ossining, NY
Liberal Arts Math and Science
Manuel is an incredibly active student. He has been a member of the varsity soccer team, Student Government, Honors Program, and Commit to Change Leadership Development program. Further, he is an active volunteer in a local hospital, and founder of the college’s Chess Club. Manuel is also very dedicated to his students. He has been named to the college’s President’s List nearly every semester he has attended, and he proudly boasts a perfect 4.0 GPA.

Jade Watts
New Rochelle, NY
Communications and Media Arts
After becoming an orientation leader in 2017, Jade discovered her love for helping others and serving her community. She became the program director of WCC’s radio station, an orientation coordinator, and the vice president of the Student Government Association. During her time at WCC, Jade worked hard academically to raise her GPA from a 1.96 to a 3.2.