

College of Art, Humanities, and Social Sciences
Awards and Honors
Academic Year 2020

Division of Arts and Humanities

Department of Communications

Leona Henshaw Thatcher Eubank Memorial Scholarship

Designated for juniors or seniors from WV or MD
displaying excellence in speech communications or forensics.

Serafina Maerten

Fina is smart, motivated, and always ready. She has a great strength for preparation and planning, and is always thinking several steps into the future. From classwork, to working on team projects, to advisement meetings, Fina is on top of things. Her combination of can-do attitude, work ethic, organizational skills, and brains are a force to be reckoned with.

Alma L. Strider Christian Scholarship

Designated for business or communications majors.

Jessica Daughtry

Jessica is an intelligent, curious, and self-motivated student. Her performance in class is always above and beyond expectations. In addition to her strong work ethic, Jessica is a creative and talented filmmaker.

Vera Malton Scholarship

Designated for English and communications students.

Madeline McClellan

Madeline has been a consistent contributor to campus life through her work with the student newspaper, athletics, and her willingness just to be there for various Communication Department sponsored events. Of particular note is her contribution to The Picket as a co-editor and student journalist. Madeline is valued for her friendly, compassionate, level-headed decision making and dependability.

Outstanding Digital Filmmaking Student Award

Designated for student exhibiting excellence in digital media production as well as strong leadership skills. Communication digital filmmaking faculty may nominate one student for this award.

Juneau Daggs

Juneau is an outstanding student. He is quiet in large groups, but when addressed about his work, he is vocal, passionate, and meticulous. I am certain that he will become an outstanding professional; his potential outweighs even his significant accomplishments.

Outstanding Strategic Communication Student Award

Designated for student exhibiting excellence in Strategic Communication as well as strong leadership skills. The Strategic Communication program director may nominate one student for this award.

Paola Torres

Paola is a powerful force for good, both in the department and in the wider world. She brings warmth and her bright attitude into any room she enters. Paola leaves a smile on the face of everyone she meets. She puts others before her and has a deep passion for understanding and helping those in need. Combined with her diligence, intelligence, and determination, we know that Paola is on to great things.

Outstanding Student Journalist Award

Designated for student exhibiting excellence in various journalistic areas as well as strong leadership skills. Faculty Adviser to the Picket and Communication faculty may nominate one student for this award.

Ryan Stickel

Ryan has produced quality work, and has done so on a consistent basis. He maintains a positive attitude and did not hesitate to take on more responsibilities as the Managing Editor of The Picket in Spring 2020.

Outstanding Student Broadcaster Award

Designated for student exhibiting excellence as a broadcaster for WSHC radio. The WSHC General Manager and Communication faculty may nominate one student for this award.

Hailey Bricker

Having already earned a BA in Music (Voice) from Shepherd, Hailey Bricker has entered broadcasting at WSHC with a professional vocal quality rare in student media. Her engaging personality, enthusiasm and stage presence provide Hailey with the ability to enjoy on-air performance and to share that joy with the audience. Hailey co-hosts a program featuring conspiracy theories on WSHC.

Communication Student of the Year Award

Designated for student exhibiting all-around excellence as a communication practitioner and scholar. The WSHC General Manager and Communication faculty may nominate one student for this award.

Dominique Mosey

Dominique Mosey has set a high bar for Communication majors in the years she has been in the program. "Niqe" models a level of professionalism and kindness that makes her respected by her peers as well as her professors. A team player, she is quick to help her fellow students and chip in where help is needed, all while maintaining a calm attitude. Just as impressive are her time management skills. She excels at her classwork even while working in the Student Employment office. An all-around excellent student, we are sure she will succeed in whatever she does.

Department of Contemporary Art & Theater

C. Brown & Hazel Hendricks Award

Art Major

Abigail Bowman

Abby is an exceptionally responsible and enthusiastic students. She always has a smile on her face and dives into whatever project she is working on.

Catherine Saunders Award

Art Education major

Savannah Grammo

Savannah is a thoughtful and inquisitive student who is always prepared for class. She is especially good at taking critical feedback and applying it to improve her work.

Jeffrey Miller Award

Graphic Design Major

Rebecca Reissig

Rebecca brings a passion and sense of humor to her design work, a combination that often results in solutions that "outside the box," effective and very personal. She contributed design to Shepherd's recent Day of Giving campaign.

Joanna Blundell Award

Art Major

Hakema Mutanu

Hakema is an extremely dedicated student who regularly performs well above her peers. She has made exceptional sacrifices on behalf of her education and is a great example to the students who witness how hard she works.

Minerva P. Bancroft Award

Female Theater Major

Danielle Beauclair

Outstanding Senior in Art Education

Sophie Cochran

Sophie is a student that teachers love to teach. She is always engaged in classes, talks to her teachers outside of class, and has a genuine interest in learning material. The art faculty are confident she will be a great teacher herself in the near future.

Outstanding Senior in Graphic Design

Molly Henry

Molly is simply a model student. She has had many positions of leadership and often carries those around her through the finish line. She is extremely intellectually gifted, has a great eye for design, and is a great writer as well.

Outstanding Senior in Painting

Alizah Lathrop

Alizah is the kind of student that always sets the high bar in every class she takes. Her positive personality is infectious, and her intellectual and artistic skills are both exceptional. She always goes out of her way to do little things to thank her teachers and show her appreciation. In short, she is a great student.

Outstanding Senior in Photography

Noah Stottlemeyer

Noah is a very hard working and dedicated student. He is very responsible and always has his work done on time. He also has an infectious personality and always makes the people around him better as well.

Rauch Arts Scholarship

Sarah Flesher

Sarah approaches her design projects with a commitment to research and an openness to exploring multiple possibilities. She has no hesitation about putting in as many hours as are necessary to execute her solutions in the most professional way possible.

Outstanding Senior in Studio Arts

Nevada Tribble

Nevada is a great artist. She has approached the making of art in a very serious way, and it has resulted in her creating pieces of art that rise above her peers. Her work has been featured on our campus and has won numerous awards in the past three years.

McMillan Family Scholarship

Theater major - West Virginia Resident

Danielle Beauclair

McMillan Family Scholarship

Theater major - West Virginia Resident

Jami Hartman

Andrew Michael Award

Theater Major

Jack Dempsey

Department of English and Modern Languages

Outstanding English Major

Linnea Meyer

Linnea Meyer is a presence in any class she takes. She is intelligent, well-spoken, and professional. Her seriousness and dedication, however, are complemented by an extremely dry sense of humor that begins to make its presence known once she feels comfortable with her surroundings. Linnea entered Shepherd as a Nursing major in the Honors program, and it was a real coup for our department when she decided to become, instead, an English major with a concentration in Creative Writing. She has provided an invaluable service to her peers as a writing tutor in the Academic Support Center and has presented scholarly papers at local and state-wide colloquia. Linnea was even invited to present some of her creative work at Sigma Tau Delta's annual international conference in Las Vegas, but the COVID-19 outbreak brought all travel and public gatherings to a halt. The world beyond Shepherd's campus better get ready; Linnea's about to break lose, and she's going to make an impact.

Outstanding English Major, Creative Writing Concentration

Andrea Monsma

Along with being a very talented writer of poetry, fiction and drama, Andrea Monsma is the founder of the Creative Writing Club at Shepherd University. She is also a senior editor for Sans Merci, and in the spring of 2019, her play Welcome to the Poetry Club was performed by Shepherd University's Rude Mechanicals.

Outstanding English Major, Literature Concentration

Alexandra McCarron

Alex McCarron writes about literature with the sophistication of a much more seasoned scholar. Consider her essay on Job's wife, a compelling and delightful analysis about a character given exactly one line of dialogue in the Bible. Alex later published this piece in Sparks and presented it at a regional conference. Alex has also been a model of the engaged student-scholar, serving as Student Representative for the Eastern Region of Sigma Tau Delta.

Outstanding Spanish Major

Henri Navarrette

"We are very proud to award the Outstanding Spanish major award to Henry Stanley Navarrete Méndez. He will complete a Bachelor of Arts in Spanish and a Bachelor of Science in Computer and Information Technology. He is the president of the graduating senior class and has received the David Merchant International Student Award at the national Phi Beta Delta conference in 2019. Originally from El Salvador, Henry has fully embraced life in the United States and at Shepherd University. He is involved with the Social Justice Project, the International Student Leadership Team, Phi Beta Delta Honor Society for International Scholars, Shepherd University's Internationalization Advisory Council and he is Founder and President of Global Shepherd Students. Henry has given numerous presentations. Just last year he gave a Voices on Campus Presentation entitled "Latin Voices on Campus."

Outstanding Spanish Minor

Ellie George

Ellie George would have made a fantastic English major, but since she chose Chemistry instead, we will settle for her being a fantastic English minor. Ellie works hard, thinks critically, and writes beautifully on all manner of topics. A true model of a well-rounded student, excelling in both arts and sciences, Ellie's thoughtful contributions make her a welcome presence in any classroom.

Outstanding Spanish Minor

Sergio Tacarara

Sergio Tacaraya is a Business Administration Major and Spanish Minor. He plans on serving in the Peace Corps in Paraguay after graduation and wants to share his experiences while working to advise the host country nationals in Business Development practices. The course work here at

Shepherd benefitted him because learning the language and understanding different cultures will prepare him for cultural adjustments.

Outstanding Modern Languages Minor

Annabelle Guice

Annabelle-Guice is a Modern Languages minor majoring in digital filmmaking. During her time at Shepherd, she has done outstanding work in both her French and German classes, shining through her curiosity and eagerness to learn. She is also a warm, caring person who collaborates well with others, a trait that will stand her in good stead after her graduation in December 2020. She is currently completing an independent study on the development of the science fiction genre in France that ties in with her major, as we have been analyzing early film masterpieces by directors such as Georges Méliès and René Clair.

Vera Malton Scholarship

Ashley Hess

During her time at Shepherd University, Ashley Hess has excelled as both a creative writer and a scholar. She is an editor for *Sans Merci*, and she presented her paper “Ovid’s *Metamorphoses* as a Feminist Text” for Hood College’s Discovering the Humanities Conference in September 2019, a paper that was also published in *Sparks*, Shepherd University’s on-line journal.

Nellie Gant Scholarship

Fiona Tracey

Fiona Tracey is a poet and a scholar. She has presented papers at the Discovering the Humanities Conference and the West Virginia Literary Symposium. She is a member of Sigma Tau Delta, interned for the Society of Creative Writing, is working on the Department Newsletter, and is the Senior Poetry Editor for *Sans Merci*.

Dr. Lee and Wanda Keebler Scholarship

Virginia Robbins

Virginia Robbins is an outstanding student—extremely hard working, always going the extra mile. After homeschooling her sons, she felt that education was a field she would enjoy and could contribute to. After graduating with a degree in Secondary English Education, she plans to seek a Master’s degree in Educational Psychology and Curriculum Design and Technology. Her teachers in the English Department are confident that she will become an outstanding teacher, just as she is an outstanding student.

Dr. Lee and Wanda Keebler Scholarship

Brandon Hagen

Brandon Hagen is not just a talented reader and writer, capable of terrific analysis and insight, but also an amazing teacher-in-training. Brandon thinks, talks and acts like an educator. He's creative, thoughtful, compassionate, and completely invested in tea.

Catherine Fix Contest Essay Awards

Outstanding essays from First-year Writing classes

1. Joshua Walker, "A Case for Multiculturalism"
2. Nick Brown, "Comedy in Social Justice"
3. Thomas Burst, "More than a Restaurant"

Department of History

Outstanding Overall History Major

The Outstanding Overall History Major is awarded to the graduating senior whose academic achievement and departmental contribution is worthy of the highest praise.

Allison Brashears

Allison Brashears, a History Major in the Historic Preservation and Public History Concentration, is awarded the Outstanding Overall History Major award. Allison is a double major in History and English and has excelled in both. She's a member of Sigma Tau Delta and Phi Alpha Theta (English and History Honors Societies, respectively), she has presented at academic conferences, and is an editor for Sans Merci, the student-run creative arts magazine at Shepherd. She completed an internship in New York state where she explored how American women in the late nineteenth century used society's newfound fascination with outdoor leisure to challenge traditional gender expectations. Upon graduation she will start an apprenticeship with the Historic Preservation Training Center of the National Park Service, working in the Environmental Stewards Program.

Gender and Women's Studies minor

Outstanding Gender and Women's Studies Minor

Claire Tryon

JoAnne Greenlee Award

The JoAnne Greenlee award is presented to the History Major who exhibits excellence in academics with a concentration on the study of Women's History.

Claire Tryon

Claire Tryon, History Major in the General Concentration, and Gender and Women's Studies minor is awarded the Jo Anne Greenlee award for outstanding History major in the area of Women's Studies as well as the Outstanding Gender and Women's Studies Minor awarded by the Gender and Women's Studies Board. In 2017, Claire was nominated to take part in the Andrew C. Mellon funded COPLAC Digital Humanities program. Her work for the initiative on the topic of the Washington DC feminist separatist group known as the Furies was so impressive that it served as the foundation for a week of events organized by students in the History, English, and Political Science departments in Spring 2019 and was a springboard for similar events she organized this spring for Women's Week. Claire's capstone research paper is focused on three women's organizations: Community Educational Outreach Service, the rural lesbian separatist movement, and the Arden United Methodist Women.

Outstanding History Major in General History Concentration

The Outstanding History Major in the General History concentration is awarded to the graduating senior whose academic achievement and departmental contribution is worthy of the highest praise.

Jackie Wantz

Jackie Wantz, a History Major in the General History Concentration, is awarded the Outstanding Major award in her concentration. Jackie has exhibited an outstanding work ethic throughout her academic career. She has often gone above and beyond what is required academically and participated in a number of departmental initiatives and research activities. Jackie is interested in pursuing a graduate degree in Public History. This interest is reflected in her Capstone Project, which compares the way three popular museums sensationalize death and crime as a means to curate an experience that brings their desired narrative to their patrons. Because of the nature of the events that took place at each site sensationalizing their history is necessary to their function but often at the expense of historical accuracy.

Outstanding History Major in Civil War and 19th Century Concentration

The Outstanding History Major in the Civil War and 19th Century America Concentration is awarded to the graduating senior whose academic achievement and departmental contribution is worthy of the highest praise

Katlin McCreery

Katlin McCreery, a History Major in the Civil War and Nineteenth-century America Concentration, is awarded the Outstanding Student award in her concentration. Katlin markedly improved her academic record while at Shepherd and excelled in the major. Katlin's vibrant personality positively influenced her peers and shaped the classroom environment. She served as a popular president of the very active Living History club. Katlin completed an internship at the Frontier Culture Museum of Virginia and so impressed the organization's staff that she now works there full-time. Katlin excels at interpretative and educational programming bringing smart and creative sensibilities to her presentations and demonstrations. Katlin's Capstone project entwined material culture and gender theory to offer a lively discussion of how white Southern women responded to the Civil War through various mourning rituals.

Outstanding History Major in Historic Preservation and Public History Concentration

The Outstanding History Major in the Historic Preservation and Public History Concentration is awarded to the graduating senior whose academic achievement and departmental contribution is worthy of the highest praise.

Michael Mastrianni

Michael Mastrianni, a History Major in the Historic Preservation and Public History concentration is the recipient of the Outstanding Major award in that field. Michael has demonstrated a remarkable level of involvement and a relentless work ethic. He has served on Shepherd's Student Life Council, in numerous capacities. He has been a member of the Student Government Association since 2018 and has served as secretary and treasurer of Phi Alpha Theta, Shepherd's History Honors Society. His research credentials are also impressive: He worked with the Robert C. Byrd archives to process one of its congressional collections, and he worked with history professor Dr. Bankhurst to complete transcriptions of claims commission records. He is completing his senior honors and capstone thesis on Black Maryland Loyalists.

School of Music

Elise Hoch Award

Awarded to either music or life sciences major.

Korinne Myers

Outstanding Music Major

Joshua Smith

Outstanding Freshman Music Major

Natalie McGeachy

Outstanding Freshman Music Major

Joseph Rupert

Outstanding Sophomore Music Major

Patrick Anthony

Outstanding Junior Music Major

Korinne Myers

Outstanding Senior Music Major

Kyle Colliflower

Choral Award

John French Wilkins

Voice Award

Shenandoah Sokel

Jazz Award

Jerel Parker

Composition Award

Daniel Morris

Band Award

Joanie Dyer

Band Award

Griffin Haines

Piano Award

Korinne Myers

Music Education

Samantha Vaughn

Music Theory

Isaac Vila

Music Theory Service & Tutoring

Patrick Anthony

Music History

Javier Flores

Orchestra

Ismael Salgado

Orchestra

Joanie Dyer

Orchestra

Joshua Smith

Orchestra

Andelena Jackson

Division of Social and Behavioral Sciences

Department of Psychology

Psychology Leadership Award

The Psychology Student Leadership Award is presented to a senior Psychology major who has provided exemplary leadership through the promotion of departmental values and ethics in and out of the classroom. Students are either self or peer nominated and must graduate in May, August or December 2020. This award is sponsored by the Shepherd University Lifelong Learning Program.

Michaela Sencindiver

Michaela is the president of our chapter of Psi Chi, the international honor society in psychology. She is also the Membership Chair for the Alpha Phi Omega service fraternity and is past president of the Sociology Club.

C. Brown & Hazel Hendricks Scholarship

The C. Brown and Hazel M. Hendricks Scholarship is designated for students majoring in home economics and family life, or related fields such as psychology, arts and music. This endowment was established by Hazel Hendricks '34 to honor her and her husband's high regards for a Shepherd education, especially in the field of home economics. Students must be a Family and Consumer Sciences (or related major such as psychology) with a minimum GPA of 2.5 and enrolled full-time during the 2020-21 academic year.

Kady Sanogo

This scholarship is awarded to a rising sophomore Psychology Major who has shown outstanding academic potential.

Kenneth Riley Memorial Scholarship

The Kenneth Riley Memorial Scholarship is designated for students majoring in psychology. This endowment was established by Ursula Riley in memory of her husband, Kenneth, a professor in education at Shepherd College beginning in 1956.

Veronica McDade

This scholarship is awarded to a rising senior Psychology Major who has demonstrated excellence in the study of psychology.

Tri-State Civitan Scholarship

The Tri-State Civitan Scholarship is designated for students from West Virginia, Maryland, or Pennsylvania who are majoring in nursing, social work, or psychology. This endowment was created by William H. McLean with the continued support from the Tri-State Civitan Club.

Megan Shoemaker

This scholarship is awarded to a rising senior Psychology Major who has demonstrated excellence in the study of psychology.

Department of Political Science, Global Studies, & Geography

Excellence in Geography

Academic excellence

Noelle Kesner

Noelle Kesner is an excellent student who demonstrates diligence in her global studies coursework and a natural inclination toward cultural and environmental geography. She wrote: "Learning about other cultures and accepting orientations and practices that vary vastly from my own is

crucial to expand my world view....I challenge myself daily to think about issues from multiple perspectives." Growing up with programs like 4-H and working with AmeriCorps' Energy Express, Noelle has a strong sense of commitment to the greater community, from local to global. Noelle is pursuing a bachelor's degree in Global Studies with a concentration in Global Environments and a minor in Innovation. Her special interests are community service, art, photography, and environmental relief, key ingredients as she applies her geographic knowledge to future study and a career. She is a senior from Fort Ashby, West Virginia.

Excellence in Geography

Academic excellence

Colton Blackwell

Colton Blackwell has demonstrated excellence in his geography coursework while also showing uncommon promise for applying his geographic knowledge in a future career. His course work and class participation are evidence of his natural talents in the discipline. He can easily integrate and analyze physical and cultural concepts from texts and maps. His positive attitude, reliability, and attention to detail will open doors for him in his future. He is an avid outdoorsman and adventurer, eager to talk about his experiences and interests and able to relate them with ease to geographic concepts. His special interests are music, sports, and almost anything outdoors. Colton is a serious and dedicated student pursuing a program of study in history and geography. For Colton, geography is clearly fundamental, life-long, and life-enhancing.

Political Leadership, Activism, and Citizenship (PLAC) Award

Political Science or Global Studies Major, with exceptional engagement and leadership, on or off campus, in participating in student organizations, charitable or philanthropic activities, or otherwise has vigorously worked to achieve political or social change.

Danielle Stephenson

Danielle Stephenson is a senior political science major from Charles Town, West Virginia. She is involved in many Shepherd University clubs and organizations. Danielle serves as the current Student Government Association Vice President and is a member of the Delta Zeta Sorority. Aside from her many campus roles, Danielle was selected to participate in political leadership activities in Washington, D.C. as a student lobbyist for the Fraternal Governmental Relations Coalition. She also participates in community outreach through her personally developed youth drug use prevention program. Upon graduating from Shepherd University, Danielle will be pursuing a Master of Arts in College Student Development and Administration with hopes of working in higher education policy.

Outstanding Senior in Political Science Award

Awarded to Political Science Student with Exemplary Academic Performance

Kenrick Pluck

Kenrick Pluck is a Political Science major/Business Administration minor and a graduating senior at Shepherd. He's employed as a Security Systems Programmer at Datawatch Systems in Bethesda,

Maryland. Additionally, he's an independent immigration consultant on policy and procedures. He holds an associate degree in Business Administration from Montgomery College and a diploma in Radio Broadcasting from the Columbia School of Broadcasting and intends to pursue a master's degree in public policy in the Fall. He aspires to political office in his native country of Guyana upon gaining policy development experience in government or with inter-governmental organizations. He considers himself a global citizen and a humanitarian with a desire to invest in people through education: he's the benefactor for two students at KNUST University in Ghana, Africa.

Outstanding senior in Global Studies Award

Awarded to Global Studies Student with Exemplary Academic Performance

Savannah Maguire

Savannah Maguire is a global studies major with a concentration in global culture and history, focusing on the Asian region. During her time at Shepherd University, she worked with the Study Abroad Office and the Study Abroad Club to promote global awareness and to assist students in their own study abroad endeavors. Her passion lies in learning about other countries, being involved in her own community, and making people smile. After graduation, she hopes to work in international development and to own many dogs (in particular boxers).

G.D. Bragaw Scholarship

Political Science Major

Bridgette Aguilar-Dishman

Bridgette Aguilar-Dishman was born in Tacoma, Washington and grew up in Albuquerque, New Mexico where she lived most of her life before beginning college. During her time at La Cueva High School she gained an interest in Psychology and wanted to leave New Mexico for Virginia where she wanted to study either Political Psychology or Forensic Psychology. She planned to attend NOVA and when she arrived in Virginia, life had other plans for her and a year later she enrolled at Shepherd University. She's gained so many wonderful experiences that have helped her prepare for graduate school, only a few of which include being on the Debate team for a semester and getting the chance to work at the newly established Stubblefield Institute.

James S. Hafer Scholarship

Political Science Major, 3.0 GPA, Sophomore or Junior

Jordan Jalil

Jordan Jalil is a 1st generation Pakistani, and a senior double majoring in political science and economics at Shepherd University. As an active member of the Shepherd debate and forensics team, and student representative on the board of advisers for the Stubblefield Institute for Civil Political

Communication, she is passionate about political discourse and the importance of developing the next generation of statesmen in America. Jordan is dedicated to pursuing a career in national security and law in order to address the weaknesses within our own society that make us vulnerable to threats – domestically and abroad. Culture, economics, rule of law and political interactions are key components that drive any country forward, and Jordan is dedicated to serving her nation in an impactful and tangible way by focusing on those crucial inputs.

Harry V. Klug Scholarship

Political Science Major

Jennifer Jaafar

Jennifer Jaafar is from Germantown, Maryland. She is majoring in Global Studies. She is interested in traveling and learning new languages and hopes to one day work for the government as a foreign service officer in the US Department of State. Her inspiration in the field comes from her father, who is currently a chief of Translation and Interpretation at the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq. Her hobbies include exercise, reading, traveling, and cooking. She is thinking about joining a sorority at Shepherd University next Fall and trying out for the tennis team. She is active in the Swim Club and Torrents Philosophy Club at Shepherd.

Louise Leonard Scholarship

Political Science Major and West Virginia Resident

Elana Gutmann

Elana Gutmann is currently a sophomore pursuing a Bachelor of Arts degree (B.A.) in Global Studies, with a concentration in Global Governance and Peace. She is the president in the Rotaract Club, a community service organization associated with Rotary International that focuses on cooperating with international partners to solve problems. She is a sister of the Delta Zeta sorority, where she is the Academics Chairman and Sisterhood Enhancement Chairman. She currently works with the Admissions Office as a Student Ambassador. She will be a Resident Assistant (R.A.) in the 2020-2021 school year. She has served as the representative for the freshman and sophomore classes in the Student Life Council.

Department of Sociology, Criminology, & Criminal Justice

VJ Brown Writing Excellence Award

The VJ Brown Writing Excellence Award is granted to a student with unique and innovative research in the areas of sociology, anthropology, or criminal justice.

Jensen Flannery

Jensen Flannery is an Honors student, majoring in Sociology-Criminal Justice and minoring in Psychology. Jensen conducted a gender and race-ethnic analysis of representations of both the victims and the accused on Law and Order: SVU. This eloquent and insightful senior thesis argued the media serves as an agent of socialization, impacting perceptions of crime and race relations. She has demonstrated exceptional reasoning and writing abilities throughout her studies. Jensen is consistently on the Dean's List, she is a member of Psi Chi, and has been invited to Alpha Kappa Delta. Jensen volunteered with the Eastern Panhandle Empowerment Center which supports survivors of violence. She has applied for an internship with the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children where she hopes to work while pursuing a Forensic Psychology Master's.

Outstanding Social Action Research Award

The Outstanding Social Action Research Award is given to a student who conducts social change or social action research in effort to make a positive impact in the community.

Kylee Eyler

Kylee Eyler is majoring in Sociology-Criminal Justice and minoring in Psychology. She exhibited excellence by using research to shift attitudes, values, and actions to address social problems in a positive way. In fall 2019, Kylee received the Legreid Student Research Award to present at the Social Changes, Humanities and Education International Conference in Washington, D.C.. Her presentation titled "The Theory of Socio-cultural Sustainability" included planning for building relationships and sustainable communities including actions and activities that support mental health and compassion for healing. Her senior thesis project focused on natural environments and their impact on health and well-being. Kylee is Vice President of the Sociology-Criminology Club and has been invited to join Alpha Kappa Delta. Upon graduation, she plans to apply her social action research working for a non-profit or government agency providing employment, academic support, and accessibility services for young adults with special needs.

Outstanding Junior in Sociology

The Outstanding Junior in Sociology Award is given to a student whose academic accomplishment and involvement is exceptional and deserving of the highest praise.

Sarah Leonguerrero

Sarah Leonguerrero is majoring in Sociology-Criminal Justice and minoring in Anthropology and Global Studies. She exemplifies academic excellence while involving herself in extensive service. Sarah is an avid scholar who conducted a quantitative demographic study on views toward immigration. She is regularly on the Dean's List and she presented research at the 2019 Mid-Atlantic Undergraduate Social Science Research Conference. As a junior she secured the 2019 Federal Bureau of Investigation Honors Internship, a prestigious first step on her desired career path. Having demonstrated leadership and civic engagement, Sarah was selected as the 2020 Guam Society Cherry Blossom Princess. She is a member of the Alpha Sigma Tau sorority, the Sociology-Criminology Club, and Circle K, and has been invited to join Alpha Kappa Delta. The Sociology, Criminology, and Criminal Justice Department faculty agree that Sarah is exceptional and deserving of recognition.

Department of Social Work

Outstanding Social Work Senior

Students are nominated and selected by their peers in the senior class of SOWK majors.

Autumn Gray

Autumn Gray completed her senior social work internship at Hospice of the Panhandle, where she demonstrated relentless commitment to helping her clients achieve their end-of-life goals and dogged persistence in connecting them with needed resources. She was a dedicated advocate and a conscientious patient and family educator. Autumn was able to integrate social work knowledge and her own loss experiences with her characteristic humility and openness to learning from others - both clients and staff. Her compassion, competence and preparation resulted in the offer of a full-time staff position with Hospice following graduation. Autumn carries herself with a quiet dignity that serves as a calming influence on those around her. Autumn is a student member of the Social Work Program's advisory board.

Outstanding Social Work Intern

Students are nominated by their agency field instructors and selected by the social work faculty.

Raina Edwards

Raina Edwards completed her senior social work internship at Project Aware in Berkeley County Schools. Raina's field instructor, Joni Greenberg, nominated her for this award and describes her as having insight, instinct that can't be taught, and skills that exceed her experiences. Raina's work this year has gone beyond addressing teachers' concerns about classroom behaviors to examining the bigger picture; her efforts with one particular student have changed staff's perception from that of a disobedient child to one who is potentially gifted - this child's entire outlook on school has changed. Individual attention and Interventions like this one are characteristic of Raina's practice with clients. Congratulations, Raina!

