



Honors and Awards
2020



Honors and Awards

INTRODUCTION

Dr. Michele Gillespie, *Dean, Wake Forest College*

To our 2020 College Honors and Awards recipients,

As Dean of the College, I look forward each year to one of my favorite Commencement traditions, recognizing the incredible effort by our students during the Honors and Awards program.

While we are unable to celebrate together in person this year, I want to congratulate our students on their incredible academic achievements through this commemorative program.

On the following pages, you will find the names of those who have dedicated themselves to pursuing knowledge in fields that range from mathematics to the classics. The honors and awards listed here are representative of thousands of hours of exemplary dedication to their studies. These students have shown leadership, contributed to research, expressed themselves creatively through different mediums and mentored their fellow students studying in their major or minor programs.

For the Class of 2020, you have fulfilled the mission that we set before you when you first stood in Wait Chapel during your first-year orientation four years ago. We told you then to use your time at Wake Forest to build a *pro humanitate* spirit that will broaden your mind and your skills to go out into the world to make it a better place for all. I, for one, am thrilled to see where you head next with your liberal arts mindset firmly established. Especially in such a time when we are called to make decisions to help humanity as a whole, I know you will be part of the solutions we seek. Your critical thinking, intellectual curiosity and concern for others are inspiring to your parents, your faculty and me.

We thank our faculty members who have guided these students along the path of academic exploration and excellence. Remarks about these wonderful students and their time at Wake Forest fill the following pages as a testament to the impact they have had on their faculty members and the College as a whole. Wake Forest has always set a high bar for each student, and we are thrilled to see what achievements are made year after year.

Parents and families, I salute your efforts as well. Your guidance and support for your children have been a beacon during the challenges your children faced while striving in their academic pursuits. The time and attention you poured into them before they arrived were the fertilizer that let them flourish here in the Forest.

Well done, our good and faithful students. I join your professors, friends and family in saluting your hard work.

AWARDS

Dr. Paul Thacker, *Associate Professor, Department of Anthropology*

The Department of Anthropology Outstanding Senior Award Juliana Rubinatto Serrano

The faculty of the Department of Anthropology select our outstanding senior award using three criteria: the student's academic excellence across all four subfields of anthropology, the student's anthropological engagement outside of the traditional classroom, and the student's ethical application of anthropological knowledge through professional activities and community involvement.

This year's recipient, Juliana Rubinatto Serrano, excels in all of these areas. Juliana's numerous intellectual accomplishments include her Richter research on colonial legacies and the hegemony of modernity at national museums in Brazil and Portugal, a collaborative project benchmarking best practices to prevent sexual harassment in anthropological field settings, and an outstanding Honors thesis project documenting factors leading to animal bone accumulations in caves. Thank you for your significant contributions to our departmental and college community and congratulations Juliana!

Dr. Susan Fahrbach, *Chair, Department of Biology*

The Carolina Biological Supply Company Award for Undergraduate Research Mariel Olivia O'Connor

The winner of the 2020 Carolina Biological Supply Research Award is Mariel Olivia O'Connor. Every year the Carolina Biological Supply Company, located in Burlington, NC, provides funds for an award to honor a graduating senior for achievement in research. This is a fiercely competitive award, given that all B.S. Biology majors are required to participate in research. Mariel is recognized for research on chemical sensing in earthworms and was mentored by Professor Wayne Silver and Teacher Scholar Postdoctoral Fellow Jake Saunders. This research culminated in an Honors Thesis titled "Sodium detection in Eisenia hortensis suggests the presence of amiloride-sensitive epithelial Na⁺ channels." Mariel's mentors described her as a paragon of the traits most valued in undergraduate researchers in the Wake Forest Department of Biology, noting that to complete her project she displayed "perseverance, flexibility in problem solving, diligent focus, and collaborative teamwork."

Dr. Gloria Muday, Professor, Department of Biology, and Coordinator, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology Program
Biochemistry and Molecular Biology Outstanding Researcher Award Callie Elizabeth Ollish

This award is given to a BMB senior who has made substantial intellectual and experimental contributions to a research project. Callie's two years of research have examined the regulation of meiosis in yeast using genetic and molecular biological approaches to understand this important process. Callie has demonstrated her ability to explore the scientific literature, develop testable hypothesis, logically design and carefully execute experiments with an impressive work ethic, tireless enthusiasm and excitement for the ideas that inform her work.

Dr. Wayne Silver, Professor, Department of Biology, and Director, Undergraduate Neuroscience Program
The Florence Robinson Neuroscience Award Grace E. Anderson

The Florence Robinson Neuroscience Award is given to a Wake Forest senior graduating with a minor in Neuroscience, selected on the basis of performance in NEU courses, engagement in research, and communication of research results. Grace is a Psychology major who worked in Dr. Wayne Pratt's laboratory. Her project explored the impact of 5-HT₆ serotonin receptor stimulation in the nucleus accumbens on effort-related decision making.

Dr. Al Rives, Teaching Professor, Department of Chemistry
The John W. Nowell Award in Undergraduate Chemistry Noah Hunter Watkins

The John W. Nowell Award in Undergraduate Chemistry is given by the department to honor the memory of the late, beloved Professor Jack Nowell and is presented each year to an outstanding graduating student who has excelled in all aspects of our chemistry program (i.e., from scholastic achievement in the classroom to conducting independent research in the laboratory). The award this year is presented to Noah Hunter Watkins. Noah plans to enter the PHD program in chemistry at Duke University.

Dr. Mary Pendergraft, Chair, Department of Classics
M.D. Phillips Prize in Classical Languages Emelyn Hatch

Matthew D. Phillips earned a degree in Greek in 1875, the same year his brother John earned a degree in Mathematics. One hundred years later, in 1975, William R. Phillips (WFU class of 1960) established a fund to honor his grandfather and great uncle and to congratulate Wake Forest students in the Classics and in Mathematics for excellent work. This year's recipient, Emelyn Morgan Hatch, is graduating with a degree in Classical Languages: Latin, a degree that requires the study of both Greek and Latin. Her honors thesis in Latin is a cutting-edge examination of how the poetic speaker of Vergil's Georgics and the farmers the speaker claims to instruct are entangled and blurred in both directions. Emelyn is a member of Phi Beta Kappa and the WFU rowing team. She presented her original research this year at a conference at NYU and will be going on to a Master's program in Classics at Washington University in St. Louis.

Dr. Steven Giles, Chair, Department of Communication
The Senior Award for Excellence in the Study of Communication Wubetu Shimelash and Chase Kassel

This award is given annually to an outstanding Communication undergraduate student with a minimum GPA of 3.5 who has demonstrated strong commitment and engaged service to the department, in and outside the classroom. Service may include academic achievement; contributions to Department, University, and community events; engagement with other students, faculty, staff, and community members; and other ways to represent the Department. This award comes with a \$100 check for each of the recipients

Chase has volunteered as a speaking center peer consultant for the past two years. From patiently providing students with feedback on their speech outlines and delivery for several hours each semester, to artfully delivering speeches at Wake Speaks community speech nights, to enthusiastically serving as emcee at Wake Speaks community speech nights, Chase has shown admirable commitment to the mission of the speaking center.

Wubetu Shimelash is an extraordinary student who was always willing to help, even with his extensive involvement in numerous activities on and off campus and even at the international level. He is humble, cheerful, passionate about helping others, and has what seems to be contagious determination. His international-level work, film-related initiatives, Wake/Winston community involvement, personal narratives, and his all-around engagement at Wake have been inspirational.

Dr. Daniel Cañas, Associate Professor, Department of Computer Science
The John W. Sawyer Prize in Computer Science Xuqing (Emily) Luo

Established in 1993 in honor of Dr. Jack Sawyer, professor of Mathematics from 1956 to 1988 and the first computer science instructor at Wake Forest, the Sawyer Prize is awarded each year to the most outstanding graduating senior in computer science as selected by the faculty. This is a significant honor and testament to the student's hard work and commitment to their education and to the Computer Science Department. The prize carries a monetary award, and the student's name is added to the plaque in the department that lists all past winners. The 2020 Sawyer Prize winner is Xuqing (Emily) Luo, whose outstanding work in computer science is evident not only by her GPA but also by her participation in and out of the classroom.

Dr. Yaohua Shi, Associate Professor, Department of East Asian Language & Cultures

Outstanding Major in Chinese Award Alexandra Grace Casale

The Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures established the Outstanding Chinese Major Award in 2015 to acknowledge the academic accomplishments of a graduating major in the language. This year the award goes to Alexandra Grace Casale in recognition of her commitment to Chinese language and culture and her overall academic excellence. Congratulations, Alex!

Dr. Andy Rodekohr, Associate Professor, Department of East Asian Language & Culture

Outstanding Chinese Minor Award Jacquelyn Sanders Morey

The recipient of this year's Outstanding Chinese minor award is Jacquelyn Morey, whose impressive commitment to studying Chinese language and cultures perfectly balances grounded purpose and aesthetic revelry. In every course she took with us, she always brought sincere enthusiasm to the topic and an engaged mind to her work. Congratulations, Jacquelyn!

Dr. Yasuko Takata Rallings, Professor of the Practice, Department of East Asian Language & Cultures

Outstanding Japanese Minor Award Jasmine Kasumi Roby

The Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures is proud to offer this award for the first time to honor a graduating senior with a minor in Japanese who has demonstrated outstanding commitment to the study of Japanese language and culture. Jasmine has consistently achieved excellence with thoughtful work that always exceeded expectations. We enthusiastically recognize this very deserving student. Congratulations, Jasmine!

Dr. Sandeep Mazumder, Chair, Department of Economics

David and Lelia Farr Prize for Excellence in Economics James Albert Ridgeway

James Albert Ridgeway wins the David and Lelia Farr Prize for Excellence in Economics for his outstanding honors paper that examines the impact of electric scooters on congestion. James was awarded high honors by the Department of Economics for his thesis.

David and Lelia Farr Prize for Excellence in Mathematical Economics. Robert Dominic Michele

Robert Dominic Michele wins the David and Lelia Farr Prize for Excellence in Mathematical Economics for his exceptional honors research investigating transaction costs and blockchain-based payments. The Department of Economics awarded Robert the distinction of high honors for his work.

Dr. Jessica Richard, Chair, Department of English

H. Broadus Jones Senior Excellence Award in English Grace Franzese

The recipients of the H. Broadus Jones Excellence Awards are a graduating senior and a master's program student whose work exemplifies his spirit of scholarship and dedication to the study of literature. The senior recipient of this year's H. Broadus Jones Senior Excellence award is Grace Franzese. Grace is superbly successful in both of her majors, English and Biology, and she produces deeply researched original scholarship for both. In class, Grace articulates complex ideas about literature with refreshing clarity, and she is especially adept at listening to and coordinating her responses with ongoing class discussions, making her a model student. She produced an outstanding paper on race and space, disambiguating citizenship and racial identity, and examining where and how those two vectors cross, in several texts from the twentieth and twenty-first century. And anyone who has worked with Grace knows that she is a joy to have in class—upbeat, full of energy, exceptionally open-minded, and deeply thoughtful.

Dr. Kendall Tarte, Chair, Department of French Studies

The Harold Dawes Parcell Award for Excellence in French Katherine Margaret Dougherty

Established to honor the memory of a longtime colleague and department chair, the Harold Dawes Parcell Award is given to the graduating French Studies major who has the highest grade point average and a record of exceptional scholarship. Both on campus and during her semester in Dijon as part of the WFU study abroad program, Kate Dougherty has stood out as an outstanding, engaged student. She is keenly intelligent and deeply curious, and she has excellent French skills. Starting in her first French course at Wake Forest, Kate developed a special interest in African francophone literature, and her professors know her as a perceptive reader and a sharp thinker. The French Studies Department is so proud of Kate for her hard work, and we're so pleased to present her with this award.

Dr. Rebecca Thomas, Professor, Department of German and Russian

The James C. O'Flaherty Award for Excellence in German and German Studies Omar A. Pasha

Omar is the ideal student, not because he does his work thoroughly and on time, but because he is genuinely intellectually curious. His diligence and excellent performance flow from his openness to new ideas, and his willingness to be changed by his experiences and his education. He gives and takes intellectually with a mature and delightful balance of seriousness and humor.

Dr. Shannon Mihalko, Associate Professor, Department of Health and Exercise Science

The Paul M. Ribisl Health and Exercise Science Academic Achievement Award Jordan Neoma Pizzarro

The Paul Ribisl Health and Exercise Science Academic Achievement Award was established to honor Department Chair Paul Ribisl for his national contributions to our field and to the development of our department's mission. This award is presented to the HES student with the highest cumulative GPA. It is our honor to present this award to Jordan Pizzarro. Not only does Jordan possess extraordinary intellectual ability, dedication and commitment to her work, her adept research skills as evidenced in the HES Honors program as well as personal demeanor make her a pleasure to work with. Moreover, she has clearly personified Pro Humanitate through her volunteer work, commitment to helping others, and dedication to the health sciences. Congratulations Jordan!

The William L. Hottinger Health and Exercise Science Major Contribution Award Grace Elisabeth Russell

The William Hottinger Health and Exercise Science Major Contribution Award was established to honor the long-standing contributions of Department Chair Bill Hottinger, a visionary who led his faculty for decades in their transformation into an interdisciplinary science department. This award is given to the HES major who not only excels in their academic achievements, but also for their overall contributions to the major and the larger campus. It is our honor to present this award to Grace Russell. Grace was selected not only for her outstanding academic success, but also for her involvement in research, completing the HES Honors Research Program where her comprehension and attention to detail was evident in her mastery of a complex dataset and statistical program, as well as in many leadership roles in campus and service initiatives, including Campus Kitchen and teaching disadvantaged children on an urban farm about food, health and the environment. Congratulations Grace!

Dr. Patricia Nixon, Professor, Department of Health and Exercise Science

The Michael S. Lawlor Award for Outstanding Student in the Health Policy and Administration Minor . . . Grace Elisabeth Russell

The award for outstanding student in the Health Policy and Administration Minor, is named in honor of Dr. Michael Lawlor, former director of the HPA minor and Professor of Economics, who, more than 15 years ago, had the vision and dedication to create this interdisciplinary minor that encompasses public health, economics, and epidemiology. The award is presented to the graduating HPA student with the highest grade point average in the minor and overall. It is my pleasure to present this award to Grace Russell, who has been granted a Fulbright Scholarship and will be teaching in Thailand this winter. This award comes with a cash prize and her name will be engraved on a plaque honoring the annual winners. Congratulations Grace!

Dr. Rais Rahman, Associate Professor, Department of History

The Forrest W. Clonts Award for Excellence in History John William Beyrer and Julia Jeannette Mroz

This award is given to an outstanding history student each year; faculty consider academic achievement, intellectual engagement, and service to the department.

Jack Beyrer: The members of the History faculty have been impressed by the intense curiosity, independence, and focus Jack brings to his work. Fascinated with the past, he reads it to advance his understanding of the present and our possible futures. Jack's excellent honors thesis unpacked the political ramifications of a controversial case of mutiny and extradition in the early American Republic. Intellectually honest, his growth as a historian has impressed us all. And he accomplished it all in just three years' study. Jack will graduate with honors. He will continue to be an excellent representative of Wake Forest and our discipline in his future work in D.C. and beyond.

Julia Mroz: An exceptionally dedicated student, Julia has been a pleasure to have in class where she was always an enthusiastic contributor to discussions and someone who demonstrated an impressive commitment to archival research. Julia completed an Honor's thesis that reexamines the historical and political significance of the six daughters of King George III of Great Britain, who have been largely neglected by historians. Arguing that these daughters were central to the public image of the crown, her thesis is a truly remarkable work that masters and contributes to an extensive body of historical scholarship. Julia will graduate with honors. We are delighted to learn that Julia has decided to attend UVA Law School in the fall.

Dr. Ian Taplin, Professor, Department of Sociology, Director of the International Studies Program

The Award for Outstanding Senior in International Studies Minor Alice Jane Romanov

Alice is a graduating senior and the award is designed to recognize the student who has excelled in her courses in the minor and displayed a keen awareness of international issues.

The Award for Outstanding Senior in Global Trade and Commerce Studies Erin Christine Perry and Brandon P. Schmetterer

The award is for the student who has excelled academically in the minor and whose engagement in global themes is exemplary.

Erin Perry: Erin participated in a thoughtful and reflective way that showed a deep understanding of all issues related to the Global Trade and Commerce Minor and whose written work was always excellent.

Brandon Schmetterer: Brandon has always excelled in his academic work while being constantly engaged in global issues. He has always participated actively in class, with serious inquiries and comments.

Dr. Sarah Raynor, Chair, Department of Mathematics and Statistics

The John Y. Phillips Prize in Mathematics Dylan King

The John Y. Phillips Prize was established in 1975 by William R. Phillips and other descendants of Dr. M.D. Phillips of Stokes County. John Y. Phillips, brother of M.D. Phillips, was a member of the Wake Forest College class of 1875. A superior student of mathematics who later studied at Richmond Hill Law School in Yadkin County, John Y. Phillips practiced law in Stokes County and also served in the North Carolina General Assembly. The John Y. Phillips Prize is awarded each year to the outstanding graduating senior in mathematics in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics. Dylan is an exceptional student of math with a perfect 4.0 GPA, having taken no fewer than eight math graduate classes and completed an undergraduate honors thesis with Professor Sarah Raynor.

Dr. Darlene May, Teaching Professor, Middle East and South Asia Studies Program

Award for Outstanding Senior in Arabic David Mulder

This year there are eight graduating seniors who have minored in Arabic. The top award goes to David Mulder, who has taken a total of nine classes offered by the Arabic Program: seven classes in MSA (Modern Standard Arabic), spanning the Elementary, Intermediate, Upper Intermediate, and Advanced levels; one class in Lebanese dialect; and one literature course. He has served the Arabic Program the past four years as a much sought after tutor in the Learning Assistance Center.

Dr. Peter Kairoff, Chair, Department of Music, and Director, Venice Program

First Prize in Giles-Harris Competitions in Piano: The Sinal Prize Andrew Murphy

Andrew Murphy studied piano with great dedication all four years at Wake Forest. He performed very challenging pieces with great expression and flair on multiple occasions in solo recitals and as soloist with the university orchestra. The judges of the Giles Harris competitions awarded him first prize in this year's competitions, noting the elegance and maturity of his playing.

Dr. Christian Miller, Professor, Department of Philosophy

The Gregory D. Pritchard Scholar Award in Philosophy Dylan Franklin Brown

This award is made possible by a gift in honor of Gregory D. Pritchard, who was for many years the Chair of the Department of Philosophy. The Pritchard Prize is awarded annually to the student who, in the opinion of the department chair and after consultation with the faculty, is determined to be "the most deserving graduating philosophy student." Dylan Brown earned a perfect 4.0 GPA in the department, and spent his junior year studying philosophy at Oxford University. He wrote his honors thesis on forgiveness and pardon, and his work was judged by Professor Miller to be comparable in quality to a master's thesis in philosophy in a leading graduate program.

Dr. Daniel Kim-Shapiro, Chair, Department of Physics

The William Eugene Speas Memorial Award for Distinguished Work in Physics Jiqing (Jacqueline) Zhu and Robert William Bradford

Presented on the occasion of the graduation of an outstanding student in the Department of Physics of Wake Forest University who best exemplifies the spirit and scholarship of Dr. William E. Speas. Dr. Speas was a distinguished Professor of Physics who taught Physics at Wake Forest from 1920 till 1959. Both these students had near-perfect GPAs and excelled in research.

Dr. Peter Siavelis, Chair, Department of Politics and International Affairs

The C. H. Richards Award for Excellence in Politics and International Affairs Ashley Estrela

This award is given to the graduating senior who is deemed by a departmental committee to have excelled in both the study of politics and in departmental, campus and community service.

Ashley Estrela is the recipient of this year's award. Ashley is an extraordinarily bright young woman with a real love for research and learning. Beyond her solid academic and intellectual preparation, Ashley has also demonstrated a strong commitment to campus and community activities. She has actively participated in several on-campus programs, the most important of which was her role as director of Campus Kitchen. She epitomizes the ideal of Wake Forest's aspirational motto of "Pro Humanitate." Her plan is to return to school in a few years to pursue an M.A. in Islamic Studies and take her study of Arabic to a higher level.

Dr. Eric Stone, Chair, Department of Psychology

The Robert C. Beck Prize for Excellence in Psychology Grace E. Anderson

The Department of Psychology is pleased to present Psychology's Robert C. Beck Award to Grace Anderson. Bob Beck was a beloved faculty member in our department for 50 years, who helped guide and shape our department during that time and who we still deeply miss. Grace has taken advantage of the rich research opportunities that Bob helped cultivate by working in not one, but five faculty laboratories during her time at Wake Forest. Her academic standing, exceptional research experience, and positive spirit have earned Grace both the Beck Award and a prestigious fellowship in a clinical research lab at the National Institutes of Health, where she will spend her next two years.

Dr. Saylor Breckenridge, Associate Professor, Department of Sociology

The American Sociological Association's Departmental Prize for Outstanding Student. Alice Jane Romanov

For these reasons and more, Alice has been awarded this prize: Field researcher on Religion's Influence on Social Networks in Besisahar, Nepal; Analysis of Changing Ethnoscapes in Venice, Italy; contributor to an NIH-funded study of how dance can prevent neurodegenerative diseases; author of "Seven Sustainable Ways to Support Your Community While Social Distancing," WFU Office of Sustainability. 3 April 2020; Phi Beta Kappa.

The Department of Sociology Community Engagement Award. Alexander Jordan Holt

Alexander Jordan Holt is being recognized for serving as: leader of Consciousness in Action, the Anti-Racism Coalition, and Branches (a Social Justice Retreat); member of President's Commission on Race, Equity & Community; member of the sociology class that discovered Wake's auction of 16 enslaved people 1860 for its endowment.

Dr. Anne Hardcastle, Chair, Department of Spanish and Italian

The Ruth Foster Campbell Award for Excellence in Spanish. Megan Sierra Elwood

This award recognizes annually the most outstanding graduating major in Spanish. Megan Elwood has demonstrated exceptional academic performance in her Spanish coursework and dedication to language and intercultural communication through an internship in which she translated the stories of ordinary soldiers caught up in recent civil conflicts for the website of the Colombian Institute of Historical Memory.

Dr. Irma Alarcón, Associate Professor, Department of Spanish and Italian

M. Stanley Whitley Award for Excellence in Linguistics Matthew Tyler Capps

The M. Stanley Whitley Award is given annually to the senior Linguistics student whose academic achievement and intellectual curiosity pertaining to the formal study of language has been deemed most impressive. The Linguistics faculty has chosen Matt Capps to be the winner of this year's award in recognition of his superb academic achievement in Linguistics.

Dr. Kathryn Mayers, Associate Professor, Department of Spanish and Italian;
Director, Salamanca Programs; and Associate Director, Latin American and Latino Studies

The Award for Outstanding Minor in Latin American and Latino Studies Ella JoAnne Bruggen and Lauren Elizabeth Mauney

The Outstanding Minor Award for Excellence in LALS is given to the Latin American and Latino Studies student whose work in and outside the classroom has been the most meritorious.

Ellie Bruggen: Ellie studied abroad in Peru, participated in a research consultation with participants from El Salvador, and has been passionately involved in campus life on topics of environmental sustainability and Latin America.

Lauren Mauney: Lauren served as a Research Methods Teaching Assistant in a Latin American liberation theologies course and has been praised by her professors for her superb written work. She is graduating with the highest marks possible in Latin American Studies.

Dr. Lynn Neal, Chair, Department for the Study of Religions

The John Allen Easley Award in Religion Rebecca McKinley Parsons

The Easley Award for the most outstanding graduating senior with a major in Religious Studies is being given to Rebecca M. Parsons, a graduating senior. The Easley Award honors Dr. J. Allen Easley, a former professor and chair of the department. Of all graduating majors in the department, Rebecca has the highest departmental and overall GPA, all while double-majoring in religious studies and history. She is a thoughtful and insightful student who has excelled in a variety of classes across two different fields of study. Her meaningful contributions to class discussions enhance the learning of her classmates and her written work is both precise and deliberate. These skills will be helpful in the fall when she attends Wake Forest University School of Law and begins her journey towards becoming a double Deac. Congratulations, Rebecca!

Dr. J.K. Curry, Associate Professor, Department of Theatre and Dance

The Wake Forest University Theatre Association Award for Academic Excellence Madeleine C. Ash, Kathryn Juliet Milian, Silin (Serenity) Chen and Victoria Rose Hargett

This award was established to honor a Senior Theatre major for their academic achievement and overall GPA. Each recipient will receive a certificate and a monetary award.

Dr. Brantly Shapiro, Associate Professor of the Practice, Department of Theater and Dance, and Co-Director of Dance

Dr. Chris Martin, Associate Professor of the Practice, Department of Theatre and Dance, and Co-Director of Dance

The Knox Dance Scholar Award Payton E. Calvert, Donna C. Moseley and McKenzie LeeAnn Needham

This award was established by Mr. and Mrs. Wycliffe Knox, Jr., of Georgia, in honor of their daughter Shell, who was a dancer and a graduate of the Class of 1993. The award is given to a senior graduating dance minor. The scholarship is based on overall academic achievement, highest GPA and contributions to the Dance company. The recipients will receive a nameplate and monetary award.

Dr. Jieun Lee, Assistant Professor, Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

The Academic Award for Outstanding Senior in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Madeline Marianne Katsarelis

This award is granted each year to outstanding WGS majors or minors in their senior year who have shown initiative and motivation throughout their tenure at WFU, and who have excelled in a variety of academic disciplines and special projects. Madeline Katsarelis is the recipient of the Academic Award for Outstanding Senior in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies because the WGSS faculty voted that she has shown initiative and motivation throughout her tenure at WFU and has excelled in a variety of academic disciplines and special projects. Madeline is an exceptional student who has maintained a high scholastic average and has demonstrated an aptitude for further study.

Dr. Daniel Cohen, Professor of the Practice, Department of Communication

Dr. Gregory Pool, Visiting Assistant Professor of the Practice, Department of Communication

The Center for Entrepreneurship Senior of the Year Award Phillip S. Yurchenko

The Center for Entrepreneurship is pleased to present Phillip Yurchenko with the 2020 Senior Award. Phillip is a hard-working, passionate, and joyful entrepreneurship minor who gives 110% to all he does. For the past two years, Phillip has brought the stories of students, entrepreneurs, and community leaders to life through video and photography for the Center. No matter where he is or what he's working on, Phillip can be found with a smile on his face as he enthusiastically works to complete his projects with excellence!

Marianne Magjuka, Executive Director, Office of Civic and Community Engagement

The Edgar Christman Award for Service Grace Yucha

Established in honor of Chaplain Ed Christman, who retired in 2003 after 49 years of service to Wake Forest, each year the Christman Award acknowledges a senior who has engaged in outstanding service to the Winston-Salem community. Yucha has volunteered with the Kids Cooking Coalition for three years, serving as site director in 2019 and 2020. In this role, she mentored her peers, developed a training and recruitment strategy, and engaged children in creative cooking lessons.

The Change-Maker Award for Social Change Alexander Jordan Holt

The Change-Maker Award honors a student who has demonstrated a long-term commitment to a social issue and has worked to lead their peers in the same commitment. Since his junior year at Wake Forest, Alexander Holt has dedicated himself to galvanizing student support and leading his peers in positive action through his work with the Wake Forest Student Anti-Racism Coalition (ARC).

Schoonmaker Student Prize for Community Service Ella JoAnne Bruggen

Ellie Bruggen is a Politics and International Affairs major from Winston-Salem with minors in Biology, Environmental Studies, and Latin American & Latino Studies. During her time at Wake Forest, she spent much of her energy working for the Office of Sustainability, guiding trips for Outdoor Pursuits, and serving the university as a President's Aide. She has also volunteered as a translator at the Community Care Center, a free healthcare clinic. She is passionate about social and environmental justice and will be working as a Fellow in the Dean's Office during the upcoming year.

Dr. Bernadine Barnes, President of the Wake Forest Chapter of Phi Beta Kappa

The Carlton P. West Phi Beta Kappa Award Dylan Amos King and Robert Dominic Michele

The Carlton P. West Award from Phi Beta Kappa is awarded to the graduating senior(s) with the highest GPA.

Dr. Anthony Marsh, Senior Associate Dean of Faculty

The Recognition of Senior Orators

[Living and Loving the Questions](#) Celia Zhou

[Camaraderie in the Lounge](#) Dylan King

[Building Community](#) Grace Franzese

Every fall semester, Wake Forest faculty nominate graduating seniors as orators. The nominees are students who, the faculty believe, have something significant to say about their time at Wake Forest. This practice is in keeping with a tradition of senior speeches that dates to the founding of the College in 1834 and was in fact required of all Wake Forest seniors until the early 1880s. Following faculty nominations, over 30 students took the opportunity to reflect on their experience at Wake Forest and submit an oration. We convened a panel of faculty to read these reflections and select 10 students to present orations at our senior colloquium. A panel of faculty selected a short list of three orators and the top orator for 2020, who then read the oration at the Founders' Day Convocation. You may view all three finalists' orations by selecting the hyperlink embedded in their name above. Our top orator for 2020 is Celia Zhou with her oration, "Living and Loving the Questions." Celia is from Cary, NC, and is majoring in Biochemistry & Molecular Biology. After graduation and two or more years in consulting, Celia will enroll in medical school or graduate study in medical sciences research.

The William C. and Ruth N. Archie Award Dylan King and Celia Zhou

Dylan is a double major in Mathematics and Computer Science with a minor in Chemistry, and he has been selected as a British Marshall scholar. In the fall, he intends to enroll at Cambridge to pursue an MPhil in Mathematics before returning to the United States to earn a Ph.D in Mathematics. Dylan has coauthored five published or submitted research articles and given more than a dozen research presentations. Additionally, Dylan is a superb tutor and TA in the Math department and for the Math and Stats Center; his knack for explaining math is exceptional. Beyond math, Dylan was selected as one of our 10 Senior Orators and has been a student member of the Honor and Ethics Council. He is also an ambassador for ZSR library and a DJ and technical manager at Wake Radio. Dylan studied abroad for the full academic year 2018-2019 at the Budapest Semesters in Mathematics. He is always seeking new academic experiences, particularly those beyond the bounds of Wake Forest. Dylan is a truly exceptional student, both in his passion for and ability in mathematics. He is also a delightful student who is constantly smiling. He sees the world beyond math and pure research and is sure to make significant contributions in several avenues as his career develops.

Celia Zhou, a biochemistry and molecular biology major, has charted a rigorous and unique path for her studies at Wake Forest. Her performance in her classes is superb, whether they are biochemistry or humanities, and she has demonstrated a breadth of research and scholarship that is rare. She spent her entire junior year studying at Oxford University in the biochemistry department. Celia fully immersed herself in this international experience, tutoring students and working on community outreach, and even playing on Oxford's varsity volleyball team! Her research at Oxford in the Big Data Institute focused on developing models to understand the evolution of the HIV virus. This work became the foundation of her BMB senior project, which focused on how HIV viral evolution hampers development of vaccines. She has also performed research at WFU on genetic associations between metabolites and obesity in the biochemistry department and worked on a study on obesity treatment in the department of health and exercise science. Celia also earned a Richter scholarship to examine food policies and healthy eating in the Netherlands and participated in a study on the impacts of a neglected tropical disease in Sri Lanka (resulting in two published papers). Celia has also exhibited a commitment to service as a President's Aide, a mentor to international students, working with Second Harvest Food Bank and Habitat for Humanity, confronting food insecurity through The Food Ark Nonprofit, and working in programs that develop global responsibility, intercultural inquiry, and community development in both the US and at Oxford. Celia loves to think through questions both in the classroom and beyond. She was chosen as the top Senior orator and delivered her oration titled, "Living and Loving the Questions," at Founders' Day Convocation. Her future career path will focus on important issues related to global health.

ADDITIONAL AWARDS

Senior Award for Excellence in Arabic	Ashley Estrela and Morgan Fogleman
Award for First Rank in the First Year in Arabic	Omar Shaltout
Outstanding Elementary Hindi-Urdu Student	Shardil Ahmad
Outstanding Intermediate Hindi-Urdu Student	Elizabeth Dicus
Walter S. Flory Outstanding Student in Biology	Lydia Lucille Faber
The Grant Madison Backerman, American Institute of Chemists Foundation Undergraduate Student Award	Nolan Michael Green
The Lura Baker Paden Award	Sarah Hope Shmerler
The Delmer P. Hylton Accountancy Award	Cheng (Rachel) Chi
The Academic Excellence in Finance Award	Kenneth Carter Van Winkle
The Academic Excellence in Mathematical Business Award	Isaac R. Satterwhite
The Spirit of Wayne Calloway Award	Kenneth Carter Van Winkle
The Patel Prize in Finance	Kenneth Carter Van Winkle
The Levar Hairston Courage Award	James Edward Sowa and Harry Baker Young
The John Thomas Albritton Award in Religious Studies	Michael James Luke
Jerry B. and Callie Irene Stone Award Honoring Professor Alonzo Kenion	Allison Mae Curley
D.A. Brown Award for Excellence in Creative Writing	Carson Elizabeth Markland
Bashir El-Beshti Prize in Renaissance Studies	Christopher David Verrill
Jack D. Fleer Award for Excellence in Honors in Politics and International Affairs	Coleman Greene
Carl Moses Award for Research in Politics and International Affairs	Lizzeth Torres-Ramirez and Kaicheng (Newton) Yu
The ACS Division of Inorganic Chemistry Undergraduate Award in Inorganic Chemistry	Paul Keegan Rose
The ACS Division of Organic Chemistry Undergraduate Award in Organic Chemistry	Daniel Santana
The ACS Division of Physical Chemistry Undergraduate Award in Physical Chemistry	Yunxin (Grace) Yao and Noah Hunter Watkins
The Royal Society of Chemistry Certificate of Excellence Award	Madison Amy Kalk and Sheehan Tucker Payne
Blackbyrd Scholarship	Noah Hunter Watkins
James & Courtenay Harton Scholarship for Chemical Industry	Gabriel James Sowards
Society for Classical Studies Outstanding Student Award	Emelyn Hatch
Classical Association of the Middle, West and South Outstanding Student Award	Zoe Schneider
Andronica Award	Zoe Clay
1976 Math Faculty Legacy Prize in Statistics	Weixi (Frank) Cheng
Outstanding Statistics Student Award	Weixi (Frank) Cheng
Driggs Mathematics Award	Addie Harrison
The John Thomas Albritton Award for Excellence in Biblical Studies	Michael John Luke
British Marshall Scholar	Dylan King
Barry S. Goldwater Scholar	Dylan King
Honors in Middle East and South Asia Studies	Yabsera Bekele, Paige Cohen, Morgan Fogleman and Mohammad Malik
Johnnie Collins III Drama Scholarship	Sophie Thomas
Dyeann and Henry Jordan Theatre Scholarship	Cassidy Noble (renewed), Lainey Drake, Gwyneth Lonergan and Christopher Quiroz

Senior Theatre Scholar for Academic Excellence.	Madeleine Ash, Katy Milian, Silin (Serenity) Chen and Victoria Hargett
Senior Service.	Madeleine Ash, Silin (Serenity) Chen, Ria Matheson, Habby Olusesi and Christian Ricci
Faculty and Staff Special Recognition in Theatre.	Matt Crawford and Jonathan Chen
Marie Bagby Service to AAP Award	Izzi Einhorn
Harold Tedford Dedication to Theatre Award	Victoria Hargett
Hugo Award for Design.	Silin (Serenity) Chen and Christian Ricci
Caroline Sandlin Fullerton Acting Awards.	Lainey Drake - Li'l Bit (How I Learned to Drive) RJ Pratt - John Proctor (The Crucible) RJ Pratt - Elijah Brown (Ever in the Glades) Christopher Quiroz - Rev. John Hale (The Crucible) Adarian Sneed - Chorus (How I Learned to Drive) Katy Milian - Abigail Williams (The Crucible) Sophie Thomas - Mary Warren (The Crucible)
Southeastern Theatre Conference Awards presented at Annual Conference in Louisville	Silin (Serenity) Chen - 1st Place Scenic Design for Ever in the Glades Silin (Serenity) Chen - Honorable Mention Projections Design for How I Learned to Drive Michael Littrell - Second Place Sound Design for Ever in the Glades
The Bynum G. Shaw Prize in Journalism	Elizabeth Maline
Military Distinguished Graduate Award	Abigail Moore, Hunter Stinson and Gabriel Sowards
Daughters of the American Revolution Gold Award	Abigail Moore
Reserve Officers Association (ROA) Gold Medal	Robert Faulkner Wilson
Riley Scholarship Award	Erick A. Mora
Honors in Classical Studies.	Erin McCombe and Zoe Schneider
Honors in Classical Languages: Latin	Emelyn Hatch
The Leadership Award for Outstanding Senior in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies	Catherine (Cat) Marie Mizzi
The Elizabeth Phillips Award for the Best Essay	Meara Waxman
The Anne Boyle Award	Quynh Nhu T. Vu
The American Sociological Association's Departmental Prize for Outstanding Student.	Alexander Jordan Holt
The Department of Sociology Community Engagement Award.	Mary-Britton Anderson, Maria Guadalupe Cortz-Perez, Kai Chuma Jordan, Jarnesheia Myers and the Anti-Racism Coalition

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