



*Honors and Awards*  
*2022*



# Honors and Awards

## WELCOME

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

To our 2022 College Honors and Awards recipients,

One of my favorite Commencement traditions is recognizing the academic excellence of our students during the Honors and Awards program. I congratulate our talented students for their impressive achievements in the arts, humanities, social sciences, and sciences through this commemorative program.

The honors and awards listed here represent thousands of hours of research, scholarship, and critical thinking. These students have demonstrated intellectual leadership, contributed to the creation of new knowledge, expressed themselves creatively through different mediums, and produced strikingly original scholarship, and so much of this work has occurred across two years of COVID challenges.

Class of 2022, you have fulfilled the mission that we set before you when you first stood in Wait Chapel during opening convocation four years ago. We asked you then to use your liberal arts education to build a pro humanitate spirit that will let you make the world a better place for all. Your intellectual curiosity, passion for knowledge, and concern for others inspires all around you, including your parents, your faculty, and me. You were committed and you were tenacious, even in the throes of a pandemic.

Thank you to our faculty for carefully guiding our students along the path to academic excellence. Parents and families, I salute your efforts as well. You have been beacons of love and support. We are so proud of our students because they know how to ask the critical questions. "The power to question," Indira Gandhi observed, "is the basis of all human progress."

May you continue to question our world, and to use knowledge to change what you do not like in it so you can make it better. Always know how much confidence Wake Forest has in each of you. We look forward to your bright future.

## MUSIC

Concerto in E minor..... Georg Philipp Telemann (1681-1767)

Katarina Maja Sams, flute

Eric Ross, piccolo

Dr. Joanne Inkman, piano

## AWARDS

Dr. Simeon Ilesamni, *Washington M. Wingate Professor of Religion for the Program of African Studies*

Outstanding Student in African Studies Award..... Mariama Jallow

*The Outstanding Student in African Studies Award recognizes a graduating senior with an exceptional record of academic achievement and leadership consistent with the core mission of the African Studies Program.*

*Mariama is a remarkable student with an impressive record of academic excellence, leadership, and activism. The African Studies Program faculty applaud her sustained dedication to her African Studies coursework and commitment to challenging the marginalization of African forms of knowledge. Outside of the classroom, Mariama has served as a student member of the Slave, Race, and Memory Project Steering Committee, the Student Government Co-Chair for Diversity and Inclusion, and as the President of the Wake Forest Muslim Student Association. She has also been a voice for Black women and other underrepresented groups through her podcast "The World Through Our Eyes" as well as her written work published in the Old Gold and Black, North Carolina Health News, and the Gambian newspaper The Standard. Congratulations Mariama!*

Dr. Sherri Lawson Clark, *Director, American Ethnic Studies*

The Award for Outstanding Minor in American Ethnic Studies..... Mercedes R. Jackson

*The Outstanding Minor Award for Excellence in American Ethnic Studies recognizes the graduating senior with the most exceptional record of academic achievement and leadership representing the core mission of this interdisciplinary program.*

*Mercedes completed her AES minor in extraordinary fashion with straight A's in all course requirements! Her intellect, poise, and talent to communicate the sometimes highly sensitive materials in AES classes are stunning and will serve her well as she pursues a career in social work. In her final "ANT 325 Roots of Racism: Race and Ethnic Diversity in America" paper, Mercedes examined the impacts of racial segregation, the 2008 housing crisis and recent COVID-19 pandemic on minority communities. Her analysis and writing demonstrate the critical thought necessary for policy initiatives aimed at alleviating displacement. Mercedes graduates with a major in Psychology and double minors in AES and Health and Human Services. Congratulations, Mercedes!*



Dr. Paul Thacker, Associate Professor, Department of Anthropology

The Department of Anthropology Outstanding Senior Award . . . . . Mitchell Simpson Boyer

*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. The faculty of the Department of Anthropology has voted Mitch Boyer for this year's Outstanding Senior in Anthropology. Mitch, who graduates with a major in Anthropology and a minor in Philosophy, is a prolific thinker who contemplates social theory in everything he does. Departmental faculty were unanimous in citing Mitch's outstanding classroom performance, his insightful questioning, and attempts to integrate knowledge he gained across the curriculum. Mitch's Honors Thesis conducted a highly specialized analysis of projectile point variation at the Porter archaeological site as part of an ethical collaboration and heritage repatriation effort with contemporary Native American communities. Mitch plans to enroll this Fall at the Caruso School of Law, Pepperdine University.*

Dr. Susan Fahrbach, Chair, Department of Biology

The Carolina Biological Supply Company Award for Undergraduate Research. . . . . Hannah Watson

*Hannah Watson received Honors in Biology working in the lab of Professor Wayne Silver. The title of her honors thesis is "The Development of Chemoreception in the Earthworm E. hortensis." She was the recipient of the Association for Chemoreception Sciences Award for Undergraduate Research for her outstanding presentation at the 2021 Annual Meeting. Hannah will be starting graduate school in the fall in the Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology at Harvard University.*

Dr. Patricia Dos Santos, Associate Chair, Department of Chemistry for the Biochemistry and Molecular Biology Program

Award for Outstanding Undergraduate Research in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. . . . . Jackson W. Rigsbee

*The Outstanding Undergraduate Research in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology recipient is presented to a graduating BMB major in recognition of excellence in laboratory research. Jack has excelled in the laboratory of Patricia Dos Santos since January 2020 where he has employed a combined genetic and biochemical approach to characterize the genes associated with production and activation of vanadium and iron-only nitrogenases in nitrogen-fixing bacterium Azotobacter vinelandii. Jack's commitment to his research project has not only culminated in a meticulous and outstanding honors thesis, but his contributions are anticipated to result in two upcoming publications, including a comprehensive review article in Critical Reviews in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology.*

Dr. Wayne Silver, Professor of Biology and Co-Director of the Undergraduate Neuroscience Program

The Florence Robinson Neuroscience Award . . . . . Amber Kathleen Adkins

*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. Amber is a Psychology major who worked in Dr. Janine Jennings' lab in the Psychology Department. Amber's project with human subjects, aimed to both increase our understanding of the processes underlying verbal fluency performance as well as to identify factors that may point to an increased likelihood of developing Alzheimer's disease. Amber plans to pursue a PhD in clinical psychology with a specialization in geriatrics. The Florence Robinson Neuroscience award is funded by Professor Susan Fahrbach in honor of her mother-in-law, an economist with a love for education, who was diagnosed with Alzheimer's Disease in 2003 and passed away in 2009.*

Dr. Willie Hinze, Professor, Department of Chemistry

The John W. Nowell Award in Undergraduate Chemistry . . . . . Jiayu (Renate) Ma

*The John W. Nowell Award in Undergraduate Chemistry is given in memory of the late beloved chemistry Professor, Jack Nowell, and is presented each year to a graduating major who has excelled in all aspects of our chemistry program (ranging to outstanding performance in the classroom to independent research in the laboratory). This year's recipient is Renate Ma. She plans to attend Wake Forest School of Medicine starting in July as a MD candidate.*



Dr. Mary Pendergraft, Chair, Department of Classics

M. D. Phillips Prize in Classical Languages. . . . . Jordan Tyler Houston, Renate Jiayu Ma and Paputchar (Bam) Purcell

*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.*

*Jordan Houston is a skilled reader of Latin and Greek, a skilled interpreter of literature ancient and modern, and a skilled poet in his own right. His achievements have been recognized nationally, not only in the publication of his poetry and interpretive essay-writing, but also in his being one of two people worldwide to earn the coming year's Princeton Classics Predoctoral Fellowship.*

*Bam Purcell is an absolute delight to have in the classroom: she is always passionate, thoughtful, and enthusiastic. She is a really deep and reflective thinker, and she chooses her words with care and precision -- both vanishing virtues. We will miss Bam in class, but are excited for her to continue as a Fellow in the Dean's Office.*

*Renate Ma is a brilliant student who always rises to and conquers new challenges. Equally comfortable analyzing chemicals and analyzing ancient Greek verbs, she's the kind of person who gets accepted into med school while still a junior in college -- and who takes a dead language just for the fun of it. She's one of the most resilient, determined workers our department has ever seen.*

Dr. Alessandra Von Burg, Associate Professor, Department of Communication

Communication Department Jeremy Nottingham Pro Humanitate Award. . . . . Farah Alsakhita

*The communication department's Jeremy Nottingham Pro Humanitate Award is given to a student who exemplifies the spirit of Pro Humanitate by involvement in community-engaged service beyond Wake Forest. Farah Alsakhita will be graduating with a B.A. in communication and a minor in Chemistry. Farah has used her skills as a native Arabic speaker to help local families with translation and preparation for the US citizenship application process. Her honors project documented the opening of the Muslim American Center, a local mosque and gathering place that was started and funded by members of the community who arrived as refugees from Syria. Farah will be pursuing an MA degree in communication at Wake Forest University.*

Dr. Sarra Alqahtani, Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Science

The John W. Sawyer Prize in Computer Science. . . . . Robert Christian Langefeld and Joseph Lyle McCalmon

*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.*

*In 2022, there are two winners: Robert Langefeld is recognized for his coursework, contributions to multiple research projects, and multi-year role as captain of the Student SuperComputing Team, and Joseph McCalmon is recognized for his coursework, national research awards, contributions to multiple research projects, and founding of a new Robotics Club.*

Dr. Stewart Carter, Chair, Department of East Asian Language & Cultures

Outstanding Major in Chinese Award . . . . . Peyton Brae Troutman and Jake Samuel Waldman

*Brae Troutman has been a shining and positive force in our department over the last four years. He demonstrates his enthusiasm for language study and cultural research in class, and outside of class he is always helpful and friendly. His major thesis project explores the networks of queer activism in the PRC that are built through and sustained by documentary filmmaking. His research on the creation of this community as it is subject to political surveillance, censorship, and erasure is fascinating, vital, and an exemplary work of scholarship*

*Jake Waldman's twin passions are Chinese and medicine. His study abroad experience in subtropical Yunnan, China strengthened his commitment to both. He is exceptionally motivated and productive and has turned his personal and family challenges into a purposeful career path.*

Outstanding Major in Japanese Award. . . . . Nathaniel James Maynard and Yuhan (Carmen) Su

*The Outstanding Japanese Major Award is given each spring to graduating seniors who have demonstrated a strong commitment to the study of Japanese language and culture in and outside the classroom. Nathan Maynard not only completed excellent thesis and thoughtful course work but also contributed to our learning community as an officer in the Japanese Studies Club. Congratulations!*

*Yuhan Su is an exceptionally dedicated and intellectually astute student. She demonstrated an unfaltering commitment to the study of Japanese language and culture and achieved high academic excellence. Having an enduring passion for learning and inquisitive minds, Yuhan has persistently pushed boundaries in her thinking and writings and is always willing to pursue new ideas. Her paper on Japanese cinema was selected to present at the 2022 East Asian Studies Student Symposium. Congratulations, Yuhan!*





Dr. Amanda Griffith, Chair, Department of Economics

David and Lelia Farr Prize for Excellence in Economics ..... Gina A. Beyer

*Gina Beyer has been an outstanding student of Economics during her time at Wake Forest. She was a member of the Federal Research Challenge team and recently wrote her honors thesis on the impact of negative press on college admissions outcomes, for which she received honors.*

David and Lelia Farr Prize for Excellence in Mathematical Economics ..... Haosen He

*Haosen He has been an outstanding student of Mathematical Economics. He has worked closely with multiple faculty as a research assistant and recently received highest honors for his thesis modeling behavioral response to infectious diseases under information delay.*

Dr. Olga Pierrakos, Founding Chair, Department of Engineering

Celebrating the Whole Engineer: Academic Excellence and Outstanding Character ..... Maria (Mia) Eileen Albery

*The award recognizes exceptional academic achievement and outstanding character showcasing dedication and leadership with engineering professional practice. Mia Albery is receiving this award for her outstanding academic achievements as well as her exceptional leadership and character. She embodies the values of the Department of Engineering: Empowerment, Growth, Integrity, Inclusion, Compassion, and Joy.*

Dr. Jessica Richard, Chair, Department of English

H. Broadus Jones Senior Award: Outstanding Graduating Senior Major ..... Katherine G. Wooten

*H. Broadus Jones was professor and chair of English for many years. He taught Shakespeare, Romantic poetry, and Victorian poetry at Wake Forest for much of the first half of the 20th Century. Each year a graduating senior whose work exemplifies Jones's spirit of scholarship and dedication to the study of literature are chosen to receive the H. Broadus Jones awards for Excellence in English.*

Dr. Dan Cohen, John C. Whitaker, Jr. Executive Director, Center for Entrepreneurship

The Center for Entrepreneurship Senior of the Year Award ..... Leah Brooke Wyrick

*The Center for Entrepreneurship Senior Award is given to a Wake Forest senior graduating with a minor in Entrepreneurship, selected based on overall performance in Entrepreneurship courses, engagement in entrepreneurship co-curricular programs such as Startup Lab, and overall involvement in activities designed to enrich the culture of entrepreneurship at Wake Forest. Leah majored in Business & Enterprise Management and minored in Entrepreneurship and has developed her startup—Three Strands Recovery Wear—during all four years at Wake Forest. After graduation, Leah plans to pursue her innovative startup, which is designed to help women heal and avoid infection while recovering from breast cancer surgery, while also working for Hanes Brands in Research and Development.*

Dr. Kendall Tarte, Chair, Department of French Studies

The Harold Dawes Parcell Award for Excellence in French ..... Laia Vancells Lopez

*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. This year's recipient, Laia Vancells Lopez, has been an extremely strong, conscientious, and perceptive student of French over the past four years. In the words of one of her French Studies professors, Laia is "dependably excellent." The French Studies Department is so pleased to present Laia with this award.*

Dr. Alyssa Howards, Professor, Department of German and Russian

The James C. O'Flaherty Award for Excellence in German and German Studies ..... Eliot Thomas Anthony Leadem

*This award honors Professor James O'Flaherty, who was a founding member of our department, where he spent his career from 1947 until his retirement in 1984. We are pleased to recognize Eliot Leadem as this year's recipient. From his first semester here, where he was the only first-year student enrolled in a challenging upper-level course, to this final semester, where he just completed a magnificent honors thesis, Eliot has demonstrated academic excellence, fortitude, and character. His honors thesis on advertising billboards in the Berlin U-Bahn, which was the result of painstaking fieldwork deep underground in that city's subway system, brilliantly and creatively exemplifies Wake Forest's commitment to interdisciplinarity.*



Dr. Megan Regan, Visiting Associate Professor, Department of Economics for the Program of Global Trade and Commerce

The Award for Outstanding Senior in Global Trade and Commerce Studies . . . . . Taghi Jon Amundson

*Taghi Amundson is an exemplary student, always willing to share his insightful comments in key discussions. His exams and reviews were consistently of the highest quality and he demonstrated a great grasp of international perspectives on a wide range of issues. He exemplifies the curiosity and academic rigor one would hope for in a class.*

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

The Paul M. Ribisl Health and Exercise Science Academic Achievement Award . . . . . Jacqueline Whittenmore Palermo

*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 graduating HES student with the highest cumulative GPA. It is our honor to present this award to Jacque Palermo. With outstanding performances in both her HES major and Chemistry/Biology minors, Jacque earned the highest overall GPA in the HES major while on the challenging path to medical school. In addition to her exemplary academic achievements, Jacque has been involved in a number of research projects working with acute respiratory failure patients since her sophomore year. She is also on the Wake Forest University Resident Advisor Leadership Council, the STEM Inclusion Advisory Board and the Women in STEM Executive Board, and these are just a few of her many community outreach and leadership activities. Congratulations Jacque!*

The William L. Hottinger Health and Exercise Science Major Contribution Award . . . . . Jennifer Ann Foster

*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 graduating 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 Jenny Foster. In addition to her outstanding academic record, Jenny was highly involved in healthy aging research across Wake Forest, working directly with older adults with chronic pain to adopt an active lifestyle, providing peer mentorship to other undergraduate research assistants, and even acting as a session moderator at the Aging Reimagined conference. Jenny was also very active in student-led groups including her leadership role as Director of the largest philanthropy event on campus, Wake 'N Shake. Congratulations Jenny!*

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

*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 20 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 student with the highest grade point average in the HPA minor and overall. It is our pleasure to present this award to Grace Lyons, an economics major who is also a member of Phi Beta Kappa and Omicron Delta Epsilon Honor Societies. In addition to completing a research thesis for which she was awarded academic high honors, Grace served as the President and Hunt Seat Captain for Wake Forest's Equestrian Team. After graduation, Grace plans to work in Washington DC in government and public services consulting. This award comes with a cash prize and her name will be engraved on a plaque honoring the annual winners. Congratulations Grace!*

Dr. Monique O'Connell, Chair, Department of History

The Forrest W. Clonts Award for Excellence in History . . . . . Katherine "Bea" Pearson and Lejiu "Julie" Sun

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

*Recognized for her commitment to social justice and racial equality with the university's MLK Building the Dream Award, Bea Pearson has stood out among her peers as a tireless fighter and activist – all while distinguishing herself academically as a History major. Among her many accomplishments include assisting with the President's commission, running student programming such as the Black Women's Leadership Retreat, and working with the Women's Center. Most recently, Bea was accepted into the Smithsonian's summer internship program (up to 400 applicants, 8 selected) where she will be working on a project "Black Feminist Public History: Roots, Branches, and Remedies." On account of these accomplishments, the History Department is proud to award Bea Pearson this year's Clonts Award.*

*Lejiu Sun models the extraordinary qualities, ideals, and initiatives that we seek to foster among our history majors. Her love of history, inspired by the Silk Road seminar taken during the fall semester of her freshman year, took her on an epic journey from the ZSR stacks to the Daze monastery at the foothills of the Himalayas. Her cultivation of a wide variety of research methods using textual, material, and oral sources, commitment to promoting historical understanding through teaching, conference presentation, and publication, and service to her communities, including a professional association in which she is a student member, encapsulate the essence of her own "history manifesto" – a quest for a "history of the people, by the people, for the people." For her various accomplishments as an ideal History student, the History Department is proud to award Julie Sun this year's Clonts Award.*



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

The John Y. Phillips Prize in Mathematics ..... Robert Christian Langefeld and Sarah Ruth Nicholls

*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.*

*Robert Langefeld has maintained a 4.0 GPA while taking many more upper-level courses than are required for a B.S. in Mathematics, including a course at the graduate level. He has a passion for using computational tools to understand data. Robert has long been an active member of the high-performance computing group at Wake Forest, and has competed multiple times in ASA DataFest, a data analysis competition. Robert is double majoring and will also earn a B.S. in Computer Science.*

*Sarah Ruth Nicholls has excelled in her coursework, which includes multiple graduate-level mathematics courses. Sarah Ruth has enthusiastically dived into undergraduate research in topology, studying petal knots (knots shaped like a flower) over the past five semesters. In addition, she has completed two summer research experiences and research work this year modeling COVID. Sarah Ruth has been a leader in mathematical outreach through groups like the Association for Women in Mathematics and strives to make mathematics more inclusive. She is also double majoring in Computer Science.*

Dr. Robert Erhardt, Associate Chair, Department of Mathematics and Statistics

The 1976 Math Faculty Legacy Prize in Statistics ..... Yuexin (Cindy) Chen and Mackenzie T. Wood

*The 1976 Math Faculty Legacy Prize was established by an alumnus to honor the faculty members in the Math Department who made his experience at WFU so enjoyable and successful.*

*Cindy is a double major in Mathematical Statistics and Computer Science. She has been a teaching assistant in the Math and Stats Center for statistics courses, including statistical learning, multilevel models, as well as design and sampling. She also completed a senior capstone with Dr. Huang in which she analyzed sensor-collected patient posture data from a health care organization. After graduation, she will be joining the Master of Science in Analytics program at Northwestern University.*

*Mackenzie is a double major in Mathematical Statistics and Sociology. She has been a teaching assistant in the Math and Stats Center for statistics courses. Her academic work explores topics such as criminology, law, family violence, and juvenile delinquency, as well as theoretical and applied statistics which supports quantitative study in these areas. Next year she will pursue a Masters in Biostatistics at Duke University.*

Dr. Rais Rahman, Co-Director, Middle East and South Asia Studies Program

Award for Outstanding Senior in Arabic ..... Amelia G. Shulte

*This award is given annually to the top-ranked graduating minor in Arabic Language.*

*Among her peers, Amelia Schulte is an example of dedication and hard work. She has also distinguished herself with a meticulous understanding of the subjects she studies that represent diverse and complex phenomena. For excelling herself in Arabic language and culture, the Program in Middle East and South Asia Studies and Arabic minor is proud to present the Award for Outstanding Senior in Arabic to Amelia.*

Lawrence Rubal, Lieutenant Colonel, US Army, Chair, Department of Military Science

Superior Cadet Award (Sponsored by First Command) ..... Cadet Samuel Alexander Handson

*The Superior Cadet Award is presented to the top Cadet in the senior class based on national ranking. The award is a culmination of their performance over four years in the Army ROTC program at Wake Forest University. The winner of the Superior Cadet Award receives an engraved Army Officers' Sabre for their excellent performance and potential as a future Army leader. CDT Hanson was the top-ranked Cadet in his class, a distinguished military graduate (top 20% of the country), and in the top 10% of all Cadets accessed in Army ROTC nationwide.*



Dr. Stewart Carter, Professor, Department of Music

Outstanding Graduate in Music Performance. . . . . Eric W. Ross and Katarina Maja Sams

*Eric W. Ross, native of Pfafftown, NC, has been a dedicated music scholar and flutist. He received the Richter Scholarship in 2021 to analyze film music from the Lord of the Rings trilogy and subsequently presented his work at the ACC Meeting of the Minds Conference. As a Presidential Scholarship flutist, he has performed in Wake Forest's orchestra, wind ensemble, and marching band for all four years, and he has won numerous other awards from the music department, including the Boteler Prize and the Concerto Competition. Eric is a double major in History and Music in the Liberal Arts, and next year he will attend Indiana University to pursue a Master of Arts in musicology.*

*Born in Croatia and raised in Switzerland, Katarina Maja Sams has performed as an excellent flutist in Wake Forest's orchestra, wind ensemble and numerous chamber music groups throughout her four years. Her final honors recital as a Music Performance major included demanding 20th century flute repertoire from female composer Lili Boulanger and Swiss composer Frank Martin. Katarina has won numerous Music Department awards for both her outstanding performance and academic accomplishments, including the Christian Cappelluti Prize and second place in the Giles-Harris Open Competition, and she has served as a Wake Forest Virtual Music Mentor for the Winston-Salem Forsyth County Schools. She will attend the Shenandoah Conservatory next year to pursue a Master of Music in flute performance.*

Dr. Stavroula Glezakos, Chair, Department of Philosophy

The Gregory D. Pritchard Scholar Award in Philosophy. . . . . Katherine C. Finch and Elizabeth Anne Lake

*The Prize was given by James L. and Gloria J. Barrett in honor of their former teacher, the late Dr. Gregory Pritchard, who taught and served as the Philosophy Department Chair at Wake Forest from 1969 to 1994. The award is to be given annually to "the most deserving graduating philosophy student." The Philosophy Department considers the two co-winners this year as equally deserving of the Prize for the quality of their work done in the Philosophy Major.*

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

The William Eugene Speas Memorial Award for Distinguished Work in Physics . . . . Richard Alan Pope and William George Caulkins

*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 excelled in research on their own and in promoting research for others.*

Dr. Michaelle Browsers, Chair, Department of Politics and International Affairs

The C. H. Richards Award for Excellence in Politics and International Affairs. . . . . Maggie Fox and Ally Swartzberg

*The C. H. Richards Award for Excellence in Politics & International Affairs was established to honor the Department's founder and long-time chair and to recognize outstanding graduating majors. This year's award goes to two exceptional students, Maggie Fox and Ally Swartzberg, for their academic excellence; their service to the department, university and community; and for their exemplary character attributes.*

Dr. Wayne E. Pratt, Director of Undergraduate Studies for the Department of Psychology

The Robert C. Beck Excellence in Psychology Award . . . . . Amber Kathleen Adkins

*The Robert C. Beck Excellence in Psychology Award was created to honor Bob Beck, a founding member of the Psychology department whose example inspired students and fellow faculty across his 50 years at Wake Forest University. This year's honoree is similarly inspiring, conducting Honors research that examined how people process and make sense of COVID-19-related challenges at different ages, and how those differences impact well-being. In another research project, this student studied cognitive processing in individuals diagnosed with amnesic Mild Cognitive Impairment. Additionally, she has served our community as a part-time intern with Senior Services through the Office of Civic and Community Engagement, as a Meals-on-Wheels volunteer, and by leading the Wake Forest chapter of Musical Empowerment. On top of her research and service accomplishments, this year's awardee was a winner of the WFU 2021 Concerto Competition. The Psychology department is pleased to present the Robert C. Beck Excellence in Psychology Award to Amber Adkins.*

Dr. David Yamane, Professor, Department of Sociology

The American Sociological Association's Departmental Prize for Outstanding Student . . . . . Hannah DeMaioNewton, Bridget Idzik  
and Mark Zhongze Wei

*The American Sociological Association's Departmental Prize for Outstanding Student is awarded to a graduating senior who, over the course of their time at Wake Forest has shown outstanding academic achievement in Sociology. This year's graduating class of Sociology majors is exceptionally strong; DeMaioNewton, Idzik, and Wei stood out for their consistent excellence in coursework, insightful contributions to class discussions, and their putting sociology into action in extracurricular work.*





Dr. Kathryn Mayers, Chair, Department of Spanish and Italian

The Ruth Foster Campbell Award for Excellence in Spanish. . . . . Leslie M. Morales-Noyola

*Established to honor the memory of Professor Emeritus of Spanish Ruth Foster Campbell, the Award for Excellence in Spanish is given each year to a graduating Spanish major who demonstrates extraordinary academic achievement and engagement with the languages and cultures of the Spanish-speaking world. This year's recipient is Leslie M. Morales-Noyola. During Leslie's time at Wake Forest, she carried out extensive research on the lexical, pragmatic, syntactic, and morphologic characteristics of the Spanish spoken in the Piedmont Triad region and presented her findings at two conferences. She also interned at a local law firm for four years, assisting staff with immigration cases, and served a term as co-President of the Organization of Latin American Students. The Spanish Department is extremely proud of Leslie's achievements and delighted to present her with this award.*

Dr. Irma Alarcón, Associate Professor of Spanish and Linguistics, Linguistics Program Director

M. Stanley Whitley Award for Excellence in Linguistics. . . . . Anna Gray Price

*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 Anna Price to be the winner of this year's award in recognition of her superb academic achievement in Linguistics.*

Dr. Ana-María González Wahl, Director, Latin American and Latino Studies

The Award for Outstanding Senior in Latin American and Latino Studies. . . . . Katherine Caesar

*The Outstanding Senior Award for Excellence in Latin American and Latino Studies recognizes the graduating minor whose work in and outside the classroom is most meritorious.*

*Katherine (Kat) is an extraordinary student with an exceptional record of academic achievement and engagement in Latin American and Latino Studies. She has majored in Spanish as well as Politics and International Affairs, with the minor in LALS. She has been involved in several research projects focusing on Latin America. This includes research tracking gendered political violence in Mexico as well as research that examines the impact of racism and sexism on religion and art in Cuba. Kat will pursue a Master's degree through the Georgetown University School of Foreign Service, specializing in Latin America. This summer she will work as an intern in Chile through the Georgetown program. Te deseamos mucha suerte!*

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

The John Allen Easley Award in Religion. . . . . Brianna Veronica Anne Aaron and Leilani N. Fletcher

*The Easley Award, which honors Dr. J. Allen Easley, former professor and chair of the Department, is awarded to the most outstanding graduating senior with a major in Religious Studies. This year we have two deserving recipients for this award: Brianna Veronica Anne Aaron and Leilani N. Fletcher.*

Dr. Rob Eastman-Mullins, Associate Chair, Department of Theatre and Dance

The Wake Forest University Theatre Association Award for Academic Excellence. . . . . Elinor C. Grage

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

*Elinor C. Grage embodies the Wake Forest ideal of the intelligent, critical, creative, and multifaceted student. She was introduced to the Department of Theatre & Dance after auditioning and landing a lead role in *The Crucible* as a—to that point—completely unknown student. Since that marked debut, this violinist, Fulbright winner, international scholar, and talented actor earned admission to the Wake Forest School of Medicine where she will study to become a doctor. The stage's loss will prove to be the medical profession's gain, but the College and Theatre & Dance send out another excellent representative of the Wake Forest ideal.*



Dr. Brantly Star Bright Shapiro, Co-Director, Department of Theatre and Dance

The Knox Dance Scholar Award.....Sarah McLoughlin and Morgan Smith

*This award was established by Mr. & Mrs. Wycliffe Knox, Jr., of Georgia, in honor of their daughter Shell, who was a dancer and a graduate of class of 93. The award is given to a graduating senior dance minor and/or company member. The scholarship is based on overall academic achievement, and contributions to the Dance Program and Dance Company. The recipients will receive a certificate and monetary award.*

*Sarah McLoughlin is the recipient of the Presidential Scholarship in Dance and served as a member of the Wake Forest University Dance Company for four years. Along with her academic achievements as a Major in Finance and Minor in Dance she has made significant contributions to the dance program serving on the company executive board, as a dancer and choreographer. This spring she choreographed "An Evening I will Not Forget" setting the work on 9 dancers for Spring Student Choreographic concert. Sarah is a role model and leader amongst her peers. She made great efforts to keep the dance community connected while promoting trust, collaboration and comradery.*

*Morgan Smith has used her time well at Wake Forest and in the Dance Department. She has been a lovely addition to every concert and has shown amazing artistic and technical growth during her time with us. She is a steady and positive presence in class and serves as a role model for our college dancers and the students in Community Ballet. Her contribution to Community Ballet cannot be overstated. In addition to assisting and teaching classes, she developed a wonderful Newsletter to keep parents and students informed. She has also created a new website for the CB program which streamlines access to information and simplifies use for all of us. Morgan will be greatly missed, but her contributions will be appreciated for a long, long time.*

Dr. Wanda Balzano, Associate Professor, Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

Leadership Award for Outstanding Senior in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies .....Olivia Thonson

*This award is presented annually to our department's majors and minors who best exemplify the qualities of leadership, service, and professionalism.*

*Olivia is a double major in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies and Politics and International Affairs with a minor in Bioethics, Medicine, and Humanities. Olivia has made the Dean's List every semester at Wake and last year was the recipient of the Mary DeShazer Award for Best Undergraduate Research Paper (2021). Her academic excellence seamlessly translates into leadership through the many initiatives that illustrate her commitment to educating others concerning racial*

*inequality, income inequality, and gender inequality as well as to advancing sexual health and wellness at Wake and beyond. Well done, Olivia!*

The Anne Boyle Award for Outstanding Academic Achievement .....Zachary Lee Potter

*This award is granted each year to an exceptionally accomplished graduating senior with a remarkable record of academic achievement and engagement in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies.*

*Zack is a double major in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies and Communication. This year he has conducted extensive work in digital and physical archives researching, identifying, and cataloging over thirty years of LGBTQ Film Festival Programs across multiple states and countries. As one of the few recipients of the Stamps Scholarship at Wake, Zack has demonstrated outstanding academic achievement, a high degree of intellectual curiosity and scholarship, exceptional promise in leadership, service and social responsibility, perseverance, character, integrity and innovation. Congratulations, Zack!*

Dr. Marianne Magjuka, Executive Director, Office of Civic & Community Engagement

The Edgar Christman Award for Service .....Julia McElhinny

*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. Passionate about sustainability, Julia McElhinny envisioned and expanded the Environmental Educators program, which provides environmental education to roughly 1,500 local middle school students each year. Julia has been a driving force behind the success of the Compost Crew; a frequent and consistent volunteer in the Campus Garden; a member of the student leadership team of The Campus Kitchen, where she served as the Policy and Advocacy Chair; a student adviser with the Office of Academic Advising and a virtual tutor with OCCE.*



The Change Maker Award for Social Change ..... Sakina Barthe-Sukhera

*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. As an Office of Sustainability Campus Garden intern, Sakina Barthe-Sukhera led the charge to develop a pollinator garden at the Campus Garden and certified the space as an official Monarch Waystation. Additionally, Barthe-Sukhera revitalized the Tohi Garden and reconnected with leaders of the Eastern Band of Cherokee to coordinate plant identification efforts with the Forsyth Cooperative Extension and Anthropology Departments, and galvanized volunteers to remove invasive plants, reestablish native plants, and install educational seating areas. Through these revitalization efforts, the new Tohi Garden outdoor classroom space has hosted nine different classes, and several educational and volunteer events resulting in 170 students exploring the garden throughout the Fall 2021 semester. Most recently, she recruited and trained a team of 12 student volunteers in collaboration with the OCCE's Network of Educational Resources and Development (NERD) program to serve as liaisons to four local elementary school garden leaders, where they develop weekly work plans for teams of volunteers to provide basic garden maintenance services.*

Dr. Margaret Ewalt, President of the Wake Forest Chapter of Phi Beta Kappa

The Carlton P. West Phi Beta Kappa Award .....Kaylah R. Bozkurtian, Lauren Kathryn DeMarco, Haosen He,  
Bridget A. Idzik, Robert Christian Langefeld, Julia S. McElhinny,  
Richard Alan Pope, and Caroline Taylor Walker

*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

Seized at the Root. .... Bea Pearson

Steps ..... Miranda Wells

Wrestling with the Shame of Uncertainty ..... Betsy Lake

*Every fall semester, Wake Forest faculty nominate graduating seniors as orators; these are students, who, the faculty believe, have something significant to say about their time at Wake Forest. This is in keeping with a tradition of senior speeches that dates back to the founding of the College in 1834 and was in fact required of all Wake Forest seniors up until the early 1880s. Following faculty nominations, 24 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 ten students who presented orations at our senior colloquium. A panel of faculty selected a short list of three orators and the top orator for 2022, who then read the oration at the Founders' Day convocation. Our top orator for 2022 is Bea Pearson with her oration, "Seized at the Root". Bea is from Mount Holly, NJ and is majoring in History with minors in American Ethnic Studies and Politics.*

The William C. and Ruth N. Archie Award ..... Renate Ma

*Renate Ma's academic achievements, a double major in Classical Studies, where she studied Greek, and Chemistry, graduating with honors and a concentration in Medicinal Chemistry and Drug Discovery, demonstrate her clear commitment to liberal learning. Her academic performance in these two majors, which span the liberal arts, has been outstanding, as her recent election to Phi Beta Kappa attests. In Chemistry, Renate worked as part of a research team making and studying new electronic materials; her long-time mentor described the quality of her work as being at a level rarely seen for undergraduate researchers. During her time at Wake Forest, Renate also worked in psychology and biomedical labs.*

*Renate's service and community contributions also demonstrate her commitment to liberal learning. In addition to being a member of the WFU Dance team and an on-line tutor, Renate distinguished herself in the Campus Kitchen as part of the student advisory leadership team and as a WFU EMT provider. She volunteered at the Forsyth County animal shelter, sanitizing the cat quarters, earned North Carolina certification as an EMT-B, and is a trained doula. These various activities show her commitment to service and a willingness to tackle hard things, using her study of science to promote health in the university and the Winston-Salem community. Faculty described her as "hard-working," "diligent," "self-motivated," and "prepared" in her academic work. They also added "insightful," "broad-minded," and "humble," terms that speak to her expansive view of learning and service.*

*Her excellence in the classroom and in the lab, in fields as diverse as Chemistry and Classics, coupled with her commitment to service in both the Wake Forest and the greater Winston-Salem communities, demonstrate Renate Ma's commitment to liberal learning, and to principles like that of our motto, Pro Humanitate. She works to improve the lives of others, and to expand her own horizons.*



## ADDITIONAL AWARDS

Major Field Tests Achievement Awards . . . . .	Caleb Benjamin Sawyer, Archie Bryant Wallis, Zhiyu Feng and Richard Alan Pope
G. McLeod Bryan Pro Humanitate Award for Community Service . . . . .	Sakina Khanum Barthe-Sukhera and Leilani N. Fletcher
Fulbright ETA Scholarship to the Czech Republic . . . . .	Elinor C. Grage
Fulbright ETA Scholarship to Spain . . . . .	Lauren Robertson
Fulbright Research Scholarship to Chile . . . . .	Samuel A. Apostolopoulos
National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship . . . . .	Maya Ashton Dalton and Joseph Lyle McCalmon
Goldwater Scholarship . . . . .	Samuel Kotler Schwartz and Joseph Lyle McCalmon
Communication Department Academic Achievement Award . . . . .	Alexander Murphey and Emily Sedlak
Communication Department Service Award . . . . .	Farah Alsakhita
Christen Balady Memorial Fund Scholarship (Communications) . . . . .	Brian Rowland
Outstanding Minor in Chinese . . . . .	Mel Davis
Outstanding Minor in Japanese . . . . .	Qiming Fang
Forrest W. Clonts Research Prize in European History . . . . .	Elise Vivian Wright
David W. Hadley Prize for Historical Writing on the 100 Level . . . . .	Abigail Morgan Eakle and Andrew Young
Chilton Pearson Research Prize in United States History . . . . .	Robert Farnham
W.J. Cash Award for Studies in Southern History . . . . .	Samuel A. Apostolopoulos
Richard Worden Griffin Research Prize in Asian, African or Latin American History . . . . .	Aine Violet Pierre
Stephen Vella Prize for Excellence in Writing . . . . .	Ally Werstler
Shotwell Scholarship . . . . .	Camille Elyse Crumbley
Senior Award for Excellence in Arabic . . . . .	T. Rains Draper
Senior Award for Excellence in Hindi-Urdu . . . . .	Chris B. Cates
Walter S. Flory Outstanding Student in Biology . . . . .	Leonardo Silenzi
The Lura Baker Paden Award . . . . .	JB Blood
The Delmer P. Hylton Accountancy Award . . . . .	Christopher Lewis
The Academic Excellence in Finance Award . . . . .	Yuqing (Skye) Wang
The Academic Excellence in Mathematical Business Award . . . . .	Ali Schragger
The Spirit of Wayne Calloway Award . . . . .	Benny Potter
The Patel Prize in Finance . . . . .	Christopher Grafflin Browning III
Michael Lawlor Macroeconomics Prize . . . . .	Robert Farnham
The Claire and Dan Hammond Economics Award for Leadership and Service . . . . .	Jadyn H. Ives
The Levar Hairston Courage Award . . . . .	Emma Rose Williams
D.A. Brown Award for Excellence in Creative Writing . . . . .	Crystal Zhao
H. Broadus Jones MA Student Award for Excellence in English . . . . .	Jensen Armstrong Kirkendall
The Robert N. Shorter Medieval Prize . . . . .	Lillian Amrhein Remler
H. Broadus Jones Shakespeare Prize . . . . .	Marilla G. Morrison and Alexandra E. Zyskowski
D. A. Brown Award for Excellence in Writing (awarded Summer 2021) . . . . .	Sophie B. Lee (Writing 111) Marina C. Velasco (Core Literature Category) Lauren Kathryn DeMarco (Upper Division Literature Category) Kathryn Elizabeth Bullock (Upper Division Literature Category)



The Bynum G. Shaw Prize in Journalism .....	Connor B. McNeely
The Bynum G. Shaw Prize in Journalism Finalists .....	Christian T. Odjakjian and Mingxuan Zhu
H. Broadus Jones Memorial Scholarship .....	Christopher Thomas Keiser
The Beulah Lassiter Raynor Scholarship .....	Madison C. Head and Marilla G. Morrison
Emily Crandall Shaw Scholarship in Liberal Arts .....	Kathryn Elizabeth Bullock
Justus and Elizabeth C. Drake Scholarship .....	Rachel Rose Donaldson, Connor B. McNeely and Declan P. Sander
Jack D. Fler Award for Excellence in Honors in Politics and International Affairs .....	Megan Kilduff
Carl Moses Excellence in Research (Political Science) .....	Josie Ansbacher
The ACS Division of Inorganic Chemistry Undergraduate Award in Inorganic Chemistry .....	Zhiyu Feng
The ACS Division of Organic Chemistry Undergraduate Award in Organic Chemistry .....	Alan Richard Spicer
The ACS Division of Physical Chemistry Undergraduate Award in Physical Chemistry .....	William Woods Kennedy
The ACS Division of Analytical Chemistry Undergraduate Award in Analytical Chemistry .....	Sarah Grace Rice
The Royal Society of Chemistry Certificate of Excellence Award .....	Irene Obaid Huq, Malik L. Mcfarlane, Lucas Thomas Minas, Taylor Elizabeth Wiggins, and Haoqing Wu
Blackbyrd Scholarship .....	Morohuntodun (Mo) Olulola Oni
James & Courtenay Harton Scholarship for Chemical Industry .....	Ikeer Y. Mancera-Ortiz
The Grant Madison Backerman, American Institute of Chemists Foundation Undergraduate Student Award .....	Ikeer Y. Maccera-Ortiz
Society for Classical Studies Outstanding Student Award .....	Jordan Houston
Classical Association of the Middle, West and South Accomplishment in Classical Studies .....	Zoe Clay
Andronica Award .....	Aine Pierre and Maggie Quick
Honors in Classical Studies .....	Jordan Houston
Knox Dance Award for Academic Achievement .....	Sarah McLoughlin and Morgan Smith
Johnnie Collins III Drama Scholarship .....	Vir Gupta
Dyeann and Henry Jordan Theatre Scholarship .....	Girnar Anand, Evan S. Souza and Alexander K. Friedel
Senior Theatre Scholar for Academic Excellence .....	Elinor Grage
Senior Service in Theatre and Dance .....	Adarian Sneed, Freya Zheng and Chris Cates
Faculty and Staff Special Recognition in Theatre .....	Sarah Cadena
Marie Bagby Service to AAP Award .....	Molly Olsen
Harold Tedford Dedication to Theatre Award .....	Chris Cates
Caroline Sandlin Fullerton Acting Awards .....	Chris Cates, Elinor Grage, Cameron Michles, Frances Gray Riggs, Adarian Sneed, Sophie Thomas, Christopher Quiroz and Michael Votto
Distinguished Military Graduates .....	Samuel Alexander Hanson, Brandon Staats, and Rossetter Thomas
George C. Marshall Leadership Award .....	Samuel Alexander Hanson
The Department of Sociology Community Engagement Award .....	Chris Cates
Jack D. and Martha H. Fler Scholarship .....	Maya Dalton
Excellence in African Studies Award (Inaugural) .....	Mariamawit Girmay Kebede and Akuele Odette Sandra Noumadji
The Center for Entrepreneurship Senior Mentorship Award .....	Bevin Gracie Burns
Biochemistry and Molecular Biology Service Award .....	Megan Gerber
Honors in Latin American and Latino Studies .....	Rebecca G. Leathers



## MORTAR BOARD

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John James Blood	Katherine E Hewitt	Sarah Merchant	Olivia Thonson
Kaylah R Bozkurtian	Anna Kathryn Himes	Hannah Mamounia Mo	Molly Anne Todd
Rory Michael Britt	Juliana Marie Hopper	Michael John Moerk	Wesley Katherine Tucker
Katherine Elizabeth Caesar	Bridget A. Idzik	Leslie Milena Morales-Noyola	Hendrik Michael Vossler
William George Caulkins	John West Jestus	Molly G. Olson	Caroline Taylor Walker
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