



Honors and Awards
2023



Honors and Awards

WELCOME

Dr. Anthony Marsh, *Interim Dean, Wake Forest College*

To the Class of 2023 College Honors and Awards recipients,

Today's Honors and Awards Ceremony is one of my favorite days of the year. I congratulate our talented students who have achieved remarkable accomplishments in the arts, humanities, social sciences, and sciences. We celebrate your tireless dedication, countless hours of research, scholarship, and critical thinking. You have expressed your creativity through various mediums and produced brilliant original scholarship.

Think back to four years ago, when you attended New Student Convocation. We urged you to leverage your liberal arts education to cultivate a *Pro Humanitate* spirit that would empower you to create a better world for all. And you have done just that. Your unwavering intellectual curiosity, thirst for knowledge, and genuine concern for others have not only inspired those around you, but also your parents, faculty, and myself. Your intellectual growth, leadership, and profound contributions have shaped Wake Forest as much as Wake Forest has shaped you.

As you embark on the next chapter of your lives, I implore you to continue questioning the world around you and using your knowledge to affect positive change. Always remember that Wake Forest University holds immense confidence in each and every one of you. We eagerly anticipate the bright futures that lie ahead for all our graduates.

Today, we are honored to have faculty and staff members from a diverse range of departments and programs in the College joining us. Each of them will acknowledge and recognize the exceptional achievements of our students.

I also want to take this opportunity to thank you — family and friends — for the support you have given our students during their time at Wake Forest. Your unwavering support and encouragement have played a crucial role in shaping the experiences of our students during their time at Wake Forest.

Once again, congratulations to all our talented students. May you continue to strive for excellence, ignite positive change, and make a profound impact on the world. Your potential knows no bounds, and the entire Wake Forest community is proud to have been a part of your journey.

MUSIC

"Saper vorreste" from *Un Ballo in Maschera* Giuseppe Verde (1813-1901)

Brianna Coppolino ('23), soprano

Julianne Zhu ('21), piano

AWARDS

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

The Department of Anthropology Outstanding Senior Award Lydia Daniel Evans

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. Lydia's post-graduation plan is to start at the University of Illinois in the fall as a Ph.D. student in Anthropology.

Dr. Lindsay Comstock, *BMB Program Coordinator, Department of Chemistry for the Biochemistry and Molecular Biology Program*

Award for Outstanding Undergraduate Research in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology Brendan M. Lemezis

The Outstanding Undergraduate Research in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology recipient is presented to a graduating BMB major in recognition of excellence in laboratory research. Brendan has excelled in the laboratory of Ke Zhang Reid since June 2021, where he has investigated epigenetic pathways that regulate genome stability and heterochromatin assembly in fission yeast. Brendan's commitment to his research project has not only culminated in a meticulous and outstanding honors thesis, but he has contributed to a comprehensive review article in International Journal of Molecular Sciences, and his research will result in two upcoming publications. Brendan was awarded a two-year post baccalaureate fellowship at the NIH to study RNA viruses and their use as vaccines.



Dr. Katy Lack, Associate Teaching Professor, Department of Biology

The Carolina Biological Supply Company Award for Undergraduate Research. Trey Ursillo

The Carolina Biological Research Award is given to the undergraduate student who has excelled in the area of performing original and engaging research. This year the winner is Trey Ursillo, who has worked in Dr. David Anderson's lab on behavioral strategies associated with assuring paternal confidence in promiscuous bird populations. His work will be submitted for publication in an international journal, demonstrating the high quality of his research.

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

The Center for Entrepreneurship Senior of the Year Award Natalia Drobnjak

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. Natalia has been an outstanding contributor to the program, a great entrepreneur, and a tremendous friend and mentor to her classmates. The Center for Entrepreneurship is so pleased to present Natalia with this award.

Dr. Willie Hinze, Professor, Department of Chemistry

The John W. Nowell Award in Undergraduate Chemistry Juliano Pinto Ribeiro Filho

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 from outstanding performance in the classroom to independent research in the laboratory). This year's recipient is Juliano Pinto Ribeiro Filho. Juliano plans to work as a research assistant at the Whitehead Institute (which is affiliated with MIT) following graduation and then attend graduate school.

Dr. John M. Oksanish, Associate Professor, Department of Classics

M. D. Phillips Prize in Classical Languages. James Gray Rucker Jr.

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 Classics and in Mathematics for excellent work. This year's recipient of the M. D. Phillips Prize in Classical Languages is James Gray Rucker Jr. Students like Gray don't come along often. He's got mad skills in Latin and Greek and a penchant for deep thinking about big issues in both the ancient and modern worlds — and, at the same time, he's one of the kindest people I've ever met and one of the easiest for anybody to talk to. We in the department miss him already!

Dr. Steven Giles, Chair, Department of Communication

Academic Achievement Award Matt Albren

Julia Marie Covelli

The Academic Achievement Award recognizes exceptional academic accomplishments of senior in Communication, based on factors such as GPA, research, and creative projects.

Matt Albren was chosen as a recipient of this award for his outstanding achievements in the department, including his impressive 3.9 GPA, His honors project exploring the underrepresentation of men in teaching careers, and multiple writing projects that include a published chapter in a book produced as part of a class project. His contributions demonstrate a deep commitment to academic excellence and a passion for advancing knowledge in the field of Communication.

Julia Marie Covelli was selected as a recipient of this award for her impressive academic record, including a 3.89 GPA in Communication and a 3.86 overall GPA. Her Honors project, advocating for more female superheroes in the entertainment industry, demonstrated her passion for empowering young women and providing them with relatable role models. Additionally, her exemplary conduct as a departmental citizen earned her high regard among her faculty members.



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

The John W. Sawyer Prize in Computer Science Tongtong Liu

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. Tongtong Liu is recognized for his excellence in coursework and rich contributions to research, as an author on multiple publications and as a finalist for a national research award.

Dr. Andy Rodekohr, Chair, Department of East Asian Language & Cultures

The Outstanding Chinese Major of the Year Allie Miller

The Outstanding Chinese Major of the Year is given yearly to the graduating senior in Chinese Language and Culture who has not only achieved academic success in the major curriculum, which includes both language learning and cultural studies courses, but has also demonstrated an engagement with Chinese language and culture outside the classroom and helped to foster a community of students and scholarship in Chinese studies. This year's recipient, Allie Miller, has exhibited a sustained dedication to language learning, tremendous intellectual curiosity in her research projects, and was an enthusiastic member of the Chinese Culture Club. Her Honors thesis examines the history of cinematic representations of the founding of the People's Republic of China and the careful balance of politics, art, and entertainment that sustains the historical narrative in contemporary Chinese propaganda film. Allie's thesis work exemplifies the kinds of academic diligence and cultural perspective that we value in the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures, and we congratulate her on her achievement!

Outstanding Japanese Major of the Year. Preston Franklin

The Outstanding Japanese Major of the Year is given yearly to the graduating senior in Japanese Language and Culture who has not only achieved academic success in the major curriculum, which includes both language learning and cultural studies courses, but has also demonstrated an engagement with Japanese language and culture outside the classroom and helped to foster a community of students and scholarship in Japanese studies. This year's recipient, Preston Franklin, continues every day to demonstrate commitment to learning Japanese, and no matter what the topic, material, or assignment, he always brings insight and passion to the discussion. His Honors thesis analyzes the "childhood friend" (osananajimi) character trope in Japanese media, from its origins in modern stories of alienation and adulthood to its contemporary narratives of time travel and fantasy. Preston's thesis work epitomizes scholarly, textual engagement, and is able to locate deep, cultural significance in this distinctive feature of Japanese media that most would take for granted. We congratulate him on his achievement!

Dr. Amanda Griffith, Chair, Department of Economics

Michael Lawlor Macroeconomics Prize. Braden Strackman

Braden has been an excellent student of Macroeconomics. He competed as a member of the Federal Reserve Challenge team and did an outstanding job in our higher-level macroeconomics electives. During the summer before his senior year, he worked as a research assistant at the Dallas Fed in their macroeconomics division, to which he will return after graduation as a Research Analyst. Braden recently completed his Honors thesis studying the impact of Medicaid expansion on the types of medical procedures received, for which he received High Honors from the department.

Claire and Dan Hammond Economics Award for Leadership and Service Angela Waszkiewicz

This award is given to an Economics major who has demonstrated great leadership and service, both within and outside the department. Angela has done a wonderful job as an econometrics teaching assistant for the past year, and her students have been grateful for her patient and insightful help in learning material for the class. Angela has also worked as a math and stats tutor and has served in leadership positions in non-academic societies as well. Angela is a wonderful example of strong leadership and service and very deserving of this award.

Dr. Michael D. Gross, Chair, Department of Engineering

Celebrating the Whole Engineer: Academic Excellence and Outstanding Character Janelle Lenore Wargo

The award recognizes an engineering student who has demonstrated exceptional academic achievement, outstanding character, and embodies the values of the Engineering Department: Empowerment, Growth, Integrity, Inclusion, Compassion, and Joy.



Dr. Jefferson Holdridge, Professor, Department of English

H. Broadus Jones Senior Award for Excellence in English Maren Beverly and Christopher Keiser

The H. Broadus Jones Excellence Award is given each year to graduating seniors whose work exemplify Jones's spirit of scholarship and dedication to the study of literature.

Maren Beverly is majoring in English and double minoring in Creative Writing and Spanish. This year, she successfully defended an English Honors thesis titled "Memory Box," a complex hybrid genre work that seamlessly blends photographs, poetry, and fiction to create a profound meditation on time, memory, place, and grief. She's an elevating presence in the classroom, with an uncanny ability to bolster class discussions and guide other students to a higher level of sophistication through her close and thoughtful readings. She possesses a sharp eye for literary criticism combined with a natural gift for writing and a genuine enthusiasm to commit herself to the work of original thought and exploratory research.

Chris Keiser is an English major and Secondary Education minor. A joy to teach, he brings to each class meeting energy, humor, and insightful commentary — and he's a great model for engaging in difficult conversations with kindness and grace. His writing is interesting, forceful, and establishes a remarkably individual point of view. He is a student who constantly challenges himself to create nuanced and textured work. Moreover, his academic excellence and his commitment to a career teaching English in a public high school speak to his embodiment of liberal learning and Wake Forest values.

Dr. Stephanie Pellet, Associate Professor, Department of French Studies

The Harold Dawes Parcell Award for Excellence in French Sophie Barbara Lee

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, Sophie Lee, has shown superb engagement in her French classes over the past four years. That engagement ultimately translated into an outstanding Honors Thesis on inclusive language in French, a yearlong project during which Sophie emerged as an independent and rigorous researcher. The French Studies Department is so pleased to present Sophie with this award.

Dr. Tina Boyer, Professor, Department of German and Russian

The James C. O'Flaherty Award for Excellence in German and German Studies.Declan P. Sander

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 Declan Sander as this year's recipient for academic excellence which is exemplified in his fantastic Honors thesis. Declan has worked tirelessly during his time in the department and has consistently demonstrated a remarkable level of dedication, passion, and commitment. He is an inspiration to his peers and to the faculty. To add more accolades, he was awarded the Fulbright to both Austria and Germany. As this has not happened in the department before, we are excited to see Declan achieve this rare accomplishment. We wish him happiness and success in Germany!

Dr. Ian Taplin, Director, Program of Global Trade and Commerce Studies

The Award for Outstanding Senior in Global Trade and Commerce Studies. . . . Scott Christopher Marshall and Thomas John Packert

Both exemplified the academic rigour and breadth of analysis in their written and verbal work that enabled them to grasp what are often complex global issues.

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

The Paul M. Ribisl Health and Exercise Science Academic Achievement AwardAntonia Jay Pantesco

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 Toni Pantesco. Toni is a double major in HES and Spanish with a minor in Biology. She navigated this arduous curriculum with a perfect 4.0 GPA! Beyond the classroom, Toni has blended her two passions in many ways, including as a tutor at Imprint Cares and a volunteer at the nonprofit, volunteer-based Community Care Center, where among her many roles she serves as an advocate for Spanish speaking patients in the clinic. Toni provides compassionate, patient-centered care, a skill she plans to carry into her future career as a physician assistant. As an incoming freshman, Toni was selected as the first recipient of the Caitlin Schmidt Memorial Fund for Wake Forest Scholars, and throughout her four years, she has truly exemplified Caitlin's love of science and passion for helping others. As Caitlin's roommate, I know she couldn't be prouder of you! Congratulations Toni!

The William L. Hottinger Health and Exercise Science Major Contribution Award Avery Christine Rebello

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 Avery Rebello. In addition to her outstanding academic record, Avery was highly involved in research across Wake Forest, working with older adults with knee osteoarthritis, adults and weight loss, as well her HES Honors research project with previously injured dancers. She was selected to be a teaching assistant for the challenging HES Anatomy course and aspires to become a physical therapist and continue helping others someday. Avery is perseverant, creative, and passionate about health and exercise science. Congratulations Avery!

The Michael S. Lawlor Award for Outstanding Student in the Health Policy and Administration Minor Danielle Rose Menkart

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 Danielle Menkart, an Economics major who also minored in Biology. In addition to her excellence in the classroom, Danielle was an executive committee member for the Wake Forest CHAARG Association, working with women to create a motivating environment for healthy lifestyles. After graduation, Danielle plans to work as a healthcare consultant on her path to being a physician assistant. This award comes with a cash prize and her name will be engraved on a plaque honoring the annual winners. Congratulations Danielle!

Dr. Stephanie Koscak, Associate Professor, Department of History

The Forrest W. Clonts Award for Excellence in History Daniel Spencer Harper

This award is given to an outstanding History student each year; the judges consider academic achievement, intellectual engagement, and service to the department when choosing the recipient. This year's recipient, Spencer Harper, exemplified these qualities, all while reaching graduation in just three years. In Professor Lisa Blee's Environmental History course, Spencer independently researched Santibel Island, Florida — a place close to his home — exploring how the mangrove's vulnerability to hurricanes has shaped the local economy. He demonstrated a keen understanding of the dynamic historical relationship between natural elements (tarpon fish, mangroves, hurricanes) and Americans' ideologies of leisure, masculinity, sustainability, and modernity. In his capstone seminar thesis, Spencer threw himself at the formal, often formulaic election day sermons in Massachusetts, mapping their treatment of constitutional upheaval across the course of the Revolutionary War. These papers show Spencer Harper to be a model practitioner of excellent historical methods, analysis, and collaboration.

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

The Award for Outstanding Senior in Latin American and Latino Studies. Gabriela Valencia

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.

Gabriela Valencia is an extraordinary student with an exceptional record of academic achievement and engagement in Latin American and Latino Studies. She is an Anthropology major who has also completed minors in English, History, and LALS. She has been involved in several research projects focusing on Latin America. This includes research on Bolivia as well as Ecuador. She is a co-author of the peer-reviewed article "Saving Stray Dogs: The Global Politics of Aid and Spectacle in the Ecuadorian Jungle" published in "Anthropology Now". She has also presented her work at several conferences, including the American Anthropological Association Meetings. In addition to this academic work, Gabby has volunteered at the LAM Museum of Anthropology and the Museum of Latin American Art, Long Beach, California. Extraordinary!



Dr. John Gemmer, Associate Professor, Department of Mathematics and Statistics

The John Y. Phillips Prize in Mathematics Ashley Ann Peake and Malindi Germaine Whyte

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 one or two outstanding seniors in the Department of Mathematics. For 2022-2023, the Phillips Prize is being awarded to Ashley Ann Peake and Malindi Germaine Whyte.

Ashley has maintained a 4.0 GPA while taking many upper level courses in Mathematics and Applied Mathematics, including a graduate level course. She has been very involved in undergraduate research in Applied Mathematics and Computer Science including participation in five research projects at Wake Forest and three summer research programs, publishing five papers, and receiving a National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship. Ashley also co-founded the Collegiate Association for Inequality Research and organized a virtual conference on inequality and social justice research.

Malindi has excelled in an extraordinary number of Applied Mathematics and Mathematics courses, including a graduate level course. She has been highly involved in undergraduate research in Applied Mathematics, including participating in two summer research programs, a yearlong research program in partnership with Elon University, a research project at Wake Forest studying opinion dynamics, publishing one paper in an applied mathematics journal, and receiving a National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship. Malindi has also served as the student liaison to the Department of Mathematics and served as a tutor in the Math and Stats Center.

Dr. C. Wilkins, Associate Professor, Middle East and South Asia Studies Program

Award for Outstanding Senior in Arabic Lillian Todd Giles

The Senior Excellence Award in Arabic is given to a Wake Forest senior who has demonstrated outstanding achievement in study of the language. Lillian is a talented and committed linguist who has made great strides in attaining proficiency in both standard Arabic and the North African dialect of Arabic. Active in the Mock Trial Team and Model UN Team, Lillian plans to harness her language skills for a career in law and legal advocacy. She will be graduating with majors in Politics & International Affairs and in French Studies and with a minor in Arabic.

Award for Outstanding Senior in Hindi-Urdu Pranjal Tulsiyan

The Senior Excellence Award in Hindi-Urdu is given to a Wake Forest Senior who has demonstrated outstanding achievement in study of the language. Pranjal has been an enthusiastic student of the program for the past three years, enrolling in various advanced-level Hindi-Urdu courses. He distinguished himself when he traveled to New Haven to represent the program in the 2023 Yale University Hindi Debate, winning second prize in his category. He will graduate with a major in Communications and a minor in MESAS.

Master Sergeant Santiago, Senior Military Instructor, Department of Military Science

Distinguished Military Graduate Andrew Harlow and Samuel Williamson

The Distinguished Military Graduate Award is given to cadets who have demonstrated exceptional leadership, scholarship, and military skills and have shown outstanding character, discipline, and dedication to their country and their fellow cadets. They have performed in the top 20 percent of cadets in the nation. This award recognizes their commitment to the principles of duty, honor, and country, and their unwavering professionalism, courage, and selfless service. I am delighted to present this award to Cadet Harlow and Cadet Williamson, who both embody the very best qualities of a military leader and who will undoubtedly go on to make significant contributions to our nation's defense.

Dr. Jacqui Carrasco, Chair, Department of Music

Outstanding Graduate in Music Performance Alice N. Hauser

Alice Hauser has excelled in music theory, music history, and piano studies during her time as a music major. Her recent work included independent research on the nature-inspired musical motives of Johannes Brahms and honors performances of Ludwig van Beethoven's great "Waldstein" Sonata. As a Rhodes Scholar at Oxford next year, Alice plans to pursue a Master of Studies in Musicology in addition to a Master of Science in Refugee and Forced Migration Studies.



Dr. Katy Lack, Associate Teaching Professor in Biology, for the Neuroscience Program

The Florence Robinson Neuroscience Award Hannah Sage Yoder

The Florence Robinson Neuroscience Award is given to a Wake Forest senior graduating with a minor in Neuroscience, selected on the basis of overall performance in NEU courses, engagement in original research, and communication of research results. Hannah majored in Biology while minoring in Neuroscience. Hannah has worked in two laboratories at the Medical School — with Dr. Kenneth Kishida, studying neuroscience and creativity; and with Dr. Miranda Orr, studying the impact of tau protein accumulation (found in Alzheimer's disease) on brain cell death. Hannah plans to earn a Ph.D. in Neuroscience.

Dr. Stavroula Glezakos, Chair, Department of Philosophy

The Gregory D. Pritchard Scholar Award in Philosophy Arianna Sara Komorsky

The prize was endowed 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 given annually to "the most deserving graduating Philosophy student."

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

The William Eugene Speas Memorial Award for Distinguished Work in Physics Chao Sheng and Yue "Arina" Yu

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 to 1959.

Chao Shang performed research in Professor Winter's group since his junior year, focusing on theoretical calculations for topological magnetic materials. He also worked with the O'Hern group at Yale University and Gubbins group at North Carolina State University using molecular dynamics simulations to analyze thermodynamic aspects of glass formation and quantum effects in low-dimensional liquids. Chao co-authored a manuscript based on the former and wrote an honor thesis based on the latter. He was accepted into several top graduate programs and currently plans to join the Ph.D. program at Cornell University this fall.

Arina Yu performed research in Professor Jurchescu's lab since her freshman year, and her project focused on the study of materials and devices for flexible electronics. Arina co-authored two manuscripts, and she wrote an Honor thesis based on this work. She was accepted into several top graduate programs in Physics and Engineering and she will join the PhD program at MIT this fall.

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

The C. H. Richards Award for Excellence in Politics and International Affairs. Lizzie Harlan and Emily Hellwig

The C.H. Richards Award for Excellence in Politics and International Affairs honors the founder and longtime chairperson of the Department. It is granted annually to an outstanding senior major. The selection criteria includes both academic excellence and exemplary character attributes.

Lizzie is an exceptional student with a 4.0 GPA across the board. She has undertaken a rigorous academic schedule, combining a major in Politics and International Affairs with minors in Sociology, Psychology and an interdisciplinary minor in Schools, Education, and Society, the latter of which signals her primary passion and her future career trajectory. From her role as tutor and student director to the Virtual Tutoring Program to her service as intern for the Freedom Schools, Wake Forest's campus, and our local community has benefitted from Lizzie's work for educational equity across all four years of her time at Wake Forest.

Emily has undertaken a rigorous academic schedule, combining a major in Politics and International Affairs with minors in Spanish and Communication, maintaining a 4.0 GPA across the board as she undertook a rich and meaningful series of service, extracurricular and work activities. Emily worked as a communications assistant for WFU's undergraduate admissions, interned with Winston-Salem's Experiment in Self-Reliance, and provided research assistance for a political science professor. She also was an Admissions Ambassador, a member of the WFU Dance Company, and a writer of a bimonthly column for the University's chapter of "Her Campus," a national online magazine dedicated to championing women in journalism at the collegiate level.

Dr. Christy M. Buchanan, Professor, Department of Psychology

The Robert C. Beck Excellence in Psychology Award Madeline G. Alexanian

This award is given in memory of Robert C. Beck, a beloved faculty member in the Psychology Department for 50 years. The winner is chosen on the basis of outstanding academic work, research experience, and community service. Maddie majored in Psychology and Spanish with a minor in Schools, Education, and Society. She worked on a number of research projects in both Dr. Buchanan's and Dr. Kiang's lab. After graduation, she will spend a year in Galicia, Spain as a Fulbright English Teaching Assistant. Then she will enter the Ph.D. program in School Psychology at the University of Wisconsin.

Dr. Ana-Mariá González Wahl, Associate Professor, Department of Sociology

The American Sociological Association's Departmental Prize for Outstanding Student Liana Nicole Hutton

The American Sociological Association's Departmental Prize for Outstanding Student is awarded to a graduating senior who, during their time at Wake Forest, has shown outstanding academic achievement in Sociology. Liana Hutton, our outstanding student this year, has built an impressive record as a Sociology major with a concentration in Criminal Justice and an Anthropology minor. She has woven her "sociological imagination" into a wide-ranging agenda for the greater good: from criminal justice reform in Michigan and cultivating responsive global leadership in Washington, D.C. to advocacy for victims of intimate partner violence in London.

The Department of Sociology Community Engagement Award Maya L. Whitaker and Isaiah C. Little

Inaugurated in 2013, the Wake Forest University Department of Sociology Community Engagement Award recognizes a graduating senior Sociology major who embodies Wake Forest University's Pro Humanitate motto and who has demonstrated an outstanding commitment to community service and leadership. This year we recognize two students with this award.

Isaiah has translated his sociological knowledge into an impressive agenda of activism on behalf of marginalized communities both on the Wake Forest campus and beyond. He has promoted inclusivity for the LGBTQ community at Wake; he has tutored and mentored children of color in Winston-Salem; and he has successfully advocated for military veterans and immigrants within a federal congressional internship in Washington, D.C..

Maya has used her "sociological imagination" and artistic vision to promote social justice and equity on the Wake Forest campus and beyond. She founded and serves as the President of Wake's "Artivists – Socially Engaged Art Collective". In this endeavor, and others, Maya has curated several exhibits linking poetry and visual art with social justice and inclusivity.

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

The Ruth Foster Campbell Award for Excellence in Spanish. Audrey Kay Dyer

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 Audrey Kay Dyer. During Audrey's time at Wake Forest, she studied abroad in Spain and served as an intern in the Salamanca Chamber of Commerce, where she helped design a more efficient process for logging confidential business documents. Back on campus, she assisted Professor Jane Albrecht with research on a corpus of seventeenth-century theater manuscripts and Professor Luis Gonzalez with research on the use of the Spanish dative case. She presented her findings on the frequency of Spanish "dative doubling" at a 2021 Spanish Linguistics conference. The Spanish Department is extremely proud of Audrey's achievements and delighted to present her with this award.

Dr. Tiffany Judy, Director, Linguistics Program

M. Stanley Whitley Award for Excellence in Linguistics. Caroline Brady

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 Core faculty has chosen Caroline Brady as the winner of this year's award in recognition of her exceptional academic achievement, her research accomplishments, and her willingness to mentor other students.

Dr. Robert Erhardt, Chair, Department of Statistical Sciences

Department of Statistical Sciences Outstanding Undergraduate Student Award Elizabeth Tay MacDonald

Elizabeth MacDonald is a graduate of the B.S. Mathematical Statistics program. She has been actively involved in the Department since her first year at Wake Forest, representing the interests of students as our student liaison, and taking on leadership roles in the Association for Women in Mathematics. In addition to outstanding performance in her coursework, Elizabeth completed her senior thesis with Dr. Nicole Dalzell, examining ways to use addresses of Wake Forest alumni as a tool to match alumni with University engagement opportunities. After graduation, Elizabeth will join Deloitte in Arlington, V.A., working as a business analyst on government and public service projects.

Dr. Kenneth Hoglund, Professor, Department for the Study of Religions

The John Allen Easley Award in Religious Studies Conor Richard Metzger

The Easley Award, which honors Dr. John Allen Easley, former Professor and Chair of the Department, is awarded to the most outstanding graduating senior with a major in Religious Studies. The faculty of the Department for the Study of Religions has selected Conor Richard Metzger to be this year's award recipient in recognition of his academic excellence in religious studies. Conor has been a consistently excellent student throughout the major, always curious, and particularly adept at making the connections between the academic study of religion and people's lives. We congratulate Conor on his academic achievement and applaud his contributions to the Wake Forest community.



Professor Mary Wayne-Thomas, Chair, Department of Theatre and Dance

The Wake Forest University Theatre Association Award for Academic Excellence Ruisi Nicole Liu

This award was established to honor a Senior Theatre major for their academic achievement and overall GPA. Nicole Liu is a perfect example of the exceptional liberal arts student with a double major in Theatre and Biology and minor in Japanese. Besides being an outstanding student in the classroom, Nicole has been involved in almost every show we have done in our Department during her four years as a student. Nicole has acted, assistant directed, directed, produced, stage managed, and designed lights and sound. She accomplished all of this while also balancing her commitments as an EMT during much of that time. Nicole works with little fanfare, a smile on her face, and a commitment to excellence. Most recently, Nicole's outstanding honors project, directing the show "Unborn" for WFU's Chinese theatre group BiMoo, was elegant and clear. As part of this project, she provided a handbook for future students on how student groups can work efficiently and collaboratively. Her Honors project is a perfect final bow for her four years in our department. Although her instructions for future students are thorough and all encompassing, she has left huge shoes to fill. Nicole Liu will be missed.

Associate Professor Chris Martin, Co-Director of the Dance Program, Department of Theatre and Dance

The Knox Dance Scholar Award. Gretchen Castelloe

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 the class of 1993. 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. Gretchen Castelloe is from Oakboro, N.C. and the recipient of the Presidential Scholarship in Dance. She has been a member of the Wake Forest University Dance Company for four years, performing in nine dances. Along with her academic achievements as a major in Environmental Science and minor in Dance and Anthropology, she has made significant contributions to the dance program serving as a teaching assistant, dancer, and choreographer. This year, Gretchen is most proud of co-producing the first "WAKEVILLE" Interdisciplinary Arts Festival and for her choreography titled "Grow Til Tall" for the Spring Student Dance Concert. Gretchen has truly found her place in the Department of Theatre and Dance. She is a role model and leader amongst her peers and makes great effort to keep the dance community connected while promoting trust, collaboration, and comraderie.

Dr. Anthony Marsh, Interim Dean of the College, for the Department of Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

The Anne Boyle Award for Outstanding Academic Achievement Ashley Davis

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.

Ashley is a Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies major whose academic excellence reflects her comprehension and discussion of complex concepts, texts, and issues regarding gender and sexuality. In the classroom environment, Ashley's participation was most welcome as it brought new perspectives to conversations with her peers. Regarding her scholarly skills, supported by a Wake Forest undergraduate research fellowship and a Schomburg-Mellon research fellowship, Ashley has accomplished independent research projects on Libby Holman Reynolds and Gwendolyn Bennett. In addition, she has worked as an intern at the NorthStar LGBTQ Community Center, and is a member of the Wake Forest marching band. Ashley's past and current accomplishments and sense of responsibility will be of great asset to her future achievements. Congratulations, Ashley!

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

The Edgar Christman Award for Service Alex Riddell

Established in honor of Chaplain Ed Christman, who retired in 2003 after 49 years of service to Wake Forest, each the Christman Award acknowledges a senior who has engaged in outstanding service to the Winston-Salem community. As coordinator of the Campus Kitchen, Alex managed shift leaders, planned and coordinated regular meetings, and filled any gaps to ensure smooth delivery of meals. With over 20 shifts a week, Alex showed exceptional dedication, flexibility, and collaboration.

The Changemaker Award for Social Change Emily Kemp

The Changemaker 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. In addition to her work as a volunteer and intern in the Campus Garden, Emily served as a Connect & Cultivate leader and an inaugural Garden Ambassador working in local and community gardens in marginalized communities. She served as an AmeriCorps Summer Nonprofit Immersion Program intern last summer and has since coordinated three educational children's activities at Cobblestone Farmers' Market. After traveling to Virginia Tech to take part in a talking circle and celebration at their Indigenous Friendship Garden, Emily helped to organize a reciprocal visit for faculty and other indigenous agricultural leaders to come to Wake Forest and continue to build community.



Schoonmaker Student Prize for Community Service. Davis Brady

Davis Brady is a Biochemistry and Molecular Biology major from Knoxville, T.N. During his time at Wake Forest, he has been passionate about seeking to serve and learn from those around him. He has been a highly active and involved leader in numerous organizations, serving the University as a President's Aide and co-chair of the Traditions Council. He has taken every opportunity to know and communicate with people through his involvement in leadership, campus culture, and missional organization, ultimately contributing to his desire to form relationships across practices and cultures.

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

The Carlton P. West Phi Beta Kappa Award Laura Harlan, Christopher Keiser, Arianna Komorsky,
Tongtong Liu, Antonia Pantesco, Ashley Peake,
Madison Shaver, and Grace Stanek

The Carlton P. West Phi Beta Kappa Award was established in 1985, and honors Carlton P. West, who retired in 1975 after serving Wake Forest University as faculty member and librarian for 47 years. Carlton West was the person responsible for bringing a chapter of Phi Beta Kappa to Wake Forest in 1940. He then served as President of the chapter for six years and as Secretary-Treasurer for 22 years. The award is presented annually to the graduating senior or seniors with the highest academic average based on at least eight semesters of work at Wake Forest.

Dr. Anthony Marsh, Interim Dean of the College

The Recognition of Senior Orators

Through My Lens Kaitlyn Fox
Unsettled Lillian Giles
Negative Space Cameron Michles

Every fall semester, Wake Forest faculty nominate graduating seniors as orators. These are students whom 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, 31 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 who presented orations at our Senior Colloquium. A panel of faculty selected a short list of three orators and the Top Orator for 2023, who then read the oration at the Founders' Day convocation. Our top orator for 2023 is Kaitlyn Fox with her oration, "Through My Lens." Kaitlyn is from Northville, MI and is majoring in History with a minor in Schools, Education, and Society.

The William C. and Ruth N. Archie Award. Arianna Komorsky

Arianna is a singularly special person: intellectually powerful, incredibly hard-working and organized, original and creative, and deeply committed to living in accordance with her values. She will graduate with Honors in Philosophy as a 4.0 Phi Beta Kappa student, and this coming fall, she will be heading to Harvard to pursue a master's degree in Bioethics.

Arianna's thesis focuses on the issue of how to identify and ground the obligations (practical, moral, and other) of minor children in families where one or both parents experience disability. One of her aims in writing the thesis is to provide guidelines for parents and children which will allow them to identify what they might do differently and give them reasons for why certain changes might be called for.

Her work is inspired by significant interactions and inquisitive curiosity that inspires Arianna to think about what it might show about dualist versus materialist accounts of the mind.

Arianna has contributed a great deal while she has been at Wake Forest. She is currently the Vice President of the Braswell Philosophy Club, which is flourishing in no small part to her efforts. She has taken on time-intensive tasks like organizing a conference, leading the executive committee meetings each week, and more.

Working with Arianna pushes others to think more carefully about their own views, especially about autonomy and parenting. It is with every confidence that she will make a difference in the world.



ADDITIONAL AWARDS

NSF Graduate Research Fellowship in Mathematics	Malindi Whyte and Ashley Peake
The Major Field Test Award in Physics.....	Yue “Arina” Yu and Eduardo Castellanos
The Major Field Test Award in Biophysics.....	Cameron Joseph May and Young “Joe” Cho
Rhodes Scholarship.....	Alice Hauser
Schwarzman Scholarship	Tal Feldman
National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship	Ashley Peake and Malindi Whyte
Goldwater Scholarship.....	Landon Bradshaw and Ashley Peake
Fulbright ETA Scholarship to Germany.....	Declan Sander
Fulbright ETA Scholarship to Spain	Madeline Alexanian
Fulbright Research Scholarship to Portugal.....	Micah Porter
Truman Scholarship	Tal Feldman
Coro Fellowship.....	Abby Furman
H. Broadus Jones Shakespeare Prize in English	Rachel Thomas
Bashir El-Beshti Prize in Renaissance Studies	Alexander Baime
Claudia Kairoff Award for Excellence in Scholarship and Service in English.....	Declan Sander and Ansley McNeel
H. Broadus Jones M.A. Student Award for Excellence in English	Erin Marlow
D.A. Brown Award for Excellence in Creative Writing.....	Maren Beverly and Camille Crumbley
Bynum G. Shaw Prize in Journalism	Christa Dutton
Bynum G. Shaw Prize in Journalism (Finalists).....	Aine Pierre and Will Zimmerman
Robert N. Shorter Medieval Prize in Medieval & Early Modern Studies Program	Ashley Simon
H. Broadus Jones Memorial Scholarship in English	Arielle Kushnir and Caroline Parrish
Beulah Lassiter Raynor Scholarship in English	Christa Dutton and Caroline Searcy
Emily Crandall Shaw Scholarship in Liberal Arts in English	Frances Gray Riggs
Justus & Elizabeth C. Drake Scholarship in English.....	Asya Taylor
David and Lelia Farr Prize for Excellence in Economics	Chenyi Huang
David and Lelia Farr Prize for Excellence in Mathematical Economics	Dennis Shi
John C. Moorhouse Economics Paper Prize	Braden Strackman
Delmer P. Hylton Accountancy Award in the School of Business.....	Olivia Frank
Academic Excellence in Finance.....	Lillian Farr
Academic Excellence in Mathematical Business	Tongtong Liu and Grace Stanek
Laura Baker Paden Award, School of Business	Max Greller
Patel Prize in Finance, School of Business	Zach Skubic
The Spirit of Wayne Calloway Award, School of Business	Steven Niepa
The Levar Hairston Courage Award, School of Business.....	Haley Armstrong
Philosophy Community Student Leader Award	Jordan Bramley, Di Wang and Kylie Yorke
Senior Service to the Department in Theatre and Dance	Lydia Evans, Sean Jones and Nicole Liu
Harold C. Tedford Dedication to Theatre Award	Nicole Liu



Engineering Pro Humanitate Award.....	Angela Suzanne Whittle
Engineering Innovation Award.....	Ryan Restifo
Biochemistry and Molecular Biology Service Award.....	Landon Bradshaw
The Grant Madison Backerman, American Institute of Chemists Foundation Undergraduate Student Award.....	Christian Zachary Barnard
The Royal Society of Chemistry Certificate of Undergraduate Excellence Award.....	James Anthony Chacharone and Jiayue (Stephanie) Wu
The WFU Chemistry Departmental Certificate of Undergraduate Excellence Award.....	Christian Richard Lee, Victor Mihai Ringheanu and Samuel J. Signorelli
The ACS Division of Inorganic Chemistry Undergraduate Award in Inorganic Chemistry.....	Weston Joseph Brooks
The ACS Division of Organic Chemistry Undergraduate Award in Organic Chemistry.....	Alyssa Anne Suhocki
The ACS Division of Analytical Chemistry Undergraduate Award in Analytical Chemistry.....	Megan Theresa Page
Blackbyrd Scholarship in Chemistry.....	Megan Theresa Page
James & Courtenay Harton Scholarship for Chemical Industry.....	Zhong Chuang (John) Wu
Andronica Award in Classics.....	Scotty Wasatch Kennon and Margaret Hannah Quick
SCS Outstanding Student Award in Classics.....	James Gray Rucker Jr., Harrison John Roth and Madison Grace Koontz
CAMWS Award for Outstanding Accomplishment in Classical Studies.....	Stephen McDonough Malloy
William Royall Scholarship in Classics.....	Brystol Ann Habermacher and Adriana C. Barnes
Departmental Service Award, Communication.....	Natalia Drobnjak
Outstanding Minor in Japanese.....	Qingyue Lin
Outstanding Minor in Chinese.....	Elizabeth MacDonald
Walter Flory Outstanding Student in Biology.....	Natalie Ellis
The Christian Cappelluti Prize in Music.....	Roscoe D. Bell
The LaCava-LoDuca Family Scholarship in Music.....	Cole William Nikas
The Boteler Prize in Music.....	Zhané Z. Waye
George Washington Greene 2023 Scholarship, Phi Beta Kappa Delta.....	Tahjane Givens, Zishan Shao, Siddarth Subramanian, Zongyue Teng, Katherine Upchurch, Haoran Wang and Alexandra Zyskowski



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Constantine Andreas Saridakis

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Gretchen Snow Castelloe
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Elizabeth Hawley Crispino
Ashley Renee Davis
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Natalie Renee Ellis
Lydia Daniel Evans
Tal Feldman
Abigail Lindsay Ford
Lillian Todd Giles
Graysen Lynne Hasty
Alice N. Hauser
Emily Brooke Hellwig
Christopher Thomas Keiser
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Arianna Sara Komorsky
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Sarah Marie Leary
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