

# Academic Achievement Ceremony

Thursday, May 16, 2019 2 p.m. Sharp Theater, Berrie Center



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The Academic Achievement Ceremony celebrates the academic achievements of undergraduate students at Ramapo College of New Jersey.

The Office of the Provost would like to recognize the gracious assistance of all whose work make our acknowledgement of student achievement possible today.

We would like to thank the deans, conveners, and faculty who took the time to assess the contributions of students considered for these awards.

We are especially grateful to the benefactors who contributed monetary award.

Our greatest appreciation is extended to the students honored today. Their excellent academic achievement and co-curricular activities are the life of Ramapo College.

#### **ABOUT THE AWARDS**

#### **OUTSTANDING ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT MAJOR AWARD**

The Outstanding Academic Achievement Major award is given each year to a graduating senior in each major with a 3.5 and above grade point average who has excelled in his or her field of study. Majors with more than 250 students will be granted two awards. The Ramapo Federation of State College Teachers/American Federation of Teachers Local 2274 provides the monetary awards from contributions of their union members.

#### RAMAPO BOOK PRIZE for ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

The Ramapo Book Prize for Academic Excellence is awarded each year to one continuing student in each school who has exhibited outstanding achievement in his/her field of study. The Ramapo College of New Jersey Office of the Provost provides each student with a gift award.

#### **FACULTY-STUDENT RESEARCH AWARDS**

The Faculty-Student Research Award is given to students in each of the academic schools who have conducted research in close collaboration with faculty mentors and made a significant contribution to the project. The Ramapo College of New Jersey Office of the Provost provides each student with a gift award.

#### HERBERT WORTREICH AWARD

The Herbert Wortreich Award is given to a graduating senior who best embodies the values of an environmental professional and offers promise of contributing to the field. An anonymous benefactor donates the monetary award.

#### AFT GRADUATE SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP

The AFT Graduate School Scholarship is selected by The Ramapo Federation of State College Teachers/American Federation of Teachers Local 2274 and awarded to one graduating senior who intends to pursue graduate studies. The Ramapo Federation of State College Teachers/American Federation of Teachers Local 2274 provides a generous monetary award from contributions of their union members.

#### **HENRY J. FRUNDT MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

The Henry J. Frundt Memorial Scholarship is given to a second or third-year student with an interest in labor studies, social justice, or Latin American Studies. The Ramapo Federation of State College Teachers/American Federation of Teachers Local 2274 provides a monetary award from contributions of their union members.

#### LEE SENNISH PRIZE

The Lee Sennish Award is given annually to graduating female students who demonstrate outstanding fulfillment or visibly improved academic performance over the period of enrollment, with 60 or more credits completed at Ramapo, and a minimum grade point average of 2.75. The Ramapo College of New Jersey Office of the President proudly provides a monetary award.

#### **COLLEGE HONORS PROGRAM AWARD**

The Honors Award is given to a student who has demonstrated outstanding academic performance over the period of enrollment and has a minimum grade point average of 3.0. The Ramapo College of New Jersey Honors Program proudly provides a gift award to the student with the highest honors GPA.

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#### ORDER OF EVENTS

#### **Introduction and Greetings**

Stefan Becker Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

## School Awards for Outstanding Academic Achievement and Faculty-Student Research

Anisfield School of Business – Dean Edward Petkus
Contemporary Arts – Dean Peter Campbell
School of Humanities and Global Studies – Dean Susan Hangen
Social Science and Human Services – Dean Aaron Lorenz
Theoretical and Applied Science – Dean Edward Saiff

#### **College Honors Program Award**

Director Rebecca Root

### American Federation of Teachers Graduate School Scholarship Award Henry J. Frundt Memorial Scholarship Award

Anthony Giardullo, Local 2274

#### Lee Sennish Prize

Peter P. Mercer, President and Simaza Ishak, Coordinator for the Women's Center

#### **Closing Remarks**

Peter P. Mercer, President

#### Alma Mater

Music Provided by Professor Lisa Lutter and Gilad Cohen Vocal Performance by Danielle Zanoni

Awardees will recess to The Grove immediately following the event

At 4 p.m. graduates will line up at their designated school areas for the Ramapo College Arching Ceremony.

All are welcome to attend the Arching Ceremony at 4:15 p.m.

#### SCHOOL AWARDS FOR OUTSTANDING ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

Anisfield School of Business, Edward Petkus, Dean

Tyler Rigoli Accounting
Ana Cardenas Accounting
Elizabeth Potter Economics
Angela Kitanoska Finance

Michael Desmond Information Technology Management

Francesca Lupo International Business

Daniel Riley Management Samantha Barkawitz Marketing

Victor Georgiev Ramapo Undergraduate Book Prize Brianna Lanier Faculty-Student Research Award

Faculty: Tammi Redd

Title: Perceptions of Fairtrade at Ramapo College

School of Contemporary Arts, Peter Campbell, Dean

lan Havens Communication Arts, Digital Filmmaking

Heather Mueger Communication Arts, Global Communication & Media

Harper Patsko Communication Arts, Journalism

Carlie Viemann Communication Arts, Visual Communication Design

Elyse Lijoi Communication Arts, Writing

Hadar Baron Music
Giulianna Nasta Theater
Maria Morich Visual Arts

James Moore Ramapo Undergraduate Book Prize William Prtune Faculty-Student Research Award

Faculty: Joel Weissman

Title: Stranger in a Strange Land

School of Humanities and Global Studies, Susan Hangen, Dean

Francesca Evans American Studies

Emma Lucier-Keller History

Amanda Mayer International Studies

Alexa Zavlek Literature
Sabrina Santamaria Political Science

Michaella Bermudez Spanish Language Studies

Joseph Sammartino Philosophy

Caleb Herbst Ramapo Undergraduate Book Prize Kevin Wrobel Faculty-Student Research Award

Faculty: Amanda Roberti

Title: "Women Deserve Better" Gender Dynamics and the Use of the Pro-Woman Frame in Antiabortion Policies

School of Social Science and Human Services, Aaron Lorenz, Dean

Jacqueline Sheid
Melanie Schlosser
Reeve Oliva Harden
Carlie Flynn
Vincent Putignano
Jillian Piotrowski
Amy Scarpulla

Environmental Studies
Law and Society
Psychology
Psychology
Social Science
Social Work
Sociology

Caroline Gallo Ramapo Undergraduate Book Prize

#### School of Social Science and Human Services, Aaron Lorenz, Dean

(continued)

Thalia Holst Faculty-Student Research Award

Faculty: Mark Howenstein

Title: From Behind Bars to Better Days: An Analysis of the Effectiveness of Prison Education Programs in Reducing Rates of

Recidivism in the United States

Dylan Heffernan Social Work Student Conference Scholarship Award

Eileen McCafferty Herbert Wortreich Award

#### School of Theoretical and Applied Science, Edward Saiff, Dean

Kayla Adecer Biochemistry
Jose Carrillo Bioinformatics
Thomas McGrath Biology
Holly Gorin Biology
Brian Plucinsky Chemistry

Calla Chennault Computer Science
Daniel Tafone Engineering Physics
Michael Stellitano Environmental Science

Emily Biunno Mathematics
Erica McCausland Nursing
Maria Abad Nursing

Kaylah Birmingham Ramapo Undergraduate Book Prize Vanesa Getseva Faculty-Student Research Award

Faculty: Amruth Kumar

Title: Using Legacy Data to Build Bayesian Knowledge Tracing

Model and Evaluate Its Effectiveness

College Honors Program, Rebbeca Root
Reeve Oliva Harden College Honors Award

#### Students Graduating from College Honors Program

Amy ArouneAchyut GautamLaura ShihMary Elizabeth BaldwinRebecca HropMichael StellitanoCatherine ClintonRiana KatzDaniel TafoneMeagan CollinsAmanda MayerMichelle TunneyRegina CuddebackAlyssa RabinowitzScott Yunker

### AMERICAN FEDERATION OF TEACHERS LOCAL 2274 AFT Graduate School Scholarship Award

Rachel Coakley

Henry J. Frundt Memorial Scholarship Award

Collin McConnville

LEE SENNISH AWARD

Gabrielle Romano

The 2019 Academic Achievement Ceremony program and biographies also appears on our website at www.ramapo.edu/aac

## 2019 Academic Achievement Ceremony BIOGRAPHIES

#### 2019 ANISFIELD SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

#### The first outstanding student in ACCOUNTING is TYLER RIGOLI

Tyler is a member of Zeta Beta Tau fraternity, Omicron Delta Kappa and Alpha Lambda Delta. He secured internships with Ernst & Young International and Cipolla & Company as a forensic accounting intern. Tyler was also the event coordinator for the United to Fight Colon Cancer event which raised more than \$6,600 and was awarded the best civic community engagement event of the year award from both Center for Student Involvement and the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life. Tyler will be working for Ernst & Young as a full-time auditor while pursuing his CPA license.

#### The second outstanding student in ACCOUNTING is ANA CARDENAS

Ana is currently enrolled In the Ramapo College's Master of Science in Accounting Program. Ana has been on the Dean's List every semester at Ramapo and her goal is to pass all sections of the CPA exam by the time she graduates from the Master of Science in Accounting Program. Ana has interned at Doherty Enterprises Accounting/Finance Department where she performed internal audits, uncovered deficiencies, and helped implement tighter internal controls and anti-fraud measures. She is currently employed as a staff accountant at BDG-CPAs where she performs a variety of public accounting services.

#### The outstanding student in ECONOMICS is ELIZABETH POTTER

Elizabeth was awarded the Ramapo Student Employee of the Year by the Cahill Center and received the Outstanding Customer Service Award by the Center for Student Involvement. Elizabeth interned at Wiley Publishing and KPMG. She is very excited to have accepted a position as an Associate Examiner at the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority in Manhattan.

#### The outstanding student in FINANCE is ANGELA KITANOSKA

Angela is a member of the International Honor Society Gamma Sigma, and member of the National Society of Collegiate Scholars. She is a Presidential Scholarship recipient, and received Dean's List honors throughout her college career. Angela is planning on pursuing a business career in New York City and obtaining a Master's degree in Finance.

### The outstanding student in INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY MANAGEMENT is MICHAEL DESMOND

Michael is a member of the New Jersey Collegiate Business Administration Association Honor Society, Tau Sigma Honor Society, Golden Key International Honour Society and Beta Gamma Sigma Honors Society. Michael interned at Creston Electronics (Summer 2018) where he designed and developed webbased applications for the Test Engineering Department to view real-time data and increase department efficiency. Michael will be working for Crestron Electronics as a Software Developer for the Test Engineering department and his future plans are to pursue a graduate degree.

#### The outstanding student in INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS is FRANCESCA LUPO

Francesca completed an independent study course with Professor Torres-Baumgarten comparing and contrasting how foreign businesses and South African businesses operate. She also attended the International Business Experience in Peru led by Professor Torres-Baumgarten in May 2018. Francesca's long-term goals are to obtain her MBA after graduate school and become a college professor.

## The outstanding student in BUSINESS ADMINSTRATION/MANAGEMENT is DANIEL RILEY

Daniel is a member of the Beta Gamma Sigma Honor Society and New Jersey Collegiate Business Administration Association. He is looking to begin graduate school after college with the goal of working in the field of sustainability.

### The outstanding student in BUSINESS ADMINSTRATION/MARKETING is SAMANTHA BARKAWITZ

Samantha is the publicist and fundraising manager of Alpha Psi Omega, the Greek Theater Honor Society as well as student ambassador for RASA. Samantha studied abroad the Summer of 2018 in London, England where she completed an internship with the SMI Group. She was the recipient of the Presidential Scholarship and on the Dean's List. Samantha's future plans are to work in public relations.

#### The 2019 ASB RAMAPO BOOK PRIZE goes to VICTOR GEORGIEV

Victor's accomplishments include President of the International Student Organization and Beta Gamma Sigma Honor Society. He is a member of the Anisfield School of Business/Dean's Student Advisory Council as well as Mentee in the Foundation Mentorship Program and KPMG University Program. Victor's other credentials include Treasurer of Residence Hall Council, Vice President of the Alpha Lambda Delta Honor Society, Dean's List, Presidential Scholarship,

Academic Distinction Scholarship, Don Maddi Endowed Scholarship, Association of Retired Ramapo Faculty, Staff Scholarship, William W. Briggs Scholarship and Follet Bookstore Scholarship. Victor also interned at various companies including IBM, Sutherland, C3i Europe and this summer at Ralph Lauren in the IT department. Victor hopes to complete his MBA degree and find a full-time job in IT management as a systems analyst.

### The 2019 ASB FACULTY-STUDENT RESEARCH AWARD goes to BRIANNA LANIER

Briana's achievements include Dean's Student Advisory Council, ASB Alumni and Business Advisory Boards and Alpha Kappa Psi Business Professional Fraternity. She is also a representative on the Ramapo Fair Trade Committee and part of KPMG mentoring program as well as Sophomores Advancing in Leadership, Alpha Lambda Delta Honors Society, Alternative Spring Break, Habitat for Humanity, Phi Beta Delta International and the Scholars Honor Society. Briana presented her research paper "Knowledge and Perceptions of Fair Trade as a Sustainable Development Goal: A Campus Case Study," at the Society for the Advancement of Management conference this past March. She is currently interning at New Jersey Transit in the Procurement Systems & Support office and hopes to secure a full-time position in supply chain management and attend graduate school in order to further develop her leadership skills. Briana's future goals include creating an advanced research agenda as well as studying data analysis.

#### 2019 SCHOOL OF CONTEMPORARY ARTS

### The outstanding student in COMMUNICATION ARTS/DIGITAL FILMMAKING is IAN HAVENS

lan is the director of two short films which were submitted to local film festivals. Ian studied abroad at Anglia Ruskin in Cambridge, UK and is currently working as a videographer for the Mahwah school district. Ian's future plans are to become a professional director of photography and shoot for TV and feature films.

### The outstanding student in COMMUNICATION ARTS/GLOBAL is HEATHER MUEGER

Heather is a member of the Sigma Delta Tau Sorority, Lambda Phi Eta Communication National Honor Society and other Honor Societies. She presented a research paper "Someday my Prince Will Come... I Hope" at the Undergraduate Scholars Conference at the Eastern Communication Association Convention in Boston, MA and at Ramapo College's Media Collision in the Global Communication and Media Symposium in April 2017. Heather also

interned at Colin Cowie Lifestyle Event Planning company in New York City. Heather hopes to continue in the field of event planning and establish herself as a professional event planner.

### The outstanding student in COMMUNICATION ARTS/JOURNALISM is HARPER PATSKO

Harper is a member of the Student Athlete Advisory Committee, Chi Alpha Sigma Athletic Honors Society and Phi Alpha Theta History Honors Society. She presented a research paper at the 2017 Eastern Communication Association Conference and an interactive project on the coverage of baseball at the 2018 Ramapo Media Collision Conference. Harper is a member of the Ramapo Softball team and winner of the Ramapo College 2019 NJAIAW Women of the Year. She also interned in the Summer of 2018 with the Third Legislative District of N.J., under Senate President Steve Sweeny, Deputy Speaker John Burzichelli, and Assemblyman Adam Taliaferro. Harper is considering Law school and was offered a position with the Third District Legislative District of N.J.

#### The outstanding student in COMMUNICATION ARTS/ VISUALCOMMUNICATION DESIGN is CARLIE VIEMANN

Carlie made the Dean's List several times and is an active on-campus programmer for the College Programming Board. She traveled to New Zealand in the Summer of 2018 for an internship with Fox & Co., to work as part of a motion design studio based out of the city of Wellington. She is active in photography with some of her photographs having been published in Ramapo's yearly art and literary publication (*Trillium*). Carlie's goals include pursuing a career in graphic design or in user experience/interface design.

## The outstanding student in COMMUNICATION ARTS/WRITING is ELYSE LIJOI

Elyse is a member of Lambda Pi Eta and has been on the Dean's List for the last four years. She is a writer for an online music magazine called *Stars and Scars* and is interning at Cutting Edge Stencils in Ramsey. This has allowed her to interview and form connections with bands. Elyse plans to work in the beauty industry as a social media marketer/marketing director.

#### The outstanding student in MUSIC is HADAR BARON

Hadar is a member of the Alpha Lambda Delta Honor Society, Study Abroad Program, Business Essentials Certificate Program, Chorale and a music tutor for the Ramapo Music Department. Hadar participated in the Study Abroad Program in London and completed internships at Music Ally, The Orchard, Remix

Recording and You and Whose Army. Hadar graduated in January 2019 and is a musician/singer and songwriter who is currently working as a freelance music industry consultant/marketer/researcher and musician.

#### The outstanding student in THEATER is GIULIANNA NASTA

Giulianna is a shop assistant in Ramapo's costume shop and a member of the National Society of Collegiate Scholars and the Golden Key International Honour Society. Giulianna is interested in costume design and supports the costume shop by constructing costumes for the main stage shows. Giulianna was the associate costume designer for the production of *Frankenstein*. She recently received the *Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival Certificate of Merit* for costume design. Giulianna plans to continue working in the costume shop and professionally design costumes for stage and screen.

#### The outstanding student in VISUAL ARTS is MARIA MORICH

Maria has been on the Dean's list for the past four years. She was involved with her class mates and Professor Ann Le Pore as part of a program called *Students 4 Students* which exhibits art projects created by high school students who have a passion and drive for the arts. The purpose was to provide inspiration, motivation and affirmation to young students who may have felt pressure to sacrifice their passions due to misconceptions of the art world. Maria has been offered a full-time position as a Digital Production Coordinator at Health Monitor Network and plans to attend graduate school.

#### The 2019 CA - RAMAPO BOOK PRIZE goes to JAMES MOORE

James was inducted into Phi Theta Kappa and the Community College Honors Society, while attending County College of Morris. James graduated *summa cum laude* from County College of Morris with an associate's degree in Music Recording. During his first year at Ramapo, he created a musical work entitled "Timequake" which was inspired by the Kurt Vonnegut novel. James is looking to pursue an internship with a recording studio or radio station and attain a career producing music as a recording engineer, performer or composer with a dream to one day be a film score composer.

### The 2019 CA- FACULTY-STUDENT RESEARCH AWARD goes to WILLIAM PRTUNE

William is graduating as a visual art major with a concentration in sculpture. While at Ramapo, he explored a variety of media to express his artistic vision, including; ceramics, digital fabrication, and metal casting. This past semester, he organized an iron pour to create his work for a senior thesis exposition. His

work in this capacity has allowed him to create a cohesive body of work which coincides with who he is as an artist. Drawing inspiration from his experience of housing insecurity and constant transience, he seeks to create a deeper meaning in his work by comparing the natural world to the constructs of our society. Also focusing on personal connections to natural materials, he explores their human-made associated properties and the relationships between geographical and cultural environments.

#### 2019 SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND GLOBAL STUDIES

#### The outstanding student in AMERICAN STUDIES is FRANCESCA EVANS

Francesca is a member of the Pi Sigma Alpha Political Science Honor Society, HGS Dean's Student Advisory Council, American Studies Student Ambassador, National Society for Collegiate Scholars, Golden Key International Honour Society and Alpha Lambda Delta Honor Society. She presented her work at the Eastern American Studies Association Conference. Francesca interned with the New Jersey Historic Trust, Mahwah Museum, Upper Saddle River Historical Society and Gigantic Pictures. She is a recipient of the Presidential Scholarship, Book Prize for Academic Excellence and Francis K. Hackett Scholarship. Francesca is planning to attend graduate school and pursue a master's in Historic Preservation.

#### The outstanding student in HISTORY is EMMA LUCIER- KELLER

Emma is the president of the History Club, History Honors Society and Alpha Lambda Delta Honors Society. She is the President of Colleges against Cancer and Co-Chair for Relay for Life. Emma presented a paper at the 2018 COPLAC Conference and published a paper in the *New Errands Undergraduate Journal for American Studies*. Emma participated in the Excavation Study Abroad program in Italy in the Summer of 2018. She also interned at the Mahwah Museum and plans to attend graduate school to pursue a career in the field of Museum Studies.

#### The outstanding student in INTERNATIONAL STUDIES is AMANDA MAYER

Amanda is a member of the Alpha Omicron Pi, Peer Facilitator, Sigma Lota Rho International Studies Honor Society and College Honors Program. She presented her work at the Northeast Regional Honors Conference in Baltimore. Amanda studied abroad in Buenos Aires, Argentina the Fall of 2017. She volunteered for four weeks in Guatemala with Grupo Cajola. Amanda is applying to several international programs and will continue to advocate for human rights especially within Latin America.

#### The outstanding student in LITERATURE is ALEXA ZAVLEK

Alexa is the Vice President of Sigma Tau Delta Honor Society and has participated in the Sigma Tau Delta International Literature Convention. Alexa has made the Dean's List every semester and her academic interests include poetry, philosophy, history, literary theory and education. Other interests include yoga, hiking and writing. After graduation Alexa plans on getting her Master's degree in literature and to teach English in high schools.

#### The outstanding student in Political Science is SABRINA SANTAMARIA

Sabrina is the Vice President of the Student Government Association, President of Pi Sigma Alpha, Political Science Honor Society, Student Ambassador for the Political Science major. Member of Phi Alpha Delta: Pre Law Fraternity, Vice President of Golden Key International Honor Society, Member of the Ramapo Student Leadership Committee, Mentee in the Ramapo Foundation Mentorship Program. She participated in the Center for American Women in Politics and served as a Research Assistant for Professor Amanda Roberty (Researched the ways in which media outlets across the country framed abortion policies from 1992 – 2017.) She worked as a research assistant for Professor Jeremy Teigen to collect data about candidates in the 2018 congressional midterm elections. Sabrina also interned for the Law Office of Marc D. Raymundo, and the Honorable Judge Linda Lordi Cavanaugh, (Chambers of the Essex County Superior Court). Sabrina will be attending law school in the fall 2019 and plans on practicing family law as an attorney.

### The outstanding student in SPANISH LANGUAGE STUDIES is MICHAELLA BERMUDEZ

Michaella is the President of Sigma Delta Pi, National Honors Society and student ambassador for Spanish Language Studies. She has been working as a research assistant for Professor Santamaria-Laorden on a book project, "Visiones Transatlanticas Regeneracionistas: Posibilidades y (des) encuentros discursivos en la Espana Finisecular en torno a lengua, agencia e imperio." Michaella is also the recipient of – The Ann and Karl Steinberger Memorials Award. After graduation Michaella hopes to obtain a position in an elementary school as a full time K-6 teacher and to create a positive learning environment which instills a love and appreciation for education in her future students.

#### The outstanding student in PHILOSPHY is JOSEPH SAMMARTINO

Joseph is a member of Alpha Phi Delta, the Philosophy Club and Yoga Club. He studied abroad for a semester in New Zealand and interned at Summer House in Paramus. Joseph was able to re-charter the Philosophy Club and proud to be graduating with a double major. His future plans include working in a psych unit at Bayonne Medical Center and becoming a Clinical Psychologist.

#### The 2019 HGS RAMAPO BOOK PRIZE goes to CALEB HERBST

Caleb is a Political Science major and has a minor in Psychology & Public Policy. He was elected as a school board member in the River Edge Board of Education his freshman year. Caleb is a member of the College Honors Program, president of Tau Delta Phi fraternity, Alpha Lambda Delta, First-Year Honor Society and the secretary of Pi Sigma Alpha Political Science Honor Society. He is a member of Student Government Association and chair of the HGS Dean's Advisory Council as well as undergraduate student representative to the President's Advisory Council. Caleb attended a summer internship with the Reform Judaism Machon Kaplan internship program, where he aligned himself with Partnership for America's Children where he was hired to draft and write blogs for their Count All Kids initiative in preparation for the 2020 census. Caleb is considering attending law school after graduation.

### The 2019 HGS FACULTY-STUDENT RESEARCH AWARD goes to KEVIN WROBEL

Kevin is a Political Science major and member of Phi Alpha Delta, Somerset County Committee, Ramapo Republican Club and College Frisbee Team. He attended the American Legion Jersey Boys State and Cuba Study abroad experience. He is a part of the Ramapo College Honors Program and has plans to attend law school after graduation.

#### 2019 SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCE AND HUMAN SERVICES

The outstanding student in ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES is JACQUE SCHEID Jacqueline is the recipient of the Making a Difference Award Scholarship as well as the PSEG scholarship. Jacqueline spent her summer interning at a non-profit, urban farming organization entitled City Green in Clifton, N.J. While there, she was able to gain experience in sustainable farming as well as teaching young students about local healthy foods. Jacqueline is thrilled to be graduating with the knowledge to make a positive difference in the environmental world. She looks forward to pursuing her career in sustainability.

#### The outstanding student in LAW AND SOCIETY is MELANIE SCHLOSSER

Melanie has been on the executive boards of the Visual Arts Society, Alpha Lambda Delta, Mackin Residence Hall and Overlook Residence Hall. She wrote a thesis paper for the Law & Society program under the supervision of Professor Howenstein titled, "Our Roles in Environmental Responsibility." Last fall she presented her thesis at the International Conference on Global Human Rights at South Dakota State University. The paper is pending publication for the 2019 edition of Ramapo Journal of Law and Society. Melanie also worked on campus as an Associate Editor for the Ramapo Journal of Law and Society and currently

has a painting on display in the Berrie Center's Kresge Gallery. Melanie's work experience includes as a legal assistant with Jeffery C. Mason & Co., and as a summer intern for the Chief Sustainability Officer of Newark, N.J., and is currently working as the Contracts and Compliance Coordinator of Summit Health Management. Melanie is planning to attend Pace University School of Law after graduation.

#### The first outstanding student in PSYCHOLOGY is REEVE OLIVIA HARDEN

Reeve is the president of Psi Chi (Psychology Honor Society), co-manager of the LGBT workplace experience lab, a member of Ramapo's Academic Integrity Board, and Vice President of Ramapo's Music Club. Reeve presented research in emotional contagion, perceived pain severity and the functional neuroanatomy of bipolar disorder at conferences in Boston, Providence, Philadelphia, Mansfield, and Ramapo. She interned at the *Rockland Children Psychiatric Center* and participated in the *Broughton Psychiatric Hospital Summer Scholars Program* (working with adolescents with serious mental illness and co-led group therapy). Reeve is currently interviewing for a residential counselor position in a group homes and hopes to get a job in adolescent behavioral health for this coming year. Her plans are to attend graduate school in clinical or counseling psychology.

#### The second outstanding student in PSYCHOLOGY is CARLIE FLYNN

Carlie is a member of Psi Chi Honor Society and Golden Key International Honour Society. She was the principal investigator of original research on "Pediatric Pain Perception: Biases Exposed Due to Children's Gender and Diagnostic Label." This research was presented at the Association for Psychological Science Conference in Washington, D.C. Carlie also participated in Ramapo's Incredible Alternative Winter Break to Kumasi, Ghana where she and her fellow peers volunteered with Nectar of Hope for Children Foundation, a non-profit that provides education to impoverished villages. Carlie works full-time carrying out one-on-one therapy sessions with children suffering developmental delays to strengthen the child's social emotional and cognitive behaviors. After graduation she will be taking a year off to conduct preliminary research uncovering the roots of pain perception biases and Ramapo has been the catalyst in finding her passion for research in healthcare. Carlie's long-term goals include working toward her Ph.D. in Neuropsychology and working in hospitals with children suffering chronic and terminal illnesses.

#### The outstanding student in SOCIAL SCIENCE is VINCENT PUTIGNANO

Vincent was the president of Tau Sigma – National Honors Society for Transfer Students in Spring 2018. He has been a volunteer baseball coach for the last seven years and has coached every grade level from second to eleventh grades. Vincent's goal is to be an elementary teacher and to inspire students to love learning. He is hopeful to be able to inspire and build a lifelong impact on all of his students.

#### The outstanding student in SOCIAL WORK is JILLIAN PIOTROWSKI

Jillian is the Vice President of Phi Alpha, the National Social Work Honor Society. Her case study, "Racism in the Workplace" was presented at the 2016 Congress of Qualitative Inquiry. Jillian has participated in the 2019 Study Abroad Program and traveled to Portugal over spring break. She studied Portugal's drug polices and interned as a social worker at West Bergen Mental Health Care and as a care manager at Bergen's Promise. Jillian will be attending the Master of Social Work Advanced Standing Program starting in the Summer of 2019.

#### The outstanding student in SOCIOLOGY is AMY SCARPULLA

Amy is a member of Tau Sigma National Honor Society and National Society of Collegiate Scholars. She is also a member of the Commuter Student Mentor Program. Amy assisted Professor Paul Reck with research on policing in New Jersey through an independent study course. She completed research with high school students about their experiences in high school and their aspirations after they graduate from high school. Amy completed a six-month internship with the Family Division of the Bergen County Courthouse. She is passionate about social justice and human rights advocacy. These passions, as well as the courses she has completed in (Sociology and Criminology), have influenced her to become a School Counselor. Amy will be pursuing a Master's of Science in Education through the School Counseling Program at Monmouth University.

#### The 2019 SSHS RAMAPO BOOK PRIZE goes to CAROLINE GALLO

Caroline is a member of Alpha Phi Omega, the National Service Fraternity and Ramapo Admissions Student Ambassadors. She is a violence intervention peer for the Office of Violence Prevention and a member of the Psi Chi Honor Society. She plans to continue her education and pursue an advanced degree.

#### The 2019 SSHS FACULTY-STUDENT RESEARCH AWARD goes to THALIA HOLST

Thalia is a member of Alpha Omicron Pi, Phi Alpha Delta, Judiciary Review Board, Student Government Association, Professional Fraternity Council, and the Debate Club. She has participated in the Eastern Economic Annual Conference and the study abroad program to India and Ghana. Thalia's future goal is to apply to law school.

## The 2019 SOCIAL WORK STUDENT CONFERENCE SCHOLARSHIP AWARD goes to DYLAN HEFFERNAN

Dylan is a member of the Phi Alpha Honor Society. His internships include The Office of Senator Nellie Pou, Home Care Options, and Youth Consultation and Student Relief Fund manager at the We Care Program at Ramapo College. Dylan was also awarded the Carol Schaefer Human Services Award in 2018. Dylan is looking to become a licensed social worker and continue to work within the public policy area and in the community.

#### The 2019 HERBERT WORTREICH AWARD goes to EILEEN McCAFFERTY

Eileen is the President of STEP 1 (Students Together for Environmental Progress) and SGA / SSHS School Senator. She attended the AASHEE and SGA conferences and Alternate Spring Break as a Cost Rica Volunteer at Natuwa Macaw Sanctuary. She also interned at the New Jersey Highlands Coalition. Eileen received three scholarships (The Kurt and Amy Landsberge Scholarship, the East Jersey Trout Unlimited Award and the Dugan Community Scholars Award). She raised more than \$2000 for Ramapo College's 2019 Relay for Life. Eileen is spending the summer teaching archery and studying for the GRE. She is also taking a Wetlands Delineation Certification course at Rutgers University. Eileen plans to go to graduate school for Wildlife Management and work with wolves at Montana State University.

#### 2019 SCHOOL OF THEORETICAL AND APPLIED SCIENCE

#### The outstanding student in BIOCHEMISTRY is KAYLA ADECER

Kayla is a member of the Chemistry and Biochemistry Club, Treasurer of the Pre-Med/Pre-Health Club and Alpha Lambda Delta. She is currently working and shadowing emergency room physicians as a medical transcriber at Hackensack University Medical Center. Kayla will be applying to medical school with a plan to become a dermatologist.

#### The outstanding student in BIOINFORMATICS is JOSE CARRILLO

Joe is the Vice President of Alpha Kappa Psi and Filipino-American Student Association. He is Resident Assistant at College Park Apartments and Mackin Hall and was inducted into Alpha Lambda Delta First-Year National Honor Society. He is part of the Advanced Bioinformatics Final Project: *Leader of Genes Approach.* Joe achieved a Dental Admissions test academic average score of 24, a 99<sup>th</sup> percentile score and a perfect DAT score of 30 in Organic Chemistry. He is expected to graduate *magna cum laude* in Bioinformatics with a minor in Mathematics with a GPA of 3.84. Joe is working toward a Doctor of Dental Surgery degree and to specialize in oral and maxillofacial surgery.

#### The first outstanding student in BIOLOGY is THOMAS MCGRATH

Thomas is a member of the Beta Beta Beta Biology Honor Society. He presented a research project on switchgrass at Scholars' Day and the Sigma Xi Research Symposium last Spring. He interned at Hackensack University Medical Hospital under orthopedic oncologist Dr. Wittig. Thomas has made the Dean's List every semester since freshman year and graduated *summa cum laude*. He has been a volunteer tutor at Math Adventures and Word Play. Thomas is looking to attend medical school and hopefully to tour Europe before beginning medical school.

#### The second outstanding student in BIOLOGY is HOLLY GORIN

Holly has been on the Dean's List and is working as a paraprofessional at a school for children with special needs. She is going to start a Doctor of Physical Therapy program at Rutgers this summer and would like to work as a physical therapist for children and adults with disabilities.

#### The outstanding student in CHEMISTRY is BRIAN PLUCINSKY

Brian is a member of Alpha Phi Omega, Pi Mu Epsilon Mathematics Honor Society, Omicron Delta Kappa Leadership Honor Society, Phi Lambda Upsilon Chemical Honor Society, Sigma Xi Research Honor Society and Alpha Lambda Delta Freshman Honor Society. Brian is a teaching assistant and a tutor for the chemistry department. He conducted research with Professor Sarah Carberry and presented his research at the annual SRS Symposium at Ramapo College. Brian will be attending the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill to purse a Ph.D. in chemistry. His plan is to become a professor at an undergraduate institution.

#### The outstanding student in COMPUTER SCIENCE is CALLA CHENNAULT

Calla is a member of the Females in STEM society along with the Alpha Lambda Delta Honors Society. She interned at Intel as a Software Engineer in Hillsboro, Oregon. Calla was the Elaine B Winshell Scholarship Endowment Recipient for 2019, which recognizes one outstanding student in the School of Theoretical and Applied Science. She is a Presidential Scholarship Recipient and made the Dean's List all semesters. Calla will be working at Jefferies Investment Bank in New York City. She eventually plans to pursue graduate school for computer science.

#### The outstanding student in ENGINEERING PHYSICS is DANIEL TAFONE

Daniel is a member of the *4GotteN Suitcase* and Engineering Physics Club. He has participated in the American Association of Physics Teachers, Comsol and American Journal of Physics. Daniel also participated in the Kansas State University REU and an Internship at the Naval Postgraduate School. Daniel is looking to attend graduate school for a Ph.D. in physics.

### The outstanding student in ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE is MICHAEL STELLITANO

Michael is a member of the Phi Kappa Sigma fraternity, Inter-Fraternal Council, Newman Catholic Club and a Development Group Leader. He has presented his work on *Forest Mortality Research* at the Mid Atlantic Chapter of the Ecological Society of America and the New Jersey Land Conservation Rally as well as New Jersey Climate Change Policy Research and presented at the Honors Symposium at Ramapo College. Michael had internships at N.J. Conservation Foundation, The Raptor Trust, N.J. Botanical Gardens, N.Y.-N.J. Trail Conference and the New Weiss Center. Michael is also involved in community service and raised more than \$5,000 for national charities events. Michael is looking to work for the United Nations to protect environmental interests in the developing world.

#### The outstanding student in MATHEMATICS is EMILY BIUNNO

Emily is a member of The National Society of Collegiate Scholars, Alpha Lambda Delta, Golden Key International Honour Society, Kappa Delta Pi, Chi Alpha Sigma, Omicron Delta Kappa, Order of Omega, Pi Mu Epsilon Leadership, President of Pi Mu Epsilon and President of Order of Omega. Her community service includes Relay for Life and Rally Cap Sports. Emily is also Captain of the Ramapo Tennis Team and is involved with other Ramapo organizations which include Future Educators of America, Academic Integrity Board, the Math Club and Tri Sigma. Emily's future plans are to become a math director or school principal.

#### The first outstanding student in NURSING is ERICA McCAUSLAND

Erica is a member of Sigma Theta Tau and an active Emergency Medical Technician in her community. She enjoys helping other students and working as an Anatomy & Physiology tutor. Erica works as a teaching assistant in Anatomy & Physiology courses during the summer and earned an externship at Hackensack University Medical Center, Erica was the recipient of the 2017 Marina and William Topken Undergraduate Nursing Scholarship and the 2018 A&A Ridgewood Registration Professional Nurses Association Scholarship. Her future goals include furthering her education in the field of nursing.

#### The second outstanding student in NURSING is MARIA ABAD

Maria Abad is an RN/BSN student, working while she attends Ramapo. She is a graduate of Rockland Community College, and anticipates one day going for her MSN.

#### The 2019 TAS RAMAPO BOOK PRIZE goes to KAYLAH BIRMINGHAM

Kaylah is a Peer Facilitator, President of the Beekeeping Club, and a member of Beta Beta Beta and Sigma Xi Honor Society. She presented research at the Sigma Xi Research Showcase in 2018 and 2019. She will be interning at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in their Research Experience for Undergraduate Programs for the Summer 2019 and conducting a research project in nutritional and toxic metal metabolism. Her future goals are to go to graduate school and obtain a Ph.D. in biochemistry-related field and eventually work in research and teach.

#### The 2019 TAS FACULTY-STUDENT RESEARCH AWARD goes to VANESA GETSEVA

Vanesa is a member of the Journal Club, TAS Research Honors Program, a member of Alpha Lambda Delta National Honor Society, secretary of Bachata Club and a member of the International Student Organization. Vanesa has written the following research papers "Using Legacy Data to Build Bayesian Knowledge Tracing Model and Evaluate Its Effectiveness." (CSEDM Workshop@LAK 2019, Arizona State University, Tempe AZ, USA, 2019) and "Haplotype Phasing of Structural Variations in the Genomes of Individuals." (Vanesa Getseva and Valeria Staneva won the award for the Most Outstanding Exhibit in Computer Science at the Innofair by YALE Science & Engineering Association. InnoFair, Sofia, Bulgaria, 2016). Vanesa's special interests and accomplishments are the Dean's List, Research Assistant and Mathematics Tutor. She was also a part of the Study Abroad Program at the American College of Athens, Greece in the Fall of 2016. Vanesa is currently in her second year of study in Computer Science and Bioinformatics and is looking to go to graduate school and pursue a Ph.D. in Bioinformatics.

#### 2019 STUDENT AWARD COLLEGE HONORS PROGRAM

#### 2019 HONORS WINNER goes to REEVE OLIVA HARDEN

Reeve is the president of Psi Chi (Psychology Honor Society), co-manager of the LGBT workplace experience, a member of Ramapo's Academic Integrity Board, and Vice President of the Ramapo Music Club. Reeve presented research in emotional contagion, perceived pain severity and the functional neuroanatomy of bipolar disorder at conferences in Boston, Providence, Philadelphia, Mansfield, and Ramapo. She also interned at the Rockland Children Psychiatric Center and participated in the Broughton Psychiatric Hospital Summer Scholars Program (working with adolescents with serious mental illness and co-led group therapy). Reeve is currently interviewing for a residential counselor position in a group homes and hopes to get a job in adolescent behavioral health for this coming year. Her plans are to attend graduate school in clinical or counseling psychology.

#### 2019 STUDENTS GRADUATING FROM THE COLLEGE HONORS PROGRAM

Amy Aroune, Mary Elizabeth Baldwin, Catherine Clinton, Meagan Collins, Regina Cuddeback, Achyut Gautam, Revve Oliva Harden, Rebecca Hrop, Riana Katz, Amanda Mayer, Alyssa Rabinowitz, Laura Shih, Michael Stellitano, Daniel Tafone, Michelle Tunney, Scott Yunker

#### AFT GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP

#### The 2019 AFT GRADUATE SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP goes to RACHEL COAKLEY

Rachel received the NJ STARS Scholarship and was Vice President of the Hillel Club as well as Research Assistant for the Pride Club. She completed an internship at a non-profit organization called Art Works and was hired by The Naomi Cohain Foundation as their event coordinator. Rachel is planning to continue her education in Ramapo College's Master of Social Work Program.

## The 2019 HENRY J. FRUNDT MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD goes to COLLIN McCONVILLE

Collin is a member of the Tau Delta Phi Fraternity and SSHS Advisory Board and has been on the Dean's List for the Fall of 2017 and 2018. His interests are in labor unions, migration and immigration. Collin is looking to attend graduate school and pursue a career in labor union/labor organizing.

#### 2019 LEE SENNISH AWARD

#### The 2019 LEE SENNISH PRIZE WINNER is GABRIELLE ROMANO

Gabrielle's major is in Psychology and she is the secretary of the Spanish Club. She is the first student to obtain Ramapo's newly installed certificate program for *Spanish in Health Care and Human Service*. She participated at Ramapo's 2019 annual Scholars" Day by exhibiting research surrounding context of cultural beliefs towards medicine within the conventional health systems in the United States. She is a research assistant to Professor Iradia Lopez, assistant at Kid Klan Services and at the Center of Neurodevelopment. She also works as a camp counselor at Inspire Sports Camp (which provides mentorship to inner city youth experiencing pain and trauma from abuse and family neglect) and volunteers at Bergen Family Center. Gabrielle is looking forward to pursuing her master's degree in occupational therapy and hopes to serve the minority community in pediatric occupational therapy services.

#### RAMAPO COLLEGE ALMA MATER

Lyrics by: Michael Alasa

Music by: David Welch

Ramapo we sing to you.

Ramapo with pride.

Praised filled voices raised on high fill your mountain side.

*In the time we've spent together we have come to learn* 

to have dignity, a mind that's free and celebrate humanity.

Ramapo, as years go by.

Ramapo with love.

Even when you're far away, for ever we'll be one.

### **NOTES:**

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