

## Senior Awards 2019

On Thursday, May 9, the night before commencement, Wagner College held its annual senior awards banquet. Here are the night's honorees:

**Kristina Accardo** of Point Pleasant Beach, N.J. won the Dr. Norman L. Freilich Memorial Award, given to a graduating student accepted into medical or dental school.

**Mumtaz S. Ahmed** of Westerleigh, Staten Island won the Lucy Ferreri Nursing Exceptional Character Award for a senior nursing student who shows great kindness, patience, determination, strength and exceptional character in addition to delivering quality care to his or her patients and their families.

**Jessica M. Aletta** of Jackson, N.J. won the Kappa Mu Epsilon Award for excellence in service and leadership as a mathematics or computer science major.

**Omar Alhagiko** of Arrochar, Staten Island won the Alpha Omicron Pi Award for academic excellence in the study of business administration and exemplary participation in campus activities.

**Kevin M. Atwater** of Downers Grove, Ill. won the Dolly Award in Theatre for Performance.

**Gabrielle Baker** of Southington, Conn. won the Dolly Award in Theatre for Performance.

**Kristen M. Bischoff** of Massapequa Park, N.Y. won the Wagner College Prize in Mathematics.

**Julianne Bruen** of Westerleigh, Staten Island won the Robert deCsipkes Research Memorial Prize for the student with the greatest research potential in psychology.

**Nicholas S. Buhta** of Farmington, Minn. won the Dr. Donald W. Spiro Award for Best Academic Achievement, the most prestigious award at Wagner, recognizing outstanding academic and co-curricular achievements. He also won the Kevin Sheehy Award in Biology for achieving the highest cumulative grade point average in the biology major.

**Nakylya A. Carter** of Lewisville, Texas won the Robert deCsipkes Clinical Memorial Prize for the student with the greatest potential as a clinical psychologist.

**Cori-Lynn Clancy** of Oakwood Heights, Staten Island won the Stephen Greenwald Award for Film, given annually to a film student who has shown commitment to the Film & Media Studies Program and who embodies the spirit of community and collaboration so essential to filmmaking.

**Megan Clark** of Bay Ridge, Brooklyn won the Biopsychology Award for a graduating biopsychology major who, in the judgment of the faculties of the Psychology and Biological Sciences departments, has best demonstrated academic excellence in the study of biopsychology.

**Angela D. Cocuzza** of Basking Ridge, N.J. won the Bob Gabriel Memorial Endowed Award in Performance for a theater major with an interest in Italian and /or Italian American culture with a proven history of outstanding performance in theater.

**Sarah B. Collier** of Great Falls, Mont. won the Christian P. Holmstrup History Award for the highest grade point average among history majors.

**Samantha Colon** of West Brighton, Staten Island won the Dr. Norman L. Freilich Memorial Award, given to a graduating student accepted into medical or dental school.

**Andrew Cordani** of Hamilton, Va. won the Dorothy Schaffer Memorial Award.

**Roberto Cruz** of Bronx, N.Y. won the Stephen Greenwald Award for Film, given annually to a film student who has shown commitment to the Film & Media Studies Program and who embodies the spirit of community and collaboration so essential to filmmaking.

**Connor Davis** of Pottstown, Pa. won the Wagner Investment Group Legacy Award, presented to a student for excellence in the investment world.

**Linda Jeane Delfini** of New Dorp, Staten Island won the Constance Byron Award for academic merit, leadership qualities, tenacity, thoughtfulness and caring for others.

**Siena G. Demes** of Chagrin Falls, Ohio won the Student Nurse Association Award for academic merit and leadership in diverse community activities.

**Kristy H. Donkin** of Sydney, Australia won the Academic Excellence Award in Sociology.

**Abigail F. Dorcin** of Linden, N.J. won the Community Service Award—Senior recognizing a student who is committed to community service through campus organizations. She also won the Periclean Senior Award, recognizing an abiding and active sense of social responsibility and civic concern through academic work or community activities.

**Alexia L. Erdos** of Saegertown, Pa. won the English Literature Prize the highest distinction in the study of English literature. She also won the Thomas Kendris Award in Expository & Journalistic Writing for outstanding work in writing courses and student journalism.

**Daniel Faybyshev** of Todt Hill, Staten Island won the Dr. Natale Colosi Microbiology Award.

**Alexandra Ferro** of Great Kills, Staten Island won the Wagner College Physician Assistant Award for the highest overall grade point average in the senior class of P.A. students.

**Alexis Ferro** of North Babylon, N.Y. won the Janice M. Buddensick Award for Excellence in Accounting for outstanding achievement in the study of accounting, high standards of leadership and good moral character.

**Belinda Fida** of Bulls Head, Staten Island won the Katherine & Egon Wendel Education Prize, given to a senior with a 3.3 or higher GPA who will pursue a graduate degree in education at Wagner College.

**Mary Gad** of New Dorp Beach, Staten Island won the John '53 and Gloria Deane Award, an annual award of \$500 given to a deserving student who demonstrates the strongest level of academic excellence in and desire to pursue work in the field of environmental sciences.

**Christian Gaeta** of Oakwood Heights, Staten Island won the Business Administration Award for the student in the Nicolais School of Business with the highest GPA.

**Alyson M. Hathaway** of East Brunswick, N.J. won the Simone de Beauvoir French Award for outstanding work in the study of the French language.

**Jacqueline Kaminsky** of Rossville, Staten Island won the Ann H. and Norbert H. Leeseberg Undergraduate Education Award recognizing students who best exemplify the academic scholarship and community spirit of Dr. Leeseberg. She was also chosen in an oratorical competition to deliver the student address at Wagner's 2018 commencement program.

**Natalie Kayton** of Agoura Hills, Cal. won the Alumni Association Merit Award for outstanding service, loyalty and dedication to the Wagner College community through participation in organizations and activities.

**Ilya Kneppelhout** of Woubrugge, South Holland, Netherlands won the Sir Peter L. Cardiello Award for Entrepreneurship, given in memory of a man who embraced life and learning and who consistently displayed a positive attitude and thought process that embodied the saying, "What the mind can conceive, the mind can achieve."

**Nicole M. Loffredo** of Graniteville, Staten Island won the Psychology Department Award.

**Michael Motkowski** of Penfield, N.Y. won the Nathan and Ruth Wolff Prize in Dance.

**Devin I. O'Donnell** of Pointe-Claire, Quebec won the Harvey Logan Memorial Award in Physics.

**Michaela A. Paduch** of East Hampton, Conn. won the Wagner College Physician Assistant Award for the highest overall grade point average in the senior class of P.A. students.

**Jordan Pagan** of Rego Park, N.Y. won the Verrazano Memorial Prize for outstanding academic achievement in the study of government and politics.

**Ashley N. Paik** of Bay Ridge, Brooklyn won the Hertha Troll Meyer Memorial Award, recognizing exemplary scholarship and service in the study of sociology and anthropology.

**Olivia C. Panarello** of Manor Heights, Staten Island won the Socrates Prize for outstanding thought that has application to human concerns in a community.

**Karen S. Prihoda** of Hamilton, N.J. won the Eduardo Chirinos Spanish Award for outstanding work in the study of the Spanish language and its literature.

**Jennifer Quercia** of Richmond, Staten Island won the Nursing Faculty Award, which recognizes a compassionate student leader who is patient and family centered.

**Monica Rivera** of Oakwood, Staten Island won the Robbie & Mary Boody Memorial Award in Art for exceptional scholarly work in the study of fine art.

**Rebeca I. Rozenbaum Cabeza** of Hoboken, N.J. won the Political Science Award.

**Alyssa Saggau** of Brick, N.J. won the Student Government Award for outstanding work, dedication to the student body and exemplary leadership abilities.

**Dale R. Sandy** of Durban, South Africa won the George G. Hackman Prize in Religious Studies for the student with the highest academic average in courses taken in the religion minor. Sandy also won the Leeseberg ODK Award for a senior member of Omicron Delta Kappa, the national leadership honor society, who best exemplifies the leadership and charitable spirit of Dr. Norbert H. Leeseberg.

**Kathryn C. Scarfo** of Dyker Heights, Brooklyn won the Marie Picket Community Health Award, given to a nursing undergraduate student who has shown outstanding community service and is a great role model in our community or abroad. This student also shows patience, compassion and leadership in the field of nursing by always being willing to assist others in their time of need. This award is in memory of nursing professor Nancy Cherofky's mother, who dedicated her life to helping others.

**Lauren M. Serrato** of Litchfield Park, Ariz. won the English Literature Prize the highest distinction in the study of English literature.

**Richard Spinosa** of Tottenville, Staten Island won the L. Willard Knight Memorial Award for a fraternity member with the highest academic average and exemplary leadership performance.

**Oskar Sundberg** of Stockholm, Sweden won the Dreyfus Prize for academically outstanding work in the study of chemistry.

**Mahina R. Taglies** of Honolulu, Hawaii won the George G. Hackman Prize in Religious Studies for the student with the highest academic average in courses taken in the religion minor.

**Ermin Tale** of Graniteville, Staten Island won the Lee Yorgey Davidheiser Prize in Chemistry.

**Kaela P. Teele** of Bridgeport, Conn. won the Diversity Action Award for a student who has furthered, exemplified or supported the cause of diversity at Wagner College.

**Pascalle Tego** of Lerma, Mexico won the Economics Department Award.

**Cheryl Tobia** of Woodrow, Staten Island won the Jane Hadley Goldsack Nursing Prize, given to a nursing student completing the senior year or the graduate program who will be pursuing an advanced degree in nursing at Wagner.

**Katelyn M. Traut** of Tracy, Cal. won the Verrazano Memorial Prize for outstanding academic achievement in the study of history.

**Stephanie M. Upston** of Auckland, New Zealand won the Douglas Gee Morton Award in Economics for academically outstanding work in the study of economics by a student of good moral character.

**Katherine Viscardi** of Hazlet, N.J. won the Phyllis Andors Award for outstanding performance in the study of government and politics.

**Olivia K. Weiss** of Sound Beach, N.Y. won the Dolly Award in Theatre for Performance.

**Angela M. Zagami** of Freehold, N.J. won the Ellen Horrman Award for academic excellence in the study of nursing during the clinical experience. She also won the Michele Connors Tellefsen '71 Alpha Delta Pi Leadership Award, given to a dedicated leader in the Gamma Pi chapter of Alpha Delta Pi as she transitions from being an active to an alumna member.

**Dominic N. Zmarlicki** of Southington, Conn. won the Internationalization Action Award for a student who has furthered, exemplified or supported internationalization issues at Wagner College.

The **Theater Advisory Board** won the Organization of the Year Award for an SGA-recognized organization on campus that actively participates in both the Wagner community and the surrounding communities, excelling in both social and civic work, serving as a model for other campus organizations.