



HONORS RECOGNITION RECEPTION



Wednesday,
October 30, 2013
5:30 p.m.
John P. Hanley
Student Center,
West Windsor
Campus

*for Continuing
Students*

FALL 2013



HONORS RECOGNITION RECEPTION
for Continuing Students

FALL 2013

Program

MASTER OF CEREMONY

Dr. Donald Generals
Vice President for Academic Affairs

WELCOME

Dr. Patricia Donohue
President

INTRODUCTION OF AWARD RECIPIENTS

Dean Winston Maddox
Business & Technology

Dean Robin Schore
Liberal Arts, Math & Science

Assistant Vice President Susan Zambrio
Health Professions

Acting Director Donna Penn
Nursing

Dr. Donald Generals
Vice President for Academic Affairs

Dr. L. Diane Campbell
Executive Dean, Student Affairs

Monica Weaver
Provost, Dean Trenton Campus

*Musical selection provided by
Peter Fretwell, General Manager, WWFM, the Classical Network.*

BUSINESS AND TECHNOLOGY DIVISION

Winston Maddox, Dean

ACCOUNTING

ED BLISSIT MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Awarded to outstanding students in the Accounting program.

Timothy Pitonyak

Ka Chun Wong

ARCHITECTURE

ARCHITECTURE ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIPS

Awarded annually to ascending Architecture students based on talent and academic achievement.

Matthew A. Festa

Amaury Nicasio, Jr.

Gary A. Rojas

ROY CHURCH MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Awarded to a student who is enrolled in the Architecture program.

Matthew A. Festa

JAMIL E. FARIDY SCHOLARSHIP

Awarded to a second-year, full-time Architecture student.

Amaury Nicasio, Jr.

DAVID R. FRAYTAK ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP

Awarded to an exemplary Architecture student in honor of Mr. Fraytak's many years of service with FVHD Architects.

Amaury Nicasio, Jr.

AVIATION

LANCE F. HANSEN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Awarded to a student enrolled in the Aviation Flight Technology program.

Wisdom Agyei

HARRY D. TROUGHT MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Awarded to an outstanding Aviation student.

Wisdom Agyei

THE SKY'S THE LIMIT SCHOLARSHIP

Awarded to several deserving Aviation students from funds raised through a golf outing held by Friends of Trenton-Mercer Airport.

Wisdom Agyei

Erik Anderson

Justin Perry

Ricky Wilson

BUSINESS

NATIONAL WESTMINSTER BANK SCHOLARSHIP

Awarded to a student in the Business program.

Tameshia Hooks

Anna Katarzyna Boguc

PNC BANK SCHOLARSHIP

Awarded to a full-time student who demonstrates academic excellence in the Business program.

Linda Bezdekova

Kevin Hager

Aisha Jeffries

Ka Chun Wong

DR. CONSTANCE COLON-JONES BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION SCHOLARSHIP

Awarded to a full or part-time student who is studying Business Administration and working toward an A.S. degree.

Nana Appiah

ENGINEERING SCIENCE

TONY LUCE ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP

Awarded to a full or part-time student who is studying Electrical Engineering; Engineering Science or Electronics.

Latoya Wimbush

CHARLES RUSSELL MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Awarded to an outstanding student in Civil Engineering Technology or Electronics Engineering Technology.

Latoya Wimbush

CIVIL ENGINEERING

ENGINEERING SCHOLARSHIP

is awarded to an outstanding student in the Engineering program.

Monica Arias

FIRE SCIENCE

JOHN M. MAINZER III MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Awarded to a student in the Fire Science Technology program.

Nanariv Elrasheedy

FUNERAL SERVICE

ROBERT BLANCHARD MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Awarded to a student dedicated to learning and entering the final year of the Funeral Service program.

Byron Downer

COLUMBIA BIBBO-PETROLLE SCHOLARSHIP

Awarded to a student enrolled in the Funeral Service program.

Matthew Marini

JOSEPH GRITZ MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Awarded to a student enrolled in the Funeral Service program.

La'Tresia Ashley

Melanie Chongolola-Nestor

HOTEL, RESTAURANT AND INSTITUTION MANAGEMENT

LAURENTI CHARITABLE TRUST SCHOLARSHIP

Awarded to a student enrolled in the Hospitality program.

Erika Washburn

MERRILL LYNCH HOSPITALITY SCHOLARSHIP

Awarded to a student in the Hotel, Restaurant and Institution Management program.

Juan Cobos

CHEF JACKET PARTNERSHIP SCHOLARSHIPS are given through donations made by several generous supporters to students enrolled specifically in the Hospitality program.

AGRICOLA - Akino Tomizawa

BLUE BOTTLE CAFÉ - Pamela Ballard

ERGO CHEF LLC - Ray Montero

ELEMENTS - Young Kim

MERCER OAKS CATERING - Kelsey Ischinger

NASSAU INN - Steven Fitch

RC FINE FOODS - Christie Mejia

SYSCO FOODS - Taylor Biada

TERRA MOMO RESTAURANT GROUP - Natalie Russano

WEGMANS FOOD MARKETS, INC. - Carina De Leon

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

ROBERT NEGRON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Awarded to a first-year student studying in the Information Technology field.

Harley Herrell

LIBERAL ARTS, MATH & SCIENCE DIVISION

Dr. G. Robin Schore, Dean

ADVERTISING

GERALD KLEIN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Awarded to a student in the Advertising or Digital Media Arts programs.

Layla M. Cabrera

BIOLOGY

BIOLOGY-DOWD FESSLER LABORATORY SCHOLARSHIP

Awarded to an outstanding Biology Laboratory student.

Rachel Weintraub

EDUCATION

BONAZZI FOUNDATION SCIENCE EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP

Awarded to a student who intends to pursue Science Education as a career.

Julia Galayda

ENGLISH

ANTHONY J. MENNUTI MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Awarded to a Liberal Arts student who is studying English.

Rebecca Hupp

ESL

VICKI SELTZER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Awarded to students enrolled in ESL classes.

Jungyu Lim

Rohit Kumar Pokhrel

FASHION

GAP SCHOLARSHIPS

Awarded to students to continue their Fashion studies.

Melissa Chell

Christina Guillaume

Alysha Mooring

Pina Succi

Ambreen Zaidi

MATHEMATICS

AVNER H. FERESTER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Awarded to an outstanding continuing Mathematics student.

Kyle Gerheiser

MUSIC

INSTRUMENTAL AWARDS

Awarded to outstanding students in the Music program.

Chase Connolly

Celina Hicks

Gertrude Hibare-Micel

ORNAMENTAL HORTICULTURE

CLARENCE AND LENA DIDONATO MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Awarded to a deserving student in the Ornamental Horticulture program.

Lindsey Vasquez

MARY MONROE DOERLER SCHOLARSHIP

Awarded to students studying in any field of Ornamental Horticulture and Plant Science.

Kristin Grover

Lauren Adiletta

DOGWOOD GARDEN CLUB OF PRINCETON SCHOLARSHIP

Awarded to outstanding students in the Ornamental Horticulture Program.

Tre Foster

Michael Gerheiser

Kristin Grover

Jenelle Lombardo

Jo Ann Nalavade

Diane Shonyo

MARQUAND PARK FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS

Awarded to outstanding students entering their second year in the Ornamental Horticulture program.

Lauren Adiletta

Connor Smotzer

Rachel Weintraub

PHOTOGRAPHY

LOUIS DRAPER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Awarded to an outstanding full-time student enrolled in the Photography program.

Rowena Elaine Beauchamp

PSYCHOLOGY

RONALD J. KOPCHO MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Awarded to a student in the Humanities and Social Science program with an interest in Psychology.

Megan Josephson

THEATER

JAMES TOLIN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Awarded to a student enrolled in the Theatre or Entertainment Technology programs.

Starrika C. McCloud

DON JONES MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Awarded to a student engaged in one of the Performing Arts.

G. Wellington Talkpa

VISUAL ARTS

JOHN P. BOORSCH MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Awarded to a student studying Visual Arts.

Autumn P. Bardachino

CYBIS ART SCHOLARSHIP

Awarded to an outstanding Art student.

Efrain Rosario

VISUAL ARTS ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP

Established by the faculty to recognize the outstanding student achievement of an ascending freshman in any of the six Visual Arts programs.

Stephanie Badilla Cedeno

HEALTH PROFESSIONS

Susan Zambrio, Assistant Vice President

DR. PAUL JANSSEN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Awarded to a student in the area of Science and Health Professions.

Diana Bridgeforth

Nanariv Elrasheedy

CHARLOTTE W. NEWCOMBE SCHOLARSHIPS

Awarded to students in the Nursing or Health Professions degree programs.

Norma Coles

Chantel Ramsey

Darryl Slicks

ROMA BANK SCHOLARSHIPS

Awarded to full-time students in the Health Professions degree programs.

Amanda Bower

Lauren Henke

WALTER AND LOUIS SUTCLIFFE FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP

Awarded to a student in the Nursing or Health Professions degree programs.

Damilola Kalejaiye

Suzanne Koszyk

DR. H. & MRS. EDITH ZUSSMAN SCHOLARSHIP

Awarded to a deserving student who is entering his or her second year in one of the Health Profession degree programs.

Joseph Cappiello

NURSING

Donna Penn, Acting Director

MARY SCARANO SCHOLARSHIP

Awarded to a third-semester Nursing student.

Danielle Patten

NURSING SCHOLARSHIP

Awarded to an outstanding student in the Nursing program.

Miorcky Torres

AREA VII PHYSICIANS REVIEW ORGANIZATION SCHOLARSHIPS

Awarded to students who demonstrate superior academics in Nursing.

Lisa Kamara

Jessica Tucci

Kamel Saleh

Rosemarie Havlicek

Nadia Marcelin

Maxcene Santos

Morgan Woroniecki

Alison Bruschi

Francesca Santiago

ANTHONY & SOPHIE PRASSAS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Awarded to a Nursing student on the basis of academic performance.

Maximo Briceno

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Dr. Donald Generals, Vice President for Academic Affairs

SCHOLARSHIPS IN HONOR OF RECOGNIZED COLLEGE EMPLOYEES

MERCER PROFESSOR EMERITUS ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIPS

Awarded to the following students.

Diane Cadet

Rachel Garretson

Kyle Gerheiser

Devon Sandiford

Zachary Santanello

Kelsey Springsteen

Alina Vitukhnovskaya

STAFF RECOGNITION SCHOLARSHIPS are awarded to students by faculty or staff members who have received outstanding performance awards in teaching, community service and human relations during Mercer's annual Staff Recognition Ceremony.

Distinguished Teacher – Amy Ricco

Rachel Weintraub

Community Service – Winifred Howard

Carl Culley

Human Relations – Judy Tomasetti

Patrick Gallagher

JIM AND FANNIE FLOYD SCHOLARSHIP

Awarded in honor of Jim Floyd and his late wife Fannie to a Mercer County resident who upholds the academic criteria of the scholarship.

Marlene Cooper

■ *Dr. L. Diane Campbell, Executive Dean, Student Affairs*

ROBERT SYDNEY NEEDHAM MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Awarded to an academically outstanding student who is committed to community service and/or campus leadership.

Ana Corrales

Michelle Ellis-William

URBAN LEAGUE GUILD SCHOLARSHIP

Awarded to students showing outstanding leadership quality.

Charity Adiah

Kevin Parham

JENNY DELAPO MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Awarded to a full-time, second year student enrolled in MercerOnline.

Cheanna Irving

EDWARD H. HOUSE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Awarded to high-achieving second year students.

Austine Chidi Njuru

Leandro Fosque

TOP LADIES OF DISTINCTION-TRENTON CHAPTER EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP

Awarded to a full or part-time credit student who resides in Trenton.

Chantel Ramsey

Anyalatrice Roberts

BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB SCHOLARSHIP

Awarded to full-time incoming freshmen students at MCCC, selected from the program participants at the Boys and Girls Club of Trenton.

Anshanae Peterson

Kaniya D'Haiti

ALBERT KAHN TRENTON HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP

Awarded to a Trenton Central High School graduate.

Chandler Leonard-Brown

Stefanie Bigham

ARTHUR J. HOLLAND SCHOLARSHIP

Awarded to a graduate of Trenton Central High School and/or a Trenton resident.

Karizma Brown

CHARLES KEITH SHERMAN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Awarded to a graduate of Trenton Central High School, majoring in Technology.

Kahasia Whitaker

GED SCHOLARSHIP

Awarded to graduates of the JKC-GED program.

Carlos Jones

George Thomas

**METROPOLITAN TRENTON AFRICAN-AMERICAN
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE SCHOLARSHIP**

Awarded to an outstanding student.

Taleil Brown

BIOGRAPHIES OF RECIPIENTS

Charity Adiah

Charity is currently attending Mercer County Community College and plans to continue her education in nursing.

Lauren Adiletta

Lauren is pursuing further education in the field of Ornamental Horticulture. She demonstrates enthusiasm for learning and works hard to maintain a GPA of 4.0.

Wisdom Agyei

Wisdom is currently working toward his private pilot's license. He spends his free time and weekends volunteering with Mercerville Fire Company. He looks forward to becoming an airline pilot and being able to give back to the community.

Erik Anderson

Erik has always had a love for aviation and flight. He took his first major step to fulfill that dream by receiving his private pilot's license last fall. Mercer County Community College has provided him with a solid foundation on which to build.

Nana Joseph Appiah

Nana is a Business Administration major with a 3.7 GPA. He would like to pursue a career in business as an accountant and then establish his own accounting practice. He plans to transfer to a four year college after graduation from Mercer. Nana's proudest moment at Mercer was gaining a 4.0 GPA during the spring 2013 semester and being on the president's list.

Monica Arias

Monica is a continuing Civil Engineering Technology student in excellent standing. She demonstrates a strong understanding of engineering fundamentals, and is a leader in class.

La'Tresia Ashley

La'Tresia is a part-time student pursuing her dream of a career in Funeral Service, something she has envisioned since she was 12 years old. She received her B.A. degree in Psychology from New Jersey City University.

Stephanie Badilla Cedeno

After graduating from Mercer, Stephanie plans to continue her education and receive her bachelor's degree in Advertising and Graphic Design.

Autumn P. Bardachino

Autumn is currently taking both Digital Media and Advertising courses and plans to pursue a degree in one, if not both, of these areas of study. She plans on continuing her education at Franklin Pierce, and is looking forward to the experience of going away and discovering her true potential as an artist and a designer.

Rowena Elaine Beauchamp

Rowena has a 3.95 GPA. She is a non-traditional student returning to school after more than 20 years in the workforce. After being laid off from sales positions three times within a year, she decided to change the direction of her life and follow her passion for photography. She intends to transfer to a four year school after graduating from Mercer.

Linda Bezdekova

Linda is a Business Administration major with a GPA of 3.7. Linda would like to study international business in the future and hopes to attend Baruch College in NYC.

Anna Katarzyna Boguc

Anna is a Business Administration student with a 3.98 GPA. After graduation, Anna wants to continue her studies at the College of New Jersey. Her goal is to be a successful accountant and to complete a master's degree. As an international student going through Mercer's ESL program, Anna believes that her proudest accomplishment is her high GPA.

Amanda Bower

Amanda is a student in our Physical Therapist Assistant program. She selected MCCC because it's the only college in the area that offers this program. After volunteering in an out-patient physical therapy facility she realized physical therapy is what she wanted to do. After graduation Amanda wants to work with our soldiers coming back from Active Duty.

Taylor Biada

Through the HRIM program at Mercer, Taylor realized her childhood dreams of becoming a pastry chef. Her career goal is to own an Italian bakery in New York City.

Stefanie Bigham

Stefanie plans to continue her education and receive her master's degree. Her biggest dream is to become a fashion related publicist as well as to work in engineering.

Maximo Briceno

Maximo receives exceptional evaluations from clinical instructors and actively participated in the Mercer County Community College 2012 Board Report to the Community.

Diana Bridgeforth

Diana is currently a student in our Nursing program. After raising four daughters and working 26 years at one job, Diana decided it was time for a change. She decided to become a nurse, after being involved in a car accident, and her stay in the hospital was made much easier by the nurses. Their actions made a profound impact on her life and she would love to be able to help people in the same manner. Diana is grateful for the opportunity to receive a scholarship and the continued support as she enters into this new chapter of her life.

Karizma Brown

Karizma plans to continue her education after Mercer. She hopes to attend the College of New Jersey, Rider or Rutgers University.

Taleil Brown

Taleil plans on graduating from Mercer County Community College and transferring to a four year school and becoming a youth correctional officer.

Alison Bruschi

Alison is currently a student in our Nursing program. The greatest lesson she was taught by her parents was to always try to have a positive attitude and stay true to herself and her beliefs. She is a wife and mother to a three-year-old little boy, Cooper. She said studying can sometimes be a challenge, but when reading she includes her little boy. Alison just received a volunteer position at Princeton Hospital and is very glad she can give back to the community. She looks forward to continuing her learning experiences as a student, volunteer and nurse.

Layla M. Cabrera

After Layla graduates from Mercer in spring, 2014, she plans on transferring to The College of New Jersey. After attending two different colleges and being unsure of what career path she wanted to follow, the opportunities she acquired at Mercer made her realize Graphic Design and Advertising is definitely the major she would like to pursue.

Diane Cadet

Diane is a Culinology major in her sophomore year at MCCC. She has been interested in Culinary Arts since she was a child. Diane has many aspirations, such as owning her own ice cream parlor or pancake house. Diane and her parents are very thankful and appreciative of this scholarship.

Joseph Cappiello

Joseph is currently a student in our Physical Therapist Assistant program. He chose Mercer because he grew up in the area and it was convenient for him. Joseph started as a rehab aide and loved it, so he decided to go to school for PTA so that he could do what he loves on a more permanent basis. Once he graduates, Joseph hopes to be working at an outpatient rehab clinic that has more of a younger/athletic population.

Melanie Chongolola-Nestor

Melanie is a full-time student in the Funeral Service program and is currently employed as a student trainee by John Givnish Funeral Home of Philadelphia. She is also a graduate of the University of Pittsburgh and the Wharton School of Business. She says everything she has studied in school, experienced in work and learned from life has led her to this point. She is excited to begin her second career as a funeral director upon graduation.

Juan Cobos

Juan is in the Culinary Arts program. His long term goal is to make a career as a chef and own his own restaurant.

Norma Coles

Norma is currently a student in our Physical Therapist Assistant program. She has been in the health field for the past 25 years, and now knows the PTA program is the perfect fit to continue her education and to open new opportunities. Norma stated "this scholarship comes as a very timely necessity" as she is a single mother and a full time returning student. She really wants to thank her Professors for teaching her in a fun way that she can understand.

Chase Connolly

Chase is an outstanding student currently maintaining a GPA of 3.6. A prodigiously talented percussionist as well as a trumpeter and bass player, he has quickly become an indispensable member of our college Jazz Band and Chamber Ensemble. Also active in student affairs he is currently vice president of the Intervarsity Christian Fellowship club. Chase plans to continue his musical studies at the baccalaureate level in Music Education with a jazz emphasis.

Marlene Cooper

Marlene is a Liberal Arts major with a GPA of 3.9. She plans on transferring to Rutgers in the fall to pursue a degree in Mathematics education. She is the President of Kappa Delta Pi, a member of Phi Theta Kappa and Alpha Mu Gamma. She works with the DREAM program as a mentor and tutor for students with special needs.

Ana Corrales

Ana Corrales is a peer mentor in the Dream Program and a volunteer at the MCCC Gallery and community hospital. In Nicaragua she worked as a volunteer for Techo para mi pais, (roof for my country) and in the Despega program to help children in poverty. She was an ESL student for two years and is currently a Hispanic Major in Advertising and Graphic Design. She is a full-time student and is still working on her language skills. Her last GPA from the spring of 2013 was a 3.64.

Carl Culley

Carl has been taking classes at MCCC, on and off, since the spring of 1987. He is pursuing an A.A.S. degree in Electronics Engineering Technology. His current GPA is 3.93. He plans on continuing his education at Drexel and receiving his master's degree.

Byron Downer

Byron is married and the father of 2 daughters. He is a graduate of Rowan University and he returned to college to pursue a career in Funeral Service after 20 years working in a family car dealership. He commutes from Salem county where he is employed by Adams Funeral Homes of Elmer, Woodstown and Penns Grove.

Michelle Ellis-William

Michelle Ellis-Williams is currently in the Digital Media Arts program at MCCC. She transferred from the Art Institute of Pittsburgh Online Division. She is an AmeriCorps VISTA volunteer, serves as a Volunteer Outreach Specialist at Mercer Alliance to End Homelessness in Mercer County and she recruits volunteers and trains them to be certified as IRS tax preparers so that they can do free tax preparation for those who make under \$50,000.

Nanariv Elrasheedy

Nanariv is currently a student in our Nursing program. She is a single mother of three who lost her eight-year job in 2008 due to an injury. Nanariv has earned exemplary grades in her coursework to date. She currently has an impressive GPA of 3.8.

Matthew A. Festa

Matt works for a local architect getting on the job experience. He is adept in AutoCAD, Revit's and Inventor software. Matt tutors students at the Mercer County Technical School in Regional and National CAD Competitions. He plans to attend one of the Art schools after graduation.

Leandro Fosque

Leandro Fosque is originally from Argentina. He plans to transfer to a university to study Astrophysics and Mathematics. In his spare time, he likes to practice Kung Fu.

Tre Foster

Tre is an Ornamental Horticulture major at Mercer. His goal is to transfer to Rutgers University to pursue a degree in Landscape Architecture.

Julia Galayda

Julia is a Biology major at Mercer who has a GPA of 3.8. She is a member of Phi Theta Kappa and Psi Beta. Julia is passionate about teaching and has experience giving children swim lessons. Her goal is to transfer to a 4 year institute and eventually teach marine biology.

Patrick Gallagher

Patrick is a fine young man who is very courteous and helpful. He is a hard worker and a good student.

Rachel Garretson

Rachel started studying at MCCC while she was a senior in high school and decided to continue her education here. She has always loved a smaller class setting and professors that actually know their students. Mercer has given her the opportunity to do what she loves at an affordable price. She feels like she will be prepared to enter a four-year school after her time at Mercer.

Kyle Gerheiser

Kyle is currently studying engineering at Mercer in preparation for Penn State in Spring 2014 where he intends to major in nuclear engineering. After graduating he would like to work in the field of nuclear energy at a power plant.

Michael Gerheiser

Michael is a returning student to college pursuing a career in Horticulture.

Rosemarie Havlicek

Rosie is a student in our Nursing program. She has earned a BA in Communication and worked in NYC advertising for several years. Her family was taken overseas for six years with her husband's job, so her nursing education was placed on hold. When she returned, she continued her education at MCCC, and got hooked into wanting to be a registered nurse. Rosie loves the sciences, enjoys the helping profession and someday Rosie may be a doctor of nursing practice!

Lauren Henke

Lauren is a student in our Physical Therapist Assistant program. She stated "Deciding to attend MCCC was an easy choice for me because it has a fantastic reputation, and the cost of the classes was the best option for me and my family." Lauren would like to work with patients who have spinal cord injuries and neurological disorders. She feels this scholarship will allow her to fully focus on learning and work towards reaching her goals.

Gertrude Hibare-Micel

A superlative student, Gertrude maintains a GPA of 3.9 and is a member of Phi Theta Kappa. She has consistently graced our college Chorus and Chamber Ensemble with her vocal talent. Gertrude plans to complete a graduate degree in Music and pursue a career in musical performance and education.

Celina Hicks

Celina holds a perfect GPA of 4.0. She is a member of Phi Theta Kappa and has been an active member of the Student Government Association, currently its vice president. In addition to her academic prowess Celina is a gifted musician. Her talents as both a pianist and vocalist have greatly enhanced the public performances of both our college Chamber Ensemble and Chorus. Celina plans to continue her studies through at least the Master's degree level and eventually pursue a career in music education.

Cheanna Irving

Cheanna lives with her mother and eight year old brother. She has enjoyed taking classes online. These classes have given her the flexibility to meet the degree's needs and remain in the comfort of her own home, as she looks after her young brother during the school week.

Kelsey Ischinger

Kelsey is a second year student at Mercer County Community College and is enjoying every minute of it! After she graduates she plans on attending Fairleigh Dickenson University in order to obtain her bachelor's degree.

Aisha Jeffries

Aisha is in the Information Technology program and has a GPA of 3.0.

Carlos Jones

Carlos' goal is to attain a degree in both architecture and general contracting. With these two degrees he would like to open a family business.

Megan Josephson

Megan graduated from Lawrence High School. This is her third and final year at Mercer, and she is studying Liberal Arts with a concentration in Social Science. She plans to continue her education at TCNJ as a double major in Child Psychology and Special Education.

Damilola Kalejaiye

Damilola is currently a student in our Physical Therapist Assistant program. Her path to a career in Physical Therapy has taken off in a very positive direction thanks to what the college has to offer and the support of the faculty. Damilola sees herself practicing as a Traveling PTA at St. Lawrence Rehabilitation Center or Water's Edge Rehabilitation Center in Trenton.

Lisa Kamara

Lisa is currently a student in our Nursing program. She helps in her community by teaching a healthy lifestyle. She watches what they eat and helps them make healthy food choices. This is a program known as "With Every Heart is Life" organized by the Trenton Housing Authority as part of the Hope IV program. The WEHL Program also teaches them about hypertension, diabetes, high cholesterol and heart disease. Lisa also works with SERV Behavioral with people with developmental disabilities.

Suzanne Koszyk

Suzanne is a student in our Physical Therapist Assistant program. She worked in the Ocean Import Transportation industry for the past 13 years. She decided to stay home after the birth of her son Adam because her husband was serving overseas on a deployment to Iraq with the New Jersey National Guard. Suzanne would like to work at a sports rehabilitation facility upon completion of the program.

Rohit Kumar Pokhrel

Rohit came to America in 2009 from Nepal as a Bhutanese refugee. In fall 2011 he entered Mercer. He is an ESL student who has been working to improve his understanding of the English language. This has enabled him to keep up his grades and continue on in his courses without any delays.

Chandler Leonard-Brown

Chandler is a determined and motivated student who loves to learn new things. He is a talented artist. He would like to pursue a career as an animation artist or art teacher. He is always willing to perfect his craft. He has taken every art class in school and continues to want to learn more.

Jungyu Lim

Jungyu wants to become a psychological counsel therapist. He is a great student who is always interested, prepared, enthusiastic, and very conscientious.

Jenelle Lombardo

Jenelle is an Ornamental Horticulture major at Mercer. She plans on taking over her mother's business once she retires in order to carry on her legacy. Jenelle, like her mother, has a passion for plants and treats them with care.

Nadia Marcelin

Nadia is currently a student in our Nursing program. She moved to this country 15 years ago from Haiti. She earned a degree in computer networking from MCCC in 2002. She worked for a school district for over 10 years before being laid off. Nadia wants to become a nurse and provide care for the needy.

Matthew Marini

Matt is a graduate of West Windsor Plainsboro HS-South, class of 2005. Since that time he has earned two MCCC associate degrees, in psychology and criminal justice. He has worked as a private baseball instructor and as a bartender, but now he is pursuing a career in funeral service and is currently employed by Saul Funeral Homes.

Jo Ann Nalavade

Jo Ann is an Ornamental Horticulture major at Mercer.

Amaury Nicasio, Jr.

Amaury has wanted to be an Architect since he was young. He was born in the Dominican Republic and has been in the US for eight years. Amaury is President of the MCCC Architecture Club and plans on attending Philadelphia University or NJIT upon graduation.

Austine Chidi Njuru

Austine is in the Business Administration Program and has a GPA of 3.5.

Kevin Parham

Kevin is a communications major and his passion is to be a radio Personality.

Danielle Patten

Danielle is currently a student in our Nursing program. She always knew she wanted to be part of the medical field. Both her parents were EMT's. Labor and delivery is her passion. She hopes to be able to have a position there some day and maybe even become a midwife. Danielle is happy to be coming to the end of one chapter and getting ready to start a new one!

Justin Perry

Justin has always dreamed of entering into the field of aviation and becoming a commercial pilot. Currently, he has his private pilot's license and is working on his commercial license and instrument rating. He plans on continuing his education at Embry Riddle Aeronautical University in Daytona Beach to attain his B.A. in aeronautical science.

An'shanae Peterson

An'shanae is in the Criminal Justice program at MCCC. She plans on continuing her education at William Paterson University and eventually becoming a successful lawyer.

Timothy Pitonyak

Tim is a dedicated student who wants to transfer to a 4-year college after he completes his studies at MCCC and eventually become an entrepreneur.

Chantel Ramsey

Chantel is currently a student in our Nursing program. She decided to become a nurse after the death of her older sister who suffered from severe asthma. The care that she and her family received from the nursing staff was so kind, compassionate and professional. The more Chantel researched becoming a nurse the more she felt a calling to care for the sick.

Anyalatrice Roberts

Anyalatrice is in the Business Administration program and carries a GPA of 3.75. She plans to continue her education at a four year school once she receives her Associates Degree.

Efrain Rosario

After graduating from Mercer Efrain plans to transfer to The School of Visual Arts in New York to pursue a bachelor's degree in Illustration. Ultimately, he would like to either illustrate for books, comics, or maybe even video games.

Natalie Russano

Natalie is hoping to continue her education and receive her B.A. in Hotel Restaurant and Institutional Management.

Kamel Saleh

Kamal is a student in our Nursing program. He currently works 32-40 hours per week as a security guard at Trenton Psychiatric Hospital. His goal is to have a career where he can help people and have financial security. Kamal aspires to join the Air Force Nurse Corps.

Davon Sandiford

Devon is currently in the business program and his goals for the future are to become a successful actor and create his own agency.

Zachary Santanello

Zachary is a New Media major at Mercer County Community College. He has a passion for photography and enjoys doing work with video. After he earns his Associate Degree in the spring, he plans on continuing his education in New Media.

Francesca Santiago

Francesca is a nursing student at Mercer. She grew up in a single parent household and her mother set a great example of perseverance and integrity, which is one of the reasons she is such a driven student. The other reason she is motivated is by her faith in God. She wants to be a nurse so that she can be an example to other Latina women showing they can be anything they want to be if they put their minds to it. Eventually, she wants to travel the world and use the skills she acquired as a medical professional to help in countries that are less privileged than her own.

Maxcene Santos

Maxcene is currently a student in our Nursing program. She developed her desire for the medical profession at a young age while watching her mother care for residents in a local nursing home. After the loss of her brother and her father Maxcene decided to take a temporary sabbatical from her nursing education in order to assist her mother with household finances. She accepted a position as a Patient Attendant at RWJ University Hospital, where she learned the proficient skills needed to care for individuals. Maxcene especially enjoys cardiology and plans to further pursue her nursing education to achieve a Master's of Science Degree in Nursing.

Diane Shonyo

Diane is pursuing a degree in Horticulture. She had received a Master Gardener training certificate after retirement, but decided to go on to earn a degree in Horticulture. Diane has experience in and enjoys helping youth build gardens.

Darryl Slicks

Darryl is currently a student in our Physical Therapist Assistant program. He decided to attend Mercer because they offer an excellent Physical Therapist Assistant program. After graduation, Darryl hopes to practice as a PTA near his home in southern New Jersey. His goal is to possibly own a PT practice and gym. He is truly grateful to have this kind of financial help because it helped him to afford going back to school.

Connor Smotzer

Connor is an Ornamental Horticulture major at Mercer. He chose plant science after recovering from brain surgery and quickly fell in love with the horticulture program here at Mercer. He stated "being at the greenhouse has been very therapeutic for me; it has re-awakened my love for plants, and has given me something positive to look forward to in life."

Kelsey Springsteen

Kelsey is the youngest of four children who have all attended Mercer County Community College. She is majoring in Elementary Education and plans on transferring to The College of New Jersey to pursue a major in education and a minor in psychology after she is finished at Mercer.

George Thomas

George just received his high school diploma from Mercer County College. He felt the teachers and instructors were amazing and felt they helped him so much and without them he would not be here now. He is in his second semester of college and he loves it. He would like to get his masters in science. "Thank you very much Mercer College for having faith in me, thank you teachers, instructors and tutors."

Akino Tomizawa

Akino is the mother of 2 daughters. She is in the Culinary Arts program and is planning to continue her education at Rutgers University to attain a B.A. degree in Food Science with a concentration in Research.

Miorky Torres

Miorky is a student in our Nursing program. She is a single mother to a 2 year old little girl, works a full time job and is attending MCCC to become a registered nurse. Miorky is very thankful to Professor Sue Minkel who has worked closely with her to decrease her test anxiety and teach her better study habits. She is very thankful to receive this award and will continue her journey to become a successful registered nurse.

Jessica Tucci

Jessica is a student in our Nursing program. She applied for the nursing program at MCCC because she wanted to start a career in the medical field. After graduation Jessica plans to pursue both a BSN and MSN degree. Her goal is to become an Emergency Room/Trauma nurse.

Lindsey Vasquez

Lindsey is an Ornamental Horticulture major at Mercer. She is the oldest of eight children and has always loved spending her free time working with her Father. Lindsey is focusing on the Landscape Design concentration and her goal is to become a Landscape Architect.

Alina Vitukhnovskaya

Alina will be attending Mercer for another semester and then hopefully will be able to transfer to The College of New Jersey to continue studying psychology.

Rachel Weintraub

Rachele is a Plant Science major who has excelled in the biology laboratory. Her plans are to transfer to Delaware Valley College where she plans to major in Entomology and Geology.

Kahasia Whitaker

Kahasia plans to continue her education after Mercer. She plans on becoming a health care social worker.

Ricky Wilson

Ricky is a student combat veteran and has served for six years driving tanks and HMMWV's. He is at Mercer to fulfill a childhood dream of becoming a pilot. Last semester he received his pilot's license and passed the written exam for the commercial pilot license.

Latoya Wimbush

Latoya is a continuing Civil Engineering Technology student in excellent standing. She continually demonstrates attention to detail in her assignments, which has resulted in her to being a top performer in class.

Ka Chun Wong

Ka came to the USA from Hong Kong about 6 years ago. His plans are to finish his AS degree at MCCC and transfer to a 4-year university to study accounting and eventually become a CPA.

Morgan Woroniecki

Morgan is currently a student in our Nursing program. She is a graduate of Kutztown University with a bachelor's degree in sociology. Working at Meadow Lakes, a continuing care retirement community, helped Morgan realize that nursing is really what she wanted do. In the summer of 2010 she began her journey to become a nurse by enrolling in classes at Mercer. In the summer of 2012 Morgan was chosen for a student nurse internship at Meadow Lakes, which gave her that much more determination to become a nurse.

