MAY 2022

# MURIEL A. HOWARD HONORS PROGRAM NEWSLETTER

Official Newsletter of the Buffalo State Honors Program





Congratulations to all Fall 2021 and Spring 2022 Honors Graduates! We wish you the best and can't wait to see all that you accomplish!

Read more about our graduating seniors...

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# GRADUATING CLASS spring twenty twenty-two

DEAN'S HONORS PROGRAM Elizabeth Acevedo (K) Alyssa Agro Summer Albaneh Samuel Alem Mohammed Almatar Iessica Bennett Tabitha Boughton Marie Emmanuelle Brown-Cashdollar Mimi Byrne\* Jessica Casper Taylor Coleman Angelina Cruzal Kimberly Cuapio (K) Miranda Dibble Adriana Duic Cassidy Faddis Emanie Farris Hayden Ford Emily Fred Berchmine Gilles Briann Gilliam (K) Elaha Hashmatullah Ayan Hassan Sara Hillman\* Katherine Hudson Katie Igielinski Ashley Indelicato Brendon Kendall Donald Matthews Louis Matthews Iennifer Mauk Shane McGregor Kierra Morrow Hannibal Mullen Elizabeth Nash Lindsey Oliva

Hannah Parkes Jonathan Poethig Meghan Protzman Tyler Putnam Justin Ramsey Nicolette Reeb Sijada Richards Iasiah Rios Branden Rivers Joseph Rizzo Amiya Roberts Elijah Robinson Adam Sadaro Fadel Saleh Mariah Schloupt Jasmine Selapack Brianna Smith Iavlan Snaith Elizabeth Soika Alexis Spanich Ioshua Stevens Gabriela Turcios Matthew Wrotny Zhihong Wu

#### MURIEL A. HOWARD HONORS

Alexandra Ballow Katherine Beinetti Christian Burnham Elizabeth Butera Oriana Castello Sarah Chapman Johnathan Ciolek Shianne Cooke Cody Crist Emily Czarniak Taija Dacosta Julia Dirre Katherine Dixon Molly Dolata Je'Taunne Douglas Renee Edbauer Michael Grev Victoria Guagliano Cynthia Hampton Caitlyn Heffler Mikayla Hernandez Elaina Iames Brendan Larsen Ioana Leamon Mckenzie Locker Kassidy Manke Matthew Matsulavage Ashley Mendola Tomoei Nakasone Becket Panfil (P) Jessica Piper Juliana Quebral Allyson Sawyer Nathaniel Schumacher Clara Sensini Olivia Sferra Montaka Shad Alexis Shelley **Devonte Simmons** Nicholas Stanford Megan Swick Calogero Tiermini\*# Rubaiya Toni Luke Traina Brianna Virgilio Christopher Walsh Faith Westgate David Whitaker Jr. Kaitlyn Wilk Karina Zayas\* (K)

(K) = Kenzie Scholars \* = Honors Ambassadors (P) = Honors President # - Advisory Board Member

#### SARA J. HILLMAN Political Science (Law Concentration) Lockport/Albion/Cheektowaga, NY



**Awards/Accomplishments:** Element Leader of 914th ARW DTF; Humanitarian Award; Provost Scholarship; Hazel G. Macartney Scholarship; Burrell Diversity Scholarship; Student Planner for Bengala; Honors Ambassador; Campus Activities Board; Equity and Diversity Ambassador; Student Political Society President; Institute for Humane Studies Colloquium; United Student Government Senator; Camp 1871 Team Counselor; Student Affairs Committee; Moot Court Participant; Residential Hall Association President; Events Coordinator for Leadership Organization (Hour of Power); Note Taker For SUNY Buffalo State.

**Favorite Memory:** My favorite honors memories are with Coach Dus' Honors class! We grew as a family through that class and really engaged with the material!

**Is there anyone you'd like to shout out?** Professor Baek, Professor Shauku, and Professor Yacabucci: They were there to always lead me down the right path and open new doors for me.

**Any Advice?** Take every opportunity that is given to you! Never think you are alone when dealing with tough situations. There are others who are going through it too or have gone through it! Be open to different mindsets and people! You will learn a lot!

**Final Thoughts:** I know we all wish to live in the present. But know your actions today affect the future. (Respect the Earth)

# MARIAH SCHLOUPT Forensic Chemistry, Criminal Justice Newfield, NY

**Awards/Accomplishments:** USG Organization Representative for the Chemistry/Forensic Club; Dean's Honors List; Linus Pauling Award; Iota Sigma Pi National Honor Society; Phi Lambda Upsilon Honor Society; Chemical Rubber Company (Outstanding performance in CHE 111/112/114); Outstanding Performance in Organic Chemistry.

**Is there anyone you'd like to shout out?** My parents for always believing in me even when I didn't believe in myself and for always pushing me to do my best no matter what. I would also like to give a shout out to Miranda Herter who has helped me every step of the way. Whether it be registering for classes or figuring out complicated schedules she was always willing to help me with any problem that I came across in my classes or life in general.

What's Next: After graduation I would like to begin working in a forensics crime lab which will allow me to help those in my community.

**Any Advice?** Keep pushing. All the hard work WILL pay off in the end. Motivation is your key to success.

**Final Thoughts:** I just want to thank SUNY Buffalo State for many amazing years. The faculty and staff at this college have been fantastic, very supportive, and understanding. I will miss being a student here.





#### **JOANA LEAMON** Media Production Silver Creek, NY

**Awards/Accomplishments:** President of the National Communication Association Honor Society Rho Psi Chapter; Vice President of BSC-TV; Producer/Interviewer at WBNY 91.3 FM; Dean's List; Honors Program; Communication Department Fall Research and Creativity Forum Presenter; Tim Russert Media Career Award; SUNY Chancellor's Scholarship; NYSTAA Transfer Scholarship; AAUW Transfer Scholarship; Roger C. Seager Presidential Scholarship; Holmberg Transfer Scholarship.

**Favorite Memory:** I enjoyed participating in the Honors courses taught by Professor Stephen Saracino and Professor Marcus Watson. I developed new passions and had a great time working with other Honors students.

**Is there anyone you'd like to shout out?** My family has been my rock, my shoulder to lean on through late night homework, my proof readers of many papers, my motivators, and so much more. I'm immensely thankful and blessed to have their unconditional love and support. I would also like to thank all my professors and peers who have become mentors and friends. They have helped me reach unimaginable milestones and helped me prepare for an exciting future.

What's Next? I will be pursuing my dream career in media within the Western New York region.

**Any Advice?** Change and growth can happen anytime and anywhere. Believe in yourself, step out of your comfort zone every chance you get, and utilize every resource available on campus.

#### MIMI BYRNE Biology Centereach, NY

**Awards/Accomplishments:** Zachary John Beveridge '08 Scholarship; Provost Scholarship; Outstanding Witness Award at AMTA Regional Tournament; Honor's Ambassador; Dean's List; Honors Research Program in Biology; Resident Assistant; Research Assistant; Co-Caption of the Mock Trial team.

**Favorite Memory:** The Diane Nash talk my freshman year in Rockwell. A core memory.

Is there anyone you'd like to shout out? Dr. McMillan and Dr. Ben-Merre have always given me guidance since freshman year. They have supported me and been there for me when I needed someone to talk to. I'm grateful they have been and still are a part of my college experience and have seen me grow into the person I am today. What's Next: Hopefully Graduate School so I can become an educator. If not, a job with the National Park Service or using GIS software!

**Any Advice?** Take advantage of all the opportunities that are given to you that make you excited. If you think you can do it, advocate for yourself and be confident!

**Final Thoughts:** When you reach the end of your undergraduate career, you'll realize that there's a lot of people that know more than you about topics related to your field of study. Don't let that deter you and make you feel like you're not worthy of your major. Everyone learns at different paces and there's is no limit to knowledge :)





### MEGHAN PROTZMAN Forensic Chemistry Orchard Park, NY

**Awards/Accomplishments:** I wouldn't be here without the lovely support of my peers and professors. Miranda Herter has been especially helpful with my success, especially as I changed my major late. I wouldn't be graduating successfully within my 4 years if it hadn't have been for her guidance. I am a proud Honors student with a 3.54 GPA because of her, even though my semesters were jammed back, I rose above the obstacles! **Favorite Memory:** Bengals Dare to Care Day! Loved being able to volunteer to help the communities around us. **Is there anyone you'd like to shout out?** My boyfriend Gabe above anyone else. He has always been supportive of my academic success and has been there to help in anyway that he can. I aspire to be as dedicated as him one day.

What's Next: Hopefully Graduate School! I hope to complete my degree with a Master's here at Buffalo State! A fantastic people on campus that are happy to

ram. I loved every minute of it.



#### JE'TAUNNE DOUGLAS Sociology Bronx, NY

**Awards/Accomplishments:** Alpha Kappa Delta Honors Society

**What's Next:** Next, I will be pursuing a career in Occupational Therapy



### JULIA DIRRE Forensic Chemistry Niagara Falls, NY

**Awards/Accomplishments:** Muriel A. Howard Scholarship; VP standards in Alpha Epsilon Phi; social media officer in chemistry forensics club.

What's Next: Graduate school for forensics with a concentration in biology.

#### ASHLEY INDELICATO Anthropology Buffalo, NY

Awards/Accomplishments: Member of the Lambda Alpha Honor Society

Favorite Memory: Honors BBQ

What's Next: Receive a Teaching English as a Foreign Language Certificate and teach abroad.

#### CHRISTIAN BURNHAM Social Work Tuscarora Reservation

**What's Next:** I will continue my work with the language revitalization group on the Tuscarora Reservation.

**Any Advice:** If you have a question, just ask.

**Final Thoughts:** I just want to thank all the faculty members of Buff State that have helped me to get to my senior year!



MIKAYLA HERNANDEZ Early Childhood Educaiton Bronx, NY

**Favorite Memory:** The Honors leadership seminar

**What's Next?** A Childhood Education Masters program



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#### MEGAN SWICK Music Buffalo, NY

**Favorite Memory:** The welcome back Honors BBQs were always fun

**What's Next?** I will be attending graduate school for music education.



#### KARINA ZAYAS Computer Information System Rochester, NY

**Awards/Accomplishments:** Ross Kenzie Scholarship; Admissions Ambassador; LSAMP program; Dean's List. **Favorite Memory:** Going to a leadership camp on the beach. I had such a great time with my friends and I met a bunch of new people. The beach was gorgeous and it was so much fun eating s'mores and hanging out in a tree house.

**Is there anyone you'd like to shout out?** Shout out to my family! I would not be where I am today if it was not for them. They helped me get through tough times and encouraged me to keep going. I am so grateful to my sister who listened to me complain when I had a hard day and always knew how to make me feel better. To my mom who has always been my rock, I know she will always be there to weigh in when I need her to.

**What's Next:** I am planning on continuing my education and getting a Master's degree. I will attend Buffalo State and complete the Data Science and Analytics program. After that I hope to get a job as a data analyst, data scientist, or something in that field.

**Any Advice?** Try to develop a good work life balance. It is really important to have fun, hobbies, and just hang out with your friends.





### FAITH WESTGATE Psychology Newfane, NY

**Awards/Accomplishments:** Dean's List; Early Undergraduate Research Opportunity (EURO) Program; teaching assistant (TA) for the Fall 2021 semester; Student Research and Creativity Conference (SRCC) Presenter; Member of Psi Chi; Buffalo State's National Society of Leadership and Success; Finalist for Psychology Department Awards; Nominated for Outstanding Academic Achievement in WGS.

**Favorite Memory:** My freshman year Honors classes-- I was with the same small group of people for multiple classes, and it made me feel much less nervous and more welcome at Buffalo State, especially in the Honors program.

Is there anyone you'd like to shout out? Dr. McMillan for always being such a light along the way! You always know how to make your students feel supported and capable. I am so lucky to have been one of your students!

What's Next: I plan on continuing my academic journey after graduation and attending graduate school to receive a PhD in Clinical Psychology.

**Any Advice?** Your years in college will fly by-- take time to live in the present moment instead of focusing solely on the busy road ahead!



## **ELIZABETH NASH** Applied Mathematics (Statistical Modeling concentration) Cowlesville, NY

**Awards/Accomplishments:** I have been lucky enough to have been awarded many scholarships, the two biggest ones being the Muriel A Howard Honors Program Scholarship and the Presidential Scholarship. I have been on the dean's list for all but one semester here at Buffalo State. I am also graduating with an undergraduate certificate in Statistics in Insurance.

**Favorite Memory:** Studying in the first Honors lounge with friends I had made through the program and going to the BBQ's.

Is there anyone you'd like to shout out? I would like to shout of fellow Honors senior, Ashley Indelicato, for keeping me on track, but not keeping me sane.

What's Next: I will hopefully receive a full time job in the mathematical statistics field, and then return in a year or two to get my masters degree in Professional and Applied Computational Mathematics.

**Any Advice?** Don't let anyone tell you the way you get work done is wrong. If it works for you, and works well, do not change it to make others more comfortable.

Final Thoughts: Can't wait to see you guys again in a couple years!

## ELAINA JAMES Public Relations & Advertising Randolph, NY

**Awards/Accomplishments:** National Society of Leadership & Success; Lambda Pi Eta - Communication Department Honor Society; Arts & Sciences Dean's List; Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society; Marketing & Events Student Assistant for Performing Arts Center at Buffalo State; Transfer Student Scholarship; Outstanding Service-Learning Student Nominee.

Favorite Memory: Seeing the Led Zeppelin Laser show in the planetarium!

**Is there anyone you'd like to shout out?** I want to shout out my mom, dad, sister, and brother for constantly supporting me and helping me navigate this new and exciting period in my life. I also want to shout out my best friend Kaylyn and my boyfriend Anthony for making life fun on campus and always encouraging me to do my best.

What's Next: I plan on staying in the Buffalo area and starting my full-time career at a Public Relations or Advertising firm after graduation! I also plan to continue my part-time work here on campus by helping out with marketing and events for the Performing Arts Center through the summer and fall. Any Advice? Never doubt yourself and all of your hard work. It will pay off before you know it!



#### EMILY CZARNIAK Early/Childhood Education Lancaster, NY

**Awards/Accomplishments:** Muriel A. Howard Honors Scholarship; Presidential Scholarship.

**Favorite Memory:** Getting to meet new people that I wouldn't have met otherwise, and getting to take interesting classes with them.

What's Next? I will be continuing my education here at Buffalo State in the Literacy Specialist Master's Degree program.



#### KAITLYN WILK Business Administration Kenmore, NY

Awards/Accomplishments: The Dean's List every semester

Favorite Memory: The Honors BBQ

**Is there anyone you'd like to shout out?** My mom - she has always been there to help me through every semester and I couldn't thank her enough for pushing me to do better year after year.



#### DAVID WHITAKER JR. Music Buffalo, NY

Awards/Accomplishments: Dean's List

**Favorite Memory:** Being surrounded by so many accepting people!

Is there anyone you'd like to shout out? Dr. McMillan

What's Next? Trying to find a job in a studio to kickstart a music career

Any Advice? Open your heart.

**Final Thoughts:** I'm happy I've done this.

#### KATHERINE BEINETTI Interior Design Rochester, NY

**Awards/Accomplishments:** Dean's List Award x4

**Is there anyone you'd like to shout out?** My parents, for always having my back and advocating for me!

What's Next? Working as an interior designer in a design firm.

**Any Advice?** Grades don't matter as long as you are learning to the best of your ability.



#### BRIANNA VIRGILIO Childhood Education North Tonawanda, NY

**Awards/Accomplishments:** Dean's list 3 times; 4.0 Fall 2021 semester.

**Favorite Memory:** Honors 444 was my favorite class especially the social injustice project!

**Is there anyone you'd like to shout out?** My mother Melissa for pushing me to join Honors and to always give it my all.

**What's Next?** I will be graduating this May, and I will be attending Buffalo State's Graduate Program in the Fall.

**Any Advice?** To think more deeply and with more meaning.



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#### CYNTHIA HAMPTON Fashion Merchandising Brooklyn, NY

Awards/Accomplishments: Senator for USG; VIP Coordinator for Runway'22 Favorite Memory: The Book Club

Is there anyone you'd like to shout out? Taylor Coleman for being a great mentor and friend. Thank you for being there and keeping me on the right path!

What's Next? Join the workforce.

**Any Advice?** You'll go longer when you focus on yourself!

**Final Thoughts:** Farewell Buffalo State! Nice knowing you!





#### BECK Business Administration (International Buisness concentration) Angola, NY

wards/Accomplishments: Dean's List (every semester), Kenzie Scholar, MAH Honors Student and MAH resident for 2021-22 Year.

**Favorite Memory:** My favorite Honors memories have been the Kenzie Family Picnics that we were able to attend prior to COVID.

**Is there anyone you'd like to shout out?** Shoutout to Celestine Simmons for being a great friend in the Honors Program, to the late Mr. Ross Kenzie for his support and friendship, and to two of my best friends and fellow Honors students, Luke and Elaha, for always being there for me.

**What's Next:** After graduation, I plan to continue in my career path with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and hopefully gain a permanent position within my agency.

**Any Advice?** Take advantage of the time you have here at BSC to try new experiences, make new friends, and make more memories. Nobody graduates and regrets that they had too many experiences or that they spent too much time with their friends.

Final Thoughts: God Bless Us All, and God Bless America.

## ALEXANDRA BALLOW Earth Sciences Clarence, NY

Awards/Accomplishments: Vice President of Geology Club; Transfer Student Merit Scholarship.

**Favorite Memory:** I am thankful that I was able to be a part of an amazing Honors program, the people I have met, worked with, and friends I have made. I will always remember it, and am thankful for all the incredible opportunities.

**Is there anyone you'd like to shout out?** I would like to thank Gary Solar for his outstanding mentorship and opportunities he has given me through research. I have learned so much from him and he has taught me how to appreciate Earth Sciences and Geology as a science. He is an amazing professor and friend.

**What's Next:** I plan on continuing in the fall in the Science Education Masters Program at Buffalo State. I am excited to being my journey to becoming a certified 7-12 Earth Science Teacher!

**Any Advice?** I encourage Honors students to take advantage of all the opportunities available. It is an incredible program and I am so thankful I was able to be a part of it! Work hard in everything you do!

**Final Thoughts:** I am so thankful for all the opportunities at Buffalo State. Being a part of the Geology Club, I was able to met so many people with the same interests as me. I have made long lasting friendships and cannot wait for my future ahead!



#### ELAHA HASHMATULLAH English Literature & Physics Buffalo, NY

**Awards/Accomplishments:** Dwayne Beery Physics Scholarship, Dean's List

**Favorite Memory:** My HON 444 Creativity Workshop

**Is there anyone you'd like to shout out?** All of my professors

#### What's Next? Graduate School

**Any Advice?** Perfectionism is not attainable, but excellence is. So don't beat yourself up for not being perfect, aim to be the best you can.





#### KASSIDY MANKE Dietetics Kenmore/Tonawanda, NY

**Awards/Accomplishments:** Presidential Scholarship, Dean's list 2017-2022, SUNY Commissioner's Academic Honor Roll 2017-2020, cross-country and track captain.

#### Favorite Memory: Honor's BBQ

Is there anyone you'd like to shout out? Clara Sensini - she has been an amazing friend for the past four years and she always pushes me to do my best.

**What's Next?** Begin applying to graduate schools/internship programs

**Any Advice?** Do more - you will regret the things you didn't participate in while you were here.

## ELIZABETH ACEVEDO Fashion & Textile Technology

#### Cheektowaga, NY

#### Awards/Accomplishments:

Kenzie Scholarship recipient, member of Epsilon Psi Tao

What's Next? I'm moving on to look for opportunities in NYC and develop my brand.

**Any Advice?** Keep working hard, the effort will always be worth it.

**Final Thoughts:** It's ok to need help sometimes, and the best version of yourself is the one you should put out into the world





#### LIZZY BUTERA Childhood Education Niagara Wheatfield, NY

Awards/Accomplishments: Dean's list, Muriel A. Howard Honors Program

Favorite Memory: Living in Bishop Hall

**Is there anyone you'd like to shout out?** Dr. Kindzierski from the education department. Providing me guidance and having faith in me.

What's Next? Teaching position and continuing my masters at Buffalo State.

**Any Advice?** Never give up. College is a time to find yourself, your friends, and your passions. Time goes by so fast, enjoy every minute of it.

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### SARAH CHAPMAN Political Science Jamestown, NY

**Favorite Memory:** The Honoring Honors at the end of the years, it's a great time to see everybody.

**Is there anyone you'd like to shout out?** Dr. McMillan supported me a ton through my time

What's Next? Hopefully law school Any Advice? Stay focused, it's a lot easier

to stay consistent rather than falter and make it up

Final Thoughts: Thanks for the memories





#### MARIE EMMANUELLE BROWN- (ASHDOLLAR Childhood Education East Aurora, NY

Awards/Accomplishments: Dean's list each semester

**Is there anyone you'd like to shout out?** My dad and twin sister!

What's Next? Attend grad school at Buff State for Special Education (hopefully while teaching full time at a local school district)!

**Any Advice?** Always try your best and dress for success!

**Final Thoughts:** "Whatever you choose for a career path, remember the struggles along the way are only meant to shape you for your purpose." -Chadwick Boseman

#### MATT MATSULAVAGE History & Business Newfane, NY

Awards/Accomplishments: French Tutor, Thomas G. Powell Award for Excellency in History, McKee Award For Excellence in French.

Favorite Memory: Meeting great friends in Honors classes.

What's Next? Attending graduate school overseas for a masters degree in History and Archaeology.

Any Advice? Take advantage of the career development and leadership opportunities on campus.

Final Thoughts: Good luck to all of the seniors!



#### **ELIZABETH SOIKA Psychology & Business Economics** Akron, OH

Awards/Accomplishments: Dean's Honor Program, Alpha Lambda Delta Member

Favorite Memory: Meeting my best friend during Honors class our freshman year!

Is there anyone you'd like to shout out? Dr. McMillan ♥ Having her and Celeste be with me the entire way over the last 4 years have been amazing

What's Next? Continuing to work, while potentially going back for my Masters.

Any Advice? Believe in yourself, you can do

#### **Rubaiya** Toni Biology Buffalo, NY

Awards/Accomplishments: Dean's list (2020).

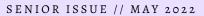
Favorite Memory: Every year there's a leadership workshop, I love participating there.

Is there anyone you'd like to shout out? Dr. McMillan, Amy, she was a great supporter and an advisor who helped me work through my obstacles.

What's Next? Take a semester break then start studying for masters.

**Any Advice?** Try to get engaged more.





# TABITHA BOUGHTON Graphic Design **Bemus Point**, NY

Favorite Memory: Honor's BBQ Fall of 2018! I still have the lamp that I won I love it! So fun!

Is there anyone you'd like to shout out? Celestine and Dr. McMillan have always been so sweet, amazing, and helpful!

What's Next? I plan to move to Hamburg, NY and continue my career with Wegmans, as well as my graphic design business. I also plan to write and illustrate children's literature.

Any Advice? It goes so fast so make the most of it! You are so much stronger than vou know!





#### **BERCHMINE GILLES** Forensic Chemistry Milton, NY

Awards/Accomplishments: Muriel A. Howards Honors Program; Dean's List; Chemistry Forensics Club - Secretary

Is there anyone you'd like to shout out? I would like to thank God for pulling me through these intense four years; My family and friends for their unwavering support throughout this journey; My advisor Miranda Herter for being there through the ups and downs that college can bring.

What's Next? Master of Science in Pathologists' Assistant Program

Final Thoughts: The sky isn't the limit, it's just the beginning!

#### BREE GILLIAM Painting Buffalo, NY

Awards/Accomplishments: I have had over 9 scholarships and awards. Some of these include the Ross Kenzie Scholarship, Burrell Diversity Scholarship and Robert C. and Marilyn L. Wilson Painting Scholarship.

Is there anyone you'd like to shout out? My mother! She is my biggest fan and has always believed in me. She has made many sacrifices in order for me to be successful! I will never let her down!

What's Next? I plan to start my own business, Paintphoria, a painting studio where people of all ages and artistic abilities can enjoy the process of creating! 9

# HANNIBAL KILROY Art Buffalo, NY

**Awards/Accomplishments:** Say Yes to Education, Dean's List, Former Org Rep for the Visual Arts Board, Painted a Mural in Upton Hall my Freshman year

**Favorite Memory:** Going to see Diane Nash speak, I also really enjoyed being able to see other speakers throughout my time here as an Honors Student

**Is there anyone you'd like to shout out?** My family and friends for supporting me, Professor Jozef Bajus, Professor Dave Derner, Professor Alice Pennisi, and Professor Lin Xia Jiang for teaching me how to pursue art for a lifetime.

**What's Next?** I'm researching and working as a model. I plan on going back to school in a few years to pursue a degree in order to become a licensed mental health practitioner.

Any Advice? Don't be afraid to get in touch with your inner freak, you'll be glad you did!

Final Thoughts: Take your time and consider every opportunity!

### **ESSICA BENNETT** Elementary and Exceptional Education Eden, NY

Awards/Accomplishments: President of SCEC; Honors Housing Scholarship; Dean's list 2018-2022; Speaker at PDS Conference 2021; 4+1 Graduate School Pathway.

**Favorite Memory:** The ability to have a seamless transition to college life due to the structure, and stability given to me through my honors foundational courses.

Is there anyone you'd like to shout out? Dr. Hashey and Dr. Doody gave me endless support and guidance in every possible way throughout these past couple years.

What's Next? Apply for teaching jobs this summer along with completing my masters program at Buffalo State. Any Advice? Never pass up an opportunity to better yourself.

**Final Thoughts:** I am so incredibly thankful for these past four years, and I cannot wait to see what the future holds!!



## NICOLETTE REEB Forensic Chemistry Lancaster, NY

**Awards/Accomplishments:** Phi Lambda Upsilon National Honor Society (May 2021, May 2022); Iota Sigma Pi National Honor Society (May 2022); Linus Pauling Award (May 2022); Noel Simmons Memorial Award (May 2022).

Favorite Memory: The scavenger hunt in Freshman Year

Is there anyone you'd like to shout out? My mom is always my biggest supporter and will lift my spirits if I have a bad day!

What's Next? I will be working full time at Curia which is a biology research facility!

**Any Advice?** Try to stay optimistic during your challenges along the way.

Final Thoughts: I appreciate all of the faculty and staff that have also helped me achieve success at Buffalo State!

## TOMOEI NAKASONE Public Relations and Advertising Tokyo, Japan

**Awards/Accomplishments:** Fall 2020 Dean's List, Spring 2021 Dean's List, Fall 2021 Dean's List, Fall 2021 Dean's Li Arts and Humanities Dean's List in recognition of Distinguished Scholarships for the semester ending May 2021, National Communication Association Honor Society, USB International Undergraduate Student Award

Favorite Memory: Honors BBQ

Is there anyone you'd like to shout out? My family supported me mentally. They weren't here physically with me throughout the years, but they always encouraged me.

What's Next? I will go to grad school!



Awards/Accomplishments: Former Peer Mentor, Former Peer Educator, Volunteer of Eye to Eye, Dean's List Honoree

**Favorite Memory:** Dare to Care 2022. I loved that we cleaned up everything and made the city look better than we imagined.

Is there anyone you'd like to shout out? My family and friends because of them being supportive and open minded to my major and how I want to make a name for myself.

What's Next? Find a job that is tailored to my major (like a stylist or personal assistant) and having a place of my own!

**Any Advice?** I would continue being you and follow your intuition on what makes you happy! Also, I would say to savor all of the precious moments with your friends and peers that you have met over the past 4 years.



# CASSIDY FADDIS Music Education Lockport, NY

Awards/Accomplishments: Ciminelli Music Scholarship; Provost Scholarship; President of the Buffalo State chapter for National Association for Music Education; Member of the Buffalo State Mock Trial team

**Favorite Memory:** Competing against schools across the country at the American Mock Trial Association Regional Tournament.

**Is there anyone you'd like to shout out?** My parents, my sister and significant other for always supporting me and for pushing me to be the best I can be and a big thank you to my peers and teachers in Rockwell Hall for helping me through my 4 years at Buffalo State.

What's Next? Graduate school for Music Education and getting a job in Western New York as a music educator.

Final Thoughts: Go Bengals

# GABRIELA TURCIOS Childhood Education Oceanside, NY

Awards/Accomplishments: Muriel A. Howard Honors Program

Favorite Memory: Honors BBQ

**Is there anyone you'd like to shout out?** I want to give a special thanks to my parents for supporting me and my dreams ever since I was a little girl. I would be nothing without you Mom and Dad.

What's Next? Pursue my masters degree in TESOL

Any Advice? Never give up on your dreams no matter how hard it gets ! It'll be worth it in the end.

**Final Thoughts:** I want to give a special thanks to Buffalo State College for giving me the gift of education and for allowing me to live my dreams. I will leave Buffalo State College with lifelong friends and unforgettable memories. Once a Bengal, always a Bengal!

# ESSICA CASPER Interior Design Skaneateles, NY

Awards/Accomplishments: Provost Scholarship

Favorite Memory: Meeting my current friends while living in Bishop Hall

Is there anyone you'd like to shout out? My mom and dad for always encouraging me to do my best in everything that I do.

What's Next? Pursue a career at a design company.

**Any Advice?** To keep doing your best because you'll be so proud of yourself when you graduate with your degree in something you're passionate about.

Final Thoughts: I'm going to miss the amazing sushi and nice workers at Sushi-Do!



## OHNATHAN (IOLEK Journalism (Sports Communication) Buffalo, NY

**Awards/Accomplishments:** Honors Scholarship, President's Scholarship, Burrell Diversity Scholarship, was an RA, Dean's list every semester, Buffalo State Rugby Captain and Treasurer

Favorite Memory: Class with Professor Perez

**Is there anyone you'd like to shout out?** My parents (Jeff and Terri), my brothers (Michael and Daniel), and two of my close friends (Austin and Wes).

What's Next? Looking to work for a magazine/newspaper writing feature stories and taking photos.

Any Advice? Don't be afraid to try new things and put yourself in situations out of your comfort zone.

**Final Thoughts:** We can't be perfect, but we can progress and become the best versions of ourselves.

's list for 7 semesters straight

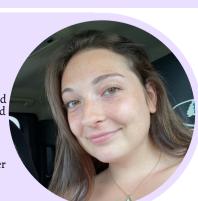
Favorite Memory: Getting to perform with my theater class at a gala on campus!

**Is there anyone you'd like to shout out?** My mom, grandma, and best friend Katelyn. They listened to me vent and always stood by my side when I thought I couldn't do it. Always supported every decision I have made and celebrated my successes with me proudly.

What's Next? Becoming a teacher in a suburban school district here in Western New York!

**Any Advice?** Take part in more Honors classes! They were the most fun and offered the most opportunities for other things and events!

Final Thoughts: "This too shall pass"



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# GOODBYE FROM THE HONORS TEAM

STEA. Kee You Will Miss Meenings II Moundas II Check m Graduates Same Himes ( Cor Our world is ready and waiting for your leadership Dr. Mis and impact at all scales. Can't wait to watch you Any thrive! We are always here if you need us. -Matt Baran









