



MURIEL A. HOWARD
HONORS PROGRAM
Official Newsletter

SENIOR EDITION



CELEBRATING THE CLASS OF 2023
HONORS PROGRAM GRADUATES!

Spring 2023 Graduates

Taylor Adamczak	Daniela Falca	Talia Peeler
Nininahazwe Agnes	Sofia Fanizzi	Colby Perrigo
Noushin Ahmed	Emily Felong	Roger Powers
Abigail Alder	Carolyn Freeman	Lindsay Prout
Ayan Ali	Grace Gallagher	Natasha Renczkowski
Grant Asklar	Julia Gerhard	Jacob Rhodes
SoeSoe Aye	Taylor Grabowski	Trinity Ridout
Marcus Barney	Skyler Graham	Gaelyn Robinson
Zane Berghold	Julianne Guercio	Valerie Ryan
Prayushi Bhorania	Alexa Hefner	Angelina Santiago
Grace Brzykcy	Matthew Horn	Cameron Sionko
Bailey Buckley	Ashley Jablonski	Liam Sperrazza
Kay Budziszewski	Christopher Jackson	Anna Stang
Joseph Byrne	Josh-Lynne Jenifer	Ashley Switzer
Elina Cerasani	Julia Jugoon	Connor Tait
Zoe Crapsi	Jonathon Kabalan	Natalie Tombak
Elyse Crimi	Michael Kacalski	Dantonio Torres
Madison Curr	Colin Krzystek	Mark Trudell
Nathan Dash	Finnegan Lasch	Patrick Ursitti
Noah Deer	Kyle Linhardt	Jason Vincent
Madison Diaz	Amanda Lombardi	Rachel Ward
Annaliese DiCarlo	Daniel May	Crystal Whaley
Haley Domin	Viera Mesler	Samantha Wild
Kathleen Dunne	Marita Miller	Jayde Wilkin-Smith
Alexander Dutkiewicz	Xinyi Mo	Brianna Wright
LeeAnne Dutkiewicz	Andrea Monk	Mary Wright
Misti Ellinger	Dominique Moore	Rosa Zarrabal
Emily Ersing	Annie Oshei	Dominique Zirpola
Lizzie Evans	Michael Parrizzi	

Congratulations to our **86** Honors students graduating this semester!
We are so proud of your accomplishments at Buffalo State and
can't wait to see you take the next step in your careers!



Abigail Alder

Major: Nutrition & Dietetics
Affiliated with Dietetics Nutrition Program

Plans: Pursue the rest of my 4+1 program and earn my MS in Nutrition and Dietetics.

"Be confident in your mistakes while you're still a student. It gives you a better learning experience."

Anna Stang

Major: PK-12 Art Education
Vice-President of the Buffalo State Child Advocacy Organization, IPDS Dominican Republic Study Abroad, Buffalo State Volleyball 2019

Most Influential Professor: Professor Mary Wolf shows exceptional dedication to her students and her connections.



Amanda Lombardi

Major: Family and Consumer Sciences Education & Fashion and Textile Technology

Resident Assistant & Admissions Ambassador

Plans: After I graduate, I plan on getting my Master's in Career and Technical Education and becoming a Family and Consumer Sciences Teacher.

"My favorite thing about Buffalo State is all the people I have met throughout my 4 years here."

Bailey Buckley

Major: English Education 7-12

English Education Student Association, English Education Book Club (co-founder), Buffalo State Chorale, Center for English Teaching (student representative), Dean's Student Advisory Council, English Department Student Advisory Council

"My favorite memory of being in Honors is touring The Richardson Olmsted Campus with my Honors psychology class freshman year!"





Brianna Wright

Major: Childhood Education (concentration in English)

Plans: Pursue my Master's in Education at Buffalo State and become a certified teacher.

"My favorite memory is going to the BABEL Author Talks at Kleinhans. Getting to meet the authors on a personal level and ask questions about their literature made me appreciate the behind the scenes of creating beautiful works of art."



Christopher Jackson

Major: Psychology
Minor: Theater

Most influential professor: Matt Baran supported me personally and professionally.

"GET INVOLVED!! You are only in college for a short period of time. You might as well join a club, or two, or all of them!!!"



Carolyn Freeman

Major: English Education 7-12
Minor: Theater/ Foundations in Theatrical Directing Certificate
English Education Student Association Officer, Muriel A. Howard Honors Ambassador and Honors Leader, Association of Regional Theater Artists Mentee, Casting Hall and BSC Theater Productions

"I've loved everything! From the Welcome BBQ to the BABEL series, I've enjoyed the Honors Program immensely and am grateful for all the friends I've made throughout the years."



Andrea Monk

Major: Speech-Language Pathology

Plans: Graduate school at Buffalo State in the fall for a Master's Degree in Speech-Language Pathology. Hoping to work with the school-age population.

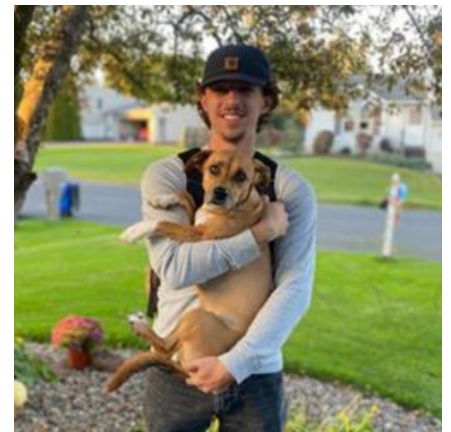


Ayan Ali

Major: Biology
Minor: Leadership
Tau Sigma and EOP;
Volunteered in the community

Plans: Go into a PA program.

"Have fun and celebrate success!"



Colby Perrigo

Major: Television and Film Arts Studio 716

"My favorite memory of being in Honors is attending Camp 1871 during my freshman year."

"Freshmen coming to Buffalo State, don't be scared to talk to new people and experience the on-campus activities!"

Ashley Switzer

Major: Hospitality Administration (Concentration in Hotels & Tourism)
Serve Safe Food Safety Certified, QPR Certified, and Fire Safety Training

Plans: Pursue Horticulture degree to support goal of working in the floral industry.

"My favorite thing about Buffalo State University is how much students are encouraged to be who they are even in an academic setting, making the student more invested in their work."



Alexander Dutkiewicz

Major: History
Minors: Criminal Justice & Political Science
Honors Leader and Honors Ambassador
Honors Advisory Board Member

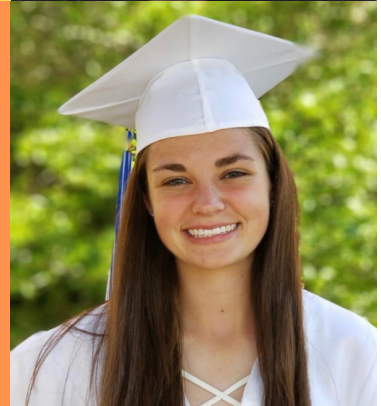


Annaliese DiCarlo

Major: Special Education and Childhood Education
(Concentration in English)
Future Teachers Club

Plans: To stay at Buffalo State and study literacy for graduate school, teach in an elementary school as a classroom teacher or Literacy interventionist.

"Appreciate where you are because the time of being a college student flies by."



Angelina Santiago

Major: Social Work

Favorite Thing about Buffalo State: How diverse the students are!

Most influential professor: Professor Tonya Myles-Day. As one of the few professors of color, she inspires me to be the best version of myself.



Annie Oshei

Major: Biology

VP of Sigma Delta Tau Sorority

Career Goal: Become an OBGYN and work at John R. Oshei Children's Hospital and eventually open my own practice in Buffalo.

Favorite Memory: The Welcome Back BBQ in Fall 2022!



Ashley Jablonski

Major: Speech-Language Pathology
Minor: Psychology

"My advice for other college students is to pursue what you love, no matter what anyone else wants from you. The things you love will bring happiness in your career and give you the best life."



Dominique Moore

Major: Media Productions

"My favorite thing about Buffalo State was how small the campus is, makes my commutes from one building to another that much easier."

"My favorite thing about Honors was the opportunity to make some life-changing friends and be able to keep them."



Daniel May

Major: Public Relations & Advertising
Certificate in Sports Communication
President's Medal Winner

Judge in the Judicial branch of USG, president of PRSSA, sports editor of The Record, student representative on the college council and a student researcher for a future book.

"Work to further your professional AND social life while in college."



Dominique Zirpola

Major: Criminal Justice
Minor: Sociology of Deviance
Mock Trial Team

Most influential professor: Dr. Lorna Perez because she is very kind and understanding. She brought great insight to our class discussions while allowing us to freely express ourselves and learn from each other as well. Every class was intriguing and she brought out my creative and critical thinking side.



Connor Tait

Major: English Education 7-12
Minor: Writing

Resident Assistant

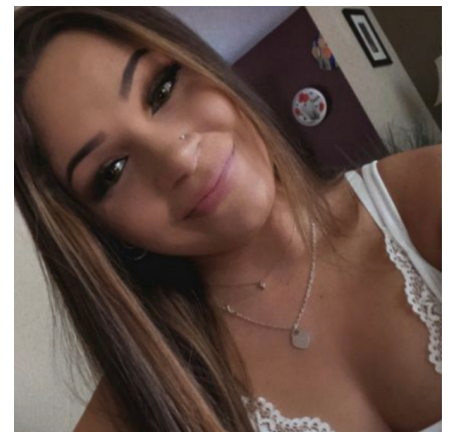
"I'm always going to remember Honors for the events (like the BBQ!) and Buffalo State for the welcoming environment for people like me!"



Crystal Whaley

Major: Psychology
Minor: Art Therapy
Zeta Phi Beta Sorority,
Incorporated Omicron Mu Chapter

"One thing I would say to Buffalo State students is to get involved on campus. You meet so many different people and create connections that can last a lifetime."



Daniela Falca

Major: Speech-Language Pathology
Minor: Psychology

"I hold Buffalo State close to my heart, as I love the community and met some great friends in my classes and Honors events! Go Bengals :)"

Grace Gallagher

Major: Psychology
Minor: Social Welfare; Certificate in Child Advocacy Studies
President of Child Advocacy Studies, Co-Captain of Buffalo State Mock Trial

"Doors will open for you if you let them; do not be afraid of new challenges, be comfortable being uncomfortable."



Grace Brzykcy

Major: Earth Sciences
Minors: Astronomy and Physics
Philharmonia Orchestra, Wind Ensemble, and West African Drumming Ensemble

Plans: Get a Master's degree in science education, become double certified, and hired as a high school science teacher.



Emily Ersing

Major: Business & Marketing
Minor: Leadership
Fall 2022 Honors Intern, M&T Mentorship Program, Bengal Stripes Leadership Program, Alpha Lambda Delta Honor Society, Delta Alpha Pi International Honor Society

Influential Professors: Gary Berger pushed me to think outside the box and teaching me how to be confident in myself. Serita Gaskin guided me through what marketing really is and different career paths.



Elina Cerasani

Major: Childhood Education

Favorite Honors memory: The free t-shirts!

"One thing that I would have done differently at Buffalo State is that I would've wanted to attend more events that the Honors Program and the college set up."



Elyse Crimi

Major: Early Childhood, Childhood Education
Buffalo State Lady Bengals Softball

Most influential professor: Diana Maskell. She was a very understanding professor.

Favorite Honors memory: Dare to Care Day my freshman year



Emily Miller

Major: Interior Design

Favorite Professor: Renee Pratt is always supportive of every student and is there for the good and the bad days. She is honest and realistic with her students

"Complete your work in order of due date/importance and give yourself breaks."



Grant Asklar

Major: Music Education

President of the National Association of Music Education, Teacher at the Child Care Center, Student Teacher in Siena, Italy

Favorite Honors memories: The Annual BBQ and attending Camp 1871

"My two favorite things about Buffalo State are the amazing faculty and all the generous scholarships."



Jason Vincent

Major: Industrial Engineering Technology

Minor: Mathematics

Math Tutor at Math Center

Favorite thing about Buffalo State: Sushi Do

"Go to all of the USG and Honors events; they're free, they're fun, and a lot of work goes into them."



Joe Byrne

Major: Social Studies Education

Minor: Coaching

Bengal Football, Track & Field, CRU

Plans: Continue my coaching career at Amherst Central Schools and hopefully become an educator there as well.

"Learn time management skills. All of the work you receive is manageable, so long as you plan it out."



Finnegan Lasch

Major: Television and Film Arts
Studio 716

Plans: Move abroad to Ireland!

Most Influential Professor: Dr. Macy Todd! His knowledge of art and literature, combined with his genuine concern and care for students, made a deep impact on me.



Gaelyn Robinson

Major: Interior Design

Plans: Return to NYC and work for an interior design/architecture firm while preparing for the NCIDQ exams.

"College is what you make it, manage your time effectively and enjoy!"



Emily Felong

Major: Early Childhood and Childhood Education Combined Program, Concentration in Spanish

Plans: Get a teaching job in Buffalo.

Most Influential Professor: Susanna Schenk. She is an incredible educator and I learned so much in her class!

Jayde Wilkin-Smith

Major: Art Education
Coalition for Ceramic Design Club

Plans: Attend graduate school and get my masters in Art Education.

"The Honors courses I took were a highlight of the program overall – they were engaging, allowed me to learn subjects outside of my major in a small and intimate setting, and were taught by professors who were always animated and passionate about what they were teaching."



LeeAnne Dutkiewicz

Major: Graphic Design
Visual Arts Board and The National Society of Leadership & Success

Favorite Honors memory: Touring the Richardson Olmsted Complex. Our tour guide was excellent! We stayed well after the tour was completed and had great discussions.

"It's not necessarily a memory but I have to add that being the Honors graphic design intern was great. I enjoyed working with Matt Baran and Emily Ersing. Specifically re-designing the Honors newsletter was challenging but super rewarding."



Lizzie Evans

Major: Sociology
Minors: Philosophy and Women and Gender Studies
Micro credential: American Sign Language
Honors President, Honors Ambassador, Honors Leader, Foundation Board, Development Committee, Honors Advisory Board

"I want to thank Dr. Grinnell for mentoring me throughout my EURO and USRF projects, for convincing me to declare a philosophy minor, and for teaching me that getting an education is more important than getting a good grade."



Julia Gerhard

Major: Art Education
Coalition for Ceramic Design Club

Plans: Get my masters in Art Education while trying to find an art teaching job in an elementary school.

Favorite Honors memory: Annual Honors BBQ!



Julia Jugoon

Major: Apparel Design
Fashion Runway Team

Plans: Find a job within the wedding industry as a designer or a remote job that allows me to design using any Adobe software so that I can travel to Europe and work while I look for a job in Italy.



Haley Domin

Major: Communications
Minor: Creative Studies
Women's Basketball, Women's Lacrosse, SAAC

Favorite Honors memory: BABEL freshmen year. We took a bus there and on the way back I got the whole bus to sing "Party in the USA" by Miley Cyrus. It was so fun and broke the silence on the bus.



Lindsay Prout

Major: Psychology
Certificate: Child Advocacy Studies
Secretary for Psychology Club and Psi Chi; Child Advocacy Organization

Most influential professor: Dr. Kamper-DeMarco. She was the first psychology professor I had during my first semester at Buffalo State and has continued to be there to support me throughout my time here.

"Going to a college with smaller class sizes really helped me get to know the people in my department and the faculty as well."



Madison Diaz

Major: Psychology
Minors: Criminal Justice & Intelligence Analysis
Admissions Ambassador, UPSA Team Leader, Secretary of the Women's Rugby Team

"Learn to manage your time. Proper time management will make it easier to balance school, work, and a social life without stressing yourself out."



Kathleen Dunne

Major: Music Education
Minor: Theater
NAfME, Chamber Choir and Chorale, Music Department Student Advisory Council, Buffalo State Theater Department Production Team

"Most Influential Professor: Dr. Julie Carter, a School and Society professor who inspired me to apply for the Urban Education Master's program. Her dedication to activism through education has pushed me to dedicate my career to making a change in the public school system."

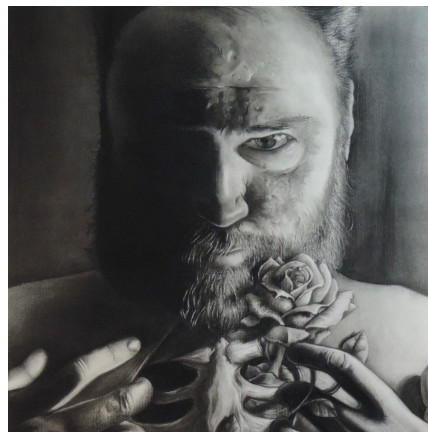


Jacob Rhodes

Major: Career and Technical Education
Buffalo State Rowing

Plans: Stay in Buffalo and teach!

Favorite Memory: Winning bronze for Men's Championship Pair w/out Cox for Buffalo State Rowing in Fall 2022 at Head of the Schuylkill.



Mark Trudell

Major: Art and Design

Plans: Graduate school (TBD), making art, being awesome.

Most Influential Professor: Joe Miller, because of his positivity, encouragement, inspiration, and ability to improve his students' work.



Kayley McCadden

Major: Biology
The National Society of Leadership and Success, Internship with the SPCA Wildlife Hospital

Plans: Go into environmental studies and animal rehabilitation.

Favorite Honors Memory: Going to the BABEL book events at Kleinhans.

Marita Miller

Major: Exceptional Education
Minor: Coaching
USG, SDT Sorority, Swim and Dive Team

Favorite Honors Memory: Living in Bishop with all my Honors friends!

"I wish I appreciated Buffalo State more! Only in my last year did I buy into the Buffalo State culture and it completely changed how I feel about school. Romanticizing your experience helps a lot."



Michael Parrizzi

Major: Music Education, Voice
Jazz, choir, orchestra, and band; NAFME, NYSSMA

Plans: Teach music in a school, go to graduate school, go to lutherie school

"Make a Google calendar to keep yourself organized. Prioritize school, but don't forget to be social and have fun. Utilize the shuttle and CRAM pass."

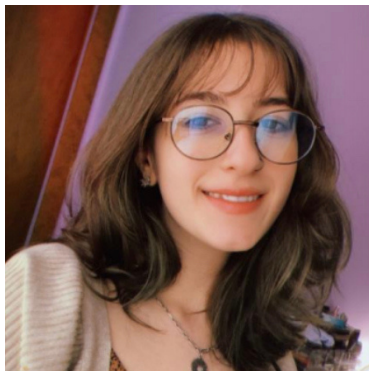


Misti Ellinger

Major: Biobehavioral Health (Individualized Studies)
Creative works published in Northeast Regional Honors Council journal

Plans: Take the IRS Enrolled Agent Exam.

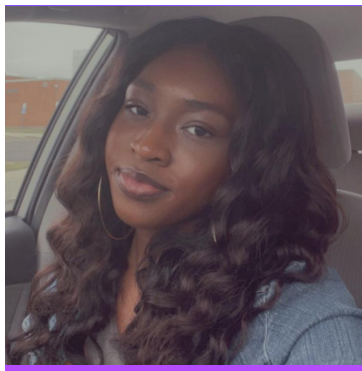
"You are stronger and more intelligent than you think. As a mom of two with no family near, I struggled. If I can do this, you can too!"



Madison Curr

Major: Media Production
Minor: Business Economics

"My favorite thing about Buffalo State is how much people are willing to work with you and help you succeed."



Mary Wright

Major: Childhood Education and Mathematics (1-9)
President of Tau Sigma
National Honors Society

"I love the teacher education program! I feel like I was exposed to so many different types of educational environments and professionals which I know will make me an amazing teacher!"



Marcus Barney

Major: Communication and Philosophy
Men's Rugby Club

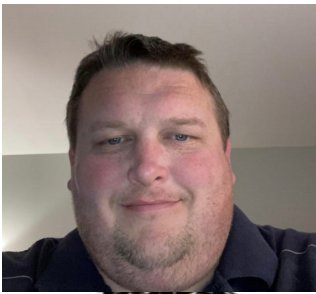
"Best part about Honors was being able to have thoughtful conversations with my talented peers."



Matthew Horn

Major: Computer Information Systems
Minor: Sociology
Buffalo State Esports Club

Plans: Enter the IT field and pursue certifications to become a network engineer.



Michael Kacalski

Major: Business Administration

Plans: Business Master's program at Buffalo State.

Most Influential Professor: Gary Berger because he teaches you with real life problems in the business world and provides solutions on how to fix them."



Nathan Dash

Major: Art Education K-12

Minor: Photography

NYS Certification in Art Education

Favorite Honors Memory: Intro to Jewelry Making Honors seminar

"Enjoy your time at Buff while it lasts, get involved, experience the city, and make Buffalo your home for the time you are here, it has a lot to offer!"



Natalie Tombak

Major: Graphic Design

Visual Arts Board

Plans: Search for a graphic designer position at local companies while I continue to hone my animation and illustration skills in my free time. My goal is to eventually get a job in the entertainment industry to work on animated movies, television shows, and video games. Wish me luck!



Noah Deer

Major: Secondary Mathematics Education (7-12)

Math Center Peer Tutor, Math Club President, SI Program Senior Leader

Plans: MS in Geographic Information Science at UB.

"There are so many amazing programs here that want to see students succeed. Get involved in clubs and meet new people. College is what you make it."



Nininahazwe Agnes

Major: Social Work

Plans: Pursue Master's in Social Work at UB

Most Influential Professor: Dr. Zittel-Barr is passionate, educated in the field, and modifies her ways of teaching to suit her students.



Noushin Ahmed

Major:

Hospitality Administration

"O my Lord, increase me in knowledge." Taha 20:114



Natasha Renczkowski

Major: Psychology

Plans: Become a personal trainer and then go to grad school.

Favorite Honors Memory: Being in the library finals week with all the friends I made from the Honors program.

Rosa Zarrabal

Major: Social Work
Co-President of Phi Alpha Social Work Honor Society, Buffalo State Rowing Team, Social Work Department Student Organization

Plans: University of Buffalo Master's of Social Work Advanced Standing Program

"Have big goals and let them drive you forward through discomfort" – Michael Phelps



Prayushi Bhorania

Major: Applied Mathematics and Computer Information Systems
Secretary for the International Student Organization, Math Club, Physics Club

Plans: Pursue a career in data analysis.

Favorite Honors Memory: Stargazing and insect watching at the Honors Leaders training retreat.



Sofia Fanizzi

Major: Early Childhood Education, Concentration in Liberal Arts
PDS Representative for Education Department

Plans: Literacy Specialist Master's Program at Buffalo State.

Most Influential Professor: Susana Schenk because she helped me realize my strengths and weakness as a teacher and supported me through figuring out my next steps in my academic and teaching career.



Patrick Ursitti

Major: Biology
Undergraduate Research

"The best advice that I could give is to constantly study even when the exam is weeks away. Most of the time there is so much information on the exam that you can't cram it in a day or two."

Most Influential Professor: Tristan Salter. She was the one who got me ready for the college experience and I wouldn't be where I am today without her guidance.

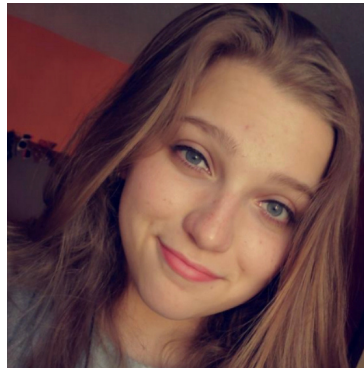


Nya Abrahams

Major: Computer Information Systems

Plans: Coding boot camp before entering the workforce.

"I'd like to thank Dr. McMillan and Melissa Holland for everything they've done for me. I wouldn't be graduating without them."



Samantha Wild

Major: Biology
Minor: Chemistry

Plans: Work as a lab assistant for a gap year then grad school.

"BIO495 Research with Dr. Zhang was the best thing I got involved with at Buffalo State!"



Sibgha Haider

Major: Psychology

Plans: Master's degree in Human Resources

Favorite Honors Memory: Socializing with other Honors students at the Annual Honor's BBQ.



SoeSoe Aye

Major: Mechanical Engineering Technology
MCAA, IEOM, BAJA

Most Influential Professor: Dr. Barker made me work harder than I had to and pushed me to do better.

"Go out to as many events as you can and network a lot!"



Trinity Ridout

Major: Music, Performance Concentration
Minor: Digital Movie Production
President of Ratio Christi, Bengal Stripes Leadership, Choir Volunteer at Holy Spirit Parish

"Being a student in the Honors Program has given me so many opportunities for academic and cultural enrichment. My favorite event was the backstage tour of Warren Enters Theatre and Q&A with the technical professionals working on Pippin in Fall 2022."



Talia Peeler

Major: International Relations
Minor: Political Science & Women and Gender Studies

Plans: I hope to work at organizations that will help me further my career goals while also fulfilling my want to help others, such as the International Institute at Buffalo.

Favorite Honors Memory: I loved all the BABEL events I got to attend.



Roger Powers

Major: Mechanical Engineering Technology
Buffalo State Men's Ice Hockey Team, Baja Team

"My favorite thing about Buffalo State is all the good friends I have made here, and I'm not far from home which is always nice."



Skyler Graham

Major: Music Education

Plans: Get my masters in Wind Ensemble Conducting.

Favorite Honors Memory: The classes I was able to take through the Program. I found them more interesting and fun overall.



Taylor Adamczak

Major: Early Childhood and Childhood Education, Concentration in English

"My favorite part about Buffalo State is the availability of the 4+1 Program and the pathways that go along with each program. It really helped me plan out my semesters and kept me on track."

Rachel Ward

Major: Music Education
Chamber Choir, Wind Ensemble,, College Chorale

Plans: Pursue Master's in Conducting and Music Theory.

"Do what makes YOU happy! Don't push yourself to complete something that you don't want to."



Taylor Grabowski

Major: English Education
English Education Student Association (EESA)

"My only regret was not living in the Honors residence hall longer. There was always something to do!"

"Cherish the friendships you make and remember, 'Girl you will be okay' - Saniyya Dennis <3 "



Valerie Ryan

Major: Journalism
Minor: Psychology
Captain of the Women's Volleyball Team. Global Experiences Internship Program, Student Athlete Advisory Committee

"If I could change anything it would've been to get more involved with activities on campus because they are designed for us and more opportunities may have presented themselves personally and professionally."



Victoria Schultz

Major: History
President of Alpha Phi Theta, SUNY Model European Union, Buffalo State Model EU Club, Burchfield Penny Art Center Archives Internship

Plans: Pursue a career in archival work. Considering doing a graduate program in History or Museum Studies.

Favorite Honors Memory: All the really interesting classes I had the opportunity to take.



Viera Mesler

Major: Speech-Language Pathology
Minor: Psychology
National Student Speech Language Hearing Association (NSSLHA)

Most Influential Professor: Dr. Felsenfeld from the SLP department. She gave me great career and academic advice and motivated me to continue my journey into graduate school!

Favorite Honors Memory: Dare to Care Day in my freshman year.



Zane Berghold

Major: Economics
Minor: Writing
National Society of Leadership and Success

Plans: Enjoy a couple months knowing I've completed college.

Favorite Honors Memory: Attending the school productions during freshman year to get engaged with the school community. The productions were performed well and enjoyable to watch.



STAY IN TOUCH!

We love to stay connected with our Honors Alumni! Opportunities include alumni spotlights in our newsletters, social media takeovers, alumni-led Honors events and more. Make sure to **follow us** on social media and let us know the amazing things you do! /



**Your Honors Staff Team,
Matt Baran
Elizabeth Stevens
Amy McMillan
Celestine Simmons**



honors.buffalostate.edu



Buffalo State Honors Program



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