

Wednesday, December 15, 2021

Blue Ridge Community and Technical College: Student Award Ceremony

Transcription provided by: BA, JC

Speaker: Hello everyone!

Speaker 2: You're muted, Leslie.

Speaker: The host muted everyone so everyone is muted. Please make sure you are on mute as we are live on Facebook. We have so many people joining us today. We're so excited. Please, make sure you're muted.

If we have the greenlight, we'll get started!

Alright! We are excited for you to be joining us. Our student awards ceremony is what we enjoy most to celebrate students and their achievements, students that have made an impact on faculty.

I'm Leslie See. I'm Vice President of Enrollment Management and Allied Health Sciences. Normally, our president presents this, but he had to be away. He picked the Outstanding Students so we're excited for that.

We have Outstanding student nominations in many categories. At the end we have Outstanding students from our three schools. We are excited!

We'll start with Ann Price and Outstanding Student Nomination for Accounting.

Guest Speaker: This outstanding student is Michelle Amoss! She's maintained a perfect GPA at Blue Ridge. She works independently but is also active in the classroom. She shares hints and tricks. She's always on top of her homework assignments. She can understand difficult concepts in this field but never complains.

Her planning and preparations shows she's interested in this field and

I'm confident she will do well. Congratulations Ms. Michelle Amoss.

Speaker: Congratulations! Ms. Hine will be presenting the award for Agribusiness.

Guest Speaker: I'm substituting this afternoon for Ms. Hine. The award goes to Evelyn Stephens. I'll be reading for Ms. Hine.

Evie is a shining example of AGRB. She transferred from another community college. She's an outstanding student for everything she's done. She's just completed an internship and her mentor had nothing but high praise. She chose her internship to learn another side of agribusiness.

Her dedication to FFA has shined through. She's recently received her American Degree at the National FFA conference. I'm so proud of Evie. I'm so sad to see her leave us at the end of the month.

I look forward to seeing what she accomplishes in the future. I'm so happy to have Evie in the agribusiness program.

Speaker: Congratulations and what an adorable picture of your friend there!

Ms. Spring, if you can come back for the award for Applied Laboratory Technician?

Guest Speaker: The award nominee and winner is a young woman in our Jumpstart program. Her name is Sarah Smith!

Sarah is an excellent student and individual. She's prepared for class and completes assignments on time and early. She's patient. She's kind. She volunteered to assist me in the lab on her own time. I haven't made as much use of her as I would like but I will next semester.

She recently organized the cabinets at a lab to make them more lean. Everyone is able to find what they need now. She saved me hours of work. She's a shining example of her class, school, and community

by being a part of it.

Speaker: Congratulations! If you didn't know our Jumpstart program started in 2017. We've worked with 200 students from Berkley and Jefferson County. Students are bussed here to our main campus and tech center where they take classes to reduce their time.

We're happy to have you from Jumpstart and congratulations on your degree.

Next we have computer networking engineering technologies.

Nikki, please read your student!

Guest Speaker: I'm happy to share that we've nominated Michael McClintock. He's a joy to have in class and he goes above and beyond for his grades. He's achieved many awards and is a 4.0 student. This award is greatly deserved and we can't wait to see what the future holds.

Speaker: That's a lot of awarding and well-deserved as well!

We'll have Mr. Laing reading for his student for Criminal Justice.

Guest Speaker: I recommend Mr. Phillip Largent. He's currently employed full time and is still able to dedicate time to his courses. His time in the Army shows through his determination and grit.

He participates in many class discussions and provides life experience to the class. His knowledge in the Criminal Justice field added to time he spoke of his own experience. I'm certain he can conquer any task in front of him.

Speaker: Mr. Largent we thank you for your service and continued service. Congratulations on the award.

Next we have Miriam Conroy read for the Culinary Arts nomination!

Guest Speaker: I'm happy to read that Cameron Becker is the

nominee for culinary arts. Cameron came back after participating in Jumpstart. He brought his skills up to the international cuisine class. I've tried his dishes, so I can say that!

He's attentive in class, asks questions, diligent and takes feedback very seriously. He's fearless and tries new and unknown ingredients. He's always eager to participate in class.

Congratulations on your nomination! I'm sure you will go far in this field, Thank you.

Speaker: We'll have Ms. Ogilvie share her nomination for Cyber Security.

Guest Speaker: I'd like to nomination Jacob Seeley for the Cybersecurity outstanding student award. Not only did he finish his coursework but he also passed the Security+ certification on his first time. He's a role model in the classroom and to his classmates. We're thrilled for his future and are proud to nominate him for this award.

He also has an interview this week with one of our business partners in the cyber field. We know he'll be successful. We're so excited for your future. Congratulations!

Speaker: Congratulations! Let us know if we can help you with your interview. This award will definitely help you.

Joining us next is Ms. Branch. She's presenting us with Digital Media Specialist.

Guest Speaker: Good afternoon. This task is easy. Lillie Schoppert is the recipient for this award. She's an excellent student. She has a great spirit and positive attitude. She's been great to work with. I'm also her instructor and advisor. She's flourished in this program. She works independently and works well in team collaboration.

She's shown leadership in her classes as well. She submits work that is through and complete. We recognize Lillie Schoppert as the recipient for the award in Digital Media Specialist

Speaker: I hope you heard Ms. Branch say it was easy to nominate you. That speaks volumes.

Next is Early Childhood Specialist. The speaker or representative is Ms. Lewis.

I'm happy to share. The recipient is Grace Wholters. It's a privilege to nominate Grace as our 2021 Blue Ridge outstanding student.

I'm familiar with her drive for academic excellence. Those who have had Grace in class know that she's a pleasure to have in the classroom. Grace is kind and friendly and greets everyone with a smile. She completed an internship this fall and was offered a position.

Congratulations Grace! We're so glad to hear students that get picked after going through internship.

You picked a field where you should have patience with children and you chose an exciting field.

In the spirit of education, Mr. Rider, are you here for your student in Education?

Guest Speaker: The recipient is Danielle Sharp. She's earned this award because she's a role model to her peers as well as adults who want to become an adult college student. She's a hard-working mother. She placed academics at the top of her agenda.

She's able to manage time while also meeting her other responsibilities. She's never late to submit assignments. She asks for feedback from instructors. This motivation to improve will serve her well.

She never misses class and always participates. She's willing to help her peers and is understanding when help is needed and not needed.

Danielle has a heart and love for children. She's never lost focus on

helping them in our education system.

Congratulations.

Speaker: Congratulations. This has been a trying time for educators but we know our teachers in K-12 have been especially challenged. We need more. We need great. Danielle, you'll make an awesome addition to the team.

For Human Services we have Ms. LaRose.

Speaker: I present the award to Farrah Spain. This was difficult because I had so many students. I had the pleasure to work with her as an advisor and instructor. This semester Farrah finished her internship with me. Balancing her life and meeting internship requirements showcases her time management skills.

She frequently spoke about being an advocate to her clients and expanding her role at her current job. She hopes to become a licensed social worker. I don't doubt she'll meet her goal. I look forward to meeting with Farrah when she meets that goal and changes lives.

Congratulations.

Speaker: Congratulations! My degree is in social work so that's a career near and dear to my heart. You're on your way to that success.

Next, we have Information Technology. Mr. Heumphreus?

Guest Speaker: We love students who apply themselves but we also have students who are like sponges. They ask how topics can apply to themselves or do their own research on subjects. Students who do those things are rare.

Erin Frantantaro is one of these students. She asks us questions for upcoming certifications. Erin came to us from many years from the workforce.

She applies herself and has a willingness to do so. She has completed her courses with an average of 98.86%. This was within a 16 week course. She's a shining example of the kind of student professors would want in class. A heartfelt congratulations to Erin.

Speaker: That's a great recognition. Erin, if you're here, you're probably looking at that 2%. While we think that 98% is incredible you're probably beating yourself up. You shouldn't!

We have Dr. Jarman with Liberal Arts.

Guest Speaker: I'm happy to be here to present the award to Ramon Moran. He was my student in Spanish 101. He went from 84% to 97%. He took the course to expand his knowledge and culture. He had experience with French and ASL.

Because of his family's heritage he wanted to study Spanish. This year he grew from a student to a leader. His academic progress has improved. It's been my pleasure to watch his growth.

I'm looking forward to having Ramon as my student in the spring.

Speaker: Wonderful! Congratulations. It's wonderful to learn different languages, heritages, to grow and study. Congratulations, we wish you the best.

Next we have Paralegal Studies. We would love for Ms. Namolik to come forward.

Guest Speaker: I'd like to present the award to Autumn Ulsh! I'm sorry we didn't get a picture together. I completely forgot!

Every semester I email adjunct instructors and ask ideas for recommendations. Lyndsey Matschat asked if we could nominate an intern. I said sure!

Let me speak on what Ms. Matschat said, "Autumn is a pleasure to have in the office. She's always upbeat! We're also happy to offer her a position here." She was offered a position after her internship.

Congratulations Autumn! It was a pleasure having you these past few years.

Speaker: Another student getting a position after finishing internship. It's wonderful to have attorneys speak about you so highly. She said in chat that she's sorry about the picture!

We can add your picture after this, so no worries. Congratulations.

Next, we have Chrystal McDonald nominating for Physical Therapist Assisting.

Guest Speaker: The award goes to Jordan Ambrose. Since the first day he started the program he has excelled academically and clinically. He gets along with everyone! He's gotten along with his instructors and clinical instructors.

He's very helpful in the lab. Brandy the coordinator has described Jordan as her go to student in the patient care lab. She knows he's the first to volunteer and helps her demonstrate for other students.

Jordan is caring and compassionate. He has the team player mentality. He has the type of personality a care provider should have. He would be a great asset to the physical therapy profession. We await the day we can call him a coworker!

Thank you for doing such a great job!

Congratulations.

Speaker: Congratulations Jordan! Getting along with all types of people is the type of PTA student we need. Thank you for nominating him Dr. McDonald.

I present Megan Anderson for the award for Social Sciences.

Guest Speaker: Good afternoon. It's my pleasure to present this award to Mercedes Escoto. She's shown initiative and conscientiousness in three semesters now. Her classmates speak

very highly of her. She's great at communicating and contributing to the group. I wasn't surprised by any of this.

She tries her best at everything she does. People close to her say she's sweet and funny, she never met someone she doesn't like. That's what drew her interest to psychology.

Congratulations Mercedes!

Speaker: Congratulations Mercedes! That speaks very highly of who you are and we're honored to grant you this award.

This next nomination is one I want everyone to truly listen to. At Blue Ridge our students are our greatest asset. Sometimes though, tragedy strikes our community. With that we'll present a posthumous award in software engineering.

Guest Speaker: I may need help getting through this one. It is with great sadness that I nominate Marquel Gray posthumously. Often the first to join a Zoom call, he could be counted on to speak up when all else was quiet. He could share his experiences when helpful to others. I've had the opportunity to meet and speak with his family and I have a greater understanding of where his compassion comes from.

He would've graduated this year, Marquel had a 4.0 GPA. Marquel planned to attend WVU next fall. I have no doubt he would've had a successful career in anything he chose. He's dearly missed.

Speaker: to the family and friends of Mr. Gray, we are so sorry for your loss. We send our greatest love and sympathies and honor Mr. Gray with you. Thank you.

Each of the schools had an opportunity to nominate a student of the semester. Our president picks from each school who will be awarded. This is when they find out. The person chosen for Allied Health Sciences is Jordan Ambrose. Congratulations Jordan, you have received the student of the semester for all Allied Health Services.

Guest Speaker: Jordan is actually at work today. He couldn't be with

us this afternoon. I'm very excited though! Congratulations Jordan, I can't wait until you see this.

Speaker: Next up in Professional Studies and University Transfer. Congratulations Mr. Largent. If you're on the line please accept our congratulations and heartfelt applause.

Last but not least is our Workforce Development and Engineering Technologies. Sarah Smith! Congratulations! I'm sure all your instructors are excited for you. If you're on the line we'd love for you to say hi!

Congratulations to all of you and you've survived another semester in a world of COVID and education on Zoom and in smaller settings and we're so of you. We're also proud of all the faculty. We're coming back and we'll be back. Congratulations on your accomplishments and I wish everyone unity and well wishes! Goodbye y'all!

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