

The Cayuga SPARTAN

CAYUGA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

DECEMBER 2023

extra

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION RECOGNIZES 2023 ALUMNI WINNERS



Thirty years ago, the Auburn Community College/Cayuga Community College Alumni Association created an award to recognize the achievements of alums that have made and continue to make a difference in our community, nation and world.

The Alumni Association recognized its 2023 nominees this Summer at a reception and awards ceremony held at Prison City North in Auburn and was attended by the nominees, their nominators, families and friends.

Alumni Board President and Foundation Board Member, **Amanda Stankus '03**, told those in attendance "It is fascinating to learn about the myriad of paths Cayuga graduates have taken and how they are working to build a better community."

James Van Arsdale '06 returned to college after a 20 year career in the business field that included owning a Domino's Pizza franchise. He earned his Bachelors in Educational Science in 2008 from SUNY Oswego and completed his Masters in the Integration of Technology in the Classroom through Walden University in 2012. He has been an elementary teacher at the Moravia Central School District for more than 15 years.

Patrick Crawford '96 earned his BS in Biology from SUNY Geneseo and MS in Education from SUNY Oswego. He has taught at the Auburn Enlarged School District since 1999. In 2018, Mr. Crawford was selected as the Cayuga Onondaga School Board Association's Teacher of the Year. He was also selected as the New York State Master Teacher for the Central New Region

Darryl Clark '01 who went on to Duquesne University to play Division 1 Football and Track while obtaining his Bachelor's degree in Multi-Media Arts. He traveled to Germany to play semi-pro football before returning to Auburn. Mr. Clark has built several studios from the ground up, including AVP Unlimited, an audio, video and photography production facility in Auburn.

"This year's group of inductees are all the more special, because weaving throughout the Class of 2023 are three people who have made it part of their mission to work with young people and just as importantly raising funds for local charities, whether it comes to helping those in need, youth programming or the arts – what a great and noble group" said Foundation Board President John Latanyshyn."

The three were also joined by **Alisha Dymond Burnett '09** – a flight nurse in Florida, who was a 2022 Award recipient, but could not attend last year's ceremony.

All four made it clear at the event that their foundation and successes at Cayuga Community College laid the ground work for their future achievements. Please see Winter/Spring Spartan in late February with more information on the awards event and these well deserving awardees.

The Alumni Association is now accepting nominations for the 2024 Alumni Awards. More information can be found on the College's website at: <https://www.cayuga-cc.edu/giving/alumni/nominate/>

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A MESSAGE FROM THE FOUNDATION

In the Foundation's offices we have a collection of yearbooks that were produced from the inception of Auburn Community College in 1953, 70 years ago, into the 1980's, when we evolved into Cayuga Community College.

The College's first yearbook, in 1955, has the picture below of the original Board that contains several names familiar with the College's history (including Boyle, Goldman, Karpinski and LoCastro). A short history reports that in 1951, the New York State Legislature created the law to allow for ten cities as "sites for new centers for colleges".



It ends with a comment that "The trustees of ACC were appointed in 1953, four by the Governor and five by the City of Auburn. In the Fall of 1953 ACC became a reality with the entrance of the first freshman class."

Since then, ACC has grown into Cayuga Community College with both Auburn and Fulton campuses and expanded into workforce development programs that include advanced manufacturing, culinary arts and law enforcement. The Foundation Board at its November Board meeting authorized a gift of \$215,000 to the College that will be matched by SUNY for the College to complete the new Law Enforcement Academy in Fulton in 2024.

As we celebrate the College's 70th birthday this year the College Foundation's 2023-2024 Annual Campaign is focused on raising funds to help our students in degree and non-degree programs. A decade ago, the College was evenly split between full and part-time students. With changes in demographics, the economy and, yes, the aftermath of COVID-19, our campus make-up has shifted, to almost 60% of our students being part time.

The College and Foundation have found that with that shift, there is a higher need among our students for emergency assistance when it comes to food security, health care, housing and transportation. With that in mind we are again focusing on the emergency needs of our students.

We are asking friends of our students and of the College to make a gift of \$70 to mark the College's 70th birthday that will be used to assist students with unforeseen emergencies that College Staff feel the Fund can help with on a one time basis.

Donors to the \$70 for 70 Campaign will be listed in the Foundation's Annual Report and in a future issue of *The Spartan*.

We hope you can help to continue to build on the foundation begun 70 years ago in Auburn by using the envelope in this *Spartan Extra* and make a gift to the College Foundation on behalf of our students of \$70 or more.

We want to thank you for your continued support. On behalf of the Foundation Board and Staff, we hope you have a great holiday season and that you have a prosperous and healthy 2024!

Warmest regards,

John Latanyshyn

Board President

Guy Thomas Cosentino

Executive Director

CAYUGA STUDENTS PRODUCE FOOTBALL COVERAGE THIS FALL



The Media/Telcom Department at Cayuga Community College and Spectrum Cable Sports produced live weekly telecasts of “The Central New York High School Football Game of the Week” this Fall. Media/Telcom students worked as production apprentices with professional TV crew members, including Cayuga alumni, to learn the techniques of live sports production.

Together, the students and professional crew produced live, multi-camera coverage of 10 high school games at nine area high schools and at the JMA Wireless Dome. Media/Telcom Professor Emeritus Steve Keeler, who organized the project, said “Our television coverage of the games each week was very high quality. We gave Cayuga visibility in several different area school districts. We had a lot of positive feedback out in the community. Best of all, it was a great experience for our students.”



Gifts received by December 31st, may be claimed on your IRS Tax Return!

20th ANNUAL LIBRARY AWARD WINNER NAMED



Madeline Christopher was the College's 2022-2023 Library Research Award winner. Ms. Christopher is pictured with Cayuga's E-Resources, Systems and Collection Management Librarian Renee Schmidt and Sara Davenport the Director of the Learning Commons-Library. The award is funded by the College Foundation.

The purpose of the Cayuga Community College Library Research Award is to encourage and recognize student achievement in information literacy as evidenced in a research project submitted to a credit-bearing course offered by Cayuga Community College. The award is given annually, after the Spring semester.

The Cayuga **SPARTAN**
Cayuga Community College

197 Franklin Street
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STUDENT ARTIST OLIVIA KOFFLER RECOGNIZED

Olivia Koffler, from Cayuga, New York assisted the College Foundation by providing a piece of her art work for use at the 35th Annual Presidents' Circle Donor Recognition Dinner held in July. A & M Catering was inspired by her art work and featured it as the dessert for the event at the Emerson Park Pavilion.

Ms. Koffler is majoring in Liberal Arts and Humanities and plans to transfer to a four-year school after Cayuga. She serves as the Art Club Secretary and assists in the Art Studios. She especially loves painting and drawing.



The Foundation is very appreciative of Professor Melissa Johnson, a Professor of Art at Cayuga, for her continued support in showcasing student work. The Foundation framed Ms. Koffler's art work and she was presented it by Foundation Board President John Latanyshyn, Immediate Past President Kelley Gridley, Professor Johnson and Foundation Executive Director Guy Thomas Cosentino.

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