

# ILLINOIS COLLEGE CELEBRATION OF EXCELLENCE

April 25, 2025



**Introduction:** Mallett et al. found that authoritarian parents were associated with higher levels of risk-taking behavior. Others, like Severson, found that situational and peer influences were more important than parental behaviors.

**Hypotheses:** Two hypotheses were tested. It was hypothesized that risk taking was correlated with lower levels of parental influence during the college years. It was also hypothesized that risk taking was correlated with higher levels of peer influence.

## Procedure and Participants

A total of 120 participants completed the survey. Of these, 77 were female, 23% were male, and 23% were non-binary. They were juniors, 18% were sophomores, 18% were seniors, 18% were White/Caucasian, 18% were Hispanic/Latino, 3% were Asian, and 3% were Indigenous American.

## Measures

- A shortened form of the Domain-Specific Risk-Taking Scale (DOSPERT; Blais et al., 2001) was used to assess risk taking and risk perception in five domains: driving, recreational, and social).
- The Risk Involvement and Protection Scale (RIPS; Gelles et al., 2008) consists of 23 risky behaviors and attitudes related to risk taking, involvement, perceived benefits, and costs.
- The Brief Sensation Seeking Scale (BSSS; Hoogstraaten et al., 1990) was used to assess sensation seeking. It consists of 10 items with response scales labeled 'strongly disagree' and 'strongly agree'.
- The Authoritarian Scale from the Parenting Style Questionnaire (PSDQ; Robinson et al., 1996) was used to assess parenting style with a focus on authoritarianism. It was completed separately for the paternal and maternal figures.
- The Parent and Peer Influence Scale (PPI; Gelles et al., 2008) was used to measure the influence of parents and peers on risk taking.
- The Self-Esteem Inventory (SEI; Rosenberg, 1965) measures global self-worth by asking respondents to report their feelings about the self.
- The State Trait Anxiety Inventory (STAI; Spielman, Gorsuch, Lushene, Vagg, & Jacobs, 1970) is a report questionnaire which includes items related to anxiety.
- The Depression Scale (Radloff, 1977) is a self-report measure for Epidemiologic Studies.
- One item on political orientation was included in the survey on a 7-point Likert scale.



# Friday, April 25, 2025

9 a.m. :: **Concurrent Sessions** :: Crispin and McGaw

11 a.m. :: **Music Honors Recital** :: Rammelkamp Chapel

1 p.m. :: **Art Exhibition** :: Woodcock Gallery - McGaw

1 p.m. :: **Frames of Reflection** :: Photo Exhibition - McGaw Lobby

1 p.m. :: **Music Presentations** :: Rammelkamp Chapel

2 p.m. :: **Poster Session** :: King Field House, Bruner Fitness and Recreation Center

3 p.m. :: **Honors Convocation** :: Sherman Gym

4:15 p.m. :: **Division Awards Presentations and Reception**

Bruner Fitness and Recreation Center

Division I :: King Field House

Division II :: Sherman Gym

Division III :: King Field House

7:30 p.m. :: **TheatreWorks presents *Macbeth*** :: Sibert Theatre

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# CELEBRATION OF EXCELLENCE 2025

## Concurrent Sessions - Student Presentations

	9 to 9:15 a.m.	9:20 to 9:35 a.m.	9:40 to 9:55 a.m.	10 to 10:15 a.m.
<b>Crispin 125</b>	<b>Mass Scheduling: The Use and Application of Computing Power in Organizational Time Management</b>  <i>Presenter:</i> Luke Laurenzana  <i>Faculty Sponsor:</i> Takako Soma	<b>Are We Passing Yet? Transgender Portrayals in Film and Video Games</b>  <i>Presenter:</i> Christopher Jones  <i>Faculty Sponsor:</i> Jaclyn Tabor	<b>Film analysis of Pocahontas</b>  <i>Presenters:</i> Kaylah Villalobos  <i>Faculty Sponsor:</i> Jaclyn Tabor	
<b>Crispin 210</b>	<b>College Student Identity and Educational Attainment in the United States</b>  <i>Presenter:</i> Abigail Buchanan-Kenzinger  <i>Faculty Sponsor:</i> Marilyn Markel	<b>The Art of Gift Giving: How to Pass on Your Wealth Without the Taxman Tagging Along</b>  <i>Presenter:</i> Camille Lyons  <i>Faculty Sponsor:</i> Emily Wright	<b>Numbers and Nations: A Comparative Look at Math Education in Cuba, Ecuador, and the United States.</b>  <i>Presenter:</i> Katie Mae Milhiser  <i>Faculty Sponsor:</i> Todd Oberg	<b>Viability assessment of orchid seeds and their mycorrhizal fungi in prolonged cool storage for conservation.</b>  <i>Presenter:</i> Jena Sellers  <i>Faculty Sponsor:</i> Lawrence Zettler
<b>Dunham Auditorium</b>	<b>Every Clue Counts - How Evidence Catches a Killer</b>  <i>Presenters:</i> Sara McAuliffe, Chiara Paltretti, Abigail Zdenek  <i>Faculty Sponsor:</i> Angela Gonzales Balfe	<b>Strength in Care: Exploring Athletic Training and Strength and Conditioning Internships as a Nursing Student</b>  <i>Presenter:</i> Anna Warner  <i>Faculty Sponsors:</i> Prasanna Acharya, Terry Geirnaeirt, Matthew Saey, Tracey Kreipe	<b>Dynamic vs. Static Stretching: Effects on Range of Motion &amp; Lower-Limb Kinematics</b>  <i>Presenter:</i> Kimberly (Kimmie) Maganda  <i>Faculty Sponsor:</i> Prasanna Acharya	<b>Effects of Arm Length on Hand Placement During Push-Ups to Fatigue: An EMG Analysis of Muscle Activation</b>  <i>Presenter:</i> Jennifer Contreras  <i>Faculty Sponsor:</i> Prasanna Acharya
<b>Rammelkamp</b>				
<b>Sibert Theatre</b>	<b>IC's Literary Journal, Forte, Presents Poetry Out Loud!</b>  <i>Presenters:</i> Chuck Brink, Abby Cantrell, Olivia Joy, Asia Madkins, Thorne Morgan, Reilly Nelson, Kate Phillips, Danielle Simpson, Zach Steinkamp, Serenity Vasquez  <i>Faculty Sponsor:</i> Kara Dorris			

# CELEBRATION OF EXCELLENCE 2025

## Concurrent Sessions - Student Presentations

10:20 to 10:35 a.m.	10:40 to 10:55 a.m.		1 to 1:20 p.m.	1:30 to 1:50 p.m.
<b>Mental Illness, Commodity Fetishism, and Cannibalistic Fanfiction: An English Senior Capstone Symposium</b> <i>Presenters:</i> Abby Cantrell, Olivia Joy, Reilly Nelson  <i>Faculty Sponsor:</i> Dr. Beth Capo				
<b>The Status of Florida's Ghost Orchid (<i>Dendrophylax lindenii</i>) as of 2024</b> <i>Presenter:</i> Toby McTamney  <i>Faculty Sponsor:</i> Lawrence Zettler	<b>Challenging Cornea-Lens Regeneration In The Mature Frog Cornea.</b> <i>Presenter:</i> Ali Daoud  <i>Faculty Sponsor:</i> Paul Hamilton			
<b>Northern Ireland in Focus</b> <i>Presenter:</i> Kayla Piper  <i>Faculty Sponsor:</i> Alex Moore				
			<b>Fall: An Original Composition for Flute and Piano by Danielle Simpson</b> <i>Presenter:</i> Danielle Simpson  <i>Faculty Sponsor:</i> Christian Secrist	<b>2+1: Musical Resourcefulness in Small Communities</b> <i>Presenter:</i> Lillian Deter  <i>Faculty Sponsor:</i> Tyler Carpenter



# CELEBRATION OF EXCELLENCE 2025

## Department of Music Honors Recital

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11 a.m. :: Rammelkamp Chapel

Andante et Rondo Hongrois ..... Carl Maria von Weber

Devin Boggs, bassoon  
Dr. Nichol DelGiorno, piano

Endless Love ..... Lionel Ritchie

Wendy Doolittle, mezzo-soprano and Haydn Leonard, baritone  
Dr. Nichol DelGiorno, piano

O del mio dolce mio ardor ..... Christoph Willibald Gluck

*Oh, of my sweet passion, craved object  
The aura that you're breathing, at last I breathe [it too].  
Everywhere I look, your vague aspect  
Gives birth to love in me:  
My thought imagines the most joyous hopes;  
And in the desire which, so, fills my chest  
I look for you, I call you, I hope and sigh.*

Meryn Davis, mezzo-soprano  
Mr. Tim Smith, piano

Ave Maria ..... Franz Schubert

*Oh, delightful mouth, at last you have uttered  
That gentle and precious yes,  
Upon which all my pleasure is founded.*

*In his own radiant honour  
Love has opened you with a kiss,  
Sweet foundation of pleasure, ah!*

Luke Laurenzana, tenor  
Dr. Garrett Allman, piano

Fall ..... Danielle Simpson

Danielle Simpson, flute  
Dr. Nichol DelGiorno, piano

“Oh, Had I Jubal’s Lyre” from Joshua, H. 64 ..... George Frideric Handel

Wendy Doolittle, mezzo-soprano  
Dr. Nichol DelGiorno, piano

Special Presentation from Students in MU 144 Introduction to Digital Music Production

# CELEBRATION OF EXCELLENCE 2025

## Art in Pop Culture: Reimagining the Everyday

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1 to 1:55 p.m. :: Woodcock Gallery, McGaw

Pop Art transforms everyday objects into cultural symbols, as seen in Andy Warhol's "Campbell's Soup Cans," Claes Oldenburg's oversized sculptures, and Roy Lichtenstein's comic-inspired paintings. This project explores how objects like a pool stick, a Pac-Man figure, fast food packaging, and sneakers can be reimagined as artistic statements that critique or celebrate pop culture.

Key questions include: How do ordinary objects become pop culture icons? How does art reflect nostalgia, mass production, and advertising? Inspired by artists like Takashi Murakami, Oldenburg, and Lichtenstein, I experimented with wood cutouts, large-scale painting, and mixed media to exaggerate scale and use bold graphics. Through this process, I explored how reinterpreting the everyday can challenge perceptions, elevate the ordinary, and redefine what is considered art.

### ARTIST:

Leslie Earles

# CELEBRATION OF EXCELLENCE 2025

## Frames of Reflection - Photo Exhibition

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1 to 1:55 p.m. :: McGaw Lobby

Frames of Reflection is a visual anthology capturing the transformative journey of 49 students and faculty as they immersed themselves in a new culture. More than a travel experience, this project reflects deep engagement, cultural exchange, and creative expression. Faculty explored cross-cultural pedagogy, while students formed connections through shared experiences and art.

Art served as a bridge between cultures, fostering communication and deeper understanding. This exhibition weaves together individual and collective perspectives, unfolding like a visual book where each photograph serves as a chapter in the story of cultural discovery. Through this lens, Frames of Reflection invites viewers to experience how travel and artistic exploration reshape our perception of the world.

### STUDENTS AND FACULTY:

Emily Adams	Wendy Doolittle	Sarah Kline	Todd Oberg
Ysabella Aduato	Cade Emerick	Luke Laurenzana	Jacob Oglesby
Bryan Arnold	Mary Frank	Haydn Leonard	Jacob Petrovich
Abby Bachar	Jewelianna Fuqua	Sam Levey	Squire Prince
Preston Baker	Steven Gardner	Keaton Link	Roxann Richardson
Angelica Bedolla	Abby Garrett	Margaret Marek	Faith Roberts
Carson Blaney	Laney Goddard	Marilyn Markel	Breann Ruble
Ethan Bruhn	Katelyn Pattillo	Samantha Matchett	Mady Salisbury
Ashly Cedeno	Matthew Jackson	Toby McTamney	Jena Sellers
Meryn Davis	Rylie Joelner	Kairy Mercado-Ramos	Tim Smith
Nichol DelGiorno	Christopher Jones	Katie Mae Milhiser	Kaylah Villalobos
Lillian Deter	Mackenzie Jones	Thorne Morgan	Lawrence Zettler

# CELEBRATION OF EXCELLENCE 2025

## Poster Presentations

King Fieldhouse | 2:00 – 2:55 p.m.

Poster	Presenter(s)	Title
1	Lucas Schultz	Applying Computer Science Strategies to Investigate Math Anxiety's Effects on Cognitive Performance <i>Faculty Sponsor: Alex Moore</i>
2	Alicia Pitkin, Rylie Jones-Gavin	Exploring the relationship between mathematics anxiety and time perception <i>Faculty Sponsor: Alex Moore</i>
3	Colin McLeod-Demers	Impact of Physical Activity Intensity on Academic Achievement in Middle School Students in Illinois <i>Faculty Sponsor: Alex Wolfe</i>
4	Rahim Bolden	Examining Diversity Initiatives in Organizations <i>Faculty Sponsor: Allison Burrus</i>
5	Sydni Maggart	An Investigation of Nectar Composition in <i>Platanthera ciliaris</i> and <i>Platanthera integrilabia</i> : Insights into Pollinator Specificity and Conservation <i>Faculty Sponsor: Brent Chandler and Lawrence Zettler</i>
6	Ysabella Adubato, Abigail Beddingfield, Amelia Eldridge-White	Examining the response of bats to the playback of conspecific and heterospecific distress calls <i>Faculty Sponsor: Bryan Arnold</i>
7	Katherine Gilbert	In Silico Study of Tyrosinase and Its Inhibition via Docking and Molecular Dynamics (MD) Simulations <i>Faculty Sponsor: Clayton Spencer</i>
8	Alexis Blackley, Justine Agsalda	Reviving the Flame: Defeating Burnout in Healthcare Workers <i>Faculty Sponsor: Elizabeth Rellinger-Zettler</i>
9	Justine Agsalda, Alexis Blackley	Healthcare in Human Perspective: The Impact of Spirituality, Support System, and Resilience on Moral Distress <i>Faculty Sponsor: Elizabeth Rellinger-Zettler</i>
10	Beamlak Hiltework	Antimicrobial Screening of Orchid Mycorrhizal Fungi as a Potential Source of New Antibiotics <i>Faculty Sponsor: Gwendowlyn Knapp</i>
11	Ashley Olson	Playing in Dirt: The Search for New Antibiotics <i>Faculty Sponsor: Gwendowlyn Knapp</i>
12	Princess Akyea-Obesbea	Surveying the Environment for Antimicrobial Resistance <i>Faculty Sponsor: Gwendowlyn Knapp</i>
13	Samantha Godlewski	Cultural Insights of Spain to American Culture <i>Faculty Sponsor: Jenny Barker-Devine</i>
14	Samuel Hannig	Extraction and Characterization of Chitin from Cicada Shells <i>Faculty Sponsor: Jocelyn Lanorio</i>
15	Paola Gonzalez	Reusability of $\text{RuCl}_2(\text{PTA})_4$ Catalyst in Biphasic Hydration of Benzonitrile to Benzamide <i>Faculty Sponsor: Jocelyn Lanorio</i>



Poster	Presenter(s)	Title
16	Hannah Lueke	Design of Micro-Supercapacitors Through Graphene-Oxide Synthesization <i>Faculty Sponsor: Josiah Kunz</i>
17	Olivia Joy, Serenity Vasquez Emily Vlach, Taylor Henry, Zach Steinkamp	Protest Poetics in Practice: A Poetry Workshop <i>Faculty Sponsor: Kara Dorris</i>
18	Imasuen Odosamamwen	Survey Design: LGBTQIA+ and Union Membership Studies <i>Faculty Sponsor: Marilyn Markel</i>
19	Claire Peters	Diversity Audit: Reflections of Local Community in Library Collections <i>Faculty Sponsor: McKenna Jacquement</i>
20	Matea Aleksandrovska	Beyond Borders: HR's Evolving Role in the Global Value Chain <i>Faculty Sponsor: Michael Harden</i>
21	Ali Daoud	Using Machine Learning Algorithms for Modern Human Sex Estimation Based On Lateral Cephalograms <i>Faculty Sponsor: Michael Harden</i>
22	Devin Boggs	Does Mandible Development Influence Wisdom Tooth Impaction? <i>Faculty Sponsor: Michael Harden</i>
23	Avery Westlake	Gene expression of Wnt/ $\beta$ -catenin inhibitors during <i>Xenopus laevis</i> cornea-lens regeneration <i>Faculty Sponsor: Paul Hamilton</i>
24	Tsilate M. Tadesse	Does dual-task walking affect cognitive performance in individuals with/out concussion, negatively or positively? <i>Faculty Sponsor: Prasanna Acharya</i>
25	MacKenzie Jones	Ecuador's Heart is Bleeding: Chainsaws and Drills Rip Through Nature <i>Faculty Sponsor: Steven Gardner</i>
26	Kalli Avera	Illinois College Students' Most Used Media Sources and Their Opinions on the Conflict Between Israel and Palestine <i>Faculty Sponsor: Yu-Hua Yeh</i>
27	Raymundo Martinez Jr.	Substance and Smartphone Addition Amongst Illinois College Students <i>Faculty Sponsor: Yu-Hua Yeh</i>
28	Juliana Rensing	A State-of-the-Art Neurofeedback Framework: Integrating Wireless EEG, Virtual Reality, and Eye-Tracking Technology <i>Faculty Sponsor: Yu-Hua Yeh</i>
29	Isabelle Norris, Michelle Maag	Inhibition of Tyrosinase by Indole Derivatives <i>Faculty Sponsor: Zvi Pasman</i>

# CELEBRATION OF EXCELLENCE 2025

## Honors Convocation

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3 p.m. :: Sherman Gymnasium

Processional (please stand) ..... Music for the Royal Fireworks “Overture”

Welcome ..... Catharine E. O’Connell, Ph.D.  
Provost and Dean of the College

Reflections on Excellence ..... Provost O’Connell

Don P. Filson Faculty Award for Vision for the Future ..... Provost O’Connell

2025-2026 Class Marshals Announcement ..... Provost O’Connell

Phi Beta Kappa, Academic National Honor Fraternity Announcement ..... Beth Widmaier Capo, Ph.D.  
Edward Capps Professor of Humanities, Professor of English  
Mary Marshall, Ph.D.  
Professor of Mathematics

The *Enkyklios* Professor Award ..... Dane Wendell, Ph.D.  
Dean of Faculty

Julian M. Sturtevant Campus Leadership and Service Award ..... Dean Wendell

Harry Joy Dunbaugh Distinguished Professor Award ..... Barbara A. Farley, Ph.D.  
President

Closing ..... President Farley

Alma Mater (please stand) ..... Ruth Badger Pixley  
Music by A. Boyd Pixley

Illinois dear Alma Mater  
Ivy'd Beecher, Sturtevant  
Here we sign thy  
Loving praises,  
Here, renew our covenant.

Hail forever, Alma Mater  
May thy children  
Bring thee fame.  
Hail forever, Illinois  
In our hearts shall live thy name.

Recessional (please stand) ..... Charpentier "Te Deum"



# CELEBRATION OF EXCELLENCE

## ILLINOIS COLLEGE 2025

### Division I

#### ART AND DESIGN IN VISUAL STUDIES HONORS

##### **Elizabeth Caine Art Award**

Awarded to an outstanding senior art major

*Leslie Earles*

##### **Carlson-Damsgaard Family Award in Art**

Awarded to two students in the visual arts program with excellent original work

*Leslie Earles and Patricia Rivera*

##### **Wilburn Art Award**

Awarded to the most promising beginning student in studio art or art history

*Chloe Plough*

#### COMMUNICATION AND RHETORICAL STUDIES HONORS

##### **William Jennings Bryan Professional Promise Award**

Awarded to the seniors who have demonstrated extraordinary potential for integrating professional excellence, active citizenship and servant leadership

*Paige Bruce, Matthew Hill, JC Izaguirre-Gomez, Daniela Jimenez and Kayla Piper*

##### **Communication & Rhetorical Studies Academic Excellence Award**

Awarded each year to a student who has demonstrated overall excellence in terms of classroom performance in the Department of Communication & Rhetorical Studies in their previous year(s) at Illinois College.

*Thomas Menke*

##### **National Communication Association Outstanding Senior Award**

Awarded to an outstanding senior in the communication studies department

*Anna McKee*

##### **Lambda Pi Eta (Communication Studies)**

*Summer Brandis, Kaydence Haag, Anna McKee and Lauren Sinclair*

## Division I *continued*

### ENGLISH HONORS

#### Achievement Award in Creative Writing

*Fiction: Danielle Simpson*

*Poetry: Serenity Vasquez*

#### Helen Conlee Curtis Prize in English

Awarded to the outstanding senior English major

*Olivia Joy*

#### Mary Wade Seybold Prize in English

Awarded to a student who has the best research paper in an advanced course in English

*Reilly Nelson*

#### Thomas Smith Prize in English

Awarded for excellence in one or more courses in advanced composition

*Reilly Nelson*

#### Sigma Tau Delta (*English*)

*Reilly Nelson, Roland James Pean,  
Melissa Rufus and Danielle Simpson*

### MUSIC HONORS

#### Jonathan Edward Spilman Choral Award

Awarded to leading vocal musicians in the choirs

*Meryn Davis and Ekko Nguyen*

#### Fred Stanford Drumline Award

Awarded for outstanding performance or leadership in the Drumline

*Haydn Leonard*

### THEATRE HONORS

#### John G. Anderson Award in Theatre

Awarded to a student who demonstrates dedicated and consistent excellence in theatre productions

*Lillian Deter*

#### Diana Dawdy Chesley Award in Technical Theatre

Awarded for outstanding achievement in technical theatre

*Allyson Holste*

#### Dennis J. Ryan Memorial Drama Award

Awarded for an outstanding single achievement in the dramatic arts

*Jacob Petrovich*

#### Gerald and Dorothy Staley Senior Award in Theatre

Awarded to a senior demonstrating growth and accomplishment both onstage and backstage

*Olivia Joy*

### GLOBAL STUDIES HONORS

#### Edith Rammelkamp Elliott Memorial Award in Modern Languages

Awarded to outstanding sophomore student who have declared a major in a modern language and demonstrated knowledge and interest in the activities, accomplishments and problems of other human beings home and abroad, and have the ability to function well in various social and academic settings

*Sophie Muir*

#### Edith Rammelkamp and F. Osborne Elliott Junior Year Abroad Award

Awarded to selected junior students desiring to travel abroad

*Lexie Blackley and Kendra LaMarsh*

#### Frances Frisch Memorial Award

Awarded to a student desiring to travel abroad

*Julie Edwards*

#### Martha L. Behr-Miller and William R. Miller Award for Foreign Study

Awarded to a junior or senior student desiring to study abroad

*Jiech Biel*

## Division II

### BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES HONORS

#### Elaine Chapman Award for Outstanding Health Sciences Major

*Mickey Sanders*

#### Environmental Studies Outstanding Major

*Miranda Araujo*

#### Willis DeRyke Prize in Biology

Awarded to the best students in introductory biology

*Kieran Powers and Daniel Scott*

#### Lucas Memorial Science Award

Awarded to an outstanding senior pre-medical student

*Marvin Romo*

#### Gerald A. Lucas Prize in Biology

Awarded to a senior major with the highest grade point average in biology

*Ali Daoud*

#### Sokolis Prize in Ecological Consciousness

Awarded to the senior who has demonstrated a concern for preserving the natural environment and a desire to enter the field of ecological conservation

*Jena Sellers*

#### Beta Beta Beta (Biology)

*Ysabella Adubato, Miranda Araujo, Morgan Carrino, Ali Daoud, Nolan Decker, Ligaya Garibay, Nevaeh Gould, Beamlak Hiltework, Toby McTamney, Anja Muller, Ashley Nguyen, Hollie Petitt, Juliana Rensing, Marvin Romo, Mickey Sanders, Shelby Seiler, Jenna Sharp, Avery Westlake and Tatum Wimbrow*

### CHEMISTRY HONORS

#### ACS Collegiate Scholastic Award

Awarded to recognize outstanding undergraduate chemistry students and promote interest in chemistry as a profession

*Samuel Hannig*

#### ACS POLYED Organic Chemistry Achievement Award

Awarded for outstanding performance by an undergraduate chemistry major in the two semester organic sequence

*Parker Phillis*

#### American Institute of Chemists Outstanding Senior Award (*Biochemistry*)

Awarded to an outstanding senior majoring in biochemistry in recognition of a demonstrated record of ability, leadership and professional promise

*Kendra LaMarsh*

#### American Institute of Chemists Outstanding Senior Award (*Chemistry*)

Awarded to an outstanding senior majoring in chemistry in recognition of a demonstrated record of ability, leadership and professional promise

*Paola Gonzalez*

#### CRC Freshman Chemistry Achievement Award

Awarded to a first-year student demonstrating significant achievement in the general chemistry course

*Alyssa Piper*

### COMPUTER SCIENCE HONORS

#### Outstanding Graduate in Computer Science

Awarded to the graduating seniors who have demonstrated outstanding performance in the computer sciences

*Lucas Schultz*

#### Ts'ing-Hi Tong Computer Science Award

Awarded to a junior computer science major

*Dakota Merrill*



## Division II *continued*

### MATHEMATICS HONORS

#### Thomas Smith Prize in Mathematics

Awarded to a first-year and sophomore showing the greatest promise in mathematics

*First-Year: Zac Laird*

*Sophomore: Scarlett Brangenberg and Cade Emerick*

#### Robert M. Thrall Mathematics Prize

Awarded to the best senior major in the department

*Odosia Imasuen*

### PHYSICS HONORS

#### H. L. Caldwell Prize in Physics

Awarded to a student completing either a four year physics major at IC, or simultaneous dual degrees in liberal arts from Illinois College and in engineering from an accredited engineering school, and who shows the greatest promise in future success in physics or engineering

*Hannah Lueke*

#### George W. Horton Sr. Prize in Physics

Awarded to a student completing first-year sequence of physics courses who shows greatest promise for future achievement in physics

*Tyson Elliott*

### NURSING HONORS

#### Nursing Professionalism Award

Awarded to a student with exceptional professional and personal characteristics

*Thea Corriveau*

#### Nursing Resilience Award

Awarded to a student with exceptional demonstration of resilience and well-being

*Abigail Glaser*

#### Nursing Academic Award

Awarded to a student with an exceptional accumulative GPA

*Aly Perdue Trimble*

#### Community Service Award

Awarded to a student with exceptional community service during clinical rotations and volunteer clinics

*Hannah Harpster*

#### Nightingale Award

Awarded to a student who possesses a strong knowledge base, works well with other students and staff, demonstrates strong leadership capability, demonstrates responsibility and accountability for providing quality patient care, employs the nursing process in daily care, demonstrates a definite commitment to the nursing profession, promotes self-care in all areas of nursing, and is an advocate for patients.

*Emma Huelkamp*

### PSYCHOLOGY HONORS

#### Richard McGeath Honor Award

Awarded to a graduating senior who demonstrates exceptional interest in the clinical counseling area of psychology

*Kalli Avera*

#### Louis F. Meek Prize in Psychology

Awarded to the students with the highest grade in introductory psychology

*Jenna Bowman and Chiara Paltretti*

#### Eleanor O. Miller Award in Psychology

Awarded to the psychology department's most outstanding senior

*Isabelle Norris*

#### Psi Chi (Psychology)

*Lexie Blackley, Ligaya Garibay, Emma Huelkamp,  
Rylie Jones-Galvin, Reilly Nelson, Kayla Piper,  
Alicia Pitkin and Haylee Royer*

## Division III

### BUSINESS HONORS

#### John H. McNaughton Prize in Accounting

Awarded to superior accounting majors

*1st: Cate Breden*

*2nd: Nathan Barth*

*3rd: Peyton Merreighn*

#### Outstanding Graduating Seniors in Accounting

Awarded to a senior who has displayed overall academic excellence, leadership and service to the accounting department

*On campus: Brock Kennell and Ainsley Mahoney*

*Online: Breanna Manker*

#### Outstanding Graduating Senior in Finance

Awarded to a senior who has displayed overall academic excellence, leadership and service to the finance department

*Hunter Newbold*

#### Outstanding Graduating Senior in Marketing

Awarded to a senior who has displayed overall academic excellence, leadership and service to the marketing department

*On campus: Lauren Sinclair*

*Online: Taylor Pickens*

#### Outstanding Graduating Senior in Human Resources

Awarded to a senior who has displayed overall academic excellence, leadership and service to the human resources department

*On campus: Matea Alexsandrovskia*

*Online: April Wierschke*

#### Outstanding Graduating Senior in Economics

Awarded to a senior who has displayed overall academic excellence, leadership and service to the economics department

*Odosa Imsuen*

#### Outstanding Graduating Senior in Agribusiness

Awarded to a senior who has displayed overall academic excellence, leadership and service to the agribusiness department

*On campus: Bryson Muegge and Paige Walker*

*Online: Jhia Walker*

#### Outstanding Graduating Senior in Sports Management

Awarded to a senior who has displayed overall academic excellence, leadership and service to the sports management department

*Thomas Menke*

#### Outstanding Graduating Senior in Management

Awarded to a senior who has displayed overall academic excellence, leadership and service to the management department

*Evan Henley and Alex Johnson*

#### Outstanding Graduating Senior in Business Administration

Awarded to a senior who has displayed overall academic excellence, leadership and service to the business administration department

*On campus: Louie Bartletti and Brooke Oakley*

*Online: Hayley Wodka*

#### Omicron Delta Epsilon (Economics)

*Odosa Imsuen, John Neddersen,*

*Lourdes Garache Rivera and Andrew Wieneke*

#### Delta Mu Delta (Business)

*Aklisia Tsegaye Debebe, Riley Fay Drake,*

*Evan Paul Henley, Camille Anessa Lyons,*

*Ainsley K. Mahoney, John M. Neddersen,*

*Taylor Dawn Pickens, Chole Renee Plough,*

*Lucille Ann Snow and Elizabeth Jayne Snow*

### EDUCATION HONORS

#### Dr. Thomas L. Smith Teacher Education Memorial Award

Awarded to the education major entering the senior year demonstrating outstanding scholarship, campus and local community involvement

*Laura Kaiser*

#### Bright Beginnings Child Care Center Award

Awarded to a junior education major with an early childhood or elementary education concentration

*Alyssa Burlund*

#### Kappa Delta Pi (Education)

*Kate Burr and Jordan Engwall*

### HISTORY, POLITICAL SCIENCE, PHILOSOPHY & RELIGION HONORS

#### William Jennings Bryan Award in Political Science

Awarded for the best written work in political science

*Mallory Diresio for paper titled:*

*“The Iran Nuclear Deal of 2015”*

#### Sokolis Prize in Comparative Religions

A student who has demonstrated a strong interest in study of comparative religions

*Bunni Little and Bianca Popet*

#### Fred C. Kirkman Award

Awarded for the best written work in history

*Elizabeth Chamberlain for paper titled:*

*“The Voice of Dissent: Walter Cronkite’s Commentary  
and America’s Changing War Sentiments”*

#### William Ireland Prize in Philosophy

Best paper on assigned topic in philosophy

*Bryce Knackstedt for paper titled:*

*“Monarchy or Democracy” in PH 170 Political Theory*

#### Mary Ruth Munding Scholar

Awarded as the department’s highest honor to the most outstanding graduating senior(s)

*Elizabeth Chamberlain and Ryan Kuchar*

#### Sankofa Social Responsibility Award in African American Studies

Awarded to a student who demonstrates exemplary activism or civic engagement, along with excellence in one or more courses in African American Studies

*Jiech Bel*

#### Mabel Kampert Koss Memorial Award

Awarded to a sophomore or junior majoring in the humanities

*Devin Ussery*

#### Distinguished Senior Award

Awarded to outstanding graduating seniors in the department

*Elizabeth Chamberlain, Noah Horsman, Zach James,*

*Payton Johnson, Ryan Kuchar, Halle Maul and*

*Drew Wilson*

#### Outstanding First-Year Students in History, Philosophy, Political Science and Religion

Awarded to Outstanding First Year students in any HPPR field

*Ellie Ford and Nathan Wood*

#### Honors for Outstanding Performance on the Senior Capstone Essay in History

Awarded to seniors who wrote outstanding senior essays

*Noah Horsman and Zach James*

#### Howard E. Schuchmann Award in Public Affairs

Awarded to a senior on the basis of scholarship, character and participation in public affairs

*Cole McDannald*

#### David S. Watson History Award

Awarded to an outstanding sophomore majoring in history and/or political science

*Hunter Gillis*

### SOCIOLOGY HONORS

#### ASA Student Department Prize

Awarded to a student in sociology who has done particularly well on a paper, thesis, field study or performed special service to the department

*Betsey Bates*

#### Excellence in Sociology Award

Awarded to the graduating sociology major for outstanding academic achievement in sociology courses

*Payton Mueller*

#### Excellence in Criminal Justice

Awarded to a graduating criminal justice major for outstanding academic achievement in criminal justice courses.

*Oscar Espinoza*

#### Deputy Taylor H. Briggs Memorial Award

Awarded to a criminal justice major who demonstrates academic achievement, leadership and a commitment to physical fitness

*Cameron Dailey*

#### Alpha Kappa Delta (*Sociology*)

*Payton Mueller*

#### Alpha Phi Sigma (*Criminal Justice*)

*Jade Champley, Cameron Dailey, Oscar Espinoza  
and Payton Mueller*

# Interdisciplinary Studies

## GENDER AND WOMEN'S STUDIES HONORS

### Martha E. Church Award for Excellence in Gender and Women's Studies

Outstanding scholarship and activism

*Payton Mueller*

### Iota Iota Iota (Gender and Women's Studies)

*Payton Mueller*

## INTERNATIONAL STUDIES HONORS

### Robert M. Bellatti International Studies Award

Awarded to encourage and assist students with opportunities to study in a foreign country. Preference given to students who have completed two years at IC.

*Ella Ausmus and Peyton Merrieghn*

### Alice Margaret Engelbach Memorial Endowment for Asian Studies Award

Awarded to enhance the understanding of Asia at Illinois College

*Momir Vickovic*

### Alice H. Engelbach Peace Studies Award

Awarded to a student whose activities encourage, demonstrate or deepen our understanding of conflict resolution and reconciliation

*Laissa Da Silvo Brito*

# Academic, Leadership and Special Honors

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## Student Marshals

*Laura Kaiser and Jacob Petrovich*

## Barbara Heintz Albach Memorial Award

Awarded to a female junior possessing good character and personality, leadership in campus and community activities, and contributes to college ideals

*Phoebe Williams*

## Vithal Ayyagari Science Award

Awarded to the outstanding senior in the science division displaying the greatest promise in the field of scientific research

*Sam Hannig*

## Dean H. Baldwin Scholar Athlete Award

Senior male and female athlete who is determined to have excelled in scholarships (based on GPA) and in athletics

*Ligaya Garibay and Thomas Menke*

## Charles and Dorothy Frank Travel Award

Awarded to students submitting the most imaginative and creative proposal for travel planned to enhance their academic studies or for personal enrichment

*Jiech Biel*

## Gertrude Hahn Travel Award

Awarded to a student to assist with expenses for travel abroad

*Bianca Popet*

## Fred Hoskins Christian Influence Award

Senior with effective Christian influence on campus

*Katie Mae Milhiser*

## Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Peacemaker Award

Awarded to the student making significant efforts at peacemaking

*Bobby Driver*

## Midwest Conference Elite 20

The Elite 20 Award is presented to the participating student-athlete with the highest cumulative grade point average in the Midwest Conference competing in his or her respective sport's championship event

*Thomas Menke*

## Rammelkamp Honor Scholars

Awarded to the students with the highest cumulative grade point average in each of the first-year, sophomore and junior classes for the 2023-2024 academic year

*First-Year: Meryn Davis*

*Sophomore: Ali Daoud*

*Junior: Thomas Menke*

## Julian M. Sturtevant Campus Leadership and Service Award

Awarded to outstanding graduating seniors who are visible leaders on campus and in the organization(s) they serve

*Betsey Bates, Darian Blackburn, Brady Borntreger, Cameron Dailey, Wendy Doolittle, Leslie Earles, Mark Flores, Ligaya Garibay, Evan Henley, Odosa Imasuen, Alex Johnson, Olivia Joy, Kendra LaMarsh, Anna McKee, Marvin Romo and Lauren Sinclair*

## Nancy Watters Widmaier Award

Awarded to a female student who has reached high academic achievement studying English, gender and women's studies or pre-med

*Sam Felan*

## Robert C. Widmaier and Nicholas J. Capo Academic Achievement Award

Awarded to a first-year, first-generation college student who has demonstrated excellence in the classroom

*Rylie Joelner*



### Walter Bellatti Sr. Honor Scholar Award

Awarded to one female and one male from the senior class for outstanding scholarship, participation in co-curricular activities and demonstrated interest in the welfare and progress of Illinois College

*Devin Boggs and Anna McKee*

### Carole Ann Ryan Fine Arts Prize

Awarded to a student who has contributed a major interest and participation in one or more of the fine arts offerings of Illinois College and community arts organizations

*Wendy Doolittle*

### Marilyn Johnson Hassenger Award

Awarded to students who shows outstanding achievement in music, art, theatre, or literature

*Olivia Joy*

### Phi Beta Kappa Academic National Honor Fraternity

Phi Beta Kappa is the nation's oldest and most prestigious honorary college society. It recognizes the highest scholastic distinction by electing members from among the leading candidates for college degrees in the liberal arts and sciences.

*Ali Daoud, Odosa Imasuen, Anna McKee,  
Katherine Mae Milhiser, Jacob Petrovich  
and Marvin Romo*

### Alpha Lambda Delta

Alpha Lambda Delta is a certified national honor society that recognizes academic excellence in the first year of college and promotes leadership and scholarly engagement across campus. Invitation to Alpha Lambda Delta is sent in the spring semester of a student's first year at Illinois College. Students must possess a cumulative grade point average of 3.5 or above on a 4.0 scale to be eligible.

*Aurora Baker, Colby Bishop, Kayla Brackett,  
Lili Bugadze, Keegan Busby, Nick Darwish,  
Arabella Dikmans, Cade Emerick, Aaron Fikuart,  
Ellie Ford, Stella Gonzalez, Holly Harbaugh,  
Liberty Hayes, Jersey Howell, Hailey Jackson,  
Aubrey Kietzman, Lizzy Little, Zoey Little,  
Julian Luaders, Elaina Manuel, Griffin Martin,  
Alejandra Martinez, Ezzy Mauermann,  
Cassandra Mayfield, Arianna Morris, Sophie Muir,  
Carter Naeve, Kieran Powers, Camille Prefountain,  
Gavin Rasmussen, Lucrezia Rima, Daniel Scott,  
Lilly Siller, Jacob Sperandio, Alyssa Teixeira,  
Grace Vaughn, Kaylah Villalobos and Alyssa Wise*

### National Society of Leadership and Success

National Society of Leadership and Success is a nationally accredited leadership honorary society. Founded in 2001, the NSLS focuses on providing a life-changing leadership program that helps college students achieve personal growth, career success, and empowers them to have a positive impact in their communities. The Illinois College NSLS chapter was founded in 2022. With the exception of the inaugural year, students with a GPA of 2.5 or above receive the invitation to participate in their second year at Illinois College.

*Joseph Altenbernd, William Bateman, Jordan Bethany,  
Emmitt Brokaw, Morgan Carrino, Aklisia Debebe,  
Laura Deters, Riley Drake, Bobby Driver,  
Andrus Dupre, Grayson Dupre, Delaney Fearneyhough,  
Allison Fraley, Lee Garner, Paige George, Grace Gerfen,  
Kaydence Haag, Odosa Imasuen, Isayah Kloster,  
Cameron Knapik, Kellen Leifheit, Dominic Madonia,  
Connor McDowell, Delaney Melton, Peyton Merreighn,  
Olivia Moore, Kortessa Moulton, Heaven Neal,  
Erin O'Connell, Kaity Robison, Aylin Toro Rodriguez,  
Jaden Saunders, Shelby Seiler, Jena Sellers,  
Danielle Simpson, Adam Sipes, Jourdan Stevens,  
Sydney Swiercz, Alissa Turner, Emily Vlach,  
Willie Whitmore, Carter Wasson and Alyvia Wills*

# Faculty Honors

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## **Alice H. Engelbach Peace Studies Award**

Awarded to faculty to support activities that encourage, demonstrate or deepen our understanding of conflict resolution and reconciliation

*Cuba Faculty Collaboration*

## **Alice Margaret Engelbach Memorial Endowment for Asian Studies**

Awarded to enhance the understanding of Asia at Illinois College

*Gwendolyn Gillson, Associate Professor of Asian Studies*

## **Charles E. Frank Fellowship for Excellence in Teaching**

Awarded to faculty for encouraging excellence in teaching undergraduates in the liberal arts, with emphasis on the relationship of the fellow's field to other fields

*Brent Chandler, Associate Professor of Chemistry*

*Larry Zettler, Hitchcock Professor of Biology*

## **Ernest G. Hildner, Jr. Faculty Enrichment Fund**

Awarded to faculty to assist in spending time off campus pursuing and developing academic interests

*Prasanna Acharya, Assistant Professor of Kinesiology*

## **Richard T. Fry Faculty Collaboration Fund**

Awarded to faculty to support projects that enhance the College's academic program through their collaborative efforts

*Student-Faculty Research Scholarship Program*

*Cuba Faculty Collaboration*

*Jaclyn Tabor, Assistant Professor of Sociology*

*Kara Dorris, Assistant Professor of English*

*Bree Kirsch, Director of Scheewe Library*

## **C. Reed Parker Professional Development Grant**

Awarded to faculty to support activities undertaken between commencement and the opening of the academic year

*Laura Corey, Professor of Biology*

*Kara Dorris, Assistant Professor of English*

## **Malcolm F. Stewart Faculty Award for Intercultural Education**

Awarded to faculty to strengthen and increase the scope and quality of intercultural education through the improvement of existing courses or the establishment of new courses to enhance students' knowledge and understanding of another people and their culture

*Cuba Faculty Collaboration*



## ABSTRACTS

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Complete abstracts can be found on the  
Illinois College Celebration of Excellence website.

