



# Wittenberg University Honors Convocation

April 5, 2024, Weaver Chapel



**The Lillian C. Franklin Diversity Awards**  
**The Broadwell Chinn Award**  
**The Martin Luther King Jr. Awards**

Casey L. Gill, *Vice President for Student Development and Dean of Students.*

**The Heimtraut Dietrich Award**

The Rev. Tracy L. Paschke-Johannes, *The Rev. David P. ...*

# *Presidential Scholars*

Named for each of Wittenberg's 14 former presidents, the Presidential Scholars are the members of the junior class who have maintained the highest academic standing in their class through the preceding five semesters at Wittenberg.

## **J. Ezra Keller Scholarship**

Kendall A. Black

## **Samuel P. Sprecher Scholarship**

Harper A. Crews

## **John B. Helwig Scholarship**

Mackenzie E. Hessick

## **Samuel Alfred Ort Scholarship**

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# DEPARTMENTAL AND PROGRAM AWARDS

## *A Depa men*

**The Ralston C. Thompson Awards** were established in honor of the late Ralston Thompson, professor of art (1941-1970). These awards are granted by the art department to students who demonstrate exceptional promise in art.

Sydney A. Striker, Francesca K. Heidinger

**The Wittenberg Guild Awards** are given annually from a fund established by The Wittenberg Guild. These awards are granted by the art department to students who demonstrate exceptional promise in art.

Noelle E. Underwood, Gabby M. Conaway

**The S. Paul & Clara M. Weaver Endowed Scholarship** was funded through a generous gift in loving memory of S. Paul Weaver by his wife Clara M. Weaver, Columbus, Ohio, to provide financial assistance to sophomores, juniors, or seniors who are either art majors or education majors with a desire to teach art.

Maddy E. Rose, Hanna J. Haddix

## *Biological and Environmental Science Depa men*

**The Faculty Award for Outstanding Achievement in Biology** is given by the faculty of the department in recognition of seniors who have had outstanding achievement and demonstrate strong potential in biology.

Zoe E. Chirumbolo McKee, Tanner E. Leach, Hannah L. Marcin

**The Emmett Bodenberg Award for Outstanding Achievement in Environmental Biology**, named to honor the late professor of biology (1931-1968), is given to the junior or senior students who have excelled in and demonstrated commitment to this field of study.

Audrey L. Heiser, Michael K. Vrbanac

**The Rachel Ianni Award for Excellence in Peer Mentoring** was established in memory of 2008 graduate Rachel Ianni (1986-2013). A biology major and marine science minor, Rachel served as a peer mentor for three years in the biology department, where she inspired fellow students with her knowledge of the field, passion for research, love of "good science," and joie de vivre.

Maria F. Rodriguez

**Biology and Environmental Science Senior Fellows** recognizes outstanding junior biology and environmental science majors who are model representatives of both the department and the University.

Kendall A. Black, Dimitri A. Gonzalez, Shayne K. Harris, Grace Koperna

## *Biochemistry /Molecular Biology Program*

**The Faculty Award for Outstanding Achievement in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology** is given in recognition of seniors with exceptional achievement and strong potential in biochemistry

**American Chemical Society Award for Undergraduate Achievement in Biochemistry or Chemical Biology** recognizes a graduating senior who displays a significant aptitude for biochemistry or chemical biology. The individual will have demonstrated excellence in a combination of coursework, research, service to the program, and a desire to pursue a career in biochemistry or chemical biology.

Branden B. Nicholas

*Business & Economic Department*

**The Tau Pi Phi Award** is given to the graduating business major who combines the high







**The William I. and Carol J. Goettman Pre-Medical Student Award** is given to an outstanding scholar athlete who has successfully completed a pre-medical course of study at Wittenberg with a grade point average of 3.5 or higher, who has been accepted to and/or is enrolled in medical school, and who, while an undergraduate, has participated in intercollegiate athletics.

Katie G. Wisniewski

### *Hi o Depa men*

**The ATO - Paul F. Bloomhardt Award**, established in honor of the late Paul F. Bloomhardt, professor of history and biography (1925-1956), is awarded to outstanding junior history majors.

Bailey L. Drews, Allie J. Miller, Sarah E. Tagg

**The Margaret S. Ermarth Award**, established in honor of the late Margaret Sittler Ermarth, professor of history (1953-1974), is awarded to outstanding senior history majors.

Racheal A. Vargo, Emma M. Wilson

### *In e collegia e A hle ic P og am*

**The North Coast Athletic Conference Student-Athlete Award** recognizes a student who has performed with distinction both in the classroom and on the playing field.

Meghan P. Frazier, Conor P. O'Malley

### *Ma hema ic and Compr e Science Depa men*

**The Paul Hessler Award**, established in memory of Paul Hessler, a member of the mathematics faculty at Wittenberg (1969-1978), is awarded to a junior or senior major for outstanding achievement with a grade point average of 3.5 or higher.

*Nursing Department*

**The David and Mary Benfer Scholarship for Excellence in Nursing** was established in 2018 in honor of David and Mary's siblings whose careers and lives have been dedicated to serving and caring for others. The scholarship recognizes an outstanding junior nursing student based on academic merit, leadership, and potential in the field of nursing.

Jenna R. Hallett, Mazie K. Reece

**The Mary J. Dwyer Memorial Scholarship for Merit** was established in 2018 in honor of Mary J. Dwyer, a nursing student who was tragically killed in a car accident on May 1, 2014. The scholarship is awarded to a nursing student who demonstrates exceptional academic achievement and leadership. The scholarship is named in honor of Mary J. Dwyer, a nursing student who was tragically killed in a car accident on May 1, 2014. The scholarship is named in honor of Mary J. Dwyer, a nursing student who was tragically killed in a car accident on May 1, 2014.

*Psychology Department*

**The Bethlehem Steel Award** has been established to honor outstanding senior students in psychology.

M.K. Smith

**Meagan Toothman Scholarship** is named for Meagan because she represented the best of Wittenberg as a scholar-athlete, a beloved sister in her sorority, and a friend to many. Meagan was a member of the Wittenberg Honor Society.







Students are normally elected as seniors or, in special cases, as juniors. They must be majoring in one of the liberal arts or sciences, have a high grade point average, have taken a variety of courses across the liberal arts spectrum, and have demonstrated a knowledge of mathematics and a foreign language appropriate to a liberal arts education.

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## **THE COPELAND COMMUNITY SERVICE AND SOCIAL JUSTICE AWARD**

The Copeland Community Service and Social Justice Award recognizes a student who demonstrates engaged citizenship in the Greater Springfield community. It is not merely the student's hours of service, but the ability to think critically about difficult societal issues and the willingness to work to confront these issues with compassion and commitment that is most important.

## **THE ROSE AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP**

The Rose Award for Excellence in Community Partnership recognizes a member of the Greater Springfield community who serves as an exceptional co-educator for students. They help students bloom into well-informed, engaged, and productive citizens, and they make a significant difference in the community. The recipient is selected based on their level of investment in the development of students as well as their sustained commitment and innovative approach of connecting with the University.





# MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to provide a high-quality, comprehensive education for all students, regardless of their background or ability. We are committed to creating a safe, supportive, and challenging learning environment where every student can thrive. Our focus is on academic excellence, personal growth, and community service. We strive to equip our students with the skills and knowledge they need to succeed in a global, interconnected world. Our core values are integrity, respect, and responsibility. We believe in the power of education to transform lives and create a better future for all.

**L**earning is the foundation of our mission. We provide a rigorous curriculum that challenges students to think critically and creatively. Our teachers are dedicated professionals who use innovative teaching methods to engage students and foster a love of learning. We offer a variety of extracurricular activities and programs that allow students to explore their interests and develop their talents. Our commitment to diversity and inclusion ensures that all students feel valued and supported. We are proud to be part of a community that shares our vision of a bright future for every student.

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