

# ACADEMIC HONORS CONVOCATION 2026



RECOGNIZING THE ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS  
AND HONORS OF OTTERBEIN STUDENTS

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15  
TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY-SIX

# PROGRAM

**Prelude**.....Otterbein University Wind Ensemble  
*All ceremony music was previously recorded and curated by Michael S. Yonchak, Associate Professor of Music*

**Processional** *Crown Imperial*.....Performed by the Otterbein College Wind Ensemble  
*(William Walton/trans. W.J. Duthoit)* Conducted by Gary R. Tirey H '90  
*from Otterbein College Bands: Traditions, 2002*

**Welcome**.....John L. Comerford  
*President of the University*

**\*Invocation**..... Rev. Lucy Kelly  
*Church of the Master United Methodist*

**Special Music**.....Megan M. Ladd '26  
*Bachelor of Arts, Music Education*  
*Children's Corner*.....Claude Debussy (1862-1918)  
*I. Doctor Gradus as Parnassum*  
*IV. The Snow is Dancing*

**Student Greeting**.....Gabrielle A. Amankwah '26  
*Bachelor of Science, Biochemistry/Molecular Biology*

**Presentation of Student Academic Honors**..... Wendy R. Sherman Heckler  
*Provost and Senior Vice President*

*Master of Ceremonies*..... Mark Mineart

## Departmental and Program Award Presenters

Art and Art History..... Amanda L. Kline  
Biology and Earth Science..... David C. Sheridan  
Business, Accounting and Economics..... Stephen L. Osborne  
Chemistry..... John T. Tansey  
Communication..... Eric K. Jones  
Education..... Paul J. Wendel  
Engineering, Computer Science and Physics..... Michael W. Hudoba  
English..... Karen F. Steigman  
Equine Science..... Sheri S. Birmingham  
Health and Sport Sciences..... Joan E. Rocks  
History, Political Science, Languages & Cultures..... Deborah B. Solomon  
Honors Program..... Michele Acker  
Mathematics and Actuarial Science..... Jeremy S. Moore  
Music..... Nicholas P. Ross  
Nursing..... John D. Chovan  
Philosophy and Religion..... Andrew P. Mills  
Psychology..... Meredith C. Frey  
Sociology, Criminology and Justice Studies..... Kerry E. Pannell  
Theatre and Dance..... Leonard B. Leibowitz  
Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Program..... Tammy A. Birk

**Multi-Departmental Awards and Non-Departmental Award Presenters**..... Wendy R. Sherman Heckler  
*Provost and Senior Vice President*  
Kristy L. Drobney  
*Director, Academic Support Center*  
Bill Fox  
*Vice President for Student Affairs*

**Outstanding Teaching Awards** ..... Wendy R. Sherman Heckler  
*Provost and Senior Vice President*

**Recognition of Other Awards and Honoraries** ..... Wendy R. Sherman Heckler  
*Provost and Senior Vice President*

\* **Otterbein Love Song** ..... Carleigh A. Benson '27  
*Bachelor of Arts, Music Education*  
Megan M. Ladd '26, Accompanist

\* **Benediction** ..... D'Andre M. Person '26  
*Bachelor of Arts, Journalism & Media Communications and Sociology*

**Recessional Sine Nomine** ..... Performed by the Otterbein College Wind Ensemble  
*by Ralph Vaughan Williams (arr. Alfred Reed)*  
*Conducted by Gary R. Tirey H'90*  
*from Otterbein College Bands: Traditions, 2002*

The Mace bearer is an honor bestowed upon the senior most faculty member,  
*Dr. Susan Millsap, Professor, Department of Communication*

The Otterbein University Seal is an honor bestowed upon the 2026 recipient of the Teacher of the Year Award,  
*Dr. Paul Eisenstein, Department of English*

The Flambeau is an honor bestowed upon the 2026 recipient of the New Teacher of the Year Award,  
*Dr. Laine Schrewe, Department of Engineering, Computer Science, and Physics*

*Everyone is invited to a reception immediately following the ceremony at the Roush Hall Plaza. In the event of inclement weather, the reception will be held in the Fisher Gallery in Roush Hall.*

**\*Please stand**

## **OTTERBEIN LOVE SONG**

*Words by Celia Thrig Grabill/Music by Grant Grabill, Class of 1900*

In a quiet, peaceful village  
there is one we love so true.  
She ever gives a welcome  
to her friends both old and new  
She stands serene  
'mid tree tops green,  
She's our dear Otterbein

CHORUS:  
Old Otterbein our college,  
we sing of thee today.  
Our memories round thee linger  
in a sweet and mystic way.  
O Otterbein, we love thee,  
our hearts are only thine,  
We pledge anew, we will be true,  
Dear Otterbein.

# DEPARTMENTAL AWARDS

## ART AND ART HISTORY

Presented by ..... Amanda L. Kline, Chair

### **Lillian Bale-Roof '42 Memorial Endowed Award**

Awarded annually to a full-time student who demonstrates exceptional commitment in the field of Art

Allison E. Fee

### **Marguerite Wetherill Eschbach Memorial Student Art Fund**

Underwrites the hiring of a juror and acquisition of one or more pieces for the University's permanent collection from the Annual Juried Student Art Exhibition; the artist who creates the winning piece of art receives an award at the end of the exhibition

Liliana R. Hill  
Erica L. Snyder  
Isabel P. Alvarez  
Emily J. Caton  
Jeria L. Carter  
Brenna R. Mullen  
Adrian A. Flahive  
Molly A. Jones  
Mary K. Koeppen  
Lilly Q. Winters  
Julia E. Tenbusch

### **Lillian Frank/Joanne Miller Stichweh Book Award**

Awarded to a graduating senior Art major(s)

Rachel M. Malek  
John D. Otte  
Sara B. Salem  
Lilianne E. Volz  
Worthy. O. Wilson

### **Lillian Frank/Earl Hassenpflug Visual Arts Award**

Awarded to a junior or senior student(s) majoring in Art or Art Education demonstrating academic excellence

Gabriella A. Douglas  
Liliana R. Hill  
Gwen M. Jonard  
Mary K. Koeppen  
Karen Moriguchi

### **Earl C. Hassenpflug H'91 Endowed Award**

Awarded annually to a full-time student(s) who demonstrates exceptional commitment to the discipline of Art

Elyse J. Long  
Elpida L. Saygan  
Lilly Q. Winter

### **Dorothy G. Van Sant Memorial Endowed Award**

Awarded to a full-time student(s) majoring in Art

Jeria L. Carter  
Adrian A. Flahive  
Molly A. Jones  
Charlie L. Pope  
Daile M. Scott  
Marlie I. Scott  
Julian O. Valentino

### **John Benjamin Kessler Memorial Endowed Award**

Awarded alternately between the departments of Art and English to a student who excels in ceramics, creative writing or poetry

Audrey R. Couch  
Michael T. Gomia

## BIOLOGY AND EARTH SCIENCE

Presented by..... David C. Sheridan, Chair

### Charles W. Botts '34 Memorial Endowed Award

Awarded to a full-time student(s) who is a Biology and Earth Science major and demonstrates exceptional commitment to research in Biology and Earth Science

Gabrielle A. Amankwah  
Sydnee H. Goff  
Maegen G. Meldrum

### Dr. Marion F. Dick '43 Memorial Endowed Award

Awarded to a junior or senior student(s) for outstanding achievement in pre-professional Health Sciences

Shikha Iyer  
Mason A. Stuck

### Life Science Departmental Endowed Award

Awarded to a student who has completed a research project in Botany or Microbiology or who has taken courses at a field station or has worked for a governmental agency

Sydnee H. Goff

### George J. Phinney H'89 Endowed Award

Awarded to a part-time or full-time student(s) for outstanding academic performance and research in Environmental Science

David J. Hartman  
Emma D. Slates

### E. Jeanne Willis Life Science Endowed Award

Awarded to a sophomore or junior student who has contributed significantly to the Biology and Earth Science Department

Trinity J. Downing

### Grace Rohrer Rymer '48 and Richard Rymer Scholarship

Awarded to a student majoring in Environmental Science and intends to participate in an internship or SYE related to Environmental Science

Alan J. Hatcher  
Israel Lopez Altamirano  
Madigan R. Williamson

### Kyle Miller Memorial Fund

Awarded to a junior or senior Zoo Science major

Boston C. Kobayashi  
Avery S. Kotchounian  
Sarah L. Vasilides  
Delaney M. Will

### The Robert J. & Ann M. Harting Endowed Award

Awarded to a sophomore or junior majoring in Environmental Science who intends to conduct undergraduate research and work in the field of natural resource conservation, environmental education, or restoration ecology in the United States

Holly R. Rice

## BUSINESS, ACCOUNTING AND ECONOMICS

Presented by..... Stephen L. Osborne, Chair

### Charles R. and Louise Bennett Prize in Business

Awarded to students for outstanding leadership and academic achievement

Kate E. Bango  
Jackson R. Lee  
Trevor S. Horst

### Wallace E. Conard '54 Memorial Endowed Award

Awarded to a part-time or full-time Business Administration major(s) who has a concentration in Marketing and/or Management, has proven academic

Rachel E. Bollo  
Jourdyn L. Driggs  
Drew B. Kegler

success, and has demonstrated a commitment for community leadership

Alexa N. Luebbe  
Trey L. Talbert  
Tyler D. Tucker

**Donald E. and Elsa Giammarco '76 VanZant Sr. Endowed Award**

Awarded to a Business Administration major(s) who excels in the concentration of Marketing

Kylie C. Hast  
Owen C. Osborne  
Dylan E. Reeves

**Allen Prindle Student Fund for Business, Accounting, and Economics**

Awarded to students for the study of abroad experiences, internships, distinctions projects, or professional networking experience.

Jake Chilcote  
Bryan J. Flannery  
Richmond S. Honkpo  
Gavin M. Miriello

**CHEMISTRY**

**Presented by ..... John T. Tansey, Chair**

**First-Year Achievement Award: ACS Membership**

Awarded to an outstanding first-year Chemistry major(s)

Naeema M. Ali  
Noah T. Timbrook  
Payton D. Yates

**Kekule Award**

Awarded for academic excellence to a sophomore Chemistry major(s)

Emiliana M. Belcher

**Dalton Award**

Awarded for academic excellence to a junior Chemistry major(s)

Hollie K. Carey  
Bailee A. Toadvine

**Mendeleev Award**

Awarded for academic excellence to a senior Chemistry major(s)

Paul A. Scout III

**Weinland Chemistry Award**

Awarded to a student with high moral character and above average scholarship majoring in the field of Chemistry

Alyssa C. Galownia  
Mitchell Mckibben

**COMMUNICATION .....Eric K. Jones, Chair**

**“Dr. Griss” Speech Communication Endowed Award**

Presented to an outstanding student on the basis of breadth and depth of participation in departmental activities and academic success

Ashley E. Hall

**Forrest G. and Maude Berry Ketner Scholarships**

Awarded to any upperclassman student enrolled in the Speech Department with proven qualities of leadership and academic success, and involved in public speaking or debate.

Liliana G. Kennon  
Nolan S. James

**H. Robert Pollock Memorial Endowed Award**

Presented to a currently enrolled full-time junior, senior and/or Master's Student earning language arts certification who intends to teach speech at a secondary level and/or a full-time currently enrolled junior or senior student who intends to enroll in graduate school and teach communication at the college level

Nina S. Goodlett

**Robert A. Spencer Jr. Memorial Award for Excellence in Broadcasting**

Presented to an outstanding senior broadcaster on the basis of service to WOBN and WOCC

Michael A. Wynn

**Verda B. Evans Award in Journalism**

Awarded for excellence in Journalism

Jack D. Buzinski

## EDUCATION

Presented by ..... Paul J. Wendel, Co-Chair

### **Class of 1944 Endowed Award**

Awarded to a currently enrolled part-time or full-time junior Education major who excels in their major and is outstanding in their involvement with campus activities

Zachary J. Courie

### **Class of 1945 Endowed Award**

Awarded to a currently enrolled part-time or full-time junior or senior Early Childhood Education major who excels in their major and is outstanding in their involvement with campus activities

Anya F. Taylor

### **Class of 1946 Endowed Award**

Awarded to a currently enrolled part-time or full-time junior Education major who excels in their major and is outstanding in their involvement with campus activities

Gavin Zember

### **Dr. H. Jay Dattle '64 Memorial Endowed Award**

Awarded to a part-time or full-time undergraduate or graduate student(s) majoring in Elementary or Secondary Education with first preference to a graduate student

Danielle M. James

### **Charles W. Hayman Memorial Endowed Award**

Awarded by the Department Chair to a student(s) who has made an exceptional contribution to the Education Department

Nina S. Goodlett

### **James R. Larson Memorial Endowed Award**

Awarded to an adult student who has demonstrated interest in empowering women and distinguished themselves in the field of multiculturalism or commitment to working with historically underserved or underprivileged populations

Bhumika Tiwari

### **Donald E. and Mary A. (Wagner) Myers Endowed Education Award**

Awarded to a currently enrolled full-time Education major(s) who excels in their major and is outstanding in their involvement with campus activities

Lucia W. Wise

### **Selby Family Endowed Award**

Awarded to an outstanding student(s) majoring in Education who exhibits good scholarship. Preference given to a student(s) who is a son/daughter of a United Methodist minister or who is of the United Methodist faith

Sophie A. Miller

### **Jody Melick VanTine Award For Excellence in Elementary Education**

Awarded to an outstanding Education major who is a member of Tau Epsilon Mu Sorority

Karissa Y. Jorat  
Kelsey M. Powell  
Reese P. Marvin

## ENGINEERING, COMPUTER SCIENCE AND PHYSICS

Presented by ..... Michael W. Hudoba, Chair

### **Maurice and Rose Rapkin Computer Science Endowed Award**

Awarded to a part-time or full-time Computer Science major(s) or minor(s) who has shown outstanding progress in Computer Science awareness and has shown proficiency in the application of Computer Science for occupational goals beyond graduation

Liticia Makhloufi  
Hassan Mohammad Abdullah  
Andrea A. Richter  
Elizabeth J. Smith  
Zachary R. Vollrath  
Samia Zamam

### **Pete Sanderson Computer Science Endowed Scholarship**

Awarded to an undergraduate student(s) with a major in Computer Science who demonstrates academic excellence

Hussein Al-Ani  
Ashley Gutierrez Gallegos  
Deep V. Patel  
Abiral Pokharel

**Dr. Joseph and Marilyn Harpster Engineering Award**  
Awarded to an outstanding rising first year student(s) with a major in Engineering who demonstrates academic excellence and a commitment to public or community leadership

Rocco G. DeLorenzo  
Ollie M. Smith

**Engineering Leadership Service Award**  
Awarded to a graduating senior chosen by the Engineering faculty

Jacob R. Duvall

**Engineering Academic Excellence Award**  
Awarded to a graduating senior chosen by the Engineering faculty

Halen A. Hamstead

**Enrico Fermi Outstanding Senior Award**  
Awarded to an outstanding senior Physics major

Mahad A. Yusuf

**Richard Feynman Award**  
Awarded to an outstanding performance in the first-year Physics sequence

Rocco G. DeLorenzo

## ENGLISH

Presented by ..... Karen F. Steigman, Chair

**Pat Mizer Cassady Memorial**  
Awarded to a student who has excelled in writing

Jane D. Cook  
Grayson H. Hawk

**John W. Fisher Memorial Senior Writer's Award**  
This endowed award, awarded to a senior part-time or full-time student, seeks to honor and memorialize John W. Fisher '71 and his love of the English language

Frederick G. Borer  
Annabella S. Hartzog

**Janet Louise Roberts Award**  
Awarded to a student(s) who has shown leadership in *Quiz and Quill*

Frederick G. Borer  
Wrenne R. Gone

**Robert E. and Mary Elizabeth Cramer Endowed Award**  
Awarded to any part-time or full-time student(s) who majors in English and who shows academic excellence, leadership abilities, and commitment to the University community

Asmaa Adan  
Huda A. Kambi  
Ava N. McBride  
Breanna M. McCluskey  
Grace E. McKenney  
Kathryn I. Nichols  
Mars I. Scott  
Liam J. Sharp  
Samuel S. Shelton  
Alea L. Simbro  
Julia E. Zetlmeisl

**Joining Hands Award**  
Awarded to an Integrated Language Arts major(s) for excellence in student teaching

Mary R. Flowers

**Myers Family Endowed English Award**  
Awarded to an English major(s) with a concentration in Literary Studies for excellence in critical writing

Camilla Borders  
Isaac B. Jones

## EQUINE SCIENCE

Presented by ..... Sheri S. Birmingham, Chair

**Karen Nixon Heaberlin '68 Endowed Award**  
Awarded to an Equine Science major who has a 3.5 cumulative grade point average and has consistently demonstrated a genuine concern for animals and their welfare; preference shall be given to a student who has been involved with associations that promote humane treatment of animals

Madison N. Koons

**Pietila Family Equine Science Endowed Award**

Awarded to a full-time student(s) who is majoring in Equine Science and an equestrian participating in either dressage or combined training

Lydia I. Smathers

**Betty F. Kennedy Award for Academic Excellence**

This award is the Department of Equine Science’s highest recognition of a graduating Equine Science major based upon academic excellence, contributions to the department, and service to Otterbein University

Rachael R. Wingard

**HEALTH AND SPORT SCIENCES**

**Presented by .....Joan E. Rocks, Chair**

**Marilyn E. Day Endowed Award**

Awarded to a full-time student(s) majoring in the department for excellence in scholarship, leadership, and service

Rachel N. Bender  
Daniela N. DeMata Hiciano  
Hooda Hersi  
Avery M. Settles

**Harold C. Martin Memorial Endowed Award**

Awarded to a student whose major field is Physical Education and who is planning to teach and coach

Kyla S. Irby

**Elmer W. “Bud” Yoest ’53 Endowed Award**

Awarded to a Health and Sport Science student(s) demonstrating an exceptional commitment to campus leadership and citizenship

Maggie R. McVicker  
Cyleigh R. Sampson

**Taylor E. M. Horn Endowed Award**

Aids in the support of student research and/or experiential learning opportunities

Amelia R. Dailey  
Kyra L. Smith

**HISTORY, POLITICAL SCIENCE, LANGUAGES & CULTURES**

**Presented by .....Deborah B. Solomon, Chair**

**Class of 1904 Prize in Government and Political Science Prize**

Awarded annually to an outstanding student(s) in the field of Government and Political Science

Rowan G. Ratvasky

**Lynn W. Turner Prize in History**

Awarded to a History student(s) for excellence in the study of History

Olivia R. Sweet

**Pierre F. and Marguerite M. Rosselot Prize Fund**

Awarded to a student(s) who demonstrates academic excellence in History and Political Science

Kalleena B. Bellerive  
Helen E. Darrough

**Samuel and Ida Zimmerman Spencer Memorial Endowed Award**

Awarded to a full-time student(s) involved in the Study Abroad Program

Maren Ross

**Pasquale and Concetta Giammarco Premio Endowed Award**

Awarded to a student(s) for excellence in the study of a Foreign Language

Grace Blonde  
Ayleen V. Soto  
Alec P. Spangler

**Gilbert E. Mills Award**

Awarded to an outstanding senior(s) Foreign Language major

Jade M. Murray  
Rachel C. Ziel

**Hamilton Merit Award in Foreign Language**

Awarded to a sophomore student for excellence in the study of a Foreign Language

Delaney J. Schuck

**Dr. Elizabeth Doerschuk O’Bear Award**

Awarded to a full-time student(s) who has been an outstanding student of Foreign Language

Esmeralda Alcauter Torres  
Winona A. Schmidt  
Rachel L. Williamson

**Farnlacher-Hovermale Endowed Award**

Awarded to a currently enrolled full-time student(s) who demonstrates excellent academic progress toward the successful completion of their degree and proficiency in their major

Jade C. Keel  
Mason E. Fortin

**HONORS PROGRAM**

**Presented by .....**Michele Acker, Program Director

**Outstanding Honors Program Student**

Awarded to a senior student(s) for achieving the highest excellence and creativity in the completion of their Senior Honors Thesis

Jane D. Cook  
Sydnee H. Goff  
Mitchell K. Patterson

**MATHEMATICS AND ACTUARIAL SCIENCE**

**Presented by .....**Jeremy S. Moore, Chair

**J. Clarence and Floss G. Baker Award in Mathematics**

Awarded to a graduating senior(s) for academic excellence in Mathematics

Katherine M. Brewer

**Dr. Michael S. Bridgman Prize in Mathematics**

Awarded to a sophomore or junior Mathematics major(s) who holds at least a 3.0 cumulative grade point average and demonstrates outstanding future potential in the field; preference goes to a student engaged in extracurricular activities that involve the pursuit or advancement of Mathematics (such as tutoring)

Alayna L. Meyer  
Addison J. Wolford

**Donald Dean Kincaid '88 Memorial Endowed Award**

Awarded to a Mathematical Science major(s) who demonstrates high academic ranking, provides leadership within the department, and shows professional potential in the field of Mathematics

Lydia M. Pope

**Mathematics Departmental Hinton Endowed Award**

Awarded to a part-time or full-time student(s) who demonstrates exceptional commitment to the learning of Mathematics

Laurie L. McDonald

**Mathematics Departmental Math-Education Hinton Endowed Award**

Awarded to a part-time or full-time student(s) who demonstrates exceptional commitment to the learning of Mathematics with the intent to teach Mathematics

Gavin Zember

**Roger Tremaine Memorial Award**

Awarded to undergraduate students with a major or minor in Mathematical Sciences

Cayden Lassiter  
Cameron M. Sparks

**Dr. James H. Weaver Memorial Mathematics Award**

Awarded to an undergraduate student taking third- or fourth-year mathematics and who demonstrates academic excellence

Olivia F. Lutz

**MUSIC**

**Presented by .....**Nicholas P. Ross, Chair

**William H. and Alta B. Arbogast Music Prize**

Awarded to a graduating senior Music major with the highest grade point average

Megan M. Ladd

**Thelma Zellner Memorial Choral Music Award**

Awarded to a junior(s) who demonstrates commitment to and quality participation in the Choral Music activities of the University

Maryn M. Hoyt  
Alaina A. Smith

**Ellen M. Jones '23 Memorial Endowed Award**

Awarded to a Music major who is an instrumentalist

Tyler C. Green

**Thomas E. Cook '39 Memorial Choral Music Endowed Award**

Awarded to a non-music major for distinguished contribution to the University's choral music program

Landon M. Fallon

**Shackson Memorial Music Education Endowed Award**

Awarded to a full-time Music major pursuing a Music Education degree

Sarah E. Gainey

**Olive S. Cook '24 Memorial Endowed Award**

Awarded to a Music or Music Education major(s) who demonstrates exceptional academic progress and demonstrates a distinct appreciation for the Music discipline

Gabriel J. Cozart  
Jack Howells  
Amelia E. Kunar  
Stefani A. Stiers  
Natalie G. Wightman

**Gary R. Tirey Endowed Award in Music**

Awarded to a sophomore or junior non-music major who exhibits good scholarship, is active in and demonstrates leadership in a range of ensembles in the instrumental program

Natalia Z. Harbaugh  
Miles W. Irwin  
Sydney Pike

**Frances Harris Memorial Endowed Award**

Awarded to a Music or Music Education major whose principal instrument is piano

Hugh A. Ivori

**Presser Foundation Scholarship**

Awarded on the basis of musicianship and contributions to the Department of Music

Vincent T. Bostick

**Grabill-Shackson Award**

This award is the Department of Music's highest recognition of a graduating Music major; awarded on the basis of scholarship, musicianship, citizenship, service to the department and service to the University

Megan M. Ladd

**Jeanne B. Gross Scholarship Fund**

Awarded to a sophomore or junior music education student; a gift from the Westerville Historical Society and Jeanne B. Gross Estate

Kendra D. Hildreth

**NURSING**

**Presented by ..... John D. Chovan, Chair**

**Andrew LeHigh '95 Memorial Endowed Award**

Awarded to a part-time or full-time upper-division Nursing student who demonstrates academic scholarship, clinical excellence, and shows leadership skills

Gabriel P. Freshour

**Dorothy J. McVay Endowed Award**

A Certificate of Recognition given annually to a senior student for academic achievement and clinical excellence in the Bachelor of Science in Nursing program

Maura A. Fischer

**PHILOSOPHY AND RELIGION**

**Presented by ..... Andrew P. Mills, Chair**

**Jesse S. Engle '14 Memorial Endowed Award**

Awarded to a student of any discipline who has shown exceptional academic standing and has excelled in Philosophy and/or Religion classes

Mya G. White

**Thelma and Robert Frank Endowed Award**

Awarded to a student(s) who is pursuing a profession as a Christian teacher, missionary, or clergyperson

Connor A. Gluntz  
Kasdin E. Hale  
Alea L. Simbro

**Lawrence Keister New Testament Award**

Awarded to a student showing outstanding proficiency in New Testament studies

Grace E. McKenney

**Foster and Hilda Williams Endowed Award**

Awarded to a student with the goal of serving full-time in the Christian ministry

Alea L. Simbro

**William O. and Floral Amy Endowed Prize**

Awarded to a full-time student who has done outstanding work in religious studies (Biblical, theological, or comparative)

Dale A. Williams

**Abhidharma-Satyananda Book Award in Religious Studies**

Awarded to a student(s) who has shown unusual aptitude and diligence in the historical or comparative study of the world's religions

AJ Jeyabalan  
Sydney R. Titus

**Susanna Annesley Wesley Book Award in Christian Studies**

Awarded to a student(s) who has demonstrated a high level of creative Scholarship in courses in the Christian Religion

Julia E. Zetlmeisl

**Peripatos Book Award in Philosophy**

Awarded to a student(s) who has shown remarkable aptitude in the study of the Western philosophic tradition

Jennifer A. Marsh

**PSYCHOLOGY**

**Presented by ..... Meredith C. Frey, Chair**

**Stephen Karsko Memorial Award**

Awarded to Psychology majors who, in commitment to the total University community, display openness and curiosity, and demonstrate definite leadership skills

Atzi S. Ernst  
Julia M. Gordish  
Abby M. Meister  
Ava Nepal  
Abigail R. Waugh  
Aubree G. Whanger  
Dale A. Williams

**Felipe Martinez Humanitarian Award**

Awarded to a senior majoring in Psychology who displays a general humanitarian emphasis both in philosophy and in action, a strong commitment to personal growth and value-education, and an exemplary attitude toward the liberal arts

Kayla M. Swanson

**Mia Lewis and Noam Shpancer Endowed Award**

Awarded to a full-time, undergraduate student(s), who is also a first-generation American and pursuing a degree in Psychology.

Habon H. Gutala  
Aaliya A. Omar

**SOCIOLOGY, CRIMINOLOGY AND JUSTICE STUDIES**

**Presented by ..... Kerry E. Pannell, Interim Chair**

**Phyllis Weygandt Auerbach '51 Memorial Award**

Awarded to a senior student(s) who plans to enter the field of human services, has a minimum 3.25 cumulative grade point average, participated in a program in human services during their undergraduate years, is actively involved in extracurricular activities and plans to enter graduate school

Atlas G. Kirkendall  
Madison N. Koons

**Albert E. Lovejoy Prize in Sociology**

Awarded to a junior or senior Sociology major(s) who demonstrates a solid

Skye M. Hamilton  
Ki'Essence D. Pollard

academic performance with at least a 2.5 cumulative grade point average, a high level of commitment to public and community leadership, and a strong global perspective

Julia E. Tenbusch

**Ida B. Wells Social Justice Book Award**

Awarded to a student(s) with an excellent academic record and passion for social justice

Cordaejah M. Ridley  
Casey M. Sussman

**Scholar's Book Award**

Awarded to a student(s) with an exceptional academic record who is attending graduate school

Brandon W. McLaughlin

**W.E.B. DuBois Book Award**

Awarded to a student(s) in leadership positions who advance a sociological and social justice perspective

D'Andre M. Person

**THEATRE AND DANCE**

**Presented by .....** Leonard B. Leibowitz, Chair

**David Graf '72 Endowed Award**

Awarded to a Senior Showcase performer who exemplifies the qualities of David Graf. Chosen by students who attended the Showcase

Sammantha M. Robinson

**Gressman-Shultz Drama Award**

Awarded to the outstanding senior Theatre student

Katelyn A. Miller

**Leslie Burrell Mangia Musical Theatre Award**

Awarded to the outstanding junior(s) in Musical Theatre who has appeared in at least two musical productions at Otterbein

Anna E. Byers  
Dominic J. Catrone  
Brianna Gutierrez-Diaz

**Paul G. Smythe Theatre Award**

Awarded to an outstanding junior Acting major(s)

Katherine M. Brewer

**Fred J. "Pop" Thayer H'82 Endowed Theatre Award**

Awarded annually to an outstanding junior Design/Technology major

Lilian M. Ducey

**Joanne Van Sant Musical Theatre and Dance Award**

Awarded to any outstanding full-time Musical Theatre and Dance major who has made significant contributions to the promotion, advancement and/or appreciation of dance

Halle N. Audette  
Anna G. Dinnen

**Petie Dodrill Theatre Endowed Award**

Awarded to an outstanding sophomore or junior student(s) who has made significant contributions to the promotion, advancement, and/or appreciation of the costume area at Otterbein University; must have a minimum 2.5 grade point average

Theodore S. Marshall

**Katie Falter '13 Champion in Theatre Award**

Awarded to a junior or senior Bachelor of Arts Theatre major, who is planning to pursue a career in directing and demonstrates the qualities that marked Katie Falter's life and work

Ja Na'Ya F. Johnson

**Andy Baker Spirit of Generosity Award**

Awarded to a Freshman, Sophomore, or Junior Theatre major who demonstrates the qualities that marks Andy Baker's life and work - "Generosity of Spirit"

Catherine E. Brown

**Eugene C. Reynolds Speech/Drama Award**

Awarded to an outstanding Communication or Theatre/Dance major(s) for success in academics and involvement in activities

Maya Q. Cidale  
LaBron A. Foy  
Maren E. Rhoads  
Natalie M. Neville

**Alan and Christy Coupland Theatre and Dance Endowed Scholarship**  
Awarded to a first-year student pursuing a Theatre Performance major within the Theatre and Dance department

Blake L. Sisney

## **WOMEN’S, GENDER, AND SEXUALITY STUDIES PROGRAM**

**Presented by..... Tammy A. Birk, Program Director**

**Excellence in Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Award**  
Awarded to a student who exemplifies academic excellence, leadership in the WGSS program, and sustained commitment to the campus community

Ava R. Borromeo  
Isaac B. Jones  
Julia E. Tenbusch

**Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Scholarship Activist Award**  
Awarded to a student who lives and models a direct relationship between scholarship and social justice advocacy in their work at Otterbein or the local community

Aeriyanna C. Goddard  
Charlie Ryan  
Karina E. Streeter

## **MULTI-DEPARTMENTAL AWARDS**

**Presented by..... Wendy R. Sherman Heckler, Provost and Senior Vice President**

**Priest-Miller Endowed Award**  
Awarded to a full-time student who demonstrates outstanding achievement in Biology and Earth Science, Chemistry, or Biochemistry and Molecular Biology

Sydnee H. Goff

**Bert and Jane Horn Endowed Student Research Fund in the Sciences**  
Awarded to provide students with an opportunity to benefit from research experiences available within Biology and Earth Science, Chemistry, and Biochemistry and Molecular Biology

Kabir S. Assi  
Aidan W. Johnson  
Noor Moussa  
Holly R. Rice  
Bailee A. Toadvine

**Joan Niewaroski Jaschke Memorial Award**  
Awarded to a total of two part-time students, one from the Psychology department and one from the English department, who earned a high school diploma five or more years ago and who have demonstrated an interest in empowering women

Camilla Borders

**Benua Foundation Award for Academic Excellence**  
Awarded to a senior(s) majoring in Psychology and/or Sociology who demonstrates evidence of superior scholarship and makes a significant contribution to the vitality and direction of the department

Rachel M. Malek  
D’Andre M. Person

# NON-DEPARTMENTAL AWARDS

*Presented by*.....Wendy R. Sherman Heckler  
Bill Fox  
Kristy L. Drobney

**Carl and Helen DeVore Memorial Humanitarian Award**

Awarded to a junior or senior student(s) for outstanding commitment to public service. It acknowledges a spectrum of efforts, from individual service to the ability to create an organization and involve others. The award recognizes results accomplished through the student's initiative and ability to translate ideas into practical results

Israel Lopez Altamirano  
Gena D. Hayes  
Maegen G. Meldrum

**Richard and Carolyn Sherrick Fund**

This award provides funding for Otterbein students pursuing opportunities related to experiential learning with a preference for travel-related opportunities

Nathan Bonno  
Liberty M. Eckelbarger  
Aven E. Farmer  
Reece D. Hubar  
Kyle B. Niehaus  
Addison L. Scott  
Erica L. Snyder

**James V. Miller Award**

Awarded to an Otterbein student on the Dean's List who has demonstrated leadership in the co-curricular life of the University

Elizabeth M. White

**G. Harlan and Mary O. Hummell '31 Rainier Memorial Endowed Award**

Awarded to a student(s) who has demonstrated experience in, or commitment to, working with historically underserved or underprivileged populations

Fatima O. Ahmed

**K. William and Gloria Shiffler '50 Endowed Award**

Awarded to a full-time freshman or sophomore student(s) who is also an endowed scholarship recipient

Reyana M. Allen-Hairston  
Jaedan N. Washburn

**Childers Family Award for International Study**

Awarded to a student who wishes to pursue a study abroad that is at least one term in length

Travis C. Allen  
Anna E. Byers

**Knight Family Fund for International Study**

Awarded to a student who wishes to participate in study abroad or international learning opportunities

Olivia D. Adams  
Chandler C. Crowell  
Helen E. Darrough

**Torch and Key Endowed Tuition Award**

A gift from the Torch and Key Society awarded in honor of Dr. Robert Price H'60, Mr. John Becker '50, and Dr. Harold Hancock H'69 to a junior with a 3.85+ grade point average who has shown evidence of leadership qualities in Otterbein activities

Gabriella C. Anzelmo  
Alaina T. Boles  
Mallory R. Holcomb  
Ella M. Pfaffl

**Glendine Huggins Wadlington Memorial Endowed Award**

Awarded to a part-time or full-time student(s) in recognition of their efforts and success during their years at Otterbein

Caiden D. Hooks  
Caroline R. Mizer

**Alpha Lambda Delta/Phi Eta Sigma Outstanding Senior Award**  
Awarded to the graduating senior member(s) of Alpha Lambda Delta/Phi EtaSigma with a high cumulative grade point average and active participation; the recipient's name is added to the Alpha Lambda/Phi Eta plaque in the library

Shikha Iyer

**Epsilon Kappa Tau Alumnae Memorial Endowed Award in Honor of Dr. Marilyn E. Day**

Awarded annually to a full-time senior(s) in the active chapter of Epsilon Kappa Tau on the basis of grade point average and service to the University and the sorority

Erica L. Synder

**Pi Kappa Phi Essig-Stobart-Eldridge-Borland Award**

Recognizes the "balance" of academics, extra curricular activity, and fraternity leadership as evidenced by Lester Essig, Steve R. Stobart '93, W. Michael Stobart '95, Bradley Eldridge '95, and Ryan D. Borland '97

Matthew W. Griffin

**Pi Kappa Phi Professor Horace W. Troup '23 Award**

Recognizes achievement and distinction in the fields of accounting, and/or business administration with a preference for accounting

Matthew W. Griffin

**Sigma Alpha Tau Alumnae Endowed Award**

Awarded annually to a full-time student(s) in the active chapter of Sigma Alpha Tau Sorority on the basis of grade point average and service to the University and the sorority

Alexia L. Pennington

**Fraternity and Sorority Scholarship Awards**

Awarded to the fraternity and sorority with the highest grade point average for the current academic year

Sigma Delta Phi  
Theta Nu

# OUTSTANDING TEACHER AWARDS

## **New Teacher of The Year**

*Laine Schrewe, Assistant Professor, Engineering, Computer Science, and Physics*

Award is intended for a full-time faculty member at the Assistant Professor rank who is in the first three years of continuing service at Otterbein.

## **Teacher of the Year**

*Paul Eisenstein, Professor, English*

Award is open to all other full-time continuing members of the Otterbein University faculty.

## **Excellence In Teaching**

*Alex Fotis, Instructor, Integrative Studies*

Award is open to Part-Time Faculty members at Otterbein University.

For each teaching award, the awardee should exhibit mastery of the subject matter in their discipline or in interdisciplinary teaching; highly effective organization and communication of material; a spirit of enthusiasm which enriches the instructor's own teaching and learning; the ability to arouse the curiosity of beginning students and to stimulate advanced students to creative work, and the ability to interact with students beyond the classroom through activities that integrate and expand the learning environment.

Consideration will be given to years of service in teaching at Otterbein and demonstration of the Five Principles for Effective Teaching (Knowledge, Design, Praxis, Relationships and Assessment) as described in detail in Appendix A in the Faculty Manual.

## **Reynolds Exemplary Teaching Award**

*Michele Acker, Professor, Psychology*

This award was established in memory of Dr. Christina Reynolds, a long-time faculty member of the Communication Department and the inaugural Associate Provost for Faculty Affairs. The purpose of this award is to recognize an outstanding faculty member who strives to create a vibrant learning environment that ensures a transformational education for students, dedicates their time and intellect to the cause of shared governance, and gives back beyond the walls of the classroom to make Otterbein a better place.

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## ACADEMIC REGALIA

A commission appointed in 1959 by the American Council on Education prescribes a code for academic regalia that consists of three main parts: caps, gowns and hoods. The first part, dealing with caps, allows the mortarboard or Oxford type cap. Occasionally, the Cambridge model, a soft cap resembling a beret, is worn. Either type is correct as long as it is black and of an appropriate material, except that velvet is reserved for doctors.

The tassel worn with the cap has three variations. First, it may be black for any degree. Second, it may be in the color of the major field of learning in which the degree was granted. Third, a tassel of gold metallic may be worn by doctors and governing officials of institutions. Some schools make a ceremony of switching the tassel from the right to the left at the moment the degree is awarded as a substitute for individual hooding of candidates.

The second main part of academic regalia concerns the gown which should be all black, aside from variations in materials and fullness. The bachelor's gown falls in straight lines from a fairly elaborate yoke. Its distinguishing characteristic is the long pointed sleeves. A master's gown is distinguished by an arc-shaped panel on the long or short sleeve. The doctor's gown is an elaborate costume marked by velvet panels down the front and around the neck as well as by three bars of the same materials on the bell-shaped sleeves. It is cut much fuller than the other gowns and unlike them may be ornamented in color. Both the panelling and the sleeve bars may show the area in which the degree was awarded.

The third main component of academic regalia is the hood which makes clear the level of the degree, the area in which it was given and the institution which awarded it. The size of the hood and the width of the velvet trimming shows the level of study. The more advanced the degree, the longer the hood and wider the velvet trim. The color of the trim identifies the area in which the degree was awarded. Arts, letters and humanities are represented by white; education is light blue; fine arts is brown; law is purple; music is pink; nursing is apricot; philosophy is dark blue; science is golden yellow; and theology is scarlet. The lining of a hood bears the official colors of the institution from which the degree was received, in Otterbein's case, tan and cardinal.

# HONORARY SOCIETIES

## Alpha Lambda Delta/Phi Eta Sigma Senior Academic Achievement Certificates

*The academic honorary societies proudly acknowledge the following members who have maintained a 3.5 and higher cumulative grade point average throughout their undergraduate program at Otterbein.*

Grace M. Almendinger	Eva M. Joering	Paul A. Scott
Mia P. Ames	Elise C. Karlstad	Claire E. Seeley
Rachel E. Bollo	Monique K. Ke	Nora E. Shearer
Jane D. Cook	Drew B. Kegler	Fiona E. Shella
Lauren E. Corn	Madison N. Koons	Madelyn J. Sinsel
Lena B. Dickerson	Ana M. Kusenberger	Emma D. Slates
Anna G. Dinnen	Parker S. Lane	Benjamin A. Sommer
Jacob R. Duvall	Jackson R. Lee	Adam E. Stahler
Keerstin B. Farson-Mantor	Kasey H. Mader	Tenley S. Stitzer
Hannah E. Franklin	Morgan E. Mahan	Casey M. Sussman
Jalyne K. Fuson	Rachel M. Malek	Kayla M. Swanson
Alyssa C. Galownia	Carli R. Martz	Olivia R. Sweet
Kiera P. Geiger	Kyle A. Miller	Julia E. Tenbusch
Tessa E. Gilger	Shannon M. Mitchell	Courtney A. Turner
Sydnee H. Goff	Hala I. Mohamed	Derrick L. Turner
Lillian J. Graham	Sabrina F. Mohamed	Elizabeth Valdez
Grayson C. Grimm	John D. Otte	Abigail N. Van Voorhis
Wrenne R. Grone	D'Andre M. Person	Umakair H. Warsame
Giselle Guevara	Morgan A. Pinkerton	Emma K. Weller
Hailey P. Hill	Haley R. Plaughner	Molly E. Wheeler
Caiden D. Hooks	Evie L. Reed	Elizabeth M. White
Meredith L. Hudson	Piers H. Ross	Mya G. White
Aref J. Hussein	Olivia Ryan	Noelle L. Wilson
Shikha Iyer	Maya I. Samlan	Worthy O. Wilson
Christopher M. Jackson	Cyleigh R. Sampson	
Hanan A. Jama	Alyssa K. Sanderell	

### Alpha Lambda Delta/Phi Eta Sigma Initiates

*The following students have been initiated into Alpha Lambda Delta/Phi Eta Sigma Honorary Societies. First year students who have maintained a 3.5 and higher cumulative grade point average after their first semester at Otterbein are eligible for membership.*

Aisha A. Atosh  
Mitchell Auld  
Morgan G. Avelli  
Claire E. Baker  
Jack M. Barber  
Courtney J. Bevier  
Maddie N. Bishop  
Emily M. Black  
Grace Blonde  
Austin Bodem  
Clara M. Bond  
Willowhawk L. Bowen  
Addi E. Bucci  
Lizzy A. Busch  
Mackenzie J. Cherubini  
Heather A. Cook  
Livie G. Coolbaugh  
Ainsley M. Curran  
Tess A. Curry  
Skyler B. Davis  
Katie P. Deeter  
Ella S. Degenhard  
Rocco G. Delorenzo  
Aissata O. Dia  
Megan L. Donough  
Stephanie L. Feitl  
Adrian A. Flahive  
Caden A. Gadjigo  
Simon . Garfias  
Alizé . Gaskill  
Suzanna L. Gebhart  
Ross R. Gerckens

Karley F. Gerst  
Reid M. Graham  
Anisha Gurung  
Naomi A. Hand  
Evelyn T. Hill  
Mia N. Holland  
Breanna Honsperger  
Addison Hughes  
Katelin J. Izzo  
Jack W. Jenkins  
Cole Jones  
Karissa Y. Jorat  
Evy A. Joseph  
Madison Keith  
Molly E. Kessler  
Maddie E. Knerr  
Karter A. Kolbe  
Madison E. Lacy  
Sophia Lancelotta  
Abrielle M. Laporte  
Aurora J. Lemaster  
Maren G. Lilienthal  
Isabella M. Lucius  
Olivia L. Lundy  
Pierce Luyster  
Carson A. Maharry  
Reese P. Marvin  
Eman J. Massaquoi  
Madi L. Mcintosh  
Emmy G. McLaughlin  
Alvin S. Michael  
Adabelle M. Miller  
Ana G. Miranda  
Liam Morral

Spencer J. Nelson  
Ava Nepal  
Grant F. Norris  
Carrie A. Petree  
Theresa Keith Pingkian  
Sophie C. Port  
Micah Reeder  
Miriam G. Rife  
Lexi Rohrer  
Grace Ruganis  
Ian E. Ruiz  
Elise M. Sepesy  
Jaide A. Serock  
Skyler Shannon  
Sophie L. Shaver  
Bella G. Smith  
Avery G. Smithberger  
Cameron M. Sparks  
Erika K. Stake  
Ellen K. Staton  
Grace K. Sullivan  
Ella I. Swinford  
Bennett G. Tekavec  
Giada A. Tongson  
Madee R. Turner  
Addison J. Underwood  
Owen P. P. Vest  
Emily G. Vieira  
Brennan V. Vignali  
Abby R. Waugh  
Aidan J. Wiseman  
Peyton D. Yates  
Brayden J. Zimmer

### **Alpha Kappa Delta Honorary**

*Founded in 1920, Alpha Kappa Delta seeks to acknowledge and promote excellence in the scholarship in the study of social problems, sociology, and intellectual activities that lead to the improvement in the human condition. Members must be in the upper 35 percent of their class in general scholarship and have a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or higher in Sociology.*

Atzi S. Ernst  
Sarah . Hamchache  
Malaya K. Kayin Sherman  
Ella M. Pfaffl

Ki'Essence D. Pollard  
Kiernan E. Rosen-Kopsch  
Fiona E. Shella  
Tia C. Wilson

### **Iota Iota Iota National Honorary**

*Iota Iota Iota (Tri-Iota) is the national honorary for Women's and Gender Studies. It strives to maintain the feminist and anti-oppressive values that are central to Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies. Students in Otterbein's chapter work to support diversity in membership, egalitarian action and decision-making, a sustained commitment to social change advocacy, and a more inclusive academic environment for all students.*

Grace Barton  
Ava R. Borromeo  
Katie P. Deeter  
Aleema M. Garfinkel  
Aeriyana C. Goddard  
Grayson H. Hawk  
Isaac B. Jones

Kit McCall-Crum  
AJ Nagy  
Raven R. Pack  
Wes C. Phillips  
Zahara F. Rahi  
Lukas Rhynard  
Sage Reliford  
Charlie Ryan

Karina E. Streeter  
Aubrie Stuller  
Julia E. Tenbusch  
Ellyse C. Tillyer  
Elizabeth M. White  
Audra L. Wilson  
Julia E. Zetlmeisl

### **Lambda Pi Eta National Communication Honor Society - Iota Iota Chapter**

*The prupose of Lambda Pi Eta is to promote outstanding academic achievement in the Communication discipline. Juniors and Seniors must have a minimum 3.25 grade point average for all Communication Studies courses to be inducted members.*

Katharine J. Coutant  
Caroline R. Mizer  
Chloe E. O'Neill

Cordaejah M. Ridley  
Alexis J. Scott

### **Life Long Community Scholar Award**

*The LLC Scholars Award was created by the Lifelong Learning Community at Otterbein to support the lifelong learning mission of Otterbein University. The awards help rising seniors in need of support as they work toward graduation. Each LLC Scholar is asked to play an active role in the Lifelong Learning Community throughout the academic year.*

2025-2026 Awardees:

Hooda Hersi

Macie E. Jones

### **Pi Kappa Delta National Forensic Honorary**

*A National Forensic Honorary organization for intercollegiate debaters, competitive individual speakers, non-classroom audience speakers, and instructors in teaching oral communication.*

Jewell H. Alleman  
Jordan B. Blankson  
Nolan S. James  
Liliana G. Kennon

Shuab K. Nur  
Bailey A. Wallace  
Abigail R. Waugh

### **Psi Chi International Honor Society in Psychology**

*Psi Chi, founded in 1929, seeks to encourage, stimulate, and maintain excellence in scholarship and advance the science of Psychology. Members must be in the upper 35 percent of their class in general scholarship and have a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 in Psychology.*

Sophia K. Compton  
Isabelle G. Cuddihy  
Emily R. Dennis  
Atzi S. Ernst  
Masoma L. Githiora  
Julia M. Gordish  
Sarah Hamchache  
Ava U. Harl  
Hailey P. Hill  
Kyla Jenkins  
AJ R. Jeyabalan  
Atlas Kirkendall

Kayla M. Lechnir  
Clara A. Lively  
Rachel M. Malek  
Brandon W. McLaughlin  
Natalie F. Means  
Abigail M. Meister  
Ava Nepal  
Brielle G. Newland  
Nadia E. Otterstetter  
Sienna M. Palmer  
Mitchell K. Patterson  
Ella M. Pfaffl  
Kiera D. Piazza

Nina C. Price  
Malaya K. K. Sherman  
Elizabeth J. Smith  
Loryn J. Stiglianese  
Casey M. Sussman  
Kayla M. Swanson  
Amri-Joelle S. Wells  
Aubree G. Whanger  
Mya G. White  
Dale A. Williams Jr.  
Rachel L. Williamson  
Madalyn H. Wittrock

### **Sigma Tau Delta – International English Honor Society Alpha Rho Upsilon Chapter**

*The International English Honor Society confers distinction for achievement in English language, literature and writing in undergraduate, graduate, and professional studies. The following students are awarded Sigma Tau Delta membership for their academic excellence which enriches interest in English studies and literacy.*

Asmaa Adan  
Connor A. Gluntz  
Maria K. Jenkinson  
Allie R. Kelly  
Liticia Makhoulfi  
Ava N. McBride  
Katie Nichols

Nora E. Root  
Mars I. Scott  
Liam M. Sharp  
Alea L. Simbro  
Ellyse C. Tillyer  
Julia E. Zetlmeisl

### **Teleiotes Chapter of Mortar Board**

*Mortar Board is a national honor society recognizing college juniors and seniors for their exemplary scholarship, leadership and service.*

Fatima O. Ahmed  
Travis C. Allen  
Kabir S. Assi  
Jenessa G. Blanc  
Stephanie A. Deibel  
Raegan L. Dudzinski  
Keerstin B. Farson-Mantor  
Angelica J. Forester  
Kaydee F. Goff  
Sydney G. Goff

Lily J. Graham  
Hooda Hersi  
Mallory R. Holcomb  
Macie E. Jones  
Delaney R. Lovensheimer  
Liticia Makhoulfi  
Carli R. Martz  
Marshal L. Mull  
Isabella M. Neal  
Ella M. Pfaffl  
Kelsey M. Powell

Maggie E. Pyle  
Rowan G. Ratvasky  
Alyssa K. Sanderell  
Elizabeth J. Smith  
Alec P. Spangler  
Isabella G. Starlin  
Ellie Van Buskirk  
Rachel L. Williamson  
Katherine G. Wilt  
Rachel C. Ziel

### **The Vernon L. Pack Fellowship**

*The Pack Fellowship provides funding to students selected through an application process who are engaged in a public service program or project and are working in collaboration with the mission of the Center for Community Engagement at Otterbein University.*

*2025-26 Fellows:*

Aeriyana C. Goddard  
Kennedi M. Corthell  
Jaya L. Johnson

Shantae Levy  
Ki'Essence D. Pollard

### **Distinction Program**

*The Distinction Program recognizes students for excellent scholarly work in their fields of study.*

*Students in the program complete an independent research project or creative work.*

*During their senior year, students in the distinction program write a thesis about their work and participate in a public defense of their thesis before an advisory committee.*

*The students listed below are the juniors and seniors who have successfully completed all requirements for the Distinction Program.*

Gabrielle A. Amankwah  
Jonas J. Blake  
Ava R. Borromeo  
Alyssa C. Galownia  
Hooda Hersi  
Hanan A. Jama  
Sammi J. Jasper  
Isaac B. Jones

Jade C. Keel  
Kyle A. Miller  
Melanie E. Resnik  
Paul A. Scott III  
Lydia I. Smathers  
Dale A. Williams  
Austin A. Winn

### **Student Research Fund Award**

*Awarded to undergraduate and graduate students to support student research and presentation. Recipients are competitively selected based upon the quality of their proposed research and/or creative endeavor.*

Faiza A. Abdi  
Javeria Akhtar  
Gabrielle A. Amankwah  
Emiliana M. Belcher  
Unique Boamah  
Aisha S. Diallo  
Lena B. Dickerson  
Eneko A. Dillenberger  
Atzi S. Ernst  
Emma G. Errington  
Madeline G. Gaber  
Sydnee H. Goff  
David J. Hartman  
Alan J. Hatcher  
Hooda Hersi

Hailey P. Hill  
Salma A. Issa  
Giana M. Jenkins  
Madison N. Koons  
Daphne Le  
Jonathan Ledesma Garduno  
Rachel L. Miller  
Steven D. Monokandilos  
Noor Moussa  
Ciara N. Murphy  
Brielle G. Newland  
Hibaq A. Omar  
Nadia E. Otterstetter  
Mitchell K. Patterson  
Grace M. Pauley  
Ella M. Pfaffl

Neil R. Reddy  
Melanie E. Resnik  
Holly R. Rice  
Caroline G. Rizzuto  
Luka W. Sage-Frabotta  
James P. Siegert  
Elizabeth J. Smith  
Maya G. Steiger  
Emma C. Sturts  
Kayla M. Swanson  
Adyn J. Snyder  
Mya G. White  
Madalyn E. Wisener  
Madalyn H. Wittrock  
Lauren E. Wolf

## University Honors Program

*The University Honors program is a four-year curriculum culminating in the senior year with an interdisciplinary seminar or independent thesis project. Within our program theme “Community of Scholars,” students consider what it means to belong to a community of critical inquiry, and the role of scholarly inquiry to the public good.*

*The students listed below are graduating seniors who have successfully completed all requirements for the Honors Program.*

*\*Indicates the student has completed a senior thesis.*

Maresa A. Ahrens	Grayson H. Hawk*	Lukas A. Rhynard*
Mia Pei Ames*	Hailey P. Hill*	Nora E. Root
Dylan S. Andrews*	Caiden D. Hooks*	Maya I. Samlan
Emma L. Bastian	Anna R. Horst	Alyssa K. Sanderell*
Jonas J. Blake	Kendyl L. Householder	Madelyn J. Sinsel
Nevada D. Blake	Aref J. Hussein	Emma D. Slates*
Frederick G. Borer*	Jacob Irani	Alec P. Spangler
Aiden J. Bruntz	Eva M. Joering	Karina E. Streeter*
Jane D. Cook*	Duaa A. Khan*	Austin D. Stuller
Lena B. Dickerson	Atlas G. Kirkendall*	Kayla M. Swanson*
Kennedi G. Endsley	Madison N. Koons*	Olivia R. Sweet*
Emma G. Errington*	Megan M. Ladd	Julia E. Tenbusch*
Keerstin B. Farson-Mantor	Jonathan Ledesma Garduno*	Derrick L. Turner*
Clare M. Finck	Kasey H. Mader	Cameron S. Uhl
Bryan J. Flannery	Rachel M. Malek	Maegen G. VanWagoner*
Mary R. Flowers	Mitchell Mckibben	Lillianne E. Volz
Madeline G. Gaber	Owen J. Menge	Umakair H. Warsame
Kiera Geiger	Kyle A. Miller	Emma K. Weller*
Sydnee H. Goff*	Rachel L. Miller*	Amri-Joelle S. Wells
Tyler C. Green*	Gavin M. Miriello	Molly E. Wheeler
Wrenne R. Grone*	Hala I. Mohamed	Elizabeth M. White
Giselle Guevara	Sophia Morales	Mya G. White*
Taylor N. Gyurko	Brielle G. Newland*	Caitlin M. Wilkins
Halen A. Hamstead	John D. Otte	Noelle L. Wilson*
David J. Hartman*	Mitchell K. Patterson*	Rachael R. Wingard*
Annabelle S. Hartzog*	D’Andre M. Person*	Rachel C. Ziel
	Haley R. Plaughner*	



OTTERBEIN  
UNIVERSITY