

Outstanding Business Student Awards

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The Allegany County Chamber of Commerce's Education Committee and the Rotary Club of Cumberland are pleased to announce the winners of the Annual Outstanding Business Student Awards. This is the thirty-fourth year area business students have been recognized for their achievements in business courses in the county's public and private high schools, Allegany College of Maryland and Frostburg State University.

ALLEGANY HIGH SCHOOL

ERICA METHENY

Erica is currently a senior at Allegany High School with a 4.54 GPA and is an AP Scholar student. She has been a member of Future Business Leaders of America holding the office position of president for the past four years. As president of the FBLA, she organized her chapter's participation in the state FBLA's Media Madness program. Erica plans to continue her education at a four-year university but is undecided on which institution. She plans to major in computer science.

BISHOP WALSH SCHOOL

CAMRYN BRAKEALL

Camryn is the Editor-in-Chief of the 2021-2022 yearbook. In her junior year she was a staff member for the yearbook. This year in her role as Editor-in-Chief she communicates with the yearbook advisor about assignments, deadlines, photography issues, page layout, staff needs and so on. Camryn has done an amazing job on this year's book. She is co-caption of the basketball team, a cheerleader, and captain of the soccer team. She has an impressive GPA, taking a full course load with Honors and AP classes.

CALVARY CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

JOEL CLISE

Joel is a senior at Calvary Christian Academy where he has earned a 3.48 GPA overall and a 4.0 GPA during his senior year. In the community he serves as a volunteer for the Union Rescue Mission, especially during their holiday drives. In addition to his CCA classes, Joel is taking a welding class through Allegany College of Maryland's Western Maryland Works program. He will graduate and receive a certificate in May. Joel has his own small business called Metal Maintenance, where he does repairs and small welding projects. His goal, when he turns 18 and graduates this spring, is to set up an LLC and grow his welding business.

FORT HILL HIGH SCHOOL

MARIA ECKARD

Maria is an exceptional business student who excels in her coursework. She is bright, creative, responsible and motivated. In addition to maintaining an impressive 4.314 GPA, she participates in a variety of extracurricular activities. She is the flute section leader of the Fort Hill High School Marching Band, a member of National Honor Society, vice president of the Just Hoofin' It and Mountain and Valley 4-H Clubs and a member of the Leadership Allegany! Rising Class of 2022. In her limited free time, Maria enjoys horseback riding and owns two horses, Princeton and Duke.

MOUNTAIN RIDGE HIGH SCHOOL

LYLE BAKER

Lyle is a senior honor roll student who maintains an overall 4.34 GPA. In addition to his business classes, he has also taken numerous honors, advanced placement, and college courses. Lyle is a member of the National Honor Society and has assisted with the school blood drives. He has played four years of high school football, serving as one of the captains this year. He is also in the midst of his senior year of baseball. Outside of school, Lyle works at McDonald's in Frostburg. Lyle plans to attend Frostburg State University, majoring in business with a concentration in accounting.

Allegany College of Maryland

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

PAIGE TAYLOR

Paige is a first-generation college student. Currently, she is a full-time student at Allegany College of Maryland, and is working full-time at Walmart. She is a part of ACM's honors program and a member of Phi Theta Kappa. She is also a member of the Honors in Action committee. In May, Paige will graduate with an Associate's Degree in Business Administration. After graduating, she plans to return to Allegany College of Maryland to finish her transfer credits and then transfer to Saint Francis. She will be entering Saint Francis's Organizational Leadership program and plans to minor in healthcare. Her work plans are to work in healthcare administration.

BUSINESS MANAGEMENT

LOGAN WHETZEL

Logan will be graduating in May with an Associate's Degree in Business Management. Currently, he is working at a gym. This past summer, he had the opportunity to volunteer for a morning at Tri-State Zoological Park during Allegany College of Maryland's leadership course. In addition to this, he spent over a month interning at Braddock Electric for his internship course. His employment goals and plans are to eventually become a certified personal trainer or a manager of a gym. Immediately after graduating, Logan plans on getting certified to become a personal trainer, which will help him for his future employment goals and plans.

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

AISA WRIGHTS

Aisa Wrights, a sophomore, is a member of Phi Theta Kappa National Honor Society and will graduate in May with an Associate's Degree. As a transfer student, she will continue her pursuit of a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration with a concentration in Marketing in the fall. She plans to pursue her Master's in Business Administration following the completion of her four-year degree. During and following high school, she has been actively involved in community service, volunteering, and participating in mission trips that provide summer learning opportunities for disadvantaged Native American youth in South Dakota. Aisa is currently employed at City Lights Restaurant, located in Downtown Cumberland, as a server.

Frostburg State University

DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING

PAIGE SMITH

Paige is graduating with a bachelor's degree in accounting with a minor in economics in May 2022 and currently has a 3.895 GPA. She is actively involved in different arenas in the university community. She is currently the Secretary of Phil Sigma Pi National Honor Fraternity, the President of Alpha Sigma Alpha National Sorority, a member of the President's Leadership Circle and a member of the National Society of Leadership and Success. Previously she has served as Treasurer of Alpha Sigma Alpha and Secretary for the Hollins Activity board at Hollins University. She is also a member of the Accounting Association.

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS

IVY MACKERETH

Ivy will graduate in May from Frostburg State University with a major in Economics and concentrations in Quantitative Economics and Public Policy Economics. She currently has a 3.93 GPA. In addition to being an excellent student, she has also established an outstanding record in service and research within the Economics Department. While a student at FSU, she served as a math and economics tutor, Treasurer for the Economics Club, Assistant to the Economics Department Chair and as an intern/consultant for Optimize Renewables and X-Energy. Ivy has already been admitted and received a full Assistantship to the PhD Program for Natural Resource Economics at West Virginia University.

DEPARTMENT OF MANAGEMENT

LAWREN BEEMAN

Lawren will earn a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration, General Management with an outstanding 3.917 GPA and has been ever-present on the Dean's list. In 2020 she was inducted in the prestigious Business Honorary, Beta Gamma Sigma. She has worked in the FSU Bookstore during her entire academic career. Lawren plans to continue her education by earning an MBA.

**DEPARTMENT OF MARKETING AND
FINANCE
*DONTEZ BROWN***

Dontez is a graduating senior majoring in Business Administration with a concentration in Marketing. While managing an excellent academic record and high 3.71 GPA, Dontez held several part-time jobs during his undergraduate life. He is excellent in time management and that reflects his maintaining work-life balance and achieving academic excellence.

**DEPARTMENT OF MARKETING
AND FINANCE
*ROBERT KERBE***

Robert is a graduating senior majoring in Business Administration with a concentration in Finance. He has consistently maintained a spot on the Dean's List for his near-perfect GPA for all the semesters he has been enrolled at Frostburg State University. He is graduating with a GPA of 3.88 and he has held several internship/part-time positions to prepare himself for future professional careers. After graduation he is pursuing a position in the accounting department of Penguin Random House.

**DEPARTMENT OF MARKETING AND FINANCE
*LAUREN NORDQUIST***

Lauren is a graduating senior in Business Administration with a concentration in Global Business. She maintains a 3.6 GPA. She holds many leadership roles on campus; she serves as Chair of the Student Homecoming Committee and works as Developmental Math Coach at the Frostburg State Programs Advancing Student Success (PASS) Office. She did an internship for LIFT-DC as Financial Coach Intern in the summer of 2020. She also volunteered as Lifeguard and Pool Operator for Anchor Aquatics, Inc., in Annapolis, Maryland and as the SafeRide Driver for Frostburg State University.

**MBA PROGRAM
*ZACHARY RUPPENKAMP***

Zachary, a Cumberland resident, completed his undergraduate degree in accounting with honors in 2020 from Frostburg State University and then joined the MBA program. He served the College of Business diligently with his dedicated service as a Graduate Assistant for three departments - Department of Accounting, Department of Management, and Department of Marketing and Finance. He worked closely with professors, and helped them on research, collecting data, grading student papers and worked on other projects as assigned to him. Beyond his academics, he was actively engaged in extra-curricular activities, and volunteered in several initiatives in the community.