

In the News...

Nursing Student Awards, Spring and Summer, 2020

The CSUSM School of Nursing Faculty is pleased to announce the following distinguished Nursing Student Award winners for the graduating Cohorts TBSN 13 and ABSN 31, Spring 2020 and ABSN 32, Summer 2020. These awards are determined by the faculty, and in some categories, there is a tie amongst deserving students. Congratulations to our students for their fine accomplishments!

TBSN 13, Spring 2020



Service: Ma Denise Prejusa - Denise has been actively involved in School of Nursing activities, including serving as a president intern of Phi Theta Chapter of Sigma, the national honor society of nursing.



Service: Natalie Adame - Natalie has demonstrated great commitment to the welfare of the students as well as patients. She has served her fellow students tirelessly and with great enthusiasm as the president of the Student Nurses Association this past year. She has demonstrated leadership in guiding the board through the challenging times of the spring term and been an advocate for students.



Leadership: Alyson Messick - “Alyson is one of the finest students I have taught. She has been involved with student affairs as a member of SNA and has taken time out to assist her fellow students.” “Alyson organized a 2 part- student mental health session for SNA members as the student affairs director and was always a leader among fellow students.”



Spirit: Sophia Gewarges - “Sophia is a fine example of what a nurse represents. She has always been compassionate and caring of anyone she is with. This award was made for her.” “Sophia both had a wonderful attitude and wants to be a nurse for all the right reasons. I have had the pleasure of having her multiple times during her nursing education. She embodies the spirit of nursing - they work hard and genuinely care about people. She wants to be a good nurse and improve the lives of others.

ABSN 31, Spring 2020

Service: Leslie LoBaugh - “His record speaks for itself. All of his contributions to medical and agricultural research makes him an excellent candidate for this award.” “I watched this young man support all of his colleagues as he himself has overcome so much in his own life. He puts others before himself.”



Leadership: Julie Carranza - “Julie is one of the most loving and compassionate students I have taught. She was a leader in the class.” “Julie demonstrated leadership among classmates with a compassionate attitude towards all.”



Spirit: Jacob Couture - “Jacob is always asking what he can do to help others...is thoughtful and always seeking volunteer opportunities.”

ABSN 32, Summer 2020



Spirit of Nursing Award - Angeliki Hitchcock

“Angeliki is always enthusiastic about being an excellent nurse. She questioned the reasons for what nurses did in a way that helped all of the students learn.” “She sought ways to improve her and her peers nursing care.” “She was kind, gentle, empathetic, compassionate and a person to look up to by students and patients.”

Distinguished Service Award - Arnold Lao, Jr.

“Arnold always looked for ways in which he could help increase the knowledge of his fellow students.” “Arnold sought ways to be of service to his fellow students and the sim lab team.” “He was industrious and looked for ways to improve Sim Lab.”

Outstanding Leadership Award - Kaitlin Day

“Katie has done an outstanding job in leading the development of a virtual pinning ceremony experience for her cohort. This was a monumental task with many aspects to consider and coordinate since pinning had never been done this way before.” “She was always professional & timely in meeting her commitments to the various persons involved with virtual pinning ceremony.”



Outstanding Leadership Award - Heidi Zabriski

“Heidi always actively participated in activities to further nursing education and student involvement.” “She participated in discussions to improve student's leadership roles within the school and in the community.” “Heidi served as the Community Health Projects Coordinator for SNA. When Covid-19 forced cancellation of most of the community events she had scheduled, she diligently sought other ways for students to continue to be involved and earn cord points.”



Spirit: Shawnda McCaskill - “Shawnda puts her whole heart into nursing. She is caring, compassionate and hard working. Her caring attitude with her positive spirit shines through. She is enthusiastic about learning and serving the community.”

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