

DISTINGUISHED FACULTY LECTURE &

# HONORS

C O N V O C A T I O N



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2023

# honors convocation program 2023

## Faculty Marshals

Julie Bates, Associate Professor  
Jorge Chavez-Rojas, Associate Professor

## Processional

*Walkin' Shoes*  
Gerry Mulligan

## Presiding

President James M. Reynolds

## Address

*How to Live a Great Life: And Other Lies!*  
Alex Miller, Professor of Theatre

## Presentation of Honors & Awards

College of Arts & Sciences	Nancy Curtin, Dean
College of Fine Arts	Laura Ledford, Dean
College of Professional Studies	Barbara Broadbear, Co-Dean
Tabor School of Business	RJ Podeschi, Dean
University Awards	Raphaella M. Prange, Vice President
Faculty Honors & Scovill Prizes	Mary M. Black, Provost

## Recessional

*Gravy (aka Walkin')*  
Gene Ammons

## Millikin Faculty Jazz Ensemble

Brian Justison, drums  
David Moore, trumpet  
Perry Rask, alto sax  
Mark Tonelli, guitar  
Emma Taylor, bass

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# Millikin University Students, Parents, Faculty & Friends:

The Honors Convocation and Distinguished Faculty Lecture constitute a special moment in Millikin's academic year, a time when we connect as a community to honor achievement and excellence in teaching and learning, and excellence in all aspects of Millikin life, inside and outside the classroom.

This occasion celebrates the many exceptional achievements made at our University. We commemorate the inspiring work and scholarship that our students and faculty create. We seek to honor those individuals who have made an indelible mark on our campus. We also remember with glad hearts the women and men who established these awards and prizes over the past 100 years in order to celebrate the achievements of students and colleagues and to take pride in our mission. As we now bestow these awards on our current students and faculty, we connect with the past, honor the achievements of the present and look forward to even greater accomplishments in the years ahead.

Thank you for being a part of this celebration. Families, we are grateful for your presence and offer our sincere thanks for the privilege of educating your children. Members of the faculty and staff, we are humbled by the care that you have for your work and for our University. Students, we are the benefactors of your collective love for Millikin. My congratulations to all the honorees!



JAMES M. REYNOLDS, PRESIDENT



# College of Arts & Sciences

## Behavioral Sciences

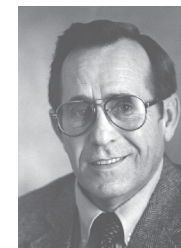


### Behavioral Science Award

For a graduating senior with a 3.60 grade point average and at least a 3.75 grade point average in the major.

This award was established in 1980 by an anonymous former employee of Millikin University.

**Presented with honor to**  
Emily Kemp



### Henry F. Gromoll Service Award

For a junior or senior majoring in behavioral sciences and active in service to others.

Dr. Henry "Hank" F. Gromoll was a professor of psychology and chair of the Behavioral Sciences Department at Millikin University from 1961 to 1995. This award was established by Dr. Gromoll's family, friends and colleagues to honor a man who contributed substantially to Millikin's reputation in the behavioral sciences, and who, through his teaching and private practice, lived his life according to the Ethel Percy Andrus quote that concluded his 1991 Honors Convocation Distinguished Faculty Lecture:

What we spend, is gone.  
What we keep, is lost.  
But what we give away  
Will be ours forever.

**Presented with honor to**  
Madison Gentry

## Biology



### Biology Honors Award

For outstanding biology major(s).

This award was established by Mrs. Shirley Miller Billings, class of 1948, as well as friends, faculty and fellow alumni. As an undergraduate, Mrs. Billings was a biology major and member of Alpha Chi Omega. As part of her estate, she also established an endowment to support fieldwork in the Millikin biology department.

**Presented with honor to**  
Nikol Obradovic  
Christian Ragain  
Victoria Stuart



### Dr. Neil Baird Biology Lab Assistant Award

For outstanding biology major(s).

This endowed award was established in 2012 by family and friends in memory of Dr. Neil Baird, associate professor of biology emeritus, who taught at Millikin from 1970 to 2005. The recipient is chosen by the Biology Department faculty. A graduate of the Millikin class of 1965, Dr. Baird wanted this award to recognize the outstanding contributions to the laboratory experience made by those students who serve as lab assistants.

Both Dr. Baird and his wife, Karen, were lab assistants when they were students in the Biology Department. This experience played a part in both of them choosing to teach college biology as their lifelong careers – Neil at Millikin and Karen at Richland Community College.

**Presented with honor to**  
Delaney Haubner  
Morgan Hollon



### Clyde Dennis Award

For contributions to the university and the Biology Department.

This award was also established by Shirley Miller Billings, class of 1948, to honor her biology professor and former Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, Dr. Clyde Dennis. Mrs. Billings of Durham, N.C., was a biology major. Dr. Dennis served as a professor and chair of the Biology Department from 1948 to 1950, and 1956 to 1962. In 1962, he became the dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, serving until his retirement in 1965.

**Presented with honor to**  
Katharine Baumann





### George & Rick Glasscock Memorial Biology Award

For an outstanding biology student, as determined by the Biology Department.

This award was established by Mary Glasscock in loving memory of her two sons, George and Rick. George graduated from Millikin in 1973. He was a practicing dentist in Wausau, Wis., until his death in March of 2003. His daughter, Ali Oja-Haus, graduated from Millikin in 1997 and lives in St. Paul, Minn. Rick Glasscock was a member of Millikin's class of 1984. He lived in Windsor, Ill., and worked at ADM until he passed away in 2002. His wife, Elaine Glasscock, is a member of Millikin's class of 1985. Each of Mary Glasscock's four children graduated from Millikin University, where she herself was once employed. Her son, David, class of 1972, is a physician in Denver. David's wife, Paula Collins Glasscock, is a 1971 Millikin graduate. Mary's daughter, Vicki Glasscock Ehrmann, graduated from Millikin in 1977 and is a teacher in Brighton, Colo.

**Presented with honor to**  
Jarius Ingram



### John & Ula Leighty Research Award

For outstanding research in biology.

One step into Millikin's Leighty-Tabor Science Center and you've been exposed to the lasting impact of one of Millikin's most notable science alums, Dr. John Leighty, class of 1931. Always passionate about science research, Dr. Leighty was a member of the team that first developed

penicillin for the Eli Lilly and Company. He was a co-recipient of the Alumni of the Year Award in 1971, an award shared with his wife, Ula, who was also a Millikin graduate and a member of the class of 1933. He received an honorary degree in 1964 and served as a member of the Board of Trustees from 1967 to 1970. With a \$1 million gift, he established the John and Ula Leighty Research grant/scholarship program, funding science study and summer science research. During Millikin's capital campaign, Advancing the Vision, he donated more than \$4.5 million for the Leighty-Tabor Science Center and its endowment.

**Presented with honor to**  
Emma Antonelli  
Justin Caldwell  
Jessi Kreder

## Pre-Professional



### Alpha Epsilon Delta Award

For outstanding contributions to Alpha Epsilon Delta.

Alpha Epsilon Delta is a pre-professional honorary fraternity founded in 1926 by 15 pre-medical students at the University of Alabama. Today, Alpha Epsilon Delta is the world's largest body devoted to the education of students who aspire to careers in health care. AED's membership exceeds 144,000 in 186 chapters.

**Presented with honor to**  
Jarius Ingram  
Victoria Stuart

## Chemistry



### American Chemical Society Award in Analytical Chemistry

For an outstanding junior chemistry major who has demonstrated talent and ability in analytical chemistry.

With more than 161,000 members, the American Chemical Society (ACS) is the world's largest scientific society and one of the world's leading sources of authoritative scientific information. A nonprofit organization, chartered by Congress, ACS is at the forefront of the evolving worldwide chemical enterprise, and the premier professional home for chemists, chemical engineers and related professions around the globe.

**Presented with honor to**  
Sydney Griggs



### Dr. Ed & Lucy Acheson Award for Excellence in First-Year Chemistry

For an outstanding student who excelled in first-year general chemistry classes.

The Dr. Ed and Lucy Acheson Award for Excellence in First-Year Chemistry was established by a generous donor who knew Ed and his dedication to teaching very well. Associate Professor Emeritus Dr. Ed Acheson was a dedicated educator and university leader for the 35 years prior to his retirement in 2014. His wife, Lucy, a 1999 Millikin alumna and nurse/healthcare professional, is a long-time supporter of her alma

mater and a dear friend to the Chemistry Department. Known by his students as Dr. Ed, he knew how to connect with his students, asked them the difficult questions and showed them they could learn chemistry through persistence and patience. This award is given to Millikin University students who display the desire to learn and understand the fundamentals of chemistry.

**Presented with honor to**  
Andrew Detmers  
Emily Edwards  
Grace Harmston  
Morgan Herrick  
Austin Hughes  
Dayton Lasack  
Jayden McNaught  
Carly Thomas  
Carly Ward  
Katelyn Wendt



### Dr. & Mrs. William F. Henderson Prize

For the best essays concerning applications in chemistry or other evidence of excellence in the field.

This essay contest and prize was established in 1937 by Dr. Henderson, class of 1914, and his wife, Gladys Henderson, class of 1915. Following his graduation, Dr. Henderson served as an instructor in Millikin's Chemistry Department for six years. He went on to receive graduate degrees from the University of Pittsburgh and The Mellon Institute in Pittsburgh. He later worked as a research chemist for Visking Corporation in Chicago where he was responsible for perfecting the cases on sizzling sausages.

**Presented with honor to**  
Madeline Klinger  
Jensen Mast  
Katie Risner  
Adam Walker



### Carl & Lucile Weatherbee Awards

Dr. Carl "Stormy" Weatherbee began his tenure at Millikin as a professor of chemistry in 1952. His research led to the development of several treatments for cancer. He served as chair of Millikin's Chemistry Department until his retirement in 1982. His portrait is on display in the Carl Weatherbee Laboratory in Leighty-Tabor Science Center. He is remembered by his students for assisting in their admittance into graduate school.

### Carl & Lucile Weatherbee Chemistry Award

For chemistry majors who have done noteworthy research under the direction of a Millikin University faculty member, and who have made the most outstanding contributions to the university in other areas.

**Presented with honor to**  
Keagan Brady  
Sydney Griggs  
Madeeha Salik

### Carl & Lucile Weatherbee Graduate Studies Award

For a graduating senior chemistry major who has done outstanding work and plans to attend graduate, medical or dental school.

**Presented with honor to**  
Madalyn Bochantine  
Micka Diella Iteka  
Sydney Griggs  
Madeeha Salik



### Dr. Clarence & Carol Josefson Award for Excellence in Chemistry

For an outstanding student from an underrepresented population who has achieved excellence in the field of chemistry.

The Dr. Clarence and Carol Josefson Award for Excellence in Chemistry was established by generous donors who know Clarence and his dedication to teaching very well. Professor Emeritus Dr. Clarence Josefson was a dedicated educator and university leader for the 40 years prior to his retirement in 2013. His wife, Carol, a 1979 alumna, was a nurse and family therapist; she is a long-time supporter of her alma mater and a dear friend to the Chemistry Department. Known by his students as Dr. J., he knew how to connect with his students and always took exceptional care with dedicated students who were dealing with special circumstances.

**Presented with honor to**  
Sydney Griggs  
Micka Diella Iteka





# English



## Dr. Grace Patten Conant Awards

Born in 1874, Grace Conant was already quite accomplished before coming to Millikin. She graduated from Bates College in Maine in 1893, and received an A.M. degree from Cornell in 1897. She held positions as Fellow at Cornell and the University of Chicago, and was an instructor in a Vermont academy as well as at Goucher College in Baltimore. Conant left her position as head of the English Department at Western College in Oxford, Ohio, to take on the same position at Millikin in the fall of 1906. Upon arrival at Millikin, she built the English Department around two basic courses: World Literature and English Literature from the Beginning to Keats. In 1920, she initiated Millikin's first English Club. Conant was also a notable leader in the Decatur community and founded the Decatur branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW), which went on to become the third-largest branch of the AAUW in Illinois in the 1950s.

## Dr. Grace Patten Conant Writing Award

For literary creation.

Presented with honor to  
Olivia Swords

## Dr. Grace Patten Conant Writing Award

For literary interpretation.

Presented with honor to  
Sophie Nicholson

## Dr. Grace Patten Conant English Department Award

For a senior with the highest cumulative grade point average who is planning graduate study.

Presented with honor to  
Gwen Klinkey

## Dr. Grace Patten Conant Society Achievement Award

For outstanding English major(s).

Presented with honor to  
Olivia Cooper  
Gwen Klinkey  
Maggie Kusar  
Claire Reynolds  
Page Shields  
Kaitlyn Spence



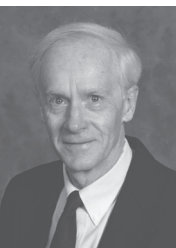
## Marybeth Drechsler Sharp Outstanding Journalism Award

For a Millikin University student who has made excellent contributions to the Decaturian.

The Marybeth Drechsler Sharp Outstanding Journalism Award was established by friends, family and classmates in memory of Dr. Marybeth Drechsler Sharp, class of 2000. Marybeth was a central part of the Decaturian, as she grew from a curious news reporter to a talented feature writer and finally, an amazing editor. She was never afraid to cover the tough issues. She was also an outstanding resident assistant and her passion for student life issues grew into a career as the executive director of the Council for the Advancement of Standards in Higher Education.

Presented with honor to  
Carin Houser  
Page Shields

# History



## Dr. J. Graham Provan History Award

For outstanding junior or senior history major(s) selected by the History Department.

Dr. J. Graham Provan began his tenure at Millikin in 1968 as a professor of history. His reputation for dynamic lectures made his classes popular for community members as well as students and alumni. In addition to this award, several non-traditional students established a scholarship in his honor.

Upon his retirement in 1997, Dr. Provan was named professor emeritus of history. He died in 2002. During Millikin's Centennial Celebration, Dr. Provan was named a member of the Charter Class of the Millikin Medallion Society, a distinct society recognizing those who had the greatest impact on Millikin during its first 100 years.

Presented with honor to  
Christopher Bruno



## Albert T. Mills Prize

For an outstanding history student.

Dr. Albert Taylor Mills was the first professor of history and political science at Millikin, serving as chair of the department until his retirement in 1943. He returned part-time in 1944 until 1946 to assist the influx of students following World War II. The former Mills Hall, built in 1960, was named in his honor.

## Albert T. Mills Prize (cont.)

For an outstanding history student.

Presented with honor to  
Cheyenne Hollowell  
Matthew Skeffington



## John E. Vrooman History Prize

For excellence in history.

Mr. Vrooman was a 1960 Millikin University history graduate with a career in real estate. He was a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon.

Presented with honor to  
Brennan Pekelder



## Sigrid A. Stottrup History Award

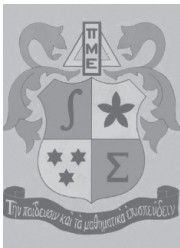
For senior history major(s) who has demonstrated ability in historical research in a British or European topic.

This award was established by the friends and family of Sigrid A. Stottrup, a 1977 Millikin University history honors graduate.

Presented with honor to  
Daniel Peters



# Mathematics



## Mathematics & Computer Science Award

For outstanding junior(s) or senior(s) majoring in either mathematics or computer science.

This award was established by Pi Mu Epsilon (PME), the National Mathematics Honor Society. Founded on May 25, 1914, at Syracuse University, PME currently has over 300 chapters at colleges and universities throughout the United States. The purpose of the Society is to promote scholarly activity in mathematics among students in academic institutions.

**Presented with honor to**  
Jayme Reed  
Rolande Umuhoza



## LaVern J. Meyer, Ph.D., Math Education Award

For outstanding senior math education major(s).

Dr. LaVern Meyer came to Millikin in 1985 as associate professor of mathematics and computer science. In 1994 he became chair of the Math and Computer Science Department until his death in 1996, at which time the memorial award was established in his memory by family and friends.

## LaVern J. Meyer, Ph.D., Math Education Award (cont.)

For outstanding senior math education major(s).

**Presented with honor to**  
Camryn Skundberg



## Linda Weatherbee Mathematics Award

For an outstanding junior mathematics major.

This award was established by the family and friends of Linda Weatherbee, class of 1977, in her memory. Linda was the daughter of Dr. Carl and Lucile Weatherbee. Dr. Weatherbee was the chairman of the Chemistry Department.

**Presented with honor to**  
Analynn Bullock

# Modern Languages



## Modern Languages Awards

These two awards were established by the modern languages faculty to recognize students who perform exceptional work in the study of their chosen language.

## Modern Languages Linguistic Excellence Award

For outstanding oral and written proficiency in a modern language.

**Presented with honor to**  
Chelsea McCullum

## Modern Languages Literary Criticism Award

For outstanding work in literary analysis of a text or texts written in a modern language.

**Presented with honor to**  
Raleigh Watts



## Margaret Burkhardt Johnson Modern Language Excellence Award

For outstanding senior(s) in modern languages.

This award was established by Mrs. Margaret Burkhardt Johnson, a Millikin alumna from the class of 1941. At Millikin, she majored in Latin and was a member of the Alpha Chi Omega sorority. As a retired teacher from Houston, Mrs. Johnson appreciated and wanted to encourage students excelling in modern languages.

**Presented with honor to**  
Itzel Garcia

# Political Science



## Dr. Robert McIntire Political Science Award

For an outstanding sophomore or junior political science major, having maintained at least a 3.5 cumulative grade point average, for travel and study abroad.

Former chairman of the Political Science Department, Dr. Robert McIntire served with distinction as a Millikin faculty member from 1968 to 2002. He served as acting dean of the College of Arts and Sciences from 1999 to 2000. This award was established by the family, friends, alumni and students of Dr. Robert McIntire on the occasion of his retirement. It promotes the late Dr. McIntire's commitment to encouraging students to study internationally.

**Presented with honor to**  
Rhys Dieter  
Krista Koke  
Garren Meeker  
Gabby Watson



## Outstanding Political Science Major Award

For a graduating political science major with a minimum 3.5 grade point average in the major, and a 3.0 grade point average overall.

This award was established by the Political Science Department faculty to honor a political science major who has excelled both in the classroom and in service to the department. The recipient must have demonstrated a high level of service through a variety of activities, including participation in one or more political science student groups, mentoring or tutoring of peers, consistent civic participation in and around Decatur or other contributions that add substantively to the department and community.

**Presented with honor to**  
Rebecka Ngoya





## Philosophy



### Alice Ambrose Lazerowitz Philosophy Award

For a philosophy major who has demonstrated excellence in philosophy, with preference given to juniors and seniors.

The Philosophy Department's most famous alumna is certainly Dr. Alice Ambrose Lazerowitz. In 1928, she was the first student to graduate from Millikin with a straight "A" average. She received her Ph.D. in philosophy from the University of Wisconsin in 1932. That same year, she traveled to England to do post-doctoral research at Cambridge University where she studied under perhaps the most important philosopher of the 20th century, Ludwig Wittgenstein. She received a second doctoral degree from Cambridge, and in 1935, she left England and accepted a teaching position at the University of Michigan, which she held for two years. In 1937, she went to Smith College and spent the remainder of her career in the Smith Philosophy Department. After her death in 2001, she left Millikin funds to endow this award.

**Presented with honor to**  
Jayme Reed

## Pre-Law



### Thomas W. & Mary R. Adney Memorial Award

For outstanding student(s) in pre-law.

This award was established by 1972 graduate of Millikin and attorney John Adney and his wife, Sue. Originally from Wood River, Ill., Mr. Adney established this award to honor the memory of his parents. Mr. Adney is a former chair of the Millikin Board of Trustees and a past recipient of Millikin's highest alumni honor, Alumnus of the Year.

**Presented with honor to**  
Avery Damron  
Gabby Watson



### T. W. Samuels Award

For outstanding student(s) in pre-law.

Attorney Thomas W. Samuels served the Decatur community with distinction as a lead partner in the law firm of Samuels, Miller, Schroeder, Jackson, and Sly. This award was established by family

and friends to honor Mr. Samuels who lived to age 103 and was instrumental in Decatur and Millikin receiving the Lincoln statue "At 21 I came to Illinois," that sits on the front lawn of the campus. Attorney Samuels' sons William and Tom Jr., class of 1945, established the endowment which provides for the annual T.W. Samuels lecture series held each spring.

**Presented with honor to**  
Jadon Cox  
McKenna O'Donnell  
Olivia Swords

## Religion



### Rev. Robert S. & Doris Stewart Prize in Religion

For the best research paper in a religion class.

The award was established by friends of Reverend and Mrs. Stewart. Reverend Stewart served as pastor of Westminster Presbyterian Church for more than 17 years prior to his retirement in 1983. While pastor of Westminster, Reverend Stewart was a guest lecturer for Millikin religion classes and served as minister at numerous chapel services. He took a strong interest in Millikin students and helped arrange for meals to be served at Westminster during the construction of Richards Treat University Center. Reverend and Mrs. Stewart were members of the Millikin Associates.

**Presented with honor to**  
Jack Hughes

## Physics



### Outstanding Physics Award

For a physics major who has completed at least 21 hours in physics coursework with a minimum 3.0 grade point average both in physics courses and overall.

This award was established by the Physics Department faculty to honor a physics major who has excelled both in the classroom and in service to the department. The recipient must have demonstrated a high level of service through a variety of activities, including tutoring or mentoring of other students, working as a lab assistant, serving as an officer in the Society of Physics Students or other contributions that add substantively to the department.

**Presented with honor to**  
Charles McLaren-Mustread





# College of Fine Arts



## Music

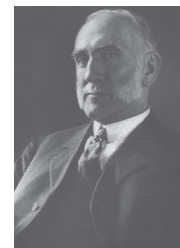


### Pi Kappa Lambda Outstanding Senior Award

For seniors with outstanding scholarship, musicianship and contributions.

Pi Kappa Lambda is an American honor society for undergraduate students, graduate students and professors of music. There are currently 205 active chapters and approximately 64,500 individual members. Pi Kappa Lambda was established on May 17, 1918, at the Northwestern University by Carl Milton Beecher, Louis Norton Dodge and Walter Allen Stults.

**Presented with honor to**  
Alan Ramirez



### Presser Award

For an outstanding junior music major based on excellence and merit.

The Presser Foundation gives grants only to institutions with recognized quality music programs and operates under the will and deeds of trust created by its founder, Theodore Presser. It is one of the few foundations in the United States dedicated solely to the support of music and music education. The student is selected on the basis of merit and achievement. This award is an honor award and the student, in his/her senior year, is to be known as a Presser Scholar.

**Presented with honor to**  
Victor Lawton



### Alice Herren Ayars Award

For outstanding piano student(s).

Alice Herren Ayars was a member of the Millikin class of 1918 and a piano major. This award was established by her husband, Haldon B. Ayars, also a member of the class of 1918, to honor his wife whom he met at Millikin. Their son, Haldon "Buck" Ayars, of Moweaqua, Ill., was a 1946 Millikin graduate. Both father and son served as president of Ayars State Bank in Moweaqua.

**Presented with honor to**  
Risako Hida



### Wilna Moffett Award

For outstanding senior keyboard performer(s).

Wilna Moffett, a graduate of the Millikin Academy, began teaching in the School of Music in 1918, and received her degrees in piano and organ in 1919. In 1945, she became an assistant professor of piano and organ, serving until her retirement in 1962. She continued teaching in the Preparatory Department until 1971. This award was established by her sister, Helen Moffett Russell, class of 1929, at Wilna's passing in 1974. She was described as "having given piano lessons to hundreds of Decaturites. Highest personal and professional ideals have characterized her life and teaching. Her sincere and personal interest in each student has caused her to be remembered by them with lasting affection."

**Presented with honor to**  
Not Awarded



### Mary B. Merris Award

For outstanding voice student(s) on the basis of excellence and achievement.

Mary Biehlen Merris was a noted contributor to Decatur's cultural scene. Following her graduation from the Millikin Conservatory, she taught choral music at Roosevelt Junior High School, was soloist at several Decatur churches and served as an early president of the Decatur Music Club. After marriage to Byron Merris, she enthusiastically continued to support and promote the musical, artistic and historical endeavors at Millikin and the community at large. This award was established by Helen Moffett Russell, class of 1929, to honor Merris and was first awarded in 1985.

**Presented with honor to**  
Jorie Clark  
Emma West



### Winifred St. Clair Minturn Award

To the senior selected for excellence in performance to the musical life of the University.

Winifred St. Clair Minturn came to Millikin in 1925 as executive secretary of the Conservatory of Music (School of Music) and became the director of the school in 1927, serving in that capacity for nearly 30 years until she retired in 1956. She oversaw Millikin's first forays into radio broadcasting over local radio stations beginning in 1927; the accreditation of the School of Music in the 1930s; and the start of a Graduate School of Music in 1947.

**Presented with honor to**  
Hayden Marshall

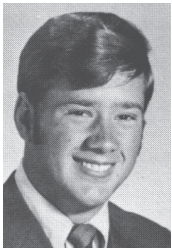




**William Eichenauer Guitar Award**  
To recognize guitar student(s) of junior or senior status with a cumulative grade point average of 3.2 or higher and who demonstrates self-motivation and leadership.

This award was established by William (Bill) T. Eichenauer to support guitar students. Bill was an enthusiastic and tireless volunteer and donor to Millikin University, having served on the Board of Trustees, as chairman for the Millikin Fund and the Centennial Celebration Committee as well as in countless other positions. He was named Millikin's Alumnus of the Year in 1996 and was inducted into the Centennial Medallion Society, honoring those who made the greatest impact on Millikin in its first 100 years.

**Presented with honor to**  
William Long



**Thomas A. Johnson Memorial Award**  
For an excellent trombone student.

This award was established by friends to memorialize Tom "T.J." Johnson, class of 1973, who died of cancer at age 38. T.J. loved music. His trombone playing in Millikin's jazz band and later in the Decatur Big Band was certainly a testimonial to that fact. He was very fond and supportive of Millikin, having served on the alumni board and pledge drives. This award was established as "the perfect way to remember him and to keep his name always associated with music and with Millikin."

**Presented with honor to**  
Jaden DeLay



**Dr. Russell Tiede Honors Award**  
For outstanding senior(s) instrumental music student.

This award was established in honor of Dr. Russell Tiede who was a faculty member in the School of Music from 1968 to 1993. Dr. Tiede was the chair of music education and taught conducting, music education, tuba and French horn. He performed regularly with the Millikin-Decatur Symphony Orchestra and the Millikin Tuba Quartet. Most importantly, perhaps, was his coordination of the placement of music students in the public schools for student-teacher training. Upon his retirement, he estimated that he had taught 300 students in music education during his 25-year career at Millikin.

**Presented with honor to**  
Hayden Marshall



**Percussion Achievement Award**  
For excellence in percussion, as chosen by the department.

An endowment established by the DeBo family in honor of their appreciation, connection and involvement in Millikin's percussion program, through their son, Justin DeBo, class of 2018. The award will be given to a percussion student(s) of good academic standing, who has displayed excellence in the areas of solo and/or ensemble performance, scholarship, leadership, mentorship and service as a member of the Millikin University percussion studio.

**Presented with honor to**  
Kyle McMillen



**Dr. Maria Klott Memorial Award**  
For one or more persons who have shown advancement and/or achievement in both theatre and music, or both instrumental and voice.

Dr. Maria Klott served as an assistant professor of music at Millikin University from 1991 to 1994 and was a great attribute to the School of Music and the Theatre Department. Her knowledge and understanding of the importance of building bridges not only between theatre and music, but instrumentalists and vocalists as well, were truly some of her greatest traits. Actively involved with many organizations on Millikin's campus, in 1990 she was adopted as the chapter sweetheart of the Beta Theta chapter of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia, where she became a sister of music and, more importantly, a dear friend to the fraternity.

**Presented with honor to**  
Spencer Domer  
Cara Rivecco



**Handler Award for Excellence, Bachelor of Arts in Music**  
For a senior level student(s) pursuing the Bachelor of Arts in Music program who is nominated by a School of Music faculty member, and who demonstrates a minimum 3.6/4.0 cumulative grade point average; evidence of excellence in music; a commitment to versatility, innovation and passion in music, and other academic areas of study.

The award was established by Dr. Cynthia Handler and members of the class of 2014 IN400 Music B.A. Capstone course. This award recognizes outstanding students who have chosen to pursue the Bachelor of Arts degree in the School of Music. The award celebrates the choice that a B.A., music student makes, combining passion for music with studies in the liberal arts.

**Presented with honor to**  
Alan Ramirez

## Theatre & Dance



**Joan & Melvin Grabowski Memorial Award**  
For excellence in theatrical design and technical achievement.

The late Melvin Grabowski, class of 1947, established this award as a memorial to his wife, Joan, class of

1969, upon her death in 1983. For many years Joan Grabowski was actively involved in set building and all the "behind-the-scenes" technical work for theatre productions performed by Decatur's local community theatre group, Theatre 7. This award recognizes those all-important students who are never on stage but are vital to the success of any performance. When Melvin died in 1995, his name was added to the award. The Grabowskis' son, Tom, is a 1978 graduate with a degree in theatre and physics.

**Presented with honor to**  
Tierra Cook  
Kaden Cutler  
Kyle Jordan



**Dr. L.C. McNabb Memorial Award**  
For outstanding contributions to the theatre arts.

Dr. Leroy McNabb began his tenure at Millikin in 1931 as an assistant professor of English. He was later promoted to associate professor in 1935 and professor in 1940. He was chair of the Speech Department at the time of his retirement in 1952. His wife, Edith McNabb, was the director of the tele-courses broadcast on local television stations in the 1950s and 1960s.

**Presented with honor to**  
Rebecca Jaffe  
Gavin King  
Emily Nicholas  
Rachel Silvey



**Michelle Chartier Memorial Award**  
For students active in the School of Theatre and Dance with a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.5.

This award was created by the students in the School of Theatre and Dance in memory of Michelle Chartier, class of 1991, who died in a car accident while returning to Millikin from spring break in her senior year.

**Presented with honor to**  
Sarah Bielicki  
Hannah Magy  
Zack Scott



**Kathryn Paige Torp Memorial Award**  
For junior or senior student(s) in technical theatre who demonstrate passion and dedication to their art.

This award was established in memory of Kathryn Paige Torp, class of 2004, who majored in theatre and art with a technical/design emphasis, by her parents, Cynthia Jones and Paul Torp.

**Presented with honor to**  
Hunter IntVeld  
Abby Urquhart





**Ron Smith Award  
in Musical Theatre**

For excellence in musical theatre.

This award was established in 1986 to memorialize Ron Smith, a member of the class of 1981, who graduated with a BFA degree in musical theatre – one of the earliest graduates of that program. While at Millikin, Smith was a prolific performer appearing in "West Side Story," "The Marriage of Figaro," "Gianni Schicchi," "The Boyfriend," "Jacques Brel," "Love Linda: The life of Mrs. Cole Porter," "The ThreePenny Opera" and "The Shadow Box." After graduation, he appeared on the Kirkland stage in the national tour of The Pirates of Penzance. In 1985, Smith died unexpectedly after several bouts of pneumonia.

**Presented with honor to**

Jake Faragalli  
Naomi Latta



**J. Ben Wand Prize**

For excellence in acting.

If you've ever watched WAND-TV in Decatur, then you've been exposed to J. Ben Wand for whom the television station and this award is named. Wand, a member of Millikin's class of 1911, was a member of Tau Kappa Epsilon and very active in school affairs. He was president of the Philomathean Literary Society, Glee Club, Student Council and editor and business manager of the Decaturian. He participated in the Lincoln Oratorical Contest, the Brown Debate and the

Dramatic Club Contest, winning first prize. After graduating, Wand took an editorial job with the Decatur Review for three years, followed by the Clinton Daily. He then went into trade journal work with the American Lumberman. In 1923, he bought the Southern Lumber Journal and worked hard to make it the success it is today. Wand's daughter, Peggy Wand Campbell, was a 1942 graduate of Millikin.

**Presented with honor to**

Christian Andrews-Stewart  
Raeven Carroll  
Chloe Fisher  
Cole Hintz



**Andrew Strand  
Memorial Theatre  
Ensemble Award**

For a student who is an outstanding ensemble performer for either a specific performance or body of work.

The Andrew Strand Memorial Theatre Award was established by family and friends in memory of Andrew Strand, who graduated with a BFA in musical theatre in 2003. He brought passion and joy to his performances, classwork and all who knew him.

**Presented with honor to**

Nathan Gallop  
Darcy Reimler

**Art &  
Creative Media**



**Dr. Everett J. Brown Prize**

For excellence in creative contributions to communication; in recognition of commitment to forensics growth and promise in promoting the democratic expression of ideas in a free society.

One of Millikin's oldest awards, the Dr. Everett J. Brown Prize was established in 1906 by its namesake to showcase Millikin students' public debate talents about historical or sociological subjects. Dr. Brown, a life-long Decatur resident, a renowned Illinois physician and a strong supporter of the creation of what is now known as Decatur Memorial Hospital, was greatly interested in the annual debate which bore his name, and his desire to know that it would continue prompted him to secure funding for this award in perpetuity. The Brown debate stands as a memorial to one of Decatur's finest citizens, who expressed in a material way his deepest interest in Millikin University.

**Presented with honor to**

Cole Anderson  
Elizabeth Hulick



**Marvin Klaven Art Award**

In recognition of deserving art student(s) who have maintained a level of excellence in the use of his/her chosen medium.

Marvin "Marv" Klaven worked at Millikin from 1961 to 1996, retiring as an emeritus professor of art. This award was established by alumni and friends who donated items for display and sale. The proceeds funded this award.

**Presented with honor to**

Courtney Schudel  
Sydney Wilson



**David S. Monroe Art Award**

For outstanding achievement in art, recognizing students for their major, excellence in their work and exhibiting a professional attitude.

This award was established by Miss Virginia May in memory of David Monroe, a member of the Millikin University class of 1978, who graduated with a degree in art and mathematics. Monroe died shortly before his 33rd birthday. His grandfather, Ralph J. Monroe, was a prominent Decatur attorney for many years. Miss May was attorney Monroe's secretary for 50 years.

**Presented with honor to**

Lacey Edwards  
Samantha Keza  
Julia Mlynowski  
Erica Pamson



**Dorothy Sellers Art Award**

For outstanding achievement and potential, and setting a standard of excellence for the School of Art & Creative Media and peers.

This award was established by Dorothy Sellers, a member of Millikin's class of 1935, as a memorial to her parents, the late Mr. and Mrs. Harvey A. Sellers Sr. She participated in Millikin's "Alumni Audit" program which permits alumni and friends to attend regular university classes. Her special interests were art classes.

**Presented with honor to**

Leslie Anukwu  
Skylyr Choe  
Jack Harmon  
Jupiter Holcomb  
Alela Kinyua  
Logan McCormick  
Kyle McMillen  
Skylar Meents  
Nina Polivka  
Cody Smith  
Maggie Strubhar





# College of Professional Studies

## Education



### Barbara & Robert Byrkit Award

For sophomore or junior student(s) majoring in early childhood or elementary education who is a degree-seeking student, has been admitted to the School of Education, demonstrates a commitment to excellence in teaching and learning and has shown perseverance, exceptional growth and achievement.

The award was established in 2013 by alumnus Robert Byrkit, class of 1963, in honor of his late wife, Barbara, class of 1964, to represent their commitment to education in the Decatur/Macon County community.

**Presented with honor to**  
Hannah Henson  
Sydney Janvrin



### Dr. Jerald Hunt & Dr. Darlene Hoffman Award for Excellence in Teaching & Learning

This award recognizes an outstanding senior-level teacher candidate, who has demonstrated excellence in teaching and learning, consistent with the mission of the School of Education.

This award was created by Dr. Jerald Hunt and Dr. Darlene Hoffman, emeriti faculty and administrators of Millikin University. Dr. Hunt served the University with excellence for 32 years (1969-2001), most of those years as director of teacher education. Dr. Hoffman served the university with distinction for 32 years (1977-2009), including 10 years as chair of the Education Department.

**Presented with honor to**  
Kailee Stewart



### Jola Kuntz Education Award

For senior early childhood/elementary education student(s) who has demonstrated outstanding service and excellence in student teaching.

An endowment established by the family of Patricia Talbert Smith, class of 1954, in memory of her good friend, Pi Beta Phi sorority sister, and fellow elementary school teacher, Jola Kuntz, class of 1956.

**Presented with honor to**  
Karlie Clark



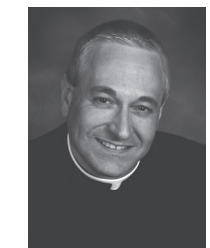
### Ray Boehmer Memorial Award for Excellence in Science Education

For an outstanding student who has excelled in the field of science education, and is an outstanding candidate for a career in science education.

The Ray Boehmer Memorial Award for Excellence in Science Education was established by friends, colleagues and family in memory of Dr. Ray Boehmer, professor of education emeritus. From 1998 until his retirement in 2016, Dr. Boehmer was a professor of science education at Millikin University. Throughout his life, he was always an educator, by profession and by nature. His spent his career preparing thousands of college students to become educators themselves.

**Presented with honor to**  
Lauren Wyatt

## Exercise Science & Sport



### Smith/Orlandini Award

For students within the School of Exercise Science and Sport, who have accumulated between 54 and 88 hours of academic credit and possess a minimum 3.0 grade point average.

This award was established in 2007 by Father Nicholas W. Smith, a member of Millikin's class of 1983, in recognition of the families of his father and mother. Father Nick, a proud Millikin alum, has long supported the School of Exercise Science and Sport, observing their hard work in the classroom, during internships or working with student-athletes on the playing field. Father Nick is also a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon.

**Presented with honor to**  
Alyssa Analitis  
Julien Woodley





Walter Witt Award

For outstanding junior(s) in the Exercise Science and Sport Department who have accumulated between 54 and 90 hours of academic credit.

Walter “Walt” Witt served as superintendent of the Millikin mail room for more than twenty years. Known as “a great favorite of students, faculty and administrators,” he was a passionate supporter of the Big Blue athletic teams. The idea for this award to honor this long-time university supporter was established by two alumni, Frank Van Doren and James McCarthy, both from the class of 1956. The first Walter Witt Award was presented in 1978.

Presented with honor to

Ryan Hoang  
Sarah Isaf  
Parker Warren

Nursing



Alpha Tau Delta Honorarium Award

For an outstanding Alpha Tau Delta member as selected by the faculty.

Alpha Tau Delta (ATD) is a national nursing fraternity founded on February 15, 1921, on the Berkeley campus. ATD is committed to the promotion of personal and intellectual growth of professional nurses and nursing students. The Millikin University chapter of Alpha Tau Delta was chartered in 1989 and seeks to provide a professional nursing environment on campus “that fosters excellence of individual performance, advancement of education, character enrichment and leadership.” Each year Millikin University’s ATD Alpha Iota chapter makes the provision for a financial award to an outstanding Alpha Tau Delta member who is selected by the faculty and demonstrates excellence in performance, education, character and leadership.

Presented with honor to  
Naomi Hall



Decatur Memorial Hospital R.H. Cleland R.N. Award

For an academically outstanding senior nursing major, as selected by the director of the School of Nursing.

The Decatur Memorial Hospital R.H. Cleland R.N. Award is given annually to an academically outstanding senior nursing major, distinguished by academic excellence, leadership potential and dedication to nursing (as selected by the director of the School of Nursing). R. Helen Cleland was Decatur Memorial Hospital’s (DMH) first superintendent of nursing, a position she accepted in 1915 after receiving a letter of invitation from Dr. William Barnes. In order to assume the superintendent’s position at DMH, Cleland left Massachusetts

General Hospital where she had been a “gifted nurse.” Miss Cleland delighted in the fact that she had been “trained” by a woman who was a pupil of Florence Nightingale and that all of her nurses were “descended” from the famous Miss Nightingale. R.H. Cleland would be proud to know that the endowment funds given in her honor support nursing students in their scholarship endeavors.

Presented with honor to  
Jessica Sheeler



James Millikin Theory & Practice of Nursing Award

For junior or senior nursing major(s) with a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or above.

The James Millikin Theory and Practice of Nursing Award was created by the School of Nursing faculty to recognize the junior or senior nursing major who best embodies James Millikin’s philosophy of integrating theory and practice. The student receiving this award must demonstrate an exceptional translation and application of nursing theory to the practice and care of individual patients in a variety of clinical settings. In selecting the award recipient, the faculty of the School of Nursing meets annually to discuss the professional attributes demonstrated by eligible candidates which are exemplary of the School of Nursing’s very best graduates and then, subsequently, select the most deserving individual to receive this award.

Presented with honor to  
Sheela Sunderland



Dorotha F. Dean Nursing Award

For an outstanding nursing school student interested in public health or school nursing.

This award was established by the family, friends and colleagues of the late Dorotha F. Dean, Millikin class of 1951 and a long-time nurse in the Decatur Public Schools. Realizing the importance of having outstanding nurses working in areas where primary and secondary prevention is paramount to the success of the youth in this community, Dean’s award legacy recognizes a well-rounded School of Nursing student who demonstrates overall merit in the program and the potential to make a positive impact in the fields of school nursing and public health.

Presented with honor to  
Nanami Owada



Dr. Mary D. Shanks & Dr. Linda K. Niedringhaus Excellence in Nursing Leadership Award

For a graduating Master of Science in Nursing student, who demonstrates excellence in leadership, and a commitment to the profession of nursing.

This award recognizes the academic excellence, professional commitment and leadership potential of a graduate student as selected annually by the School of Nursing faculty members. This award was established in honor of the first two deans of the Millikin University School of Nursing

whose excellence in leadership from 1978 through 1997 provided the foundation for the graduate program. Dr. Mary D. Shanks and Dr. Linda K. Niedringhaus served as the first two deans of the Millikin University School of Nursing and their legacy of excellence in nursing leadership in the baccalaureate nursing program spanned 29 years, providing a strong foundation for the graduate program which began in 2006. The ideal recipient will have a stellar academic record and clearly evident leadership characteristics. The graduate student must also demonstrate the professional values, core knowledge and skills desirable in a nursing professional.

Presented with honor to  
Melissa Tallent



Dr. Mary Jane Linton Nursing Excellence Award

This award recognizes outstanding student(s) in the School of Nursing Master’s Program who have an interest in nursing education or medical/ surgical nursing. These students must demonstrate excellence in the application of theory to practice, hold themselves to high professional standards and demonstrate unwavering personal and professional integrity.

This award was established by Dr. Mary Jane Linton, Millikin class of 1970 and professor emeritus of nursing, upon her retirement in 2021. Dr. Linton taught for 41 years in the School of Nursing; she helped establish the School of Nursing and develop its initial academic curriculum.

Presented with honor to  
Aseem Adoni



Patrick and Dr. Pamela Lindsey Award for Nursing Excellence

This award will recognize an outstanding student(s) in the School of Nursing master’s program, who has demonstrated strong academic achievement, excellent clinical skills, and who exhibits leadership among their peers.

This award was established by Dr. Pamela Lindsey, retired Dean of the College of Professional Studies and Associate Professor Emeritus of Nursing at Millikin University, who wishes to honor husband, Patrick. Dr. Lindsey was a life-long educator who taught Nursing for 26 years.

Presented with honor to  
Jacob Busey



# Tabor School of Business



## Glen R. Smith Award

For an outstanding senior from the Tabor School of Business.

Dr. Glen Smith was a significant Millikin figure for nearly 30 years. He began his tenure at Millikin as an assistant professor of business administration in 1946. Making Millikin history, he was the first dean of the School of Business and Industrial Management. He retired in 1974. A much-beloved business professor, graduates of this era give great credit to Smith for the foundation that launched their successful business careers. Room 313 in ADM-Scovill Hall is named in his honor.

Presented with honor to  
Miranda Fox



## Margaret Sparks Award

For an outstanding junior woman business major.

This award was established in 1987 by friends and former students to honor the memory of Margaret R. Sparks, former chair of the Secretarial Science Department and a member of the Millikin faculty from 1946 to 1964.

Presented with honor to  
Grace Talbert



## Judy Lederbrand Day Accounting Award

For a graduating senior woman accounting major.

This award was established by John Steele Day, Millikin class of 1969, in memory of his wife, Judy Lederbrand Day, also a graduate of the Millikin class of 1969. The couple was married for over 51 years. The award recognizes Judy's academic achievement at Millikin, and her success as a wife, mother, accountant and banker. She was a pioneer in the discipline; this award seeks to honor women who are following in her journey. Per the request of the donor and in honor of Judy's legacy, the award will be given to graduating women accounting majors, to assist in the transition to employment or post-graduate education.

Presented with honor to  
Abigail Ratsch



## Dr. & Mrs. W. J. Darby Prize

For outstanding senior communication majors.

Dr. W. J. Darby was Millikin's first president of the Board of Managers, serving from 1902 to 1908. He continued to be a member of the board, serving once again as its president from 1914 to 1920. Before Millikin University was a reality, Dr. Darby took an active part in its planning and was recognized as one

of the most forceful characters associated in the building of the university. After his sudden death in 1921, Dr. Darby was well remembered by the student body, "because of his kindly manner and his genuineness." On his last visit to Millikin, he announced, to the surprise of President Holden, that he and his wife were making a \$1,000 gift to Millikin. By 1925, the Darby Oratory Contest was established with prizes divided equally between winners of the men's and the women's divisions.

Presented with honor to  
Aaron Wendt

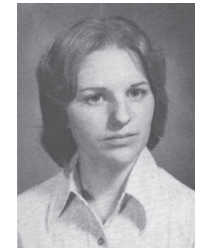


## Dr. Nancy J. Curtin Communication Award

This award will be given to students in the communication discipline who have realized their potential over the course of their Millikin career through self-improvement, leadership and Performance Learning experiences. The students must have at least a junior-level status and a minimum 2.5/4.0 GPA.

This endowed award was established in 2022 by Dr. Nancy J. Curtin, professor and chair of the Communication Department. Dr. Curtin, who started teaching at Millikin in 1997, truly appreciates and wants to recognize the dedication and commitment of Millikin students, especially those who grow personally, professionally and academically.

Presented with honor to  
Joshua Yeo



## Linda Weatherbee Human Resource Management Award

For the junior human resource management major with the highest overall grade point average.

This award was established by family and friends in memory of Linda Weatherbee, a member of the Millikin class of 1977. Linda was the daughter of Dr. Carl and Lucile Weatherbee. Dr. Weatherbee was the chair of the Chemistry Department.

Presented with honor to  
Kelsey Bruno



## Paul R. Winn Memorial Achievement Award

For outstanding senior marketing major(s) who display(s) a passion for the marketing field.

This award was established in 1979 by family and friends to honor the memory of Dr. Paul R. Winn, whose great passion was teaching. His students were all recipients of his passion. Dr. Winn was a professor of marketing at Millikin University until his untimely death at the age of 35. Prior to Millikin he taught at Illinois State University. He received a Bachelor of Science, Master of Science and Ph.D. from the University of Illinois. He was the coauthor of two textbooks and numerous articles and received many awards for his outstanding accomplishments.

Presented with honor to  
Chelsea McCullum  
Stephie Morene Niyomwungere





TABOR SCHOOL  
OF BUSINESS

### Podeschi-Landacre Management Information Systems Award

Recipient(s) must be a major, minor or student involved in classes, student-run ventures or projects in the Management Information Systems or Cybersecurity discipline, who has shown excellence and leadership in Performance Learning experiences. The student must be a sophomore, junior or senior, and have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.5.

The Podeschi-Landacre Management Information Systems Award was established by the Podeschi and Landacre families in honor of their strong connection to the University, counting among them alumni, long-time employees, volunteers and parents.

[Presented with honor to](#)

Jake Shumaker



TABOR SCHOOL  
OF BUSINESS

### Excellence in Management Information Systems Award

For excellence in management information systems, as chosen by department faculty.

An endowment established by the DeBo family in honor of their appreciation, connection and involvement in Millikin's management information systems program, through their son, Justin DeBo, class of 2018. The award will be given to a management information systems student(s) of good academic standing who has displayed excellence through service to the department, leadership and mentoring of fellow management information systems students.

[Presented with honor to](#)

Chris Barambona

Paige Coleman





# University Awards



## Maria Leonard Senior Book Award

To the graduating senior with the highest grade point average who is a member of the freshman/sophomore scholastic honorary.

Alpha Lambda Delta was founded in 1924 by Maria Leonard, the dean of Women at the University of Illinois, to recognize academic excellence among first-year students. Alpha Lambda Delta is an honor society for students who have maintained a 3.5 or higher grade point average and are in the top 20 percent of their class during their first year or term of higher education.

### Presented with honor to

Sydney Finch  
Miranda Fox  
Jarius Ingram  
Bryn Sentnor



## JoAnne Trow Award

For outstanding sophomore member(s) of Alpha Lambda Delta.

Established in 1988, this award honors JoAnne Trow as past national president of Alpha Lambda Delta. Former vice president for student services at Oregon

State University, Trow served Alpha Lambda Delta as district VIII advisor from 1974 to 1979, secretary from 1979 to 1983, president-elect from 1984 to 1985 and as national president from 1985 to 1988. During her term as president, the National Council was restructured to provide a more streamlined operation.

### Presented with honor to

Julia Funck  
Helena Hashimoto



## Sigma Alpha Epsilon, Illinois Delta Chapter Award of Excellence

In recognition of a deserving active member(s) of the Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity who has demonstrated the following: good standing, a full-time student, possesses a 3.0 or higher grade point average, and has shown excellence and campus leadership.

The award was established in 2002 by alumni of the Illinois Delta Chapter of Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity in honor of their chapter's legacy at Millikin University. Sigma Alpha Epsilon (SAE) is a North American Greek-letter social college fraternity founded at the University of Alabama in 1856. It was founded on Millikin's campus on January 14, 1911.

### Presented with honor to

Carson Cole  
Luke Davis  
Gavin King  
Coleman Klimek  
Logan Mulholland  
Klen Sanchez



## Millikin University Greek Five Star Chapter Award

For outstanding fraternity or sorority chapters who have demonstrated excellence in the areas of scholarship, philanthropy, campus involvement, public relations, educational and social programming.

### Presented with honor to

To be announced during the program



## C.W. Barnes Memorial Award

For outstanding student(s) who have a solid grade point average.

Coral Windsor Barnes (1900-1995), a descendant of Central Illinois pioneers, was a member of the Millikin class of 1927 and a star "quarter-miler" while at Millikin. This award was established by his family and friends.

### Presented with honor to

Sophie Darden



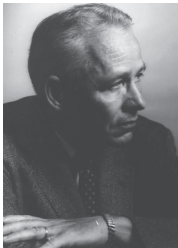


**Major Thomas G. Storey  
Citizenship Award**

For senior(s) who have demonstrated outstanding campus and community leadership.

Major Thomas Storey was an instructor in the industrial engineering program at Millikin from 1958 to 1962. After being called to active duty, he left Millikin and was assigned to MacDill Air Force Base in Florida and then to Vietnam. In 1967, his photo reconnaissance plane was shot down and he was captured in North Vietnam where he was held as a prisoner of war for six and a half years. He returned to the United States in 1973. That same year, Major Storey was Millikin’s commencement speaker. The honorarium he received for speaking was used to establish this award.

**Presented with honor to**  
Sydney Griggs



**Dr. Jere C. Mickel Human  
Relations Award**

For student(s) who have contributed the most during the year to furthering human relations at Millikin University.

Dr. Jere Mickel was a faculty member in the theatre program at Millikin from 1953 to 1970. He also provided leadership for a Millikin/Decatur community theatre program called The Town and Gown. The Mickel family legacy lives on today at Millikin as Dr. Mickel’s daughter, Dr. Cynthia Handler, a member of the Millikin class of 1965, has guided hundreds of Millikin students since she joined the Millikin faculty in 1997 and began leading Millikin’s pre-professional programs in health sciences.

**Presented with honor to**  
Stephanie Munoz



**Daniel J. & Elinor Gage  
Student Activities Award**

For senior(s) with a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.75, who have made meaningful contributions to campus activities.

Dr. Daniel J. Gage joined the Millikin faculty as a professor of history and political science in 1943, serving until his retirement in 1962. Elinor Gage joined the Millikin faculty as a professor of English in 1946, served as chair of the Fine Arts Department, and was the first director of the Kirkland Fine Arts Center, retiring in 1970. Dr. Gage is well remembered for his inspiring lectures, student-centered teaching and devotion to Millikin. Dr. Gage is one of the most-beloved professors of the graduates of his era. Daughters Mary Gage Gray, class of 1961, and Beth Gage, class of 1964, are also graduates.

**Presented with honor to**  
Nanami Owada



**Helen Moffett Russell  
Community Service Award**

For deserving senior(s) who have demonstrated outstanding service leadership to the Decatur community during their attendance at Millikin University.

Helen Moffett Russell was a member of Millikin’s class of 1929 who contributed greatly to Millikin and Decatur and valued community service in others. First awarded in 1996, this award was established by Russell to recognize such service in our students. Her family’s legacy included a brother and two sisters who also attended Millikin, including Wilna Moffett, a renowned piano and organ teacher in the School of Music.

**Presented with honor to**  
MacKenzie Moyer



**Eshelman Family Award**

To a graduating senior male and female, who have maintained the highest scholastic achievement for four years and who have, in the opinion of the university faculty, exhibited high moral values and the ideals of American citizenship.

This endowed award was established by the Estate of Dolores E. Graves. Dolores was a member of the class of 1930, and she was known as Dolores Eshelman at that time. She established this award to honor the graduating senior male and female who have maintained the highest scholastic achievement for four years and who have, in the opinion of the university faculty, exhibited high moral values and the ideals of American citizenship. Dolores E. Graves was also a member of the Alpha Chi Omega sorority.

**Presented with honor to**  
Miranda Fox  
Sean Miller



**Dr. Jan Devore Award for  
Excellence in Contributions  
to Campus Life**

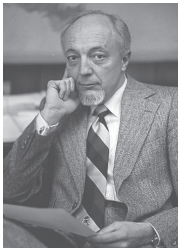
For the student who is judged to have had the most significant impact on facilitating the intellectual and/or character development of their classmates and thereby enhancing the quality of student life.

This award was established in 2008 by Ed Lobenhofer, class of 1995, and Jennifer (Stubblefield) Lobenhofer, class of 1993, to honor their Millikin mentor and friend, Alumni Director and former Dean of Students, Dr. Jan Devore. Dr. Devore joined the Millikin University staff in 1978 as hall director and served both the student life and alumni and development areas until her retirement in 2013.

The Lobenhofers attribute their “firm belief in the educational benefits of higher learning, but also the importance of working to improve campus life and enhancing the lives of our fellow students” to their experience with Dr. Devore. They noted: “She embodies the philosophy of fostering and developing every student so that all are enabled to achieve their fullest potential. Through her, we quickly learned that some of the most important education at college occurs outside the classroom.”

This award is a tribute to her immeasurable influence on a countless number of Millikin students’ lives.

**Presented with honor to**  
To be announced  
during the program



**Dr. J. Roger Miller  
Leadership Award**

For senior(s) who exemplifies superior qualities of academic excellence and leadership.

Dr. Miller began his tenure at Millikin in 1959 as marching band director and was soon named dean of the School of Music. He was later promoted to vice president of academic affairs in 1968. Following the death of Millikin President Paul McKay, Dr. Miller was named his successor, serving from 1971 until he retired in 1991, serving longer than any previous president in Millikin history. During his tenure, Staley Library, Richards Treat University Center, and the New Halls were built, Shilling Hall was renovated and the School of Nursing was established. Today, Millikin features the Dr. and Mrs. J. Roger Miller Centennial Quad in the center of campus.

**Presented with honor to**  
To be announced  
during the program





Outstanding Adjunct Instructor Award

For adjunct instructors who exhibit excellence, integrity and a long-term commitment to education at Millikin University.

This award was established by an anonymous donor and supported by faculty, staff and administration to formally recognize the work of part-time faculty members who contribute in outstanding ways to the instructional mission of the institution. This award reflects the recognition and appreciation of the faculty for those contributions.

Presented with honor to  
To be announced during the program



Alpha Lambda Delta Outstanding Teaching Award

In recognition of an outstanding contributor to first-year learning, based on teaching ability and concern shown in and out of classroom.

Each spring, Alpha Lambda Delta, the Freshman-Sophomore Scholastic Honorary, names a faculty member as an outstanding contributor to first-year learning. The faculty member is chosen on the basis of the ability to teach, knowledge of subject area, ability to present material in a clear and understandable fashion, ability to motivate students to self-discovering in learning and for the care and concern shown to students in and out of the classroom. The focus is on professors who teach several classes at the first-year level.

Presented with honor to  
To be announced during the program



James Millikin Scholars Educator of the Year

In recognition and celebration of an Honors Program faculty member who has demonstrated outstanding teaching in the Honors classroom.

Each spring, the graduating James Millikin Scholars select a faculty member for this award who has taught an honors course during their four years at Millikin University. The James Millikin Honors Program is based on the belief that excellence requires engagement, and the faculty member honored here has demonstrated this core commitment through innovations in the classroom, dedication to the intellectual growth of the James Millikin Scholars, and for fostering the development of better citizens and successful leaders.

Presented with honor to  
To be announced during the program



Teaching Excellence Award, Research and Artistic Achievement Award, & Faculty Service Award

The Faculty Excellence Award Program celebrates the role of teaching, research and artistic achievement, and faculty service at Millikin University by rewarding excellence and innovation.

These faculty excellence and innovation awards recognize faculty who have a record of outstanding teaching, scholarship, artistic achievement or faculty service as part of their work at Millikin. Nominations are solicited from across the university and submissions are reviewed by the Committee on Scholarship and Faculty Development to identify worthy recipients who have excelled in one of these areas – tangible evidence of the quality and productivity of the faculty.

Teaching Excellence Award

Presented with honor to  
To be announced during the program

Research & Artistic Achievement Award

Presented with honor to  
To be announced during the program

Faculty Service Award

Presented with honor to  
To be announced during the program



Dr. Ralph A. Czerwinski and Dr. Deborah L. Slayton Teaching Excellence and Campus Leadership Award

In recognition of an outstanding faculty member who has made a distinctive difference on campus through teaching excellence and campus leadership.

The endowment for this award was funded in honor of husband and wife, Dr. Ralph A. Czerwinski and Dr. Deborah L. Slayton. Dr. Czerwinski served Millikin University for 30 years, first as faculty, then as chair of the Mathematics and Computer Sciences Department and finally as dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. Dr. Slayton served Millikin University for 39 years, first as faculty, then as director of the School of Nursing and finally as the dean of the College of Professional Studies.

Presented with honor to  
To be announced during the program

Scovill Prizes



The most coveted award for overall excellence at Millikin University, Scovill prizes are awarded on the basis of academic achievement, demonstrated leadership and service and scholarship.

The Scovill Prize is named in honor of and funded by Mr. and Mrs. Guy Scovill. Mr. Scovill was a Decatur businessman who together with his wife, Rose, left an indelible mark on this city with Scovill Park, Scovill Zoo, Scovill Golf courses and, at Millikin, ADM-Scovill Hall, originally named Scovill Hall, Millikin's first freestanding science building.

2023 Nominees

Salat Al-Nurridin	Kendra Jellison
Jacquelin Anderson	Madeline Klinger
Tara Asheg	Elyce Knudsen
Cameron Baker	Danny Lack
Skylyr Choe	Victor Lawton II
Jade Coffman	Faith Marinier
Rhys Deiter	Kyle McMillen
Julia Druml	Gracey Reynolds
RamseyRose Folkerts	Page Shields
D Galvan	Jake Shumaker
Madison Gentry	Grace Talbert
Melina Hall	Diana J Terneus
Diana Hernandez	Gabby Watson
Joshua Klaber Higgins	Morgen Weir
Caroline E Iteka	

Honoraries

Alpha Lambda Delta

A national first-year/sophomore honor society that honors students who earned a 3.5 or better cumulative grade point average during the first or second semesters.

Bella M Birdsley, Msanaa J Bosland, Faith O Brindley, Grace E Brixia, Peyten L Daniels, Megan E Dunscomb, Aiden E Etchason, Cassandra Beau Gabbert, Jacob A Habel, Paris E Halbert, Trista N Hampton, Grace L Harmston, Bethany A Hathaway, Delaney S Higgins, Jackson C Hughes, Katie G Janvrin, Samantha M Katschke, Aidan M Kostbade, Mackenzie R Madsen, Emma R Mallory,

Madelyn R Maragni, Eden F Niebrugge, Rachel E Nott, Beth E Portman, Anna J Quick, Jazmyn N Schnetzler, Maggie A Schrage, Isabella Rose Smith, Audrey L Soetermans, Sav M Stringer, Dhanika Therese T Taruc, Carly I Thomas, Chase A Travis, Sciler Treacy, Alexis A Vogel, Carly M Ward, Katelyn A Wendt, Shaina Mae G Yumol



Current Millikin University Presidential Scholars

Oscar Almonte, Amelia Ayotte, Delaney Balmer, Bailey Banks, Melis Barutcu, Lily Bryson, Raeven Carroll, Daniel Clear, Carson Cole, Sophie Dorgan, Sydney Griggs, Zahra Haji, Maria Holloway-Racine, Jarius Ingram, Samuel Moore, Emily Moore, Jayme Reed, Priscilla Sabourin, Maggie Schrage, Page Shields, Olivia Swords, Grace Talbert, Emma West

Current Leighty Science Scholars

Amelia Ayotte, Katharine Baumann, Kathleen Bearden, Madalyn Bochantine, Keagan Brady, Sandra Brindl, Abbey Burkhalter, Alayna Chizmark, Seth Crull, Alysha Davis, Andrew Detmers, Sophie Dorgan, Emily Edwards, Seth Eridanus, Sophia Gibbs, Sydney Griggs, Carissa Guerrier, Zahra Haji, Melina Hall, Abigail Heberling, Jarius Ingram, Madeline Klinger, Jessi Kreder, Dayton Lasack, Emma Lewis, Jayden McNaught, Aleyda McPherson, Nikol Obradovic, Jessel Prabhu, Jordan Reeter, Kathryn Risner, Madeeha Salik, Aidan Schlichting, Victoria Stuart, Chase Travis, Adam Walker, Carly Ward, Landon Welch, Katelyn Wendt

Current Long-Vanderburg Scholars

Jaydin Anderson, Amelia Ayotte, Kaleb Brown, Daniela DeLaCruz, Gournie Ferrell, Itzel Garcia, Ruby GoodmanLee, Sydney Griggs, Luis Guerrero, Zahra Haji, Paris Halbert, Evalena Hartke, Diana Hernandez, Bushra Ibrahim, Jarius Ingram, Joshua Klaber Higgins, Chelsea McCullum, Abigail Mendoza, Vanessa Nash, Mia Orr, Quinn Perez, Leah Tubbs, Taylor Young

Previous Distinguished Faculty Lecturers

1983	Dr. J. Graham Provan
1984	David Marshall
1985	Dr. Arvid Adell
1986	Dr. Ronald Shelton
1987	Dr. William Bodamer
1988	Dr. Robert McIntire
1989	Dr. Daniel Guillory
1990	Dr. Gordon Forbes
1991	Dr. Henry Gromoll
1992	Dr. Mildred Boaz
1993	Dr. Richard Ferry
1994	Dr. Richard Pacholski
1995	Dr. Darlene Hoffman
1996	Dr. Homer Smith Jr.
1997	Dr. Edward Yonan
1998	Dr. Brian Mihm
1999	Dr. James Rauff
2000	Dr. Shelley Cordulack
2001	Dr. Lawrence Troy
2002	Dr. Deborah Slayton
2003	Denise M. Myers
2004	Dr. Clarence Josefson
2005	Jon “Rick” Bibb
2006	Dr. Ralph Czerwinski
2007	Dr. Ray Boehmer
2008	Dr. Robert Money
2009	Dr. Judith Parrish
2010	James Schietinger
2011	Ngozi Onuora
2012	Dr. Mary Jane Linton
2013	Dr. David Burdick
2014	Dr. W. Thomas Duncanson
2015	Dr. Michael Luxner
2016	Dr. Stephen Frech
2017	Dr. Dan Monroe
2018	Lyle Salmi
2019	No ceremony
2020	Michael Hartsock
2021	Mary Garrison
2022	











**HONORS  
CONVOCATION**



1184 WEST MAIN STREET, DECATUR, ILLINOIS 62522