

Roger Williams University

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Featured News Story

The Week at Roger

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Awards Honor RWU Students' Incredible Achievements This Year

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BRISTOL, R.I. – Faculty, staff, and students gathered on May 2 for the annual [Student Achievement Awards](#), which honored undergraduate students for their academic and community work. Families and friends were invited to attend the ceremony virtually.

"In our [Division of Student Life Learning Model](#), we believe that as a result of their experience at RWU, students will meaningfully contribute to thriving and diverse communities," said Vice President of Student Life John King as he opened the ceremony. "We identify four learning goals to achieve this educational priority: Self Awareness, Healthy Relationships, Cultural Humility, and Community Engagement. Today, we will celebrate shining examples of students fulfilling these learning outcomes."

The Awards recognized 54 students and one professor for their efforts and dedication.

RWU President Ioannis had encouraging words for the award recipients, recognizing how their outstanding achievements took place during a global pandemic, and praising their perseverance.

"The past three semesters have been so difficult and challenging due to COVID, however you and your peers have persevered, adapted, and continued to

grow personally while contributing to our campus in inspirational ways that we witness today," he said.

2021 Student Achievement Awards

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The Student Tour Guide of the Year Award and Student Admissions Assistant of the Year Award recognize and commend students who best reflect the mission and philosophy of the Office of Admission.

Admission Tour Guide of the Year

Joy Manguso

Anthony Soares

Daniel Cano

Student Admissions Assistant of the Year
Hailey Langlois
Kyle Sheehan

The Roger Williams University Sustainability Award recognizes a student who made great strides promoting sustainable practices within our campus community.

Sustainability Award
Gabby Deschenes '21

The Charles J. Kelley Award recognizes a student for outstanding work in health promotion to the RWU community.

Kelly Health Service Award
Jake Amendola '21

Title IX Violence Prevention & Sexual Assault Awareness Recognition Award honors students who have worked closely with the Title IX office over the past year.

Title IX Violence Prevention & Sexual Assault
Awareness Recognition Award
Elsa Schloemer '21
Grace Amato '21

The Club and Organization Members of the Year awards were created to recognize the efforts of Club and Organization members who continuously went above and beyond their duties.

Outstanding Club Member of the Year
Maisara Kapadwala '22

Outstanding Organization Member of the Year
Nikki Czarnowski '21

The James R. Russo award is given annually by the Department of Athletics to senior student-athletes who have the highest grade point averages.

James Russo Award for Athletic Academic Excellence
Jillian Houle '21
Brenden Whitten '21

Class Awards honor students of each class year who live out the mission of the University and their love of the community through service to the University.

Class Engagement Awards Class of 2021

Nicholas Polinsky '21

Erika Schlageter '21

Thomas Wallace '21

Domenica Caico '21

Brandon Fink '21

Class Engagement Awards Class of 2022

Samuel Avila

Maddie Jarvis

Christian Thomas

Class Engagement Awards Class of 2023

Jeraldyn Ramirez

Sophia Speliopoulos

Jordan St. Onge

Class Engagement Awards Class of 2024

Amanda Plasse

Marina Sprague

Ryan Wargo

The Intercultural Center Values and Service Award honors students who have demonstrated sustained commitment to the values of the Intercultural Center initiatives through their engagement and service.

Intercultural Center Values & Service Award

Judith Suffrard '21

Phillip Ramey '21

The Resident Assistant of the Year Award is given to an outstanding staff member who goes above and beyond their responsibilities.

Resident Assistant of the Year
Samuel Avila
Nicholas Polinsky '21

The Spirit of Resiliency Award recognizes a student who has demonstrated perseverance in the face of obstacles and used these experiences to encourage and enrich the lives of others in the RWU community.

Spirit of Resiliency Award
Yichun Sun '21

The Peer Mentor of the Year Award recognizes an outstanding Peer Mentor who demonstrated commitment, reliability, professionalism, and enthusiasm throughout the year.

Peer Mentor of the Year
Thomas Wallace '21

The International Student Leadership Award was created to recognize a student for their dedication and commitment to campus internationalization and international engagement.

International Student Leadership Award
Akane Yamada '21

The Melissa Carrasquillo Award for Intercultural Citizenship is awarded to a graduating senior who demonstrated exceptional commitment to social justice and inclusion.

Melissa Carrasquillo Award for Intercultural
Citizenship
Carmen Mei '21
Emily Craig '21
Theresa Cerullo '21

For the past several years, the Student Senate gives just over \$10,000 in scholarships to our students.

The Student Senate has established the Activism Scholarship with the desire to assist students excelling in academics and are meaningfully engaged in co-curricular activities.

Student Senate Activism Scholarships

Sophia Speliopoulos \$2,000

Lauren McAlister \$1,0000

Alyah Achabi \$1,0000

Andrea Arriaga Cota \$750

The Student Senate has established the Academic Achievement Scholarship with the desire to assist students who are intensely engaged in academics at Roger Williams University.

Student Senate Academic Achievement Scholarships

Viannely Francisco \$2,000

Jordan St. Onge \$1,000

Ashley Whittier \$1,000

Amanda Plasse \$750

The Dr. Mark Gould Award for Commitment to Student Learning is sponsored by the Roger Williams University Student Senate. This award was renamed to commemorate the late Dr. Mark Gould and recognizes faculty members who are excellent educators.

Dr. Mark Gould Commitment to Student Learning Award

John McQuilkin, J.D.

The Dr. J. Harold G. Way Scholarship Award was established in memory of Dr. Harold Way, former University faculty member from 1969-1974. This award is based upon a student's strong academic standing and their contribution to the University community.

Dr. J. Harold G. Way Scholarship Award

Melissa Calvo Vides

The Lt. Charles A. Henderson, USN '99 Spirit Award includes a monetary award in memory of Lt. Charles A. Henderson III USN '99. It is awarded to a graduating senior with graduate school aspirations who best and most consistently demonstrates the embodiment of a true scholar.

Lt. Charles A. Henderson Scholarship for Outstanding
Tutor in Writing
Jillian Stevens '21

Lt. Charles A. Henderson Scholarship for Outstanding
Tutor in Math
Elizabeth Hennen '21

Lt. Charles A. Henderson Scholarship for Outstanding
Tutor in Science
Richard Cabeceiras '21

Lt. Charles A. Henderson Spirit Scholarship
Xiaoyan Lang '21

Karen R. Haskell Senior Leadership Award is named for former Dean of Students, Dr. Karen Haskell, who fully embraced sustained student leadership and engagement in the campus community.

Karen R. Haskell Senior Leadership Award
Lea Peterson '21
Rees Harold '21
Sabrina Sousa '21
Alexus Moniz '21

The President's Core Values Medallion recognizes graduating seniors who best exemplify the core values of the institution.

Presidential Core Medallion, School of Architecture,
Art, and Historic Preservation
Shanon DeFranza '21
Xiaoyan Lang '21

Presidential Core Medallion, University College
Matthew Mendes '21

Presidential Core Medallion, School of Engineering,
Computing, and Construction Management

Elizabeth Hennen '21

Kyle Rector '21

Presidential Core Medallion Feinstein School of
Social and Natural Sciences

Richard Cabeceiras '21

Lea Peterson '21

Carmen Mei '21

Presidential Core Medallion Feinstein School of
Humanities, Arts, and Education

Alexis Dubovick '21

Kyla Yates '21

Presidential Core Medallion Mario J. Gabelli School of
Business

Benjamin Manning '21

Alexus Moniz '21

Judith Suffrard '21

Presidential Core Medallion School of Justice Studies

Jillian Houle '21

Nicholas Polinsky '21