The Honors Banquet is a Clarke University tradition recognizing students from all classes for their academic, leadership, and service achievements.
ACADEMIC AWARDS

Class Valedictorians

Class valedictorian is the highest academic award Clarke University confers each year on its undergraduate students. This title is conferred on one or two individuals who have achieved the highest level of academic performance in their class. These students speak at the Commencement ceremony. The valedictorians for the class of 2017 are:

Ellen Funke
Theresa Koos

ACADEMIC HONORS AT COMMENCEMENT

Academic honors at commencement are awarded to candidates for baccalaureate degrees who have earned a cumulative G.P.A. of at least 3.5 on Clarke University coursework. Candidates must have completed a minimum of 45 graded credit hours at Clarke University by their degree completion date.

Summa Cum Laude - 3.80-4.0 G.P.A.

Kristi L. Alvarado  Rebekah G. Harvey  Mcclimon
Julie Barton  Katherine A. Herrig  Natascha M. Myers
Cassandra M. Bennett  Mary Beth Hinz  Elise F. Northrop
Bernadette Anne Brehm  Mackenzie F. Jaeger  Kayla Jane O’Brien
Brittani N. Cornwell  Molly K. Kleppin  Christine M. Piasecki
Halie R. Denlinger  Theresa C. Koos  Mitchell E. Pottebaum
Jessica A. Donar  Mackenzie K. Lamb  Rebekah M. Ross
Elisabeth K. Dowling  Manda D. Mattoon  Brenda Schilling
Abigail R. Funke  Nick May  Melanie A. Schultz
Ellen K. Funke  Patricia Susan Maria  Lindsey R. Van Matre

Magna Cum Laude - 3.65-3.79 G.P.A.

Anna M. Barclay  Evan D. Heil  Jennifer M. Petkoff
Victor C. Bowden  Jaime D. Hennick  Marissa L. Roberts
Krista K. Bushkofsky  Samantha L. Hilby  Mariah R. Schmelzer
Jordyn A. Dolphin  Allison A. Kilburg  Mark A. Schmidt
Kelsey A. Ernst  Ashley N. Koopmann  Ali A. Schwietert
Lucas R. Fangmann  Amber R. Langel  Cassandra J. Stuflick
Kevin H. Fricke  Matthew J. Parker
KAPPA GAMMA PI

Kappa Gamma Pi is a National Catholic University Graduate Honor Society. Membership is limited to not more than 10 percent of the graduating class. Seniors who have attained a 3.50 or higher G.P.A. for the last four semesters and who have demonstrated leadership and significant participation in campus life are selected by vote of the faculty and senior class. The following Clarke University seniors have been selected as Kappa Gamma Pi members this year:

Kristi Alvarado
Anna Barclay
Elizabeth Dowling
Emma Duehr

Molly Kleppin
Theresa Koos
Kayla Kyle

Ellie Northrop
Christine Piasecki
Jessica Spooner

WHO’S WHO AMONG STUDENTS IN AMERICAN UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES

“Who’s Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges” students are selected by vote of the faculty and senior class on the basis of scholarship, leadership, cooperation in educational and co-curricular activities, general citizenship and future promise.

Cassandra M. Bennett
Bernadette Anne Brehm
Krista K. Bushkofsky
Ellen K. Funke
Theresa C. Koos

Mercedes J. Munoz
Natascha M. Myers
Luke T. North
Elise F. Northrop

Christine M. Piasecki
Rebekah M. Ross
Mark A. Schmidt
Vanessa P. Ulloa

CU LEAD

Clarke’s leadership development program, CU LEAD, approaches leadership as a purposeful, collaborative, values-based process that results in positive social change. Participants explore individual and group leadership. In order to graduate from the program, students must lead and implement a project that contributes to the common good and realizes some aspect of social change.

Kyle Majerus
SCHOLARS PROGRAM

The Scholars Program is an outgrowth of both Clarke’s robust liberal arts/general education philosophy and the institution’s commitment to career-ready and life-ready learners. The program serves as a unique, innovative, and flexible platform from which exceptional students can prepare for their futures even as they explore their potential in the present. They do this by challenging themselves and each other intellectually, developing formative academic and professional relationships, and actively engaging with the larger community. The following graduating seniors have completed the Scholars Program this year.

Cassondra Bennett
Elisabeth Dowling
Evan Heer
Luke North
Page Peters
Skyler Quade
Rebekah Ross
Cameron Tiernan

ACCEPTANCE TO GRADUATE STUDY

Doctor of Nursing Practice, Clarke University

Megan Dauphin
Jessica Donar
Leah Winkers
Georgeena Kalb
Jordyn Dolphin

Doctor of Physical Therapy, Clarke University

Rachel Bork
Paige Brinkman
Kourtney Buelow
Anita Bukszar
Sarah Crews
Hannah Dentlinger
Breanna Elvers
Emily Grant
Sydney Hendricks
Holly Hunt
Rachel Hunt
Logan Koopman
Joshua Parkins
Kelli Peterson
Joshua Phalen
Hannah Rehder
Alexandria Thornhill
Lauren Timmerman
Kristen Udellhofen
Hannah Weatherly

Master of Arts in Education, Clarke University

Lucinda Althoff
Abby Funke
Alyssa Linden
Kristi Alvarado
Ellen Funke
Melanie Schultze
Anna Barclay
Allison Killburg
Cassandra Stuflick
Hailee Beals
Mackenzie Lamb
Olivia Vogel

Master of Business Administration, Clarke University

Brian Lacy
Maddison Powers
Shai Rowe

Master of Organizational Leadership, Clarke University

Mercedes Munoz
Ali Schwietert
Gabrielle Waddick
Mariah Schmelzer
Wendy Sickinger

Master of Social Work, Clarke University

Mackenzie Jaeger
Elisabeth Dowling  
Rice University, Ph.D. Program in Statistics

Luke North  
Drake University Law School

Elise Northrup  
University of Minnesota-Twin Cities; Ph.D. program in Biostatistics

Paige Peters  
University of Iowa, College of Dentistry

Robert Specht  
Western Illinois University, M.S. College Student Personnel: Student Affairs Track, and graduate assistantship

COMPETITIVE SUMMER PROGRAMS AND INTERNSHIPS

Molly Becker  
Paul Eshelman Pottery, Elizabeth, IL: Studio Assistant Internship

Erik Brolin  
Paul Eshelman Pottery, Elizabeth, IL: Studio Assistant Internship

Grace Friederick  
Marine Corps Officer Candidate School, Quantico, Virginia

Evan Heil  
Stella Adler Acting Studio, Summer Conservatory Program in Performance, Los Angeles, CA

Hillary Kapparos  
Mercy Hospital, Dubuque, IA: Birthing Unit internship

Chelsea Pierce  
St. Luke’s Hospital, Cedar Rapids, IA: Medical Unit internship

Josh Prindle  
Free Radical and Radiation Biology Program: University of Iowa Interdisciplinary Summer Undergraduate Research Program

Zoey Weber  
St Luke’s McNair Campus, Houston TX: ICU and High Risk Surgery internship

Adrianna Welter-Mayne  
Ankuri School, Dehradan, India: Summer teaching experience and internship
OTHER HONORS

Molly Becker
Artwork selected for publication in Iowa Public Radio Iowa Coloring Book, 2016

Nicolas Becker
Artwork selected for publication in Iowa Public Radio Iowa Coloring Book, 2016
Gold ADDY Award, Dubuque American Advertising Federation ADDY Awards, 2017
Silver ADDY, Dubuque American Advertising Federation ADDY Awards, 2017
Silver ADDY, Dubuque American Advertising Federation ADDY Awards, 2017

Cassie Bennett

Emma Duehr
2017 Emerging Artists Exhibition, ArtHaus, Decorah, IA
Order and Chaos, Giles Gallery, Richmond, KY
Emerging Artists, Limner Gallery, Hudson, NY
Living Mark 3, Verum Ultimum, Portland, OR

Hope Greenwood
2017 Emerging Artists Exhibition, ArtHaus, Decorah, IA

Morgan Hazer
2017 Emerging Artists Exhibition, ArtHaus, Decorah, IA

Adina Hopkins
Artwork selected for publication in Iowa Public Radio Iowa Coloring Book, 2016

Logan Hoyt
“The Relationship Between the Big Five and Comfort Admitting to Mild Social Norm Violations.” Poster presentation. Lisa Van Havermaet, Faculty Sponsor, Ph.D. Midwestern Psychological Association, Chicago, April 2017

Katie Marter
2017 Emerging Artists Exhibition, ArtHaus, Decorah, IA

Kylie Murphy
Silver ADDY Award, Dubuque American Advertising Federation ADDY Awards, 2017
Silver ADDY, Dubuque American Advertising Federation ADDY Awards, 2017

Emily Ott
Anne Siegrist Performance Award

Paige Peters

Skyler Quade
“Relationship Social Comparison on Social Media: An Experimental Study.” Presented with Kristin Wesner, Ph.D. Midwestern Psychological Association, Chicago, April 2017
“Religiosity, Spirituality, and Attitudes Towards LGBT Individuals.” Kristin Wesner, Ph.D. faculty sponsor. Midwestern Psychological Association, Chicago, April 2017
Bridget Quinn
Gold ADDY Award, Dubuque American Advertising Federation ADDY Awards, 2017

Alissa Raver
Silver ADDY Award, Dubuque American Advertising Federation ADDY Awards, 2017

Laura Reagan
Silver ADDY Award, Dubuque American Advertising Federation ADDY Awards, 2017

Laura Reiss
Artwork selected for publication in Iowa Public Radio Iowa Coloring Book, 2016
Silver ADDY Award, Dubuque American Advertising Federation ADDY Awards, 2017
Silver ADDY, Dubuque American Advertising Federation ADDY Awards, 2017

Charlotte Rodewald
Silver Addy Award, Dubuque American Advertising Federation ADDY Awards

Ryan Ryba
“An Analysis of HEF-1 Phosphorylation and Protein Binding Partners in Human Ocular Cells.”
Poster presentation. McElroy Symposium, Wartburg College, April 18, 2017

Brenda Schilling
Research paper presentation, Clement Stacy Conference, Hammond, IN, April 2017;
University of Nebraska, Philosophy Conference
Paper Commentator, MSU Denver Philosophy Conference, April, 2017

Ashley Smith
Silver ADDY Award, Dubuque American Advertising Federation ADDY Awards, 2017

Rachel Spurling
2017 Art Kudos International Juried Art Competition and Exhibition, Virtual Exhibition

Kayla Winandy
Silver ADDY Award, Dubuque American Advertising Federation ADDY Awards, 2017
SPECIAL FIELD AWARDS

GLORIA WEIR MELGAARD ART AWARD
Art award established in 1997 by Robert Melgaard in tribute to his wife, Gloria Weir Melgaard ’78. It recognizes a senior who, in the opinion of the art faculty, has produced exceptional art works and demonstrated artistic growth and professional development. Awarded to a student who has contributed to the department through generosity of time and energy, supportive presence and creative activity.

EMMA DUEHR

ART DEPARTMENT FACULTY AWARD
Awarded to an outstanding sophomore art major who contributes to the creative atmosphere of the department and who demonstrates the potential for highly creative, professional artistic performance.

NICK BECKER

VASSARI ART HISTORY AWARD
Established in 1986 by the Gilbert Redelman family, of Chicago, in honor of Renaissance art historian Giorgio Vasari. Awarded to a student who has demonstrated outstanding achievement in the field of art history.

KATIE MARTER

WALTER AND KATHRYN DUNHAM FINE ARTS AWARD
Established in 1995 by Meneve Dunham ’53, in tribute to her parents. Awarded to a senior majoring in art, music, drama or music theatre who, in the judgment of the fine arts division faculty and on the basis of demonstrated record, shows the potential for advancement as a professional in an artistic field.

EMMA DUEHR

HARRY AND GOLDYE KOPPLE FINE ARTS AWARD
Established in 1988 by Sonia Kopple Hickson in tribute to her parents, Harry and Goldye Kopple. Awarded to a junior fine arts major who, in the judgment of the fine arts division faculty, has shown outstanding interest, support, and participation in the fine arts.

EMILY OTT

THE ATHLETIC TRAINING LEADERSHIP AWARD
Established in 2014 by Clarke University, this award recognizes a Junior Athletic Training major who has demonstrated excellent leadership and professionalism in the Athletic Training field.

EMILY GRANT
IGNACIO WALSH, BVM BIOLOGY AWARD
Established by a friend of Sister Mary Ignacio Walsh. Awarded to a sophomore who shows promise for further achievement in biology. Nominated and elected by biology majors.

LAUREN BLOCK

MARY AND HATTIE RAWLS GUEST BIOLOGY AWARD
Established by Mary F. and M. I. Guest in memory of their mother. It was renamed in 2001 to honor the memory of Mary F. Guest, biology department faculty member, 1972-1992. The award is presented annually to an upper-division biology major who has achieved a minimum 3.0 average in biology, who has participated in extracurricular activities in the biology department, and who has given service within Clarke University or the Dubuque community.

KRISTEN UDELHOFEN

BARBARA BEN BONAVENTURA BIOLOGY AWARD
Established by the Class of 1967 and Dr. Leo Bonaventura in memory of his wife, Barbara Bonaventura ’67. It is awarded annually to a biology major selected by the students and faculty in the biology department.

THERESA KOOS

ANN PAULINE BRASSER, BVM SCIENCE AWARD
Established in 1990 by Katherine Au-Young Lam ’57, this award pays tribute to former Biology professor Sister Mary Ann Pauline Brasser, BVM. The award is presented annually to an incoming senior majoring in biology, chemistry or nursing who has achieved a minimum of 3.0 average in his or her field and who has contributed to the university community through extracurricular activities or volunteer services to the Dubuque area non-profit organizations.

JESSICA JORDAN

OUTSTANDING ACCOUNTING STUDENT AWARD
Established by the Education Committee of the Iowa Society of Certified Public Accountants to honor outstanding accounting students at Iowa colleges and universities. It is awarded to a senior major judged by departmental faculty to be outstanding in the field of accounting.

KRISTA BUSHKOFSKY

MCDONALD BUSINESS AWARD OF EXCELLENCE
Established in 1975 by R. D. McDonald, Chairman of the Board, President and Chief Executive Officer of A.Y. McDonald Manufacturing Company. Awarded to a senior major who, on the basis of academic excellence and community service, is judged by departmental faculty to be outstanding in the field of business.

SHAI ROWE
THE FLYNN FAMILY AWARD IN BUSINESS
Established by Sister Mary Michael Flynn, BVM, in honor of the Flynn family sisters. Awarded to a sophomore or junior majoring in accounting or business administration who has demonstrated leadership, service, scholarship and potential for professional achievement. The recipient is selected by faculty and students in the accounting and business department.

KAYLA O’BRIEN

MARGUERITE NEUMANN, BVM CHEMISTRY AWARD
Established by chemistry department alumni to honor Sister Marguerite Neumann, BVM. The award is given annually to a chemistry major on the basis of a demonstrated record of leadership, service, scholastic achievement, and potential for advancement of the chemical profession.

CHRISTIAN BRADLEY

HELEN AND MELVIN HACK EXCELLENCE IN FOOD SCIENCE AWARD
Established by Judith Lynn Hack ’69, of Chicago, former photography editor of The Courier, in memory of her parents. Judith graduated from Clarke College with a degree in Dietetics, which is known as a Food and Nutrition Science degree today.

LUCAS DONNAN

CHARLES AND BEATRICE BLOOD FEATURE STORY AWARD
Established by Shirley Blood Ruedy ’58, of Cedar Rapids, former editor of The Courier, in memory of her parents.

JAMIE DEERING
JOSH BRADSHAW

AULEEN EBERHARDT AWARD
Established in 1995 by Alan and Bette Eberhardt. Awarded to a senior in communication who, in the judgment of the communication department, shows potential for excellence, professionalism and community service.

SARA ALBERTSEN

POWERS COMPUTER SCIENCE AWARD
Established by the Powers family in honor of Dave Powers ’85, computer science graduate and faculty from 1987 to 2000. Presented annually to a graduating senior in the computer science department whose achievement has been noteworthy.

KATIE MARTER
FLORENTINE O'BRIEN CRAEMER DRAMA AWARD
Established by Mrs. N. P. Craemer '24, Cedar Rapids, in tribute to her three Clarke daughters. It is presented to the outstanding senior who has demonstrated highly creative and knowledgeable discipline in the theatre and who has made a superior contribution to the Clarke University Drama Department.

EVEN HEIL

ALUMNI DRAMA AWARD
Established by Clarke drama alumni to encourage the continuance of a quality theatre program. Presented to an outstanding sophomore or junior who has demonstrated academic excellence evidenced by a 3.0 cumulative grade point average, superior creative involvement in the drama program, and leadership potential in the field.

RILEY BECKETT

JOHN AND PEARL VOSS EDUCATION AWARD
Established by Susan Voss Webb '62 in honor of her parents in recognition of their lives as educators. Awarded to a junior education major who demonstrates outstanding scholarship with a cumulative grade point average of 3.5 or higher in the major and overall, with priority given to someone in the honors program.

EMILY OTT

KYLE ANDERSEN AWARD
Established by Molly Andersen Schreiber '99 and the Annual Kyle Andersen Memorial Golf Outing. Presented to a junior education major who will be student teaching the following academic year and has demonstrated leadership in the campus community and the Clarke University education department. The purpose of this award is to help defray the educational expenses incurred during student teaching.

GABBY KOLKER

RENATA KORONA DIPASQUALE EDUCATION AWARD
Established in 1994 by Aimee Pacholski Goldsmith, Donna Peppers Rhodes, and Anne Casey Stanfa in memory of Renata Korona DiPasquale, all of the Class of 1979. The award is presented annually to a Clarke University senior education major who, according to the education faculty, has demonstrated an inspirational attitude toward the vocation of teaching while maintaining an above-average academic record.

SOPHIE SCHEMMEL

MARY FRANCES CLARKE, BVM EDUCATION AWARD
Established in 1976 by friends of the Clarke education department. Presented to a senior who, in the judgment of the education department faculty, gives promise of becoming an outstanding member of the teaching profession, as evidenced by academic excellence, superior performance in teaching, as well as professional and/or community involvement during the student’s program at Clarke.

BROOKE CHAPMAN
EUGENE H. GEISLER HISTORY AWARD
Established in 1991 in memory of Eugene H. Geisler by his wife, Bernadine Hingtgen Ament Geisler ’43. It is awarded to an outstanding sophomore or junior history major.

BRIDGET FAUSNAUGHT

RICHARD SHERMAN MEMORIAL AWARD
Established by the late Edward Sherman, New York, NY, in memory of his brother, Richard Sherman, novelist and film writer. The Richard Sherman award is presented to the first- and second-place winners in the Clarke University Writing Contest.

FIRST PLACE: BRIDGET FAUSNAUGHT, “untitled”, poetry
SECOND PLACE: EMILY PAPE, “Caught in Circles”, fiction

MARY BLAKE FINAN LITERARY AWARD
Established by the late Mary Blake Finan, L.L.D., 1893. The Mary Blake Finan Award is presented to the third-place winner in the Clarke University Writing Contest.

THIRD PLACE: BRENDA SCHILLING, “Who Knew?”, poetry

JOHN F. AND CATHARINE MORAN O’MALLEY AWARD
Established by Catharine M. O’Malley, St. Joseph Academy ’25, in memory of her husband. It is awarded to a second-semester sophomore in Spanish on the basis of academic excellence in foreign languages.

ERIN SOAT
SYDNEY YOUNG

OUTSTANDING ENGLISH MAJOR AWARD
Established in 2014 by Clarke University, this award recognizes an outstanding English major with an excellent record of achievement and leadership in the field of English language and literature.

JOSH PRINDLE

VERA CLARKE, BVM AWARD
Initiated by Mary Lane Neubauer Blomquist ’72 and established in 1992 by Clarke alumni in memory of Mary Vera Clarke, BVM, Mathematics Department faculty member, 1957-1975. Awarded to a graduating senior majoring in mathematics whose achievement has been noteworthy.

ELISE NORTHROP

VIRGINIA GAUME, BVM MUSIC AWARD
Established in 1979 in recognition of Sister Virginia’s years of dedicated service to excellence in the Music Department.

REBEKAH ROSS
ST. RUTH CONNOLLY, BVM MUSIC AWARD FOR SERVICE
Established in 1979 by the music faculty and music majors, classes of 1979-1982, in memory of Sister Mary St. Ruth, Clarke music graduate and Music Department faculty member.

JOSH HARBAUGH

ELIZA KELLY MUSIC AWARD FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE
Established in 1984 by the music faculty in honor of the 150th anniversary of the Sisters of Charity, BVM. It is awarded to a student who, in the judgment of the Clarke music faculty, excels in scholarship.

NATASCHA MYERS

NURSING AND HEALTH LEADERSHIP AWARD
Established in 1999 by the faculty of the nursing department. This award honors a student who has a consistent record of exceptional leadership in community endeavors.

LEAH WINKERS

NICOLE THING NURSING AWARD
Established in 2015 by Anne Thing, in memory of her daughter, Nicole Things, who was an outstanding second-year nursing student at Clarke University when she passed away suddenly. Nicole had a passion for helping people, a passion that lives through her organ donation. The Nicole Thing Award is given to an outstanding first-year nursing student who is encouraging, supportive, giving, willing to go the extra mile, and a team player, characteristics that describe Nicole's generous personality.

JENNA TILTON

CATHERINE DUNN, BVM EXCELLENCE IN NURSING AWARD
Established in 1994 by the Board of Trustees, this award pays tribute to a decade of extraordinary leadership provided by former President Catherine Dunn, BVM. It is presented annually to a nursing student whose academic record and community service have demonstrated excellence.

BERNADETTE BREHM

ANTONIA DURKIN, BVM PHILOSOPHY AWARD
Established in 2001 by Norm Freund and Kent Anderson in memory of Antonia Durkin, BVM, who successfully lobbied to open the doors of Catholic higher education for herself and other religious women. The award honors her pioneering spirit, dedication to the liberal arts, and many years of service to Clarke. It is presented annually to the student in the introductory philosophy course who has demonstrated the most outstanding course work and dedication to the discipline of philosophy.

HATTIE FRANA
SOCRATES AWARD
Established in 1990 by Norm Freund and Kent Anderson to recognize excellence in philosophy. It is awarded annually to a student in an upper-division philosophy course who demonstrates outstanding performance in course work and dedication to the discipline of philosophy.

BRENDA SCHILLING
ELISABETH DOWLING
HONORABLE MENTION: CASSIE BENNETT

WILLIAM J. KNIGHT PRE-LAW AWARD
Established in 2011 by the Philosophy Department in honor of Dubuque attorney, William J. Knight, who served as a business counselor to Mary Frances Clarke and was a generous benefactor to Clarke University and the BVM sisters. It is presented to a graduating senior who has completed application to one or more law schools.

ELISABETH DOWLING
HONORABLE MENTION: LUKE NORTH

BENEDICT PHELAN, BVM PSYCHOLOGY AWARD
Established in 1969 by the Clarke Development Council to honor Sister Mary Benedict Phelan, BVM, former Clarke president. Awarded to the psychology major who, in the judgment of the psychology department faculty, shows the greatest promise of contributing to the field of psychology.

CASSIE BENNETT

DEE LEOW-SCHREINER AWARD
Established by her family and friends in 1997, this award pays tribute to Dee Leow-Schreiner in recognition and gratitude for the profound influence Clarke had in her life. Presented annually to a student who has gained and demonstrated personal spiritual growth while at Clarke University.

JIM HAMMERAND

FLORETTA MILLER CALMEYN RELIGIOUS STUDIES AWARD
Established by Mary Kennedy Dandurand and members of the class of 1964. The Floretta Miller Calmeyn Religious Studies Award pays tribute to their classmate, who lived life fully as a mother, wife, friend, and parish spiritual director. The award is given to a student who has demonstrated excellence in religious studies coursework.

LOGAN HOYT

MARY ELLEN CALDWELL, BVM RELIGIOUS STUDIES AWARD
Established by Janet and Michael O'Meara, this award honors Sister Mary Ellen Caldwell, BVM, assistant professor emerita and religious studies faculty member, 1962-1987. It is presented annually to a student who demonstrates the pursuit of excellence in religious studies and a commitment to social justice.

ALLISON EVANS
MARY J. McCORMICK SOCIAL WORK AWARD
Established in 1979 and awarded to a senior social work major who, in the judgment of the seniors and faculty in the department, has demonstrated academic achievement in the field of social work and gives promise of becoming an outstanding member of the profession.

CARRIE RAWSON

MARIANNE JOY, BVM AWARD
Established in 1983 by family and friends of Sister Marianne Joy, BVM, in memory of her significant contributions to Clarke and her unique commitment, care, concern and love for the residence life program. This award is presented to a resident assistant who has demonstrated significant service to the university residential community for at least one year.

McKENNA CROSSEN

JOAN KELEHER DOYLE CAMPUS MINISTRY LEADERSHIP AWARD
Established in 1982 to recognize a student who has excelled in Christian Ministry by consistent and active participation in a variety of campus ministry activities. The recipient is selected by the campus ministry team and previous award recipient.

ROSALYN GRAVROK

BECKMAN SERVICE GRANT
Established in 1983 by the children of Leonard and Mary Haugh Beckman to enable members of the Clarke community to engage in a ministry that provides direct service to the poor and marginal. The recipient is chosen by the campus ministry team.

ALLISON EVANS

BETH OTTING SERVICE AWARD
Established in 2016 by the class of 1986 in memory of Beth Otting ’86, who lived her life serving others. Given to a student group who has a commitment to helping others through service on campus or off campus. The recipients of the award are selected by Campus Ministry.

KENYA LEARNING AND SERVICE TRIP (JUNE 2017)

CLARKE STUDENT ASSOCIATION AWARD
Established in 2007 by the Clarke Student Association, this award is given in recognition of outstanding participation in student government. The award recipient is a non-graduating Clarke University student who has exhibited outstanding participation in the Clarke Student Association and the Clarke University community.

ATHLETICS NEWCOMER OF THE YEAR AWARD
Established in 2009, this award recognizes an outstanding male and an outstanding female student athletes who are in their first year of competition at Clarke University.
ED COLBERT ATHLETICS CAREER ACHIEVEMENT AWARD
Established in 1993 in honor of Coach Ed Colbert’s contributions to the Clarke athletic program. The award is presented annually to a senior male and a senior female students in recognition of their outstanding career achievements in Clarke University athletics.

HOWARD AND GERTRUDE THOMPSON AWARD
Established in 1981, this award recognizes the achievement of an outstanding non-traditional age student. Eligible non-traditional age students must have completed 30 semester hours at Clarke University and attained a 3.0 cumulative grade-point-average or above.

FIRST-YEAR STUDENT AWARD AND ST. CATHERINE MEDAL
This undergraduate achievement award is given by vote of the faculty and the freshman class to a first-year student who has, in the first year of college, exemplified the high standards of character, scholarship, service and leadership required for election to membership in Kappa Gamma Pi. The medal is awarded through the courtesy of Mary Alice Studebaker McManus, ‘61.

JOHN AND MARY MILES COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD
Established by Mary J. Miles in 1977 as the John A. Miles Service Award, enlarged and revised by the Miles Family after Mary’s death in 2013, the John and Mary Miles Community Service Award is presented each year to a full-time second-year student who has demonstrated energetic volunteer service to the Clarke University and the community. In the spring semester sophomore students, faculty and administration may nominate for the award; sophomores and faculty vote for the award. The recipient of the award is announced annually at the spring Honors Banquet.

MABEL ROONEY HOFFMAN AWARD
Established in 1969 by the late Alois Hoffman in honor of his wife, this award is presented each year to the junior who, by nomination and vote of the faculty and members of the junior class, has exhibited evidence of academic interest and effort, and an outstanding response to the opportunities to serve others in the university community and society.

FRANCIS J. O’CONNOR MEMORIAL AWARD
Since 1935 the O’Connor Award has been recognized as the most prestigious honor bestowed upon a Clarke University graduating senior. Criteria for the award include demonstrated leadership, cooperation, generosity, kindness, and academic achievement. Originally, the Mary Agnes O’Connor Award was established by the late Frank A. O’Connor in memory of his wife. In 1991 it was renamed the award the Francis J. O’Connor Memorial Award to honor the late Francis J. O’Connor, son of Frank and Mary Agnes O’Connor, and longtime Clarke trustee. The award recipient is selected by vote of seniors and faculty. The presentation of the award is made at commencement exercises.
TORCH PASSING
The concept of torch passing originated with the ancient Greek Olympics over 2,700 years ago. During the earliest athletic competitions, relays of runners carried a sacred flame lit from the fire burning before the altar of Zeus to the location of the games.

Similarly, the Clarke Torch Passing Ceremony, initiated in 1935, recognizes the continuity in the transition of student officers, with the flame being passed from those who have served the university community for the past year to those elected to serve during the coming year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CSA Executive Board</th>
<th>2016-2017</th>
<th>2017-2018</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Natascha Myers</td>
<td>Kyle Majerus, ‘18</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vice President</td>
<td>Mercedes Munoz</td>
<td>Katie Marter, ‘18</td>
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<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Cassie Bennett</td>
<td>Laura Naber, ‘18</td>
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<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Kyle Majerus</td>
<td>Bailey Theisen, ‘20</td>
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<td>President, Class of 2020</td>
<td>Echo DeVries</td>
<td>Echo DeVries</td>
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<tr>
<td>President, Class of 2019</td>
<td>Kylee Liginski</td>
<td>Kylee Liginski</td>
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<tr>
<td>President, Class of 2018</td>
<td>Lauren Hackbarth</td>
<td>Megan Madl</td>
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<tr>
<td>President, Class of 2017</td>
<td>Robby Specht</td>
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174th Commencement

Saturday, May 13, 2017 · 2 p.m.
Robert and Ruth Kehl Center, Clarke University

A reception for graduates and guests will immediately follow commencement in the R.C. and Celeste Wahlert Atrium.