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EVENING
— of —
xcellence
Academic Awards Ceremony

May 7, 2026

Award Ceremony 5:00 PM

Reception to Follow

The Commons Area

Gardner, MA



Mount Wachusett
Community College



Mount Wachusett Community College Foundation, Inc., a private, independent, non-profit organization, established in 1971, serves as an avenue for the community to assist with the financial support of MWCC and its students.

The MWCC Foundation's primary objective is to raise funds for student scholarships. More than \$300,000 in student support is distributed annually. If you would like more information on the MWCC Foundation, please contact Carla Zottoli at 978-630-9276 or email czottoli@mwcc.mass.edu.

A portion of this evening's awards were made possible through the MWCC Foundation and we would like to thank all of the generous donors for their support.

PROGRAM



INTRODUCTION.....Jason Zelesky
Vice President of Student Services & Dean of Students

WELCOME.....Dr. James Vander Hooven
President

CURRICULUM AWARDS.....Dr. Ana M. Gaillat
Senior Vice President of Academic Affairs

OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS.....Dr. Ana M. Gaillat
Senior Vice President of Academic Affairs

MEMORIAL AWARDS.....Jason Zelesky
Vice President of Student Services & Dean of Students

COMMONWEALTH HONORS.....Kara Roche
Professor, English

PRESIDENT'S KEY.....Dr. James Vander Hooven
President

DEAN'S KEY.....Jason Zelesky
Vice President of Student Services & Dean of Students

STEPHANIE BARRY MEMORIAL LEADERSHIP AWARD.....Kathy Matson
Director of Student Life

CURRICULUM AWARDS



Art	Apryl Gaudet
Automotive Technology	Andrei Sverkunov
Biology	Katie Robertson
Business Administration - Accounting	Jennifer Newton
Business Administration - Career	Keila M. Mejia
Business Administration - Transfer	Kimberly Ward
Chemistry	Elijah Beauregard
Computer Information Systems	Anthony Gonzalez
Computer Information Systems - Transfer	Frederick Ashun
Computer Science - Transfer	Delroy Anthony Smith
Criminal Justice - Law Enforcement	Christopher Patrick Harrington
Criminal Justice - Transfer	Tatiane Oliveira Souza
Dental Hygiene	Alivia Zuccalmaglio

CURRICULUM AWARDS



Early Childhood Education - Career	Nicole LaBelle
Early Childhood Education - Transfer	Emma Pepin
Earth/Environmental Science	Michael Rochette Jr.
Elementary Education Track	Lillie-Rose LaFortune
Engineering Physics	Lauryn Brown
Environmental Conservation	Gabriella Riendeau
Fire Science Technology	Scott G. Semenchuk
Graphic and Interactive Design	Rachel Faias
History and Political Science	Brian Tomlinson
Human Services	Amanda Burns
Interdisciplinary Studies	Brielle Anne Voorheis
Interdisciplinary Studies - Allied Health	Joshua C. Bauer

CURRICULUM AWARDS



Liberal Arts and Sciences	Leonardo Garay
Media Arts and Technology	Evan Askew
Media Arts and Technology - Audio Engineering	Emily Nixon
Media Arts and Technology - Video/Film	Gary T. Brayboy
Media Communications Track	Meghan Irene Cormier
Nursing	Shania Cassey
Nursing - Advanced Standing Bridge	Meaghan Paige Banister
Pharmacy	Tino Kujinga
Pre-Law Track	Josiah Potter
Professional Writing Track	Michelle Gelpi-Balthazar
Secondary Education Pathway in Mathematics	Tyler Noonan
Veterinary Technology	Nevin Arseneault

OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS



**Best of First Year Writing
Analytical Writing Category**

1st Place - Robert Branchaud
Runner-up - Ana Claudia Uphold

**Best of First Year Writing
Personal Writing Category**

1st Place - Saphron Dierauer
Runner-up - Joan DiReda

Carl Tammi Award

Jensen Reynolds

Carrie Progen Memorial Scholarship

Olivia Maki

Ellen E. Daly Dental Hygiene Scholarship

Veneta S. Ponn

Excellence in Mathematics

Andie M. Burnett

Jean Tandy Award

Hailey Crowley

John Burton Award

Olivea Carrigan
Jasmine Alexis Lambert

Keith Nivala Award

Tatiane Oliveira Souza

Mount Observer Scholarship

Trudy Hanninen-Burnham

Robert Weibel Award

Cameron Ramos

Sandy Signor Award

Marnita Blackwell-Washington

MEMORIAL AWARDS



Aspasia Anastos Award	Michelle McCormick
Craig Hamel Scholarship	Veronica Shelton
Donna Peck Memorial Scholarship	Gabriella Fava
Harold E. Drake, Jr. Veteran's Scholarship Fund	Nicholas Ferdinand Macallister
H. Marilyn Kiosses Scholarship	Stephanie Nikander
The James D. and Louise G. Murphy Memorial Scholarship	Betty-Jo Caisse
Joseph S. Baldyga Veteran's Fund	Gwendolyn F. Conrod
Judge M. Alan Moore Award: Academic Excellence	Sophia Audrey Harrold
Judge M. Alan Moore Award: Excellence in Writing	Rebecca Stankaitis
Melissa Herr Marsh Scholarship	Ashly Faherty
MWCC Veteran's Memorial Scholarship	Jasmine Alexis Lambert
Peter J. Trainor Leadership Award	Lindsay Mahoney
Polish-American Veteran's Scholarship	Peter N. Jerusik
Roberts Scholar	Sifikile Moyo
Ruth Family Scholarship Fund	Joseph John Ricchiazzi
The Babineau-Johnson Veteran's Scholarship Fund	William T. Griffin III
The David G. Wyman, Jr. Scholarship Fund	Onexuss Harris Melanie Trottier-Mitcheson

COMMONWEALTH HONORS SCHOLARS



Kaitlyn Leigh Bibik
Jack Andrew Buchan
Dontavius Butler
Olivea Carrigan
Leonardo Garay
Elwin Gardens
Michelle Gelpi-Balthazar
Ciara Glynn
Isabelle R. Gonzalez
Sophia Audrey Harrold
Annscol Gerenardost Joseph
Lindsay Mahoney
Leila Akello Marie
Molly McNeary
Josiah Potter
John D. Sanford
Spencer Sanon
Rebecca Stankaitis
Alyson Teto
Connor Tribou
Uriah Truax
Joslynn Vautour
Arianna May Voorheis
Brielle Anne Voorheis
Garrik Wilkins

PRESIDENT'S KEY



Amanda Burns
Tony Duong
Leonardo Garay
Anthony Gonzalez
Sophia Audrey Harrold
Molly McNeary
Keila M. Mejia
Joslynn Vautour
Brielle Anne Voorheis

DEAN'S KEY



Sabrina Jean-Jacques

THE STEPHANIE BARRY MEMORIAL LEADERSHIP AWARD



Taylor O'Dell

Special Thanks

*Special thanks to the members of the
Scholarship Selection Committee and to
all of the other faculty and staff who
contributed to this evening's event.*





Access More from Tonight

To view the digital program, slideshow, and a recording of tonight's ceremony, scan the QR code or visit:

mwcc.edu/celebrate

Descriptions of the awards presented
this evening can be found at:

mwcc.edu/giving/annual-awards



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