

CELEBRATION OF LEARNING



POINT PARK
UNIVERSITY

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Congratulations to all of our graduating seniors!

We are very proud of your record of achievements in all areas — academics, community service and leadership — during your time at Point Park University. The extra effort you all gave to the work inside and outside the classrooms and within and beyond the confines of our campus is indeed laudable and important. You have made a difference and offered great examples for current and future Honors Program students to mirror and follow.

What follows on these pages are brief biographical sketches and photographs of our Honors Program seniors who have earned honors certificates and a listing of all active seniors in the Honors Program. We hope you hold on to this booklet as a keepsake and a reminder to keep in touch not only with your fellow Honors Program students but also with us. We will be very interested in learning what you do once you leave Point Park, and we invite you to return as alumni as often as you can.

We will miss you!

Helen Fallon
Honors Program Director
Professor, School of Communication

Dr. Brendan Mullan
Honors Program Assistant Director
Professor, School of Arts and Sciences

Colin Parrish, M.B.A.
Honors Program Graduate Assistant

Dr. Jonas Prida
Assistant Provost for Curriculum, Assessment, and Accreditation
Center for Inclusive Excellence

Angela Altieri

Angela is graduating with a degree in public relations and advertising. On campus, Angela was the former freshman representative for Honors, an honors mentor and communications director for PRSSA. She also interned for Bender Consulting Services and the Pittsburgh Penguins Foundation. Angela volunteered with UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh as a Coffee House volunteer while being a board member of Christopher's Kitchen. She is the recipient of the Vice Presidential Scholarship. Her plans include attending law school this fall to complete a J.D. in public interest or civil rights law. Her favorite Honors memory includes Welcome Week as both a freshman and mentor.



Lauren Balint

Lauren is graduating with a degree in cinema production. She interned as an editing and production intern for Television Ad Group and Covalent, too. Lauren plans to move to Los Angeles to pursue a career in film editing. Her favorite honors memory includes Friendsgiving.



Courtney Blocher

Courtney is graduating with a degree in education with a dual certification of elementary and special education. On campus, she played on the softball team and volunteered as a softball coach. Courtney is a Point Park University Scholar Athlete, River States Conference Student Athlete and a NAIA Scholar Athlete. She is a member of Alpha Chi, Pi Lambda Theta and Chi Alpha Sigma as well as making the Dean's List. Courtney's future plans include becoming an elementary school teacher in Pittsburgh and obtaining a master's degree.



Maya Bowles



Maya is graduating with a degree in dance. On campus, Maya was a member of Dance Club and Impulse. She was a recipient of the Ron Tassone Scholarship and made the Dean's List. Her plans after graduation include moving to New York to find opportunities as a professional dancer.

Kaetlyn Bowser



Kaetlyn is graduating with a degree in intelligence and national security with a minor in business management. On campus, she was involved in Criminal Justice Club and the Society for Intelligence and National Security. Kaetlyn interned with PromoWest Productions at Stage AE. Her volunteer activities included with the 303rd Psychological Operations Unit in assisting with training exercising drills. She also has been on the dean's list since her freshman year. Kaetlyn's plans include pursuing a career in business management. Her favorite honors memory includes the Pie for Pink event during the Pinkfeet fundraising campaign for the Susan G. Komen Foundation, in which honors students pied each other in the face to raise money.

Hattie Charney



Hattie is graduating with a degree in mass communication with a minor in history. On campus, she was involved as part of the Honors Mentor Program, Student Government Association, The Globe and an honorary member of the Student Accounting Association. Hattie interned at the Pie Press Publishing House and the Downtown Community Development Corporation. She volunteered for Pioneer Community Day and the Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership for Honors Welcome Week. Her future plans includes attending graduate school at The University of Glasgow in Scotland. Hattie's favorite Honors memory includes getting the opportunity to welcome new students during Welcome Week.

Lauren Clouser



Lauren is graduating with a degree in multimedia and a minor in photography. On campus, she was a DJ for WPPJ, past features editor at The Globe and a writing center tutor. She was the radio intern at WQED and a social media and content writing intern at Downtown CDC. Lauren achieved a first place award in the 2019 Keystone Student Press Awards for best feature story and is the recipient of the Vincent LaBarbera Scholarship Fund. Her future plans include living in Pittsburgh to search for jobs focused on writing and multimedia. Lauren's favorite honors memory includes the New York City Alternative Spring Break Trip and visiting MOMA, exploring Central Park and splitting an insanely huge ice cream and brownie dessert.

Rhianna Davis



Rhianna is graduating with a degree in business management with a concentration in marketing. On campus, Rhianna was the Honors Student Organization Freshman Representative (2017-2018), on Campus Activities Board Advertising and Public Relations committees (2017-2018), HSO social events coordinator (2018-2020) and resident educator (2018-2020). She was a marketing and special events intern for the Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership, a regional marketing and communications intern with Huntington Bank, and worked in a social media and communications co-op with the Point Park Office of Alumni Engagement and Giving. She volunteered at the Ronald McDonald House of Pittsburgh. She is the recipient of the Presidential Academic Scholarship and the George E. Martin IT & Business Scholarship. Her plans after graduation include working as a social media or digital content manager for a non-profit in the Pittsburgh area. Her favorite honors memory includes attending all of the regional and national conferences to see new places, meet new people and proudly present research.

Laura Draghiciu



Laura is graduating with a degree in business management. On campus, Laura was involved with the Student Government Association. She interned at Federated Hermes and volunteered with the Pittsburgh Project Winter Shelter. Laura was consistently on the Dean's List. Her future plans include pursuing her M.B.A. Her favorite memory in Honors memory includes her friendship with Honors Program director Helen Fallon.

Maria Ermakov



Maria is graduating with a degree in accounting. On campus, she was a member and vice president with the Student Accounting Association, member of the University of Pittsburgh Varsity Marching Band and squad leader. Maria was the career development intern at Apogee Resource Group. She volunteered as an office manager and choir member at church, helped at a food pantry in the South Side, sat on church council and volunteered with a high school marching band. She also is the recipient of the Presidential Scholarship. Maria's career plans include working as an accountant as a financial analyst for a cool tech company, non-profit organization or a MLB team. Her favorite honors memory includes going to her first honors meeting.

Jenna Herman



Jenna is graduating with a degree in accounting. On campus, Jenna was the student accounting president for 2018-2019. She interned for Schneider Downs & Co. and volunteered at Mohawk Coffee House during school breaks of her junior year. Angela is the recipient of the university's Presidential Scholarship as well as the Richard Tucker Memorial Scholarship, PICPA Merit Scholarship (2018 & 2019) and PICPA Outstanding Senior (2019). Her career plans include starting as a staff member for Schneider Downs & Co., pursuing her MBA and passing the CPA exam. Her favorite Honors memory includes the city scavenger hunt during Welcome Week.

Keera Frye



Keera is graduating with a degree in broadcast reporting with a minor in public relations and advertising. On campus, she was a member with the Center for Sports Media & Marketing, Society of Professional Journalists, Alpha Chi National Honors Society and Chi Alpha Sigma, news and sports director for U-view Television, president of the Broadcast Education Association, resident educator, and member of the Competitive Cheer and Dance Team. She interned with the Pittsburgh Penguins as a Penguins Radio Network intern, worked at WQED Multimedia as a public relations intern, interned with The Pittsburgh Foundation in communications, worked with the Community Foundation of Westmoreland County as a communications intern, and was a production assistant at Pitt Studios. Keera volunteered with Pioneer Pantry on campus. She is the recipient of the Presidential Scholarship and Bernie Matthews Scholarship. Her future plans include a career in sports media.

Sydney Ann Jones



Sydney is graduating with a degree in dance with a concentration in jazz. She interned with the Pittsburgh Cultural Trust through arts education programming. Sydney is the recipient of the Academic and Artistic Scholarships. Her future plans include involvement with arts education and advocacy to perform, choreograph and teach dance.



Jessica Kavelish

Jess is graduating with a degree in animation and VFX with a minor in graphic design. On campus, she was involved with women's soccer. Jess interned with the Disney College Program in Spring of 2019. Her future plans include moving back to Florida to work at Walt Disney World.

Kortney Lampel



Kortney is graduating with a degree in accounting. On campus, she was president of the Student Accounting Association, Student Ambassador for the Institute of Internal Auditors and the campus representative for the Wiley CPA Review. She was an intern at Coal Tubin' Operations, an indirect lending intern at First National Bank of Pa., and a risk advisory services intern with Schneider Downs. Kortney volunteered as a tax preparer for the Income Tax Association. She is the recipient of the Financial Executives International Scholarship, Steven B. Stein Scholarship and the Presidential Scholarship. Her future plans include working in Risk Advisory Services at Schneider Downs. Her favorite honors memory includes the crazy flower deliveries for the Fallon Travel Fund and all of the friends she made along the way.

Hannah Martin



Hannah is graduating with a degree in dance with a concentration in jazz and a minor in PR and advertising. On campus, was a part of Alpha Chi, Dance Club and Center Stage Show Choir. Hannah volunteered with Wigs for Kids, the Honors Program Daffodil Days fundraiser for The American Cancer Society, Veterans Breakfast, Pioneer Pantry and the Fallon Travel Fund Valentine's Day Flower Delivery. She is the recipient of the Point Park University Grant, Dean's Academic Scholarship and has received an Honors Program book award. Her future plans include joining the cast of a national tour or Broadway show, producing original full-length dance pieces or teaching dance when time allows. Hannah's favorite honors memory includes getting to know her mentor while exploring Shadyside during City as Text during Honors Welcome Week.

Alexa Newbrough



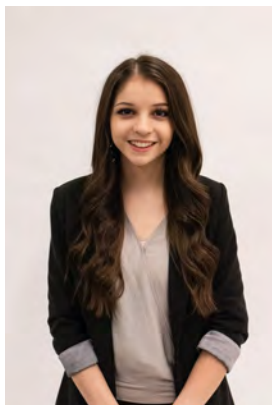
Alexa is graduating with a degree in theatre arts. On campus, she was the Honors Student Organization fourth Floor Representative (2016-2017), HSO Social Events Coordinator (2017-2018), HSO Secretary (2019-2020) and an HSO mentor (2017-2020). She also was involved in the COPA Theatre Club and Theatre Handbook Committee. Alexa was the auditions volunteer for the Regional Pittsburgh Actors Equity Association, education workshop volunteer for the Pittsburgh Cultural Trust and a volunteer with the Bricolage Production Company. She is the recipient of the Artistic Achievement Award, Dean's Academic Scholarship, Gene Kelly Scholarship and the Point Park University Grant. Her future plans include working for a Pittsburgh-based theatre company, to expand to theatre companies across the U.S. and to pursue her master's degree in Theatre History/ Dramaturgy. Ultimately, if she is in theatre, she is happy! Her favorite honors memory includes serving as a mentor for freshmen during Honors Welcome Week.

Gwen Norsic



Gwen is graduating with a degree in screenwriting with a minor in human resource management. On campus, she was an honors mentor and head mentor. She interned with the Betsy Rader for Congress Campaign and interned at Animal Studios. Her future plans include staying in Pittsburgh for a year until she is financially stable to pursue screenwriting elsewhere. Gwen's favorite honors memory includes the New York Alternative Spring Break Trip.

Sarah Pais



Sarah is graduating with a degree in mass communication. On campus, she is the founder as well as president for Spring 2018 to Fall 2019 of The U at PPU. She also was a part of Campus Activities Board, a resident educator and a Pioneer Ambassador coordinator. Sarah was a marketing intern for VisitPITTSBURGH. She volunteered with Allison Park Church and Amplify Church. Sarah is the recipient of the Vice Presidential Scholarship. Her favorite honors memory includes participating in the scavenger hunt during her Honors Welcome Week.

Nicole Pampena



Nicole is graduating with a degree in journalism. On campus, Nicole was a three-year honors mentor, online editor for the Point Park Globe, co-host of Pioneer Sideline on U-View Television, creator and host of "Night Fever" on WPPJ radio, and Point Park women's volleyball play-by-play announcer. She was the Holiday Parade intern at WPXI, production intern at WQED and multimedia intern at Luminari. Nicole is the recipient of the Margy Snyder Memorial Scholarship, William Thomas Scholarship, Sally Kalson Journalism Scholarship, Lawrence R. Barnes Jr. Memorial Scholarship, Vice Presidential Scholarship and received the 2018 Golden Quill Awards in News Photography and Sports Text/Print. Before landing her full-time position at the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, she worked for the University of Pittsburgh as a part-time production assistant and general crewmember in sports broadcast. Her favorite memory includes the Washington D.C. trip.

Dominic Porcari



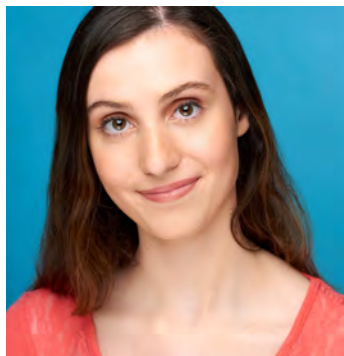
Dominic is graduating with a degree in cinema production. He is the recipient of the Lola J. Duff Scholarship, Artistic Scholarship, Dean's Academic Scholarship and Teendrive365 Video Scholarship. His future plans include working as a Steadicam operator in film and TV and to direct in the action genre. Dominic's favorite honors memory includes honoring his Story Analysis course and creating one of the best short films he's written to date.

Gabriela Prise



Gabriela is graduating with a degree in sports, arts, and entertainment management. On campus, Gabriela was actively involved with SAEM club. She also interned with Attack Theatre and Stage AE. She volunteered through performing arts and organizing charity events for local NFP organizations, including Alina's Light, in addition to teaching theatre camps and classes for local dance studios. Gabriela is the recipient of the university's Presidential and Provost scholarships. Her career goals aim for work in non-profit performing arts or starting her own dance company. Her favorite Honors memory was meeting new friends, completing community service projects and city exploring activities during Welcome Week.

Angela Rusnak



Angela is graduating with a degree in theatre arts: performance and practices. On campus, Angela was involved in Tap Club, Her Campus as secretary and The Feminist Collective as its treasurer. Her volunteer activities included working on the Honors Great Race water station and A Giving Heart. She has received academic and artistic scholarships. Angela's plans include finding work in New York or Los Angeles as an actor, screenwriter or choreographer. Her favorite honors memory includes winning at Trivia Night during Welcome Week.

Kayla Snyder



Kayla is graduating with a degree in public relations and advertising. On campus, she was an honors lead mentor, admissions assistant and participated in The Globe through the following roles: PR director, online editor, co-news editor, co-copy desk chief and copy editor. On WPPJ, she was the morning show co-host and social engagement director. Also, she was the vice president and community engagement director of PRSSA. Her internships included work as a new business marketing intern at Beyond Spots and Dots, summer intern at WordWrite Communications, promotions and events intern at Stage AE, advancement intern at Carnegie Science Center, and marketing intern at PIT Shop. Kayla is the recipient of the Trustee Scholarship. Her future plans include working at a PR or advertising agency in the Pittsburgh area. Kayla's favorite honors memory includes the Alternative Spring Break Trips to New York City.



Kelly Tran

Kelly is graduating with a degree in cinema production. On campus, she was a cinema apprentice (2018-2020), cinema ambassador (2017- 2020), a pioneer ambassador in 2018, Pink Feet committee member in 2017 and worked as an Honors videographer/photographer (2016-2017). Kelly interned with NBC Universal, JuVee Productions for Viola Davis and Julius Tennon's Co., Arcade Comedy Theater, and the Pittsburgh Film Office. She volunteered with the Great Race and the Fallon Travel Fund Flower Delivery Fundraiser and was actively involved with Susan G. Komen's Pink Feet committee. She also was the recipient of the Dean's Academic Scholarship, Point Park Artistic Achievement Scholarship, Don Craig Scholarship, Cinema Arts Thesis Scholarship and Sarah Jones Safety Grant. Post-graduation plans include moving to Los Angeles to work as support staff in a writer's room. From there writer/director to forward female narratives and the Asian-American experience. Her favorite honors memory includes participating in a lip sync battle her freshman year.



Emily VanderMey

Emily is graduating with a degree in multimedia with a graphic design concentration and a minor in information technology. On campus, she was the Campus Activities Board graphic design coordinator and treasurer of information for the Technology Student Organization. She was a graphic design intern at Flying Scooter Productions, York Jewish Community Center and Hot Flash Photobooths and a web development intern at Web Design of York. Emily volunteered as a pianist at the Masonic Village of Elizabethtown and Family House. She received the Award of Distinction in Publication Design at the 2019 AGDA Awards, earned first place in the 2019 PPU DataJam, and is the recipient of the 2018 Thanks USA + iHeartMedia Scholarship. Her future plans include earning her master's degree in interaction design at California College of the Arts in San Francisco, Calif. Her favorite honors memory includes living on the honors floor her freshman year.



Gabrielle Widman

Gabrielle is graduating with a degree in intelligence and national security with a minor in criminal justice. On campus, she was involved with Point Park Women's Soccer, Society for Intelligence and National Security and Criminal Justice Club. She interned as a Juvenile Probation Intern and as a Pittsburgh Bureau of Police Intern. She volunteered with Earth Day Clean Up, the Fallon Travel Fund Valentine's Day Flower Delivery, and Strong Women and Strong Girls while coaching youth soccer players. Gabrielle is the recipient of the NAIA All-Conference Women's Soccer and the Academic and Athletic Scholarship. Her plans include becoming a Pittsburgh police officer. Her favorite honors memory includes making connections with members of the Honors Program as a student athlete.



Morgan Willis

Morgan is graduating with a degree in biological sciences. She was an intern at the Blue Marble Space Institute of Science in the Young Scientist Program. Morgan is the recipient of the Presidential Scholarship and Simmons Scholarship. Her future plans include attending the University of Iceland to begin the Environment and Natural Resources master's program there.

Kelsey Wolfe



Kelsey is graduating with a degree in public relations and advertising with a minor in multimedia. On campus from 2016-17, she was an Honors Student Organization general member and participated as the HSO service events coordinator from 2017-18. She rose to HSO president-elect in 2018-19 and served as the current president. She also was the Honors program office assistant, resident educator and mentor for the Office of Student Life and worked as the office assistant for Student Development. She was the regional intern for Multiplying Good, formerly the Jefferson Awards, and an advancement & special events intern for the Carnegie Science Center. Kelsey has volunteered with Sojourner House and The Pittsburgh Food Bank as well as pioneering an annual drive called Pioneer Pass-On, which benefits the Pioneer Pantry and Point Closet. Kelsey is the recipient of the Presidential Scholarship. She was recognized as the Outstanding Resident Educator for the 2019 Outstanding Students Awards and Outstanding Student Organization Member for the 2017 Outstanding Students Awards. Her future plans including attending the University of Pittsburgh in Fall 2020 to pursue a master's in higher education management. Kelsey's favorite honors memory includes visiting New Orleans for the National Collegiate Honors Council conference this past fall.



Brianna Wuenschel

Brianna is graduating with a degree in cinema productions with a concentration in editing. She interned with Mr. Smalls Theatre in video and editing as well as WQED with production and post-production. Brianna's volunteer activities included The Great Race, bake sales with The Alliance for Infants and Toddlers, and delivering flowers for the Fallon Travel Fund Valentine's Day Flower Delivery. She is the recipient of the Artistic Achievement Award, Dean's Academic Award and Apprenticeship Award. Brianna's plans involve immersing herself with the growing film community of Pittsburgh. Her favorite honors memory includes Welcome Week.



Additional Honors Program Seniors

Victoria Bails
Emily Cofer
Lauren Daly*
Abigail Domingue
Sophia Duff
Hanna Eidson*
Courteney McClutchy
Kayla McDonald
Sophia Menelle
Diana Paras*
Allison Schubert
Haylee Wyman*

* = Earned Honors certificates



Congratulations,
Seniors!

CONGRATULATIONS AND BEST OF
LUCK IN YOUR FUTURE ENDEAVORS!

POINT PARK
UNIVERSITY

“Success does not rush. The greatest
reward is the journey.”

-Oscar Wilde