

HONORS COLLEGE ALUMNI NEWSLETTER



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Honors College News

Honors College students have implemented two distinct and major projects for the 2017-2018 academic year, **Social Media Project** and **Social Entrepreneurial Incubator**.

The Social Media Project embraces “healthy living,” from cutting-edge medical research to ethnic folklore remedies. In fact, the site has become an anthology of folk remedies from all over the world. Every Honors College student is encouraged to contribute in this online site.

The Social Entrepreneurial Incubator Project is for HC students to create a sustainable startup company which offers a product or provides a service for the good of the public. *Students receive real-world experience in creating, marketing and managing start-up businesses long before their first internship.* For example, an HC student created a social chat software for freshmen who have many questions when they first arrive at OW. This software platform is a great way for freshmen to exchange ideas with other HC classmates and make new friends.

Other startups that HC students have created focus on growing and selling **air-purifying plants** and managing beehives to sell **pure honey**. Dr. DeLuca and HC students established and maintained two beehives that produced three hundred pounds of organic honey last year. The hives are owned and managed by the HC, and kept in a NYC Green Thumb garden located in East NY (Brooklyn). Students learn how to maintain healthy beehives, extract honey, market and sell the honey. HC beekeepers invite the neighborhood into the garden to teach them about the ecology of bees, and treat guests to fresh honey from the hives.

Historic NYC Walks: HC students have been learning all about the history of New York City by visiting some of its extant historic sites. During the Fall 2017 semester, we visited the Bowery and East and West Greenwich Village. More excursions are scheduled for this year.

Helping the Homeless: HC students are planning to intern at several organizations which provide “sanctuary housing” to the young and old.

SUNY Chancellor’s Award 2017: Two Honors College students were awarded the SUNY Chancellor’s Award: **Sara Bey and Nadia Hameed**. This is quite an achievement: Only 246 students are granted this distinction out of the 500,000 students who attend SUNY colleges.

Alexa Ramdass & Edan Bashkin Visit the Honors College



Alexa Ramdass '16 and Edan Bashkin '14 visited the Honors College last December. Alexa is currently applying to several law schools. Edan is finishing his 3rd year at the Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine. We always enjoy seeing and catching up with alumni.

Let’s catch up! Send us your news!

Honors College

Law and Medical School Information Sessions

The Honors College hosted its second annual **Law School Fair Series** this past November. **Evan Rufrano**, PEL (2019) founded the Fair and has welcomed more than twenty-five law schools to OW. More than forty law schools from across the nation have attended. Students talk with admissions officials to learn valuable information about admissions protocols and scholarships which they normally do not receive online or by telephone.

Rufrano also founded the **Honors College Mock Trial Team**, and is president of the team. This is the first mock trial team in OW history. The team will compete for the first time this February in **The American Mock Trial Association Regional Tournament** held in Stevenson, Maryland

Pre-Med students, **Kristelle and Reekarl Pierre (2019)**, inspired by Rufrano's success with the Law School Fair Series, have created the **Honors College Medical School Information Sessions**. They are inviting medical and dental colleges, as well, as nursing and physician assistant programs to the College. The first schools to accept our invitations are **SUNY Stony Brook School of Medicine**, and **Downstate Medical College**.



The Honors College Mock Trial Team

Honors College Alumni News

Biji Thomas '12	Chief Scribe Northwell
Khashayar Farhoomand '13	St. Georges Medical University
Kywanna Alfred '13	Upstate Medical University
Samantha Howley '14	MS Hunter College PS 62 Special Education Teacher
Thomas DiPresso '14	Hudsons Bay Co. Lead Asset Protection Investigator
Elisa Auguste '14	MS George Washington University Greenwich Village Ambulatory Surgery Ctr.
Ediz Ozelkan '15	MA Columbia University IBIS World Research Analyst
Katherine Moawad '15	NYIT College of Osteopathic Medicine
Ifedayo Jegede '16	Villanova University School of Law
Daphne Mezier '16	MA The George Washington University Catholic University Graduate Assistant
Samantha Sherman '16	MS Hofstra PS 205 Special Education Teacher

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