

## 2024 Award Winners

### Lily Award Recipients

Sarah Brantley  
James Carroll  
Isabela Niewiara  
Cody Pegram  
Jenna Schwartz  
Natasha Sturdivant  
Stella Walborn  
Lydia Warthin  
April Wivell

### Lily Award with Distinction Recipients

Caylie Shew

### Community-Engaged Teaching & Learning Award

**Facilitating Fitness Programming at Hinds' Feet Farm** - A partnership between the WCU Recreational Therapy Program and Hinds' Feet Farm. Honorees: Branson Duvall, a 2018 WCU alumna, and Dr. Jennifer Hinton, faculty.

### Community-Engaged Research Award

**We are not okay: A collaborative community project on mental health in WNC schools** - A collaboration between WCU Human Services, Counseling, and School of Teaching and Learning; students and educators in pre-K to high school districts in western North Carolina. Faculty honorees: Drs. Joy Howard, Myra Watson, Melissa Mecadon-Mann, Loidaly Rosario Gonzales, Jess Weiler, Sara Pedonti, and Patricia Bricker.

### Student Community Outreach Award

**MSW Field Internship: Community Garden and Multi-Lingual Food Security Education and Resource Cards** - A project between Catholic Charities and the WCU Social Work program. Honorees: Elizabeth Milligan, MSW student. The following partners: Catholic Charities Volunteer Network, Impact Health, Bounty and Soul, MANNA Food Bank, WNC Food Systems Coalition, Change Your Palate, Bountiful Cities, French Broad Stone Supply, BB Barns, Danny's Dumpsters, Asheville Mulch Yard, Johnny's Seeds, Sow True Seed, Southern Seed Exchange, M.R. Gardens, Mountain True, Builder's First Source, Habitat ReStore, Tractor Supply, Lowe's, and Home Depot. Faculty honorees: Emma Miller and Katy Allen, Social Work. Community honorees: Jess Boeckermann and Beck Dubois (both of Catholic Charities).

### Department Community Outreach Award

**Champion Mill Community Scanning Event** - A collaboration between WCU Hunter Library/Special and Digital Collections Unit, The Canton Area Historical Museum, Canton Public Library, Haywood County Library, and the Town of Canton. Hunter Library Honorees: Liz Harper, Jason Brady, Jenny McPherson, Lucas Rogers, Emma Parrish. Community honorees: Caroline Ponton, Jennifer Stuart, Kathy Vossler, Brandy Proctor, and Lisa Stinnett, respectively.

## 2023 Award Winners

### Lily Award Recipients

Sarah Barksdale  
Emma Dingle  
Meredith Mandell  
Dustin Pease  
Terin Waller

### Lily Award with Distinction Recipients

Jordan Chambliss  
Syerra Greene  
Monique R. McFarland  
Christine Robbins  
Megan Robey  
Pierce Roberts  
Isaac Roberts  
Rea Syska  
Angelica Tagge  
Sarah Tisinger  
Penny Vermeulen

### Jacob Spencer Medford Scholarship Recipients

Mohammad Alhassan  
Gracin Almond  
Josephine Bloomfield  
Theodore Brandon  
Jeffrey Clark  
Emma Lineberger  
Kate Merrin  
Bernard Moyo  
Xaviers Mathews Mukire  
Trinity Pittman  
Breeanna Powell  
Gianna Sidler  
Heather Swanson  
Mary Tyson  
Lily Wies

### Graduating Members of Student Democracy Coalition

Holly Miller  
Kylie Cox

### Community-engaged Teaching & Learning Award

**Band of Brothers: (Servant) Leadership and Masculinity** - Residential Case Manager and Instructor, Brian Boyer & The Community Table of Jackson County.

### Community-engaged Research Award

**A Monumental Project:** WCU Lecturer of English Dr. Rachel Bridgers; WCU Assistant Professor of History Dr. Jessie Swigger; WCU Professor of Political Science and Public Affairs Dr. Chris Cooper; WCU School of Art and Design Adjunct Faculty Dr. Susan Martin; WCU University Library Technician Jenny McPherson; WCU Alpha Phi

Fraternity Members; Former WCU English Faculty Dr. Elizabeth Heffelfinger; SCC Professor Chrise Cox; UT Knoxville Professor Geography Dr. Derek Alderman; Cherokee Schools Arts Director Yona Wade; Jackson County Historical Society; Jackson County Genealogical Society; Sons of the Confederacy Jackson County Chapter; Jackson County Arts Council, Jackson County NAACP; and The Sylva Herald.

**Economic Impact & Environmental Benefits of Green Energy:** Professor of Economics, Dr. Steve Ha; WCU Student, Vivian Nguyen; and Green Energy Park in Jackson County.

#### Community-engaged Outreach Award

Mountain Area Pro Bono Health Services (MAP): WCU Physical Therapy Department Head and Professor Dr. David Hudson; WCU Physical Therapy Associate Department Head and Assistant Professor Dr. John Carzoli; WCU Physical Therapy Assistant Professor Dr. Todd Eckard; WCU Physical Therapy Assistant Professor Dr. Jessica Graning; WCU Physical Therapy Assistant Professor Dr. Ashley Hyatt; WCU Physical Therapy Assistant Professor Dr. Joshua Jones; WCU Physical Therapy Professor Dr. Doug Keskula; WCU Physical Therapy Assistant Professor Dr. Katie Ollendick; WCU Physical Therapy Assistant Professor Dr. Lori Schrod; WCU Physical Therapy Assistant Professor Dr. Tammy Simmons; WCU Physical Therapy Assistant Professor Dr. Elizabeth Wark; WCU Physical Therapy Professor Dr. Todd Watson; WCU Physical Therapy Student Sandy Davis; WCU Physical Therapy Student Zach Demeester; WCU Physical Therapy Student Hannah Pollard; MAP Student Board; and Vecinos, Inc.

#### Student-initiated Community Engagement Award

**A Brotherhood for Good:** WCU Alpha Sigma Phi & United Christian Ministries  
**Giving Together. Saving Lives.:** WCU Emergency Management Student Association & American Red Cross.

#### Community Engagement Champion Award

**Mountain Heritage Center:** Director, Dr. Amber Albert; Curatorial Specialist Loran Berg; Museum Education Associate Peter Koch; Administrative Support Associate Lois Stiles.

#### Change-Maker Award

Palin Berkana-Wycoff  
Dr. Jim Dean  
Dr. Cathy Grist  
Dr. Yue Hillon  
Dr. Kelly Kelley  
Dr. Travis Rountree

#### IMPACT Award

Dr. Carol Burton

## 2022 Award Winners

Community Service (Student – Individual and Organization)

Karstin Alfaro

Sigma Phi Epsilon

Outstanding Achievement (Students)

COMM 460

Shining Star

Rebecca Hart

Mitch Mullin

Kaleigh Roberson

Joslyn Stinson

Outstanding Achievement (Community Service)

Bora & Berna Karayaka

Coach Kiley Hill & Coach Megan Brown

Outstanding Achievement (Teaching)

Patrick Baron

Outstanding Achievement (Research)

Todd Watson

Meritorious Service

Anne Aldrich

Jack Eaddy

Partnership

Margo Capparelli

Jess Mrugala

Leading Light

Department of Social Work

## 2021 Award Winners

Moving Mountains

Cortnee Lingerfelt

Community Service (Student – Individual and Organization)

Maddox Bulris

James Carroll

Virginia Cross

Kelly Yates

Alpha Phi Omega

Mujeres con un Propósito

Outstanding Achievement (Students)

HSCC 475

Shining Star

Danny Tizon

Outstanding Achievement (Community Service)

Cyndy Caravelis

Outstanding Achievement (Teaching)

Sara Duncan

Adam Groh

Meritorious Service

Coleman Leopard

WCU Athletic Department

Partnership

MAHEC

SCC Nursing Program

Leading Light

Human Services Department

## 2020 Award Winners

### Student Recognitions

Kathryn Darsillo  
Deria Evans  
Emily Freeze  
Ashley Palmer  
Sidney Roy  
Danny Tizon  
Brianna Weaver  
Alpha Phi Omega Petitioning Group  
Circle K International  
Rotaract Club of Western Carolina University  
Student Democracy Coalition

### Faculty Recognitions

Scott Eldredge  
Heather Mae Erickson  
Betty Farmer  
Marie Line Germain  
Yue Hillon  
Matt Liddle  
April Perry  
Eleanor Petrone  
Jessie Swigger  
Yanjun Yan

### Staff Recognitions

Brian Boyer  
Steve Bridges  
Jonathan Brooks  
Marty Ramsey  
Division of Information Technology  
Staff Senate  
University Communications and Marketing

### Community Partner Recognitions

Leonard Holden, Project FIRE  
Kaleb Lynch, Catman2  
Biltmore Park Food Pantry  
Haywood Pathways Center  
Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust  
HomeBase  
Jackson County Board of Elections  
North Carolina Campus Compact

## 2019 Award Winners

Community Service (Student – Individual and Organization)

David Benoit

Abigail Veit

Honors College Student Board of Directors

Rotaract

Outstanding Achievement (Students)

COMM 460

Shining Star

Jeremy Sasser

Outstanding Achievement (Community Service)

Richard Tichich

WCU Grounds Department

Outstanding Achievement (Teaching)

John Carzoli

Shelby Hicks

Outstanding Achievement (Research)

Jonathan Bradshaw

Meritorious Service

Kaitlin Ritchie

Department of Intercultural Affairs

Partnership

The Community Table

Full Spectrum Farms

Haywood Pathways Center

Leading Light

The Honors College

## 2018 Award Winners

### Community Service (Student – Individual and Organization)

Jermois Morris

Leanna Purvis

Davis Wilson

Alpha Phi Omega Petitioning Group

Autism Society of North Carolina, Western Carolina University Chapter

### Outstanding Achievement (Students)

SOCW 673

### Shining Star

Kaylynn Wilson

### Outstanding Achievement (Community Service)

JP Gannon

### Outstanding Achievement (Teaching)

Wendy Cagle

Yue Hillon

### Outstanding Achievement (Research)

Lane Perry, Robert Lahm, Annika Schauer, & Zachary Rumble

### Meritorious Service

Arledge Armenaki

George Brown

Jeremiah Haas

### Partnership

Adam Bigelow

Vecinos Farmworker Health Program

### Leading Light

Nutrition and Dietetics Program



## 2017 Award Winners

### Community Service (Student – Individual and Organization)

Michelle Frerich  
Christina Parker  
Dance Marathon  
Student Democracy Coalition

### Outstanding Achievement (Students)

Catamount Communications: Alexander Benz, Daniel Dove, Logan Gentry, Chad Grant,  
Sally Morris, Brian Murray  
NAMI: Leann Cain, Mackenzie Coggins, Morgan Forbes-Robinson, Hannah Fraser,  
Emilee Hammer, Kimberly Russell

### Shining Star

Ashley Creason  
Kenneth Flinchum  
Josh Vance

### Outstanding Achievement (Community Service)

Erin Adams  
Ashley Hyatt

### Outstanding Achievement (Teaching)

Cheryl Conway  
Jessie Swigger

### Outstanding Achievement (Research)

Betty Farmer, Lane Perry, & Steve Ha

### Meritorious Service

Scott Eldredge  
Kelsey Woodford

### Partnership

Cullowhee Valley School  
Karol Farris

### Leading Light

Inclusive Education Program

## 2016 Award Winners

### Community Service (Student – Individual and Organization)

Mallie Billing

Leah Downing

Matthew Impaglatelli

Mountain Area Pro Bono PT Clinic Student Board

### Outstanding Achievement (Students)

Alicia Adams, Samantha Job, Kristina Lundberg, Jessica Augsburger, & Mo Ramsey

### Shining Star

Joanna Woodson

### Outstanding Achievement (Community Service)

Mary Adams

Brian Boyer

### Outstanding Achievement (Teaching)

Marie-Line Germain

Ellen Sigler

Beth Wall-Basset

### Outstanding Achievement (Research)

Kelly Kelley

### Meritorious Service

Amy Murphy-Nugen

Niki Paganelli

Hillary Posten

### Partnership

Adam Bigelow

Good Samaritan Clinic

### Leading Light

School of Nursing

## 2015 Award Winners

### Community Service (Student – Individual and Organization)

Garrett Goodwin

Gretchen Gragg

Roberto Hess

WCU Honors College Board of Directors

### Outstanding Achievement (Students)

Rebeca Bermudez

Tyler Cook

Michael Lovett

Susan Shelton

### Shining Star

Mackenzie Moody

### Outstanding Achievement (Community Service)

Bill Richmond

### Outstanding Achievement (Teaching)

Cheryl Clark

### Meritorious Service

Jessica Barnes

### Partnership

Karen Keating, Care Partners

Habitat for Humanity of Macon/Jackson Co

Harris Regional Hospital

### Leading Light

Philosophy and Religion Department

## 2014 Award Winners

Community Service (Student – Individual and Organization)

Kristen Kowalczyk

Nutrition and Dietetics Student Association

Outstanding Achievement (Students)

Aaron Benton

Tyler Chandler

Jason Ledford

Kris Naylor

Shining Star

Zach Rumble

Outstanding Achievement (Community Service)

John Carzoli

Outstanding Achievement (Teaching)

Cyndy Caravelis Hughes

Outstanding Achievement (Research)

Patricia Bricker

Meritorious Service

Jennifer Bennett

Partnership

Appalachian Sustainable Agriculture Project

Kaleb Lynch (Catman2)

Leading Light

Hospitality and Tourism Department

## 2013 Award Winners

### Community Service (Student – Individual and Organization)

Ozzie Gonzalez-Alanis  
Cameron Honour  
Aaron Marshall  
Cullowhee Voter Initiative  
Omega Psi Phi  
Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia

### Outstanding Achievement (Students)

Tiffany Baldwin  
Wesley Cook  
Paul Horton  
Randy Pressley

### Shining Star

Ryan Hermance

### Outstanding Achievement (Community Service)

Sharon Archer  
Katy Ginanni  
David Trigg

### Outstanding Achievement (Teaching)

Fred Fisher  
Sharon Metcalf  
Elizabeth Sexton  
John Whitmire

### Outstanding Achievement (Research)

Brenda Marques

### Meritorious Service

Todd Collins  
Glenda Hensley

### Partnership

Community Table  
REACH of Macon County

### Leading Light

Department of Communication

## 2012 Award Winners

### Community Service (Student – Individual and Organization)

Tyler Guess  
Ryan Hermance  
Alpha Kappa Alpha  
Epsilon Tau Pi  
Nutrition & Dietetics Student Association

### Outstanding Achievement (Students)

Olivia Jacobs  
Ashlan McSwain

### Shining Star

Andy Miller

### Outstanding Achievement (Community Service)

Jolene Coggins  
Bob Ford

### Outstanding Achievement (Teaching)

Susan Brown-Strauss  
Dan Clapper  
Betty Farmer  
Gabe Nucci

### Outstanding Achievement (Research)

BJ White

### Meritorious Service

Cheryl Clark  
Betty Farmer

### Partnership

Full Spectrum Farms  
Jennifer Dirkes

### Leading Light

Recreational Therapy Program

## 2011 Award Winners

### Community Service (Student – Individual and Organization)

Courtney Timmons  
Jettana Thomas  
Rakim Lash  
Ted Denning  
Alpha Kappa Alpha  
Delta Sigma Theta  
Omega Psi Phi

### Outstanding Achievement (Students)

Hanna Allen  
Kenya Crocker

### Shining Star

Branden Cable  
Steven Kummer  
Aaron Marshall

### Community Service (Staff)

Sue Grider  
Adam Griffith

### Meritorious Service

Sarah Carter  
Robert Ford

### Outstanding Achievement (Teaching)

Brian Lawrence  
Mickey Randolph  
John Whitmire

### Outstanding Achievement (Research)

Jane Nichols

### Outstanding Achievement (Service)

Jeanne Dulworth  
Jennifer Hinton & Julie Ogletree  
Candace Roberts

### Partnership

Oconaluftee Job Corps  
REACH of Jackson County  
Leading Light  
Department of Communication

## 2010 Award Winners

### Community Service (Student – Individual and Organization)

Amanda G. Smith  
Shanee Sullivan  
Jake Watkins  
Alpha Kappa Alpha  
Sigma Chi  
Catamount Communications

### Community Service (Staff)

Jennifer Bennett  
Lisa Wilson  
Brendan Braaten

### Meritorious Service

Department of Athletics  
University Center Staff  
Julia Konish

### Shining Star

Krista Robb  
Mindy Smith

### Outstanding Achievement (Students)

Tracy Bailey  
Christopher Novack  
Stephen Barber  
Zachary Johnson  
Adam Morris  
Trey Campbell  
Amanda Hughes  
Christopher Walters  
Carey McKelvey  
Mike Santoro  
Graeme Watt

### Outstanding Achievement (Teaching)

Prof. Arledge Armenaki  
Dr. Todd Collins  
Dr. Sharon Metcalfe

### Outstanding Achievement (Research)

Dr. Paul Jacques

### Outstanding Achievement (Service)

Prof. Joan Byrd  
Dr. Victoria Faircloth

### Partnership

Terry Bradley (Principal, East Franklin Elementary School)  
Kevin Hughes (Volunteer Coordinator & Kitchen Manager, Community Table)  
Appalachian Homestead Farm and Preserve  
REACH of Macon County  
SOAR – Success Oriented Achievement Realized

### Leading Light

Office for Special Programs & Teaching Fellows (Dr. Jacqueline Smith–Director)



## 2009 Award Winners

- Support Program of Excellence Award
  - Center for Service Learning
- Honors College Award Grant
  - Center for Service Learning
- Leading Light
  - School of Health Sciences
- Partnership
  - Mountain Trace Nursing Center
  - Lisa Dean
  - Eleanor Macaulay (Jackson Co Public Schools)
  - Peggy Ayers (Jackson Co Public Schools)
  - Jackson County Public Schools (Jackson Co Public Schools)
  - Todd Goins of the Clay County Department of Social Services
- Outstanding Achievement (Students)
  - Sean Cassidy
  - Ross Dillon
  - Kirk Gunton
  - Stephen Johnson
  - Jesse Romine
- Outstanding Achievement (Teaching)
  - Dr. Robert Anderson (Engineering Technology)
  - Professor Dottie Green (Social Work)
  - Dr. Patricia Morse (Social Work)
  - Dr. April Tallant (School of Health Sciences)
  - Outstanding Achievement (Service)
  - Dr. Jamie Davis (Modern Foreign Languages)
  - Dr. Ashley Long (School of Health Sciences)
- Outstanding Achievement (Research)
  - Dr. Paul Jacques
- Shining Star
  - Colin Scott
  - Shawna Hipps
- Community Service- Organization
  - Alpha Phi Omega
  - Nutrition and Dietetics Association
  - Western Athletic Training Association
- Community Service- Students
  - Aaron Camp
  - Ashley Merrill
- Community Service- Staff
  - Brian Boyer
- Meritorious Service
  - Staff of Base Camp Cullowhee
- Medford Scholars Certificates
  - Kathleen Cummins
  - Mollie Richards
  - Wil Owens
  - Ashley Merrill
  - Samuel "Colin" Scott

## 2008 Award Winners

### NC Campus Compact Awards

Ramona Dowell

### Community Service (Individual)

Marie Nemerov

Kathleen Cummins

### Community Service (Organization)

Psi Chi/Psychology Club

Sigma Chi Fraternity

Sport Management Association

### Shining Star

Cassidy Shane Price

Ashley Merrill

### Meritorious Service

Jane Adams-Dunford

Charli Lehman

### Outstanding Achievement (Students)

Diane Smith

Brianna Ward

Diane Erikson Fox

Robin Stevens

### Outstanding Achievement Service

Dr. Erin Tapley

Janet James

Dr. William Richmond

Dr. Lydia Aydlett

### Outstanding Achievement Research

Jeanne Dulworth

### Outstanding Achievement (Teaching)

Dr. Barbara St. John

Dr. Sharon Elizabeth Metcalfe

Dr. Margaret "Peg" Connolly

Jeanne Dulworth

Dr. Cynthia Deale

### Partnership

Timara McCollum (Community Table)

Jackson Department of Social Services

Jackson County Green Energy Park

Emily Elders (Town of Dillsboro)

### Leading Light

Department of Social Work

Dr. Marie Huff – Department Head

## 2007 Award Winners

### Community Service (Individual)

Courtney Howard

Joshua Fisher

### Community Service (Organization)

Art Education Club

Recreational Therapy Association

### Meritorious Service

Tanisha Jenkins

Mary-Lynn Starkey

### Shining Star

Ramona Dowdell

Katie Graunke

### Outstanding Achievement (Teaching)

Prof. Debra Connelly

Dr. Bill Richmond

Dr. Barbara Jo White

### Outstanding Achievement Research

Prof Debra Burke

### Outstanding Achievement (Students)

Rachel All

Julie Mann

Lori Saddler

Lauren Kaufmann

Lacy Ensley

Chris Whisenhunt

Donna Ferrara

Tyler "Tate" Apodaca

Shea Megia-Croft

Kimberly Nesbit

Garrett Fisher

Patricia Graham

### Partnership

Dr. Alberto Bernal Millian

Dr. Paul Strop

Small Business & Technology Development Center

Town of Sylva

Pardee Hospital

### Leading Light

Department of Communication, Theatre, and Dance

-Prof. Susan Brown-Strauss Department Head

## 2006 Award Winners

### Humanitarian Award

Nominee Katie Graunke

### Community Impact Award

Katie Graunke

### Medford Scholarship

Ramona Dowdell

Mary Ferrick

Joshua Fisher

Katie Graunke

Amber Poling

### Leading Light

Department of Marketing and Business Administration and Law, Debra Burke (Department Head)

### Community Service (Individual)

Samanthia McNeil

Tabitha Taylor

### Community Service (Organization)

Business & Law Society

Kendo Club

Last Minute Productions

La Voz Latina

### Meritorious Service

Donna Welch

### Shining Star

Meredith Silas

LaRhonda Dowdell

### Outstanding Achievement (Students)

Norris Raby

Jay Moose

Cara Lovejoy

Rebecca Grinder

Patricia Graham

Erica Edgington

Ellie Lee

Kanyon Robertson

### Outstanding Achievement (Teaching)

Michael Caudill

Dr. Erin Tapley

Dr. Todd Watson

Glenda Hensley & Claire Eye

Dr. Phillip Sanger

Craig Capano

### Outstanding Achievement (Service)

Dr. Lyn Lazar

Dr. Lynda Aydlett

Patricia Hackett

### Partnership

Brian Thomas (WestCare Health System)

Sandy Frazier

Dr. David Thomas

Larry McDonald (Jackson County Board of Education)

Town of Maggie Valley

## **2005 Award Winners**

### Leading Light

Dr. Karen Lunnen

### Other Major Awards

Natalie Breitenstein

Sara McGraw

Bonnie Garner

Mary Teslow

Dr. Christopher Cooper

Dr. Joe McDonald

Marjorie Askins

Harrah's Cherokee Casino and Hotel

Claire Dills

Dona West

## **2004 Award Winners**

### Medford Scholarships

LaRhonda Dowdell

Jason Marshburn

Meridith Silas

Joel Stroot

Tabitha Taylor

## **2003 Awards Winners**

### Medford Scholarships

Christina Smith

Tabitha Taylor

Edward Johnson

Molly Murtola

Kern-Elaine Smith