

HOLYOKE

Foundation awards scholarships for 2019-2020 academic year

The Holyoke Community College Foundation has awarded a record 231 scholarships to incoming, current and graduating students for the 2019-2020 academic year, totaling nearly \$250,000.

The college community recognized the awardees, along with the donors whose generosity makes those scholarships possible, at a May 9 reception in the Bartley Center for Athletics & Recreation.

Longmeadow resident and alumni donor Gregory S. Schneider, a member of the Class of 1990 who is co-founder and chairman of 3BL Media in Northampton, and scholarship recipient and graduating art major Catherine Carija, of Deerfield, were the keynote speakers.

"I had been out of school for 34 years," said Carija. "Lucky for me I found my way to HCC. I was greeted so warmly by faculty and staff, and without the generosity of donors and HCC Foundation scholarships - all that belief in me - I wouldn't be graduating now and going on to Mount Holyoke College."

The annual "Scholarship Meet & Greet" provides an opportunity for students to interact with the donors responsible for their awards.

Over the years, the HCC Foundation, the nonprofit fundraising arm of the college, has provided nearly \$2.8 million in student scholarships while also investing in classroom equipment and technology for select academic and student support programs.

"The community is so invested in the foundation and in the college. It's quite impressive," said Amanda Sbriscia, vice president of institutional advancement. "People are passionate about our mission and the work that we do, and that translates into life-changing financial



Gabriel Artin, left, and Banen Mustafa, both of West Springfield, received scholarships for 2019-2020 through the HCC Foundation.

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This year's scholarship recipients, by hometown, include:

Agawam: Aviella Abramchuk, Sumeyra Baskoy, Christine Briggs, Brianna Couture, Amber Gray, Brandon Moore, Monica Peterson, Laura Teakell and Savannah Vezina;

Huntington: Alexandra Clark, Bryanna Fellows and Meaghen Therrien;

Russell: Cara Judycki;

Southwick: Rachel Diamond, Joseph Impoco and Niko Stathis;

West Springfield: Luis Antonmarchi, Gabriela Artin, Mary Grodzicki, Banen Mus-

tafa, Maurice Ojwang, Mollyann Ryder, Diana Savitskaya and Christiane Sheldon; and

Westfield: Grayson Anderson, Ashley Antonelli, Kimberly Binan, Sofia Bultova, Ilianis Colon, Andrew Curran, Laura DelMonte, Marissa Fournier, Eric Grigoryan, Nicholas Gulov, Chiara Hines, Miyuki Johnson, Lillie Johnson, Daniel LaRochelle, Nathan Loe, Heather Moczydlowski, Versaviya Okhrimenko, Esfier Okhrimenko, Amber Plante, Diana Rodriguez, Dana Shambo, Dylan Slonka, Alena Tabolich, Nicole Vilane and Amanda Woodruff.