



# DAVIDSON COLLEGE

## 2025 Spring Convocation Award Winners

### LEADERSHIP / SERVICE / GENERAL AWARDS

#### **AGNES SENTELLE BROWN AWARD – Jacqueline Nyakunu '26**

Established by Dr. Mark Edgar Sentelle, former professor and dean of students at Davidson College, in memory of his sister; is presented to a sophomore, junior, or senior of outstanding character, personality, and academic ability.

#### **BEN CALLINDER AWARD – Natalie Russell '25**

**Natalie** is incredibly selfless, constantly giving her time to the students on this campus and reaching out to those who may be struggling. She shapes the culture of our student body with her kindness and warm smile. From working with members of PCC to programming with Union Board to being one of the most welcoming orientation leaders Davidson has, **Natalie** constantly makes others feel seen and ignites excitement. She is very well respected by both her peers and her professors. Natalie is so intentional in all that she does, making her impact on campus immeasurable. There are many exemplary members of the senior class, but few have as far a reach of love and joy as Natalie.

#### **DAVIDSON ASIAN SOUTH ASIAN PACIFIC ISLANDER ALUMNI NETWORK AWARD – Binh Nguyen '27, Sahana Athreya '25**

Binh Nguyen is a junior Chemistry major and founder of the Vietnamese Student Association and serves on the executive board of the Davidson International Association. In these roles, he played a key part in organizing Davidson's inaugural Cultural Night, a vibrant celebration where students showcased traditional attire and performances. Binh has expanded Vietnamese representation at Davidson by advocating for Vietnamese language courses in the Self-Instructed Language Program and choreographing Vietnamese dances in Dance Ensemble showcases. He has dedicated himself to humanitarian efforts in Southeast Asia by volunteering at literacy programs for children in Cambodia and supporting marginalized communities in Laos. Binh also serves on the Association

of Southeast Asian Nations Foundation Programme which connects young Southeast Asian leaders to engage in policy and cultural preservation.

Sahana Athreya is a senior Psychology and Theatre double major. She serves as President of the South Asian Student Association, fostering a strong community among Asian students through cultural events and collaboration with other affinity organizations. Sahana is an aspiring actress who has spotlighted South Asian identity in the Davidson Theatre Department through her performances and playwriting. Her original play, "Backseat of a Taxi", tells the story of a South Asian teenager navigating her queer identity. She has been commissioned by two schools in India to write plays focusing on issues such as political conflict and poverty. Sahana also mentors international students and has been an active contributor to DASAPIAN events, moderating a panel and speaking at the 2024 ASAPI graduation.

**DAVIDSON BLACK ALUMNI NETWORK AWARD □ Chidindu Ohaegbulam '28, Victoria Ochieng '27, Jacqueline Nyakunu '26**

In just his first year at Davidson Chidindu has demonstrated leadership and advocacy that embody the spirit of the DBAN award. As a former Antiguan Youth Ambassador to the U.S. Embassy and a class senator in the Student Government Association, he advocates for the diverse needs of his peers and contributes to policy discussions that enhance the student experience. Additionally, through his service with an organization called Studicate, he is committed to providing opportunity, access and support to students in the Caribbean.

Victoria is the founder of Confidence In Red, where she mobilizes resources to support young women's health and empowerment in Nairobi, Kenya. Through collaboration with the Jay Hurt Hub for Entrepreneurship and Innovation, Victoria has secured additional funding for diverse entrepreneurial initiatives which further reflects her commitment to inclusivity. Victoria is a transformative leader and a powerful advocate for underrepresented voices.

As the founder of Start-Up for Rural Girls in Zimbabwe, Jacqueline has impacted over 1,000 young women through mentorship, education, and entrepreneurship, advancing gender equality and community development. Her roles as Co-President of the Davidson African Students Association and a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. illustrate her commitment to inclusivity, cultural awareness, and advocacy for students of color. Representing Zimbabwean youth at the United Nations Economic and Social Council Youth Forum, Jacqueline embodies the leadership and service that the DBAN Award recognizes.

**GEORGE GLADSTONE MEMORIAL AWARD – Stacy Miruka '26, Connor Hines '26**

Established in memory of George L Gladstone, Jr., Class of 1960, this award is presented to two rising seniors exhibiting high potential for service to mankind as indicated by leadership, service and academic record. This year's recipients are Stacy Miruka and Connor Hines.

**GOODWIN-EXXON AWARD □ Jalyssa Hobbs '25, Katherine Marshall '26, Abuzar**

**Suhaib '27**

Established by Henry S. Goodwin of the Class of 1930 and funded in part by a foundation, these awards are given annually to a sophomore, junior and senior who exemplify the highest standards of character, good sportsmanship, friendliness and consideration for others. This year's recipients are Jalyssa Hobbs, Katherine Marshall, and .

**CHARLES MALONE RICHARDS AWARD □ Petrah Sakwa '26**

Established in memory of a longtime Davidson pastor and professor; presented to a rising senior, ordinarily one preparing for the ministry, whose academic record, participation in campus activities, and contribution to community religious life are outstanding.

**C. SHAW SMITH AWARD – Alex Marron '27**

Alex Marron is this year's C Shaw Smith Award winner for her outstanding contribution to the College Union. As the Union Board Publicity Chair, Alex has been innovative in the ways she connects with her peers, implementing new marketing strategies that are both effective and sustainable, while making a positive impact on the Union Board's leadership team.

**DEAN RUSK AWARD – Miles Charles '25**

With remarkable purpose, this year's awardee maximized international learning on campus through classes, Global Corps and Dean Rusk events. This Davidson swimmer also dove into experiential learning with two summers in Europe, one semester abroad in Italy and Tunisia, and further Tunisia studies supported by OEAA Heitz-Wagner award. In celebration of his intentionally international four years, Dean Rusk celebrates Miles Charles.

**JAMES BAKER WOODS III AWARD – Cadet Marc Koch '26**

Presented to Cadet Marc Koch for exceptional leadership, relentless determination, and uncompromising accountability. His superior physical fitness, dedication to excellence, and limitless potential embody the highest standards of ROTC. Cadet Koch exemplifies the legacy of James Baker Woods III and inspires those around him through his character, discipline, and commitment to service.

## **ATHLETIC AWARDS**

### **TOMMY PETERS AWARD – Jayden Smith '25**

Jayden has been an integral part of the Men's Track & Field for the past 4 years. He is a 5-time A-10 Champion and a 3-time national qualifier as of the end of his junior season. Jayden is consistently one of the only athletes competing at Nationals and has been a top 20 ranked hurdler in the US for over 2 years. He has been a team leadership council member and team captain since his sophomore year. Jayden is involved in countless activities to promote and enhance our program off the track.

### **REBECCA E. STIMSON AWARD – Aleia Gisolfi-McCready '25**

Aleia is a multi-sport athlete and has had a stellar career in both women's soccer & indoor/outdoor track & field. She is an All-Conference performer in both sports and a three-time A-10 Champion for track & field. Aleia possesses a superb dedication and commitment to athletics off the field. Her work ethic is second to none and she exemplifies outstanding leadership roles which has greatly impacted her teammates by building strong bonds and being a constant motivator.

**PHI BETA KAPPA**  
**ELECTED TO MEMBERSHIP-IN-COURSE**  
2024 Inductees

Elizabeth Dill Austell

Peter William Beck

William Walker Benjamin

Cayla Elizabeth Bernstein

Sierra Catherine Brown

Kaitlyn Talitha Busch

Chloe Angelie Calzolano

Merritt Holland Carmichael

Jingting Chen

Henry Page Chesley-Vogels

Juliana Angelina Covino

Connor Lee Cross

Peyton Elizabeth Davis

Madeline Claire Dierauf

Catherine Page DuPuy

Kavi Sonal Gandhi

Austin Gregory Garner

Alice Adelle Guth

Margaret Claire Haile

Georgia Molly Catherine Hall

Davin Lim

Dagmawi Eyayu Lulseged

Beatrix Valentina MacNeill

Lucy Louise Mason

Brigid Regan McCarthy

Katherine Grace McCormack

Grace Melia McGuire

Isabelle Viola Meyers

Stephen Thomas Mirabello

Michael Richard Mitchum

Megan Jane Mokriski

Jazlyn Rose Moock

Cooper Ray Oljeski

Paige Elizabeth Pakenas

Jo Papadopoulou

Anaya Nishat Patel

Linden Nicole Patterson

Juan Camilo Pérez Góngora

Nicolas Pinzon

Natalie Mae Russell

Grant Schelm Harkins

Mary Elizabeth Herdelin

Mary Claire Howell

Yang Hu

Charles Milford Jordan III

Eleanor O'Beirne Jorgensen

Ondessa Sheariah Spring Kiliru-  
Liontree

Matthew Robert Krasuski

Henry Thomas Lark

Adam Baker Lauer

Mingyang Li

Ephraim Eliav Light

Joanna Catherine Schwartz

Grace E Semrau

Maxwell Allen Shackelford

Magdalene Ruth Tillquist

Anthony Jason Toumazatos

William DuBose Tuller Jr.

Annica Kathleen Valmassei

Guilford Dudley Ware III

Charlotte Butler Welsby

Kenan Bradburn Wood

Christina Alicia Wray

Qianhui Zhu

## **2024-2025 FELLOWSHIPS & SCHOLARSHIPS**

The college recognizes students and recent alumni who have been selected or are alternates for prestigious national fellowships and scholarships.\*

### **Austrian Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research US Teaching Assistantship (USTA) Program**

Ephraim Light '25

### **Churchill Scholarship**

Kenan Wood '25

### **Critical Language Scholarship**

Sarah Lane '27 - Chinese (Mandarin)

Isabella Mckissick Staley '26 (Alternate) - Chinese (Mandarin)

### **Gilman Scholarship**

Hajar Hussein '27 - Ireland, Summer 2025

Trent Thompson '26 - Sweden, Spring 2025

### **Goldwater Scholarship**

Christopher Piatnichouk '26

### **Rhodes Scholarship**

Madeline Dierauf '25

### **W. Thomas Smith Scholarship**

Grace McGuire '25

Steve Mirabello '25

\* This list only includes awards that require institutional endorsement and/or about which the Office of Fellowships was notified. Many grant offers are currently pending.

## ACADEMIC AWARDS

### ARAB STUDIES AWARD – **Abi Ruby '25**

The Arab Studies Award goes to **Abi Ruby**, an Arab Studies and Interdisciplinary Studies major in Philosophy, Politics, & Economics, whose passion for helping others have inspired us. A brilliant, humble, and dedicated student, she has also been active in Turkey earthquake relief work and has served as an Arabic tutor. We are honored to present this award to **Abi Ruby**.

### SANDY BLACK MEMORIAL AWARD – **Celine Estelle Ja Pirard '26**

We recognize **Celine Estelle Ja Pirard** for her exceptional promise as a physician leader as revealed by her stellar academic achievement, research accomplishment, clinical volunteer work, and leadership on campus. Her dedication to excellence in all aspects of her life as well as her commitment to serving others are truly inspiring.

### FRANZ BOAS AWARD - **Chloe Calzolano '25**

**Chloe Calzolano** has demonstrated excellence across anthropology's sub-disciplines. Her preparations for graduate study have also included archaeological work in Ireland and using her artistic talent in osteology studies. **Chloe** has also been instrumental in reinvigorating the Anthropology Club, showcasing her growth from being a shy introvert to an outspoken and committed advocate of the field.

### BREMER GERMAN LANGUAGE AWARD – **Angelica Cole Atsaves '25**

With dismay, her great aunt asked why she is studying German, which led to a deeply researched thesis on collective memory and inherited trauma. For her wholehearted embrace of German studies, her insightful and sensitive thesis combining memory studies, military history, and personal family stories of Greeks and Germans, the 2025 Bremer German Language Award goes to **Angelica Cole Atsaves**.

### COMPUTER SCIENCE AWARD – **Kenan B. Wood '25, Alice A. Guth '25**

For his exceptional classroom performance and research achievements in distributed computing and software verification, we award the Computer Science award to **Kenan Wood**.

For her exceptional classroom performance and research intuition and success in computer science education, we award the Computer Science award to **Alice Guth**.



**TOM DAGGY BIOLOGY AWARD – Megan Mokriski '25**

**Megan's** enthusiasm for exploring the secrets of life is exemplified by her extensive research experience, leadership skills, and deep appreciation for the outdoors. She has significant research accomplishments, has presented her work at an international conference, and is dedicated to helping others discover their love of biology. Ultimately, she plans to pursue a PhD in ecology and evolutionary biology.

**ALBERTA SMITH DEVANE RELIGIOUS STUDIES AWARD – Michael Richard Mitchum '25**

The Religious Studies faculty at Davidson College present this award to **Michael** in recognition of his critical and diligent attention to the Lutheran theological tradition and its relevance for contemporary deaf culture and congregations, confident in his promise as a committed and capable representative of God's Word of grace in a challenging world.

**W. E. B. DU BOIS EXCELLENCE IN SOCIOLOGY AWARD – Kalasiddhi Thapa '25**

This award honors a student whose senior thesis is a community-informed study based on in-depth interviews with Bhutanese-Nepali refugees in Pennsylvania, examining their healthcare experiences and illuminating hidden stories. For her insight, perseverance, and commitment to equity, the W.E.B. Du Bois Award goes to **Kalasiddhi Thapa**.

**ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES OUTSTANDING SENIOR AWARD – Charlotte Welsby '25, Amanda Creek '25**

For consistent excellence in interdisciplinary research on the effects of Hurricane Helene on stream dynamics, her ability to multitask, conduct independent fieldwork, immediately grasp complex concepts, her strong science communication skills, and her collegiality and leadership as a member of the Environmental Studies community, we proudly name **Charlotte Welsby** the Environmental Studies Outstanding Senior.

This student demonstrated exceptional leadership and innovation throughout their research project, designing and executing a study that required the development of new methodologies. They also mentored fellow students, guiding them through unfamiliar research areas and fostering a collaborative environment. For their outstanding research on microplastics in the Catawba River Basin, we proudly name **Amanda Creek** the Environmental Studies Outstanding Senior.

**MONDE FRANCOPHONE AWARD – Georgia Hall '24, Abigail Yokoyama '25**

**Georgia** impressed from day one with her sharp intellect and boundless curiosity. Her dedication to all academic activities was inspiring, and her thoughtful insights lit up the room every time. Always prepared, always positive, she brought energy and heart to all she did. A radiant presence on campus and beyond! Bonne chance, **Georgia**!

**Abby** has been an absolute joy – radiant with enthusiasm and kindness! She stood out in AT sessions, supporting lower-level students with patience and encouragement. Always ready to help, she brought energy and generosity to every corner of the department. A true star with a can-do spirit. Merci, **Abby**, et bon courage!

**JOSEPH T. GARDNER THEATRE AWARD – Lauren Coliver '25**

**Lauren Coliver** has given selflessly to the Theatre Department, whether volunteering backstage, running multiple shows as an adept stage manager, or attending talks with potential new faculty., providing valuable feedback to the search process. **Lauren** always asks, "how can I help?" Their dependability, spirit of collaboration, and infectious energy have truly enhanced our department. We honor them with the Joseph T. Gardner Theatre Award.

**WILLIAM B. HIGHT, JR. EDUCATIONAL STUDIES AWARD – Kaitlyn Busch '25**

It is an honor to present the William B. Hight Award to **Kaitlyn Busch**, an outstanding advocate for bilingualism, early literacy, and educational policy at Davidson and beyond. Whether teaching Spanish through the SK8 program or tutoring kindergarteners at Ada Jenkins, **Kaitlyn** inspires through her competence and humility, qualities that also earned her the trust of Basque parents and teachers she interviewed entirely in Spanish for her honors thesis.

**MUNDO HISPÁNICO (THE HISPANIC STUDIES) AWARD – Mattie Baird '25**

Recognizing their passion for advocacy and equity, dedication to addressing educational inequities among multilingual learners in our public school system, commitment to researching human rights and transgender issues in Argentina and Spain, and inspirational leadership as President of Sigma Delta Phi Honor Society supporting Hispanic/Latinx communities. This year's Mundo Hispánico award goes to incoming Teach for America high school science teacher, **Mattie Baird**.

### **HISTORY CAPSTONE PRIZE – Jennevieve Culver '25**

The History Capstone Prize goes to **Jennevieve Culver**. Culver's feminist exploration of Margaret Pole, Countess of Salisbury in Tudor England, transcends elite biography and illuminates profound shifts in gender norms during the reign of Henry VIII. This elegantly written essay, a model of gender analysis, showcases this emerging scholar's ability to make a small topic matter in a big way.

### **DOUGLAS HOUCHENS STUDIO ART AWARD – Mary Claire Hendrick '26, Adele Oprica '26**

This Art Major and Applied Physics Minor excavates architectural possibilities through her creative process—transforming black paper sketches into models, capturing their illuminated forms, then translating discoveries back into drawing. Through this cyclical process, void becomes form, darkness yields to light, revealing hidden dimensions. Her unwavering commitment to art, while balancing academics and collegiate athletics, demonstrates a tenacity that will propel her architectural vision beyond graduation. **Mary Claire Hendrick, 2025**

This double major in Art and Classics, **Adele** paints to transform mundane spaces into vessels of memory through gestural marks and shimmering dry brush strokes. Sinks filled with dishes, dusk-lit electrical poles, and cluttered rooms pulse with invisible histories. Though absent from the canvas, former inhabitants leave their resonance, creating an immersive experience where ordinary objects reveal profound connections to deep time. **Adele Oprica, 2026**

### **DAVID HALBERT HOWARD, JR. CHEMISTRY AWARD – Christopher T. Piatnichouk '26**

**Chris** is a dedicated and well-rounded scholar excelling as a double major in chemistry and physics. His strong academic record and commitment to research are evident through co-authored publications in both fields. Despite juggling a schedule with multiple laboratory courses, **Chris** continues to pursue his studies and research with impressive focus and determination.

### **LUCILE AND MAX JACKSON AWARD IN ART HISTORY – Ella Grace Dunn '26**

**Ella Grace** is a very talented art history major who has excelled in courses on Islamic, Asian, and European art. Her passion for research is evident from her final research projects for her

classes, ranging from exploring protective depictions of female bodies on a Norman church in England to considering how femininity is framed in Tang dynasty tombs in China.

**THE KEISER PRIZE IN ENGLISH FOR CLASSICAL PERFORMANCE – Sahana Athreya '25**

Just when you think you know **Sahana Athreya**'s remarkable depth and breadth, she unexpectedly takes the lead in an acting workshop with the Royal Shakespeare Company in Stratford-upon-Avon. Or she elevates a discussion in another workshop with a penetrating, provocative observation. Or she plays the character of Brutus in Julius Caesar with all the moral complications the role demands. Surprise!

**LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES PRIZE – Valeria Salgado '25**

**Valeria Salgado** is intensely focused on educational policy and community building. **Valeria**'s on-campus engagement attends to conversations surrounding diversity and inclusion from the standpoint of both faculty and the Davidson student body. Her extracurricular activities include volunteering to tutor students in bilingual and multicultural contexts, and **Valeria** has supported the Alpha Gamma chapter of Latinas Promoviendo Comunidad/Lambda Pi Chi Sorority.

**HENRY T. LILLY AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN ENGLISH – Madeline Dierauf '25, Brigid McCarthy '25**

The English department proudly presents the Lilly Award to two students this year.

For her richly syncretic mind, her willingness to tackle difficult texts, and her extraordinary erudition, we recognize **Madeline Dierauf**.

For her wonderful blend of imagination and intellection, her staggeringly impressive output as a writer, and her irrepressible enthusiasm, we honor **Brigid McCarthy**.  
Congratulations to these outstanding scholars.

**ALAIN LOCKE/ANNA JULIA COOPER AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN AFRICANA STUDIES - Emma Begley-Collier '25**

This award is given in honor of the first African American Rhodes Scholar and the first African American female activist and scholar to earn a Ph.D. in history from the University of Paris, Sorbonne. The award commemorates the distinguished lives and achievements of two outstanding figures whose works and legacies significantly impacted future discourses on

race, gender, class, and sexuality in Africana Studies. For exhibiting academic excellence, this year's recipient is, **Emma Begley-Collier**.

**WILLIAM G. MCGAVOCK MATHEMATICS AWARD – **Kenan B. Wood '25, Anna S. Hugo '25****

For his exceptional performance in coursework and contributions to research in extremal combinatorics, graph theory and machine-assisted theorem proving, we award the William G. McGavock award to **Kenan Wood**.

For her outstanding performance in coursework, her research achievements in combinatorics and optimization art, and her leadership in the Association for Women in Mathematics, we award the William G. McGavock award to **Anna Scott Hugo**.

**SALLY G. MCMILLEN GENDER & SEXUALITY STUDIES PRIZE – **Jo Papadopoulou '25****

From their first day of class as a Davidson student in GSS 101 to their research presentation at the UNC Asheville Queer Studies conference, this student has approached the study of gender and sexuality with deep curiosity and engagement. They have been a consummate departmental citizen, from running our social media to attending every GSS lecture and social event. The Gender & Sexuality Studies Department is delighted to award the 2025 Sally G. McMillen Prize to **Jo Papadopoulou!**

**A.K. PHIFER AWARD IN ECONOMICS – **Kyle Berlage '26****

**Kyle Berlage** has displayed exceptional analytical skills and the ability to ask insightful research questions. Most importantly, he has shown a profound appreciation for the way that the study of economics can improve our understanding of the world.

**PHYSICS AWARD – **Juan Camilo Pérez Góngora '25****

This year's recipient aced his classes while consistently serving up impressive results in medical and nuclear physics research. In the classroom, his dedication to sharing his love of learning with everyone he tutored was hard to match. For outstanding contributions to our department, the 2025 Physics Award is presented to the smashing **Juan Camilo Pérez Góngora**.

**W. KENDRICK PRITCHETT AWARD IN CLASSICS – **Grace Semrau '25, Lucy Mason '25****

**Grace Semrau**, who studied inscriptions on Paros, excavated at Morgantina, combined literary and material evidence for her senior paper on the disabled god Hephaistos, and taught as an assistant teacher in Greek.

**Lucy Mason**, whose investment in antiquity is manifest in work abroad in Rome and Sicily, and at home in extraordinary contributions to the academics, outreach, and community of the Department of Classics.

**J. HARRIS PROCTOR AWARD IN POLITICAL SCIENCE – Mills Jordan '25, Anthony Toumazatos '25**

**Mills'** exceptional academic rigor, innovative educational policy research, and dedication to community engagement make him the epitome of scholarly excellence and civic commitment.

**Anthony** exemplifies exceptional intellectual curiosity, and analytical depth. His insights in the classroom have been celebrated as a breath of fresh air.

We proudly present the J. Harris Proctor Award in Political Science to **Mills and Anthony**.

**RICHARD ROSS MEMORIAL MUSIC AWARD – Michael Mitchum '25**

The Richard Ross Memorial Music Award, presented to a senior music major, honors Richard Ross, an internationally celebrated organ recitalist, gifted teacher, and dedicated Presbyterian Church musician. This year's recipient is **Michael Mitchum**, whose calm leadership in DCSO, Appalachian Ensemble, and Bright Star, the musical, embodies the humble qualities of an intuitive musician who will continue to imbue the world with compassion and kindness.

**RAWLEY P. TURNER DRAMA AWARD – Samantha Smith '25, Walker Hansen '25**

This actor's performance as a determined, persistent, can't-get-basic-concepts administrative assistant in *The Outsider* was wildly enjoyable to watch. She delighted in her character's innocence and dare we say it, stupidity. Her comic timing was impeccable and her dedication to the rehearsal room was just as impressive. The Theatre Department is pleased to award the Turner Award to **Samantha Smith**.

**Walker Hansen** is recognized for his outstanding performances as Cassius in *Julius Caesar* and Ned Newly in *The Outsider*. His portrayal of Cassius highlighted his ability to convey cunning ambition and internal conflict, while his role as Ned demonstrated a remarkable range, capturing vulnerability and growth. Hansen's versatility and commitment to his craft make him a standout performer in both productions.

**TURNER-MARTINEZ COMMUNICATION STUDIES AWARD - Sammi Gutknecht '25**

The Turner-Martinez award recognizes a student who engages communication as a dynamic, powerful process in the world, and who collaboratively elevates their peer communities.

**Sammi** is a brilliant scholar who has been a leader in the classroom and far beyond. She's well known for challenging injustices others often don't even notice, as well as consistently putting on display her immense skills as a photojournalist.

**PORTER VINSON CHEMISTRY AWARD – Alexa Verghese '27**

**Alexa** has enjoyed an excellent start to her promising chemistry career at Davidson. Before even completing her sophomore year, she has managed to navigate through both organic and physical chemistry. **Alexa** is currently performing polymer research as an independent study. **Alexa's** dedication to her studies and thoughtful engagement in class make her joy to have as a student.

**DANIEL BLAIN WOODS AWARD – Ella West '26, Sinai Teshome '26**

We proudly present the "Heart and Soul" Award to two exceptional juniors, **Ella West and Sinai Teshome**, who embody the essential qualities of outstanding physicians: wisdom, integrity, compassion, service orientation, and intellectual depth and breadth. This recognition celebrates your remarkable achievements in both academics and service, while acknowledging your tremendous potential in the medical field.

**WILLIAM GATEWOOD WORKMAN PSYCHOLOGY AWARD – Magdalene Tillquist '25, Ethan Maddox '25**

Established in 1987 by in honor of Professor Emeritus William G. Workman, the William Gateman Workman Award is given annually to a graduating senior in psychology who has attained outstanding academic excellence. This year, we celebrate two exceptional seniors. For their outstanding thesis research, excellence in the classroom, and broader service to psychology students, we are pleased to honor this year's winners, **Magdalene Tillquist and Ethan Maddox**.

## OMICRON DELTA KAPPA RECOGNITION AND AWARDS

Omicron Delta Kappa (ODK) is a national leadership honor society which recognizes students for leadership in campus or community service, social and religious activities, athletics, student government, journalism and the creative and performing arts. Juniors and seniors who have significantly contributed to campus life in one of these areas and who are ranked in the top 35% of their class are eligible for ODK membership.

### 2024-2025 OMICRON DELTA KAPPA MEMBERS

Eliana Burgin '25\*

Izzie Meyers '25\*

Cate DuPuy '25\*

Stacy Miruka '26\*

Caroline Ewing '26\*

Eli Naughton '26\*

M.E. Gabrielle '25\*

Cooper Olijeski '25\*

Austin Garner '25\*

Anaya Patel '25



Lucy Helene '25\*

Kavya Patel '25\*

Jalyssa Hobbs '25

Ellie Rice '25\*

Katherine Hu '25

Max Shackelford '25\*

Anna Hugo '25\*

Valentina Silardi '25\*

Kayla Klurman '25\*

Amelia solum '25

Matthew Krasuski '25\*

Meghan Sood '25

Skylar Linker '25\*

Arkanksha Velath '26\*

Sophia Ludt '25\*

Charlotte Welsby '25\*

Taw Meh '25

Jordan Whitehouse '25

Nina Worley '26\*

**\*Indicates New Inductee**

**Circle Coordinator:** Katelynn Hodgkiss

**Circle Advisor:** Nadia Campbell

**Circle Assistant:** Tracy Bourgeois

**Faculty Inductee:** Dr. Melissa González

2025 ODK TEACHING AWARD **Dr. Katie Horowitz**

2025 ODK STAFF AWARD **Joe Gutekanst**

2024 ODK COMMUNITY AWARD **Tracy Mattison Brandon**

# STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

## **2024 SGA FACULTY AWARD – Dr. John Wertheimer**

Good morning, all. Today, I'm honored to present the SGA Faculty Award, a recognition shaped by student voices and the strong connections between faculty and students at Davidson. Among over 30 nominations, one professor stood out as truly exceptional.

I'm delighted to announce that this year's recipient of the SGA Faculty Award is Dr. John Wertheimer.

Dr. Wertheimer embodies everything you hope for in a college professor. His brilliance in the classroom is matched by his generosity outside of it. As a mentor, advocate, and friend, he challenges us to grow and believes in our potential even before we do.

From guiding senior theses to securing funding for filmmaking trips to Austria and Germany, and hosting inclusive History Department lunches, Dr. Wertheimer is always working to build community and expand opportunities.

Whether he's holding office hours in Chambers or playing guitar on stage, Dr. Wertheimer brings energy, curiosity, and heart to everything he does. His love of music brings the Davidson community together, and his performance with Davidson Local at a fundraiser for Hurricane Helene relief helped raise funds and bring us together in support of a meaningful cause.

Davidson is better because of him. His legacy lives on in the students he's empowered, the lives he's touched, and the joy he's brought to this campus.

## **2024 SGA HOLISTIC ADVISING AWARD – Becca Vance**

I am proud to announce the recipient of this year's Holistic Advising Award. Presented on behalf of the Student Government Association, this award recognizes a faculty member for dedicated and meaningful guidance to students in pre-major advising. This advisor's guidance is simply exceptional. In what is certainly a nerve-racking yet exciting time in a student's life, she repeatedly goes the extra mile to advise students regarding course selections, all while encouraging students to pursue their extracurricular passions. Her sincere care and support leave her students feeling heard and empowered. Even after her students have declared their major, she remains a friendly face who is committed to her students' success. This advisor exemplifies Davidson's core values without failure. A holistic advisor is a student's first

connection to a staff member at Davidson, and no one deserves this award more than Ms. Rebecca Vance. Congratulations!

## Additional Honors and Award Winners Spring 2025

### ADDITIONAL AWARDS FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

#### **WILMER HAYDEN WELSH PRIZE IN COMPOSITION – Annabel Semans '26**

Established in 2006 in honor of Wilmer Hayden Welsh, Composer and Professor of Music at Davidson College from 1963-1991, The Welsh Prize in Composition recognizes the best original music composition created by a Davidson student in the previous calendar year. The Music Department is pleased to award the 2025 Welsh Prize to **Annabel Semans**. Her composition, *Wander*, demonstrates fluid, contrasting layers of calm and playful rhythms,

surprising suspensions, and a sense of mindful freedom and release through its cyclical expression.

### **STEINWAY AWARD – Henry Chesley-Vogels '25**

The Steinway Award recognizes outstanding performance, musicianship, and artistic and academic scholarship. This year's recipient has been a dedicated, core member of the Davidson College Chorale throughout his Davidson tenure. He is an exemplary musician, using his strong musicianship and reading skills to lead and transform his section in rehearsals, and committing to the music with tremendous expression and sincerity in performance. He is widely respected and has spread a sense of commitment to his peers by demonstrating impeccable reliability and spreading his conviction that choral singing is a crucial aspect of the Davidson well-being. After every performance, he has always stayed behind to offer a thoughtful word of thanks and inquire whether he can be helpful in teardown. He has further invested his time into the Chorale by serving as President on the Chorale Student Council, where he advocated for tour funding so that it would be accessible to all students irrespective of financial need, engaged prospective students, performed for donors, planned inclusive social activities for the ensemble, and ensured the vision for the ensemble was being realized. He oversaw five other student officers in this process, leading with empowerment and support through solid communication. It is this sort of work that happens behind the scenes so an ensemble can thrive in performance.

In addition to his ever-solid commitment to Chorale, this student has been equally invested in Chamber Singers, organ study, voice lessons, an a capella ensemble, and an early music ensemble. Most recently, he made his solo debut singing the role of Schlendrian in Bach's Coffee Cantata. In all his endeavors, he has forged meaningful connections with his peers and professors. He is a model citizen in our department for how he has influenced change within the experiences he partakes, but he is also a model to other liberal arts students who wish to maximize their experience through a demonstrable commitment to more than one department. In his case, Henry has pursued both science and music to the very maximum at Davidson, and we know he will be a thoughtful contributor to both disciplines in his bright future. The Music Department is honored to give this year's Steinway Award to **Henry Chesley-Vogels**.

### **ADDITIONAL AWARD FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY**

### **JANE ADDAMS JUNIOR SOCIOLOGY AWARD - Uday Ahuja '26**

The Jane Addams Junior Sociology Award at Davidson College, named after the social reformer, recognizes students with ethical convictions and a desire to make a public impact through their sociological studies.

**ADDITIONAL AWARD FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF NEUROSCIENCE**

**DR. CHARLES RICHARDSON “BUDDY” MARTIN, JR. OUTSTANDING  
UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH AWARD IN NEUROSCIENCE – Ghadeer Muhammed  
'25**

This award recognizes students who share in the love of study and research in the neurosciences demonstrated by Dr. Buddy Martin, Class of 1988, whose memory we honor with this award. This year's award goes to **Ghadeer Muhammed** for superlative research in neuroscience.