School of Nursing
Senior Awards
Spring 2020
The senior awards are given to deserving seniors who submit an application for review. The SON faculty review all applications and make the final decisions.

This year’s winners are...
The Sister Louise Grundish Distinguished Alumni Award is given in honor of Sister Louise Grundish who graduated in 1963 from the Duquesne University School of Nursing and served in several capacities to give back to Duquesne University and the School of Nursing. This award is given to the student who exemplifies the mission of Duquesne University and the School of Nursing. This year’s recipient is:

Brooklynne Taylor
Sigma Theta Tau International
Epsilon Phi Award:

This award goes to a graduating senior who is a member of Sigma Theta Tau and who demonstrates leadership, evidence for concern for the ideals of the profession, consistent and high-quality performance, and reliability. This year’s recipient is:

Alyxandra Ibarra
Public Service in Nursing Award:

The Public Service in Nursing Award is given to a student in good academic standing, who shows leadership in nursing, contribution to the SON and class, and most importantly community service and commitment to the profession. This year’s recipient is:

Ashley McDanald.
The Dr. R.J. Behan Award is given to a graduating senior with highest QPA. This year’s recipient is:

Cassidy Kaczor
Mary Tobin Award for General Excellence in Nursing:

The Mary Tobin Award for General Excellence in Nursing is given to a graduating senior who has made a significant contribution to SON and community and shows all around excellence in nursing. This year’s recipient is:

Jaclyn Benedetti
The Ruth Johnson Award for General Excellence in Nursing is given to a senior who has made a significant contribution to SON and community and shows all around excellence in nursing. This year’s recipient is:

Ashleigh Pifferetti
The Student Leadership Award is given to a senior or seniors who have membership and leadership in nursing organizations; demonstrate the university’s mission statement and show potential for leadership in the profession. This year’s recipients are:

Elizabeth Smialek
Deanna Webb
Individual Achievement Award:

The Individual Achievement Award is given to a student who is recognized for their accomplishments in nursing and who has a positive image of nursing in their research, in the clinical setting, and in the classroom. This year’s recipients are:

Amanda Rosgony
Kimberly Kren
Raven Ponton
Community Engaged Scholar Award:

The Community Engaged Scholar Award is given to a student with a 3.0 or above who shows excellence and leadership in community-based clinical experiences. This year’s recipient is:

Juliet Arowosaye
Marie C. Miller Award for Excellence in Medical-Surgical Nursing:

The Marie C. Miller Award for Excellence in Medical-Surgical Nursing is given to a senior with a minimum QPA of 3.25 who shows excellence in medical-surgical nursing and demonstrates ethics in nursing care. This year’s recipient is:

Julie Martin
Sierra Intrieri Memorial
Senior Award

Sierra Intrieri was a 2016 graduate of the School of Nursing. This senior award is given to a student who best exemplifies the upbeat and uplifting influence of Sierra. The award will go to a student who best meets the following criteria:

• Exhibits a consistent positive attitude and interaction with peers, faculty and staff
• Shows evidence of kindness and compassion to others
• Contributes to the creation of a sense of community within the class
• Accepts responsibility and accountability in a mature manner
• Demonstrates motivation for learning above and beyond expectations
• Gives to the benefit of others
• Copes with stress in a constructive manner
• Adapts to change

This year’s recipient is:

Briana Blansfield
The School of Nursing is proud to announce the list of students that are graduating with honors. As per University policy all honors are based on the cumulative GPA at the end of the Fall 2019 semester, as grades are not final in the system until after graduation.

If after graduation (May 8th), your GPA increases and makes you eligible for graduation with honors or a higher level of honors it will be updated in the Registrar’s office automatically and be reflected on your transcript and diploma.

Medallions will be mailed to students and we will reach out individually to the winners to confirm the correct mailing address once we are able to return to campus.
Cum Laude

Jaclyn R. Benedetti
Rachael Blissman
Humna Elahi
Madeline A. Geist
Maria A. Kerstetter
Tatiana M. Kluckhohn
Ian P. Kondrat
Kimberly M. Kren
Julia A. Lawley
Julie C. Martin
Isabel M. Melone

Zachary W. Miller
Krista J. Morgan
Alyssa N. Nicklas
Mikayla G. Pollich
Emma R. Ranft
Hannah M. Savisky
Elizabeth A. Smialek
Natalie Y. Thompson
Genevieve K. Urbanowicz
Anne M. Venedam
Abigail E. Winand
Magna Cum Laude

Juliet J. Arowosaye
Corey L. Davis
Meghan E. Hartzell
Alyxandra A. Ibarra
Ashley L. McDanald
Ashleigh N. Pifferetti
Amanda Rosgony
Anna Schlegel
Deanna N. Stephenson
Abbygale C. Yenchko
Summa Cum Laude

Cassidy Kaczor
Congratulations to all of our recipients!