

July 2014



### Wyomissing Area School District

# Insight

**Science Celebration Day** Science was the theme of an allday event at Wyomissing Hills and West Reading elementary schools. Coordinated by teachers Patricia Kane, Andrea Boerger, Rose of a 3-D printer. Sneeringer, Robin Kline and Superintendent Julia Vicente, the goal was to get kids excited about science. Apparently it worked! Kindergarteners learned about bugs, plants, and animals. Third graders did experiments with mag-

nets, static and surface tension. Fifth grade studied healthy eating, and water and pollution.

A highlight for the K-4 students was an assembly on reptiles provided by Jesse Rothacker from his Forgotten Friend Reptiles Sanctuary. Wyomissing Police Officer Kevin Quinter also spoke to fourth grade about the dangers of drug use. High School students also demonstrated robotics and the use

At West Reading, AP Chemistry students demonstrated various properties such as gas density and flammability; kindling temperature with indestructible money; combustion; chemical reactions by combining various liquids; and oxidation reactions, to name a few.

According to Kane, the teachers hope to make this an annual event with the ultimate goal of having high school students partner with the elementary students and serve

as role models to foster their interest in science.

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Gavin Babb demonstrates a 3-D printer.

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Jesse Rothacker captivates students as he handles one of many reptiles he brought for the assembly at Wyomissing Hills Elementary.



Sixth grade students erect a tower using spaghetti and marshmallows.

## Congratulations Class of 2014!

Insight

### **Jakim Aaron**

College of William and Mary

Aurora Alba Philadelphia University

**Amy Alderfer** East Stroudsburg University

**Gavin Arredondo** East Stroudsburg University

Ryan Babb Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University

John Baker Washington and Jefferson College

**Adrianna Bates** York College of Pennsylvania

Lauren Bell Albright College

Olivia Benson Employment

**Darby Bentz** West Chester University

**Marquell Berger** Kutztown University

Emma Bittner Penn State University, UP

Samuel Blanchet University of Notre Dame

Kendall Bowen Reading Area Community College

**Christina Bowers** Colgate University

Ian Brackbill Dartmouth College

**Kaylee Brown** Reading Area Community College

Anthony Calvaresi Undecided

**Colleen Cameron** Duquesne University

Angel Canela Automotive Training Center

**Danielle Carabello** Temple University

Adam Chaffe Kutztown University

**Patric Charlesen** Employment

Nicole Christ

Indiana University of Pennsylvania

Alexa Clapperton West Chester University

**Bennett Conlin** James Madison University

Justin Cook Undecided

Arianna Corolla Berks Technical Institute

Cody Cox Bentley University

Ursinus College

Julia Crozier-Christy

Andrew Cruz Penn State University, Berks

**Finnegan Daly** Colorado State University

**Griffin Dalv** Colorado Mountain College

**Christopher Day** Reading Area Community College

**Michael DeLucas** Temple University

Luke DeVos Duquesne University Jeffrev DeWald Employment

Peter DiCarlo Texas A&M University

Morgan Dougherty Penn State University, UP

Melissa Doyle Berks Technical Institute

Victoria Dutt Point Park University

**Christopher Eaton** Franklin and Marshall College

**Caroline Edelman** Bucknell University

**Alexander Fisher** University of Pittsburgh

Emma Fogel University of California at Berkeley

Andrea Foronda Alvernia University

Anita Gabriely Boston College

Miriam Gaona Reading Area Community College

Erica Gleason The University of Scranton

Lauren Hafer James Madison University

**Reginald Hardy** West Virginia University

**James Harris** Shippensburg University

**Chase Hartman** McDaniel College

Shane Hasenauer United States Marines

# **Post-Graduate Plans**

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Thomas Heck Ohio University

Kenzie Holt LaSalle University

Devi Jagadesan Xavier University

Abubakar Jalloh Penn State University, Berks

Peter Jenckes Penn State University, Berks

Logan Jones Moravian College

Matthew Kaufmann Kutztown University

**Rachel Keel** Pennsylvania College of Art & Design

Paige Keim Harrisburg Area Community College

Jacob Kennedy Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University

Christopher Kimberlin Navy Firefighting

Greta Koch Haverford College

**Catherine Koppenhaver** Saint Joseph's University

James Koppenhofer Kutztown University

Michael Kovach George Mason University

Ki Shada Krick Daytona State College

Austin Kuhn University of Pennsylvania

**Collin Lamont** Kutztown University **David Link** Penn State University, Be

Andrew Long Kutztown University

Amanda Lord West Chester University

**Haley Lorish** Penn State University, Berks

Malik Love Reading Area Community College

**Thomas MacDonald** United States Army

John Masano University of Miami

Felix Mateo Penn State University, Berks

Scott McAvoy Lafayette College

**Aaron McCracken** Randolph-Macon College

**Caroline McMahon** West Chester University

Sardis Melo Millersville University

**Andrew Miller** Millersville University

**Tony Morales** Penn State University, Berks

Lilv Moran Cornell University

**Danny Nguyen** Reading Area Community College

Tracy Nguyen Penn State University, UP

Mitchell Norris Penn State University, Berks

erks		

Brandv Nunez University of Pittsburgh

**Rachel Ohnsman** University of Miami

Joshua Pappas Clemson University

**Charles Parker** Undecided

Nishtha Patel New York University

**Caroline Pattillo** Georgetown University

**Robert Pattillo** The George Washington University

**Rachel Perez** Penn State University, Berks

**Emmanuel Philistin** Thiel College

**Kavlah Ponton** Penn State University, Berks

**Alexandra Portner** Online College for Landscape Design

Samantha Racine Employment

**Miquela Ramirez** Millersville University

**Morgan Rath** West Virginia University

**Kimberly Rayshich** Berks Technical Institute

Angelica Reber Reading Area Community College

Jeffrey Reyes Reading Area Community College

**Cody Rolon** Berks Technical Institute **Nunere** 

Cont'd on last page



Mark Boyer, Business Administrator

### May We Introduce You to ...?

The Wyomissing Area School District is pleased to welcome Mark Boyer as our Business Administrator. Boyer holds a Bachelor's degree in Accounting from Albright College and a Master of Business Administration with a concentration in nonprofits from Alvernia College. His past experience includes 13 years working for the County of Berks as a Fiscal Director for the Youth Center and the manager of Financial Planning and Analy-

sis for the Budget Office. Most recently he served as the Assistant Business Manager for the Daniel Boone Area School District for one-and-one-half years. In both positions he assisted in building the budget and providing helpful analysis and budget forecasts.

He and his wife Leslie, who has also worked in public education for 13 years, reside in Leesport with their two children Jillian and Kameron.

Science Celebration cont'd.

### ward to serving the Wyomissing Area School District and community in the capacity of Business Administrator. I believe that the role of Business Administrator is the key to help guide and provide accurate information for decision making purposes for the District's Administration and Board of Directors." He also serves on the Board for the Schuylkill Valley Youth Soccer

organization.

FRI

Boyer said, "I am looking for-

The 2014 Scholarship Reception was held on Wednesday.

April 30, at which time the following scholarships were awarded to the respective recipients.

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#### The Class of 1959 Memorial Scholarship

A \$1000 scholarship awarded to the senior with the most improved GPA between 9th and 12th grades.

2014 Winner - Cody Rolon

#### The Women's Club of Wyomissing Scholarship

A \$1,000 scholarship awarded to a senior who has performed well academically, provided service to school and community, and will benefit from tuition contributions.

2014 Winner - Brandy Nunez

#### The Samuel R. Kozloff **Scholarship**

A \$1,750 scholarship awarded to a senior who has demonstrated achievement and interest in social studies or foreign languages 2014 Winner – Emma Fogel

#### The Class of 1946 Memorial **Scholarship**

A \$1,000 scholarship awarded to A \$1,000 scholarship awarded to a senior who demonstrates leada meritorious member of the ership, has been rostered on a senior class who has shown acavarsity sport and is in good academic and leadership potential. demic and disciplinary standing. 2014 Winner - Daniel Sweitzer 2014 Winner – Scott McAvoy

#### The West Reading High School The Gertrude K. McGonigle Alumni Scholarship Adult Scholarship

A \$1,250 scholarship awarded to a senior who will benefit from the award and is a resident of the Borough of West Reading. 2014 Winner-Danielle Carabello

#### The Koullias Family Scholar-<u>ship</u>

A \$1,000 scholarship awarded to a senior planning to study electrical engineering, math or science.

2014 Winner - Greta Koch

#### WAEF Scholarship

A \$1,000 scholarship awarded to a student who has at least a 3.0 GPA and plans to continue his or her education in the field of Fine Arts.

2014 Winner - Rachel Ohnsman



AP Chemistry students demonstrate experiments for West Reading Elementary students including levitating a beach ball and a fire vortex.

Best wishes for a long, happy, welldeserved retírement.

Craig L. Fries. retires

after six years with the

District as Director of

Building & Grounds.



Colleen F. Paulson, retires after 35 years as an elementary teacher.



Janet L. Orwig, retired in January as a Family & **Consumer Science Teacher** after more than 30 years in education.



Brittany Siggins, Daniel Sweitzer, Scott McAvoy, Brandy Nunez, and Emma Fogel.

**Retirees Recognized** 

## WAEF Presents 2014 Scholarships

#### Sean M. Flannery Scholarship

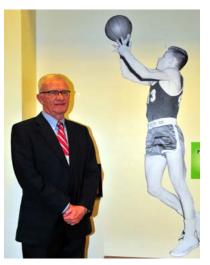
- This is a \$1,000 scholarship provided to an adult who is at least 24 years old and is re-
- entering education after at least a one-vear lapse in time. This includes GED, vocational, baccalaureate and masters programs. 2014 Winner - Brittany Siggins

#### **Distinguished Alumni** Award

Edward J. Kuhn, Jr. received the first annual Distinguished Alumni Award. The honor is awarded to a graduate of the

- Wyomissing or West Reading School systems; recognized as a person of strong
- moral and ethical character; who demonstrates outstand-
- ing professional success; a record of involvement and

support of activities within the WASD schools: a commitment to education, students and/or youth: a history of generously donating his/ her time, talents or treasures to social programs, non-profit organizations and/or community activities; or has a history of involvement with nonprofit organizations.



Edward J. Kuhn, Jr.



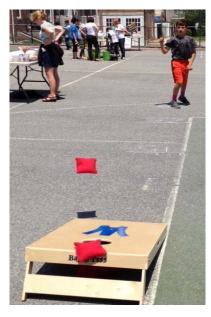
Greta Koch and Danielle Carabello



Rachel Ohnsman



Cody Rolon



Ryan Latourelle racks up points tossing bean bags from different spots on the basketball court. Points doubled if he threw the bag overhand.



Megan Mengle plays Money Plinko by dropping ping-pong balls down the board into varying money values from \$0 to \$1.00 as rapidly as possible. Highest score for the day won.

Grace Diehl and Summer Mirigliano attempt Frantic Fractions.

Colette Huber assists Jahsear Bainbridge in Division Partners.

## **Annual Math Carnival Sums Up Skills**

West Reading Elementary students practiced their math skills at the annual Math Carnival held at the end of May. Fifth grade math teachers Keith Arnold and Erika Homan worked collaboratively with a parent committee to organize the event.

The game Division Partners tested students' ability to match the quotient to the division problem as accurately and quickly as possible. In Frantic Fractions students needed to rapidly put the fraction pieces in order from greatest to least. While inside the building, students were attending boutiques and restaurants practicing their money skills. Students also used statistics and probability in a variety of activities. "It was truly a team effort. All the 5th grade teachers collaborated to make the carnival a fun day for everyone! The students worked hard all year to master the 5th grade curriculum. The carnival is a fun way to test their knowledge!" agreed the teachers.

"We have to thank the parents, the community, and our staff for embracing the idea! The parents went above and beyond to make this carnival one of the most successful to date," said Arnold and Homan.





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## **The Poetry Bomb**

Sixth grade Language Arts students and poet Craig Czury gathered at the West Reading playground for a poetry recitation in front of the new mural.

This school-wide project involved all WREC students and the High School Public Art Workshop students in its creation and is the culmination of a poetry unit completed in 6th grade Language Arts classes. Inspiration for this work came from the term Yarn Bomb, a street art that employs colorful displays of knitted or crocheted yarn or fiber rather than paint or chalk. The subject matter for this work of art features a design made entirely of text. The design was made of plastic yarn (plarn)

and other weatherproof materials. The chain link fence acts as an armature to support the various materials used in the project. The text for the project was the result of a two-day residency by Berks County Poet Laureate Craig Czury which was sponsored by the Wyomissing Area Education Foundation. The various components for the project were created in both Language Arts and Art classes.

Installation volunteers included Destini Boyer, Kathy and Dennis Burkhardt, Erin Croft, Grace Fernandez, Stephanie Kotula, Ronald and Veronica Miller, Cindy Murdough, Flora Natalini, Tori Smith, and Johnny Taverez.



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Volunteer Dennis Burkhardt installs segments of plarn on the fence at the West Reading Playground.

#### 2014 Honorees

Joe Alcaro Kristin Allen Tony Alvarez Keith Arnold Matthew Babiarz **Crisanne Bansner** Cathy Barra Pete Beck Andrea Boerger **Dorothy Brandt** James Delp Meredith Emkey Frank Ferrandino Kelly Ferrandino Gwen Gibson Jim Hicks Mary Hollinger Christopher Kersikoski Joe Kollar Rob Kucharczuk Kim Lally Andrea Landrum Bobbi Lofgren Martin Mann Eric Miller Nathan Miller Curt Minich Joelle Ostrich **Colleen Paulson** Dana Quinlivan Nancy Robinson **Christopher Stanchek** Erin Tyrrell Michael Vecchio Laura Zamperini

Teaching is the one profession that creates all other professions. -Unknown

## **Spartan Impact Awards**

The first annual Spartan Impact Awards, held June 3, 2014, honored faculty and staff who were selected for having a significant impact on the life of a graduating senior.

According to Principal Corey Jones, members of the Class of 2014 nominated someone in the District who influenced their life more than anyone else during

their time as a student. These people were honored for using this power to educate, engage, inspire, and motivate the students to be responsible and successful young adults who are equipped to take on the future.

Following refreshments provided by the PTA, Alumni Committee and Food Service Department, and a chance for the nominees to

mingle with the students, Superintendent Julia Vicente welcomed everyone with opening remarks. The honorees were introduced and presented with a certificate. The qualities of the honorees that prompted their nominations were displayed on screen.

Mrs. Vicente said, "This is an evening these teachers will remember forever."

## Honoring Those Who Have Had an Impact





#### **Dorothy Brandt, WHEC ESL Teacher**

"Mrs. Brandt impacted my life in such a positive way. She gave me comfort, believed in me, and worked really hard with me to help me understand and speak English. Whenever I wanted to give up, she made me want to try harder. I honestly don't think I would have made it without her."

- Miriam Gaona



### Jim Hicks, Bus Driver

"Jim has done so much for me over the years. He says that he will stay with me until I graduate. Jim holds the umbrella for me. He sends post cards, pictures, and gifts while on vacation. He always makes the bus comfortable for me and the other students"

- Lexy Portner





"As my fourth grade reading teacher, Mrs. Robinson came to school everyday with a giant smile on her face and a cheerful attitude. Her soft-spoken words and kind-hearted personality gave me the confidence to read words I found difficult to pronounce and understand. She was instrumental in improving my reading skills."

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#### Kelly Ferrandino, 6th Grade Teacher

"Mrs. Ferrandino is kind and caring, and believes in my strong work ethic. Throughout the years she has always had a great interest in how I'm doing, whether it's academics or athletics. She is one of my biggest cheerleaders and always wants to see me succeed."

"My teacher and a field hockey coach. Mrs. Ferrandino, taught me to have faith and stay strong through difficult times. She was always there to support me and to remind me to love and enjoy whatever I am doing in my life. From Mrs. Ferrandino I know to have courage, strength, and to "believe in order to achieve'."

#### Joe Kollar, Chemistry Teacher

"I have been fortunate to have Mr. Kollar as my teacher for three years. In AP Chemistry, he devoted extra time to help us succeed on the exam and throughout the year. His care for and belief in his students has made a lasting impact on me and I truly appreciate his help and guidance."

- Lauren Bell

"Mr. Kollar's unassuming manner and straightforward teaching style had a subtle but definite impact on me. My decision to pursue engineering in college comes in part from my experiences in Mr. Kollar's class. His passion, understanding and ability to explain his subject transferred to me the desire to delve deeper into my study of chemical science."

- Lizzy Tonneslan

"Mr. Kollar pushed my classmates and me during my junior year. He strengthened my knowledge of chemistry and encouraged me to pursue a career within the field. After researching occupations within the field and scoring well on the AP Exam, I have decided to major in Chemistry at Lafavette College."

- Dan Sweitzer

-Caroline McMahon

- Devi Jagadesan



#### Nancy Robinson, WHEC Reading Specialist

- Lauren Hafer

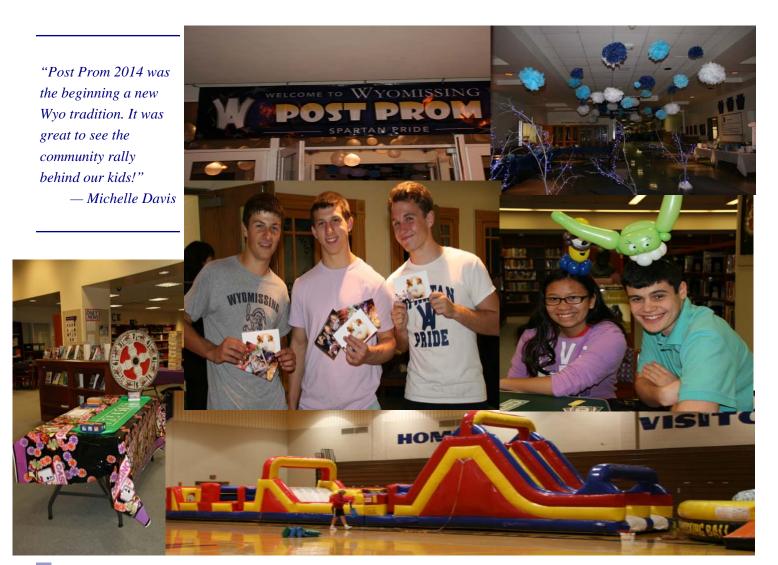


### Post-Prom Party Provides Safe Alternative for Notoriously Dangerous Night

Hoping to provide a safe haven for students during a notoriously dangerous night, the Post-Prom Committee transformed the Jr./ Sr. High School into an activityfilled arena. The gym, library, and hallways boasted games of chance, an inflatable slide and wrecking ball, bowling, pingpong, golf, volleyball, and basketball. Half-hourly cash prize drawings kept attendees interested and chaperones bleary-eyed into the wee hours of the morning.

Planning began in September as parents joined forces with Principal Corey Jones. The event, attended by 128 students was free and open to juniors and seniors and their dates regardless of whether they attended the prom.





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## **Post Prom's Generous Sponsors and Donors**

3rd and Spruce Café A Running Start Dave and Anne Ambarian Kurt and Carolyn Bamberger Stephen and Lisa Banco Craig and Karen Beach Bed, Bath & Beyond Berkshire Dental Assoc. Barrer & White Orthodontists Darice Bowman Family Peter and Lesa Butera Alyssa and Peter Carlino Chipotle Mexican Grill Citizens Social Committee of Wyomissing Hills Coca-Cola Refreshments Corps Fitness Michelle and Scott Davis Kim Debelle and J.P. Mitton Susan Denaro and John Cullen Domino's Pizza-West Lawn Bernard and Patricia Donahue Down Under Fitness Jeffrey and Lynn Driben Esterbrook Pharmacy LLC Firehouse Subs Fonte's Salon Fox Berkshire Fromuth Tennis Kelley and Jim Gallen Joe and Noel Garapola

David and Lisa Geyer John and Marsha Gleason David and Debbie Goldberg Thomas and Kathy Heck Christopher and Jean Heinly Scott and Angel Helm Kelly and Raj Jagadesan Jimmy Deo's Auto Sales, LC Mike and Cyndy Kuczala L & H Companies Michael and Kathy Magrane Mama's Pizza John and Kelly Masano Max Crema's Espresso & Coffee Bar Eric and Toula Miller Karen Moser and Jim Eschbach Brian and Donna Nugent Scott and Jill Painter Philly Pretzel Factory Steve and Loni Pottieger Redner's Markets, Inc. Jeff and Sandy Reese Dave and Louise Reynolds Rita's Water Ice—Sinking Spring Slick Willies Drew and Amy Rothermel Marty and Terri Stallone The Corner Shop The Water Guy

#### The Works

- William and Katherine Thornton
- Phillip and Nancy Tietbohl
- United Artists Salon
- Andrew and Laurie Waxler
- Bob and Robin Wertz
- The Whitmoyer Family
- Doug and Ann White
- Wyomissing Police Department
- Wyomissing PTA
- Greg Yelenoc

### Without the generous support of these donors, this event would not have been possible!

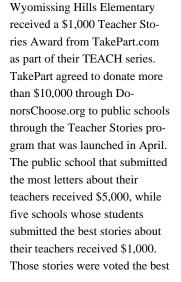






Stephanie Myers and Ava Olexy

"Ms. Myers has created a classroom that has emphasized more than just math, science, and good test scores. She has educated these students on the importance of community and celebrating differences. A curriculum that we should NEVER overlook"



based on originality, persuasiveness, creativity, and relevance.

Second Grade Teacher Honored

Second grade teacher Stephanie Myers was nominated by parent Stacy Olexy in a compelling letter describing how Myers has worked to include her daughter Ava, who has a form of nonverbal Autism, in her classroom. With the Olexys' permission, Myers explained to the other children that Ava is very bright and does communicate with them. Throughout the year Ava has become just part of the group and has developed many friendships, something Stacy feared would never happen.

Myers was excited to have Ava as a student because she had heard how adept she was with computers. She was working on curriculum that incorporated iPads into the classroom. In her letter of nomination, Olexy said, "If we can help Ms. Myers to gain more iPads to expand her curriculum and allow other students like Ava to feel their worth, I would feel as if I had taken a small step towards repaying her for her efforts."

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## Permanent Art Collection Addition

The walls in the District Office and Community Board Room are lined with original artwork created by students in the most advanced art classes at the high school. On display at the annual District Art Show in May are prized pieces of an artist's collection, some of which are available for purchase.

Superintendent Julia Vicente said the collection reminds her of the true talent of our students

and reflects the taste of the various Superintendents in what art pieces they choose each year. Her selection is an acrylic painting on wood by Andrew Long, Class of 2014. Long was recognized at a June Board meeting and presented with a check for the purchase of his work.

Vicente was delighted to select something very different from anything in the collection to date.

-Stacy Olexy



Stephanie Myers having story time with her second grade students.





"This piece is *exquisite and speaks to* my inner soul."

*— Julia Vicente* 

**Acrylic Painting** entitled Blah #2 by Andrew Long, Class of 2014

### Wyomissing Area School District

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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#### **Our Mission:**

The Wyomissing Area School District, in partnership with parents and community, is committed to:

- educate all students to their fullest potential
- provide all students with the opportunity to acquire the knowledge and skills to be successful in the 21st century
- encourage all students to be productive, responsible citizens and lifelong learners.

### Class of 2014, Where Do We Go From Here, cont'd.

Jeremiah Rosario Millersville University

Samantha Ross University of Pittsburgh

Jacob Rothfleisch Immaculata University

Adam Rumer Slippery Rock University

**Kyle Sands** Employment

Yashira Santos Employment

Jasie Schaeffer York Technical Institute

Maria Schwambach Duquesne University

Joseph Shollenberger Kutztown University

Tyler Simons Lincoln Technical Institute Sean Smith James Madison University

**Taylor Snyder** Temple University

Steven Spafford Employment

Wade Stallone Rochester Institute of Technology

**Daniel Sweitzer** Lafayette College

**Rebecca Tarullo** Duquesne University

Kristian Taylor Shippensburg University

**Elizabeth Tonneslan** University of Virginia

Natassja Torres Penn State University, Berks

Vincent Truehart Employment Samuel Turner The Citadel, Military College of SC

**Bryan Weber** DeSales University

**Katherine Weidner** University of Pittsburgh

Abigail Wells Syracuse University

**Caroline Whitmoyer** Pratt Institute

Brynn Young Kutztown University

Sabreena Youssef Alvernia University

**Najiba Zaidova** University of Pittsburgh

Yi Zeng Albright College