Darrin Berthelsen

Applied Science & Technology
Faculty Nominator
Sergio Calderon

Darrin is one of my most dedicated students. He has shown a quality that few students have nowadays, very focused on his goals and goes beyond the scope of the class to understand all material. Darrin comes in before class and also seeks information from the instructor to get a better understanding of the topic covered. He also is willing to help others with their work and formed study groups to help others stay current with all the chapters. Darrin is an example of an excellent student.

James A. Ward

Applied Science & Technology
Faculty Nominator
Sergio Calderon

James displays aptitude above and beyond that of regular students. He is always to class early, gets all his work done and motivates other fellow students to do well. Jim is always willing to help others without questioning the motive or the problem. I can always ask Jim to help out in the lab, and without hesitation he steps up to the plate to assist. All around, Jim has become an example for other students to follow and learn from.
John S. C. Thorpe
Applied Science & Technology
Faculty Nominator
Dan Carter

John Thorpe has been a pleasure to work with for the past two years as a student in the Caterpillar ThinkBIG program. John always comes to class with a smile on his face and a wealth of determination to learn. John consistently goes above and beyond to help his fellow students, to be respectful to each person in and out of the educational and work environment, and has an incredible work ethic. John never fails to ask the instructors what else he can do to help, not worrying about whether or not he will get extra credit. John will be sorely missed when he graduates, but all of the instructors in the ThinkBIG program are very confident that he will go into the workplace with strong skills and resolve to succeed in anything he does. I am very proud of John and sincerely support him as an outstanding student.

Omar B. Cervantes
Applied Science & Technology
Faculty Nominator
Roger Crawford

I have the privilege of having Mr. Cervantes in several of my classes. He is an outstanding student. He is always willing to participate in class discussions. He always has his assigned work done very neatly, organized, and completed on time. Omar always arrives to class early, always sits in the front row, and ready to get started. He is very friendly and has outstanding communication and time management skills. He is President of the Delta Engineers Club. Omar plans to pursue a career in Nuclear Engineering at Texas A. & M. University.
Chris McCarthy

Applied Science & Technology
Faculty Nominator
Roger Crawford

Chris is a very quiet and hard working student, however, he is always willing to help other students. He always has his assigned work done very neatly, organized, and completed on time. Chris always arrives to class early, always sits in the front row, ready to get started. He is very goal oriented. Mr. McCarthy plans to pursue a career in Mechanical Engineering at Cal-Poly San Luis Obispo.

Steven St. Pierre

Applied Science & Technology
Faculty Nominator
Roger Crawford

I have the privilege of having Mr. St. Pierre in several of my classes this semester. He is an outstanding student. He is able to work independently and willing to participate in class discussions. He always has his assigned work done very neatly, organized and completed on time. Steve always arrives to class early, always sits in the front row, ready to get started. He is very well liked by the other students. Steve has good math and communication skills. He is a very motivated student. Steve plans to pursue a degree in Mechanical Engineering at the University of the Pacific.
Ms. Vo is very quiet, very friendly, and polite. She always has a smile. No homework or test is too hard. She is willing to do whatever it takes to finish the assigned task. She is always neat and very complete in all of her work. She is a class leader. She is very motivated, honest and hard working. She is always willing to help her fellow students. She places education as one of her most important goals. She plans to pursue a degree in Civil Engineering at Cal-Poly San Luis Obispo.

Sam is a quiet, hard working student who has quietly built a 3.5 GPA and impressed all of his instructors with his abilities and attitude. We expect Sam to be very successful in his pursuit of an Engineering Technology degree.
Sarah E. Fino

**Applied Science & Technology**
**Faculty Nominator**
**Ben Howser**

Sarah is a returning student and mother of two who has excelled in all her engineering classes. She combines a tremendous work ethic with a sincere desire to truly understand the principles of the subject, traits that an instructor would like to see in every student. She intends to complete an AS in Engineering Technology and then find a job in the engineering field. All of her instructors are certain she will be successful.

Matthew Richardson

**Applied Science & Technology**
**Faculty Nominator**
**Ben Howser**

Matthew is well on his way towards his goal of transferring to San Jose State to receive a Bachelors degree in Mechanical Engineering. He impresses his instructors with his ability and willingness to think for himself and to question the reasoning underlying engineering design principles.
Judd A. Yap

Applied Science & Technology
Faculty Nominator
Ben Howser

Judd is a returning student with extensive industrial experience in the Philippines. He has maintained a 4.0 GPA in his two years at Delta College while taking a very rigorous schedule. Judd’s analytical and creative abilities are both superb. He finds inventive ways to solve problems and is not afraid to teach himself new technologies in the course of completing a project. He would be a valuable employee in any industry he chooses.

Mona Abdelfatah

Applied Science & Technology
Faculty Nominator
John Larson

Mona has her Bachelor’s Degree in Civil Engineering from UC San Diego and is attending Delta College to enhance her computer and drafting skills. Mona’s work ethic and academic ability put her at the top of her class. She is an outstanding person, a joy to have in class. Mona is a role model for our younger students and an asset to Delta College.
Drue Mendenhall

Applied Science & Technology
Faculty Nominator
John Larson

Drue is one of the top students in the second year of our Engineering Technology program. Drue has an extensive machine shop background that allows him to do outstanding design and fabrication drawings. Drue is not afraid to ask questions, he is anxious to fully understand all class material. Drue is employed by Quiet Ride Solutions here in Stockton.

Mario Patino

Applied Science & Technology
Faculty Nominator
John Larson

Mario is a reentry student. He brings a tremendous amount of real-world experience and maturity to our classes. Mario works hard and always pushes himself to do his best. Mario's performance consistently places him at the top of his class. Mario is also a husband and a father. He should be commended for the effort he is putting into his education.
Steven Pease is one of the top students in the second year of Delta's Engineering Technology program. Steven has extensive experience gained from automotive restoration and performance projects. Steven’s work is always at the top of the class. Steven was fortunate to be chosen for the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory Summer Internship Program and has been able to continue working at LLNL on a part-time basis.

Anthony Swope is one of our first year Engineering Technology students. Anthony sets high goals for himself and is willing to work hard to achieve those goals. Anthony’s performance consistently places him at the top of his class. Delta College is fortunate to have a student with Anthony’s ability and motivation.
Anthony has had the difficult decision to change careers. After having faced a personal catastrophic illness, he is back with a vengeance to take control over his life again. Coming from the corporate world, he has helped to raise the bar for the younger students. When immaturity slips in to the conversation, I have seen him smile with the mature knowledge of an adult. It is a delight having him in class to show by example how the corporate world works. He is forever willing to help when needed. His input during class discussion is invaluable.

Rosendo is one of my many mature students. The thing that sets him apart is his ability to tackle problems while they are small and not wait till they grow. He brings that kind of skill into the classroom and works diligently to complete the assignment. He has a high level of critical thinking that helps him troubleshoot problems and come up with solutions.
Michael A. Cervantes

**Applied Science & Technology**

**Faculty Nominator**

Mary Jo Zimmerman

When Michael first came to Delta College, he had many personal obstacles to overcome. In the past two years Michael has grown into a very fine young man. His horizon has been expanded to include many different colors. He is now looking at transferring to a four-year college. He has settled into adulthood and is ready to meet the world with his head held high.

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Michael Gomez

**Applied Science & Technology**

**Faculty Nominator**

Mary Jo Zimmerman

Michael is devoted to learning electricity and how it works. I have seen him do whatever it takes to understand wiring methods to the point of taking home extra projects to work on and study. Instead of giving up on difficult concepts, Michael has redoubled his efforts to understand and demonstrated determination to succeed. Michael is an example that makes teaching so delightful for me because it was wonderful to see the light bulb come on and the confidence grow as he worked through the wiring methods.
Felix Maurtua

Applied Science & Technology
Faculty Nominator
Mary Jo Zimmerman

Felix has had challenges that would have made it impossible for the average student to overcome. The negative influence that has tried to bring Felix down has spurred him forward to keep his eye on the goal. His determination to succeed is an inspiration for all of us more fortunate people. Felix is so willing to help other classmates and will spend time helping younger students understand electricity. His enthusiasm is contagious. Felix is now in the process of expanding his future opportunities by pursuing an AA degree.

Michelle McCloud

Applied Science & Technology
Faculty Nominator
Mary Jo Zimmerman

When I first met Michelle last semester she was very afraid of electricity and had no desire to become an electrician. In that time, Michelle has found in herself the confidence that she can do whatever she wants to do, including being an electrician. Michelle came into the program with the typical handicap that many women have. She was never exposed to the world of the Trades. She had no reference point to draw on. In the time that she has been in the Electrical Program her knowledge has grown to the point that she is helping other students. She has had to overcome trouble with her home life that has made learning and attending class difficult for her. She is determined not to let outside influences divert her attention from her goal. Watching her go from being scared of electricity to wiring switches and receptacles is a joy that brings a smile to me.
Ms. Imtiaz has been in two of my English classes: English 79 and English 1B, where she excels academically and as a role model for other students. Her very presence in my classroom is a ray of sunshine. English is not Ms. Imtiaz’ native language, but you’d never know this, because she works constantly and diligently to improve on her already fluent English language skills. I am also impressed by her painstaking, thorough, and effective study habits; her excellent attendance in class; and her goal to be an engineering major at a four-year university. Ms. Imtiaz not only maintains a very high GPA for herself, but she also effectively tutors, coaches, and encourages at least two family members (who also attend Delta) in their studies. I am sure that Ms. Imtiaz will achieve any goals she chooses for herself in life with this conscientious approach.

It has been a privilege to have Nadia in my classes. Nadia is a very dedicated student; she has excellent attendance, she submits her assignments in a timely manner, and she is also very attentive in class. Nadia has taken my English 1A class and did very well in this class. Currently, she is taking English 1D and is doing very well. She is also a very friendly person. In spite of her busy schedule, she is always willing to help her classmates. She treats everybody with respect, and you will never see a frown on her face. I have enjoyed working with Nadia.
Julio Cesar Cazares

English Language Arts
Faculty Nominator
Marcos Contreras

Julio Cazares is an intelligent and responsible young student. He is determined to succeed in his career and eager to learn new things every day. He is always on time and never misses class. He completes his assignments and excels in college work. He obtained his commercial driver's license and currently works as a truck driver and attends college in the evenings. He plans to learn diesel mechanics and air conditioning and heating systems. He is a great student and has the will and determination to succeed in his career.

Maria Del Carmen Hernandez

English Language Arts
Faculty Nominator
Marcos Contreras

Maria is an intelligent, hardworking student. She is also a dedicated mother who goes to work to support her three children and her disabled husband. After work she attends college to improve her skills to help her children with homework. She also wants to graduate from college with a nursing degree to get a more challenging and better paying job to help her family. Maria is an excellent student who is determined to achieve her career goals.
Mongsay Huor

English Language Arts  
Faculty Nominator  
Marcos Contreras

Mongsay is an accomplished student. He graduated and worked as a pharmacist in Cambodia until 2005 when he came to the U.S. He studied and received a Pharmacy Technician PTCB certificate and license here in 2007. He is currently attending Delta College to improve his English skills and work in his field. Mongsay is an excellent, dedicated, and determined student. He is working hard in his studies to help his family by getting a better job as a pharmacist.

Gulnaz Khan

English Language Arts  
Faculty Nominator  
Marcos Contreras

Gulnaz is an outstanding, young, intelligent student. She works diligently in all her college assignments with high determination and a positive attitude. She inspires her classmates with her initiative, kindness and support for others. She is a good role model for other students and a perfect candidate for her chosen nursing career.
Aaron Albino

English Language Arts
Faculty Nominator
Diane Oren

Persistently pensive ponderer, Aaron thoroughly examined each idea, theory, or concept presented from every possible angle. Aaron is the consummate thinker and every instructor’s ideal of a student.

Lincoln Todd Clapper

English Language Arts
Faculty Nominator
Diane Oren

Lincoln’s ability in the Critical Thinking Argumentation class evidenced in his excellent work and thought-provoking questioning. His ideas expressed in discussion and in writing provided opportunity to view various perspectives on an issue. He is a critical thinker who arrives at conclusions after careful examination of all evidence.
Nicole’s determination and talent earns her the outstanding student award. She studied and questioned throughout the semester, never letting a question go unanswered. Her curiosity and perception created new interesting avenues to pursue during class discussion.

Jaspreet met the challenges of English 1A with her motivation and determination. She was a dedicated student whose drive to know and learn will bring her many more academic honors in her future.
A naturally gifted thinker and communicator, Sayeda showed her talents in her approaches to class assignments and projects. Given challenges to meet her abilities, Sayeda will do great things as a 21st century woman.

Each and every paper, assignment, or project Steve submitted was a reflection of his astute awareness and intelligence. His expectations of himself show in his written and oral contributions to the class.
Julia Pasterski

English Language Arts
Faculty Nominator
Diane Oren

Julia was an excellent and gifted writer and a delightful student. She excelled in the work required for English 1A and consistently submitted outstanding work.

Kevin Rogers

English Language Arts
Faculty Nominator
Diane Oren

Kevin is a reentry student who excels as a student and as an athlete. He was a diligent and perceptive student whose work improved throughout the semester to the extent that he was one of the outstanding writers and thinkers in the class.
Wyndy Goforth

English Language Arts
Faculty Nominator
Pamela Pan

Wyndy is the kind of student who will go many extra miles to make her work the best effort. She is dedicated in everything that she does. Starting my class as a wonderful writer, she continues to make leaps and bounds in her writing. She is passionate about what she writes, and her insights are fun and enjoyable to listen to and read. I expect Wyndy to go far in her college career.

Lynette Halsted

English Language Arts
Faculty Nominator
Pamela Pan

Lynette is the kind of student that every instructor would appreciate. She is an advocate for student issues. While talented in arts and crafts, she is also a dedicated reader and writer. Due to her dedication and her strive to make herself a better reader and writer everyday, she made tremendous progress while she was in my class.
Sarha Tate

English Language Arts
Faculty Nominator
Pamela Pan

Sarha is an outstanding student in many ways. She is impeccable in her work, always striving to do her best in everything. She participates in class actively and is always able to provide us with illuminating ideas. She is a wonderful writer who is forever on the lookout to make her writing better. She is a treasure for any teacher to have.

Stacey Wadsworth

English Language Arts
Faculty Nominator
Pamela Pan

Stacey is a delight to have in a class. She is fun and dedicated. Her writing is rich with insights that she gained from her reading as well as life experiences. She is always in class punctually and participates wholeheartedly. Her high expectation of herself leads her to go far beyond requirements in her work. She is a joy to have in any class.
Angelica Esparza, a Phase III Puente Project member, has shown outstanding academic excellence and leadership skills. Angelica, as she is warmly called by her friends, informed me that she will transfer to California State University Fresno to pursue her Bachelor’s Degree. I believe that Angelica should be recognized at San Joaquin Delta College because she is a model student who is transferring after her second year. She has worked tenaciously to advance academically.

I first met Angelica in 2008 as she entered the Phase I Puente Project, and even then she showed great discipline and great enthusiasm. She proved to be an outstanding student in my English 79 course, so I know academically she excels. She is a student who an instructor never forgets because of her warm character, kind personality, and her hard work ethic. I believe she is a gifted, talented, and responsible individual who seeks out leadership roles and craves the challenges that a higher level institution can offer. Angelica received “A’s” in my English 79 and 1A course. Angelica Esparza is an outstanding student with a cumulative GPA of 3.03.

Some of Angelica’s recent accomplishments and achievements are the following:
• Fall 09-Spring 10 Secretary of The Puente Club.
• Fall 09 participant in Puente’s Nor-Cal Motivational Conference, UC Davis.
• Organized Dia de Los Muertos Altar, Delta College Fall 08.

Angelica continues to stay involved at Delta. I know she will transfer and achieve her academic goals. She is a young woman with focus, and she deserves to be awarded.

Martin Gonzalez, a student of mine in Phase III Puente Project, for the Academic Senate Outstanding Student Award. Martin is a student with tenacious work habits, and he represents the best in his Puente cohort. He participates in the Puente and LULAC Club, and he has been involved with the various activities and events including FASFA UOP financial aid Latino Day and cleaning the Delta near UOP. Martin has proven that he can accomplish anything he sets his mind to. I know he can achieve success and meet his goals at any institution in the United States. He has studied and worked tenaciously to advance academically. He presently holds a 3.76 GPA and plans to study medicine.

I first met Martin summer 2008 as a freshman in the EOPS Program. In the Fall 08 semester Martin enrolled in my English 79 course, so I have known Martin since the initial summer meeting, and he is a student who an instructor never forgets because of his intelligence, his confident personality, and his hard work ethic. I believe he is a gifted, talented, and responsible individual who seeks out leadership roles and craves the challenges of bettering himself. Martin received a “B” in my English 79 course, and an “A” in my Puente English 1A course. He now works for me as a Reader/Grader. Martin Gonzalez is an amazing student.

Some of Martin’s recent accomplishments and achievements are the following:
• Fall 07 the Puente Club Activity Rep.
• LULAC Club member.
• Plans to Transfer to UC Berkeley, Biology Major
• Organized Dia de Los Muertos, Delta College.

Martin continues to stay involved at Delta College while achieving his academic goals. I recommend Martin without reservations. He is a young man with a strong work ethic, and he deserves to be awarded.
Abel Ornelas is an outstanding Delta College and Puente Project student. From the start, I could see that Abel had goals to accomplish and had his eyes on achieving his AA degree and transferring to a four-year institution. In my English Puente Project Courses, he wrote exceptionally well and achieved an outstanding grade. Presently he is in my English 1B course where he is performing well. He is totally dedicated to his studies. As part of the Puente Project Leadership, Abel was recognized at the end of year ‘08 Puente Achievement Ceremony. His GPA is 3.55.

Abel became a Puente club member and immediately began volunteering for community events where he participated in helping the community on and off campus. Abel led the Puente Projects fundraising effort to travel to Fresno State to tour the campus and enjoy a Bulldog Football game. Abel faces many obstacles in his ascent in higher education, but I know Abel will complete his goals. His dream is to become a police officer, and he has taken the initiative to research institutions that offer advanced degrees in criminal justice. I know Abel, with his stellar focus on transferring to a four-year institution, will complete his mission.
Brigitte Robles

English Language Arts
Faculty Nominator
Pedro Ramirez

Brigitte Robles is an exceptional role model for young women on campus. She is a student in the Puente Project Phase III. In Puente Phase I and II, she achieved outstanding grades. Presently, she is planning to transfer to a four-year university where she will fulfill her educational dreams. Brigitte is maintaining a 3.23 GPA and has total dedication to her studies. She is a member of the Puente Project where she is involved in our local and campus community. She has participated in the 16th of September celebration, the Puente Latino Festival, and fundraiser events for the Puente Project. In the Fall of ’09, she enrolled in my Chicano Literature Class where she received top grades. I was impressed with her research skills and dedication to her readings. Brigitte is a student to watch on the Delta Campus. She continues to impress me with her involvement and dedication to her studies.

Lizeth Vazquez-Tellez

English Language Arts
Faculty Nominator
Pedro Ramirez

I have known Lizeth Vazquez since August 2008, and although it has been a short period of time, I feel I've known her for more than two years. She is a delightful student.

Lizeth took my English 79, 1A, and 35 Chicano Literature Course and did very well in all three English Courses. Lizeth always attended my courses regularly and on time. She made it a point to call whenever she was absent or would be late to class. She is a responsible student and was always conscientious of handing in her homework and completing all her assignments in a timely manner. She collaborated well with students in group work sessions. I have seen her interact and teach students English concepts that they can not grasp. Students hold her opinions in high regard. I too respect her comments in class. Lizeth is a student with high moral values which is a representation of a stellar upbringing, and she is a young mother with focus. Quietly she has maintained a 3.26 GPA.

In closing I would like to say that Lizeth is a model student and individual. She is a true example of young women with familial obstacles, but despite the odds, she is earning her education. Currently she has a full load of classes and is doing well. Through the Puente Project, she has participated in the ‘08 Nor Cal Motivational Conference, ‘08 Familia Day, Altar set up for Dia De Los Muertos, Puente/UOP mentor Breakfast at the UOP campus, Team Building Ropes Course (SUSD), and continues to participate in campus activities. I wholeheartedly recommend that Lizeth be awarded for her educational effort.
Gerald Michael Bejarin  
*English Language Arts*  
*Faculty Nominator*  
*Narcisa Tuliao*

There have been very few students who have crossed the threshold of my classroom doorway who are as diligent and conscientious as Gerald Bejarin. He was in my fall semester reading class (World Geography and Culture) and already has been placed in Level 2 after taking the Diagnostic Reading Placement (DRP) Test in December 2009. I found him again in my class this semester, Reading in Children’s Literature, and when I asked him why he has not taken a Level 2 Reading class, he responded that he wants to pursue a communications and reading career and therefore, wants to be fully adept in reading skills. His interest and determination to attain near perfection in reading are to be admired. He offers to his fellow students in class his ability to think critically and to give careful judgment to all the selections that I require to be read. He shows to those around him a full picture of a young man, one with a promising communication expertise. I give my full recommendation to Gerald Bejarin to be considered to receive an Outstanding Student Award.

Latifa Hamidi  
*English Language Arts*  
*Faculty Nominator*  
*Narcisa Tuliao*

Latifa is an immigrant from Afghanistan emerging as a strong leader! Latifa and her family escaped Afghanistan after her father disappeared. She and her family still don’t know whether he is alive or dead. They landed in Pakistan, took primary English there, then, through an arranged marriage, immigrated to the United States.

She consistently leads her classmates in my class during socialized recitation, collaboration, and discussion. She is a fast learner, and very studious. She doesn’t hesitate to ask questions, and improves her English communication skills by writing journals, summarizes all stories and essays she reads. Due to her perseverance, I believe that she should be recognized.
Jennifer Cadieux

Fine Arts & Communication
Faculty Nominators
Kendra Zaragoza & Leslie Asfour

Jennifer is a bright, energetic person and is very passionate about her future career and education in Interior Design. Jennifer is extremely detail oriented and takes great pride in her work. In addition to her high quality work as a student, she also has taken a lead role in starting the first Interior Design Club on the Delta College campus. From the first mutterings of starting a club, Jennifer has attended every meeting and event and taken it upon herself to give ideas and help organize. Jennifer already works in the Interior Design industry as an independent consultant and is planning on finishing her schooling at the university level where she will be very successful.

Malia Keating

Fine Arts & Communication
Faculty Nominators
Kendra Zaragoza & Leslie Asfour

Malia is meticulous in her work and an absolute perfectionist. She is very creative and organized, a combination not often found at this level of one’s education. She keeps her instructors on her toes with her detailed nature. She has the innate ability to see a need to find a way to get the job done. She is gracious in her spirit and dedicated to the excellence that will serve her will in her future endeavors.
Ceazar Cabreros

Fine Arts & Communication
Faculty Nominator
Leslie Asfour

Ceazar is one of the bright shining stars of the Fashion Program. He is participating in the Collection Design class and will be showing his collection at the show on May 8th. Ceazar is a brilliant designer, talented and original with an amazing eye for detail. He is focused on his academic goals and his future, which promises to be bright and successful. Ceazar’s talent puts him above his peers and his passion and energy pushes him to succeed. Ceazar is pursuing his AA and certificate in Apparel Design and plans to transfer to a fashion program in San Francisco or New York and pursue his design career in the industry. Ceazar is truly one of the most talented students that has passed through the program and possesses a true passion for creating, whether it be a gown, an illustration, or a website. He is proud of the work he creates and wants the world to someday know him as one of the great designers of his time.

Jessica Iniguez

Fine Arts & Communication
Faculty Nominator
Leslie Asfour

Jessica came to Delta’s Fashion Program after taking an ROP class in high school. She is completing her AA and certificate in Fashion Merchandising with excellence. She is a student who strives for personal and academic excellence and it shows in the quality of work she presents. When given a project, she is the student who goes above and beyond what is required. Her perfection is executed in the professionalism she exudes and the professionalism of her work. She never misses class, never misses a deadline, and maintains a positive attitude and a desire and hunger to learn. Jessica is motivated by the standards she sets for herself and a true desire to do well in her academic career and professional career.
Emily Wright

Fine Arts & Communication
Faculty Nominator
Leslie Asfour

Emily is currently pursuing her AA and certificates in both Apparel Design and Fashion Merchandising. She is participating in the Designers Collection Show, showcasing her collection. Emily is a perfectionist, detail oriented and consistent. Her desire to achieve shows in the quality of work she produces. She exemplifies academic excellence in her work and in her diligence to pursue a standard above other students. She is kind, conscientious, organized and involved in her own academic career. She seeks experiences and opportunities to learn and grow beyond the curriculum. She has a keen and creative eye, as well as a fine attention to detail. She is not easily intimidated by hard work, but sees it as a challenge and an opportunity to experience new things, develop to her full potential, and push herself to accomplish excellence.

Levi Nigel Xeon Walls

Fine Arts & Communication
Faculty Nominator
Matthew Baer

Levi Walls is one of the hardest working students that I have ever met. He has been playing the piano for over 10 years and has consistently demonstrated a desire to improve and hone his craft. I have had the privilege of being his teacher and have seen him make tremendous progress as a pianist. He practices consistently, arrives at his lessons prepared, and shows great promise as a musician. His work ethic is exemplary, and his desire to learn is genuine and refreshing. I heartily recommend Levi as an outstanding student.
Michael Harper

Fine Arts & Communication
Faculty Nominator
Scott Bowen

Michael Harper has sung bass in the Delta choirs for several years. His voice continues to improve every semester. He is a leader of his section and is admired by his peers. Michael is dedicated to the choirs in a way that is rarely matched – he is supportive, constructive, and motivated. I am pleased that Michael has been a part of the choral program.

Maribel Alvarez-Munoz

Fine Arts & Communication
Faculty Nominator
Scott Bowen

Maribel is a violin major who enrolled in the Delta choirs for fun. During her time in the choirs she has become an outstanding vocalist who has demonstrated a commitment to the choirs that is unsurpassed. Maribel also serves as choir Librarian, an arduous job that she accomplishes with aplomb.
William Stoner

Fine Arts & Communication
Faculty Nominator
Scott Bowen

William Stoner is the absolute leader of the tenor section in the Delta choirs, and he has been so since he set foot at Delta. He has developed as a singer and as a person and he is a delight to have in the program. He is perhaps one of the most artistically motivated choral students at Delta -- always striving for excellence.

Jennifer Young

Fine Arts & Communication
Faculty Nominator
Scott Bowen

Jennifer Young has demonstrated outstanding growth as a vocalist and is the leader of the soprano section. Her music reading ability is unsurpassed among Delta choral students of the past ten years. Jennifer is a delightful student who has a strong dedication to the choral art.
Luis R. Campos-Garcia

Fine Arts & Communication
Faculty Nominators
Mario Moreno & Gary Carlos

Through his actions, Luis has shown himself to be an exceptional student, organizer, and leader diligently working to achieve his academic goals and positively contributing to the Delta College community. He has contributed to student activities by serving as MEChA president and Art Club vice-president, helping to organize events such as Delta College Cinco De Mayo, bringing speakers, Aztec dancers, poets, and art onto campus. He brings to the attention of his peers issues such as funding for education, world hunger, human rights, and oppression both abroad and here in the U.S. Off campus, he has helped promote education by speaking with high school students who are struggling with ESL. He is a talented and committed artist and has won multiple awards at the annual Student Art Exhibition. In the fall of 2009, he was granted an AA degree with high honors and will attend San Francisco State University in 2010.

Jazzmine Parker

Fine Arts & Communication
Faculty Nominator
Joann Cataldo

Jazzmine Parker is a wonderful student, terrific worker, and a great person. She has successfully navigated over and around numerous obstacles in her path in order to pursue her educational and career goals. Though she has faced severe trauma in her life, she landed firmly on her feet. Jazzmine took Interpersonal Communication from me and is currently enrolled in a Public Speaking class I teach. While a bit shy at first, Jazzmine clearly feels comfortable in the public speaking class where she has taken a leadership role in her group. Additionally, her speeches reflect excellent research and critical thinking skills, her organization is spot on, and her delivery is excellent. Jazzmine plans to transfer to a small university in the South or to a CSU where she will complete a Masters in Psychology, and her career goal is to become an adolescent psychologist.

Jazzmine also supports herself through working as a student reader. She is a quick study, and I appreciate her sense of responsibility. She also works for another instructor, and though she lives on her own, she maintains a solid grade point average. Jazzmine has self-determination.

Jazzmine truly is a strong woman. She has a solid sense of herself and what she wants, and she has the brainpower and drive to take her life in a positive direction. I really admire Jazzmine Parker!
Chelsea Castaneto

Fine Arts & Communication
Faculty Nominator
Valerie Gnassounou

Chelsea Castaneto is an incredibly talented young lady in the area of dance and more, who is embracing life with open arms and a big smile. Her love for the art of dance is carried through her natural aptitude, enthusiasm and dedication.

For the past year, she has assumed the leadership role as President, production manager, and captain of Stockton Delta Dance Company, on top of her regular school load. She has been up to the challenge and has shined in every area. She has gained trust and respect from her peers and has become a source of inspiration.

Brianna Allen

Fine Arts & Communication
Faculty Nominator
Steven Graham

Debater, interper, leader---a very small percentage of our student population can take ownership to such a list of talents. Brianna Allen can make the claim. I have known Brianna for two years as her speech instructor and speech coach. During this time I have had the opportunity to observe her development into a very special student and human being.

It is hard to imagine a student being able to compete in multiple speech and debate events at the national level, especially events that demand detail and attention. Brianna has had success in events that are on the opposite sides of the spectrum in speech and debate; parliamentary debate and oral interpretation of literature. Her debating skills have improved so much that her opponents refer to her as the pit bull, her oral interpretation performances have brought audience members to tears, and in between all of her success she is busy helping other students improve their speech events. Her energy and enthusiasm have earned her respect from faculty, advisors and counterparts. It would be quite an understatement to say that Brianna has indeed made sacrifices to better herself and her speech community.
Kayla Bongay

Fine Arts & Communication

Faculty Nominator

Steven Graham

Kacie Montandon-Ellis

Fine Arts & Communication

Faculty Nominator

Steven Graham

Kayla Bongay is a very gifted student and a very gracious individual. I take great pleasure in recommending her for an Outstanding Student award. I am Kayla’s instructor in Interpersonal Communication and Argumentation and Debate this semester and I have yet to see Kayla without a smile on her face. Communication Studies courses require a lot of interaction between the students and I have noticed her ability to connect with individuals that are much different from herself. Kayla is a special young lady with a special talent for bringing warmth and thoughtfulness to any school activity. Kayla is the kind of student that makes teaching so rewarding and enjoyable. She believes any undertaking is to be given her utmost in seriousness, energy, and accountability. In addition to her determination to excel, Kayla has a gentle and kind manner with people she interacts with in school, home, and the public. She is of the quality Delta College is proud to claim as a student.

“Implies resolute and unyielding holding on, in following a course of action in spite of difficulties; steadfast and long continued application” (American College Dictionary). When I think of a characteristic that aptly describes Kacie Montandon-Ellis, the word, perseverance, comes to mind. Kacie has consistently displayed the self-determination required to become successful in school. Although I have only been Kacie’s instructor for this semester, I have observed a work ethic and commitment to excellence that has earned Kacie the respect of myself and virtually all her peers. Kacie’s GPA of 3.33 are manifestations of her dedication to school work. Kacie’s strengths rest not only in grades but also in accomplishments outside the classroom. Measurement of character, for the most part, does not appear on a report card. She continues to devote hours of free time to volunteer activities such as the Rotary Club, fundraising for Red Bluff High School, and Dr. Moon Dental Office. This is not a young lady “labeled” as a library hermit--her enthusiasm, diligence and earnestness add a touch of enjoyment to every activity she is involved with. I truly respect her dedication to better herself. I believe Kacie symbolizes the strength and virtue that is lacking in many of our young adults today.
Monique Jones

Fine Arts & Communication
Faculty Nominator
Steven Graham

Monique Jones (MoJo) is a gifted member of the Speech and Debate Team. MoJo joined the speech team this past fall and in a short period of time, with a lot of hard work, she has become one of the premier oral interpretation speakers in Northern California. She started the fall semester as the Top Novice for Poetry and soon entered open level competition where she placed 2nd at UOP in Poetry and 5th place in Prose at the Northern California Speech Championships.

Not only is MoJo a gifted speaker; she is active in the Stockton community. Over the past three years she has volunteered at numerous organizations. She served as a facilitator in “With Our Words,” whose focus is promoting literacy through spoken word. She is a founding member of Empowering Young Voices (EYV), a grassroots organization in Stockton that inspires youth to be active in community, political awareness, creative and entrepreneurial ventures. She has also been a key organizer for the Youth Explosion element of the annual Stockton Black Family Day celebration, putting together workshops, panel discussions and the performing arts stage. While at Delta College, she has been involved with the AFFIRM program, whose goal is to increase the retention, degree and transfer rates of African American students at SJDC.

I believe she’s going to continue to make a big difference in our community.

Jemaline Agpalza

Fine Arts & Communication
Faculty Nominator
Art Holton

Jemaline has been an outstanding Clarinet Major for the past two years. She is an outstanding student and has been 100% reliable and responsible. She has been a member of Symphonic Band and Wind Ensemble all two years. She has also been a member of Jazz Band and Chamber Ensemble.
Jeannine Della Bona

Fine Arts & Communication
Faculty Nominator
Art Holton

Jeannine is an outstanding Saxophone Major. She has been a member of Symphonic Band, Wind Ensemble, Jazz Band, Saxophone Choir and Saxophone Quartet for all two years. She has been a reliable and responsible student for all her time at Delta.

Carolina R. Hernandez

Fine Arts & Communication
Faculty Nominator
Art Holton

Carolina is an outstanding Percussion Major and an outstanding young lady. She is an extremely hard worker, she is also very responsible and can be relied on to take care of all her responsibilities and more. She has also been a member of Symphonic Band, Wind Ensemble, and Chamber groups for three years.
Rafael Luna

Fine Arts & Communication
Faculty Nominator
Art Holton

Rafael is a flute major. One of the most talented and hard working students in my 36 years of teaching. An outstanding jazz and classical musician. He has been a member of Symphonic Band, Wind Ensemble, Jazz Band and Chamber Ensembles during all his time at Delta.

Micaela A. Rayray

Fine Arts & Communication
Faculty Nominator
Art Holton

Micaela is an outstanding Clarinet Major and music student. She is an extremely hard worker. She is also a wonderful person and very reliable and responsible. She has been a member of Symphonic Band, Wind Ensemble, Jazz Band and Chamber Ensembles during her time at Delta.
Christopher Mackey

Fine Arts & Communication
Faculty Nominators
Art Holton & Seija Anderson

An outstanding voice major for the past three years. He is a hard working and talented young man. He also has a gifted voice that should take him far as a performer. Art Holton

The words “outstanding, first rate, well prepared, we were all very impressed,” were comments by the voice Faculty at both UOP and CSU Sacramento, when Chris sang for his audition to transfer next semester. I second all that they said. He is also looked up to by his peers, not only as a vocalist, but also with music theory, and he’s mature for his age, yet easy to get along with. Because of his diligence, Chris Mackey will find success to be his companion for life. It’s a true pleasure to work with him. Seija Anderson

Jinx Staniec

Fine Arts & Communication
Faculty Nominators
Bonnie Ruth Scott & Melanie Marshall

Jinx Staniec is a remarkable student. She takes advantage of opportunities and actively participates in the pursuits of graphic arts. Jinx takes the time to give help and support to other graphic design students. She also demonstrates a remarkable attitude as a helpmeet to the graphics’ teachers and in creating graphic designs for others on campus.
Luke R. Creasman
Fine Arts & Communication
Faculty Nominator
Terry Petersen

Luke has a near perfect 3.9 GPA and is currently in his first semester of the Delta College Nursing Program. Additionally, he is a member of the National Student Nurse Association.

Luke was a member of the Delta College speech team last semester. He participated in four tournaments and made it to the final round each time, which is a remarkable achievement. Luke took first place in Informative Speaking and second place in Prose Interpretation at Diablo Valley College competing in his very first tournament. At the University of the Pacific Paul Winters Invitational he took second place in Prose Interpretation and third place in Informative Speaking. Luke also garnered two trophies at the Fall Championship tournament at CSU, Long Beach taking second place in Informative Speaking and a finalist award in Prose Interpretation. He was also a finalist in Prose Interpretation at the Sacramento City College Donna Sparks Invitational speech tournament.

Luke also has extensive experience with volunteering. He offers free group tutoring to students enrolled in Delta chemistry classes. Each week he serves as a volunteer with Helping Hands Ministry and serves dinners to the homeless. He leads a college men’s Christian group on Monday nights for his church and also leads a prayer meeting each Wednesday night. Luke does all of this while going to school full-time and working two separate jobs. He is a chemistry lab aid at Delta and also works at Astoria Gardens Assisted Living Community in Tracy.

Clearly Luke is an exceptional candidate for the Outstanding Student Award based on his academic success, forensics accomplishments, and volunteer experience.

Genalin Vega
Fine Arts & Communication
Faculty Nominator
Terry Petersen

Genalin has completed four of my communication studies courses and earned an “A” in each class. She completed my intercultural communication course, my public speaking course, the forensics class, and my oral interpretation of literature course and easily earned an “A” in each class. As evidence of her exceptional communication skills she took third place in oral interpretation of literature at her very first speech tournament. Genalin has a near perfect 3.8 GPA.

Genalin is a member of the 2009/2010 Delta College speech team. She has participated in five separate tournaments to date and has made it to the final round at every tournament which is a remarkable achievement. Genalin took second place in Persuasive Speaking at the 2009 University of the Pacific Paul Winters Invitational; third place in Dramatic Interpretation of Literature at the San Joaquin Delta College Mustang Invitational; and fifth place in Persuasive Speaking at the Sacramento City College Donna Sparks Invitational speech tournament. In January, Genalin attended the 2010 Talk Hawk Invitational speech tournament at Las Positas College where she took third place in Impromptu Speaking and was a finalist in Informative Speaking. Most recently she competed at the Northern California championship tournament at Modesto Junior College and took first place in Persuasive Speaking and second place in Informative Speaking.

Clearly Genalin is an exceptional candidate for the outstanding student award based on her education, forensics success, and work experience. She has been, and continues to be, a valuable addition to the Delta forensics team.
Felicia Delgado, otherwise known as Fia Fiasco, is a name to remember. Ms. Fiasco is a very talented broadcaster who is the star of her very own internet television show - Average Jane with Fia Fiasco. Besides being an internet TV star, she is the Delta Internet TV (DiTV) Station Manager.

For the past couple years, while a member of the Delta College Radio-Television (RTV) program, Fia has received awards and recognition for her outstanding on-air and video production work. The award winning Fia, utilizes her excellent on-air and behind the scenes production knowledge to serve as a mentor and tutor to students that need help honoring their moviemaking skills. The years of experience Fia has accumulated while a member of the Delta RTV program, as well as her ongoing dedication to helping her fellow Delta RTV students, has more than made her worthy of receiving the Outstanding Student award.

Due to Fia’s outstanding character, enthusiastic dedication, and passionate commitment to producing outstanding television and movie productions, these are some of the main reasons why Fia has the potential to be a very successful professional media producer. As an RTV student, Fia’s positive and thoughtful manner, has endured her to the people that make up the RTV program. I predict that Fia Fiasco (Felicia Delgado) is someone that Delta College will always be proud to claim as a Delta College graduate. Congratulations, Fia, for being acknowledged for the outstanding student that you are and thank you for helping make the Delta College RTV program a special place to work and learn.

Peter Dacho Sarun Peang
Fine Arts & Communication
Faculty Nominator
William Story

Peter Peang has already successfully earned an A. A. Degree from San Joaquin Delta College. He returned to Delta to work on a Certificate in Media Studies with a Concentration in Television, a Certificate in Media Studies with a Concentration in Radio and to pursue the knowledge necessary to begin his multimedia-broadcasting career. While a Delta College Radio-Television student, Peter eagerly accepted the monumental task of bringing the audio/recording/radio students and the video/TV/film students together by serving as the RTV and F(ilm) Club President.

Peter has received awards and recognition for his outstanding radio, video and leadership work. He utilizes his exceptional on-air and behind the scenes production knowledge to serve as a mentor and tutor to many up-and-coming RTV students. As well, he tutors and mentors RTV Club members that need help honing their Mediafest skills. The years of experience Peter has accumulated while a member of the Delta RTV program, as well as his ongoing dedication to helping his fellow Delta RTV students, has more than made him worthy of receiving Outstanding Student award.

Due to Peter’s outstanding character, enthusiastic dedication, and passionate commitment to producing outstanding RTV productions, as well as organizing and presenting quality RTV & F club events and activities, these are some of the main reasons why Peter has the potential to be a very successful media professional. As an RTV student, Peter’s positive and thoughtful manner, has endured him to the people that make up the RTV program. Congratulations, Peter, for being acknowledged for the outstanding student that you are and thank you for helping to make the Delta College RTV program a special place to work and learn.
Lowell Tuckerman, otherwise known as – The Sports Animal, is a name to remember. The Sports Animal is a very talented broadcaster who stars on his very own Internet radio show – The Sports Animal featuring Lowell Tuckerman. Besides being an Internet radio show star, he is one of the Internet Delta Power FM 89.5 radio station managers. When he is not appearing on and helping with the operation of the radio station he is working hard as a member of the Podcast Stockton broadcast team. Podcast Stockton is a podcast all about living and working in Stockton. Matt Beckwith and Rod Villagomez host the podcast. The sports portion of the broadcast features the voice of Stockton Sports – Lowell Tuckerman. Lowell has made regular guests out of local prominent sports figures and authorities as well as bay area sports writers and professional athletes.

For the past couple of years, while a member of the Delta College Radio-Television (RTV) program, Lowell has received awards and recognition for his outstanding on-air and audio production work. The award winning Lowell, utilizes his excellent on-air and behind the scenes production knowledge to serve as a mentor and tutor to many up-and-coming Internet radio station broadcasters. He tutors and mentors new audio-radio students that need help honing their sports talk show skills. The years of experience and ongoing dedication to helping his fellow Delta RTV students, has more than made Lowell worthy of receiving the Outstanding Student award.

I predict that The Sports Animal (Lowell Tuckerman) is someone that Delta College will always be proud to claim as a Delta College graduate. Congratulations, Lowell, for being acknowledged for the outstanding student that you are and thank you for helping to make the Delta College RTV program a special place to work and learn.

Tha K. Sandlin
Health Sciences
Faculty Nominator
Mary Neville

Tha Sandlin is a very conscientious and dedicated nursing student. She has overcome personal and educational challenges to complete the ADN program. She will make an excellent nurse and I am certain that she will apply the same dedication to her career that she has to her studies.
Phil has been involved in the Student Nurse’s Association since his first semester. In his last two semesters, Phil served as Treasurer/President-elect and currently is the President of the Student Nursing Association.

His leadership in our organization has been amazing. He is a role model for his peers as well as those entering the nursing program. He also tutors through the Student Success Program and attends as many faculty meetings while maintaining academic excellence.

I highly recommend Phil as a Spring 2010 outstanding student. He will represent Delta well once he graduates.

Ana Hernandez

I have had the pleasure of having Phillip in the 1st semester of the ADN program. He has always been motivated to learn as much as possible to deliver competent care to his clients. He has served as a resource for fellow nursing students, always having a positive attitude. He has continued to be a leader each semester -- now serving as President of the Student Nurse’s Association.

Cheryl Wells

Deanna is a returning student with a renewed energy and updated educational and career goals in Registered Nursing. She is one of the most hardworking students I have ever worked with as well as a mature leader in my Learning Community LIBRY 1.

A talented and motivated student as well as a perfectionist, Deanna sets a great example for her fellow classmates as well as all who are interested in continuing education to prepare for a career change. It is simply a pleasure to have her as a student.

Jun Wang
Diolinda Asuncion-Gushea

Library Services
Faculty Nominator
Jun Wang

Diolinda is a returning student with a thirst for knowledge. She is extremely hardworking and dedicated to her study, striving for perfection and a complete understanding of the subject matter she encounters. She is like a dry sponge, eager to absorb new knowledge and information and happily to put them to practice.

Not only have I had the opportunity to work with her in all three of my library science classes, I also have the pleasure of having her as my student assistant. She does a great job in everything she is assigned to and is a pleasure to work with. With her desire and dedication to her work and study, I have no doubt that she is going to succeed in her college education and to reach her career goal as a law librarian.

In addition to her study and work at Delta College, Diolinda also shares her artistic talent with the community, singing at group or fund-raising activities and at the 2010 Chinese New Year Festival Performance in Stockton.

Jose Herrera

Library Services
Faculty Nominator
Jun Wang

Jose was born in Mexico and immigrated into the United States with his family when he was 11 years old. With the help of the ESL program that he so valued in grade school, Jose had quickly caught up on his English by the time he was in high school. Upon his graduation from Lincoln High School, Jose continued his education at Delta College, exploring his major and career choices.

I have had the experience of working with Jose in two of my library courses. He struck me as a student with self-discipline, a strong motivation to learn, and an urge of striving for perfection. I am thrilled to hear that Jose has finally found a career of interest -- to be a Librarian or a Library Technician. He is determined to accomplish his educational and career goals. Best wishes, Jose!
Mickey Lee

Library Services
Faculty Nominator
Jun Wang

Mickey is an intelligent young man with proper manners, a sense of personal responsibility, as well as a desire to help others. He accredited all of these qualities to his family and Keystone Dreamers, the Boys and Girls Club in Manteca. They have strongly influenced and shaped him to who he is today. He has been a longtime member and the past President of the club and has received numerous awards, including Sportsmanship of the Year in 2005 and Youth of the Year in 2009.

Mickey became a Delta student last semester. One of the first set of classes he took was my self-paced LIBRY 1. It did not take me or other library staff long to recognize that we had a very serious, good mannered, and hardworking student who was eager to do his best in his study. He was a perfectionist and one of the first students to have successfully completed the course and immediately applied his research and information literacy skills to his study and research projects from other classes.

Myisha Lewis

Library Services
Faculty Nominator
Jun Wang

Myisha is a returning student with tremendous courage and an unwavering determination to accomplish her educational goals at Delta College despite her severe challenge of physical disability.

She was an inspiration to her fellow classmates, taking the lead to complete her self-paced LIBRY 1 class with pride and style. Her quality work and application of research and information literacy skill were evident in every piece of her hands-on assignments, and her efforts and accomplishment deserved to be recognized and commended.
Growing up in a military family, Kasandra had the experience of living in many places, including the Bay Area and Manteca. Upon graduation from East Union High School in Manteca in 2009, Kasandra began her college education at Delta College with a plan of transferring to U.C. Davis thereafter to complete her double degrees in Veterinary Medicine and Theater. One of the first courses she took at Delta College was my self-paced LIBRY 1. She was one of the most hardworking students I had ever seen, often working for extended hours in the library till she had mastered every new concept or learned to effectively use a new research tool. She was a dedicated and passionate student with intelligence and self-discipline and a student who has the potential for reaching her educational and career goals.

Andrea L. Newman
Library Services
Faculty Nominator
Jun Wang

Andrea is a returning student, working toward her RN A5 degree from Delta College. I had the pleasure of working with her in my LIBRY 3 online class. She struck me as a student with a thirst for knowledge and the warm heart of a nurturing mother toward her fellow students. Not only had she brought her quality work and enthusiasm to my LIBRY 3 online class, she had also provided her motherly encouragement to her fellow classmates. Her excitement of learning research and information literacy skills was contagious!

In addition to being a hardworking student who has tried to do her best to accomplish her educational and career goals, Andrea also enjoys being a Girl Scout leader, a soccer coach, a basketball coach, and a Sunday school teacher. She is a role model not only for her children but also for her fellow students.
Toni is a highly self-motivated student with excellent time-management skills and a dedication to her work and study. She always strives for perfection in her study and was notably excited to learn new information and technology in my LIBRY 1 class.

She has taken every opportunity to share what she has learned and discovered from my class with her classmates, friends, and family. She is a great role model for our students and her children.

Glen is a returning student with a thirst for knowledge. I have had the pleasure of working with Glen in a Learning Community LIBRY 1 class as well as in my online LIBRY 3 class.

In both classes, Glen stood out as a student with intelligence, diligence, and good time management skills. He had a sense of responsibility as well as a purpose to study at Delta College and was hardworking and determined to accomplish his educational goals at Delta College to prepare for a new career.

Glen possesses the intelligence, courage, and unyielding determination to reach his educational and career goals, and he deserves to be recognized.
Thomas Yee

Library Services
Faculty Nominator
Jun Wang

Thomas is one of the most competent and, yet, modest students in my Learning Community LIBRY 1 class. He always sets a high standard for himself and strives for perfection in his work. A young man with a rare maturity and strong self-discipline, he sets a high bar of academic performance for his classmates and influences his peers in his unique, sagacious way.