

MARICOPA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SCHOLARS RECOGNIZED AS 2019 ALL-ARIZONA ACADEMIC TEAM

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DASI DANZIG/ MARICOPA COMMUNITY COLLEGES

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Twenty-six of Arizona’s highest achieving Maricopa County Community College District (MCCCD) students will be honored at a special 2019 Phi Theta Kappa All-Arizona Academic Team Recognition Ceremony on February 27, 2019, at the East Valley Institute of Technology.

“It is a great honor to recognize these 26 outstanding students for their hard work,” said Dr. Maria Harper-Marinick, MCCCD Chancellor. “We



are equally proud and thankful for the efforts of our talented faculty who work tirelessly to provide our students with quality instruction. The Maricopa Community Colleges aim to connect students with the tools necessary for academic success and to ensure that our District continues to serve as an engine of economic vitality for our diverse population of college students and our community.”

The All-Arizona Academic Team program was introduced as a way to provide academic recognition to Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) members while promoting excellence at two-year colleges.

This year’s honorees represent all 10 of the Maricopa Community Colleges and include students pursuing a variety of degrees and careers, including biomedical engineering, nuclear medicine, public health, electrical engineering, education, psychology, biology, public service and public policy. All honorees are pursuing bachelor’s degrees in their selected field, and several intend to pursue graduate degrees.

All-Arizona Team members are selected for their demonstration of academic excellence and intellectual rigor, leadership and service, and for their commitment to extending their education beyond the classroom to benefit society. Each student is working toward an associate degree and maintains a GPA of 3.5 or higher (4.0 scale).

At the All-Arizona Academic Team Recognition ceremony, students will be joined by community college presidents, administrators, trustees, Arizona state legislators, Phi Theta Kappa advisors and representatives from major universities in Arizona.

Phi Theta Kappa President and Chief Executive Officer Dr. Lynn Tincher-Ladner and Dr. Colleen Smith, president of Coconino Community College, will address attendees prior to the ceremony, which will be emceed by Grant Woods, attorney at law and former Arizona attorney general.

Dr. Larry Penley, chair-elect of the Arizona Board of Regents, is the guest speaker and will bestow tuition waivers on honorees during the ceremony.

Central Arizona College alumnus and prior PTK member, Nathaniel

Bush, is the keynote speaker. Bush is one semester away from earning his Master of Social Work from Arizona State University where he earned a Bachelor of Social Work.

First Team members each receive a \$1,000 scholarship, Second Team members a \$750 scholarship and Third Team members a \$500 scholarship.

All-Arizona Academic Team members are eligible to be selected as one of 20 to be named to the All-USA Community College Academic Team, receiving an additional \$5,000 scholarship, medallion, obelisk and a certificate during the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC) Annual Convention, April 13 -16 in Orlando, Florida.

Maricopa County Community Colleges 2019 All-Arizona Academic Team

From Chandler-Gilbert Community College, Arvin Arasteh, Janet Armour, Brooke Sherman and Bao Quoc Le.

From Estrella Mountain Community College, Bill Nkunzumwami, and Linda Veronica Rodriguez.

From Gateway Community College, Sara Simpson and Renea Wolfrum.

From Glendale Community College, Samantha Barr, Justin Bennett, Ashley Mazariegos and Noel Rojas.

From Mesa Community College, Christopher Hunt, Victoria Johnston, Racheal S. Mangini and Zachary Zapata.

From Paradise Valley Community College, Josephine Emch and Hannah Willes.

From Phoenix College, Brenton Chase and Erasmo Pablo Rocha.

From Rio Salado College, Karen Bradley and Andrea Martinez.

From Scottsdale Community College, Eliana Gomez Rodriguez and Ashley Howell.

From South Mountain Community College, Katie Alcazar and Ainsley Chapman.

More information on all 26 students from the Maricopa County Community College District named to All-Arizona Academic Teams is available here.

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