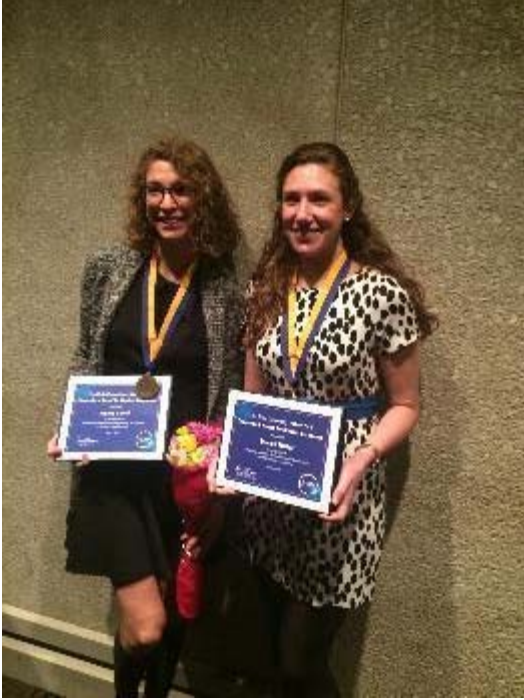


Two graduating seniors awarded SUNY Chancellor's Award for Student Excellence

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Alfred University (AU) seniors Joanna Carroll and Dianne Mattar are recipients of the State University of New York (SUNY) Chancellor's Award for Student Excellence. They were among 256 students from across the SUNY system to receive the award, in Albany, earlier this spring from Chancellor Nancy Zimpher.

Both Carroll and Mattar are students within AU's College of Ceramics, a unit of the SUNY system, making them eligible for the awards.

The Chancellor's Award for Student Excellence was created in 1997 to recognize students who have best demonstrated, and have been recognized for, the integration of academic excellence with accomplishments in the areas of leadership, athletics, community service, creative and performing arts, campus involvement, or career achievement.

Carroll, an art and design major in the School of Art and Design from Rochester, is "one of the most distinguished students I have had during my four-year tenure at the College of Ceramics at Alfred University," wrote Kate Dimitrova, assistant professor of art history, in her recommendation letter. "She stood out to me because of her intelligence, enthusiasm, dedication, and overall wonderfulness as a human being."

As co-director of AU's Robert C. Turner Gallery, she served as an administrator and project manager, constructing the gallery website, advancing accessibility to events and opportunities provided to the public, and establishing an online exhibition application. She also served as a Gallery Officer for two years, during which she helped to foster a sense of community by having all events open to students, faculty, staff, and the surrounding Alfred community.

She is president of the Art History Club, founded and led an executive board to uphold the club's mission statement and identity, and organized field trips to Rochester, Corning Pittsburgh, and Philadelphia.

In the spirit of entrepreneurship, Carroll founded Vidre Vintage, an Etsy-based shop that rescues vintage apparel which otherwise might be discarded. In addition to managing Facebook and Twitter pages to promote the shop, she photographs and edits the listings on the website and communicates directly with buyers about transactions.

In her studies, Carroll has shown drive by exhibiting her works in numerous shows, including the Woodcut Show at

the Robert C. Turner Gallery and an International Group Exhibition at the Santa Reparata International School of Art in Florence, Italy.

Mattar, a ceramic engineering major in the Kazuo Inamori School of Engineering from East Amherst, is the recipient of numerous on-campus awards, including the 2012 Scholes Scholar Award, presented annually to the student enrolled in biomedical materials engineering science, ceramic engineering, glass science engineering, or materials science engineering, who has the highest grade-point average at the end of his or her first year.

She also received the AU Outstanding CEMS (Chemical Engineering and Materials Science) Junior Award in 2013, given by the faculty of the Inamori School of Engineering for academic achievement, leadership, and service to the school.

As a May 2013 graduate of both the Women&s Leadership Academy and Gary Horowitz Leadership Development Program, she created a mentoring program for female college students in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) fields.

Mattar has also been an active campus member serving as president of the AU Ski Club, an Orientation Guide, an Engineering Tour Guide, and organizer of a booth at the annual Hot Dog Day charitable fund-raiser.

As captain of the AU Varsity Ski Team, she has planned several fundraising efforts and is working to create a guide for fundraising and recruiting for the next captain to make the team more sustainable.