



PRESS RELEASE

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FURTHER INFORMATION:

STACY ARMSTRONG (626) 857-4082

Citrus College Honor Society Receives Multiple Commendations

Glendora, CA - Several impressive national and regional recognitions were recently presented to members of the Citrus College Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) honor society.

This spring, the students who compose the college's Beta Nu Eta chapter of PTK were notified that they had received four national awards.

"Phi Theta Kappa is considered one of the most prestigious two-year college honor societies in the United States. Every year, dozens of chapters compete for regional honors and hundreds compete for national honors," said Brian Waddington, Citrus College history instructor and PTK advisor. "It is fairly competitive to win some of these awards. In fact, our chapter was one of only a few other colleges in the western states to receive national recognition."

The PTK students learned that their chapter had been named one of the Top 100 Chapters in the nation. They were also notified that they had received a Distinguished Chapter Award, a Distinguished Honors in Action Award, and had been named a Five Star Chapter, the organization's highest ranking.

In addition, Citrus College student Nicole Wassef received an award for being part of a Distinguished Regional Officer Team.

"It is incredibly impressive that the members of Beta Nu Eta received so many national awards. Achieving this level of success requires dedication and hard work. It is also dependent upon the support of committed faculty and staff," said Dr. Geraldine M. Perri, superintendent/president of Citrus College.

“On behalf of the entire college community, I congratulate the students, faculty, and staff who were responsible for these honors. You have made us all proud!”

News of these national awards came after Citrus College’s PTK chapter had returned home from the organization’s Nevada/California Spring Convention, during which they received several regional honors. These included being named a Most Distinguished Chapter in Nevada/California, as well as receiving first and third place for their Honors in Action research projects.

Beta Nu Eta members Alicia Beckley and Maxime Tondre were also selected to the All-California Academic Team.

“There is a detailed rubric that determines whether or not a chapter qualifies for these recognitions,” Waddington explained. “The rankings are assigned based on the level to which each chapter has been engaged in Phi Theta Kappa’s four hallmarks: Scholarship, Service, Leadership, and Fellowship. Among other things, the completion of special projects, such as Honors in Action research projects and the Service-Oriented College project, is also a determining factor.”

According to Waddington, Beta Nu Eta’s main project for 2015 was the Honors in Action research they conducted. Last year, the Phi Theta Kappa organization established the primary theme of “Frontiers and the Spirit of Exploration.” The Citrus College members decided to study, “The Quest of Human Expression.” This involved researching tattooing and body art.

The students also engaged in service projects, including helping during the Citrus College Welcome Day and working with the Citrus College Foster/Kinship Office.

The chapter’s ranking, as well as their national and regional Distinguished Chapter awards, was the result of the combined scores of their scholarship and service projects, as well as the actions that resulted from these projects.

“The Citrus Community College District Board of Trustees applauds each student who played a role in receiving these impressive recognitions and awards,” said Mrs. Susan M. Keith, president of the Citrus Community College District Board of Trustees. “Participation in Phi Theta Kappa, or any other honor

society, helps students learn and grow in many ways. These organizations help develop leadership, public speaking, and organizational skills, while also providing meaningful academic experiences. In addition to receiving multiple honors, these students have also received knowledge and skills that will benefit them well into the future.”

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The members of the Citrus College chapter of the Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) honor society received several impressive national and regional recognitions this spring.