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## **Citrus College Holds 54th Academic Achievement Awards**

Glendora, Calif. (June 14, 2017) – Citrus College has a proud history of celebrating the successes of its exceptional student body.

On June 1, the college hosted its 54th annual Academic Achievement Awards ceremony in the Haugh Performing Arts Center. This event honors the academic, athletic and leadership contributions of more than 100 students.

“This distinct group of students embodies the hallmarks of exceptionalism,” said Dr. Geraldine M. Perri, superintendent/president. “We are proud of their accomplishments, and know that they will make a difference in the world.”

Among the recognitions presented were the prestigious Keys of Knowledge awards, which constitute the highest academic honor granted by the college. Keys of Knowledge are given to the 10 students who have the best overall academic performance as determined by GPA.

This year’s recipients were:

- Johnny Elie Baradii, mathematics
- Eric Wayne Burgess, recording technology
- Jeffry Humberto Lazo Casanave, mathematics
- Samantha Lynn Clifton, business
- Mark Foo Si Xiang, business
- Ciaran Donagh Gray, physics
- Sydney Marie Lujan, political science
- Krista Michelle Myles, biology
- Celine Nicole Spathias, computer science
- Tony Mark Zarza, nursing

Additionally, Distinguished Student awards – also known as the Top 100 or Department Awards – were presented during the ceremony. This special recognition is given to students whose academic successes place them at the top of their classes.

Jade Nua (softball) and Kenneth Cyprian (men’s basketball) received the Athletes of the Year award based on their academic records and all-around accomplishments as athletes. Most athletes who

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receive this award transfer to a four-year college or university to continue to pursue their educational and athletic goals.

Finally, Alex Bazaar and Adriana Mendez were granted the Service Leaders of the Year award. They were nominated for their academic achievement and volunteer service to the college and community.

“On behalf of the entire Citrus College community, I congratulate these remarkable students who have achieved such outstanding success both in and out of the classroom,” said Dr. Perri. “They have earned an important place in our college’s legacy.”

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### **ABOUT CITRUS COLLEGE**

*Proudly serving the San Gabriel Valley for over 100 years, Citrus College educates approximately 20,000 students annually. The college offers 90 associate degrees and certificates of achievement, prepares students for transfer to four-year colleges and universities, and provides basic skills courses and workforce training. Located in Glendora, Calif., Citrus College is the oldest community college in Los Angeles County. Its 104-acre campus includes eight outdoor athletic facilities. A leader in higher education, Citrus College has received numerous accolades, including being ranked first in the nation for awarding associate degrees in visual and performance arts for Hispanic students, and 12th in the nation for the number of associate degrees awarded to Hispanic students. Citrus College is also designated a Military Friendly® school. For more information, visit [www.citruscollege.edu](http://www.citruscollege.edu).*

#### **Citrus College**

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