

Four LMC Students Overcome Challenges, Earn Scholarships

Four Lake Michigan College students from Benton Harbor, Dowagiac and Stevensville received scholarships at a February Student Leadership Summit in Grand Rapids.

Rolando Hernandez, Michael Kirish, Mary Livings and Megan Short won four out of the 14 statewide scholarships awarded by the Michigan College Access Programs and Personnel (MI-CAPP) organization in February. MI-CAPP, the State's Education Opportunity Association chapter, is a non-profit which works to level the playing field for students who are among the first generation in their families to go to college, come from low income families or have a disability.

The students were awarded \$500 for demonstrating academic progress or achievement. Each wrote a compelling essay about overcoming personal and environmental obstacles. They described their community service and leadership growth, and submitted letters of recommendation.

Rolando Hernandez of Dowagiac is a first generation college student from a family of six. He is actively involved on campus as a member of Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society and as a resident assistant in LMC's Beckwith Hall. He was chosen twice to speak at LMC's Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Celebration and was designated a 2017 Student of the Year.



LMC Scholarship Recipients: (l-r): Rolando Hernandez, Mary Livings, Megan Short and Michael Kirish.

Hernandez is an excellent role model who is passionate about science, helping his family and giving back to the community. He will earn his Associate of Science in May before transferring to Grand Valley State University to pursue a degree in the medical field.

Mary Livings of Stevensville first attended LMC in 1999, but left before completing her degree. A job loss in 2012 led to her return, and despite health issues and other obstacles, she persisted to earn three semesters on the Dean's List before graduating last December with an Associate of Applied Science in Corrections

Probation and Parole. Whether volunteering through the United Way packing backpacks for school children, assisting with food boxes for senior citizens or making blankets for Emergency Shelter Services, Livings is motivated by helping others. She will continue her good work as she transfers to Siena Heights University to earn a Bachelor's Degree in Community and Human Services with a concentration in Family Systems.

Megan Short of Dowagiac studies Child Development at LMC. In addition to working two jobs and parenting

her six-year-old daughter, Short makes time to volunteer as an elementary school teacher's aide and to visit area high schools to talk with students about LMC's education program. Short is President of the LMC Education Club and works in Student Services.

After she earns her Associate in Applied Science, Short will avoid a long commute by transferring to Western Michigan University-Southwest for her Bachelor's degree in Child Development with a ZS teaching endorsement.

Michael Kirish of Benton Harbor became a college student 24 years after graduat-

ing from Edwardsburg High School. His path was complicated by homelessness and unemployment, but his resourcefulness and determination led him to academic success with three semesters on the Dean's List and a first place prize in the Wellness Center Exercise Contest.

Kirish will receive a Welding Certificate and an Associate Degree in General Technology before transferring to Western Michigan University to study Industrial and Entrepreneurial Engineering.

The students are participants in LMC's TRiO Student Support Services program which provides intensive help with study skills, academic advising, financial aid and university transfer assistance. A dedicated computer lab, and textbook and laptop lending programs are also available, along with opportunities to mentor other students and engage in volunteer service in local communities.

"The MI-CAPP Scholarship recognizes LMC students from diverse backgrounds who successfully navigate challenges to achieve academically and actively give back to our communities," said Nancy Johnson, Student Support Services project director. "Their stories, commitment to education and community engagement inspire us all."

For more information, visit www.lakemichigancollege.edu/ss or call (269) 927-8603.

NATIONAL DEBT RELIEF

STRESSING OUT ABOUT YOUR DEBT?

Let **National Debt Relief** help you

- ✓ Get A Free Savings Estimate
- ✓ See How Quickly You Can Be Debt Free
- ✓ Get Out Of Debt Without Bankruptcy
- ✓ No Upfront Fees And No Obligation

LESS STRESS AND LOWER DEBT IS ONLY A PHONE CALL AWAY

*Minimum \$10,000 unsecured debt required



Call now and speak with a debt specialist today

855-995-3241

HAVE AN IDEA FOR AN INVENTION?

DAVISON

Davison can help with:

- Licensing Services
- Providing USPTO forms
- Design and Prototyping

Davison charges fees for services

Call today: 800-616-9549

LMC Announces Fall 2016 President's and Dean's List

More than 20 percent of Lake Michigan College (LMC) students have been recognized for high academic achievement.

LMC released the names of 868 students from 92 cities and five states who earned at least a 3.5 Grade Point Average (GPA) during the Fall 2016 semester.

The President's List includes 103 students who achieved a 4.0 GPA at full-time status. The Dean's List includes 109 full-time students and 656 part-time students who achieved a 3.5 GPA or higher.

There were 4,059 total students enrolled during the fall semester.

The following is a partial list of students. For the full list, visit www.benton-spiritnews.com.

President's List

Benton Harbor: Kyle Duffy, Ashlee Hall, Sierra Shaw, Daniel Wainright, Hunter Williams, Hanna Zaal

Berrien Center: Makenzie Moody

Berrien Springs: Elizabeth Adesina, Justin Bates, Timothy Cincala, Kylee Edwards, Lindsey Ludens, Amy Piersanti, Paige Schlaman, Olga Titkova

Buchanan: Madison Cavanaugh, Adam Eger, Kevin Frost, Ariana Guerrero, Frahade Martinez, Catlin Prentice, Chyanne Prentice

Coloma: Lane Alsup, Laura Bailey, Megan Daugherty, Cynthia Glass, Carly Lentz, Dustin Radde, Kayla Sink

Eau Claire: Zachary Ark, Amy Bennett, Iris Sardeneta, Kyle Van Tuyle

Niles: Kimberly Cantu, Tyler Clutter, Conner Earles, Alexander Hardy, McKinzie Kiggins, Makenzie Kuhns, Rachel Mackey, Jackie Marske, Dylan McAllister, Ashia Proia, Alyssa Tittle

St. Joseph: Morgan Boettger, Emily Bublick, Brianna Burlingame, Katherine Burrell, Natalie Carow, Arianna Chaddock, Richard Dine, Marion Dixon, Jordan Dorry, Aleah Fisher, Quinten Hosbein, Hannah Houseworth-Williams, Serra Lutzen, Samantha Mumper, Dillan Smith, Nicholas Spearritt, Zachary Vanderweide, Bronwen Wallace, Brittany Yack, Hannah Yack

Stevensville: Jesslyna Bowden, Molly Desmet, Jacob King, Colton Maurer, Amanda Nordquist, Megan Steinke

Dean's List

Benton Harbor: Eric Edwards, Nicholas Jewell, Michael Kirish, Juan Linares Orihuea, Hunter Mazigian, Shanice Sallie, Marcella Story, Shumieka Washington

Berrien Center: Justin Heminger, Brittany Hinderliter

Berrien Springs: Opeyemi Adesina, Marc Aguy, Meghla Biswas, Denise Cyrilien, Makeda Latham, Jephthah Ndlovu, Kimberly Ndlovu, Jessica Paustian, Emily Sherman

Buchanan: Skyler Smith

Coloma: Caroline Army, Gabrielle Aubermann, Robert Cromer, Mary Herman, Steffen Kolenko, Robert Mckie, Katherine O'Brien, Esmeralda Santos, Matthew Sweet

Eau Claire: Rolando Hernandez, Dwight Huslin

Galien: Amelia Lockman

Niles: Wiebke Ford, Aubrey Koebel, Chris Petty, Ariel Reynolds, Dean Russo, Ashley Scott, Natalie White

Sodus: Dylan Fleenor

South Bend, IN: Erika Madaras

St. Joseph: Brittany Ackerman, Yi Huang, Michele Marshall, Isabella Miller, Stephanie Mumper, Kimberli Peters, Ashley Priefer, Kelsey Rhodes, Brandon Rocky, Bethany Rood, Stephanie Schaper, Sydney Wagner

Stevensville: Rodrigo Abarca, William LeRude, Molly Levi, Samuel Osborn, Joa Puckett, Jonathan Rueb

Part-time Dean's List

Benton Harbor: Jurnee Agbowu, Robert Alexander, Erica Atterberry, Paul Bell, Andrew Bodfish, Matthew Bower, Alex Boyd, Colleen Cannington, Alex Castillo, Michael Collins, John Crumb, Kristine Cunningham, Shatoria Dancer, Stacy Dixon, Leticia Dominguez, Katarina Easley, Ronda Ellis, Kami Emerick, Diana Gaspar, Michael Green, Cree Gunn, De'Leeshia Hall, Rachel Hawkins, Takia Hips, Christopher Holmer, Stacey Howe, Randi Hughes, Shawn Hughes, Bryce Hurst, Paul Hyde, Brittney Johnson, GaEun Jung, Barbara Kelly, Desha King, Kimberly Koning, Hunter Lange, Gwendolyn Lazarus, Denise Lee, Kelly Lesosky, Jacob Livings, Jasmine Long, Edith Lowe, Kierra Lowe, Cicely Maben, Zachary Marsh, Petra Martinez-Carrizal, Sean McKinnon, Abigail Montgomery, Roketta Moore, Kevin Myers, Divine Parker, Anchaleeporn Perrone, Edwin Phillips, Ryan Phillips, Karina Pina, Samantha Rheams, Jonathan Sanchez, Cameron Sanders, Gabi Simpson, Kristin Taylor, Brendon Turner, Holly VanHorn, Latasha Ware, Nader Zaal

Berrien Center: Ryan Kerby, Colleen Staniszewski, Brady West, Noah Wilcox

Berrien Springs: Christopher Belin, Sage Briggs, Caleb Capps, Solange Christmas, Nathanael Cincala, Halaila Correa Acevedo, Cydney Doolen, Alice Escalante, Estrillita Gachuiwung Shimray, Sheena Gerrans, Mikayla Gmitter, Ray Haaack, Nathan Hatcher, Michael Hettlinger, Lynette Hoar, Christina Hollis, Tebuho Kabambe, Violet Khaula, Casey King, Christine Machamire, Lawrence Masarira, Claudia Maxwell, Douglas McCarron, Samantha McElligott, Mara McFarland, Edith Medrano, Alyssa Miskiewicz, Derek Morgan, Amy Moses, Denise Mung, Josphine Muthoni, Ebony Mwesigwa, Beomjun Ok, Sven Pauliah, William Pergerson, Beth Perrone, Blake Rudlaff, Nikkolette Rusk, Laura Simmons, Marcella Smith, Gabrielle Umana, Bethany VerDuin, Audra Vilag, Stephen Weber, Julia Westfall, Jessica Young

Buchanan: Jessilyn Albanelli, Sarah Bianchi, Alexis Carrigan, Dylan Catalano, Barbara Chappell, Denelle Clark, Steven Clark, Michelle Dykstra, Robert Fay, Ana Felgner, Dakota Fonseca, Donna Hawkins, Sydney Hildebrandt, Katelyn Hogue, Jessica La Mar, Shannon Lopez, Alayna Maxwell, Alexander Middleton, Andrew Middleton, Austin Middleton, Jade Mosier, Eric Neiman, Ivy Panczak, Gabrielle Pazder, Erica Poznanski, Justin Ruth, Margaret Rydwelski, Cora Schau, Madison Schau, Jacob Smith, Alexandra Tobler, Nathaniel Troxell, Carter Warn

Coloma: Hunter Barchett, Jason Clark, Conner Clemons, Thomas Czuba, Paige Derrick, Cassandra Elder, Jarred Fish, Dale Gaston, April Gonser, Jordy Hanners, Haley Heckathorn, Dana Jenkins, Donia Mannino, Caleb Meyer, Jonathon Panches, Jose Rodriguez, Kenan Saxe, Tori Streu, Gabrielle Tavolacci, Abigail Trousdale, Oscar Velasquez, Kohl Zehr

Eau Claire: Raylynn Borr, Tyler Brant, Matthew Carpenter, Jeremy Drane, Arthur Keene, Austin Keene, Si Eun Lee, Donald Matthews III, Kristen Sackett, Jonathan Upson, Mercedes Woodward

Galien: Savan Avadarian, Miranda Companion, Audrey Haimbaugh, Justin Pearson, Taylor Reed

Niles: Zane Adams, Haley Akey, Justin Akey, Caley Alvord, Dustin Anders, April Anderson, Timothy Batchelor, Christopher Baumgartner, Amber Boocher, McKayla Book, Jerome Bradford, Claire Brovold, Ryan Casey, Tana Cole, Hallie Corzine, Ian Daly, Alisha DeHart, Taylor Derscha, Janki Devdhara, Lindsay Eichenberg, Monica Ellis, Laura Flanigan, Autumn Flick, Makayla Floor, Toby Fox, Bettina Frantz,

Emily Gaines, Jacob Gaines, Alexis Garcia, Reese Gardner, Madeline Gattis, Kendra Goins, Pavandeep Gojra, Jacob Graham, Alliea Harness, Alex Harpenau, Hanna Head, Chloe Hossa, Drew Huffman, LaTonya Hull, Tyler Hunt, Kaia Hurley, Marcus Hurt, Alexis Irwin, Hannah Jackowiak, Alex Jasper, Cecily Kaufmann, Cheryl Kiell, Robert Kiell, Dalton Knapp, Rachel Laurita, Blayne LeClaire, Lauren Ludwig, Jose Magana, Alexia Martinez, Courtney Meyers, Laurie Mokwa, Conner Moore, Benjamin Morse, Caleb Morse, Keegan Murphy, Linda Murphy, Keegan Neumann, Adam Oltz, Mitchel Park, Madelyn Pfifer, Demetrius Phillips, Austin Platz, Jocelyn Pletcher, Kaycee Preissing, Gavin Rasler, Richard Reed, James Rodgers, Drew Rudlaff, Jacob Ruelle, Morgan Schiele, Erin Schimmel, Mark Sergio, Rachel Shinsky, Ashley Shortman, Alexandra Smith, Shaylee Smith, Warren Smith, Rachel Smuda, Claudine Tudor, Alma Vazquez, Wesley Watson, Kimberly West, Olivia Whitney, Mackenzie Wideman, Caitlyn Williamson, Rebecca Woods, Alexandra Wesner

Sodus: Anna Costanza, Angela Lawson, Gabrielle Turbyfill

South Bend, IN: Teena Birch, Olga Camacho, Amanda Clark, Shanice Douglas, Kinsey Muhlenkamp, Alison Vandewalle, Alexis Weisser, Ashley Young

St. Joseph: Anthony Allen, Linda Bentley, Kayley Bergstrom, Cheyenne Binder, Mitchell Birk, Madeleine Burkhard, Jennifer Buyce, Hannah Carey, Kyle Carow, Nicole Crawford, Raul Cuellar, Mercedes Daugherty, Nora Duncan, Timothy Eichler, Samuel Frobel, Christina Grabowski, Gordon Greenland, Ivy Gustafson, Trevor Hasse, Josephine Henke, Rebecca Jacobs, Katherine Jasper, River Jorgensen, Jarret Kramer, David Lignell, Cindy Lupiya, Kelsey Lutz, Jeremy Martin, Evan Maxon, Benjamin Nowacki, Steven Ohst, Kristin Parker, Catherine Peters, Audra Pounders, Danielle Reck, Alaina Riedel, Jenna Riedel, Krislyn Rousseau, Ravi Shah, Alexander Sharpe, Benjamin Shembarger, Ashley Sipla, Bryan Thompson, Richard Wallsten, Bridgette Waning, Jared Willer, Sarah Wilson, Gillian Wright, Theresa Wuerfel, Zoe Zaroff

Stevensville: Nolan Annis, Jordan Briney, Paige Cattes, Andrew Czuk, Lindsay Essig, Christina Evans, Morgan Garber, Kaitlyn Grapis, Renee Groom, Addison Harris, Deanna Lane, Mary Livings, Rachel Matheny, Sara McGilvra, Joshua Miller, Caitlynn Murdock, Domenico Musumeci, Shelley Palma, Angelica Pangilinan, Alexandra Peddie, Jesse Queen, Kyra Richter, Kayla Rose, Emily Rudman, Allison Scaccia, Kayla Stanson, Ryan Tucker

IF YOU NOTICED THIS AD, SO WILL OTHERS!

ADVERTISE • SPONSOR A PAGE • EDUCATION
PARTNER WITH US TO CONNECT YOUR NONPROFIT MISSION WITH OUR DIVERSE READERS
TELL OTHERS TO ADVERTISE IN THE BENTON SPIRIT (Including places you shop and spend money)

Call: (269) 926-4241 • Email: advertise@bentonspiritnews.com