

## 2020 Students of the Year

The Maine Community College System Board of Trustees is proud to recognize the following outstanding students.



Marcel Chalou, Northern Maine Community College

Residence: Easton/ Major: Water Treatment Technology/ Career goal: Water treatment operator Marcel grew up in Northern Maine, enlisted in the U. S. Marine Corps directly out of high school, and had a 10-year career as a police officer. He moved back to Maine to raise his children and enrolled at NMCC to change careers and provide financial security for his family. An internship at Presque Isle Utilities District led to a full-time position as a water treatment operator and lab technician.



Clinton Dakin, Washington County Community College

**Residence**: Stockton Springs/ **Major**: Engine Specialist / **Career Goal**: Heavy equipment maintenance Clinton started at WCCC in 2018 and has since graduated from the powersports equipment/small engine technician and heavy equipment maintenance certificate programs, and earned his associate degree in mechanical technology. This spring he'll earn an engine specialist certificate and plans to return this fall to study welding. He plans to enter the workforce and find employment in a heavy equipment garage close to home.



Kate McPherson, Central Maine Community College

Residence: Litchfield/ Major: Computer Technology / Career Goal: Mental health provider via technology Kate chose CMCC because it was close to home, enrolling in general studies while she considered her career options. She is President of Phi Theta Kappa and works in CMCC's IT department. Her goal is to combine her interest in psychology and skills in computer technology to help bring mental healthcare to those who can't leave their homes. She plans to transfer to UMA to continue her education in technology.



Mason Peterson, Kennebec Valley Community College

Residence: Waterville / Major: Liberal Studies / Career Goal: Storyteller

Mason enrolled at KVCC as an affordable way to restart their goal of furthering their education. Mason is Founder of the Pride Alliance at KVCC, President of the Student Senate, a writing tutor, and a homeless shelter, Planned Parenthood, blood drive, and Maine Film Festival volunteer. Mason has been accepted at Amherst College and plans to pursue career options that include reading, writing, filmmaking, storytelling and more.



Ethan Preble, Eastern Maine Community College

**Residence:** Birch Harbor/ **Major:** Human Services / **Career Goal:** Human services professional Ethan chose to attend EMCC because it was affordable. He is described by others as a strong leader and advocate for disadvantaged students. He organized a suicide prevention fundraiser, worked with residential life to create a new RA position, and was a valued member of the college's business office. After graduating, he plans to pursue a career in human services.



Billy Susanto, York County Community College

Residence: Berwick / Major: Computer Science/ Career Goal: Software engineer

Billy says he quickly overcame any fears he had of succeeding in college by getting out of his comfort zone and getting involved. He excels academically, is President of Phi Theta Kappa, a math tutor, a student ambassador, a member of the YCCC soccer club and served on the YCCC Presidential Search Committee. He plans to continue his education at USM to study computer science with the goal of becoming a video gaming software engineer.



Liam Woodworth-Cook, Southern Maine Community College

**Residence:** South Portland/ **Major:** Liberal Studies/English concentration / **Career Goal:** Literature-related field Liam was looking to further his education and chose SMCC because it gave him an affordable way to start. He has excelled academically and worked on the student newspaper, the student literary magazine and in The Captain's Cupboard on-campus food pantry. He will graduate in May and plans to continue his education in the field of writing and/or literature, while he considers his many career options.