Monday, May 3, 2021

Dear SAS Honors Program Students,

With graduation coming up I feel a need to give a shout-out to our incredible seniors. Making it to the point y'all did is no easy feat on its own, but, that on top of a global pandemic and abrupt shift to online learning and this is something incredible. They say clear seas don't make a good sailor, and the entirety of the Class of 2021 sailed straight through the storm. I'm saying you all should give yourself even more credit because being able to handle the weight of 300/400 level classes, capstones, and research all while quite literally having a global catastrophe on your minds will prepare y'all for so many of life's stresses. Seriously, congratulations!

You're not gone yet though, so why not take a look at some of these announcements. Take a look at the results of this year's **Senior Leader Awards**. Juniors: earn your own award next year by completing the **Senior Leader Application**. Relax after the first wave of finals at the **Peer Mentor Program Destress Night**. Check out our **new blog post**. Show some love to the most recent **Senior Spotlight**.

It's been such a great time to write these newsletters every week and I can't thank you all enough for reading... See you in the Fall!

Warm Regards,
Justin Confalone
Your newsletter editor
Senior Leader Awards
Each year the SASHP selects a group of seniors who performed exceptionally well to be the recipients of the Senior Leader Award. This year the winners were Kesha Amin, Melanie Raush, Chandra Anjana, Barbara Shi, Madhumitha Sivaraj, Anny Lu, Giovanna Tsiolas, Minjal Patel, Xiangyue (Max) Wang, and Tiana Rahi. Each of these students and their majors can be found on the last page of this newsletter.

Senior Leader Application
Feeling inspired after hearing so many names dropped? Rising seniors interested in earning a Senior Leader Award of their own should fill out the application that just recently opened. And hey, rising seniors should pat themselves on the back for enduring three semesters of remote learning. Find the application here, due Mon, Jun 7, 2021. Fill it out sooner than later, while your brain is still in school mode!

Peer Mentor Program Destress Night
It’s time: after weeks of prep, we’re finally hitting the start of finals. When it comes to exam seasons like this, the most important thing is your health. The Peer Mentor Program is hosting its final event of the semester, Destress Night, to keep your mind, body, and soul in check during this round. All are welcome to join today, Mon, May 3 at 8pm EST. This event will include three options: 1) playing Codenames, 2) Scavenger Hunt, 3) Paint N Sip & Pop Culture Trivia with the Artists Collective. Find out more here.
Senior Spotlight: Samuel (Sam) Friedman

Show some SASHP love to our most recent Senior Spotlight, Samuel (Sam) Friedman. Majoring in genetics with a certificate in computational genetics, Sam’s involvement around campus is incredible. Aresty Summer Science Fellow, Editor-in-Chief and President of the Examiner, and Research Assistant to professor Linda Brzustiwicz are only the first three on my reference list. Sam will be taking a gap year after graduation to work in his Rutgers lab to continue his research. After that, he hopes to go on to work in the medical field. Keep an eye on the honors blog (here) for the full spotlight.

New Blog Post: Getting to Know "Normal" Again

“This bubble's going to pop one way or another, through the en-masse return to campus or through the fact that I must get re-accustomed to socializing without being able to view my own facial reactions on my screen,” writes author Noa Deocampo. “So, I figure, it's probably for the best that I start getting to know my good ol' pal 'normal' again sooner rather than later. But how? How, after over a year to solidify the routine that I have learned to find comfort in, can I reintroduce myself to 'normal'?” Read the rest of this topical post here.
Senior Leader Award
CLASS OF 2021

Kesha Amin
Cell Biology & Neuroscience; Psychology, Spanish

Melanie Raush
Journalism & Media Studies; Creative Writing & Theater Arts

Chandra Anjana
Finance; Computer Science

Barbara Shi
History; Geography and Women's, Gender, & Sexuality Studies

Surabhi Dattatri
Computer Science; Quantitative Economics

Madhumitha Sivaraj
Computer Science & Cognitive Science

Anny Lu
History & Linguistics

Giovanna Tsiolas
Journalism, Media Studies & Italian Studies; Political Science

Minjal Patel
Cell Biology & Neuroscience; Health and Society

Tiana Rahi
Marketing

Xiangyue (Max) Wang
Physics & Math; Philosophy

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