

FingerLakes
COMMUNITY COLLEGE
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

2017 FLCC Alumni Association
AWARDS
CELEBRATION



FRIDAY, MAY 19, 2017

5 to 7 p.m.

Recognition Ceremony and
Hors d'oeuvres Reception

Student Center
Finger Lakes Community College
Canandaigua, New York

ALUMNI AWARDS CELEBRATION

Recognition Ceremony

GREETINGS	Kelly A. La Voie '96, <i>President, FLCC Alumni Association</i>
WELCOME	Dr. Robert K. Nye, <i>President, FLCC</i>
REMARKS	Debi E. Jones '91, <i>Vice Chair, FLCC Foundation Board of Directors</i>

AWARD PRESENTATIONS

Recipients	Elly M. Disbrow '10, 2008–2010 Women's Soccer/Softball <i>Athletic Hall of Fame Inductee</i>
	Richard J. Jones, Men's Basketball Head Coach <i>Athletic Hall of Fame Inductee</i>
	Patrick A. and Jennifer L. Tellier '03 <i>Outstanding Art Alumni Achievement Award</i>
	Dr. Christina M. Knopf '98 <i>Outstanding Humanities Alumni Achievement Award</i>
	Lt. Liza-Jan Bobseine '02 <i>Outstanding Conservation Alumni Achievement Award</i>
	Jason C. Schenandoah '08 <i>Outstanding Horticulture Alumni Achievement Award</i>
	Calvin Hobbs '15 (Posthumous Award) <i>Outstanding Nursing Alumni Achievement Award</i>
	Michelle M. Broderick '16 <i>2016 Scholar Athlete Award</i>
	Henry (Hank) M. Roenke III '73 <i>Alumni Association Exceptional Service Award</i>
	Katy C. Berke-Henthorne '91 <i>Distinguished Alumni Award</i>
	Dr. Rodney C. Haring '95 <i>Distinguished Alumni Award</i>
CLOSING REMARKS	Dr. Robert K. Nye, <i>President</i>

Elly M. Disbrow '10

(2008–2010 Women's Soccer/Softball)

ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE

Elly Disbrow attended Penn Yan Academy. During her first year at FLCC, 2008-09, Elly was a three sport athlete. In the fall she helped lead the women's soccer team to a record of 19-0-1 as a mid-fielder, taking the Lakers all the way to the regional championship game. She was named to the MSAC All-Conference team as well as the NJCAA All-Region team. In the winter she helped lead the women's basketball team to a record of 24-6 by issuing 146 assists and collecting 60 steals. In the spring Elly batted over .300 for the softball team. She was a quiet team leader who led by example both on the field and in the classroom.

In the 2009-10 season, Elly again led the Lakers soccer team to a record of 18-2-1 and another trip to the regional championship game. She was again named to the MSAC All-Conference team as well as NJCAA All-Region team. Elly had an outstanding softball season, playing a stellar centerfield while batting .391. In spring 2010, she was named 1st team Academic All-Region and 1st team NJCAA Academic All-American. She was also named FLCC Scholar Athlete for 2009-10.

The recipient of several FLCC Foundation scholarships, Elly maintained a perfect 4.0 GPA. She received her FLCC associate degree in liberal arts and sciences in 2010. Upon graduation, she transferred to Keuka College to continue her academic and athletic careers, competing in women's soccer and softball. At Keuka College, she continued to excel in soccer, softball and academically. Elly was All-Conference in softball in 2011 and 2012 and was named the 2012 Northeastern Athletic Conference Softball Co-Player of the Year. Elly earned her baccalaureate degree in business management graduating summa cum laude from Keuka College.

Today Elly serves as a specialist within Bausch & Lomb's Global Product Surveillance and Safety Division. She continues to play softball in Penn Yan and Canandaigua's recreational slow-pitch leagues. She and her younger sister, Kate, coach K-3 soccer teams in partnership with the Pittsford Recreation Department.

The first alumni were inducted into the Finger Lakes Community College Hall of Fame in 1991. Induction recognizes alumni who excelled as athletes on College teams and who, since graduating, serve as role models for current student athletes. For her love of the game, the leadership abilities she demonstrated on the field, and her dignity, integrity and grace, the College and FLCC Department of Athletics are thrilled to honor Elly Disbrow with induction into the FLCC Athletic Hall of Fame.

Richard J. Jones

(Men's Basketball Head Coach)

ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE

In spring 2017, Richard Jones concluded his fifteenth season as the head men's basketball coach, having surpassed Putt Moore as the most winning coach in Lakers history with 284 wins. In the first 35 years of the men's basketball, the team played in one championship game. Under Jones' watch, the Lakers have played nine championship games.

Coach Jones led the Lakers to their first-ever men's basketball regional championship victory in 2006 – the same year he was named New York State Junior College Coach of the Year. In addition, he has also been named Mid-State Athletic Conference Coach of the Year in 2007, 2011 and 2015. Ten former players have received basketball scholarships for four-year schools, and five former players have gone on to play professionally overseas.

His basketball coaching experience stretches beyond his years with FLCC. Prior to joining the Lakers, he spent 17 years coaching at high schools in New York and North Carolina.

Richard Jones holds a bachelor's degree in psychology from Westminster College. He is also a graduate of Alfred University, where he earned his master's in school psychology and currently works as a school psychologist with the Phelps-Clifton Springs School District. He resides in Clifton Springs with his wife, Louise, and daughters Haley and Lauren.

The Finger Lakes Community College Athletic Hall of Fame began in 1991. Induction recognizes alumni who excelled as athletes on College teams and who, since graduating, serve as role models for current student athletes. In addition, induction honors coaches who inspire exceptional performance in both individual athletes and teams. For his commitment, his ability to inspire athletes and build teams, and his place in FLCC history as the College's most winning coach, the College and FLCC Department of Athletics are thrilled to honor Richard Jones with induction into the FLCC Athletic Hall of Fame.

Patrick A. and Jennifer L. Tellier '03

OUTSTANDING ART ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Natives of Newark, N.Y., Pat and Jen were inspired to pursue a life in art by their high school art teacher, Tom Jagger. He motivated them, even when it didn't seem possible, and gave them the confidence to move forward. Pat and Jen say they were fortunate to go to a high school that offered a number of art classes with amazing teachers, given the declining emphasis on art education in schools today.

Pat and Jen attended FLCC to study graphic arts and graphic design, marrying while still in college in 2003. As students, they gained a tremendous amount of knowledge in design from outstanding professors. They fondly recall late nights in the graphics computer lab and in the darkroom, finishing projects and advancing their skills. Their shared love of photography grew under the guidance of their photography professor, Paul Steckel. They were drawn to photographing people, instead of landscapes, and Pat photographed other students to practice his art. Pat worked in a photo studio, The Country Studio of Photography, owned by Todd Jennings, getting a first-hand look at the industry. Jennifer benefited from Pat's additional training when she began focusing on photography a year later. Pat and Jen held full-time jobs in management and office work to gain experience which they applied to establishing their own business.

In 2005 they purchased an old barber shop in Waterloo. With much help from Pat's late father, Ron, they remodeled the building and opened Tellier Studios in December 2005. They take pride in what they have been able to artistically document for people in their community. Living and owning a business in the Finger Lakes, has given them many opportunities to excel in their career, with its beautiful scenery for portrait sessions and weddings. Jen and Pat's philosophy of photojournalistic photography as storytelling, combined with their expertise and attention to detail, has been key to the development of their business. Regarding weddings, Pat says, "We don't believe that you can photograph the true emotion of the day from the outside; you must immerse yourself in it, truly enjoy yourself and leave at the end of the night as if you are part of the family." Along with weddings, Jen says she most enjoys photographing children and watching them grow over the years.

Pat and Jen have two children, Clay, 6, and Jasper, 2. "It means the world to us to be able to provide for our children by doing something that we love," says Jen. "Far too often, people work their life away with no gratification, and we want to teach our children that you can provide a life for your family while still pursuing your passions."

In creating a new alumni award in 2010, the art department faculty sought to recognize a graduate who has distinguished him or herself as an artist. It is with pride that the 2017 Outstanding Art Alumni Achievement Award is presented to Patrick and Jennifer Tellier for their lifelong devotion to creating art, their passion for photography, and their professional accomplishments as co-owners of a successful photography business.

Dr. Christina M. Knopf '98

OUTSTANDING HUMANITIES ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

After completing an A.A. at Finger Lakes Community College in December 1998, Christina Knopf transferred to SUNY New Paltz to pursue a B.A. in public relations and journalism, which she completed with high honors in May 2000 after interning as a photographer for the Poughkeepsie Journal. She then enrolled in graduate study at the University at Albany. She interned in the New York State Assembly Minority Research & Program Development office while earning an M.A. in political communication (December 2001). She then worked as a teaching assistant and adjunct instructor while completing a Ph.D. in political communication and cultural sociology (May 2005).

Recognized for Outstanding Teaching by a Graduate Student by the Instructional and Developmental Division of the International Communication Association in 2005, Dr. Knopf taught speech, media, and political communication courses at SUNY Albany, the College of St. Rose, Genesee Community College, and Monroe Community College, before acquiring a tenure-track position as an assistant professor of public speaking and rhetoric in the Department of English and Communication at SUNY Potsdam in fall 2006. She earned tenure and the rank of associate professor in fall 2012 at Potsdam, where she teaches Basic Principles of Speech, Contemporary Political Communication, and Communication Theory, in addition to a rotation of a dozen other rhetoric and media courses in the Communication, Women's and Gender Studies, and Africana Studies programs. Dr. Knopf also serves as the faculty advisor to the SUNY Potsdam Comic Book Club and to the Delta Omicron chapter of the Lambda Pi Eta national communication honor society.

Since 2010, Dr. Knopf has published nine articles in academic journals and scholarly anthologies, with another five now in pre-publication. In 2015, her first book, "The Comic Art of War: A Critical Study of Military Cartoons, 1805-2014," with a guide to artists, was published by McFarland & Co. Choice Reviews lauded it as an "ambitious study" that is "persuasive in showing how comics complement other (more traditional) genres in offering valuable insights into 'armed conflict and the perspectives of those who experienced it.'"

Dr. Knopf is affiliated with more than a dozen professional associations, including the International Communication Association, the Rhetoric Society of America, the American Sociological Association, the Comics Studies Society, and the Popular Culture Association. She has made in excess of 60 presentations across the country and in London and Paris since 2002. In 2017, she was elected by her colleagues for faculty membership in the Phi Kappa Phi scholastic honor society.

Dr. Knopf is a self-described classic sci-fi and horror geek, and in her spare time, she enjoys reading cozy mysteries, watching old movies and television shows, baking and cake decorating, loom knitting, and hiking the trails along the Adirondacks with her rescue hound, Boneau.

When the FLCC Humanities Department faculty created this alumni award in 2013, the purpose was to recognize a graduate whose love of the humanities is mirrored by his or her career. It is with pride that the 2017 Outstanding Humanities Alumni Achievement Award is presented to Dr. Christina M. Knopf '98 for her lifelong commitment to education, her accomplishments as a scholar and author, and her contributions to the field of humanities.

Lt. Liza-Jan Bobseine '02

OUTSTANDING CONSERVATION ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Liza Bobseine hails from western New York where she grew up on her parents' farm. The oldest of five children, Liza grew up hunting, trapping, and riding horses while being homeschooled through high school by her mother, Jan Bobseine, and her father, Gary, who schooled her in natural history, marksmanship, and horse logging. She attended Finger Lakes Community College from 2000-03 where she majored in environmental studies and conservation law. She played for and captained the woodsmen's team coached by Marty Dodge and continued to compete when she transferred to SUNY Environmental Science and Forestry to earn her bachelor's degree in forest resource management and master's degree in natural resources management.

Following graduation, Liza worked as a cooperating forester for Cornell University, assisting the Department of Environmental Conservation's Forest Land Enhancement System for 10 months prior to entering the state DEC Police Academy and becoming an environmental conservation officer in 2007. She selected a position on the eastern tip of Long Island where she had the opportunity to enforce laws ranging from commercial fishing off the coast of Montauk to deer poaching behind Southampton's hedges.

Liza took a promotion to lieutenant in 2013 in New York City, and over the next three years supervised all five boroughs of the city. She oversaw environmental conservation officers and worked cases involving illegal disposal of hazardous waste, shark fin, songbird, elephant ivory, and other wildlife trafficking, air quality enforcement, and even illegal hunting. In 2016, she transferred to DEC Region 4, where she currently supervises officers in Columbia, Rensselaer, Albany, Schenectady and Montgomery counties.

Liza has maintained an avid love for the outdoors and has participated in and organized annual youth turkey, pheasant, and goose hunts, a youth small-bore shooting league, and veterans' pheasant hunts. She is a competitive Adirondack guide boat racer and primitive biathlete, and competes in long-range high-power rifle, Police Pistol, and IPSC pistol matches. In 2011 she was the Puerto Rican State Rifle Champion and is a certified firearms instructor with DEC.

In 2012, she studied under her brother Gallager to earn her private pilot certificate and enjoys flying her 1946 Taylorcraft. Liza currently resides in southern Columbia County with her Chesapeake Bay retriever and Maine Coon cat.

Given annually since 1985, this award recognizes professional achievement in the field of environmental conservation. It is with pride that the 2017 Outstanding Conservation Alumni Achievement Award is presented to Liza-Jan Bobseine '02 in recognition of her lifelong enthusiasm for the outdoors, her commitment to preserving and protecting New York State's natural resources and environment, and for serving as a role model.

Jason C. Schenandoah '08

OUTSTANDING HORTICULTURE ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Jason Schenandoah first learned respect for nature at a young age. “My cultural roots as a Native American taught me that everything needed to sustain life is provided by the Earth,” he says. “Therefore, we have an obligation to take care of it. Naturally, this created a desire for some sort of environmental career. I never really knew, though, at a young age what exactly I could do with the environment as a career. So, after high school, I found myself working as a landscaper. I enjoyed being able to work outdoors and create magnificent landscapes, but I’ve always had a thirst for knowledge and, eventually, I wanted to learn more.”

Finger Lakes Community College became the first step in a long collegiate career. Jason’s curiosity for the environment and previous work as a landscaper influenced him to take a double major in environmental studies and ornamental horticulture. The opportunity to have several courses with field components in the outdoors was especially meaningful to him.

After receiving A.S. and A.A.S. degrees at FLCC, Jason continued his education, taking courses in environmental biology. Unsure about his career path, he decided to take some time off from school and worked as a foreman at a landscape company in Syracuse. However, he still had an inkling that he was destined for further education: “In the fall of 2011, a Native elder came to me in a dream and told me I should become an engineer. The next day I signed up for engineering science classes at another community college. During my time there, I met my fiancé, the wonderful Maren McCarthy, and by the time I received my engineering science degree, we were blessed to have a son together named Gerald.”

While researching four-year colleges, he knew that he wanted to continue following the environmental route and found just the right program at the University of Colorado in Boulder. Finding inspiration after an undergraduate research opportunity, he decided to focus his studies on air quality. Despite the challenges of balancing family life with school, he graduated cum laude in 2016 and received an outstanding graduate award.

In January, Jason began a position as an environmental engineer at the United States Environmental Protection Agency through Region 5’s Air and Radiation Division: Air Enforcement Compliance and Assurance branch. As an enforcement officer, he looks for facilities that are polluting beyond the limits set forth by permits. The curbed pollution can be quantified, and he gets a measure of satisfaction knowing the amount of pollution he has prevented and the resulting savings in health care for the American people.

Given annually since 1985, this FLCC department award recognizes professional achievement in the field of horticulture. It is with pride that the 2017 Outstanding Horticulture Alumni Achievement Award is presented to Jason Schenandoah '08 for his dedication to lifelong learning, his appreciation and respect for nature, and his commitment to preserving the environment and safeguarding the health of the American people.

Calvin Hobbs '15

OUTSTANDING NURSING ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENT AWARD POSTHUMOUS AWARD

After graduating from Williamson High School with high honors in 1993, Calvin attended SUNY Oswego. While attending college and working at McDonald’s, he met Amy, a fellow student who became his wife in October 2000.

Unsure about his career path during his first year of college, Calvin decided to enroll in the licensed practical nursing program at Wayne Finger Lakes BOCES. The nursing profession appealed to him because it offered the opportunity to make a difference in many people’s lives, and he completed his training in 1996.

Soon after he received his LPN license, he began a position at DeMay Living Center in Newark in 1997. He found his work with Alzheimer’s and dementia patients especially rewarding. Many noted his strong yet gentle bedside manner.

In 2005, Calvin began a position at the Canandaigua VA Medical Center where he also worked with Alzheimer’s and dementia patients. Due to his outstanding performance and perfect attendance, he was one of four selected in 2013 from 300 applicants for the VA Nursing Education for Employees Program award, a full-tuition scholarship. He thanked the VA often for providing him with the opportunity to pursue an associate in applied science (A.A.S.) degree in nursing at Finger Lakes Community College.

Calvin’s motivation to continue his education was to achieve an administrative position in order to make an even greater impact on patients. After his degree at FLCC, he began a master of nursing program through Brookline College in spring 2016.

Calvin passed away on October 7, 2016 at the age of 41. He is survived by his wife, Amy; their sons Joseph and Devon; his sisters Shanika, Sakina, Tamika, and Clarissa; his brother, Kevin, and his mother, Lillie Mae. He was predeceased by his father, Joseph Hobbs.

Calvin is remembered for his kind and gentle nature and his commitment to family, friends, and patients to whom he generously demonstrated sincere care.

The FLCC Nursing Department faculty and staff created this alumni award to recognize a graduate who has distinguished him or herself in the nursing profession. The 2017 Outstanding Nursing Alumni Achievement Award is presented to Calvin Hobbs '15 for his commitment to the nursing profession, his FLCC spirit, and his dedicated service to our community.

Michelle M. Broderick '16

2016 SCHOLAR ATHLETE AWARD

Michelle Broderick has been named the FLCC Outstanding Scholar Athlete for the 2015-2016 academic year. Annually, the College recognizes the academic achievements of an athlete from the previous year who achieved the highest grade point average while participating on an intercollegiate athletic team.

Michelle attended Canandaigua Academy, where she was a team captain for the girls' basketball team and an honor roll student. She received the Team First Award and also lettered in softball, for which she served as team captain.

At Finger Lakes Community College, Michelle was on the women's basketball team and majored in human services. She started in 47 basketball games in her two seasons and scored a total of 263 points for the Lakers, averaging 5.3 points per game. During her sophomore season, she was team captain for the women's basketball team and played softball for the Lakers.

Currently, Michelle is continuing her education at SUNY Brockport and pursuing a master's degree in special education. Her career goal is to become an elementary school teacher.

It is with pride that the 2016 Scholar Athlete Award is presented to Michelle M. Broderick '16 in recognition of her academic excellence, athletic ability, leadership qualities, and enthusiasm for learning and achieving her goals.

Henry M. Roenke III '73

CCFL/FLCC EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE AWARD

Henry "Hank" Roenke III '73 was a conservation specialist at Finger Lakes Community College from 1974 to 2002. In 2002, the FLCC Board of Trustees granted him emeritus status. He earned an associate in applied science degree in natural resources conservation as well as a certificate in ornamental horticulture at FLCC. He went on to earn a bachelor of science degree in environmental studies at SUNY Empire State College.

In 1984, Hank also became the maintenance manager of the Loomis Woods Nature Trail in Geneva, a trail for educational uses by students and the general public. For 32 years, Hank has worked with FLCC conservation students, Pack 5 Cub Scouts, and Troop 5 Boy Scouts to develop and manage the trail.

He was a recipient of the Conservation Department's Outstanding Alumni Achievement Award in 1992. For thirteen years, he served as a member of the Alumni Association Council and was president from 1987 to 1989. He served on the FLCC Association, Inc. board for 10 years, including two terms as president. As president, he was the chairperson for the committee for building the Child Care Center which opened in 1995.

Since 2004, Hank has overseen the fundraising and recipient selection through the FLCC Foundation for the CCFL Storefront Pioneers Scholarship, which is awarded annually to a returning student who is involved in College activities or community service. He participated in the College's 40th Anniversary Event Planning Committee and currently is a member of the College's 50th Anniversary Event Planning Committee.

Hank's wife, Lois, also attended the College and earned an A.A.S. degree in registered nursing in 1976. Hank and Lois will celebrate their 46th wedding anniversary in July 2017.

The Exceptional Service Award was created in 2005 at the time of the 40th anniversary celebration of the charter for the College. Presented as a group award to all Storefront Pioneers at that event, it has since honored Dr. Charles J. Meder, Dr. Connie Carpenter, Bill Banaszewski, Marilyn Hurlbutt, Bruce Bridgman, Putt Moore, the Alumni Council, John Socha, Wayne Williams, Ethan Fogg '00, and Louise Mulvaney.

The purpose of the CCFL/FLCC Alumni Association Exceptional Service Award is to recognize outstanding contributions to one or more of the following: the campus experience and commitment to students, development of innovative programs that significantly impact students, and outstanding contributions to the CCFL/FLCC Alumni Association.

For his commitment to students; his service to the College as a member of the Alumni Association Council, the FLCC Association Board of Directors, and the 40th and 50th Anniversary Event Planning Committees; and his role in developing the FLCC Child Care Center and an educational nature trail, we present Henry "Hank" Roenke III '73 with the 2017 CCFL/FLCC Alumni Association Exceptional Service Award.

2017 Distinguished Alumni Award



Katy Berke-Henthorne '91

Innovative | Determined | Kind-hearted

Founder and President, The Crew Company

In recognition of Katy Berke-Henthorne's volunteer service and achievements as a producer and owner of a highly trusted consulting/booking agency in the entertainment industry

A.A. Liberal Arts and Sciences: Broadcast Communication, FLCC;
B.S. Mass Communication, Emerson College

Phi Theta Kappa (inducted 1990)
Distinguished Accomplishment in Broadcasting Award – FLCC (1991)
Alpha Epsilon Rho Honor Society (inducted 1992)

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD 2017

Originally from Waterloo, N.Y., Katy Berke-Henthorne '91 credits Finger Lakes Community College professor Ruth Legg as being particularly influential. Katy recalls, "She gave me the self-confidence to know that I could hold my own and be successful with anything I wanted to do with my career. She helped me get a job working in the audio visual/media department at the school, where I learned so many skills I actually wouldn't have otherwise (editing and shooting video)."

After receiving an A.A. in liberal arts with a specialization in broadcast communication at CCFL, Katy continued her education at Emerson College where she earned a bachelor's degree in 1993. During her final semester, she was accepted into Emerson's Los Angeles Program. She held three internships (Warner Brothers, Paramount Pictures, and a talent agency), while taking 16 credit hours of classes. She landed her first job at Paramount as a production assistant on a sitcom, *The Mommies*, and started the week after she graduated.

From 1993 to 1997, she worked as story coordinator and producer for Paramount Pictures' *Hard Copy*, associate producer for Disney Television and Warner Brothers Television (various productions); associate producer for the Emmy-nominated series, *The Leeza Show*. In 1997, she and her husband, David, founded The Crew Company, a worldwide production services agency which pulls together Katy's experience as a producer and David's experience as a production manager.

Today Katy is president of The Crew Company, which has grown to become one of the strongest and most trusted sources for field production crews for producers in the industry. The Crew Company's production credits have included: *BET Awards*, *Kids' and People's Choice Awards*, *The Grammy Awards*, *American Idol*, *So You Think You Can Dance*, *America's Got Talent*, *Shark Tank*, *Dancing with the Stars*, Warner Brothers' *Crime Watch Daily* and CBS/Paramount — *The Dr. Phil Show* and *The Doctors*.

Katy volunteers her time as a mentor to high school students interested in pursuing careers in television and film. She served on the Phoenix chapter's board for U.S. Figure Skating and as a Girl Scout troop leader.

Katy and David live in Phoenix, Arizona, with their two daughters, Bethany and Leah.

We are proud to honor Katy Berke-Henthorne's accomplishments in the entertainment industry. For her dedication to excellence in her field and mentoring others who aspire to build careers in film and television, we present Katy Berke-Henthorne '91 with a 2017 Distinguished Alumni Award.

2017 Distinguished Alumni Award



Dr. Rodney C. Haring '95

Peace | “Good Mind” | Strength

Research faculty member at Roswell Park Cancer Institute, Office of Cancer Health Disparities Research, Department of Cancer Prevention and Control, and adjunct faculty member at the University of Arizona, Department of Family and Community Medicine, Native American Research and Training Center

In recognition of Dr. Rodney C. Haring’s contributions to Native American health research, social work, and his positive impact as a mentor

A.S., Science, FLCC;
B.A., Stony Brook University;
M.S.W., Ph.D. University at Buffalo

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD 2017

Dr. Rodney C. Haring '95 was drawn to Finger Lakes Community College because of its proximity to his home on the Cattaraugus Indian Reservation, so he could return on the weekends to play in the Senior B Canadian/American Box Lacrosse League and volunteer as a bugler for the American Legion, Iroquois Post 1587. He also chose FLCC because of its natural resources conservation program. Initially, he had dreams of becoming a forest ranger but became interested in psychology and sociology toward the end of his associate degree program. He attributes his success to early encouragement from his family, community, and the Seneca Nation of Indians’ Johnson O’Malley and Higher Education Programs. He is also grateful to his FLCC academic champion, Dr. Benjamin Richardson, professor of sociology, who coached him how to be assertive in life, “open-up,” and explore what the world has to offer.

Today Dr. Haring is a member of the research faculty at Roswell Park Cancer Institute in the Cancer Prevention and Population Sciences Division. He is also an adjunct faculty member at the Native American Research and Training Center at the University of Arizona.

In 2010, he was an expert panel member to the United States Department of Education, the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy, Executive Office to the President. He currently serves as a national at-large board member and research advisor to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, American Indian and Alaska Native Health Research Advisory Council. This federal advisory panel makes recommendations on ways to reduce health disparities among federally recognized American Indian and Alaska Native communities.

The recipient of an Academy Health/Aetna Foundation Scholar in Residence Fellowship for 2015, he is also a National Congress of American Indians scholar. Dr. Haring was a speaker at Harvard Medical School for the 20th Anniversary Symposium of the Four Directions Summer Research Program in which students learn valuable skills that will help them pursue a career in the field of medicine, as well as knowledge that can help their communities and future generations of Native American people.

Dr. Haring is the author of several articles which have appeared in publications such as Journal of Cancer Education, Journal of Indigenous Research, Journal of Indigenous Voices in Social Work, and others. In 2015, he gave a presentation entitled, “First Nations, Maori, American Indians, and Native Hawaiians as Sovereigns: Workforce behavioral health and philosophies of the Indigenous” at an indigenous health and well-being conference, “Healing Our Spirits Worldwide,” held in New Zealand.

Since 2012, he has served as an advisory member of Native American SUNY Western Consortium Network which addresses the higher education needs of Native American students and communities.

Dr. Haring is an enrolled member of the Seneca Nation of Indians (Beaver Clan) and resides on the Cattaraugus Indian Reservation with his family.

We are proud to honor Dr. Rodney Haring’s accomplishments as a researcher and educator. For his commitment to community engaged scholarship and mentorship, we present Dr. Rodney C. Haring '95 with a 2017 Distinguished Alumni Award.

Distinguished Alumni Award Recipients



Prior to this evening, the FLCC Distinguished Alumni Award, which was presented for the first time in 2001, has honored the 38 graduates listed below for their professional achievement, community service, service to FLCC, and outstanding spirit.

2001

Anthony Faiola '72
Philip C. Povero '72, '74
Susan C. Treadwell '74
Dr. Richard J. Rivers '75
Laurie VerSchneider Broccolo '78
Jean S. Cass '81
Linda S. Ochs '94

2002

Lori Franklin Nellist '82
Annie Moore-Cox '85
Yvonne Lowrey Jolly '86
Dr. Sadredin (Dean) Moosavi '89

2003

Richard A. Williams '80
Richard D. Thomas '81

2004

William P. Santelli '73
Rudy W. Musclow '78

2005

Donald P. Rivers, Esq '73
Kevin D. Flynn '79
Jeffery R. Kehrer '83

2006

Laura Gross O'Shaughnessy '84
Suzanne Bamonto Graney '91

2007

Sandra Smithoover Maine '76
James C. Diermeier '77

2008

Richard Plympton '83, '84
William "Willie" Simmons '80

2009

David L. Jewett '89

2010

Dana C. Hansen Chavis '89

2011

Mark T. Watkins '75
John E. Hume '77

2012

Brian M. Kolb '76

2013

Tracey J. Fuller '93
Michael J. Miller '89

2014

John E. Derby '82
Kathleen M. Saxby '78
Brett W. Utter '97

2015

Tor N. Constantino '89
Mary M. Wilsey '70

2016

Gail O. Mellow '74
John "Jack" W. Moran Jr. '79

FINGER LAKES COMMUNITY COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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Joshuah Barry (Student Trustee)
Donald Cass
M. Joan Geise
John T. Hicks, '90
Stephen R. Martin
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Kenneth J. Buck	Dave Phillips
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Amy J. Calabrese	Robert H. Raeman
Kevin D. Flynn '79	Sean Socha
Eric D. Frarey '84	Thomas Walter
Ross Ganz	Lynne Woodworth
M. Joan Geise	Thomas Zimmerman
Dawn Hess	



FingerLakes
COMMUNITY COLLEGE
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION