Lights, Comm, Action Annual Awards Ceremony

The Department of Communication Arts held its annual awards celebration. This year’s celebration, with an Oscar-themed title of “Lights, Comm, Action.”

The awards celebration included keynote speaker, award-winning journalist, and alumnus, Greg Pallone from Orlando 13 news. Pallone spoke on his experience as a journalist, his gratitude for the department, and how to have a successful career. He was named the 2017 Distinguished Communication Arts Lecturer.

Professors from each program awarded students for their academic achievements, GPA, and recognized scholarship recipients, student leaders, Communication Arts Scholars, as well as graduating seniors.

The cast from Chicago also provided a preview of the upcoming show.

The event was coordinated by students from the PR event management course.

Comm Arts INC, Think BIG—Before I Graduate

The Communication Arts Department hosted Comm Arts INC, an internship, networking, and career fair catered specifically to majors in the Department. The event featured opening guest speaker, and alumnus, Greg Pallone from Orlando 13 news.

Pallone spoke on when breaking news happens in your back yard, and how to deal with emotions when covering sensitive stories. He also spoke on the importance of establishing relationships with people and maintaining your values and morals in the work place.

Pallone Orlando 13 news said, “If you aren't affected by tragedy you cover, there may be something wrong.”

The event also offered a meet and greet during which, students were able to network with professionals for potential internships and receive resume critiques. Students also chose panel discussions on topics of interest related to the communication arts field led by professionals.

This event was coordinated by students in the PR event management course.
Scholarship Recipients and Departmental Award Winners

Dorothy Few Lee Scholarship
Quincee Mundy
Francesca Foster
Devyn Crawley

Lois Scholarship
Taylor Mobley, MMFP
Harley Strickland, MMJ

Laura Dyar Scholarship
Jozsef Papp

Stephanie Routman Scholarship
Annaliyah Ferguson-Salim

Clarence W. McCord Scholarship
Andrew Ballard

Jenny Lynn Anderson Scholarship
Araya Jackson

Susan MacLachlan Scholarship
Kelly Dyal
Hannah Johnston
Kaylee Moody

PR Advisory Board Winners
Public Relations Student of the Year, Design, Planning & Writing Awards
Jeff Licciardello

Public Relations Research Award
Ashley Whittemore

MMJ Awards
Top Journalism Student
Rashida Otunba

Top Journalism Scholar
Chyna James

Rising Star Award
Jozsef Papp
Harley Strickland

Professional Promise Award
Cynthia Jones

COMS Awards
Promising Scholars
Taylor Higginbotham
Harley Stickland
Charles Joiner

Student of the Year
Miranda Swain

MMFP Awards
Top GPA
Mikalalah Guyton

Best Producer
Kimberly Clark

Up & Comer
Isabelle Perlee

Alumni of the Year
Sean Williams MMFP

A special thanks to Breshauna Perkins, Comm Arts PR Intern Spring 2017!