

2023 President's Outstanding Student Award Recipients

Associated Students of the University of Montana

Name	Student Group	Nomination Statement
Luke A. Johnson	Birding Club	<p>Luke has continuously been the backbone of the birding club. He is always the first to pick up an extra event or bring in a new component (like a museum specimen prep day for example). Luke embodies what it means to be a leader. As a club, we have been incredibly grateful for the dedication he puts into every meeting. From jeopardy to merch, Luke has been an amazing asset. Birding Club would not have been the same without him. Thank you for all your effort and we wish you years of happy birding!</p>
Hannah Nicole Dusek	Dance Club	<p>Hannah magnificently represents the Dance Club's mission "to develop an inclusive space, share the uniting and healing aspects of movement, and give back to the Missoula community." She is an embodied performer and accomplished choreographer, always committed to making meaningful work. She brings empathy and positivity to every space she enters; her passion for and advocacy of dance always radiates. She has changed lives and will continue to do so. The world is a brighter place because of her!</p>
Mason Bryan Banks	Forestry Club	<p>Mason Banks single handed brought back the time-honored tradition of Foresters Ball after almost being completely forgotten about after two years. If it wasn't for Mason's dedication to the College of Forestry, Forestry Students, and the Forestry club it would have been very likely that the Foresters ball would disappear entirely. Mason is a senior this year and is one of the last members to have visited a Ball. If he hadn't continued this tradition, it could have very likely disappeared forever.</p>
Philomena Rose Carrara-Ackermann	Griz Downstage	<p>Mena is a gifted artist, a talented comedienne, an outstanding student, a kick-ass gamer, and a true nerd in the best sense of the word. She's shown incredible range in her performances and has demonstrated huge growth. Mena brings curiosity, open-mindedness, and imagination to her classwork and is universally respected by her peers. There's no doubt that we'll one day hear Mena voicing video game and animated characters across a variety of platforms and we look forward to following her career.</p>
Ivie Lynn Carvo	Intervarsity	<p>Ivie has been an integral part to the leadership team of InterVarsity Christian Fellowship, but has also spent a majority of the last two years making sure that all the ASUM documents are easy to find, written properly, and sent in on time. She has</p>

helped me learn everything I need to take over from her after she graduates. She has made InterVarsity a well-oiled machine and we will miss her!

Nicole E. Schaller	Lambda Pi Eta	Nicole Schaller is graduating Summa Cum Laude with a minor in Climate Change Studies and a certificate in Health Communication. She has been on the President's 4.0 GPA list or the Dean's list every semester of her college career. For the past year, she has served as an officer in Lambda Pi Eta, the Communication Studies Honor Society. In that role, she helped the group host several high-quality departmental events that increased connection and opportunities for all COMX majors.
Clara E. Bentler	Model United Nations	Clara Bentler first participated in Montana Model UN in 2017, when she represented Billings Senior and Poland at UM's high school conference. Since then, Clara has served as a rapporteur and secretary-general at the fall conference and as a member and president of the spring travelling team. The team recently represented Bolivia at the National Model UN Conference in New York. According to faculty advisor Dr. Eva Maggi, "Clara really elevated the team quality with her committed leadership."
Kelsey L. Stansberry	Montana American Fisheries Society	Kelsey is an excellent student in Ecosystem Science & Restoration program, Honors college, and GLI. Kelsey has built a strong resume in aquatic fieldwork focused on habitat work and fisheries. She has used her experience to help students get involved through leading the group as Vice-President & President. She has led events including, electrofishing/fish rescues, river clean-up, snorkeling outings, regularly hosted professional speakers, & the mentoring session at MTAFS State meeting in 2023.
Mariah Colleen Thomas	Pi Sigma Alpha Epsilon Mu	Ms. Mariah Thomas has done an excellent job in bringing back the Political Science Honor Society chapter, Pi Sigma Alpha Epsilon Mu. She worked diligently with ASUM, the academic advisor, and National Pi Sigma Alpha office. Under her leadership as President of the UM PSCI Honors Chapter, many eligible students have joined and will be engaging in new activities next year.