

Graduating Ambassadors

Janelle Amegatse
Benjamin Augustine
Jacqueline Augustine
Ryenne Belt
Amalie Bergmann
Sean J. Chen
Neil Dessables
Aranea Dunckley
Samuel Ellis
Elizabeth Farmer
Jacob Fredman
Melanie Galvan Salazar
Madison Grams
Ky'Jah Greene

JosiAnna Hewitt
Rhett Hill
Lily Jensen
Megan J. Hahn
Pedro Juarez
Joseph J. Jung
Truc Le
Ika Lin
Melvin Misraim Lopez
Benjamin Maldonado
Gabrielle Miranda
Sarah Nielsen
Imani Ralph

Natalie Sheridan Sanchez
Olivia Seagraves
Jake Shaw
Sarah Shepherd
Jackson Taylor
Samantha Thomas
Madeleine Tibayan
Jaden Todd-Nelson
Haley Vanhof
Daniela Villacorta
Kai Walsh
Ashley Wellik
Bryce Wilson
Forrest Zepezauer



and the Adventure Begins!!!

The Chemistry and Biochemistry Convocation and Awards Ceremony

Thursday • May 15, 2025 • 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM
Student Union Memorial Grand Ballroom



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA
COLLEGE OF SCIENCE
COLLEGE OF MEDICINE TUCSON

**Chemistry
& Biochemistry**

2024–2025 Chemistry and Biochemistry Graduates

Doctor of Philosophy Biochemistry

Isabella Sophia Krider

Master of Science or Master of Arts - Biochemistry

Elizabeth Harper

Master of Science or Master of Arts - Chemistry

Colin Dral

Keren-ha C. Goraum

Doctor of Philosophy Chemistry

Anubhab Chakraborty

- 2023 Galileo Circle Scholar

Timothy Chavez

Clara Frost

- 2024 Kathryn K. and James D. Steele Scholar

Lindsey Holmen

- 2024 Galileo Circle Scholar
- 2024 David O’Brien Graduate Scholar

Lilia Koelemay

- 2024 Graduate Outstanding Scholarship
- 2024 Graduate Mensch Prize in Astrobiology
- 2024 Carl S. Marvel Scholar

Megan Laham

- 2024 Herbert E. Carter Award
- 2024 Outstanding Graduate Service
- 2024-2025 ARCS Foundation Scholar
- 2023 Galileo Circle Scholar

Nicholas Laut

- 2024 Outstanding Graduate Teaching
- 2024 Carl S. Marvel Scholar
- 2022 Galileo Circle Scholar
- 2021-2022 Victor P. Thalacker Chemistry Graduate Fellow
- 2021-2022 Dr. Wayne Cody Scholar in Medicinal Biological Chemistry

Katie Martin

- 2024-2025 Victor P. Thalacker Chemistry Graduate Fellow

David Mills

Jake Molineux

Chisom Olikagu

Joohyung Park

- 2024 Galileo Circle Scholar

Samantha Rokey

- 2024-2025 Victor P. Thalacker Chemistry Graduate Fellow
- 2024-2025 Dr. Wayne Cody Scholar in Medicinal Biological Chemistry
- 2024 Michael A. Cusanovich Galileo Circle Scholar

Kellen Schneider

Troy Smith

Savannah Stull

Spencer Yeager

Bachelor of Science or Bachelor of Arts - Biochemistry

Abdulqadir Ali

Jacqueline Augustine

- 2024 October Student of the Month

Ryenne Belt MCB +

Amalie Bergman SPAN

Katelyn Boone

- 2023 2nd Place, Biological Sciences Emerging, CBC Poster Fair

John Casey

Christian Chan

Lexi Charlip

Dorie Chen

Sean J. Chen

- 2024 Galileo Circle Scholar
- 2024 Outstanding Biochemistry Junior
- 2024 1st Place, Biological Sciences Advanced, CBC Poster Fair
- 2023 Galileo Circle Scholar
- 2023 Excellence Award in Biochemistry
- 2023 Royal Society of Chemistry Certificate of Undergraduate Excellence
- 2023 Ronald Gonzalez Wildcat Spirit Award

Troy Cornell

Andrew Dull +

Aranea Duncley MCB +

- Phi Beta Kappa

Samuel Ellis MCB *

- Phi Beta Kappa
- 2024 CBC Outstanding Peer Mentor

Felicia Escalante MCB

Elizabeth Farmer +

Jacob Fredman

- 2024 Galileo Circle Scholar

Moorea Gailloux +

Melanie Galvan Salazar MCB +

Mary Gordon

Madison Grams

- 2024 CBC Outstanding Peer Mentor
- 2024 2nd Place, Biological Sciences Advanced, CBC Poster Fair
- 2023 Honorable Mention, Biological Sciences Emerging, CBC Poster Fair

Ky’Jah Greene

Alyssa Gregory MICRO, NUSC, PSIOMB *

Olivia Hajdys MCB +

Samantha Hanus

Rhett Hill MCB

Carter Hollings MCB +

Lily Jensen MCB +*

Sabrina Kahl

Dylan Kmiec +

Jacob Kmiec

Allison Konrath

Julia Kossman

Seth Larger MCB

Truc Le PHSC +

- Phi Beta Kappa

Ika Lin +

- 2024 Galileo Circle Scholar
- 2024 1st Place, Biological Sciences Emerging, CBC Poster Fair

Melvin Misraim Lopez

Joshua Mahar +

Binay Maharjan

Benjamin Maldonado

Ginelle Maldonado

Dilan Maliyagoda COSC

Cameron Maltais

Luis Mendez Elizondo

Gabriella Miranda MCB

Ethan McNew MCB

- 2024 Galileo Circle Scholar

Hannah Nguyen NUSC

Adrian Moreno

2024–2025 Chemistry and Biochemistry Graduates

Alejandro Noriega STATDS +

Ellie Osborne

Gary Palmeri

Javier Perez

Sebastian Pimentel PSIO

Imani Ralph +

- 2024 October Student of the Month

Dillan Rhodes

Natalie Sheridan Sanchez +

- Phi Beta Kappa

Lucas Schomburg

Olivia Seagraves +

Jake Shaw MCB +

- 2024 Galileo Circle Scholar
- 2024 1st Place, Physical Sciences Emerging, CBC Poster Fair

Sarah Shepherd +

Carter Sower MCB * +

Douglas Swango PHSC +

- 2024-2024 Arnold & Mable Beckman Scholar

Jackson Taylor BIOIN +

- 2023 Outstanding Biochemistry Sophomore

Lauren Thaller

Samantha Thomas

Jaden Todd-Nelson MCB +

- 2024 2nd Place, Biological Sciences Emerging, CBC Poster Fair

Monique Trujillo MCB

Makaela Valencia +

Haley Vanhof

Daniela Villacorta

Christian Viramontes

- 2023 Patrick M. Hefferan Memorial Scholar
- 2022-2023 AZ Society for Coatings Technology Scholar

Nick Ward

- Phi Beta Kappa

Hans Weant

Jamison White

Bryce Wilson +

- 2024-2025 Barry Goldwater Scholar
- 2024 September Student of the Month

Rylee Yarger

Forrest Zepezauer MCB, ECOL *+

- 2024 Galileo Circle Scholar

Grady Zucco

Bachelor of Science or Bachelor of Arts - Chemistry

Janelle Amegatse +

- Phi Beta Kappa
- 2024 Outstanding Chemistry Junior
- 2024 Galileo Circle Scholar
- 2024 Royal Society of Chemistry Certificate of Undergraduate Excellence
- 2023 Honorable Mention, Physical Sciences Emerging, CBC Poster Fair

Pierre Aoun

Benjamin Augustine +

- 2023-2025 ACS Hach Scholar

Katelyn Bowers

Neil Dessables +

Kay Do +

Megan J. Hahn BIOC

- 2024 Ronald Gonzalez Wildcat Spirit Award
- 2024 2nd Place, Physical Sciences Advanced, CBC Poster Fair
- 2023 - 2024 AZ Society for Coatings Technology Scholar

JosiAnna Hewitt

- 2023-2024 Dr. Thomas M. and Candace C. Grogan Scholar
- 2024 Charles Y. F. Hoyt Scholar

Hanami Inagaki

Pedro Juarez

Joseph J. Jung

- AZ Society for Coatings Technology Scholar

Daisy Kirschbaum

Ildefonso Madueno

Tyler Martinez +

- 2024-2025 Tractor Supply FFA Future Leaders Scholar
- 2024-2025 Alpha Gamma Rho Scholar
- 2023-2025 Yuma County Farm Bureau Scholar
- 2023-2024 Darling Ingredients Inc. Scholar
- 2023-2024 Welton Farm Bureau Scholar

Filiberto Peña

Silverio Quintero

Aubrey Sommer

- Phi Beta Kappa
- 2024-2025 Hach Scholar

Luke Steinagel

Zekai Sun

Madeleine Tibayan +

- Phi Beta Kappa
- 2024 Undergraduate Award in Analytical Chemistry
- 2024 Charles Y. F. Hoyt Scholar
- 2024 1st Place, Physical Sciences Advanced, CBC Poster Fair

Camille Tinerella

Kai Walsh

Ashley Wellik

- 2024 Galileo Circle Scholar
- 2024 Royal Society of Chemistry Certificate of Undergraduate Excellence

Rose Wilson

Additional majors are indicated

*Double Degree

+ W. A. Franke Honors College

QR for online program



2025 CBC Convocation and Awards Ceremony

Speaker Program

Musicians: School of Music, Undergraduate String Quartet

Welcome

Craig Aspinwall, PhD
Professor and Department Head, Chemistry and Biochemistry (CBC)

Keynote

Diogenes (Dio) Placencia, PhD
Research Scientist at the Naval Research Laboratory (Washington, DC) and
RDT&E Portfolio Manager at the U.S. Southern Command (Doral, FL)
"Life Lessons (So Far!) from a Mid-Career UA Chem Alum"

Presentation of Galileo Circle Scholars

Carmala Garziona, PhD
Dean, College of Science
Professor, Geosciences

Presentation of Undergraduate & Graduate Awards

Dee Belle-Oudry, PhD
Associate Department Head, CBC
Katrina Miranda, PhD
Associate Professor, CBC
Undergraduate Research Coordinator
Andrei Sanov, PhD
Professor, CBC

Presentation of Chemistry and Biochemistry Graduating Students

Dee Belle-Oudry, PhD
Katrina Miranda, PhD
Andrei Sanov, PhD

Closing Remarks

John Jewett, PhD
Associate Professor, CBC
Ika Lin
CBC & College of Science Outstanding Senior



THE UNIVERSITY
OF ARIZONA

2024 - 2025 Awards and Recognition

Galileo Circle Scholars

Graduate Students

Jenna Courey
John Federice
Katherine Gold
Michael Cusanovich Scholar
Aleksy Lanin
Abigail Page
Hieu Pham
Rajat Ravi

Undergraduate Students

Gavin Arnold
Branham Jeffrey Carpenter
Luke Fasse
Sara Franco-Duque
Fiona Hodgkinson Scholar
Marc Garcia
Elizabeth Gharthey
Andrea Hernández
Isaac Kailat
Ronald Palmenberg
Delaney Petruzelli
Natalie Rawlings
Erin Schuette
Michael Cusanovich Scholar

Undergraduate Awards

Chemistry & Biochemistry
Outstanding Senior Fall 2024
Truc Le - Biochem

Chemistry & Biochemistry & the
College of Science Outstanding
Senior
Ika Lin

Chemistry Outstanding Senior
Tyler Martinez

Chemistry & Biochemistry
Excellence in Research
Jaden Todd-Nelson

Chemistry Excellence in Research
Kai Walsh

Biochemistry Outstanding Junior
Gavin Arnold

Chemistry Outstanding Junior
Luke Fasse

Biochemistry Outstanding
Sophomore
Adrian De La Peña

Biochemistry Outstanding
Freshman
Laura Serikova

CBC Outstanding Senior Thesis
1st Place: Jake Shaw
2nd Place: Jaden Todd-Nelson
3rd Place: Sean J. Chen

ACS Hach Scholars
Alice Miranda
Aubrey Sommer

ACS Undergraduate Award in
Analytical Chemistry
Tyler Martinez

ACS Undergraduate Award in
Physical Chemistry
Leah Harroun

ACS Undergraduate Award in
Organic Chemistry
Joseph J. Jung

ACS Undergraduate Award in
Inorganic Chemistry
Jake Shaw

Charles Y. F. Hoyt Scholars
Gavin Arnold
Natalie Rawlings

Excellence Award in Biochemistry
Isaac Kailat
Caleb Konecek
Michaela Ryan

Dr. Harry W. Edwards Chemistry
Memorial Scholar
Jorge Ruiz

Michael A. Wells Undergraduate
Research in Biological Sciences
Scholars
Marc Garcia
Jaden Todd-Nelson

Patrick M. Hefferan Memorial
Scholar
Soleil Robinson

Dr. Thomas M. and Candace C.
Grogan Scholars
Clara Donovan
Caleb Konecek
Anahi Macias
Audrey Winkle

Arizona Society for Coatings
Technology Scholars
Isaac Kailat
Alice Miranda

Royal Society of Chemistry
Certificate of Undergraduate
Excellence Recipients
Luke Fasse
Caleb Konecek

CBC Outstanding Senior
Ambassador
Megan Hahn

CBC Outstanding Peer Mentors
Janelle Amegatse
Dorie Chen
Andrew Zoretic

Ronald Gonzalez Wildcat Spirit
Awardees
Ryenne Belt
Sam Ellis
Madison Grams
Melvin Misraim Lopez
Ronald Palmenberg
Natalie Rawlings
Michaela Ryan
Jake Shaw
Kai Walsh

Graduate Awards

Outstanding Graduate Students
Outstanding Scholarship
Jake Molineux

Outstanding Service
Katherine Gold

Outstanding Teaching
Jeffrey R. Groch

Carl S. Marvel Scholars
Jake Molineux
Samantha Rokey

David O'Brien Graduate Fellow
Christopher Marshall

Victor P. Thalacker Chemistry
Graduate Fellows
Lindsey Holmen
Christopher Marshall

Kathryn K. & James D. Steele
Scholar
Katherine Gold

Howard P. Klein Early Career
Excellence in Graduate Research
Abigail Page

CBC Early Career Excellence in
Graduate Research
Zachary Bachler

John Hostetter Scholar
Oluwaseun Fapohunda

Special Recognition

2025 Molecular & Cellular Biology
Excellence in Research
Bryce Wilson

2025 Churchill Scholar
Bryce Wilson

2024 Astronaut Scholar
Bryce Wilson

2025-2025 Barry Goldwater
Scholar
Natalie Rawlings

CBC Undergraduate Poster Fair
Senior Thesis
1st: Natalie Sheridan Sanchez
2nd: Douglas Swango
Honorable Mention
Kay Do
Aranea Dunckley
Seth Larger
Ika Lin
Dillan Rhodes
Lauren Thaller
Maddie Tibayan
Haley Vanhof

Biological Sciences Advanced
1st: Erin Schuette
2nd: Natalie Rawlings
Honorable Mention
Anna Campbell
Ronald Palmenberg

Biological Sciences Emerging
1st: Forrest Zepezauer
2nd: Elizabeth Gharthey
Honorable Mention
Peter Luu
Nicholas Ngo
Ethan McNew
Akshay Menghani

Physical Sciences Advanced
1st: Jacob Narr
2nd: Trin Šutalo
Honorable Mention
Joseph J. Jung
Jaxon Goddard-Westland

Physical Sciences Emerging
1st: Natasha Graham
2nd: Delaney Petruzelli
Honorable Mention
Nolan Knapp
Daniel Aranda