



# PHI THETA KAPPA

## HONOR SOCIETY



### **Montana's All Star Community College/Two-Year College**

#### **2016 All Academic Team**

The purpose of Phi Theta Kappa is to recognize and encourage scholarship among associate degree students. To achieve this purpose, the organization provides opportunities for the development of leadership and service.

Phi Theta Kappa, two-year and community college presidents and community college state associations sponsor All-State Community College Academic Team ceremonies in 38 participating states.

The following students were nominated by their respective two-year college faculty and staff and represent some of the best and brightest students in our state's two-year and community colleges. Upon nomination, each of these students was automatically named to the All-State Community College Academic Teams.

The student receiving the highest All-USA Community College Academic Team application score in each state is named a Coca-Cola New Century Scholar and represents his/her state in the opening ceremonies at the American Association of Community Colleges Convention. In addition, one student from a Phi Theta Kappa chapter in Canada and one student from a Phi Theta Kappa chapter in the other seven sovereign nations where Phi Theta Kappa chapters exist are named Coca-Cola New Century Scholars. Each Coca-Cola New Century Scholar will receive a \$2,000 scholarship, and each institution will receive special recognition at the American Association of Community Colleges Convention.

The Coca-Cola New Century Scholars program is sponsored annually by the American Association of Community Colleges, The Coca-Cola Foundation, the Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation, and Phi Theta Kappa.



**Whitney Bach**  
***Miles Community College ~ Business***

I am from Wolf Point, Montana, and I am attending Miles Community College in Miles City, Montana. I am president of Miles City's PTK chapter and I am a sophomore representative for ASMCC (student senate). At the end of the spring 2016 semester, I will graduate from Miles Community College with an Associate of Science degree in business. Then, in the fall 2016 semester I plan to transfer to Montana State University in Billings and pursue a Bachelor of Science degree in accounting. After graduating from MSUB, I plan on finding a job in the accounting field. Eventually, I hope to become a CPA.

I have enjoyed attending Miles Community College very much. The small community college size has helped me to grow in my education and as a person. I love the opportunity for one on one help from the professors and the chance to know them personally. The smaller classroom size has helped me to feel more comfortable asking questions and providing answers. My goal during my first year of college was to only finish a two-year degree and get out, but because I felt more comfortable around my professors, I took seriously the suggestion to continue my education by reaching past a two-year Associate's and head for a four-year Bachelor's. I value the opinions and advice that the faculty and staff have given me over the past two years, and I feel like they are family. My family have also been very supportive of my education and have given me encouragement and advice when I've felt discouraged. I have experienced, first hand, Miles Community College's slogan, "Start here, go anywhere".



**Samantha Bisel**  
***Great Falls College MSU ~ Art/Science***

Samantha Bisel, a full-time student at Montana State University- Bozeman, started her collegiate education at Great Falls College MSU. She utilized the two-year campus as a stepping stone by completing her Associate of Arts and Science, prior to transferring to Bozeman for the spring 2016 semester. She is currently working on her Bachelor of Cell Biology and Neuroscience in the hopes of transferring to medical school, where she will gain knowledge and experience necessary to become a surgeon. And while there is a great amount of time between now and choosing her specialty, she is most interested in neurosurgery.

Samantha believes that attending a two-year campus prior to a four-year is the most rewarding option for high school graduates. "Perhaps the most intimidating time in a person's life is the day after high school graduation, because at that moment you realize that you are no longer saying you will do something- you are expected to do it. And while my favorite motto is 'Do now what others won't, so you can do later what others can't,' it can be extremely daunting to know where to start. Great Falls College offered every resource necessary to succeed, one of my favorites being the Academic Success Center!" In addition to her studies, Samantha has been researching algae for the Montana Space Grant Consortium, and will be presenting her findings in April. "The best advice that I can give college students is that you get out what you put in, why not invest your entire self?"



**Tim Bouchard**

***Miles Community College ~ Information Technology***

I am Tim Bouchard and I am from the small town of Froid, MT. I am attending Miles Community College in Miles City, MT. Miles Community College was the best fit for me because it was the perfect distance from home and it has a smaller atmosphere like my school growing up. I am currently pursuing my AAS degree in Information Technology with an emphasis on computer maintenance and network design. I have always been proficient with computers and an instructor at Miles inspired me to pursue this degree. Originally I was in the Radiological Technology program through Butte, but that just wasn't for me. Miles Community College has provided me with countless opportunities to excel. They have given me the required skills to exceed in a very positive and conducive environment. In May, I will have my degree and will start looking for employment. I will then start my bachelor's degree with some online classes in September.

**Heidi Fleury*****Flathead Valley Community College ~ Natural Resources Conservation and Management***

My name is Heidi Fleury and I have called the Rocky Mountains home for the past decade. I ended up at Flathead Valley Community College, in Kalispell, MT partly because I was about to lose almost \$8000 in education awards from Americorps and partly because the college offered a two-year degree with the word Conservation in it and had an amazing view of the mountains. Perfect. Little did I know that my haphazard decision to attend a semester of classes would turn into an Associate's degree and the legitimate want to further my knowledge and experience in a certain career. That career is Natural Resources Conservation and so far, my degree along with my previous work experience have aligned me to smoothly transition into more education and, later on, a career. The technology and applied math and science classes that I also completed over the two-year program are allowing me to excel in a competitive job market and I already have a career transition appointment with a government agency to become a professional Soil Conservationist.



**Jeshua Glascock**

***Flathead Valley Community College ~ Secondary Education***

My name is Jeshua Glascock and I have lived in Kalispell, Montana for ten years. I moved to Montana from Texas and began a career at FedEx Express. I met my wife here and we recently had our first child. These life changes along with internal motivation left me seeking a career change. Given the settled down nature of family life, it was necessary for me to attend a school nearby and Flathead Valley Community College is conveniently located ten minutes from my house. Attending FVCC has been an amazing experience. The faculty and professors are knowledgeable and they are excellent teachers. They are truly a top notch institution. I will receive my Associate of Science Degree at the end of this semester. I am pursuing a Secondary Education Broadfield Science Bachelors Degree. To complete my education, my family and I will uproot and move to Bozeman, Montana where I will attend Montana State University. Flathead Valley Community College has made it possible for me to take the next step in my life and I am ever grateful to those who have taken me under their wing.



**Tiffany Grundel**  
***Great Falls College MSU ~ Science/Art***

My name is Tiffany Grundel and I was born in Lewistown, MT. I am currently attending the Great Falls College MSU, with the hopes of transferring to the University of Great Falls to pursue my Undergraduates degree in Biology and Mathematics this fall. My future plans are to somehow get into the research field dealing with honeybees. I am extremely grateful for the time I have spent at Great Falls College MSU. Never have I been part of such a dedicated team of faculty and fellow students, who have and continue to encourage me to pursue my dreams. With the kindness and help that I have encountered at this school, I have developed the necessary building blocks to continue with my academic career. I will be forever grateful for the opportunity to be part of such a great school!