

## ABOUT THE 2014 AWARD RECIPIENTS



### **ERIC BROWN**

*Illustration*

Ringling College of Art & Design

Eric is a sophomore at Ringling College of Art and Design, majoring in illustration. After high school he trained as a firefighter and EMT, the profession of his father, and graduated first in his class. However, he soon realized his true passion was art and illustration and enrolled at Ringling.

### **ISABELLE COBIAN**

*Visual Art*

Laguna College of Art & Design

A graduate of Booker High School, Isabelle comes highly recommended by several teachers as a talented and highly motivated art student. She works in various mediums but “does not forget her traditional training”. Isabelle has been accepted to attend Laguna College of Art and Design in September.



### **ALYSSA DINKA**

*Dance*

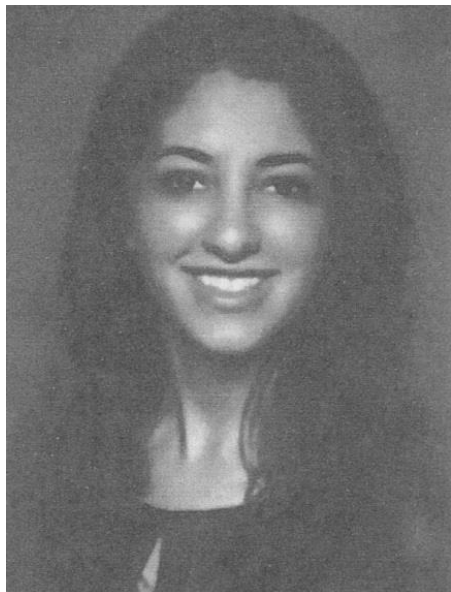
Pace University

Alyssa, a FASS scholarship recipient last year, will apply our continued support toward her pursuit of a BFA and career in dance. She aspires to be a professional dancer in Broadway shows, as a Rockette, or in other dance companies. Alyssa is a sophomore at Pace University where she has studied with many former Rockettes, Broadway choreographers, and a Tony award winner. She receives the highest of recommendations.



**MATTHEW FALGOWSKI**  
*Jazz Studies*  
University of North Florida

There is no question that Matthew will achieve his stated goal of becoming a professional jazz pianist and composer. As a sophomore with a dual major of Jazz Studies and Business at UNF, he has earned a 4.0 grade point average and glowing recommendations from his faculty. Matthew was also a recipient of a FASS scholarship last year.

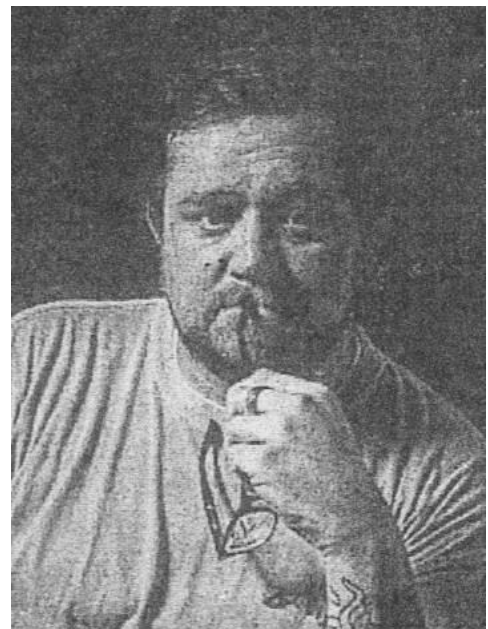


**MONICA GONZALEZ**  
*Music, Voice*  
Oberlin

Monica is a student at Cardinal Mooney High School, where she has a 3.5 GPA. In college, she plans to major in music and voice. Her extracurricular activities include the Sarasota Youth Opera, Key Club, Spanish Club, and Flamenco dancing. She has sung the National Anthem at baseball games, political rallies, and high school events. She volunteers at Toys for Tots, church VBS, and the youth opera house.

**J. T. HARRIS**  
*Photography & Digital Imaging*  
Ringling College of Art & Design

J. T. is a junior at Ringling College of Art and Design. He is a non-traditional student 38 years of age. His career goal is to be a food photographer for a major fine dining/gourmet magazine. J. T. has been on the President's List all semesters, has been in juried shows, and his work appeared in two publications.



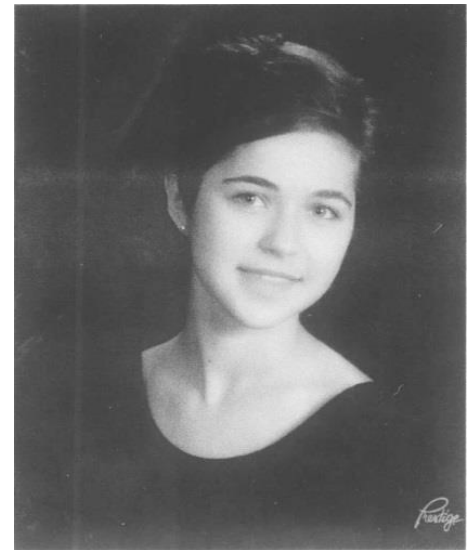


**RACHEL HAYDEN**  
*Photography & Graphic Design*  
University of Central Florida

Rachel has had a very productive and rewarding freshman year at University of Central Florida majoring in Visual Arts and Emerging Media Management. This is the second year that she has been awarded our FASS scholarship...so again it is apparent that her talents in the technical side of art—photography, film and web design are impressive. Her letters of recommendation are exemplary. She would like to explore a career in advertising.

**JORDAN HOLM**  
*Sculpture*  
Ringling College of Art & Design

Jordan is a senior at Suncoast Polytechnical High School and has had a dual enrollment at State College of Florida. Her desire is to make an impact on the lives of others through a career as a sculptor and teacher. Her high recommendations all mention her dedication to the process of learning (National Honor Society member) and that she thrives on growing artistically (1<sup>st</sup> place Sculpture State Competition).



**SABINO LOPS**  
*Advertising Design*  
Ringling College of Art & Design



Sabino is graduating from Riverview High School where he is a member of National Honor Society. He was one of the “Top 25 winners of 2014 Evening of Excellence”. He is treasurer of the Spanish club, club section editor of the yearbook, and involved in the Creative Art Academy, the Sarasota Sand Castle Festival and the Sarasota Chalk Festival.

**MICAH MATHEWSON**  
*Photography, Design & Drawing*  
Watkins College of Art

Micah is a freshman at Watkins College of Art and Design. He has maintained a small business completing commissioned paintings, taking photographic portraiture, and doing small graphic work from his junior year of high school to present day. Simultaneously he has written, recorded and produced over twenty full length musical compositions.

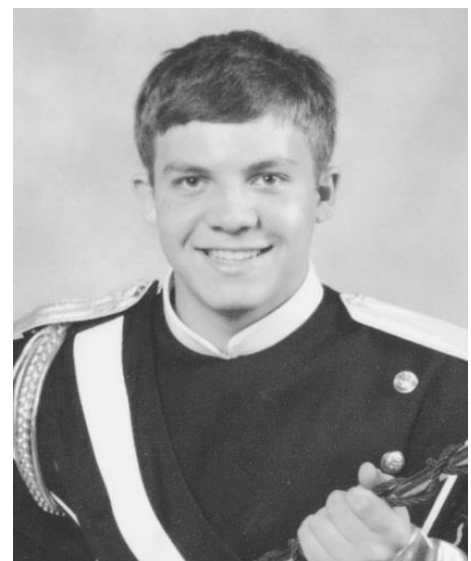


**SAMANTHA McVETY**  
*Art & Environmental Science*  
University of Southern California

Samantha is a most unusual and highly gifted student. She has won many Academic Awards and Honors and has received outstanding recommendations from her Principal at Pine View High School, and her teachers. “She is passionate about film and has moved on from being a talented visionary to a gifted cinematographer.” She was the official winner of the Nixon Film Festival in 2012.

**DOUGLAS ORTNER**  
*Music*  
Florida State University

Douglas is a senior at Venice High School and has ranked in the top 10% of his class throughout high school. He is a member of the National Honor Society, Eagle Scouts, National Junior Honor Society, has completed three community college courses, is a member and drum major of the Marching Band, and has the highest performance ranking in the Concert Band. He wishes to pursue a career in music education.





**BRITTANY PROBUS**

*Photography*

Brittany is a senior at Sarasota High School. Her honors include National Honor Society, National Art Honor Society, Art Competitions Scholastics “Gold Key” top 25, and People’s Choice Award in Evening of Excellence. Her glowing recommendations emphasize that she is a creative artist with a critical eye and perspective for the photographic medium. She would like to get a BA in photography and become a freelance photographer or work for *National Geographic*.

**SAVANNAH SHUMWAY**

*Photography*

Ringling College of Art & Design

Savannah is a photography student at Ringling College of Art. She was a FASS scholarship winner in 2013 and thoroughly appreciates a Ringling education and working on campus. She has many artistic talents from creative writing to drama to photography. Savannah has selected photography as her means of expression and currently has the longtime goal of becoming a photographer for *National Geographic*.



**HALEY SIMMONS**

*Dance-Choreography*

University of Florida

Haley is a dance student at Booker High School and has performed in every dance production during her four years in the VPA program. She demonstrates very strong technique and artistic talent and she has maintained the highest academic standards as one of the school’s top performing students. Her teachers gave Haley glowing recommendations in all aspects of talent, creativity, and academics. She has a goal of becoming a choreographer.

**ALINA TIMSHINA**

*Art, Art History*  
University of Florida

Alina Timshina is a talented painter who also works in mixed media. She has won numerous art awards, including Top 25 for Evening of Excellence in 2013 and 2014 and the Omar Cooper award, a mentorship with Clare Howard, director of the North Port Art Center. Alina is a senior at North Port High School, has a 3.96 average and is 3<sup>rd</sup> in her class.



**CHRISTINE WOZNIAK**

*Photography*  
Southeastern University

Christine Wozniak continues to reach new heights in Photography, earning a 3.92 average in her Freshman year at Southeastern University. She is interested in the technical courses in Photography as well as learning the Business and Marketing aspects of this field. She has successfully had her photographs published in *Photography Forum* magazine.