

Repub Plus - all editions 6/13/18

# HCC honors record number of scholars

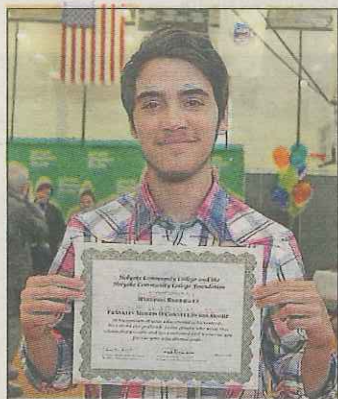
Before she died several years ago, Elia Dreyfuss was the longtime coordinator of the Transition to College and Careers program at Holyoke Community College and a stalwart advocate for adult basic education services.

After her death, friends and colleagues established an endowed scholarship in her memory through the Holyoke Community College Foundation. Two gifts are awarded each year to students who graduate from the Transition to College and Careers program.

This year, the Elia Dreyfuss Scholarship for 2018-2019 went to Luis and Lisette Antonmarchi, a married couple from West Springfield, who plan to use their awards to continue their educations at HCC in the fall.

The Antonmarchis were among the scholarship recipients celebrated at the annual Scholarship Meet & Greet last month at the college's Bartley Center. There to present them with their certificates were Marie Troppe, present director of the Transition to College and Careers program, and Rose Egan, director of the Community Education Project, where Dreyfuss used to teach English to Latino adults.

"These are the sorts of connections that make this event so special," said Amanda Sbriscia, executive director of the college foundation and emcee of the scholarship reception, which honors both scholarship



Harrison Rodriquez, left, of Holyoke, holds a certificate recognizing him as the recipient of the Franklin Morris O'Connell Scholarship from the Holyoke Community College Foundation. At right, Ekeome Ibe, of Chicopee, is the recipient of a James F. Connors Scholarship. (HOLYOKE COMMUNITY COLLEGE PHOTOS)

recipients and the donors who make those awards possible. "Friends and colleagues of Elia Dreyfuss wished to honor her life-changing work. With this fund, her legacy lives on through the achievements of deserving students like Lisette and Luis."

The foundation awarded a school record 223 scholarships this year to current, incoming and graduating students. For the 2018-2019 academic year, the foundation will provide close to \$250,000 in direct student aid. The average award is about \$1,000 but can go as high as \$5,000, depending on the scholarship and individual need.

As noted by several speakers, these scholarships can make an immeasurable difference to students who otherwise might not be able to afford to attend college.

"A scholarship," said college

president Christina Royal, "is a life-changing gift."

The HCC Foundation scholarship application period opens in February each year and scholarships are announced in April for the following academic year.

The following students, by community, received scholarships from the HCC Foundation for the 2018-2019 academic year:

**Chicopee:** Elena Aguirre, Meaghan Belanger, Haley Brault, Sara Clausell, Casey Daviau, Amber Doucette, Ekeoma Ibe, Jolanta Jasinska, Kelsey Prive, Christine Ramponi, Shakira Reyes, Teniel Rhiney, Nicholas Stamborski, Matthew Tetreault, Giavanni Thomson, Victoria Vega and Tyler Wool;

**Granby:** Taylor Dumais, Tia Dwinell, Olivia Morin, Olivia Murray and Kyle Roe;

**Holyoke:** Jehovanie Almey-

da, Yarellys Barreto, Brendon Castro, Marie Cruz, Fabiola De Jesus Cartagena, Shannon Dion, Anthony English, Owen Fogg, Tyler Godet, Darian Gonzalez, Elijah Harris, Danielle Harris-Lariviere, Samantha Harris-Lariviere, Vinish Jha, Allison Kelly, Joselmang Leon, Deborah Manus, Christopher Mazza, Jared McPherson, Kiara Nazario-Cartagena, Julie Otero, Sage Pasquale, Lionel Resto, Heidi Robbins,

Harrison Rodriguez, Joel Rodriguez, Synell Rodriguez, Jeriel Rodriguez, Adelaida Rodriguez, Bethany Serrano, Alexandra Sullivan, Michael Suriel, Edgardo Torres, Ellie Westcott and Nathan Wytrwal; and

**South Hadley:** Jerid Deprey, Sahara Garcia, Kyle Gemme, Raymond Guerin, Shyanne Jackson, Stephanie Lutz, Jonathan Niemiec and Lea Waldbillig