# Eighteenth Annual Distinguished Alumni &

**Fifth Annual**Clock Tower
Awards Dinner





Thursday, November 6, 2025 Holiday Inn - Johnstown, NY

Jutures Made Here

#### **STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS 2025/2026**

Aherns, Merissa Agresta, Dominick Angus, Georgiana Atty, Chloe Atty, Gretta Bain, Sydney Barboza, Giovanni Barker, Emmaleigh Bernard, Tanner Borst, Madison Brockhum, Aubrey Calabrese, Ciarra Carey, Paton Christie, Maranda Christmas, Keonna Colabello, Kaylee Cooper. Sjarazade Coupas, Cole Covington, Semajé DeAngelo, Michael DeLuca, Gabriella Despres, Madison DiCarlo, Ashley Dineen, Ellana Dutcher, Katie

Fetrow, Kloe Fox. Luz Garcia-Cruz, Jann Greene, DeReon Hale, Max Handy, Adeline Hayes, Cereda Hayes, Madalyn Henderson, Peyton Henriquez, Franklin Iglesia, Faith Jackowski, Garrett Jones, Alecea Kohn, Connor LeBarron, Alexa Martinez, Liz Mead, Kylee Melita, Dallys Michalski, Olivia Miller, Jordan Miller, Leonard Monroe, Haile Ochoa-Calle, Jesslin Orr, George

Parent, Jaqlynn Parker, Natalie Perkett-Salisbury, Devin Phillips, James Phillips, Preston Ratajczak, Emily Rivera, Daivian Rodriguez Rivera, Esteisy Rouse, Alexandria Santiago, Briana Scunziano, Allison Shaw, Molly Simonds, Madison Smith, Brooklyn Smith, Kayde Smith, Megan Soto, Dante Sturgess, Benjamin Sturgess, Lilyana Swedick, Brielle Sweet, Lindsay Torres, Cristian Webster, Paige Windecker, Mercedes

#### **SCHOLARSHIPS & AWARDS**

AAUW Advanced Imaging Modality Award Amst. City Hospital Nurses Alumn Asso Amsterdam Rotary Club Amy "King" Steenburg Award Andrew J. DiNitto Award Anna Derrig Geraghty Nursing Award Bailey Madora Harris Memorial Prize Cap and Gown Bound Civility in the Classroom Award Clarkson Trans Achieve & Leadership Clifford T. Weller Debra Kozlowski-Rector Memorial Delores "Dee" Brown Nursing Deputy Gary Johnson/MC Stop-DWI Deputy James F. Glover Mem Award Donald and Violet O'Connell Doris Vincent Macevka Business Dorothy Gennett Memorial Dorothy Roberts Nursing Early Admission Elaine Hoye Nursing Ellen Cast Lathers Memorial Nursing F.A.C.E. Awards Fenimore Asset Management

FM Nursing Faculty Award FM Student Nurses' Assoc. Award Forrest/Hammond Nursing Award Foundation of FM Frank Giaquinto Memorial Fulton County Healthcare FCHOA Norm Stahlman Fulton County Servicemen's Assoc. Gerda Lider Nursing Gloria J & Richard Rusnica Memorial Grace Brownell Felter Hadley "Stretch" DePuy Harold N. Martling Helen J. Kumpan Memorial Award Jane Peck Easterly Memorial Joel Ager Prize John D. Vadney Math Prize Johnstown Hospital Foundation Johnstown Moose Family Center Joseph H. Smith, Jr. 1945 Award Kathy Anne Marvel Nursing Katy Mae Peterson Ken Simek Award Kevin Christman Memorial Award Lexington

Lisa Queeney-Vadney Maceyka Family Maggie Bautz Nursing Marc A. Marino Marilyn Lord Nursing Margaret A. Collier Memorial MISA Club Award Maire Kearney Wagner Nursing Montgomery County Home Bureau Nathan Littauer Hospital New York State Sheriffs' Assoc. Northville Rotary Foundation Nurses for Nurses Rao Family Scholarship Return for Success RPI Excellence & PTK Richard Evans II Prize in English Rita Mary Burke Sal & Catherine Landrio Student Senate Association Southern Adirondack Dog Club St. Mary's Healthcare Nursing The Delaney Family Tribes Hill Fish and Game Club William Pac Memorial

#### **PROGRAM**

#### **WELCOME**

Joette Quillan
Foundation Student Director

#### **MASTER OF CEREMONIES**

John Lesniewski, Foundation Board Chair

\*\*\*DINNER\*\*\*

#### **CLOCK TOWER AWARD**

Del B. Salmon

#### **DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARDS**

Ginger Cato, '2000 Stanislava Mladenova, Ph.D. '2000

#### **CLOSING REMARKS**

Dr. Gregory Truckenmiller



#### **DEL B SALMON**



Del B. Salmon is the owner and sole member of The Salmon Law Firm, PLLC in Amsterdam. His Law Firm was established by his Grandfather, Carl S. Salmon, Sr., on December 1, 1911. Del is a third generation Attorney in the firm. He is an Elder Law Attorney with a practice that focuses on Estate Planning, Estate Administration, Asset protection, and Medicaid Qualification. Del earned his Juris Doctor degree from the Vermont Law School. He also holds a master's degree in education from the University of Maryland College Park, and a bachelor's degree in psychology from the University of Rochester.

Del is actively involved in Community Affairs. Del was a member of the FM Foundation for over 25 years and served as Chair of the Foundation from 2002-2004 and again from 2013 -2019. Among other things, Del was intimately involved in raising funds for the construction of the Allen House. There has been a Salmon involved with FM for the past 60 years. Carl S. Salmon, Jr., was a founding Trustee and served on the Board for many In addition to FM, Del serves or has served as a Board Member and Officer of the following Charitable Organizations: The Robert and Dorothy Ludwig Jewish Community Center; Daughters of Sarah Community for Seniors Massry Residence and Nursing Center; Congregation Gates of Heaven; Community Hospice and Palliative Care; Mountain Valley Hospice and Palliative Care; Amsterdam Free Library; St. Mary's Hospital Foundation; Montgomery County Office for Aging Foundation; and WMHT Educational Telecommunications, Inc. Del is also a member of the Committee on Character and Fitness for the Fourth Judicial District for the New York State Bar Association.

Del is humbled to have been honored for his service to the community in the following ways: The 2024 Readers' Choice Award Winner for the best Law Firm in Montgomery/Fulton Counties by the Leader-Herald and the Recorder; The 2023 Congregation Gates of Heaven Humanitarian Award (joint with his wife Randie); The 2021 Rao Family Philanthropic Award for exceptional financial generosity to our community by the Montgomery County OFA Foundation; The 12/2021 Montgomery County Small Business of the Month Award; The 2018 Amsterdam Rotary Citizen of the Year Award; The 2014 Mountain Valley Hospice Gregory R. Hoye Award; The 2006 Joseph Grizone Award for Exemplary Service to Older Adults given by the Montgomery County Office for Aging; The 2005 B'nai B'rith Community Service Award; and the 1996 Herbert T. Singer Community Service Award for Continuous Devotion to the Community.

Del resides in Niskayuna with Randie, his loving wife of 45 years. He is proud of his three children, Benjamin, Stephen and his wife, Amanda, and Hannah and her husband, Scott. He is over the moon with love for his four grandchildren, Caleb, Sydney, Hayley, and Beckett.

#### GET TO KNOW DE B. SALMON - FUN FACTS

Favorite Color:

Favorite Song:

Favorite Band/singer:

Favorite Food and/or restaurant:

Favorite sport and/or sports team:

Favorite movie and/or tv show:

First car owned:

First job:

Pets and/or favorite animal:

Favorite pastime/hobby:

Something on your bucket list:

Something you do to unwind:

Person you most admire: Most Interesting Person You've Met:

Favorite place to visit/vacation:

Who or what did you want to be

when growing up:

Three things you MUST have if

deserted on an island:

Favorite quote or words of wisdom:

Turquoise

""I love you just the way you are" Billy Joel

Billy Joel

Lobster

New York Yankees

"I Love Lucy"

1974 Toyota Carrola (known as Rolling Rust)

Camp Counselor at Gloversville JCC Day Camp

Penny the Poodle

Cooking, Traveling, Gardening

Travel to all 7 continents (Done February 2025 w/Antarctica)

Ocean cruising

My Father, Carl S. Salmon Jr.

Katharine Hepburn

Paris, France

An Architect

Bleu cheese stuffed olives, Twizzlers, & Fritos

"It's better than a poke in the eye with a sharp stick"

#### GINGER CATO, '2000



Ginger Cato serves as the Director of the Rob Constantine Recovery Community and Outreach Centers, a program of HFM Prevention Council. Prior to this role, she was the Assistant Program Director at Montgomery County Domestic Violence, a program of Catholic Charities of Fulton and Montgomery Counties.

Deeply committed to advocacy, Ms. Cato is passionate about empowering those who have not yet found their own voice. She works tirelessly to break the stigma surrounding addiction.

She is a Certified Recovery Peer Advocate (CRPA) and Peer Supervision Professional (PSP), as well as a certified instructor for the CCAR Recovery Coach Academy and Ethical Considerations for Recovery Coaches. In addition, she is a New York State Department of Health certified opioid overdose prevention trainer.

In recognition of her leadership and dedication, Ms. Cato was named a Woman of Distinction in 2014 by Assemblyman Angelo Santabarbara. She has long been engaged in community coalition work, serving as a member of multiple local drug-free coalitions and co-chairing the Montgomery County coalition for 11 years. Her academic background includes an Associate of Applied Science in Criminal Justice from Fulton Montgomery Community College and a Bachelor of Science in Community and Human Services from SUNY Empire State College. She is also a graduate of the CADCA National Coalition Academy and the SAMHSA Policy Academy for Implementing Community-Level Policies to Prevent Alcohol Misuse.

Ms. Cato resides in Gloversville with her husband and daughter and is also the proud stepmother of two grown children.

#### **GET TO KNOW GINGER CATO - FUN FACTS**

Favorite Color: Green

Favorite Song: "Blackbird" by the Beatles

Favorite Band/singer: Beatles

Favorite Food and/or restaurant: Chocolate Jumble Cookies Favorite movie and/or tv show: "Great British Bake Off" First car owned: 1987 Chevy Cavalier First iob: Price Chopper Cashier

Pets and/or favorite animal: Three cats Reading

Favorite pastime/hobby: Drive the California coast Something on your bucket list:

Something you do to unwind: Crocheting

Most interesting person you've met:

My best friend Lisa

Favorite place to visit/vacation: Cape Cod Who or what did you want to be

when growing up:

Three things you MUST have if

deserted on an island:

Favorite quote or words of wisdom:

Solid Gold Dancer

A book, sunscreen, and a comfortable chair

"Serenity now"

#### DR, STANISLAVA MLADENOVA, PH.D., 2000



Dr. Stanislava Mladenova is the NATO Operations Division Core Team Lead in Moldova, where she is responsible for NATO's cooperation with Moldova in strengthening its security forces. As a practitioner and scholar in her 20 year career, she has held a variety of postings working at the nexus of security and international development. As a Senior Specialist at the World Bank in Washington DC, Mladenova led efforts that examined how climate financing can build security and economic resilience in places affected by conflict and violence.

During her time at the United States Institute of Peace, Mladenova worked in West Africa to establish dialogue between local police forces and communities with the aim to cultivate trust in some of the most vulnerable communities in six West African Countries.

She has served as an Emergency Responder for Operation Allies Welcome of the International Rescue Committee at the US Marine Corps Base Quantico during the Afghan evacuation. In her capacity as a Political Advisor during her time at NATO Headquarters in Brussels, Mladenova worked to reform the Alliance's processes and structures. As a NATO Political Advisor in Afghanistan, she was responsible for analysis of economic issues, governance, corruption, disaster management, gender, humanitarian assistance, and preventing the recruitment of child soldiers. Mladenova's work has brought her to Africa, Central and South Asia, North and South America, Western and Eastern Europe, and the Balkans.

She is a nonresident senior fellow with Atlantic Council in Washington DC, a Global Fellow at Brown University. She has also served as an Irregular Warfare Initiative fellow at the United States Military Academy at West Point.

Mladenova is regularly called upon to teach, train and speak on security matters to US government agencies, the irregular warfare community, international organizations (OECD, NATO, and UN agencies), non-governmental organizations, research institutions, professional and executive degree programs in international security and development, and other academic fora.

She holds a Ph.D. in War Studies from King's College London, and is the author of When Rambo Meets the Red Cross: Civil-Military Engagement in Fragile States (Rowman & Littlefield, 2024). Her research on how US Special Operations Forces engage with populations and humanitarian and development organizations is regularly assigned to academic programs in military and civilian universities.

#### GET TO KNOW DR. STANISLAVA MLADENOVA - FUN FACTS

Favorite Color: Green

Favorite Song: U2– Beautiful Day

Favorite Food and/or restaurant: Bellamy's—Mayfair, London

First job: Budget Examiner at NY State Division of the Budget

Favorite pastime/hobby: Hiking

Something on your bucket list: Antarctica (to visit the penguins)

Something you do to unwind: Exercise Favorite place to visit/vacation: Goa for yoga

Favorite quote or words of wisdom: There is only one way to eat an elephant:

"one bite at a time."

Who or what did you want to be

when growing up: Urban Architect

# PAST CLOCK TOWER AWARD RECIPIENTS



- 2021 Johnstown Hospital Foundation
- 2022 Dr. Govind, Mrs. Jyothi Rao and Family
- 2023 Fenimore Asset Management
- 2024 Rick and Mary Frasier

#### THE IMPORTANCE OF GIVING

When planning my estate, I made FM a top priority. As a faculty member here, I have witnessed first-hand the tremendous impact that FM has on the lives of hard-working students who need and deserve a helping hand-up, as opposed to a hand-out.

It is very reassuring for me to know that part of my legacy will help ensure that education and training at FM will continue to help so many people right here at home in Fulton and Montgomery Counties. I also enjoy gifting to the College so I can witness the progress of the Foundation of FM, while still contributing to the College as a faculty member.

It is my honor and my privilege to support this institution. FM is an important part of my life, and I really believe the Foundation empowers the College to be the best it can be.

All the best, Laurence K. Zuckerman, CPA, MST Associate Professor, Department of Business Proud Member of FM's Foundation Board Foundation of



### Save the Date! FM's *32nd* Annual Golf Classic



Fox Run Golf Club Johnstown, NY

Thursday, May 21, 2026

Limited Space - Register Early!

*Interested in being a Sponsor?*We have several levels of Sponsorship Opportunities!

Contact the Foundation Office at: (518) 736-FMCC (3622) x8020

# PAST DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI RECIPIENTS



#### 2007

Donna Gatto Fraley '67 Michael J. Pepe '78 Dr. Donald F. Staffo '66

#### 2009

Michael J. Campos '66 Stephen M. Tomlinson '89 Lisa Queeney-Vadney '78

#### 2011

Pierre Alric '66-'67 Angelo Graziane '75 James R. Landrio '80



#### 2013

Tom DiMezza '75 Hon. Traci DiMezza '89 Trudy J. Venette '87

#### 2015

Susanne Guttenberg '77 David Northrup '66

#### 2017

Sue Nigra '87 Stan Kucel '75 Neal Packer '71



#### 2019

Karyln LaBate '07 Daniel R. Richardson '97 Jeanne R. So '70 & '95

#### 2022

Geoff Peck '87 Joel Bien-Aime '83

#### 2024

Jine Maroney '08 Brent Phetteplace '92 Jenny Rulison-Fisch '03

#### 2008

John E. Jablonski '81 Mary Jane Balzano Paris '67 Faith Takes '77

#### 2010

Michael Decker '81 Joseph Iannotti '86 John A. Monteiro '77 Rebecca Preston '98

#### 2012

Alexa Barnoski Serfis, Ph.D. '86 Steven V. Serge '93 Albert V. Turo '72

#### 2014

Terri G. Easterly '97 Wally Hart '78, '82-'84 Dr. Erik D. Wert '92

#### 2016

Dr. Emily Etzkorn '82-'86 Ambrose C. Schaffer '03 William T. Winsman '87

#### 2018

Joel Chapin '78 Dr. Robert Kruger '72 David Schroeder '74

#### 2021

Dr. Rev. Bonnie Orth '77 Roberta Winsman '10

#### 2023

Joseph Semione '81 Kayla Henry '07

#### 2026 Distinguished Alumni Awards

#### CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

For many, the road to lifetime achievement included study at FM. Each year, the College recognizes alumni who have achieved outstanding success and made a lasting impact on their community.

Please take a moment to nominate an FM alumnus whose commitment to excellence is a tribute to our fine academic standards. The recipients will be recognized at the Annual Awards Dinner in November 2026.

Candidates must have completed a minimum of two semesters at FM (a minimum of 24 credits), demonstrated achievement in their profession or business, and provided service in their community.

I wish to nominate:

Contact information for nominee:		
Address:		
Telephone:	Email:	
Employer:		
Please provide a brief d	lescription of his/her achievements:	
My Name:		
Address:		
Telenhone	Email	

Nominations must be received by September 11, 2026. All completed applications will be reviewed by an independent judging panel. Thank you for your assistance.

Please leave completed form with the FM Foundation Office or:

Email: fund.dev@fmcc.suny.edu

Mail: 2805 State Highway 67, Johnstown, NY 12095

Phone: (518) 736-FMCC (3622), ext. 8020

# Thank You To Our Eighteenth Annual Distinguished Alumni & Fifth Annual Clock Tower Awards Dinner

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Sharon Marie Perrella

Arlene M. Sitterly\*

John D. Vadnev\*

\*Deceased

#### **Special Thanks**

James Landrio, Kathleen Wemple & the Staff of the Holiday Inn