



NEWS RELEASE

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Students from Duanesburg, Cobleskill, Berne, Schenectady earn top honors at Capital Region Career & Technical School

Five local high school seniors who have just completed their studies at the Capital Region BOCES Career & Technical School in Albany (Colonie) and Schoharie were presented with top honors from the school at awards ceremonies on June 3 and June 15, respectively.

Michael D'Agostino of Delanson, a senior in Career & Tech's Medium/Heavy Duty Truck Repair program and New York State's current SkillsUSA Diesel Technology champion, was named Outstanding Student of the Year for Career & Tech's Albany campus. D'Agostino, who is also a senior at Duanesburg High School, is currently competing in diesel technology at the SkillsUSA Nationals in Kansas City, returning home on June 27. SkillsUSA is a national organization for career and technical education students.

"Outstanding Students are honored for growth in achievement, citizenship and pride in their chosen occupations," said Sam Frink, teacher of Career & Tech's Medium/Heavy Duty Truck Repair program. "Mike D'Agostino was a great student in class and a leader among his peers."

At Career & Tech's Schoharie campus, the Outstanding Student of the Year Award went to two students - a tie - Career & Tech and Cobleskill-Richmondville High School senior **Crystal Collins of Cobleskill**, and **Andrew Cortese of Berne**, a senior in Career & Tech's Commercial Construction/Heavy Equipment program and at Berne-Knox-Westerlo High School. Collins was described by her Cosmetology teacher, Marlene Whitehead, as a "natural talent who does a great job with anything asked of her and who was often requested by customers." Collins has been active in FFA, 4-H and local equestrian activities.

Cited as a natural leader in class by Commercial Construction/Heavy Equipment program teachers Kevin Simpson and Maryella Bell, Cortese was active in Career & Tech's Home Builders Association chapter and earned certification from OSHA, the National Center for Construction Education & Research and in forklift operation. He is an Eagle Scout and a volunteer firefighter.

At the June awards ceremony, each Career & Tech campus presents the Joseph N. Fuchs Award for Uniquely Challenged Students to an individual who has overcome significant challenges to excel and serve as a role model for others. The Albany campus Fuchs Award was presented to **Jose Galvez of Schenectady**, a senior in Career & Tech's Food Services program and also at Schenectady High School. Galvez was also named outstanding student of his Food Services class, taught by Career & Tech alumnus Chef Scott Cooper.

At the Career & Tech Schoharie campus awards ceremony, Hospitality & Culinary Technology senior **Sarah Terry of Duanesburg** was honored with the Joseph N. Fuchs Award for Uniquely Challenged Students. According to Hospitality & Culinary Technology teacher Chef Nancy Iannacone, Terry was an excellent student who worked well both independently and with others. Outside of class, she is a history buff, focusing on ancient Egypt, and loves to read. She will attend SUNY Cobleskill in the fall.

More than 1,300 local high school and adult students are enrolled in 40 programs of study offered by the Capital Region BOCES Career & Technical School. The school is operated by the Capital Region Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES) and serves residents of Albany, Schenectady, Schoharie and southern Saratoga counties. For more information, visit www.bocescaareertech.org.