# VOICES

THE MAY ISSUE





# VOICES

THE MAY ISSUE

#### CONTENTS

4	LETTER FROM THE EDITOR
5	LETTER FROM THE WRITING INTERN
6	LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR
8	ONLINE FORMAT
10	SENIOR/GRAD SPOTLIGHTS
17	OUR VOICES
21	SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH
23	GOOD NEWS
24	LUNAFEST RECAP
26	PAY EQUITY AND COVID-19
28	AKL AND AXO IGNITE
30	ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS
31	THANK YOU

### Letter from the Editor

#### BY: LAUREN ABLONDI-OLIVO

When I first got the position of Newsletter Editor back in August of 2019, I had no idea that my last semester at the Women's Center would end like this. I thought I would have more time on campus. More time in the Union. More time in my favorite buildings and favorite rooms. We were just on the edge of spring, the days getting warmer and warmer as we walked around Storrs. But, obviously, this all came to an end swiftly with the rising COVID-19 pandemic. While it was important and safe to make the switch to remote learning, it's been disappointing as a last semester senior to know that I won't be able to do all of the things I had dreamed of when first coming to UConn. Not getting to walk the stage at graduation is definitely upsetting, but in the grand scheme of things, I'm not missing out on much, and would gladly give up an in-person graduation if it means I can help protect other people.

What this time has taught me the most is that there really are some genuinely compassionate and empathetic people in this world. While some are protesting for their "right" to go outside, others are making the smart and responsible choice by staying in and trying to flatten the curve as much as possible. It makes me sad that it often takes a horrific event to bring people of our country together, but hopefully we can continue to do our best to stay indoors and wait this out, and a better, brighter day will come.

To the wonderful people at the Women's Center: thank you for all of the opportunities you have given me, all of the lessons you have taught me, and all of the fond memories that I will carry with me into the future. I can't think of a better job to have had during my last year of college.

Please enjoy my last edition of Voices.

# Letter from the Writing Intern

#### BY: JORDAN SHAW

Amidst all the chaos the pandemic has caused, what struck me as the most shocking was how quickly things changed. Just over a month ago, I was still living on campus and attending class in person every day. When I was out with friends or working on a group project with my classmates, it didn't occur to me to keep six feet away from the people I was with. COVID-19 was still a reality in our lives, and we all knew that things would change eventually, but for the time being, the virus remained a dark smudge on the horizon: fast approaching, but still distant. Now, things are different. I am living at home with my family again, and I am far enough into quarantine that it feels strange to go out to get groceries or pick up takeout. Many of the people I know have grown used to the feeling of a surgical mask on their face when they are outside their home.

I have found myself thinking of this rapid change and what it means for us as students. As a graduating senior, I am still processing the fact that I have already spent my last days at UConn. I have already left the library after a late night of studying for the last time, and the lunch I ate with my sister at the Bookworm Café shortly before spring break was the last time I would be there as a student. I have already sat through my last in-person class, and I can't even remember which one it was. Even though the semester is still in progress, and we all have coursework to do, it feels like this schoolyear has ended.

Since we will not be returning to campus before the end of the year, this means I have also spent my last day in the Women's Center. While I wish I could have stayed longer, I am so grateful for the time I was able to spend there. Helping to put together this newsletter and the previous edition has been a wonderful experience, and so has working with all the Center's staff members. I think that this has been one of the best parts of my senior year, and I'm glad I got the chance to do the work I have done during this semester. Thank you for everything, and I hope you enjoy this unique edition of *Voices*.

### Letter from the Director

#### BY: KATHLEEN HOLGERSON

This week marks the 8th week of UConn's telecommuting policy, as well as finals week, which is wrapping up the semester's remote education. There are few words to truly encapsulate what this experience has been like. The one thing that seems to hold true is that while we are all experiencing the impact of the pandemic, how we experience that impact holds some similarities and many differences. To that end, I encourage you to read A Letter to the UConn Community.

During these past few weeks, we have tried to create opportunities for connection and community building and to move forward with planning for the Fall with the hope that we will be less physically distant. You can find updates on programs we are hosting and resources for students, staff, and faculty on our website.

There are two end of the semester traditions that we are attempting to maintain, albeit virtually. First, during our last staff meeting of the semester, we recognize the graduating seniors and those who will not be returning to the Center in the Fall. So on May 1st via Zoom we held space to share affirmations and thanks for each other. We laughed, cried, danced, and shared memories and good-byes. And we promised to mail the purple and teal graduation cords and framed cards as soon as we can get back to campus.

Second, we recognize the top graduating women from each of the schools and colleges, as well as the recipients of the 100 Years of Women Scholarship during our Outstanding Academic Achievement Awards Ceremony during Commencement Weekend. Obviously, we are unable to celebrate the accomplishments of these gifted women in person, so we hope you will take some time to check out the virtual gallery, also on our website.

While so much is uncertain at this time, I am uplifted by the dedication of our students, staff, and volunteers who continue to move forward the work of advancing social justice, promoting gender equity, and building communities of care and respect. As I shared with our student staff, "The world, and the Women's Center, is a better place because of you all. With much gratitude and until our paths cross again - Take care."

PERHAPS
THIS IS WHAT
THIS SEASON IS ALL
ABOUT: TRUSTING IN
THE UNKNOWNS, FINDING
GOLD IN THE LITTLE
THINGS, TRADING FEAR
OF WHAT'S UNCERTAIN
FOR FREEDOM TO
THRIVE WITHIN
IT.-MORGAN
HARPER
NICHOLS

PHOTO COURTESY OF MORGAN HARPER NICHOLS

### Online Format

#### BY: LAUREN ABLONDI-OLIVO

As the University of Connecticut made the tough but important call of moving classes online and having employees work remotely, the Women's Center brainstormed on how to keep our community engaged and how to support one another throughout this difficult time. Like many others, we decided to have group video calls in lieu of our regular staff meetings every other Friday. On the Fridays where we didn't have a regular staff meeting, employees and co-workers would have a voluntary meeting to stay in touch and engaged with one another. This resulted in a few different ideas on how we could stay connected: a few people suggested self-care nights, movie nights, a book club and other various activities to connect.

Those of us who were able to continued with our regular work and activities. The Violence Against Women Prevention Program (VAWPP) in particular did a great job at tackling how to honor Sexual Assault Awareness Month online. Additionally, many of our groups such as Between Women, Men's Project, and In-Power were able to connect online as well.

Although the circumstances are less than ideal, it's been great to stay involved and communicate with each other throughout this strenuous time, and we can't wait to be back on campus and at the Center in the fall.



PHOTO COURTESY OF NOTESFROMJOANA.COM

# Senior/Grad Spotlights

My name is Zeqing (Esther) Shao, and I use she/her/hers pronouns. My major is Psychology & Communications with a minor in Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies. I can't really express in words how grateful I have been for the opportunities to work at the Women's Center and for all who I have met at this place. I have come such a long way from being fearful and ignorant to becoming confident and determined. I know that I would never be the person I am today without all your support and validation. After graduation, I'd like to continue working diligently for gender equity and LGBTQ+ rights, potentially through initiating social campaigns. I also wish to advocate for better education in China, guiding people to understand the importance of consent education, and to incorporate a more equal, inclusive, and dynamic curriculum.



My name is Kelly Flannery, and I hold the VAWPP Graduate Intern position at the Women's Center. I am currently in my last year of the Master of Public Administration program through UConn Hartford. In my role, my main functions are to supervise the VAWPP Ambassadors, the Greeks Against Sexual Assault (GASA) facilitators, and to schedule and help coordinate the VAWPP Facilitators for the Consent 201 workshops. I began my involvement with the Women's Center as an undergraduate in GASA. My participation in GASA shaped my outlook on my academic/career journey by making me realize that I found comfort in helping others navigate challenges. The same year that I participated in GASA, I applied to the Department of Public Policy's Fast Track MPA program. I wanted to use the knowledge I had gained at UConn to best serve my community. All these years later, I have found myself back at the Women's Center as part of the Department Public Policy's internship program. I have loved working with college students to better educate the community on gender-based violence prevention efforts. After I receive my MPA this spring, I hope to work at a University in a role that lets me utilize my passion for coordinating and planning. My time at the UConn Women's Center has made me far more secure in my skills and my voice, and I intend to always seek out opportunities that develop them further.



Hi! My name is Sara DeFazio, and I am currently one of the co-facilitators for In-Power, the student led support group for victim/survivors of sexual violence. I started my time at the Women's Center back in my sophomore year! I worked as a VAWPP facilitator my first semester. My second semester, I still kept in touch with the Center by organizing a project between the Center and the USG Sustainability Subcommittee. I, with the help of other Women's Center Staff members, created a collection of poetry readings that represented the intersection between feminism and the environment. I continued to work for the VAWPP program until my spring semester junior year, when I began to bring Kyle Harrington's proposal for In-Power to life. I am lucky enough to continue to help grow In-Power for a year in a half before saying goodbye to the center. I have been lucky enough to major in Women, Gender, Sexuality Studies and Sociology during my time here at UConn. I plan on continuing my education after graduation at the New York University School of Social Work.



Hi, my name is Katie Kwochka, and I am graduating with a B.S. in Pathobiology, with a minor in Anthropology. I was the co-coordinator of the Women in STEM mentoring program. After graduation I am staying at UConn in the Post-Baccalaureate Program to continue my research and classes, and then I plan to apply to dental school! My time in the Women's Center has helped me realize my passion to encourage women in STEM to stay in STEM and to encourage each other. I have formed so many strong connections and networks of support during my time here, and I hoped I have returned the favor to others by creating a community for these connections to be made.



My name is Jordan Shaw, and I am an English major and the Writing Intern at the Women's Center. During my time here, I worked on the newsletters that went out during the Spring 2020 semester and the Women's Center Weekly that goes out every Thursday. After I graduate I would like to work in publishing, and hopefully publish some work of my own. I love the sense of community in the Center, and I feel like the work I have done has inspired me to involve myself more in the communities I am a part of. Working on the newsletters has also given me valuable experience with copy editing and writing. It was a pleasure to work here, and I'm glad I got the opportunity to do so!

My name is Miranda Garcia. I am about to graduate, and I have been involved at the Women's Center since my second semester of college. Since my time in the VAWPP class, I've been a Peer Facilitator, TA, and VAWPP Ambassador at the Center. Each position has taught me more and more about who and what I want to be when I grow up. Next year, I will be attending UConn's Public Policy school in Hartford to get an MPA (Master of Public Administration). With that, I would love to continue to work in social justice through either a nonprofit or in local government. This year, I spent a lot of time doing research on sex education mandates in the United States and would love to continue this research and be involved specifically with education policy in the future.



My name is Lauren Ablandi-Olivo, and I am a graduating senior with a degree in English and a minor in Communications, and I am the Newsletter Editor here at the Women's Center. I am also the Fiction Editor for the Long River Review, and the President/Senior Editor of Her Campus at UConn. After graduation I will be attending the NYU Summer Publishing Institute to take their Summer Publishing Course. In the future, I hope to use my experience and knowledge to work in the publishing industry, both in the book and magazine sector. Both my technical experience while working on the Newsletter and the knowledge I have gained surrounding feminism and other human right's issues has impacted me and my future career greatly; as a future publisher/editor, I want to make sure that often marginalized or silenced voices are heard in commercial fiction. I have appreciated and cherished my time here at the Center, and am so thankful for Kathleen and Kathy's guidance, as well as the connections and friendships that I have made.



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR OTHER SENIORS AND GRADUATE STUDENTS WHO ARE LEAVING US, INCLUDING MARIELIS CRUZ, TOMMY JACOBSEN, YASMINE TAHA, AND CECE VIDAURRE.

## Our Voices

#### BY: JORDAN SHAW

During this unprecedented time in history, we wanted to showcase how members of our staff and community are handling the stay at home orders. They share with us what they've been up to, how they're keeping calm, and more.

#### Sara DeFazio

I created a self-care daily schedule! It has been really hard for me to be productive, but I still feel like I need to have a schedule in order to maintain a sense of normalcy. The most important part is the morning gratitude journal, where I write down one thing that I am grateful for. It can be overwhelming to have to write more than one thing, or it can be difficult to think of more than one thing. I then do anywhere from 20 minutes to an hour of yoga, followed by a shower and making some new breakfast. My afternoon self-care involves a walk through my apartment complex; I am lucky to live in a space where walking is possible. My nighttime self-care includes 20 minutes of free writing. After the expressive writing, I try a visualization meditation of my choosing before doing my typical nighttime routine.

Lately, I have also been up-cycling some of the old things that I've kept since my teen years. I have also begun getting back in touch with the things I loved as a teen. I used to skateboard pretty regularly in elementary and middle school but stopped in high school. I have been trying to learn the skill all over again. I am also currently working on a UConn photo album so that I can have a keepsake from my time at the university.

I have set aside time slots on Wednesdays and Saturdays for me to have phone calls with all the important people in my life. I feel lucky to live in a time period where there are so many options for staying in touch with the people you care about. However, my favorite form of connecting is through handwritten cards. Writing cards has become a sort of meditation for me, and it's something that could last forever and potentially help future historians!

#### Lauren Ablondi Olivo

Throughout my time at home while working and studying, I have been trying to keep a routine like I normally would. I'm someone that thrives on guidance and direction, and so having a schedule/plan is important for me. I also try to get dressed regularly a few days, such as jeans and a nice top because it makes me feel like I'm not really at home. But, if I'm being honest, most days I end up succumbing to sweats, and there's no shame in that! I've also been reading and watching movies to distract me a bit; it's been a great time to work on my goal of reading twenty-five books this year! I've also taken up yoga and meditation, like a few other people have mentioned. I've found it's really great for my mental health and my body.

#### Katie Kwochka

Personally, during this time of working from home, I have found it best to try and keep a routine as much as possible. I try to wake up and go to bed around the same time every day and keep a bedtime routine that helps me wind down. I try to take frequent breaks from screens, so I don't fatigue my eyes, and I try to budget my time for work and leisure. I have started crocheting recently, and I'm still pretty terrible, but I have plenty of time to improve! I have also spent a lot of time trying to learn how to cook with the things I already have in my pantry, like hummus! I'm isolated in my apartment that I live in alone, so I try to check in with my family at least twice a week, and sometimes I will go on social distant walks with my friends to get some light exercise and enjoy the weather.

#### Yu (Angel) Wei

I video call with my parents every week to let each other know what we have been doing recently. I texted with my friends every day and talk about anything we have on our minds. I also feel that not focusing too much on the news is important. I checked the news every day in the beginning, and I felt that this made me really anxious. Now I just have a general idea about the COVID-19 situation, and I don't check the news too often help manage my anxiety. For my daily life during this time period, I still try to have a healthy lifestyle and not wake up too late. All my professors record their lectures, and I try to finish watching them the day of the regular class date or one day after. Since COVID-19 might impact my summer plan, I started to apply for other internship opportunities and search for summer courses.

#### Gladi Suero

I never thought I would miss my broken-down dorm room or the greasy dining hall food, but here we are. It really feels weird to not be able to finish the semester. I had so many things that I wanted to accomplish at the Women's Center, friends to get closer to and experiences to have. Even though I miss so many aspects of living on campus at UConn, being at home is not half bad. I don't have to live with a bunch of strangers, I have my two adorable chihuahua puppies and above all, I am able to stay healthy and safe here.

The thing is, I thought I would have endless amounts of free time where I could accomplish other things beside work-related goals. I came into this social distancing season with grand ideas of reading so many books, learning how to cook, getting back into art and finally learning embroidery. However, it soon became apparent that I would only have time for the 400 discussion posts that I am assigned in a day and for figuring out the multiple group projects that I have. Speaking of which, this whole process has really shown the true colors of professors. For many professors, the extent of their adjustments for students has been starting emails with "I know this must be a stressful time." So many of my professors have been giving my class more work than was originally on the syllabus, and they don't seem to think it's a problem. I am super grateful for the one or two professors that I have that actually lessened our workload, however.

Overall, this experience for me has been a slight inconvenience, and I am grateful for that and recognize the privilege I have for this to just be a minor frustration. I have been reading the news basically every hour of the day, and for so many people in this country, this time is a matter of life or death. Though these instances are all a result of the virus, the lack of concern from our government is making things so much worse, and it is very frustrating to see.

To relieve all the stress and feelings of helplessness, I have mostly been reading a lot of theory from an array of different activists. Learning about revolutionary people that found hope in times of hopelessness and organized together to bring structural change has given me hope in this time.

#### Kathleen Holgerson

For self-care during this time, I have been meditating and doing yoga. The Insight app has been great and helps with stress and focusing on gratitude, and I am so grateful for the yoga studios that are doing classes on Zoom and Facebook live, as it keeps me moving and feeling connected. For fun activities, I have been doing lots of Wordscapes and Two Dots, as well as virtual happy hours with friends. I have also been texting my friends and family way more than usual – it helps to feel connected, share how we're all doing, and I get to see lots of pics and funny videos. I think that it is important to acknowledge these circumstances are challenging, and to be okay with doing the best you can. Every day will be different.

#### Zequing (Esther) Shao

Right now, I am dealing with a lot of uncertainty with my summer plans. I am also having difficulty keeping a disciplined daily routine. Fortunately, UConn is still providing food and housing, as well as some great initiatives such as the uKindness program, to keep students who are still on campus connected to the community. I've noticed a lot of complaints in terms of money and refunds. I personally hope that people can think more from different community members' perspectives. For example, there is still the large international student community who can't even return to their home country and reunite with their families. There are also staff in the dining hall and dorm buildings who are still working every day to try to provide us a safe place to stay. So I hope as community members, we all can learn to be more patient, empathetic, and respectful to one another.

#### **Cece Vidaurre**

I think we can all agree that it's hard not to go crazy while in quarantine. I have taken this time to start working out at home, start doing yoga, reading, and bingewatching shows on Netflix and Hulu. I have also taken time to journal more and do a lot of self-reflection. I would recommend others to stay true to themselves during this time. Everyone copes differently, and that is okay; I would tell others to really listen to their needs and wants during this time.

### Sexual Assault Awareness Month

#### BY: GLADI SUERO

April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM), and though we cannot do the events we were hoping to do in person, including our biggest event, "Take Back the Night", we still hope to honor SAAM while social distancing.

At the beginning of April, we started out with an awareness campaign with the help of our marketing coordinators. On the 7th we celebrated Teal Day. Teal is the color that represents SAAM, so we shared pictures of our staff wearing teal on the Women's Center Instagram to show support.

Next, on the 15th, we posted pictures of our staff, as well as members of the various groups at the Women's Center, on our Instagram so that they could share their feelings on why SAAM is important. They also talked about what this year's theme of Take Back The Night means to them. The theme was going to be "blossoming", which was inspired by the Anaïs Nin quote, "and the day came when the risk to remain tight in a bud was more painful than the risk it took to blossom."

On the 29th, we had a campaign in support of Denim Day. The purpose of Denim Day is to stand in solidarity with survivors of sexual assault. The tradition of wearing denim on the 29th came from an Italian case where a rape conviction was overturned because the judges felt that the survivor of the assault must have helped her attacker take off her jeans since they were tight, implying that there must have been consent. We posted submissions of staff and members wearing jeans on our Instagram to show our support.

Lastly, we held an online coffeehouse through WebEx that functioned similarly to the Take Back The Night coffeehouse. It was a safe space for people to debrief about issues of non-consent and sexual assault.

Though we cannot all be together in person to honor this very important month, we hope that we can still raise awareness as well as heal and bloom together.

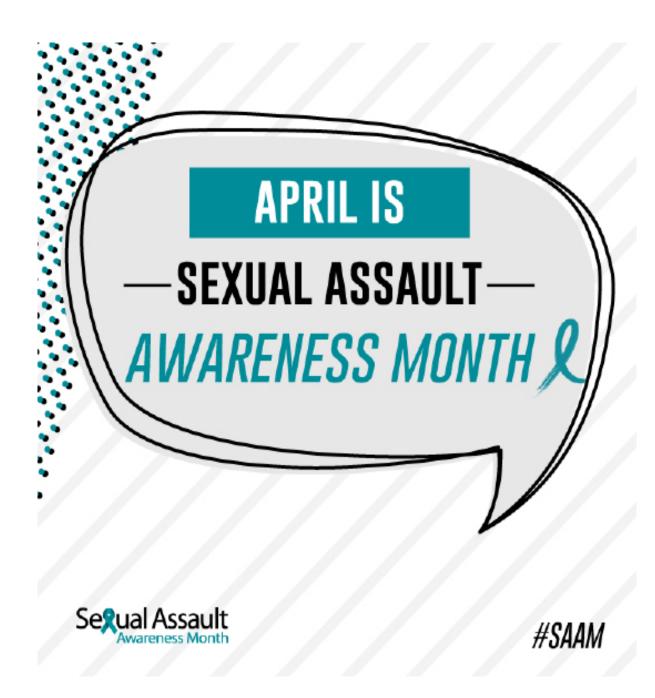


PHOTO COURTESY OF NSVRC.ORG

### Good News

#### BY: LAUREN ABLONDI-OLIVO

Our very own Esther Shao and Ethan Werstler were recipients of the Andrea Denis LaVigne Scholarship for Advancing Diversity and the Cohen Student Leadership Scholarship, respectively. Esther was also named the Babbidge Scholar for the most recent academic year and was accepted into the Harvard Graduate School of Education. Ethan also was elected Student Trustee.

Many of our graduating staff have been accepted into higher education programs, including, but not limited to, Sara DeFazio (NYU School of Social Work), Katie Kwochka (UConn post-baccalaureate), Miranda Garcia (UConn's Public Policy School), and Lauren Ablondi-Olivo (NYU's Summer Publishing Institute).



PHOTO COURTESY OF AMBER SHARE

# LUNAFEST Recap

#### BY: BRIELLE BERKOWITZ

As my first year as the Special Projects Coordinator, I am pleased and excited to say that our annual film festival, LUNAFEST, was a complete success. LUNAFEST is a film festival founded by LUNA to help showcase and share women's stories from around the world.

This year, we sold over double the amount of tickets as the previous year, while also raising double the funds! I want to express my gratitude to our amazing staff and community for supporting us via donations and sponsorships. LUNAFEST was sponsored by Soroptimist, CT AAUW, Mansfield OBGYN, and Eastbrook Animal Hospital. We also recieved donations for door prizes by Cinemark, Sgt. Pepperoni, Subway, UConn Dairy Bar and Wings Over.

LUNAFEST is such an important event for us because it empowers women in the film industry where they are disproportionately under-represented. On a personal note, I felt that the films brought power to women with different backgrounds and different experiences. These films are stories we should know and are often overlooked. It was amazing to work on this project because films have the opportunity to tell all of our stories, and I wanted to be a part of helping to tell them.



PHOTO COURTESY OF LUNAFEST.ORG

# Pay Equity and COVID-19

#### BY: JORDAN SHAW

Every year, Equal Pay Day is recognized. The actual date of the day varies, as it is the date that marks the number of days into the year that women must work to close the gap between their yearly salary and a man's salary. The wage gap is alive and well in today's world: for every dollar a man makes a woman makes only 82 cents, and this gap changes when it is examined with intersectionality in mind. Black women make 62 cents, Native American women make 57 cents, and Latina women make 54 cents for every dollar made by a white, non-Hispanic man. A major contributor to the wage gap is the fields that many women work in. Most service positions — positions that involve caring for the needs of the public — are held by women, and these professions typically pay less than positions usually held by men.

The wage gap has become increasingly visible during the COVID-19 outbreak because women fill the majority of essential positions and are being exposed to the virus every time they come in to work. Workers being potentially exposed to COVID-19 on a semi-regular basis has resulted in a discussion regarding hazard pay, which in turn has shed light on the ever-present wage gap. On top of not being compensated for dangerous work in many cases, the women in these essential and frontline positions still contend with the struggle of making 82 cents (at best) for every dollar a man would make.

The disparity is visible even in positions that allow employees to work from home. Although it has been shown that working from home would be very beneficial to mothers with young children, fathers who ask to work from home are able to do so more often. Even in the case of employees that work from home full-time, it is 157% more likely for men in this case to make a salary of over \$100,000.

Although the wage gap is still a reality for working women, the discussions being had regarding the topic are the first steps to resolving the issue. There may be a way to go before the wage gap is closed entirely for all women, but with some work and more discussion on how to make the change, the working world can be changed for the better.



PHOTO COURTESY OF WORLDATWORK.ORG

## AKL and AXO Ignite

#### BY: FRANKIE ANILE-SANTIAGO

Over the past semester, Alpha Kappa Lambda (AKL) and Alpha Chi Omega (AXO) worked together to participate in the UConn Foundation's Ignite Crowdfunding Competition. The competition consists of crowdfunding from different demographics of the UConn Community, such as students, faculty, staff, alumni/ae, and parents. Each demographic was given a certain time to donate to gain extra points from the Ignite Prize Vault. AKL and AXO planned and executed different actions to not only raise money on behalf of the Women's Center, but raise awareness to the competition and their cause in supporting the mission of the Women's Center.

The team tabled on the Student Union's Union Street for the beginning of the competition to engage students about donating and learning about the Women's Center. They then worked to reach out to alumni/ae to help enhance the mission of the Women's Center. AKL and AXO not only focused on their specific alumni/ae networks, but also reached out to other various alumni/ae networks throughout the Greek community. From here, they knew the importance of the mission and did not settle by asking their parents to donate to their team's page.

While raising money on behalf of the Women's Center, AKL and AXO brought awareness by using Instagram. The team posted on AKL's Instagram page each Monday during the competition to update their following about the competition, describe the actions they were taking, and how their following can support. They also submitted videos of brothers speaking to various UConn students about the Ignite competition and why they chose to support the Women's Center. The reasons include that both AKL and AXO's chosen philanthropies are Domestic Violence Awareness, understanding the impact of the Women's Center on the UConn campus, and understanding the personal connections that the mission of the Women's Center has for the brothers and sisters of AKL and AXO.

Due to the hard work and long hours put in by AKL and AXO, their team raised \$1,065.58 from marketing and fundraising, and also placed 2nd in the Ignite competition, which added an additional \$3,000 to their money raised, for a total of \$4,065.58. The money raised will go towards funding the 100 Years of Women Scholarship, the VAWPP Graduate Intern Position, student-labor, and many other programs that are hosted by the Women's Center. AKL and AXO are thankful for the support the Women's Center has given us, and we are also understanding of the importance of these funds to the mission of the Women's Center.



PHOTO COURTESY OF FRANKIE ANILE-SANTIAGO

#### **Academic Achievement Awards**

Jessica Weaver Graduate School

Sarah Dodd Nightingale School of Social Work (PhD)

Xholina Nano School of Social Work (MSW)

Abby Gosselin School of Business

Wanjiku "Wawa" Gatheru College of Agriculture, Health and Natural Resources

Skylar Hofmann Ratcliffe Hicks School of Agriculture

Isabella Ferrante College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Anna Zarra Aldrich College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Halle Barber College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Carolyn Rennie School of Law

Emily Mankus School of Nursing

Sayali Oak School of Pharmacy

Damiayanti Rane-Castrodad Neag School of Education

Brittany Smith School of Engineering

Betty Smith School of Fine Arts

Antea DeMarsilis School of Medicine

Grethel Millington School of Dental Medicine

#### 100 Years of Women Scholarship

Shamayeta Bhattacharya Vicky Chen Jacqueline Seras THANK YOU FOR READING THIS EDITION OF VOICES, AND CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF THE SENIORS GRADUATING THIS YEAR. STAY HEALTHY AND SAFE.