

## **MSU Students Earn National Recognition for Public Service**

**Presidential Volunteer Service Awards highlight dedicated contributions to public service with congratulations from President Barack Obama**

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EAST LANSING, Mich. – Two MSU programs and 23 students have been awarded the national Presidential Volunteer Service Award (PVSA) for completing 100 or more hours of volunteer service within a one-year time frame during the 2014-2015 academic year.

The PVSA awards are an initiative of the Corporation for National and Community Service, and administered by Points of Light, the largest organization in the world dedicated to public service.

MSU's Center for Service-Learning and Civic Engagement (CSLCE) became an official PVSA Certifying Organization in 2015. For nearly 50 years, CSLCE has worked to advance community engaged learning, and prepare students for lifelong civic and social responsibility in an increasingly diverse and complex global society.

“These students were willing to ask what was needed, roll up their sleeves, and put in the hours to make the world a better place. We are so proud to call them Spartans,” said Renee Zientek, CSLCE director.

Two registered student organizations received a “gold” group rating based on the high number of volunteer service hours each member contributed during 2014-15. The 23 students awarded individual medals documented service performed ranging from 108 to 388 hours.

Recipients receive a certificate of accomplishment and a congratulatory letter from President Barack Obama.

### **Gold Level**

Courtney A. Woods, of Madison Heights, Interdisciplinary Studies graduate  
Alternative Spartan Breaks (ASB)\*  
Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA)\*

### **Silver Level**

Hauwa Abbas, of East Lansing, Junior in Advertising  
Catherine Bargerstock, of East Lansing, Arts & Humanities graduate  
Ashley Barr, of Livonia, Freshman in Pre-Nursing  
Derying Liaw, of Taipei, Taiwan, Senior in Hospitality Business  
Adam Kogelschatz, of Rockford, Masters student in Accounting  
Maighlin M. Kolesar, of Ironwood, Junior in Nutritional Science



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Haley Macko, of Flushing, Genomics and Molecular Genetics graduate  
Asha Shaw, of Detroit, Masters student in Accounting  
Christopher Shim, of Canton, Senior in Accounting  
Troy Manuel Villanueva, of Lansing, Communications graduate

**Bronze Level**

Melissa Vader, of Kalamazoo, Elementary Education graduate  
Katie Callihan, of Brighton, Nursing graduate  
Sadie Crunk, of Garden City, Junior in Social Work  
Nick Falkiewicz, of Brighton, Nutritional Science graduate  
Sean Bruce Hamborsky, of Grosse Pointe, Masters in Accounting  
Kerry Korpela, of Battle Creek, Junior in Environmental Geoscience  
Tayler Lalinsky, of Canton, Senior in Interdisciplinary Studies  
Raverna Moore, of Okemos, Junior in Spanish  
Lauren Pereny, of Madison Heights, Senior in Interdisciplinary Studies  
Gabrielle Rendon, of Holly, Psychology graduate  
Madelyne Ross, of Farmington Hills, Genomics and Molecular Genetics graduate  
Eric L. Walton, of St. Clair Shores, Medicine graduate

\*ASB and VITA are registered student organizations.

**Attention MSU Students: Record Your 2015-2016 Volunteer Service Hours to Earn a Presidential Volunteer Service Award**

MSU students can record their 2015-2016 volunteer service hours before 5 p.m. on Thursday, June 30 for eligibility in the 2015-2016 Presidential Volunteer Service Awards.

MSU's PVSA application process is fairly simple: 1) create a personal account on [GiveGab](http://www.givegab.com), ([www.givegab.com](http://www.givegab.com)), 2) join the MSU Community on GiveGab ([msu.givegab.com](http://msu.givegab.com)), and 3) log at least 100 volunteers hours by 5:00pm on June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2016.

For more information, visit CSLCE's web page, [3 Easy Steps to Receive a PVSA](#).

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