

Event honors American Humanics students

By Amy Cox O'Hara

More than 100 friends, family, ASU faculty and staff, and community members gathered April 25 at Lath House Pavilion in Phoenix's Heritage Square to honor ASU American Humanics (AH) students at the 27th annual American Humanics recognition dinner.

The dinner featured guest speaker Debra Friedman, dean of ASU's College of Public Programs, and invited presenter Ken Krueger, chief executive officer of the American Red Cross Grand Canyon Chapter.

Five students received scholarship awards for their accomplishments and involvement in the American Humanics program. They are:

- Korbi Adams, who earned the Camelback Kiwanis Award, which honors a returning American Humanics student who has provided outstanding leadership and potential in the nonprofit field.
- Armando Salazar, who received the Elizabeth S. Schade Award, provided by Tom Schade, retired associate dean of the College of Public Programs, and ASU American Humanics and ASU Board of Directors member. The award honors diverse nonprofit sector leadership by providing financial support to further the recipient's development as a nonprofit professional throughout the American Humanics program.
- Lakshmi Madhavpeddi earned the Graduating Senior Director's Award. The award honors a graduating American Humanics student who has provided exemplary leadership and maintained academic excellence.
- Jeremy Meiske received the American Humanics Management Institute Director's Award, which honors a returning student for his or her emerging leadership to support the Annual American Humanics Management Institute (AHMI) campaign. This award provides support for the annual institute in the name of a deserving undergraduate student through a financial contribution made in his or her name to the AHMI campaign.
- Laura Zilverberg won the George F. Miller Outstanding Student Award, named in memory of the ASU American Humanics program founder. The award honors an American Humanics student who displays exemplary qualities of leadership, academic achievement, and commitment to the youth and human service organization field.

The event also saluted the 2007 AH graduating class. Besides Madhavpeddi and Zilverberg, the class includes Matt Besenfelder, Aydalay Briones, Kelly Burke, Katie Butler, Megan Cremer, Malissa Geer, Kimberly Krueger, Brent Launer, Rema Nasaredden, Jamie Patton, Ellen Phillips, Jessica Shea, Ryan Tang, Shannon Wagner and Margaret Zywczyk.

"Our American Humanics program is the national leader in recruiting, educating and engaging undergraduate students into the nonprofit career field. This 2007 class of AH/ASU graduates is stellar and a source of pride for our faculty who have been privileged to work with them," says Robert Ashcraft, associate professor of nonprofit studies and director of ASU's Center for Nonprofit Leadership and Management.

Founded in 1980, ASU American Humanics is a program of the ASU College of Public Programs, in association with the ASU Center for Nonprofit Leadership and Management. ASU is one of the leading programs in the nation, preparing nonprofit professionals to work with America's youth and families. Students pursuing AH certification must complete various co-curricular requirements, including participation in the student association, 18 credit hours of in-class coursework, and a 12-credit-hour internship. For more information, visit www.asu.edu/copp/nonprofit/edu/ah.htm.

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