Welcome to the Cerritos College 2015 Academic Excellence Awards
Karla Abuyen
Botany

"The teacher student ratio is what I like best at Cerritos College. It’s easy to build a relationship with the professors."
Gabrielle Gutierrez
Theatre Arts

“When I’m feeling overwhelmed I take a break. People underestimate the power of breaks. We’re always told to push forward, work hard then rest, but sometimes resting, removing yourself, can be the best thing for you.”
“I make extra notes from the book, read over my class notes again, and attempt extra problems- backwards and forwards. I want to understand everything, inside and out.”
“My biggest obstacle was the fact that I had not been in school for 15 years, and did not get past basic math. As of last semester, I passed Math 112, Statistics.”
“Some goals are difficult, but not impossible. You need to work hard and always focus on your goals.”
FOZAN AHMED
Engineering Design and Production Technology

“Take a break and watch a comedy show.”
“Read Albert Einstein’s quote, ‘Do not worry about your difficulties in Mathematics. I can assure you mine are still greater.’”
JOEL ALVAREZ
Commercial Music

“I take a moment to relax and play guitar or bass for a bit to unwind and return to the task refreshed.”
“The secret to my 4.0 is my preparation for exams. I pace my studying and get a good night’s rest the night before. I see an exam as an opportunity to showcase what I know rather than a test.”
“Don’t just get up to the class!!! Get involved. Spend more time to practice what you’ve studied. Focus on what you want, each and every assignment in the class. Ask questions, discuss class material with other students and your instructors. Take care of your health, get enough sleep, eat a balanced diet and exercise.”
“My sister has been the one who inspired me to succeed. She always told me to pursue my dreams and never give up, because anything is possible.”
“My kids are my constant inspiration, the circumstances in life that have led me to strive for a better future. And my accounting professor Mr. Moloney, who constantly challenged me to overcome my fears.”
Emilio Morales
Music/Piano

“I was learning how to play classical music at the age of 21, when most other music majors had been playing since they were kids. That was the biggest obstacle I’ve had to overcome.”
“It took me years to decide what I wanted to do. Don’t sweat it. Take your time, do what you love, and try not to compare yourself to others.”
Daniel Leos
Auto Engine Machine Technician

“I take a break and go to the Hollywood Mountains and pray to reload. I attend to my infinite source for help.”
“Care more about your major and subject of study than anyone you know. Every free moment should be spent learning and exploring as much as possible. Don’t be afraid to become obsessed.”
“Both of my parents have inspired me to succeed. They came to the United States over 25 years ago without a single penny. They have overcome many obstacles such as a language barrier in order to become successful.”

“My love for architecture has inspired me. My parents and brother always encourage me to follow my passion.”