

FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF POSTSECONDARY SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES NEWS



Media Contact: Gail Rayos
407-377-6836
grayos@wraggcasas.com

State Association Honors Student Success, School Innovation Among Career Colleges in Florida

Full Sail University, Sullivan, Cogliano Training Centers graduates of the year make their mark

TALLAHASSEE, FL – Sept. 16, 2013 – The leaders of Florida’s career colleges – schools focused on providing quality education and training for more than 400,000 students each year – recently recognized the sector’s outstanding students, schools, faculty, administrators and volunteers.

Among the highest honors from the Florida Association of Postsecondary Schools and Colleges (FAPSC) are the Graduate of the Year awards, presented this year to Jonathan Levy from Full Sail University in Central Florida and Irene Arteaga from Sullivan and Cogliano Training Centers in Miami.

Florida National University in Hialeah was honored as School of the Year, recognized for its local partnerships and the launch of a series of community health fairs. The 2013 awards were selected by a panel and presented at the association’s annual conference in South Florida attended by educators and business leaders.

“Thousands upon thousands of students leave our campuses ready to embark on successful futures because of the training they received,” said Curtis Austin, executive director of FAPSC. “This year’s graduates embraced learning to the fullest, serving as great role models for their fellow students.”

Jonathan Levy graduated from Full Sail University with a bachelor’s degree, earning honors that included class valedictorian, four director awards from his instructors, and the “Most Likely to Succeed” title from his classmates. Since graduation, Levy has had the opportunity to work with music industry legends Clive Davis and Dave Grohl and currently is in the artist and repertoire department of Atlantic Records in New York. A musician, he uses his talents to give back by performing at charitable events for causes such as cystic fibrosis and breast cancer research.

Irene Arteaga started at Sullivan and Cogliano Training Centers when she was at a crossroads in her life – unemployed and in pursuit of the new skills and the education needed in the competitive workplace. Arteaga was an exceptionally dedicated student. Eager to learn and advance, she achieved near perfect attendance in pursuit of her goals. Irene’s commitment and hard work paid off, graduating from the Microsoft Office Proficient Program and transitioning to work for the City of Doral as an Office Clerk in the Finance Department.

FAPSC has been the voice of Florida's career schools since 1956. The association of more than 250 members works on behalf of the more than 1,000 licensed private career schools and colleges in Florida that prepare 400,000 students each year for employment in more than 200 occupational fields by offering degree programs, certification and training.

Other award winners include:

- FAPSC Members of the Year - John Hill of Anthem Education and Jay Ober of the FAPSC Nursing Committee;
- Associate Member of the Year - Robert Starks, Jr. of Learning Initiatives for MaxKnowledge, Inc.;
- Administration and Management Administrator of the Year - Kathaleen Cole of Fortis Institute, Pensacola;
- Admissions Administrator of the Year - Vicky Irizarry of Virginia College, Tampa;
- Career Services Administrator of the Year - Marbelin Perez of Universal Career School, Sweetwater;
- Education Administrator of the Year - Robin Koman of Full Sail University, Central Florida;
- Rickie Knobel Financial Aid Administrator of the Year - Colleen Bradshaw-Russell, City College, Fort Lauderdale;
- Gail Benjamin Student Services Administrator of the Year - Kamil Francois of International Academy of Design and Technology, Tampa;
- Faculty of the Year - Dr. Carlos Cuervo of Florida National University, Hialeah, and Stacey Farrar of Sullivan and Cogliano Training Centers, Miami.

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Florida Association of Postsecondary Schools and Colleges
150 South Monroe Street, Suite 303
Tallahassee, FL 32301
Phone: 850-577-3139
www.FAPSC.org