

Cornerstone Awards Information

The term **Cornerstone Awards** refers to all of the awards presented to individual students at the **Cornerstone Awards Celebration**. The recipients of the Senior Medallion and the finalists for the Bryan and Freeman Awards are recognized at the Cornerstone Awards Celebration, but receive their awards at the **Senior Excellence Awards**, which is typically held the Friday of Commencement weekend in May.

The **Named Awards (Lippitt, Duncan, Duffy, UNCW Laureate, Teague, Freeman and Bryan)** require finalists to interview, and one recipient is named at the corresponding awards ceremony. The recipient of the Lippitt, Duncan and Teague awards receive a scholarship and engraved plaque, the Freeman recipient receives a \$250 stipend and a medallion, the Bryan Recipient receives an engraved clock and a medallion, and the Duffy and Laureate Award recipients receive an engraved plaque. Students may only receive an award once.

The **Excellence in Engagement, Distinguished Engagement**, and the **Pat Leonard Senior Medallion Awards** go to multiple recipients. In 2021 there were 19 Excellence in Engagement, 44 Distinguished Engagement, and 25 Senior Medallion recipients. The Excellence in Engagement and Distinguished Engagement awards are determined by a committee review, the Senior Medallion Award requires an interview of all finalists. Students may only receive an award once.

- These awards are structured in such a way that as a student grows in their engagement at UNCW they can possibly earn two, or maybe even all three awards (i.e., Excellence in Engagement as a Junior and Distinguished Engagement as a Senior OR Excellence in Engagement as a Sophomore, Distinguished Engagement as a Junior, and Senior Medallion as a Senior).
- A student cannot receive more than one of these awards the same year. So, if they are a Junior, they can only receive the Excellence in Engagement OR Distinguished Engagement Award and if they are a Senior they can only receive the Distinguished Engagement OR Senior Medallion Award.

The GPA requirement for each award varies: **we go by the exact GPA listed in Banner and do NOT round up**

3.5 = The Teague Award

3.0 = Lippitt, Duncan, UNCW Laureate, Bryan, and Senior Medallion

2.75 = Excellence in Engagement and Distinguished Engagement

2.67 = Duffy Sustainability and Freeman

When determining which award(s) to nominate a student for, begin by asking “what class year is the student?” as well as “what awards (if any) did they receive last year?” This will determine their eligibility (see also the chart on page 2):

First Year = Lippitt, Duffy

Sophomore = Excellence in Engagement, Duncan, UNCW Laureate, Duffy

Junior = Excellence in Engagement, Distinguished Engagement, Duncan, UNCW Laureate, Teague, Duffy

Senior = Distinguished Engagement, Senior Medallion, Bryan, Freeman, Duffy

Graduate = Duffy

Students may be nominated for, and receive, multiple awards. This can occur the same year, or throughout their time here at UNCW. However, they can only receive each award ONCE. For example:

- If a student received the Excellence in Engagement Award as a Sophomore, they are not eligible for the award as a Junior. However, they would be eligible for the Distinguished Engagement Award as a junior.
- A student can be nominated for both Excellence in Engagement and Distinguished Engagement as a junior OR both Distinguished Engagement and Senior Medallion as a senior. However, they cannot receive both. If both committees determine that a student is worthy of the awards, the more prestigious of the two awards will be granted (i.e. Distinguished Engagement over Excellence in Engagement, and Senior Medallion over Distinguished Engagement).
- A student can receive one group award AND one individual award in the same year. For example, a student can be nominated for, and receive, both the Excellence in Engagement Award and the Duncan Award as a Sophomore.

Class Standing	Eligible Awards	General Criteria <i>see website for full descriptions</i>	Recipients Receive
First Year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lippitt • Duffy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3.0 GPA, active involvement and leadership potential • 2.67 GPA, commitment to sustainability 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engraved plaque, one year scholarship • Engraved plaque
Sophomore	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excellence in Engagement • Duncan • UNCW Laureate • Duffy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2.75 GPA, leadership/service/excellent representative of UNCW • 3.0 GPA, excellence in leadership and service, role model for their peers • 3.0 GPA, demonstrated passion for social justice • 2.67 GPA, commitment to sustainability 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Certificate of Recognition • Engraved plaque, one year scholarship • Engraved plaque • Engraved plaque
Junior	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excellence in Engagement • Distinguished Engagement • Duncan • UNCW Laureate • Teague • Duffy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2.75 GPA, leadership/service/excellent representative of UNCW • 2.75 GPA, continued leadership/service and contributed to positive change at UNCW • 3.0 GPA, excellence in leadership and service, role model for their peers • 3.0 GPA, demonstrated passion for social justice • 3.5 GPA, strong academically and engaged in leadership • 2.67 GPA, commitment to sustainability 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Certificate of Recognition • Certificate of Recognition • Engraved plaque, one year scholarship • Engraved plaque • Engraved plaque, one year scholarship • Engraved plaque
Senior	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distinguished Engagement • Pat Leonard Senior Medallion • Freeman • Bryan • Duffy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2.75 GPA, continued leadership/service and contributed to positive change at UNCW • 3.0 GPA, exemplary leadership and service to UNCW • 2.67 GPA, passion for serving others and commitment to social justice • 3.0 GPA, demonstrated leadership and integrity, has made a lasting impact at UNCW • 2.67 GPA, commitment to sustainability 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Certificate of Recognition • Engraved Medallion • Engraved Medallion, \$250 from Alumni Association • Engraved Medallion, Engraved Clock from Alumni Association • Engraved plaque
Graduate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Duffy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2.67 GPA, commitment to sustainability 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engraved plaque

**We encourage nominators to maximize all possible options for a student nominee as appropriate that align with a student's experience.*