

Class of 2018

We had another record breaking graduating class this year– 33 graduates! We held graduation on May 24, 2018. The auditorium was filled with the families and friends of our graduates. We heard remarks from Mike Rubin, the principal of Uxbridge High School, and Dr. Luis Pedraja, President of Quinsigamond Community College. Sarah Burwick, Rebecca Manzano-Howard, and Hannah Cormier all gave very moving speeches about their journey through high school.



Sarah: If you have a dream that you are passionate about never let anybody tell you otherwise. Keep it close to you and never let it go because one day you will accomplish it, no matter how big or small....I'd like to thank my fellow graduates for being an amazing class and for the friendships we have all created here at Gateway.



Rebecca: But WE have survived, WE provide the energy, WE have taken the worst things in our lives and survived from the very things that threatened to suffocate

us, drown us out. I believe that what determines success is the perseverance, the growth, embracing those flames and using them to create the sustenance for life. I am so proud to be part of Gateway because without it, without all the people with me, I probably would never have been standing here today.



Hannah: Regardless of the numbers I'd receive on my report cards, I knew 2 things to be true; 1: I am very smart and no one will ever make me think differently, 2: I am a powerful young women who is going to achieve great things.... It is because of GtC that I fell back in love with learning. My grades were growing, as was my confidence. GtC gave me a gift that I'll never be able to really describe, but I'll always be grateful for it. For many kids like me, we were seen as just the typical high school dropout, everyone quick to assume that the best we'd ever get would be our GED. Well today is our day to wave our hard earned diplomas so high in the air, you'd mistake it as a flag. Today we break a stigma. Today we rise above others expectations of us, because no matter what, we did this for ourselves.



You can view the speeches, as well as the rest of the graduation ceremony here:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bq_Jcw5MPlw&feature=youtu.be

You can find the photos from graduation, as well as the slides from our graduation slideshow, on our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/GatewayToCollegeAtQcc/>

2017-2018 Gateway to College Graduates:

Jezabel Acevedo ★ Julie Beth Anderson ★ Connor B. Antul ★ Quentin P. Brock ★ Carley A. Burns ★ Sarah Nichole Burwick ★ Hannah Delani Cormier ★ Joshua Dauderis ★ Edwin Elijah Diaz ★ Brittney Gilroy ★ Jeffrey M. Hart ★ Kelsie Jones ★ Alexandra J. Kehoe ★ John P. Kelley ★ Lauren L. Kolonusz ★ Casey Kumpey ★ Lindsey L. Lambert ★ Brittany Elizabeth Lazo ★ Starla Feldman ★ Ian Mahoney ★ Rebecca Manzano-Howard ★ Nelishalis Mercedes ★ Julianna Morin ★ Nicole Nolasco Da Cruz ★ Peter James Oliveira ★ Alexis Persson-Ortiz ★ Abigail Marion Picard ★ Isabella Marie Piscitelli ★ Bailey Powers ★ Antonio Sacchiero ★ Ashley Taylor Simoes ★ Jacquelyn Snell ★ May Elizabeth Therrien

Honors

Congratulations to our graduates who graduated with honors!

President's Award

Cumulative College GPA over 3.7

Alexandra J. Kehoe ★ Lindsey M. Lambert ★ Rebecca Manzano-Howard ★ May Elizabeth Therrien

Linda Huddle Award

Cumulative College GPA over a 3.0

Sarah Nichole Burwick ★ Brittney Gilroy ★ John P. Kelley ★ Lauren L. Kolonusz ★ Starla Feldman ★ Ian Mahoney ★ Nicole Nolasco Da Cruz ★ Peter James Oliveira ★ Isabella Marie Piscitelli

Oh, The Places You'll Go!

QCC:

Jezabel Acevedo
Connor B. Antul
Carley A. Burns
Hannah Delani Cormier
Joshua Dauderis
Lauren L. Kolunusz
Casey Kumpey
Starla Feldman
Nelishalis Mercedes
Nicole Nolasco da Cruz
Peter James Oliveira
Alexis Persson-Ortiz
Isabella Marie Piscitelli
Ashley Taylor Simoes
May Elizabeth Therrien

Mass College Of Liberal Arts:

Sarah Nichole Burwick

Bridgewater State University:

Lindsey M. Lambert

Clark University:

Rebecca Manzano-Howard

University of Illinois:

Antonio Sacchiero

United States Air Force:

Bailey Powers

Grafton Housing Authority

(Our First Elected Official!)

John P. Kelley

Alumni News

Kaitlyn Stewart, GtC Class of 2016, graduated from QCC with a degree in Liberal Arts Psychology. She is transferring to Worcester State University to complete her Bachelor's in Psychology. Katie graduated from QCC with Honors.

Dylan Marengo, GtC Class of 2014/QCC Class of 2016 (Criminal Justice), celebrated one year of owning his own business, Lucky's Aquarium. Lucky's Aquarium is a tropical fish store located in Worcester.

Kaydi Barber, GtC Class of 2016/QCC Class of 2017 (General Studies), is attending Assumption College, studying Psychology, and is a member of the dance team there. The Assumption College Dance Team is a Division 2, elite competition team. The team won a national title at the Dance Team Union College Classic in Las Vegas, Nevada.

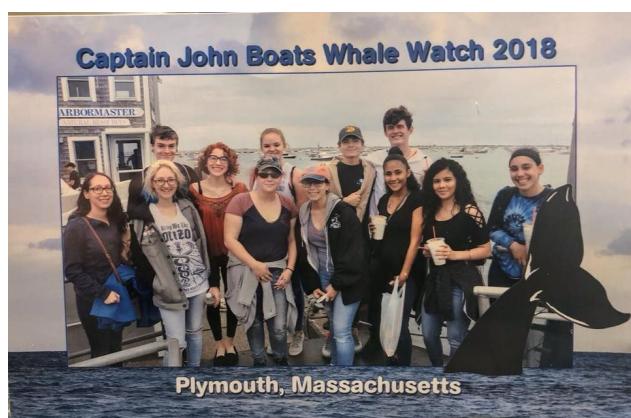
Samathana Beauchamp, GtC Class of 2017, is attending Fitchburg State University, studying Political Science, and was recently elected to serve on Student Senate!

Konstanza Rolas, GtC Class of 2016 has been quite busy! She moved to Florida, became a tax accountant, is the lead sales manager of an insurance office, became a notary, and created a business as a mobile notary. She also officiates marriages and recently was approved for a mortgage!

Noelle Haslam, GtC Class of 2016/QCC Class of 2017 (Interactive Media/Digital Design) is slated to graduate from Worcester State University with a degree in Communications in the Spring of 2019. This summer she is going to Greece to volunteer for a dog rescue group, and to bring back stray dogs to give them new homes in the United States.

Joshua Sadri, GtC Class of 2016, is attending Hampshire College and studying a combination of Music, Film, and Environmental Science. He recently attended a poster competition for the Environmental Science program in Houston, TX.

Whale Watch



On June 13th, we took a trip to Captain John's Whale Watch on Plymouth, MA. Although it rained a little bit, we had a great time. We were able to see humpback whales up close and personal! There were several times a whale came out of the water right next to the boat, and we were able to see just how large these whales are.

Intro to FabLab

Thanks to funding from the STEM Starter Academy, we offered a summer science class in QCC's FabLab. Lead by instructor Alex Gray, students learned how to use the 3D printer, laser cutter, and embroidery machine. Students made unique and useful projects that included; a dog tag, a whistle, a functional mini-water boat, a jewelry holder, and much more!



Student Choice Awards

Every year, Gateway to College students nominate staff and faculty members they feel have gone above and beyond to help them. Congratulations to the following award recipients:

Professor Ray Anderson, Math

Professor Mark Bates, English

Jenna Glazer, Gateway to College Staff

Professor Patricia LaFontaine, English/FYE

Glenda Rodriguez, Gateway to College Staff

Professor Bill McGovern, History

Professor Andria Schwartz, Astronomy

Professor Emily Vogel, English

Professor Lisa Whitcomb, Math/Robotics

Professor Jerry Williams, Art

Professor Bob Yosca, Math

Professor Randi Zanca, English