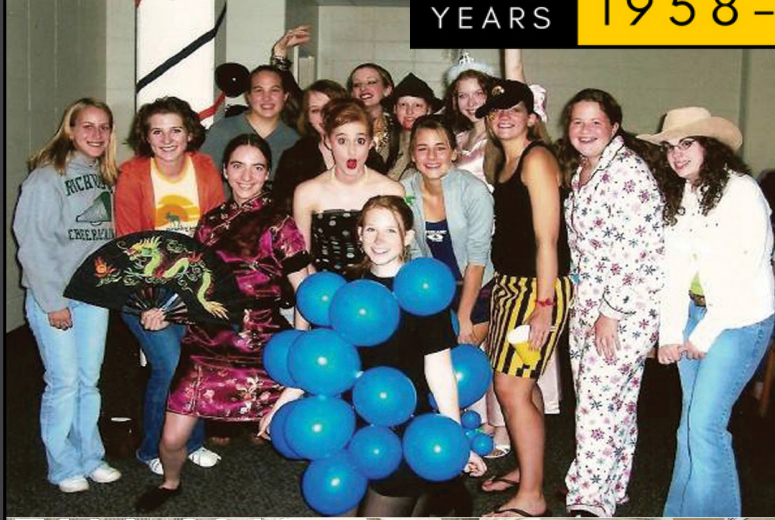


60 YEARS

UI HONORS  
MAKE YOUR CONNECTION

1958-2018



FALL 2018  
University of Iowa



# Table of Contents

- 3 | [Word from the Director](#)  
Art L. Spisak
- 4 | [A “Prime Time” to Learn About Honors History](#)  
Primetime Workshops Engage First-Year Students in the Anniversary Celebration
- 6 | [Once an Honors Student, Always an Honors Alum](#)  
Alumni and the Honors 60th Year Anniversary
- 7 | [Building Excitement](#)  
The Creation of the 60 Notable Honorables
- 8 | [Coming Together to Look Back](#)  
Student Engagement in the Honors 60th Anniversary
- 9 | [Honors History Quiz](#)  
An Honors History “Gameshow”
- 10 | [The Value and Reward of Alumni Engagement](#)  
An Advisory Board Member’s Perspective
- 11 | [60th Anniversary Keynote Address](#)  
Featuring Lana Zak and Lynette Marshall
- 13 | [Honors Ambassadors](#)  
Extending the Celebration to Their Peers
- 14 | [Meet the Writers](#)  
Honors Students at Your Service

## Find the Honors Program on Social Media!



[University of Iowa Honors Program](#)



Visit our blog at [honorsatiowa.wordpress.com/](#)



[@UIowaHonors](#)

---

**Elizabeth Sheridan**  
Newsletter Editor

**Genevieve Cleverley**  
Design Editor

**Holly Blosser Yoder**  
Staff Adviser

---

## On the Cover:

In honor of six decades of Honors history, this collage by Genevieve Cleverley is comprised of images from the Honors photo archive. Clockwise from upper left, the Study-a-thon banner on Shambaugh House, Honors peer mentors at a 2015 Valentine’s Day social, honors pair perform a gymnastic feat, Harry Potter seminar originator Donna Parsons speaks to a class, groundbreaking for the Blank Honors Center, Primetime 2010, 1920s milk delivery at the future home of Honors House, living-learning community Halloween, Associate Director Bob Kirby at the BHC grand opening.

# Word from the Director

Art L. Spisak

Greetings for the Fall of 2018 to our Honors Program students, faculty, alumni, and friends.

## THE HONORS PROGRAM'S 60<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

As was the case with our last newsletter, much of the content of this issue is dedicated to our upcoming 60th Anniversary Celebration. Honors programs in the United States have existed since the 1920s, although there were very few back then. The major impetus for the creation of honors programs such as ours came from the Soviet Union's launching in 1957 of Sputnik, the first artificial Earth satellite. That launching, which American legislators saw as a mark of a technological gap between the United States and the Soviet Union, triggered the creation of NASA and the Space Race. It was also the impetus for ramping up higher education in the United States, which resulted in the formation of many honors programs across the country.

As I mentioned in the spring issue, we owe the existence of the Honors Program at the University of Iowa to Samuel Rhodes Dunlap, who founded it in 1958 and then directed it from 1958 until he retired from the university in 1981. Professor Dunlap, even after his death in 1992, is still supporting Honors students today through a very generous legacy he left to the program—namely, an endowment gift that we have used over the years to award over 1.4 million dollars in scholarships to Honors students.

## 60 NOTABLE HONORABLES

In this issue you'll learn about the 60 Notable Honorables, which is a series of brief profiles featuring Honors alumni, faculty, staff, and current students. The idea for this series originally came from Honors student Laura Widman, who is one of our Honors Ambassadors. The purpose of the series is to highlight the Honors Program's rich history and its distinguished alumni/ae. Profiles of the 60 Notable Honorables have been published over the last several months.

A very good example of one of our distinguished alumna is Lana Zak, an award-winning reporter for ABC News who covers government and politics for radio, television, and digital platforms. Lana is a member of the press corps at the Capitol and the White House. She also happens to be a member of the Honors Program Advisory Board. You'll learn more of her accomplishments in the profile below. Also, she will be one of the keynote speakers for the Honors 60th Anniversary Celebration.

Also in this issue, you'll get the perspective of the President of the Honors Program Advisory Board, Pat Rolston, on the University of Iowa and the Honors Program in particular. I came to know Pat through his son, Nick Rolston, who graduated from the university with highest distinction and as part of the Honors Program in 2014. Pat, who himself is a University of Iowa alumnus, has experienced the university as an undergraduate student, then as a parent of an Honors student, then as a member of the Honors Program Advisory Board, and finally as the president of that board.



*Dr. Art L. Spisak*

He has a deep commitment to the Honors Program that is rooted in his incredible dedication to the students. Without fail and at every opportunity he gives them unstintingly of his time, experience, and knowledge. I think you'll get a glimpse of his extremely generous spirit in the article he was kind enough to write for this issue.

As always, please feel free to contact me via email ([art-spisak@uiowa.edu](mailto:art-spisak@uiowa.edu)) or phone (319.335.1681) with any comments, questions, or concerns you have about the Honors Program. I'm happy to have such conversations.



Art L. Spisak, PhD  
Director, UI Honors Program  
Immediate Past President,  
National Collegiate Honors Council

# A “Prime Time” to Learn About Honors History

## Primetime Workshops Engage First-Year Students in the Anniversary Celebration

By Ajla Dizdarević

A new class of wide-eyed students participated in this year’s eclectic array of Honors Primetime workshops. Over the course of four days in August, about 470 first-year Honors students moved into their residence halls early and adjusted to campus in order to get a taste of what classes are like at the University of Iowa. Students who participated in Honors Primetime received 1 semester hour of Honors credit for attending the intensive three-day workshop and a concluding symposium on the final day of the program.

Honors Primetime workshops don’t only provide college credit for incoming first-year students; these carefully crafted classes cultivate an environment where Honors students make connections with faculty, find like-minded peers, and utilize Honors resources to refine their interests and tap into their potential. This year, as part of the Honors 60th Anniversary Celebration, a pair of unique Primetime workshops were developed with program history related themes.

Mia Battani, an open major on the pre-medicine track, learned a lot about the Honors Program and what it means to her while participating in the workshop Self-Discovery in Honors History, taught by Holly Yoder along with undergraduate teaching assistants Nicholas Dolan and Josie Marchant. Battani and other students learned about how the Honors Program came to be what it is today, something Battani believes helped make the Honors Program feel special to her.

“In my anthropology and art history classes, the concept of belonging to a community will be brought up, and the way my workshop showed me how the Honors Program was built gives me that feeling of belonging,” she says. “Many cultures throughout history have created their own relaxing space, and when I think about how the Blank Honors Center is a sanctuary for Honors students, it reminds me of ancient Egyptians who created paradise gardens.”



*Primetime students were invited to come together and get competitive over board games on the third floor of the Blank Honors Center.*



*Students engage in discussion during a 2014 workshop.*

## Primetime Workshops Engage First-Year Students in the Anniversary Celebration, *cont.*

All the workshops collaborated directly with the Honors time capsule class, an Honors Primetime workshop focused on creating a time capsule to be opened at the conclusion of the students' four years at Iowa. (A second one is to be opened in forty years for the program's 100th anniversary.) Included in the Primetime group's capsule is a booklet prepared by Battani and other students titled "College First Impressions Compilation."

Linguistics major and Honors student Laura Widman thought of the idea for this unique Honors Primetime class after brainstorming ways for current students to be involved with the celebration of the Honors Program's 60th anniversary with other Honors Ambassadors. Widman was fortunate to be able to work with her previous rhetoric instructor, Dr. Matt Gilchrist, to develop the class. "I knew that he was engaging and a great teacher, and because he has worked with the archives on campus before, I thought he would be a great fit for this class, and he was!"



*First-year students gather in the BHC atrium, Primetime 2010.*

In Gilchrist's workshop, titled *Touching the Past, Touching the Future: Time Travel through the Archives, Time Capsules, and Material Culture*, students visited the University of Iowa Libraries' Special Collections and considered the value of physical objects as a means of creating significance and preserving history, both at a program and a personal level.



*Students create a "trashcano" for a 2015 workshop. Photos courtesy of Primetime Archives*

On the last day of Honors Primetime, students gathered at the Englert Theatre and presented on the knowledge they had gained and the projects they undertook. Widman reflected on the symposium, saying, "[The students] displayed the importance of preserving history and documenting time very well."

Battani shared the same sentiment. "The symposium was my favorite part; seeing the work everyone else did blew my mind," she said. "Knowing that the work we did on those three days will be waiting for us in forty years made the Honors Primetime experience special."

# Once an Honors Student, Always an Honors Alum

## Alumni and the Honors 60th Anniversary

By Eilidh Spery

The first few weeks of September are always busy around the Blank Honors Center, with brand-new and returning Honors students filling the halls. This semester, an extra sense of excitement hovers in the building as the Honors Program prepares for its 60th Anniversary Celebration. The celebration will take place from October 6–7, and aims to bring together students and alumni through a series of events. Bob Kirby, Associate Director of the Honors Program, noted that a sense of community served as a guiding force in shaping this celebration, stating that despite “all the things that have gone on and changed within Honors...the idea of community just [comes] out, whether it is 1967 or 2017.”

Events for alumni will begin Saturday with a reception and program featuring a variety of student, alumni, and staff speakers and performers. On Sunday there will be an Honors Through the Decades event in which one graduate from each decade will speak about their memories of the program, the past directors, and their own experiences. Both days will also feature building tours led by current students to show alumni new changes to the Honors Center.

---

***“[Despite] all the things  
that have gone on and  
changed within Honors...  
the idea of community just  
[comes] out...”***  
***-Bob Kirby***

---

Over a thousand individuals have graduated from the University of Iowa Honors Program, and the celebration hopes to reflect on the program’s journey through the past sixty years with them. A diverse group of alumni—ranging from members of the James Gang to individuals who work at the university—plan to attend, and Kirby stated that he looks forward to seeing old friends as well as making new ones.

He also emphasized that the event provides an opportunity to thank alumni for their hard work and involvement, as many of them worked as student staff members, newsletter writers, or in other ways with the program as undergraduates.

Nikki Guarino, a 2007 graduate, said that the reunion presents a chance not only to see friends but also to “celebrate something that really meant a lot to me and gave me so much when I was a student.” Guarino graduated with majors in English and Mathematics as well as earning a Secondary Education teaching certificate. She taught in South Korea through the Fulbright Program and is currently beginning a PhD in Human Development and Social Policy at Northwestern University. This event will provide alumni with the chance to see old friends and to share “the collection of experiences they have,” as Kirby termed it, with each other and with current students.



Nikki Guarino poses at the Cedar Rapids Airport for photos after her study abroad trip to Ireland in 2006. Photo courtesy of the Honors archive.

[\*Continued on page 11\*](#)

# Building Excitement

## The Creation of the 60 Notable Honorables

By Abi Paravasthuramesh

In recognition of the 60th anniversary of the University of Iowa Honors Program, Honors students have been working to put together 60 Notable Honorables, a series of brief profiles featuring Honors alumni, faculty, staff, and current students.

The idea was proposed by then first-year Honors student Laura Widman last spring. Widman is one of the Honors Ambassadors involved in planning ways to foster engagement during the anniversary celebration. She and the other Honors Ambassadors have been brainstorming and implementing ideas to highlight the program's rich history since staff introduced the opportunity to the Honors Outreach Ambassadors class during spring semester last year.

"I am fascinated by the direction people's lives go in after graduation: the unexpected opportunities, challenges, and successes that come up," said senior Eilidh Sperry, who has been working as a writer on the Notable Honorables project.

Writers made phone calls and scoured the internet in an attempt to contact prior Honors students and staff from across the decades. The resulting collection of mini-profiles and interviews offers insight into the program's meaningful impact on students' lives and education.

The process of reaching out to these Honorables involves researching, cross-referencing, interviewing, and more. It is especially difficult to find contact information for Honorables who have not worked at the university or in academia for numerous years.

"The process can be complicated, but it's always rewarding," stated sophomore Ajla Dizdarević, who has also been working on the Notable Honorables project, along with sophomore, Anna Magaña.

"When interviewing someone, especially about their own life, there has to be a mutual respect and trust. The interactions are obviously professional, but I had to convey that I had good intentions," commented Magaña.

"The writing process went slowly but surely. I had to be very intentional with all my interactions, in order to make sure I was getting good material to work with," she added.

Honors Advising Director Holly Blosser Yoder has also been working closely with the students engaged with this project. In preparing for the Notable Honorables series, she spoke with John Fink, a 1967 Honors graduate who knew Rhodes Dunlap, the founder of the Honors Program. "Dunlap was kind of a mythical figure," Yoder said. "Nobody that I knew personally knew him, but Fink was able to provide a student's perspective on Dunlap."

These profiles serve to recognize a sampling of Honors alumni and directors and to build excitement towards the 60th anniversary celebration. "This is simply a glimpse of the numerous alumni out there and all the things they are doing," commented Yoder. "We hope that some of them will come back and reunite with their fellow Honors students at the anniversary celebration."

[The Notable Honorables](#) series is archived on the Honors website's special 60th anniversary section.



**JOHN FINK**

- Graduation Year: 1967
- Area of Study: Mathematics
- Honors Newsletter Editor: 1965-67



**DR. SANDRA BARKAN**

- Hometown: Chicago, IL
- Title: Former Honors Associate Director and Executive Director

# Coming Together to Look Back

Student Engagement in the Honors 60th Anniversary Celebration By Anna Magaña

For many students, the 60th anniversary of the Honors Program may seem like a celebration for those who were here, well, 60 years ago. Sophomore Salma Rios reflected on this sentiment, saying, “The program still feels new to me. The fact that it is still around after 60 years is amazing.” While current students may feel distanced from the birth of the program, the anniversary can serve as an opportunity to learn how the program has evolved and to appreciate it for what it is now. To facilitate current student engagement, a group of students and staff have been working to put on events to celebrate the 60th anniversary.



*Senior Honors student and staff member Logan Drake takes advantage of the opportunity for free ice cream and connecting with fellow Honors students.*

The activities started early, with classes and events related to the anniversary held during Honors Primetime, the week before fall semester classes began. An ice cream social, board game night, and trivia night created opportunities for freshmen to get to know the program, to interact with each other, and to begin to create a sense of community.

One of the students heavily involved in the planning of these events, Josie Marchant, emphasized the importance of social gatherings. “It is such a big program, and there are these connections that you can make with people... [They] might not be lifelong friendships, but it’s a familiar face that you see when you’re walking in the library or on the T. Anne Cleary Walkway.” She noted that seeing these familiar faces can help students acclimate to campus.

Once classes began, there were even more opportunities for students to get involved. On September 10, over 200 students came to get ice cream, engage in conversation with their peers, and view an Honors history timeline drawn on the atrium windows at the annual Scoops for Scholars event in the Blank Honors Center. During the event, students had the opportunity to register to vote if they had not done so already.

On September 23, a talent showcase held in Currier’s multipurpose room presented a fun way for students to show off their unique talents in a comfortable atmosphere. Going forward, the celebration continues with anniversary weekend events for current students beginning Friday, October 5. Cookie decorating will be followed by a pizza & trivia night, culminating with the burial of a time capsule created by students.

All these opportunities for involvement took a great amount of Honors student and faculty manpower to bring about. Angeline Vanle, another student in charge of planning, commented that the planning group did not start with a lot of people, but it grew as the process moved along. Small committees of students were dedicated to tasks such as the time capsule project, a historical photos project, and outreach.



*Angeline Vanle*

As the anniversary draws near, students are highly involved both as participants in events and as facilitators. The 60th anniversary has acted as a catalyst for current student engagement, and as Vanle noted, it can act as a reminder of what the program has to offer in general. “We really wanted to reach out to students during this time to make them feel that [support] and to remind them that it is a community and it prolongs way after graduation,” she commented. “In 60 years they can come back and look at the memories they had here because it’s not something that ends when you get your diploma.” There is a significance here that extends beyond a single date. To celebrate 60 years of the Honors Program is to celebrate the people who have made connections within those years, and to pave the way for 60 more.



# Honors History “Gameshow”

By Anna Magaña

Every year, Honors Primetime presents itself as one of the first opportunities for Honors students to meet each other and become familiar with a new community. Chances are, most first-year Honors students will not know everything about the program and its history when they arrive.

This year, however, a trivia night on August 13 presented a unique way to learn some new things and bring out the spirit of competition at the same time.

The game was formatted in a Jeopardy! style, and students formed groups rather than playing individually. Josie Marchant, a student planner for the event, noted that she expected around 25 students to show up for the night, and was surprised to find almost 70.

Seated in the auditorium of the Pomerantz Center, students got into teams of 7-10 and took turns answering trivia questions. Honors History was one of five categories. Other categories were Pop Culture, Go Hawks, Theme Songs, and Famous Movie Quotes.



Josie Marchant

Marchant said that the game was a fun way to encourage students to loosen up and get comfortable, since the first few days on campus can be stressful for anyone. “One of the reasons I wanted to have the event was so students could bring out their competitive edge a little bit, because I think when you’re a little competitive it brings out who you truly are. That way they could make more connections with other students.”

The students who attended the event did get to know each other, even if only for a short while. Plus, if there comes a time they need to know about Honors history, they just might have the answer.

## Test Yourself! Honors History Trivia

1. How many locations have served as home to the Honors House?

- a. 5
- b. 6
- c. An accurate number has not been determined

2. When was the first Honors Newsletter issue produced?

- a. 1966
- b. 1973
- c. 1960

3. How many directors has the Honors Program had?

- a. 2
- b. 4
- c. 7

4. What was the first year that students could graduate with University Honors recognition on transcripts and diplomas?

- a. 1973
- b. 1993
- c. 2013

5. Which director served as president of the National Collegiate Honors Conference?

- a. Samuel Rhodes Dunlap
- b. Art L. Spisak
- c. Alice Fulton

Answers:  
1. a  
2. c  
3. c  
4. b  
5. a

# The Value and Reward of Alumni Engagement

## An Advisory Board Member's Perspective

By Pat Rolston

*Pat Rolston is a University of Iowa graduate and the current president of the Honors Program Advisory Board.*

Iowa City and the University of Iowa are special places in so many ways for our family. I was the first person in our family to graduate from Iowa and benefit from the wonderful professors, classmates, and community at large. Our son, Nick, carried on that tradition. His experience at Iowa opened new opportunities not only for him—by enabling his current role as a fourth-year Applied Physics PhD student at Stanford—but also for me, as it resulted in my participation as a member of the University of Iowa Honors Advisory Board.

I became acquainted with the University of Iowa Honors Program by attending Honors events, where I met the exceptional professional team that helps students realize their potential and become part of the Honors community. I remember well one of the early ceremonies, where I witnessed awards for scholarship and research, including targeted awards for deserving students from farm families by means of Richard Tyner's generosity, as well as scholarships for science and environmental excellence through the kindness of Brett Williams, both fellow members of the Honors Advisory Board. There are a wide range of Honors scholarship opportunities for Iowa students to achieve great things as a result of their hard work and the mentoring of the dedicated staff and leadership team of the Honors Program.



*Nick Rolston, left, talks with classmates in the Pomerantz Center auditorium at the opening of Primetime 2010.*

*Photo courtesy of Primetime Archives*

Honors mentoring takes many forms and sets an example for students and alumni. Many communities develop within Honors, from the Social Entrepreneurship class orchestrated by David Gould to Dr. Spisak's seminars dedicated to the exploration of self-discovery. Scholarship, when combined with a fundamental desire to pay it forward, can yield a virtuous cycle from which we all benefit. The University of Iowa Honors Program offers the opportunity to realize that critical sense of purpose. All alumni have the opportunity to contribute their time and kindness toward Honors monetarily or through engagement with programs such as the Mentoring Program initiative.

Lana Zak, who had the original idea for the newly created Mentoring Program, is a national ABC News correspondent and an Iowa alumna serving on our Iowa Honors Advisory Board. She formed a committee dedicated to launching a formal Iowa Honors Mentoring Program. That was approximately two years ago, and it has taken shape based on the efforts of a talented computer science student (now alumnus), Tom Werner, board members, and support from the Honors team, led by Dr. Spisak and Dr. Kirby. Lana and the board's vision is to connect Iowa Honors students to alumni through a matching program, enabling current honors students to receive advice and council based on mutual areas of interest.

We have expanded the database of available mentors to include a broader group beyond Iowa alumni. That group includes McKenzie Consultants, industry executives, attorneys, doctors, musicians, engineers, college professors, executive directors of non-profits, former FBI agents, and current graduate students. This initiative is in the spirit of the Honors Program's mission to give back and shape a much better place for our children and society.

That sense of purpose can be realized in so many ways by taking a moment to understand the needs of our Honors students, while considering all the options we have as Iowa alumni to be part of something very special. I am thankful beyond words for this opportunity to serve with fellow graduates who lift those around them while creating opportunities to help our current and future generations.

**Join us in supporting Iowa's honors students—by becoming a mentor, contributing financially, or [contacting us](#) to explore ways that you can impact today's University of Iowa Honors Program.**

# 60th Anniversary Keynote Address By Elizabeth Sheridan

ABC News Washington Correspondent Lana Zak will be the keynote speaker for the Honors 60th Anniversary Celebration. Zak studied Political Science and Journalism and Mass Communications at the University of Iowa and graduated in 2000. She then attended Harvard's Kennedy School of Government to earn a Master of Public Policy in 2003.



*Lana Zak*

Zak began her broadcasting career by covering then-Senator Barack Obama's 2008 presidential campaign, and then went on to be a member of the White House Press Corps with ABC News. She has worked on many of ABC's biggest stories, including the shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary

School, the Jacqueline Kennedy interview, the recovery of Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords, and many others. Through her work at ABC News, she has been the recipient of multiple Emmys, the Edward R. Murrow Award, and the Newswomen of NY Frontpage Award.

"Lana set an example of what it meant to be an 'engaged' student at the university," remarked Bob Kirby, Associate Director of the Honors Program. "Her role on the Honors Advisory Board has been just as impactful, and we are delighted that she will join us as a featured speaker." Zak's speech will take place during the alumni reception on Saturday, October 6.



*Lynette Marshall*

Also speaking at the event will be Lynette Marshall. Marshall is the president and chief executive officer of the University of Iowa Center for Advancement and is involved in the leadership of several national groups, including the Association of Governing Boards, the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (CASE), and the Big Ten Fund Raisers Institute (BTFRI).

## Alumni and the Honors 60th Anniversary, continued from page 6

Guarino also noted that she hopes to learn about ways to give back to the Honors Program as an alum and that "it would be great if something came out of the 60th anniversary that established renewed connections with the Honors Program and current students [and] alumni, either new or old." In this way, the anniversary looks ahead to the future of Honors, both by introducing new students to the program and by providing alumni with ideas of how to get involved.

The Honors 60th Anniversary Celebration highlights a sense of Honors community which has flourished throughout each decade, both by acknowledging the program's history and by celebrating the alumni, students, faculty, and staff who helped make it possible. It also provides an opportunity for the program to consider ways to continue its growth. Perhaps most importantly, it allows old friends to reunite. Guarino encouraged everyone to "reconnect with old friends, reconnect with the Honors Program, [and] come to the event."

Alumni interested in attending can find information about the 60th Anniversary on the Honors Program website.



*Guarino has traveled the globe since graduation, working in South Korea, Washington D.C., Boston, and Chicago. Photo courtesy of Guarino*

# JOIN US

for the  
University of Iowa  
Honors Program's

# 60th Anniversary Celebration

## Saturday, October 6th

Blank Honors Center Tours  
1:00 p.m. & 3:00 p.m.

Shambaugh House Tours  
1:00 p.m. & 3:00 p.m.

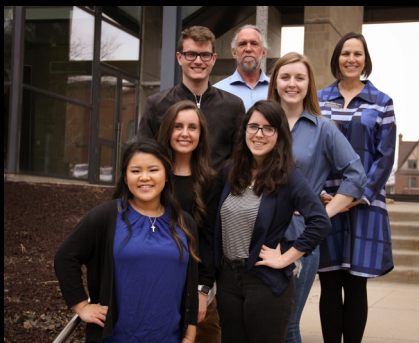
60th Anniversary  
Reception and Program  
5:30 - 7:30 p.m.  
Art Building West

## Sunday, October 7th

Honors Through the Decades  
11:00 a.m.  
Pomerantz Center  
Room C20

Blank Honors Center Tours  
12:00 p.m. & 1:30 p.m.

Learn more at [honors.uiowa.edu](http://honors.uiowa.edu)



60  
YEARS

UI HONORS  
MAKE YOUR CONNECTION

1958 - 2018

THE  
UNIVERSITY  
OF IOWA

Honors Program  
Make your connection

# Honors Ambassadors

## Extending the Celebration to Their Peers



*In addition to their regular duties meeting with prospective students and their families, Honors Ambassadors have brainstormed and led programming for current student engagement in the Honors 60th Anniversary Celebration. Pictured here are the Fall 2018 class that meets on Wednesdays (a smaller group meets Mondays), wearing a variety of ambassador t-shirts from across the years. The 2018 t-shirt features the Honors 60th Anniversary logo on the back.*



# Meet the Writers

## Honors Students at Your Service



### Anna Magaña

Anna, a sophomore from Sioux City, IA, is studying English and creative writing with a minor in informatics. She enjoys going to readings at Prairie Lights and loves Iowa City's literary history—and Yotopia, of course. For writing inspiration, Anna looks to author Sandra Cisneros.



### Abi Paravasthuramesh

Abi is a sophomore from Bettendorf, IA. She is pursuing a degree in biomedical sciences and she loves the campus environment, the people, and the opportunities at the University of Iowa. In her free time, she enjoys playing tennis, pickleball, and ping-pong.



### Elizabeth Sheridan

Elizabeth is a senior English major with minors in mass communication and gender, women's, & sexuality studies. She is the editorial intern for the University of Iowa Press and enjoys coffee, Broadway musicals, great books, and good grammar. This year she moved into the Honors Publication Editor position, replacing graduate Claire Jacobson.



### Eilidh Sperry

Eilidh is a senior from Colorado and is majoring in English. Besides searching for the best cup of chai, she spends her time lost in fictional worlds, playing guitar, and traveling. She studied abroad in Spain last spring, taking a hiatus from writing for the Honors Newsletter.

### Ajla Dizdarević

Ajla is a sophomore studying English and creative writing.



# Introducing Genevieve

## Cleverley Joins Honors Student Staff as Publications Designer

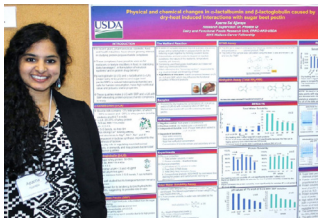


### Genevieve Cleverley

With this fall edition of the Honors Newsletter, we welcome Genevieve Cleverley as graphic designer for Honors Publications. Genevieve is a third-year psychology and studio arts major with minors in human relations and social work. She hopes to become an art therapist after graduation. Hailing from Washington, Iowa, Genevieve chose Iowa because she loved roaming through Iowa City as a child. Genevieve has been an artist since age 4, when she filled numerous sketchbooks with illustrations of poodles and aliens. Genevieve's favorite medium is printmaking, but she loves to experiment with clay, metal, and collage. In addition to working as an admin for the Honors Program and serving on the Outreach Team, Genevieve works on the design team for Fools Magazine, watches a lot of Food Network, and enjoys hanging out with her cat named Steve Buscemi.



# GIVING TO HONORS



The financial support we receive from our alums and friends is given back directly to our students in the form of scholarships, professional development opportunities, and stipends for students to study abroad. Your gift directly affects the lives and careers of Honors students.

To make a donation:  
Visit [givetoioawa.org/2018hp](http://givetoioawa.org/2018hp)  
Email us at [honors-program@uiowa.edu](mailto:honors-program@uiowa.edu)  
Call us at 319-335-1681