

Tau Beta Pi Announces 2023 Laureates

Four Laureates have been selected in the 39th year of Tau Beta Pi's annual program to recognize gifted engineering students who have excelled in areas beyond their technical majors. Award categories include arts, athletics, diverse achievements, and service. This year's Laureates will receive a \$2,500 cash award, commemorative plaque, and will join 117 other outstanding Tau Bates to be cited since the program began. The 2023 Laureates are **Maxine Dupuis**, *NY N '23*, **Alexander J. Francisco**, *NY N '24*, **Gwyneth M. Schloer**, *VA B '22*, and **Mitchell Sueker**, *SD A '23*. A total of 121 remarkable Tau Bates have been named Laureates since 1982.



Maxine Dupuis has been selected as a 2023 TBP Laureate for athletic achievements. She is enrolled in the combined B.S./M.S. program at the State University of New York at Buffalo in biomedical engineering, earning her undergrad degree this past May, and her graduate degree will be completed in 2024. Maxine is a multi-talented

Div. 1 cross country & track-and-field student-athlete and has competed in the ISF World Scholastic Cross-Country Championships, representing Canada in Budapest (2016) and Paris (2018). She has also promoted initiatives related to the LGBTQIA+ community, International Students, and Mental Health within the Athletics Department and on her team. In addition, she volunteers with Girls on the Run Buffalo at their 5K races as a race leader, site clean-up coordinator, and as a role model to the girls.



For his achievements in the arts, **Alexander J. Francisco** has been named a 2023 TBP Laureate. He is a rising senior majoring in electrical engineering at the State University of New York at Buffalo and plans to graduate in 2024. He is an active professional trumpet player and has played trumpet with such groups as

the Amherst Symphony, Niagara Frontier Brass, the Greater Buffalo Youth Orchestra, the University at Buffalo Symphony, and the Williamsville East Chorale, and volunteers to play TAPS at veterans' funerals. Alex was inducted by the NY Nu Chapter in December of 2022 and was recently elected to serve as the chapter's recording secretary, hoping to help spread the word about TBP on campus to bring in more brilliant minds.



Selected as a 2023 TBP Laureate for diverse achievements, **Gwyneth M. Schloer** has completed three bachelor's degrees and two master's degrees in just five years, all from Virginia Tech. Her undergraduate research focused on the development of a novel acousto-optic non-destructive inspection (AONDI) system and she had two papers

published. In addition to academic success, Gwyneth was active in Science Olympiad at Virginia Tech, serving as president and tournament director for two years. She was a chapter president of VA Beta, managing the difficult transition from an online format to in-person activities. Gwyneth's well-rounded perspective and commitment to the pursuit of a multifaceted understanding of engineering research and its applications was cited as a motivating factor for her nomination.



Mitchell Sueker has been named a 2023 TBP Laureate for athletic achievements. He earned a B.S. in electrical engineering from South Dakota School of Mines & Technology and an M.S. degree in biomedical engineering from University of North Dakota, where he will complete his Ph.D. in 2024.

Mitchell was recognized as Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference Freshman of the Year, a two-time RMAC All-Conference honoree, and two-time RMAC All-Academic First Team selection. In a recommendation letter, Mitchell was described as "a credit to the engineering profession and an impactful contributor to any endeavor he pursues" and was commended for balancing academics, service, and varsity athletic participation for the past six years. It is based on this passion for excellence in all facets that makes him deserving of this recognition.