

For immediate release: June 4, 2024

## **Triton College Honors Students in the Scholars Program**

Five Students Recognized at Board Meeting



Pictured, left to right – Rafael Rojas, Jordy Pinero, Mia De Leon, Ana Zulkowski and Adrian Lamb.

RIVER GROVE, Ill. – Triton College Scholars Program students Mia De Leon, Ana Zulkowski, Adrian Lamb, Rafael Rojas and Jordy Pinero were recognized for their academic achievements at the May 21 Triton College Board of Trustees meeting.

"This group of students really pulled together," said Dr. Michael Flaherty, director of Triton's Scholars Program. "They're all graduating from Triton two years out of high school, all on the President's List, and earned a GPA of 3.9 or higher. They are extremely talented."

Mia De Leon of River Grove said she was able to manage a college workload with the help of Dr. Flaherty and her motivational peers. She feels that Triton provided her with the tools needed to become a successful student. "Everything from the Library to the Bookstore was convenient," said De Leon, who will attend DePaul University this fall to study psychology.

Ana Zulkowski of Forest Park will attend Elmhurst University next school year to study graphic design. Zulkowski said those in the Scholars Program became a tight-knit group.

"The work was both collaborative and taught us how to become independent learners," said Zulkowski. "Dr. Flaherty truly showed us the difference between high school and college with our classes and coursework."

Oak Park resident Adrian Lamb, who attended Oak Park and River Forest High School, said he will be attending Dominican University, River Forest, majoring in biology (pre-medicine).

"We were in a community with individuals with one goal, and that was to be better," said Lamb, adding that "there were so many opportunities" provided to us as students.

Rafael Rojas of Oak Park attended Elmwood Park High School and plans to attend University of Illinois Chicago (UIC) next school year, unless he is accepted to Georgetown University. He will major in mathematics.

"I loved every single teacher at Triton," he said. "Eventually, I'd like to become a professor."

River Grove resident Jordy Pinero attended East Leyden High School. Pinero is attending University of Illinois Chicago (UIC) and plans to study computer science.

"The Scholars Program helped me realize what I wanted to do for a career," Pinero said. "I want to continue with this level of success into the future."

Dr. Flaherty said each of these students have shown resilience and drive in their academic achievements.

"Whatever academic or career path these students pursue, they're going to be great," he said.

The Triton College Scholars Program is a two-year program for academically talented students. Students selected for the program generally transfer to a four-year college or university following Triton.

For more information, please contact michaelflaherty@triton.edu or (708) 456-0300, Ext. 3250.

###

Media Contact:

Melissa Ramirez Cooper | melissacooper@triton.edu | 708-456-0300, Ext. 3692

## **ABOUT TRITON COLLEGE**

Triton College is an institution of higher education dedicated to student success. Triton offers more than 120 degree and certificate programs designed for students to realize their career aspirations and effectively compete in a global economy. The college campus spans 110 acres in River Grove, Illinois, holds classes at satellite locations and offers online learning opportunities. Triton's exemplary faculty and staff work to provide high-quality, convenient and affordable educational opportunities to more than 10,000 students each year. Triton College is a member of The Community Colleges of Illinois and accredited by the Higher Learning Commission. Learn more at <a href="http://triton.edu/">http://triton.edu/</a>.