



**BRONX COMMUNITY COLLEGE**  
of The City University of New York

# 2021

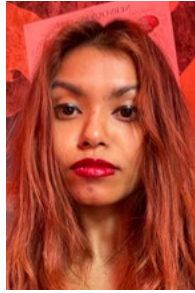
G R A D U A T I O N  
A W A R D S  
C E R E M O N Y

**VIRTUAL**

Thursday, June 3, 2021 at 12:30pm  
Master of Ceremonies: Dr. Lester Sandres Rápalo



## BCC VALEDICTORIAN AND SALUTATORIAN



**Mahin Ashik** | Valedictorian

Mahin Ashik is the Valedictorian of the Bronx Community College Class of 2021. Born in Bangladesh, she began her BCC journey in January 2019 and will graduate next month with an associate degree in Liberal Arts and Psychology.

"I was a member of the Psychology Club and a mental health peer educator for "Get PSyCh'D" (Peer Support and Career Development Program)," says Mahin. I loved working with my team members to address the stigma towards receiving therapy." She now plans on studying psychology at Lehman College with a long-range goal of going to medical school and eventually specializing in psychiatry.

"Coming to BCC was a transformative experience for me," Mahin says. "I joined ASAP (Accelerated Study in Associate Programs) and met my two amazing advisors, Nicole Monte and Thomasina D. Brown, who encouraged me all the way. I felt accepted and confident. I started expressing myself more and more without hesitation."

Much of that self-expression is in the form of student activism. "I like to go to demonstrations within my community," says the Bronxite. "I'm very passionate about police brutality and I'm also part of groups that address the austerity policies of CUNY. So when I'm not doing school work, I'm out there organizing.

"Although the pandemic took the physical learning and social connection away, my memories of BCC will always be dear to my heart."



**Gina Ama Frimpong** | Salutatorian

Gina Ama Frimpong is the Salutatorian of the Bronx Community College Class of 2021. Born in Italy, she grew up in Ghana, came to the United States four years ago and Bronx Community College in August 2018.

"I majored in Liberal Arts and Sciences: General," Gina recounts. "With the opportunities provided by Bronx Community College, I became a Supplemental Instruction leader to guide students in biology classes to study effectively, work collaborative work with peers and gain a high grade in the course. I was also a biology tutor offering individual guidance to students who were having difficulty in their class.

"I was a member of the Biology Club, which offered resources to explore the environment by conducting experiments and going on field trips, like visiting Randall's Island in New York City. Becoming a scholar in the Kaplan Leadership Program gave me immense support to continue my education. As a result, I have been able to transfer to Pomona College in California to gain my bachelor's degree in Science, Technology and Society.

"My goal is to be in a position of power where I can encourage sustainability. I want to become an active participant in propagating management of the ecosystem which supports our life on earth."

## **COLLEGE AWARDS**

**Presidential Academic Excellence Award – Valedictorian**  
Mahin Ashik

**Presidential Academic Excellence Award – Salutatorian**  
Gina Ama Frimpong

**Dr. James A. Colston Memorial Award**  
Analorisa Rosado

**Harry Lesser Memorial Award**  
Zouberou Sayibou

**Virgil H. Logan, Jr. Memorial Award**  
Ama Afful

**Carl J. Polowczyk Memorial Award**  
Perla Gerez

**Mel Winter Memorial Award**  
Lennin Charalla Quintanilla

**Rosario D. Santa Rita Memorial Scholarship**  
Lennin Charalla Quintanilla

### **Association of Latino Faculty and Staff**

*Presented by Association of Latino Faculty and Staff  
Chairperson: Leidy Pichardo*

**Student of the Year Award - 1st place**  
Dania Marcelino

**Student of the Year Award - 2nd place**  
Yamilet Leylani Martinez Mena

**Student of the Year Award - 3rd place**  
Carmelo Quinones - Reyes Jr

### **Unity & Strength**

*Presented by Gene Adams & Clifford L. Marshall II*

Najee Barnes-Lassiter  
Mariama Sanyang

### **Breaking the Glass Ceiling**

*Breaking the Glass Ceiling Award in Honor of Dr. Vicki Flaris  
Presented by Debra Gonsher, Ph.D.*

Juddelis Villar  
Alaya Lee

## **DEPARTMENTAL AND CURRICULAR AWARDS**

### **ART AND MUSIC**

Department Chairperson: Professor Roni Ben-Nun

#### **Art Award for Excellence in Art**

Saunders Acevedo Perez

Kefaih Alazazi

Kwame Twumasi

#### **J. Kling Award for Excellence in Art**

Zere Ashetova

#### **Music Award**

Wendeyolsde Ouedraogo

#### **Ruth & Harvey L. Bass Memorial Award**

Genesis Cabral Villar

Juddelis Villar

#### **The Florence Meister Memorial Scholarship**

Solomon Tome

#### **The George & Linda Tudor Scholarship**

Bryan Holder

### **BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES**

Department Chairperson: Dr. Chris Robinson

#### **Animal Care and Management Commendation Award**

Alexandra Mehnert

#### **Bernard Bates Memorial Award**

Nastacia Carridis

#### **Biology Faculty Memorial Scholarship**

Noora Abdulwahed

Vishwanauth Persaud

#### **Biotechnology Commendation Award**

Kanelly Reyes

#### **Dr. & Mrs. Israel Gottesman Memorial Award**

Whitney Osborne

#### **Medical Laboratory Technician Commendation Award**

Bethany Person

#### **Ornamental Horticulture Commendation Award**

Aiyanna Milligan

#### **Marilyn Flood Memorial Award**

Obed Gyedu Larbi

## **BUSINESS AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS**

Department Chairperson: Professor Howard Clampman

### **Accounting Award**

Jean Tougma

### **Benjamin Cutler Memorial Award**

Michelle Santos

### **Business Administration Award**

Lennin Charalla Quintanilla

### **Edith White Rosenfield Memorial Award**

Shyamali Ghosh

### **Marilyn Flood Memorial Award**

Ana Urquiza Riveroll

### **Marketing and Management Award**

Kelsey Rodriguez

### **Martin May Memorial Scholarship**

Ama Kablan

### **New York State Society of C.P.A.s Award**

Essohanam Balli  
Fatoumata Fofana  
Yatimpou Napo

### **Office Administration and Technology Award**

Ashley Tavarez

### **Paralegal Studies Peter Morganti Award**

Ivanka Sanchez  
Derek Sine

### **Robert Kissell Memorial Award**

Jean Tougma

### **Stella H. Kubis Memorial Award**

Jehad Musleh

## **CHEMISTRY AND CHEMICAL TECHNOLOGY**

Department Chairperson: Dr. Neal Phillip

### **Chemistry Award**

Juanita Beard  
Naimul Bhuiyan  
Nathaniel Boadi Donkor  
Anthonique Cooper  
Hailey Cotto  
Fatimata Dabo  
Emma Feliciano  
Norma Ilario  
Hadjia Jalloh  
Zacaria Ka  
Jade Liburd  
Habiba Masoud  
Judith Mensah-Boakye

Leurimills Mercedes  
Julio Pena  
Paula Perez  
Yacouba Semde  
Aly Zuniga

**Thomas F. Brennan Memorial Award**

Nathaniel Boadi Donkor  
Fatimata Dabo  
Emma Feliciano  
Norma Ilario  
Zacaria Ka  
Habiba Masoud  
Leurimills Mercedes  
Aly Zuniga

**Vicki Flaris Memorial STEM Award**

Anthonique Cooper  
Hadjia Jalloh

**COMMUNICATION ARTS AND SCIENCES**

Department Chairperson: Dr. Sara Brady

**Communication Arts & Sciences Award**

Michael Gonzalez

**Media and Digital Film Production Award**

Christopher Guerrero

**Media Studies**

Kimberly Castellanos

**Performing Arts Award**

Alaya Lee

**Speech- Language Pathology Award**

Scarlet Vasquez

**EDUCATION AND ACADEMIC LITERACY**

Department Chairperson: Dr. George Sanchez

**The Future Educators Award (AA)**

Cynthia Alvarez  
Suleidy De La Cruz

**The Future Educators Award (AAS)**

Erika Salce Puello

**ENGINEERING, PHYSICS AND TECHNOLOGY**

Department Chairperson: Dr. Jalil Moghaddasi

**Automotive Technology Award**

Osama Alsaid  
Shamaul Bailey  
Nar Balgobin  
Lawrence Bank

Nicolas Cohen-Young  
Moatazbellah Eissawy  
Deny Hilario  
Amir Khan  
Dilbar Kumar  
Robert Mohammed  
Jaquan Oliver  
Jonathan Pinaya  
Miguel Reynoso Menieur  
Adrian Rivera  
Randy Rivera  
Albert Rosario  
Szilveszter Sarkozy  
Eubie Toro-Rodriguez

**Electronic Technology Award**  
Nicholas Jones

**Engineering Award**  
Richard Cevallos Liberato

**Lewis Carlin Memorial Award**  
Mahamadou Kabba

**Morris Meister Award**  
Malik Pernarh

**Nuclear Medicine Award**  
Ashley Ameri  
William Calimag

**Union Carbide Mechanical Award**  
Bi Bollou Jiroto Ballo

**Yonny Segel Memorial Award**  
Miguel Belen  
Jaison Hunte

## **ENGLISH**

Department Chairperson: Dr. Kathleen Urda

**Booker Quattlebaum Scholarship**  
Angel Perez

**Eleanor Corrigan-Gosselin Memorial Award**  
Daely Vargan

**English Award**  
Ginangel Moya

**Marsha Cummins Scholarship**  
Anisah Abdulwahed  
Rymma Vediapina



## HEALTH, PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND RECREATION

Department Chairperson: Dr. Shazia Khan

### **Dietetics & Nutrition Award**

Ama Afful

### **Exercise Science & Kinesiology Award**

Monish Chadda

### **Physical Education and Wellness Award**

Esteban De Los Santos

### **Public Health Award**

Esmeira Abreu Peralta

### **Therapeutic Recreation Award**

Britney Hilario

## HISTORY

Department Chairperson: Dr. Tamar Rothenberg

### **Elias Cooper Award for History**

Raul Santos

### **Mark D. Hirsch History Award**

Yanileisy Paredes De La Cruz

## MATHEMATICS AND COMPUTER SCIENCE

Department Chairperson: Dr. Anthony Weaver

### **Computer Science Award**

Georgy Orlov  
Zouberou Sayibou  
Wenkai Tan

### **Gerald S. Lieblich Memorial Award**

Annecia Williams

### **Irving Handel Memorial Award**

Wenkai Tan

### **Mathematics Award**

Ana Abreu  
Vsevolod Orlov  
Annecia Williams

### **Michael E. Bennett Memorial Award**

Vishwanauth Persaud

### **Norman Schaumberger Memorial Scholarship**

Vsevolod Orlov

### **The Andrew McInerney Award for Excellence in Mathematics**

Ana Abreu

## **NURSING AND ALLIED HEALTH SCIENCES**

Department Chairperson: Professor Annette Ortiz

### **Allstate Scholarships for Excellence in Nursing- 1st highest index**

Daisy Ademola  
Onelia Vasquez

### **Allstate Scholarships for Excellence in Nursing- 2nd highest index**

Noemi Belis

### **Beatrice Perlmutter Memorial Award**

Gloria Gallegos

### **Gertrude L. Dourdounas Certificate of Achievement**

Awal Osman

### **Maxine Church Memorial Award**

Daisy Ademola  
Onelia Vasquez

### **Radiologic Technology Faculty Award for Academic and Clinical Achievement at the Jacobi Medical Center**

Andrew Mateus

### **Radiologic Technology Faculty Award for Academic and Clinical Achievement at the Montefiore Medical Center Main Division**

Awal Osman

### **Radiologic Technology Faculty Award for Academic and Clinical Achievement at the Montefiore Medical Center Presbyterian Division**

Rasheda Thomas

### **Radiologic Technology Faculty Award for Academic and Clinical Achievement at the Montefiore Medical Center Wakefield Division**

Headen Williams

## **SOCIAL SCIENCES**

Department Chairperson: Dr. Gilbert Marzan

### **David M. Gordon Memorial Award**

Diana Valenzuela

### **Excellence in Economics Award**

Rabiul Hasan

### **Human Services Award**

Lisa Taylor

### **Psychology Award**

Courage Agbanyo

## **WORLD LANGUAGES AND CULTURES**

Department Chairperson: Dr. Alexander Lamazares

### **Award for Arabic**

Heyam Naji

### **French Award**

Gregory Warders

### **Italian Award**

Georgia Kakomanolis

### **Portuguese Award**

Anthony Hernandez

### **Professor John E. D 'Andrea Award**

Stephany Gabriel Vicente

### **Spanish Award**

Ekenedilichukwu Okonkwo

## BRONX COMMUNITY COLLEGE | **PRESIDENT'S SENIOR STAFF**

Dr. Thomas A. Isekenegbe  
President of Bronx Community College

Dr. Lester Edgardo Sandres Rápalo  
Vice President and Provost for Academic Affairs

Dr. Eddy Bayardelle  
Vice President for Division of Advancement,  
Communications and External Relations

Dr. Irene R. Delgado  
Vice President for Student Success

Ms. Kay W. Ellis  
Vice President of Administration and Finance

Dr. Nancy K. Ritze  
Dean for Research, Planning and Assessment

Ms. Karla R. Williams, Esq.  
Interim Dean of Workforce Development  
and Continuing Education

Ms. Susan G. Fiore, Esq.  
Interim Executive Legal Counsel, Deputy to the President  
and Labor Designee

Ms. Jessenia Paoli, Esq.  
Chief Diversity Officer and Director of Affirmative Action,  
Compliance and Diversity

**2021 COMMENCEMENT COMMITTEE | CO-CHAIRS**

Manny Lopez

Karen Thomas

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Syria Carrington

Yuri Lopez

Anthony Colon

Luisa Martich

Yvonne Erazo

Jeffrey Phipps

Richard Ginsberg

Mary Velez

Abu S. Kamruzzaman

Jeffrey Wisotsky

Thérèse M. LeMelle

# MISSION STATEMENT

Bronx Community College serves students of diverse backgrounds, preparations and aspirations by providing them with an education that is both broad in scope and rigorous in its standards. We offer students access to academic preparation that provides them with the foundation and tools for success in their educational and/or professional plans and instills in them the value of informed and engaged citizenship and service to their communities.



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718.289.5100 | [www.bcc.cuny.edu](http://www.bcc.cuny.edu)