

WINNERS

Compiled by Michael R. Ebert

TALISE GEER

Student

Talise Geer of Wading River has received the Vanguard Student Recognition Award from NET (Nontraditional Employment & Training) Project, administered by SUNY Albany's Center for Women in Government & Civil Society in partnership with the New York State Education Department. Geer, who majored in cybersecurity at Suffolk County Community College, is a first-semester master of science student at the New York Institute of Technology. The award is issued to "outstanding students who are enrolled in career and technical education programs that prepare them for professions that are not traditional for their gender," according to the college.



HOSSAM MAKSOU

CEO

Hossam Maksoud of North Hills has received the Health & Wellness Award from the Federation of Organizations, a community-based social wellness agency, in recognition of his contributions to help further the organization's mission. Maksoud, who has a professional doctorate in pharmacy, has been president and chief executive officer of Community Care Rx for 25 years. He has also served as the chief executive of Dawah Pharmaceuticals and is involved in the True Partners



Network and the Maksoud Foundation.

JAMES LENTINI

College president

James Lentini of Rockville Centre recently earned recognition for his most recent compositions with a "Best Classical Recordings of 2020" designation from the Chicago Tribune. Lentini, College since June, is also a classical guitarist and composer whose work has been performed and recorded by national and international ensembles. His other music-related achievements include having been a visiting artist at the American Academy in Rome, and receiving multiple awards from the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers.



CLIFF BLEIDNER

Poet

Cliff Bleidner of North Bellmore has been selected as the Long Island Poet of the Year by the Walt Whitman Birthplace Association in Huntington Station for his poetry and service to the poetry community of Long Island. Bleidner, who is known for his haiku poetry, is a co-founder and coordinator of the Performance Poets Association as well as a mentor to other poets. He is also a Vietnam War veteran and a retired pharmaceutical chemist and substance abuse counselor.



NOMINATE A WINNER Email information about the accomplishment or honor to winners@newsday.com. Include photo in JPEG format; color is preferred.

