

2023 All-Washington Academic Team announced



Left to right: The 2023 All-Washington Team Alexandria (Lexi) Kneipp, Bruce Adams, and Ella Merusic

Three Clark College students are among those being recognized for their academic excellence and community service.

Alexandria (Lexi) Kneipp overcame her social anxiety by stepping up to be a leader, first in high school and now as a Phi Theta Kappa officer. Volunteering has helped her become more connected to the college and her neighborhood community. She enjoys leading and assisting others in navigating difficulties or making someone's life easier. After she graduates this spring, she will transfer to Western Washington University to pursue a degree in Elementary Education.

Lexi received another PTK honor by being selected as a Coca-Cola Bronze Scholar. She will receive a \$1,000 scholarship and a bronze medallion. She will be recognized at the PTK

International Conference and the All-Washington Academic Team ceremony, both in April.

As one of the top 16 award recipients of the PTK's All-Washington Academic Team, she will receive a \$750 scholarship from Washington State Employees Credit Union (WSECC).

Bruce Adams was recently diagnosed with a brain tumor. It significantly impacted him and his ability to do his job as a lab courier. His new career goal became to have a career again. He is determined to earn his degree. As he returned to college, Bruce initially was concerned about online learning, but the resources available for virtual learning eliminated his fears. He will graduate this fall with honors in the Health Information Management program and looks forward to returning to the workforce.

Ella Merusic was motivated by her parents, who worked hard to overcome difficulties in life for her benefit. They gave her the support she needed to improve her life and future. Ella is looking forward to graduating with honors in Biological and Biomedical Sciences this summer. She plans to transfer to Washington State University to continue her studies to become a software designer/engineer who can better others' lives through her work.

The top three recipients will be announced at the Washington State Conference. Each will receive a \$1,000 scholarship from the Association of College Trustees (ACT). The ceremony will be livestreamed via the SPSCC YouTube channel.

Photos: Clark College/Jenny Shadley