

## Charles E. Gavin III Family Scholarship

The Charles E. Gavin III Family Scholarship awarded two \$2,500 scholarships to two outstanding Chemical Engineering undergraduates from Auburn University Samuel Ginn College of Engineering.

Brittany Sipin, a rising senior at Auburn, has been on the Dean's List every semester, and was inducted into the Omega Chi Epsilon Chemical Engineering Honor Society, the Tau Beta Pi Engineering Honor Society, and Phi Kappa Phi Interdisciplinary Honor Society. She is also a member of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers. She has worked for the National Renewable Energy Laboratory, and currently works with Daikin America as an Engineering Co-op. Brittany's passion is chemical engineering; she "aspires to not only understand our material world, but also to use that knowledge to improve lives and improve our environment."



Matthew Lopez, a rising junior at Auburn, has also been on the Dean's List, and is also a member of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers, and the National Society of Collegiate Scholars. Matthew is majoring in Chemical Engineering, and he is the number one student in the Nuclear Power Generation System Minor, established by the Alabama Power, Southern Nuclear, and Tennessee Valley Authority. Matthew's love of mathematics and physics in high school directed him on a path to college engineering, but his life took a series of unexpected turns that delayed his undergraduate degree plans. Rather than deterring his ambition, these life "interruptions" actually fueled it. His passion refocused his commitment not only to graduate with a chemical engineering/nuclear power degree, but also to "help my peers achieve their (graduation) goals." Matthew has voluntarily "host(ed) group and one-on-one study sessions with anyone who expresses a need for help." Matthew's future involves the nuclear power industry, with hopes to earn a Masters of Engineering degree along the way. And someday, he may consider a career change to teaching mathematics. Since mathematics is where it all began for Matthew, he wants to ensure it is a great beginning for others, too.



## **Color Solutions International Textile and Apparel Design Scholarship**

This year's recipients of the Color Solutions International Textile and Apparel Design Scholarship are Cierra Hoover, a rising senior at North Carolina State University in Raleigh NC, and Christine Petroni, a rising senior at Bucks County Community College in Newtown PA. Each of them will receive a \$2,500 scholarship.

Christine has coupled business with graphics design courses at Bucks County Community College; she also took some time to attend continuing education classes at Moore College of Art in Design to further develop her fashion design skills. During this time, she started and managed two small businesses, one a manufacturing company that designed and sewed over 300 pillows and cushions for a luxury swim club, and another where she made garments and accessories that supported Philadelphia's local fabric industry. She currently works with Urban Outfitters, freelancing with the women's design team; where some of her designs and collaborations are marketed.. Christine's desire is to have a job in the textile design or fashion design field, and create a small design business; she believes that "creating art will constantly inspire me to keep learning."



Cierra majors in Fashion and Textile Management and minors in Business Administration at NC State University, Raleigh, NC. Cierra is an active member of the NC State AATCC Student Chapter. She also serves on the Textile & Apparel, Technology & Management Student Advisory Board. Because of her academic achievement and leadership qualities, she was admitted into the Kappa Tau Beta Textile Leadership Fraternity, and she will serve as president of the Sigma Tau Sigma Textile Honor Society for the 2014-2015 academic year. Kent Hester, Director of Student & Career Services for the College of Textiles at NC State notes that "Cierra is organized, dependable, and through her own determination and ability to lead people to work towards a common goal, she gets things done."



## Metro Scholarship

Jasmine Sousa and Blaze Javier Mendela were awarded this year's Metro Scholarship; each will receive \$1,000.



Jasmine, a rising senior at the University of Rhode Island (URI) in Kingston, majors in Textiles, Merchandising and Design, with a minor in Theatrical Costuming. She is a member of the AATCC Student Chapter at URI. Jasmine shares that the Textiles, Merchandising and Design major has exposed her to a “vast array of subjects under the textile umbrella,” and she has found her interest settle on the “design, merchandising, and scientific and historic conservation elements.” She would like her career to involve “preserving garments and establishing exhibitions that would allow . . . a greater understanding of textiles and apparel design.” She would also like to bring “conscientious and sustainable” apparel and product design to market “that considers not

only the beauty of the garment, but also the garment’s engineering and historic value to fashion, overall.”

Blaze will complete her bachelors in Textile Development and Marketing at Fashion Institute of Technology (FIT) New York in 2016. She is secretary of the AATCC FIT Student Chapter. Initially, Blaze was completing a double major degree in English and Ethnic Studies at a prominent southern state university when she realized she was “working in an area outside of my passion.” She changed her major and transferred to FIT to prepare for a career that “intersects two of my long-standing passions – marketing and textiles.” While pursuing the English/Ethnic Studies degree, she worked as a research assistant, where she learned to construct quantitative statistical studies. Blaze applied quantitative statistical analysis to her current study of textiles and marketing before she ever applied to FIT, and developed a “longitudinal quantitative study examining images of beauty that appear in advertisements of textiles in *Vogue* magazine.” She presented this research at Stanford University this past May. She will also travel to Emory University this year to present the results from another textile study she performed. Her work has brought her recognition and acceptance into the Presidential Scholars Honors Program at FIT.

