



2021 Student Staff Newsletter

Note from Interim Dean of University Libraries



Shafeek Fazal
Interim Dean
University Libraries

A note of gratitude to our student staff. As students, you had to endure many changes to your usual routine of learning, studying, and socializing. Despite all of these challenges, as University Libraries students, you still demonstrated the care and commitment to continue serving your fellow students through the various facets of library operations. As a leading R1 research & academic library, we rely heavily on you, our student staff, to carry out the University Libraries' mission to inspire & foster teaching, learning, research, and scholarly inquiry. You play a valuable role in our daily operations, not only in presenting a public face to our users at all the service point areas but also

filling critical roles in all the back-end operations that are equally important in serving the needs of the academic community. The Library values the significant contributions of each and everyone of you. Also, we hope that your work in the Library benefits you beyond the wages, providing you with the opportunity to gain valuable experiences & relationships that are useful throughout your careers. In recognition of your dedication the library organizes several events throughout the year to show our appreciation. It's my pleasure to take a moment to congratulate our recent award winners, Shivani Mishra for the 2021

University Libraries Distinguished Student Employee Award, Dahiana Ortega Nunez & Michelle Portillo for the 2021 Fall Dorothy Award, & Subika Jafri for the Starr Recognition Award. On behalf of the Library staff, faculty, & administrators, I would like to say thank you to all our student employees & express sincere appreciation and gratitude for your dedication, professionalism, and services in advancing the mission of the Library and the University. We look forward to your continued success!

University Libraries Distinguished Student Employee Award

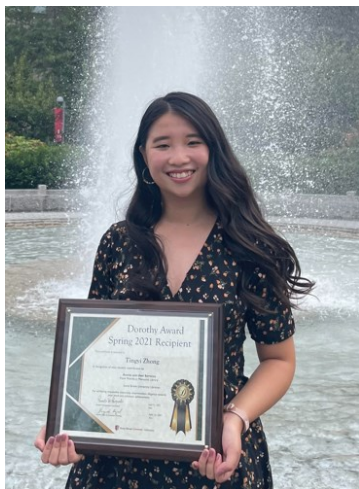


2021 Award Recipient
Shivani Mishra
Health Sciences Library

Shivani is the 2021 Award recipient she has been awarded the Star Recognition Award. She has been working for HSL since January 2019. She is a Physics major with a minor in Applied Mathematics & Statistics. She has a wonderful work ethic & is dedicated to her job. She is knowledgeable in Library Circulations policies & procedures, performs basic information & reference interactions, assists with ILL Services & reorganized the Library Sign Folder. Shivani is on the E-Board & is the event coordinator for the SBU Buddhist Club where she teaches meditation to de-stress & the traditions of Buddhism. She is a member for the astronomy club, & the Society of Physics & is responsible to bring in guest speakers to enrich the club's experience & to help with possible

networking opportunities. She is a certified EMT & responds to 911 emergency calls, she assess, treats, stabilizes & transports patients to the appropriate hospitals & trauma centers. She volunteered at the Cold Spring Harbor Whaling Museum & Education Center. She maintained the museum's mailing list, helped the education department by preparing crafts for young visitors. Helped with fundraising events to help support the museum's mission. She volunteered at the Half Hollow Hills Community Library, where she helped children (grades K-8) with their homework through the Homework Helpers program. Created crafts for library patrons & for donation to veterans & homeless shelters & assisted librarians with the Teen Corner. She volunteered at SBU Medicine assisting nurses with basic patient care. Shivani had 2

internships at Brook Haven National Laboratories where she collaborated on a research project on National Synchrotron Light Source II. Her research focus was on analyzing the spectra formed by x-ray absorption near-edge spectroscopy (XANES). She created a Python program for research focus to study the effects of lateral drifts of x-ray energy off a sample and she delivered an oral presentation on the research at the closing ceremony. Shivani TA's undergrads in Physics and mentor's 1st year students helping them to navigate across campus & get accustomed to campus life. She participates in the SBU Hackathon, a 24 to 48 hours programming competition where she worked with teams' members from other colleges & universities on technologies that can solve a problem that is impacting the world such as the environment & health issues. Congratulations Shivani!



**2021 Spring Award Recipient
Tingyi Zhong
Music Library**



Dorothy Award - (Spring Semester)

Tingyi has been working for Access & User Services since Sept. 2018. She is familiar & efficient in all locations including the North Reading Room, HSL, Central Reading Room, Music, and Main Stacks (Circulation). Her responsibilities include room checks, shelving, shelf reading, sorting, straightening and edging, shifting, monitoring the room to ensure Library policies are being followed. She is extremely patient with library patrons, she has a wonderful work ethic and is a valuable member of the library team. Tingyi is a double major in psychology & social work. She is the president of the Cat Network, an animal advocacy group on campus which sets up food stations, works with local shelters & set up warm shelters to protect the

cats during the winter. Tingyi volunteers as a Crisis Counselor at a Crisis Text Hotline which provides free, 24/7, text-based mental health support and crisis intervention by supporting individuals in their moments of need. Tingyi has interned at the Street Vendor Project, which is part of the Urban Justice Center, a non-profit organization that provides legal representation & advocacy to various marginalized groups of NY. They serve over 10,000 street vendors in NYC. Tingyi also interned at The Committee Against Anti-Asian Violence; which is a pan-Asian, community-based organization that works to build the power of low-income Asian immigrants and refugees in NYC. The Committee Against Anti-Asian Violence develops leadership in

Asian communities to impact the policies & institutions that effect their lives and to participate a in broader movement for racial & economic equality. Tingyi translates documents electronically for a legal aid service through the Committee which assists non-English speaking tenants. Tingyi is a volunteer for Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez's homework helpers' program. Established for students who are struggling academically due to remote learning, this is a one-on-one, personalized tutoring program in NYC. This summer Tingyi volunteered for a camp for special needs children. Tingyi cares deeply about her community and gets involved wherever she can. Congratulations Tingyi for being one of the 2021 Spring Dorothy Award Recipients!



**2021 Fall Award Recipient
Sebastian Holguin
Library Dean's Office**

Dorothy Award - (Spring Semester)

Sebastian has been working for the University Libraries Dean's Office since Oct. 2018. Sebastian is secretary of SBU Chapter of Colorstacks, a group on campus for underrepresented students to maintain entrance, retention & academic success. They provide tutoring, materials & a weekly newsletter, Colorstacks Is the Largest digital community of its kind. He also is involved SBU Math Club, the Africana Club and the Chess Club. He's on the E-Board for SBU Video Gaming Club, which encourages diversity in the technological careers. The club provides a place to distress it also brings in engineers from large tech companies that provide internship opportunities for students with historically disadvantaged backgrounds with the intension of

social mobility. Sebastian is also involved in SBU Cat Network an animal advocacy group on campus. He is a volunteer for the Don Bosco Community Center where he tutors mathematics to students ageing from elementary to high school level. Sebastian was awarded the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences recognition award for students who overcome life's challenging situations and demonstrated academic success. He is a student fellow of OHUB, which is one of the largest multi-campus co-working space & technologies hub in the US. They specifically focus on diversity, equity and inclusion. It's an Ecosystem development initiative. Sebastian was a finalist in SBU Hackathon, a 24-to-48-hour challenge where teams brainstorm

& create revolutionary inventions. He and his team invented a "voice trainer" for lecturers to train their voice to maintain their speech and volume level to be heard clearly at any points of a lecture & to improve video clarity. He TA's calculus for undergrads. He has been offered an internship with Twitter to work on the algorithms with AI technology. He works on many special projects for the University Libraries. He's worked freshman orientation day, created banners, statistical reports & is currently working on the University Libraries Anti-racism task force, a sub-group of the Libraries' Equity, Inclusion, & Diversity Committee. Congratulations Sebastian for being one of the 2021 Spring Dorothy Award Recipients!

Dorothy Award - (Fall Semester)

Michelle has been working for Cataloging & Metadata Services since Sept. 2020. She started processing the immense cataloging backlog. She learned quickly & works independently. Michelle applies security strips, stamping, & adheres the call number labels to books & CDs in all languages & in all subjects. Michelle started when campus was desolate due to the COVID-19 pandemic and never missed a day of work & is dedicated to her job. Michelle is interested in the SBU Cat Network. She wants to use her crochet skills to good use and get involved in Stony Brook Stitches, were members volunteer their time, energy, and creativity to lovingly create items for those in physical, emotional, or spiritual need. Stony Brook Stitches originated over 10+ years ago & is proud to donate handmade baby &

adult hats, lap blankets, Afghans, christening outfits, prayer shawls, memory pouches, & baby caps to patients at Stony Brook University Hospital, Stony Brook Cancer Center, & the Long Island State Veterans Home. She is active in campus craft nights & social events. She has participated in science symposium at Sarah Lawrence College & City College School of Medicine. She participated in a research study comparing blood pressure & emergency contraception medication prices & availability throughout the different areas of NYC. They compared the availability of medications, the price of medication & the socio economic status throughout the city. The study concluded that in majority minority areas patients were not given the same

information and at times where given misinformation by the pharmacies. They also concluded that pharmacies had a tendency to provide misinformation to lower income areas & they did not provide the same degree of service. They spent less time informing & answering patient's questions. Michelle is involved with the EOP/AIM programs. She is a Biology major with a minor in Health, Medicine & Society. Michelle plans on going to med school & her goal is to be an OB/GYN & be a proponent for Women's Health. Congratulations Michelle for being one of the 2021 Fall Dorothy Award Recipients!



2021 Fall Award Recipient
Michelle Portillo
Cataloging & Metadata Services



Dorothy Award - (Fall Semester)

Dahiana has been working in the Library Dean's Office since Jan. 2021. She has a positive attitude and is committed to her job. She is highly adaptable & motivated to take on new projects & has a can do attitude. She is a valuable asset to the Library Dean's Office team. Dahiana is dedicated to her studies. She takes pride in her community & is an excellent role model for her peers. Dahiana is a pre-med student majoring in Psychology with a minor in Chemistry and Italian Languages. She is an active member of the EOP/AIM programs. She is a mentor for the Reading is Fun Club which is set up to help English as a second languages speakers to adapt to American Culture, improve their reading comprehension and to build self-esteem. She volunteers her time

as an interpreter for SB Home Clinic. Her role to facilitate communication between healthcare providers and patients to ensure appropriate health care services. She received certificates in the Red Watch Band which is a program designed to help prevent toxic drinking death & promote responsibility, kindness, compassion, & respect, The Green Dot bystander intervention program which aims to educate students on how to recognize potentially violent situations and implement different strategies to prevent them and QPR (Question, Persuade and Refer) encourages students how to recognize the signs & take appropriate actions for someone

needing mental health services. Her passion for education & community awareness allowed her to be recognized by the Dominican Counselor of NY as a meritorious student by the AFSA International (American Foreign Service Association) President acknowledging her as a leader in her community. She received the SUNY Office of Opportunity Program Academic Achievement Award and the Alpha Iota Mu membership. She's an active member in the Taekwondo Club and Stem Club. Dahiana plans on pursuing a career in Neurosurgery. Congratulations Dahiana on being one of the 2021 Fall Dorothy Award Recipients!



2021 Fall Award Recipient
Dahiana Ortega Nunez
Library Dean's Office

Star Recognition Award



Star Recognition Award
Jennifer Moy
Health Sciences Library
Spring 2021

Jennifer Moy has been working for Access & User Services since Sept. 2017, her primary department is the Health Sciences Library. She will be graduating in May from the School of Engineering & Applied Sciences with a degree in Civil Engineering, specializing in Structural Engineering. Jennifer credits the library with improving her time management & communication skills. She also enjoys dealing with the patrons & providing quality customer service. Her supervisors praise her for her strong work ethic, her understanding of library policies & procedures & her ability to work collaboratively as well as being trusted to work unsupervised shifts. Jennifer is a member of SBU chapter of the American Society of Civil Engineering. She manages events that helps the membership to grow in the field of engineering. She is the VP Hall Counselor for the O'Neal College. Her role is to serve as a resource for students through informal counseling & provide educational & social programming to enhance the student residential life. She provides a comfortable, safe & inclusive atmosphere for residents that promotes a sense of community & is conducive to academic growth. She also addresses conflicts that might arise, assist students with life lessons, deals with issues students might be experiencing. She develops, promotes & implements educational & social programming. Such as ways to de-stress, creating fun & interesting events that produces a positive environment. Jennifer is also part of the "Bottom Line" since 2016 a non-profit organization that works with first-generation college students and students of lower income backgrounds to provide them with the resources they need to succeed in college and beyond. Jennifer has demonstrated her leadership through her work as a College Coach at Bridge to College, which helps student navigate pre-college paperwork and planning. She also assists students with managing necessary academic & social transitions, such as being away from home. Jennifer was able to bring her knowledge to an audience of young people whose identities mirror her own as a first-generation college student. Through this work, she has shown that she has not only taken the time to develop her own skillset but is dedicated to giving back and lifting others up with her. Congratulations Jennifer on receiving the Star Recognition Award from the University Libraries Distinguished Student Employee Award Selection Committee!



Star Recognition Award
Shivani Mishra
Health Sciences Library

Shivani credits the Library for helping improve her time management skills, for communicating in a more professional manner & developing leadership skills. She is dedicated to her position at the University Libraries, involved in many clubs and cares about the campus community. Shivani is the recipient of the 2021 University Libraries Distinguished Student Employee Award and was presented with the Star Recognition Award by the Dorothy Award Selection Committee for Spring 2021. Congratulations Shivani!

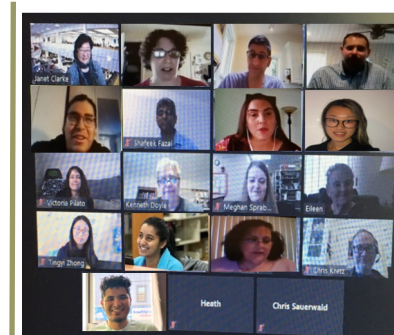


Star Recognition Award
Subika Jafri
Access & User Services
Fall 2021

Subika Jafri has been working for Access & User Services since June 2019. She is working toward a double major in Psychology & Sociology with a minor in Writing & Rhetoric. She is familiar & efficient in all public service locations including North Reading Room, Health Sciences Library, Central Reading Room, Interlibrary Loan, Music & Main Stacks (*Circulation*). Her responsibilities include room checks, shelving, shelf reading, sorting, straightening & edging, scanning articles, shipping books through various carriers, & providing excellent customer service. She has also completed Interlibrary Loan requests. Subika is reliable & maintains a high standard in the quality of her work & accuracy. She is extremely motivated, punctual, is a pleasure to work with & she has a wonderful attitude. Subika has helped in the training of new student staff, provided needed coverage at the Health Sciences Library during the summer weekends keeping the library opened & helped during transitional stages of professional employment & the increasing workload due to students returning from the pandemic.. Subika received the Access & User Services Student Assistant of the Month for April 2021 for her thorough & consistent work. Subika was able to continue working in Access & User Services & ILL during the COVID-19 pandemic. She also began working at the COVID testing sites across campus & in the hospital COVID Center to ensure our campus remained safe because she wanted to part of the dealing with the virus, the measures to contain it & prevent it from spreading. She was able to juggle these responsibilities & was still willing to take on additional shifts if needed. Her work ethic is impressive & she takes pride in doing an excellent job. Subika plans on continuing her education upon graduation & have a career in Forensic Psychology. Congratulations Subika for being awarded the Star Recognition Award from the Dorothy Award Selection Committee for Fall 2021!

18th Annual Student Staff Appreciation Award Ceremony and Student Social

We came together virtually to celebrate the Stony Brook University Libraries 18th Annual Student Staff Appreciation in Celebration to the Library Student Staff. We acknowledged some of your accomplishments and presented the Spring Dorothy Awards and the University Libraries Distinguished Student Employee Award to this year's recipients. This virtual ceremony and student social is a our way of saying THANK YOU for all you do throughout the year, for your dedication and hard work for the University Libraries. You can view a recording of this year's Ceremony by [Clicking Here](#) OR entering the following link in your browser: <https://youtu.be/uwThEV1MkXA>



2021 - Student Employee of The Year Nominees

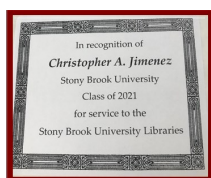
We'd like to acknowledge the following Library Student Staff for being nominated for the 2021 Student Employee of the Year! The student employee of the year nominations are sent to the selection committee who consider nominees from all departments throughout campus who employ student staff. The following Library Student Staff were nominated for the 2021 Student Employee of the Year Award:

Cesar Barahona—Access & User Services. Congratulations Cesar for being nominated for this prestigious recognition.

All Star Certificates

The All-Star Certificates are presented to student staff recognized by their supervisors for their outstanding work & dedication to the University Libraries. Congratulations to the following student staff who received the "All Star Certificates". **Benjamin Owusu**- Dean's Office, **Cesar Barahona** - Access & User Services, **Dillon Meacham** – Library IT, **Emely Alvarado Lemoine** - Dean's Office, **Emerlyn Pareja Garcia**- Dean's Office, **Isha Noor**-HSL, **Jason Do**- Dean's Office, **Jennasia Otway**- Dean's Office, **Jessica Huang**- Access & User Services, **Kimberly Rivera** – Preservation, **Odyssey Bowser** - Resource Management, **Rachel Beldoch**- Access & User Services, **Saimon Acevedo**- HSL, **Sebastian Holguin**- Dean's Office, **Shara Akanda**- Access & User Services, **Shessid De La Cruz Coronado** – Preservation; **Shivani Mishra**- HSL, **Subika Jafri**- Access & User Services, **Tingyi Zhong**- Access & User Services, **Yuya Baba**- Dean's Office,

Carpe Librum Bookplates: Exciting New Opportunity for the Graduating Library Student



Graphics for The Carpe Librum bookplate, book titles and authors provided by Jennifer DeVito

The Bookplate Program is fairly a new program created to honor graduating student staff & to recognize your tremendous contribution to the University Libraries. It's a way for the student staff to be part of the library even after their graduation. Students can select an item from the circulating items in the collection that has some meaning to them. To be eligible the student should have worked at least 2 semesters & be currently working for the University Libraries. This is an optional program so not all graduating students staff may be represented. The bookplates are on display in the Central Reading Room. The following graduating student staff for Spring and Summer 2021 selected the following items:

- Allana Joe, *A Long Walk to Freedom*, by Nelson Mandela
- Cesar Barahona, *Applied Combinatorics*, by Alan Tucker
- Christopher Jimenez, *The Great Gatsby*, by F. Scott Fitzgerald
- Fitzgerald Reyes, *Greek and Roman Mythology*, by Jessie May
- Jonathan Perez, *A Mathematician Plays the Stock Market*, by John Allen Paulos
- Rachel Beldoch, *True Crime: An American Anthology*, Harold Schechter, Editor
- Yuya Baba, *Crime and Punishment*, by Fyodor Dostoyevsky

Fall Dorothy Awards Ceremony Recognition



You can view a recording of this year's Fall Dorothy Award and the Star Recognition Award Ceremony by [Clicking Here](#) OR entering the following link in your browser: <https://youtu.be/CxKL9PbwNAY>

End of Year Student Staff Appreciation

The University Library Faculty/Staff want to wish the library student staff success on your finals and say thank you for the great job you do!! A special acknowledgement to the Library Faculty/Staff who donated to this year's goody bags. Without you this would not have been possible. A Special Thank you: Dianne Cyrus, Pam Di Pasquale, Mona Ramonetti, Clara Tran, Sharon Williams and Jeanne Quagliata for taking time out of your busy day to assemble the goody bags (photos contributed by Jeanne Quagliata)



Special Thank You

University Libraries Distinguished Student Employee Award

The award was established by Library faculty / staff in 2004 to reward outstanding work and commitment to the University Libraries by Library student staff. It is supported by library staff and individual donations. This year's award was made possible by the generous donation of Hanne Tracy. Thank so much Hanne! For considering our student staff in such a special way and making this year's award possible!

Dorothy Award

A very special Thank You to the anonymous donor of The Dorothy Award. Without your continued support, the award would not be possible.



Special Acknowledgment

Supervisor of The Year Nomination

Congratulations to Jason Torre (*Library Preservation*) for being nominated for the 2021 Supervisor of the Year Award! Jason was nominated by Library Student Staff for this special recognition.



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