CURC 2024 Award Winners

Best In Show

Research Poster

Kayla Fairweather
College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences
“Macrophage Stimulation with TLR Agonists Induces a Pro-Inflammatory Tumoricidal Response”
Mentors: Nicole Ehrhart

Emily Perkins
College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences
“Establishing molecular mechanisms of glial-mediated response in a chronic pain in vitro model”
Mentor: Katriana Popichak

Community Engaged Learning Poster

Karen Rodriguez and Alejandro Aparicio Miranda
College of Liberal Arts
“Underserved Audience Extension Internship/Fellowship in Douglas County”
Mentor: Eric Ishiwata

Oral Presentation

Sandrín Molina and Ella Smith
College of Liberal Arts
“Being Trans in Public: a CSU Case Study”
Mentors: Nikoli Attai and Caridad Souza

Film

Giovanna Paterno
Warner College of Natural Resources
“DIY Music Communities of Fort Collins”
Mentor: Frank Boring

Performing Arts

Andrew Rutten
College of Liberal Arts
“Echoes of Mastery: Exploring Mangani’s Bass Concerto”

Visual Arts

Ana Mriglot
College of Natural Sciences
“Aspen’s Gaze”

Creative Writing

Izabelle Hood
College of Liberal Arts
“Burnt Songs”
Mentor: Dan Beachy-Quick and Matthew Cooperman
Excellence in Data Science Research
Sponsored by Data Science Research Institute Institute

Emma Hoopes
College of Agricultural Sciences
“Hyperspectral Imaging and Machine Learning for Plant Health Assessment”
Mentor: Phuong Dao

Sebastian Lawton
Walter Scott, Jr. College of Engineering
“Human Cells in Data: Predictors for Nuclear Shape”
Mentor: Ashok Prasad

Excellence in Liberal Arts Research
Sponsored by the College of Liberal Arts

Ali Niaz
College of Liberal Arts
“The Rocket Scientist vs. The Journalist: A Battle Within Culture”
Mentor: Jenny Fischer

Lauren Banas
College of Liberal Arts
“Proposal: S.A.V.E.D Space Curriculum”

Excellence in Diversity, Inclusion & Social Justice
Sponsored by CSU Graduate School

Jaylin Nichols
College of Health and Human Sciences
“Different Minds: Supporting Neurodivergent Students in Higher Education”
Mentor: Aimee Walker

Ian Edwards-Clancy and Link Warren
Warner College of Natural Resources
“Growing Food Security at Colorado State University”
Mentor: Sylvia Lee

Excellence in Energy and Climate Solutions
Sponsored by The Energy Institute

Madzie Boyles
Warner College of Natural Resources
“Measuring Climate Vulnerability in Houston, Texas”
Mentor: Elizabeth Tulanowski

Kay Willock
Warner College of Natural Resources
“ATS Biofuel Viability in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed”
Mentors: Jason Quinn and David Quiroz
Hannah Butkus  
College of Natural Sciences  
“Expression and Hypoxia Sensitivity of ZO1 in Deer Mouse Placenta”  
Mentor: Kathryn Wilsterman

Kristin Weninger  
College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences  
“Urinary Tract Escherichia coli Infection as an Etiological Factor in Neurodegenerative Pathologies”  
Mentor: Julie Moreno

Zoe Atkinson  
College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences  
“Gene-targeted mice expressing cervid prion protein efficiently peripheralize CWD prions to extraneural tissues”  
Mentor: Glenn C. Telling

Paris Kiehl  
College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences  
“Inactivating probiotic-based rotavirus vaccine to study effect of lactic acid on immunoprotection”  
Mentor: Gregg Dean

Johanna Merkel  
College of Agricultural Sciences  
“Efficacy of Fusarium spp. isolates in the management of wheat stem sawfly”  
Mentor: Punya Nachappa

Clarissa Hernandez Jeppesen  
College of Health and Human Sciences  
“Promoting Nutrition”  
Mentor: Lauren Shomaker

Ashlynn Madril  
College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences  
“A Shellfish Journey: Characterizing an Inhibitory Receptor in Crustacean Molting”  
Mentor: Donald Mykles

Eilee Murray and Brittani Meis  
College of Agricultural Sciences  
“Changes in Soil health in Relation to Management in Dryland Agroecosystems”  
Mentor: Meagan Schipanski

David Crosby  
College of Natural Sciences  
“Controlling Electron Flux, Energy Production, and Energy Conservation in vivo Through Protein-Protein Tethering”  
Mentor: Sere Williams
Emily Wilson
College of Agricultural Sciences
“Associations between human and novel object approach test outcomes and health status in preweaned Holstein heifer calves”
Mentor: Catie Cramer

Lauren Benfield
College of Agricultural Sciences
“Longitudinal Analysis of Climate Adaptation Strategies for U.S. Dairy Farms”
Mentor: Jasmine Dillon

Phuong Nguyen and Joshua Chavez
College of Business
“Uncertain Language in Earnings Conference Calls and Analyst Forecast Dispersion – A Preliminary Study”
Mentors: Xinran Wang and Wenrui Zhang

Ellie Shyu
College of Health and Human Sciences
“Biological Age and Sex as Determinants of Skeletal Muscle Extracellular Vesicle Secretion”
Mentor: Daniel Lark

Bailey Kelly, Maya Lee and Autumn Pivonka
College of Health and Human Sciences
“Price and warning labeling impacts on red meat consumption among adult consumers in the U.S.”
Mentor: Colleen Burke

Bridget Brown
College of Health and Human Sciences
“Mechanical Testing of Kombucha Bacterial Cellulose to Assess Potential Applications in the Apparel Industry”
Mentor: Yan Li

Alex Mccraw
College of Liberal Arts
“For Dear Life”
Mentor: Joanna Deoxy
Sophie Stern, Matthew Silalahi, Annie Hessler and John Howe
College of Liberal Arts
“We The Creators”
Mentor: Jaime Jacobsen

Alexandra Lanucha, Ben Ballinger and Sol Rivera
College of Natural Sciences
“Coral Health and Color”
Mentor: Deedee Wright

Jason McDonald
College of Natural Sciences
“ChIP-seq for Hyperthermophilic Archaea: Understanding the Metabolic Guardian of Thermococcus kodakarensis”
Mentors: Brett Burkhart and Tom Santangelo

Alessandra Donev
College of Natural Sciences
“Minimum Sequence Requirements of Prion Like Domains in Yeast for Stress Granule Localization”
Mentor: Eric Ross

Karissa Coleman
College of Natural Sciences
“SPN-4 promotes 3UTR-dependent lin-41 mRNA clearance during the oocyte-to-embryo transition in Caenorhabditis elegans”
Mentor: Erin Osborne Nishimura

Anna Galaeva
College of Natural Sciences
“Development, Synthesis, and Characterization of \([VO(3tBu-HSHED)dtb]\) as a potential anticancer agent: Preparation for Toxicity testing”
Mentors: Debbie C. Crans and Eric Ross

Rean Savi
College of Natural Sciences
“The Role of USP48 in Deubiquitylating H2A C-Terminal Ubiquitilation Catalyzed by BRCA1/BARD1”
Mentor: TingTing Yao
Jana Norris Oliver  
College of Natural Sciences  
“Verbal Overshadowing Effect: Application Beyond Crime Scenes and Line-ups”  
Mentor: Haley McCoy

Claire Lundstrom  
College of Natural Sciences  
“Genetically Encoded Biosensors to Detect Ubiquitination in Live Cells”  
Mentors: Tingting Yao and Robert Cohen

Sydney Johnson  
College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences  
“Gut microbial products, m-tyrosine and 3-((3-hydroxyphenyl)-3-hydroxypropionic acid, promote inflammation in autism-like cell model”  
Mentor: Katriana Popichak

Evan Hurtado  
College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences  
“Development of a Sheep Brain Atlas”  
Mentor: Richard McCosh

Genova Mumford  
College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences  
“An In-Vivo Exploration of the Impact of the IKK Kinase complex on prion-induced inflammation”  
Mentor: Julie Moreno

Michelle Galvan  
College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences  
“Investigating SARS-CoV-2 Evolution and Transmission in Lions, Tigers, and Hyenas at the Denver Zoo”  
Mentor: Laura Bashor

Lauren Bennett  
College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences  
“Evaluating the presence of Chronic Wasting Disease in free-range White-tailed deer in Arkansas”  
Mentor: Nathaniel Denkers
Miles Hopkins and Jake Lonergan
College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences
“White Matter Content and its Correlation to Activity Levels Throughout Healthy Aging”
Mentor: Agnieszka (Aga) Burzynska

Chloë Brekhus
Walter Scott, Jr. College of Engineering
“Development of an Automated Bone Transport Device”
Mentor: Ben Gadomski

Kate McGill
Warner College of Natural Resources
“A Comparison of Observed and Modeled Soil Moisture”
Mentor: Avery Driscoll

Elliot Batta
Warner College of Natural Resources
“Examining the Creation and Impact of Queer Counterspaces in Undergraduate Biology Fields”
Mentor: Sarah Eddy

Shelby Mead
Warner College of Natural Resources
“Microclimates under solar panels in agrivoltaic systems drives soil microbe community composition”
Mentor: J. Alexander Siggers

Amelia Anderson
Warner College of Natural Resources
“Wild horses in the west: Generating maps and learning modules for four K-12 curriculum levels”
Mentors: Sarah King and Stacy Lynn

Riley Dils
Warner College of Natural Resources
“On the Pulse: Investigating Fish Temperature Tolerance”
Mentor: Tawni Riepe