

# 2016 AWARD RECIPIENTS

## **UNDERGRADUATE EXCELLENCE AWARD - LUIS ACOSTA**

Luis Acosta, a junior Chemistry and Global Studies major, is honored for his committed involvement with the S.O.A.R. program at McDougle Middle School, bringing science-based opportunities to Spanish-speaking students the past three years. Acosta is a native of Hendersonville, North Carolina and the proud child of Mexican migrant parents. He has worked with a variety of initiatives at Carolina to strengthen both the campus and the community, including the Scholars' Latino Initiative.

## **COMMUNITY PARTNER EXCELLENCE AWARD - FARMER FOODSHARE**

Farmer Foodshare creates paths to food independence for food insecure and malnourished North Carolinians by building economically sustainable and socially just systems that connect local farmers, agencies and social-mission driven businesses that address food insecurity. Farmer Foodshare has partnered with APPLES since 2012, hosting interns and volunteers from service-learning courses, providing students with meaningful opportunities that impact the community through food systems.

## **TEACHING EXCELLENCE AWARD - SARAH DEMPSEY**

Dr. Sarah Dempsey, associate professor in the Department of Communication, is honored for her excellence in teaching. Dempsey teaches the service-learning courses Communication and Nonprofits, and Globalizing Organizations. Since 2011, these courses have been offered a combined six times in partnership with the Carolina Campus Community Garden. Dempsey is highly engaged in the classroom and in the community, and insists her students engage in these settings as well. Her teaching has inspired students in exciting ways and has provided challenging and engaging experiences for those who have had the opportunity to learn from her.

## **OUTSTANDING ALUMNI AWARD - ALEXANDRA ZAGBAYOU**

Alexandra Zagbayou graduated from Carolina in 2009 with a degree in International Studies and a minor in Social and Economic Justice. Since graduation, she has worked with Student U, a college access and success program in Durham. As the founding director of the high school program, Zagbayou serves as the chief program officer. She is honored for her tireless work to ensure that every person is able to reach their full potential and that institutions are just and equitable. She remains connected to APPLES through service on the advisory board, as an alumni speaker and supporter of this work.

## **SERVICE-LEARNING AWARD IN HONOR OF NED BROOKS - MAE B. MCLENDON**

Mae B. McLendon, volunteer services coordinator at Durham County Cooperative Extension, is recognized for her career of public service in government and community-based organizations. Her experience includes working with the North Carolina Department of Correction, the Inter-Faith Council for Social Service, Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools and Habitat for Humanity of Orange County. She has worked with service-learning students and interns in various positions she held. McLendon is a UNC alumna with a bachelor's degree in Sociology and a master's in Social Work.



# APPLES

## *Service-Learning*

### **ANNUAL AWARDS BRUNCH**

**MARCH 4, 2016**

**11 A.M. — 12:30 P.M.**

**CAROLINA CLUB**

The APPLES Service-Learning program is proud to honor faculty, community partners, students, alumni and supporters who have made outstanding contributions to service-learning at Carolina.

**CAROLINA CENTER**  
*for* **PUBLIC SERVICE**