

Secretary Of Education Matthew Malone, Campus Presidents Honor 29 Outstanding Public College & University Graduates In State House Ceremony May 8

Haiti native Marie Prisca Sanon Glaphyra from Massasoit Community College is among the '29 Who Shine'

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Brockton, MA - 29 outstanding 2014 graduates of Massachusetts community colleges, state universities, and the University of Massachusetts were honored for both academic achievement and contributions to the Commonwealth in a State House ceremony on Thursday, May 8. Massasoit Community College's recipient, Maria Prisca Sanon Glaphyra, was joined by Massasoit President, Dr. Charles Wall, Professor of Science, Dr. Gilles Bolduc, and several family members for the ceremony. She was also joined by State Representatives Michael Brady and Claire Cronin who issued Prisca a citation of exemplary service from the Massachusetts House of Representatives.

Marie (Prisca) is a Liberal Arts Transfer-Science student. She is a Peer Tutor for Math and Science in the Brockton ARC, helping students overcome academic hurdles in challenging classes and inspiring them to become more confident in their abilities to study math and science. This spring, Prisca was chosen to participate in two Massasoit experiential learning opportunities: Science Department Laboratory Technician/Safety Compliance Intern through Massasoit's Center for Experiential Learning; and Science Supplemental Instruction Leader for a Microbiology course through the ARC's Supplemental Instruction (SI) Program. As an SI Leader, Prisca is embedded as a peer leader in a selected class and conducts a review session outside of normal class time for students each week. She also volunteers as a peer math tutor in the LATCH program on campus.

This high-achieving student was featured in the Fall 2013 edition of the Boston University Arts & Sciences magazine in an article discussing Prisca's experience in BU's Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) program in Summer 2013. Through this unique learning opportunity, which is designed to enhance teaching of the STEM disciplines, Prisca was able to get hands-on experience in a science laboratory by carrying out a substantial research project. She was one of only 11 students chosen from a field of 500 national applicants to participate in this program.

"I am confident that the diligence and leadership that Prisca has demonstrated at Massasoit will continue throughout her future educational and professional endeavors. Her skill, determination, and career choice will certainly position Prisca to make substantial contributions to the civic life and economy of MA. Despite holding several part-time jobs, she has maintained an impressive dedication to her studies, attaining a GPA of 3.98. Prisca clearly has a passion for Science! Her contagious enthusiasm encourages and motivates other students to pursue this field of study," said Marie McDonnell, Director of the Academic Resource Center, who nominated Prisca for this honor.

Prisca received her Biotechnology Certificate last spring from Massasoit. She is a native of Haiti and enthusiastically obtained her US Citizenship in November 2013. She plans to transfer to UMass Boston on a full scholarship to study Biochemistry and Biotechnology.

Founded in 1966, in the heart of southeastern Massachusetts, Massasoit Community College is a public two-year college in the Massachusetts Public Higher Education System. It is accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC), one of the six regional accrediting bodies in the United States. Many departments carry additional accreditations. The College offers a full spectrum of associate's degree programs in arts, sciences, and applied sciences as well as one year and short term certificates across a variety of occupations and interests. In addition the College offers corporate and job skills training courses.



(l-r) Representative Michael Brady, Representative Claire Cronin, Marie Prisca Sanon Glaphyra, Dr. Gilles Bolduc, Dr. Charles Wall.

