

# UConn Spirit Awards

## UConn Alumni Center

Thursday, April 9, 2026

10:30am - 11:45am

# 2026 AWARD FINALISTS

### RISING STAR AWARD

**PAIGE BRETON**, with *University Citizen Citation*  
Student Union

**MATTHEW MARSHALL**, with *University Citizen Citation*  
Benton Museum of Art

**JOSH MENDELSON**, with *University Citizen Citation*  
Student Union

### UNsung HERO AWARD

**JAIME CHASE**, with *University Citizen & Inclusive Excellence Citation*  
Nursing

**SARA DAHLEN**, with *University Citizen Citation*  
Institute for Student Success (ISS) First Year Programs  
and Learning Communities

**KELLY GILBERT**, with *University Citizen & Inclusive Excellence Citation*  
Undergraduate Advising

**ALEXIS LOHREY**, with *University Citizen Citation*  
Provost Academic Affairs

**LAURA TROPP**, with *University Citizen Citation*  
Stamford Campus

**NANCY WHITE**, with *University Citizen & Inclusive Excellence Citation*  
Marketing

### TEAM AWARD

**CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS & SCHOLARS (CISS)**, with *Inclusive Excellence Citation* - Jeannie Slayton, Ana Colon-Wallace, Fernando Rodriguez-Barberet, Arthur Galinat, Catherine Barachkova, Nadine Boudissa, Annie Casarella, Lulu Dong, Dana Foster, Neena Kapoor, Benjamin Kohanski, Leslie Lawrence, Eddie Pavliscsak, Huong Pham, Hailey Winschel

**DIVISION OF STUDENT LIFE & ENROLLMENT (SLE) DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION COMMITTEE**, with *Inclusive Excellence Citation* - Terrence Abney, Stacey Murdock, Liza Boritz, Ciara Hamilton, Yomarie Diaz, Scott Hauver, Susan Hayes, Steph Kernozicky, Evelyn Lang, Caroline McCall, Suzanne Onorato, Bhavin Parekh, Erin Provistalis, Brian Rockwood and Jaron Tucker

**LEARNING COMMUNITIES (LC) STAFF TEAM**, with *Inclusive Excellence Citation* - Melissa Foreman, Joshua Brown, Sara Dahlen, Alexis Doming and Taylor Robichaud

**UConn Botanical Conservatory (UBC) TEAM** - Meghan Moriarty, Cole Geissler, Matthew Opel

**UConn Solutions Lab and Shared Communications Group** - Maureen Armstrong, Mike Ormsby, Kelly Gilbert, Alyse Lofman-Kwapien, Arthur Galinat, Erin Ciarimboli, Suzanne Peters, Vincent Walker, Eric Rosario and Kim Duby

**UConn 4-H Team** - Jennifer Cushman, Emily Alger, Marc Cournoyer, Maryann Fusco-Rollins, Bonnie Kegler, Halie Shea, Emily Picard and Matthew Syrotiak

**WINNERS WILL BE ANNOUNCED AT THE EVENT. FOOD AND REFRESHMENTS WILL BE PROVIDED.**



All employees are invited to join  
President Radenka Maric  
at a campus-wide  
ceremony and reception.

**Come show your support for these outstanding finalists.**

For more information please contact of Human Resources at [worklife@uconn.edu](mailto:worklife@uconn.edu).  
If you are an individual who requires an accommodation to participate please contact  
the Office of Inclusion and Civil Rights at [equity@uconn.edu](mailto:equity@uconn.edu).

**UConn**