

RECEPTION AND DINNER RECOGNIZING 2025 NATIONAL MERIT FINALISTS

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2025 | 4:00 PM - 9:00 PM

- 4:00 - 4:45 **Check-in**
Student Union Atrium
- 5:00 **Scholars Program Overview**
Hayden Lau | The Scholars Program
Cape Florida Ballroom
- 5:20 **Open Forum with Current National Merit Scholars**
Sammy Gurgiolo | Westerville, OH | Mechanical Engineering
Raj Khuperkar | Troy, MI | Biomedical Sciences
Tiffany Laird | Pensacola, FL | Nursing
Gianna Meccia | Dunnellon, FL | Economics
Nivedha Srinivasan | Windermere, FL | Biomedical Sciences
Ritisha Suresh | Sanford, FL | Biomedical Sciences
Cape Florida Ballroom
- 6:00 **Faculty Networking Reception**
Burnett Honors College
- 7:00 **Dinner**
Pegasus Grand Ballroom
- 7:50 **Faculty and Administrator Introductions**
Alicia Keaton | Interim Associate Vice President, Enrollment Planning & Management
- 8:00 **Welcome to UCF**
Dr. Alexander Cartwright | University President
- 8:05 **Elevating Excellence: Your Path to Success with the Burnett Honors College**
Dr. Sheila Amin | Dean of the Burnett Honors College
- 8:20 **Honors Research Presentation**
Dr. Padmini Coopamah Waldron | Director, Office of Honors Research
- 8:50 **Recognition of Finalists**
Hayden Lau | The Scholars Program
- 9:00 **Final Remarks and Adjournment**

UNLEASHING POTENTIAL

Amplifying the power of knowledge and discovery, UCF unleashes the potential of our students, faculty, staff, and community. As a next-generation public research institution, we are an inclusive community of thinkers, doers, creators, innovators, healers, and leaders striving to shape the future and solve the world's most challenging problems.



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