February 10, 2020

New York Water Environment Association Presents Matthew Sweeney of Manhattan College with Its Outstanding Student Service Award

Syracuse – The New York Water Environment Association (NYWEA), a statewide organization of water quality management professionals, has awarded Manhattan College student member Matthew Sweeney, 20, of Floral Park, NY, its annual Outstanding Student Service Award. During NYWEA’s 92nd Annual Meeting Awards Luncheon on Wednesday, February 5, NYWEA President Robert Wither presented Sweeney with the award, given annually to a student member who promotes the New York Water Environment Association on the high school level, student chapter level, professional chapter level, Association or Federation level.

Sweeney was raised on Long Island, attended Chaminade High School, and followed his STEM dreams to Manhattan College where he conducted water quality research in Fall 2017, focused on the water bodies of Van Cortlandt Park located in the Bronx. His research supports the Coalition for Daylighting Tibbetts Brook, a movement to reduce Combined Sewer Overflow events. After Sweeney was introduced to NYWEA by Dr. Walter Saukin, he was appointed Freshman Ambassador and later elected to Treasurer. He founded the Jasper Environmental Coalition in Fall 2018 to coordinate environmental efforts on campus and sponsor events such as environmental movie nights and trash cleanups. In 2019, Sweeney was elected Vice President and increased the Manhattan College student chapter’s social media presence to spread awareness of NYWEA and increase membership. He is grateful to NYWEA for the many service opportunities he’s had both on campus and at NYWEA conferences and events.

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About NYWEA: Founded in 1929 by professionals in the field of water quality as a nonprofit educational organization, NYWEA has 2,700 members statewide and hosts several technical conferences each year for environmental engineers, scientists, public officials and others who work in water and wastewater quality management. In addition, NYWEA sponsors a scholarship program, publishes Clear Waters, a quarterly educational magazine, and administers the wastewater operator certification program. NYWEA also supports humanitarian clean water projects. Headquartered in Syracuse, NYWEA has seven regional chapters, 14 college student chapters and is a Member Association of the international Water Environment Federation. For more information, visit www.nywea.org.

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