



New York Water Environment Association, Inc.

The Water Quality Management Professionals

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New York Water Environment Association Recognizes Makayla Gallegos of SUNY College of Environmental Science & Forestry with Association Student Chapter Service Award

Syracuse, NY – New York Water Environment Association (NYWEA) honored Makayla Gallegos of SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry (SUNY-ESF) with an Association Student Chapter Service Award. The award is given annually to recognize involvement in a NYWEA Student Chapter.

Gallegos is finishing her senior year in the Environmental Resources Engineering Department at SUNY-ESF. She will be graduating with a Bachelor of Science degree next week. Her internship experience included Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) at University of Nebraska, watershed hydrology, and an engineering internship in the stormwater practice area at Environmental Design & Research (EDR) in Syracuse, New York.

Gallegos served as president of the SUNY-ESF NYWEA Student Chapter throughout her senior year, and previously served as secretary and digital networks liaison. With the student chapter, she:

- Co-organized an annual Women in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) panel discussion, recruited speakers, and coordinated virtual audience participation;
- Presented at the national Student Design Competition at the Water Environment Federation's 2021 WEFTEC conference and leveraged this experience to recruit new student chapter members in spring and fall 2022;
- Gave a technical presentation at NYWEA's annual Central Chapter Conference in October 2021 and recruited students to attend along with her;
- Coordinated communication throughout the club, including timely group communications to all existing and prospective members; and
- Organized several annual trips, culminating in 13 students (including 6 new members) attending WEFTEC22 in New Orleans, Louisiana.

About NYWEA: Founded in 1929 by professionals in the field of water quality as a nonprofit educational organization, NYWEA has 2,500 members statewide and hosts several technical conferences each year for environmental engineers, scientists, water resource recovery operators, 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, administers wastewater operator training and certification, and supports humanitarian clean water projects. Headquartered in Syracuse, NYWEA has seven regional chapters, 15 college student chapters and is a Member Association of the international Water Environment Federation. For more information, please visit www.nywea.org.



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