

OVS

2026 Outstanding Vocational Student

AWARDS BANQUET

DIGHAN REGIONAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL
FALL RIVER - SOMERSET
SWANSEA - WESTPORT
1963



WELCOME

We are thrilled to welcome you to the 2026 Outstanding Vocational Student Award Banquet, a celebration of hard work, dedication, and excellence. Tonight, we gather to honor the remarkable achievements of our vocational students, who have demonstrated exceptional skills and commitment in their chosen vocational fields.

This event serves as a testament to the power of education, guidance, and perseverance. It's a moment to reflect on the mentorship provided by our devoted faculty and the unwavering support of our Cooperative Education Employers. Each award recipient has not only excelled individually but has also contributed to the strength and spirit of our school community.

As we celebrate our students' accomplishments, let us be inspired by their journeys and the bright futures that lie ahead. We extend our deepest gratitude to the families whose dedication and passion have nurtured these talents, and paved the way for success.

Thank you for joining us in this celebration of achievement and inspiration. Together, we look forward to a future filled with opportunities and continued growth.

Agenda

Opening Remarks

Superintendent/Director Mr. Brian Bentley

School Committee Message

Mr. Donald DiBiasio

Mayoral Message

Mr. Paul Coogan

Assistant Principal of Technical Affairs Message

Ms. Jennifer DeMariano

Presentations of OVS Awards

Vocational Instructors

Closing Remarks

Assistant Superintendent/Principal Mrs. Leslie Weckesser

School Committee

Paul Jennings
Westport, Chairperson

Jeffrey Begin
Swansea

Donald DiBiasio
Somerset

Richard Manuels Jr.
Fall River

Joan Menard
Fall River

William Flanagan
Fall River

Administration

Brian Bentley
Superintendent-Director

Leslie Weckesser
Assistant Superintendent/ Principal

Jennifer DeMariano
Assistant Principal of Technical Affairs

Katie Warren
Assistant Principal of Academic Affairs

Michael Zajac
Assistant Principal of Student Affairs

Linda Griffin
Director of Guidance and Admissions

Debbie Pacheco
Director of Special Education and Grant Writing

Myles Brilhante
Supervisor of Buildings/Grounds

A Message From the Superintendent-Director Mr. Brian Bentley

Congratulations to our Outstanding Vocational Students!

You have shown what it means to work hard, stay focused, and take pride in what you do. Every project completed, every skill learned, and every challenge overcome has helped shape you into leaders in your Career and Technical Education programs and classrooms.

Vocational education is about more than learning a trade — it's about building confidence, character, and a future full of opportunity. Your dedication, teamwork, and determination have made a positive impact on our school community, and your success is something to celebrate.

Keep pushing yourselves to grow, continue believing in your abilities, and never underestimate the difference your talents can make. The future is bright because of students like you.

Congratulations on all you have achieved. We are proud of you and excited to see where your journey takes you next.

Mr. Bentley

A Message From the Assistant Superintendent-Principal Mrs. Leslie Weckesser

Congratulations to all of our outstanding vocational students on your remarkable achievement! Your dedication, skill, and perseverance have set a powerful example for your peers and community. You have mastered practical skills, shown professionalism in real-world settings, and demonstrated the grit needed to succeed beyond the classroom. Celebrate this milestone: your hard work has opened doors to careers, apprenticeships, and further learning. Keep building on this success, stay curious, and take pride in the craftsmanship and commitment to your profession!

Best Wishes,

Mrs. Weckesser

Introducing the 2026










Outstanding Vocational Students















Tyler Carvalho
Automotive Collision Repair & Refinishing

Joselaine Jimenez
Automotive Technology

Madison Medeiros
Business Technology

Christian Rodrigues
Carpentry – Cabinetmaking

Dominic Delgado
Culinary Arts

Victoria Rocha
Dental Assisting

Jacob Branco
Drafting

Kaitlyn DeSousa
Electricity

Ace Wittkamper
Electronics Engineering Technology

Kalvin Massey
Facilities Maintenance Management

Karley Kaliff
Graphic Design & Visual Communication

Sophia Lourenco
Health Assisting

Mason Valois
Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning & Refrigeration

Brennon Sousa
Medical Assisting

Luis Sousa
Metal Fabrication & Welding

Cooper Martin
Plumbing

William Gagnon
Precision Machining & Engineering

Bryce Dreas
Programming & Web Development

Stephanie Ward
Practical Nursing

Tyler Carvalho

AUTOMOTIVE COLLISION REPAIR & REFINISHING

Tyler Carvalho of Westport, MA, is an accomplished student in the Automotive Collision Repair & Refinishing program. A former Morton Middle School student and the son of Christine and Michael Carvalho, Tyler has excelled academically, earning honors as a freshman and sophomore and high honors in both his junior and senior years. He is a dedicated athlete, playing four years of varsity soccer and earning recognition including Most Improved Player as a sophomore, the Coach's Award as a junior, and the MAC All-Star and Offensive Player of the Year awards as a senior.

A highlight of Tyler's vocational experience was winning first place in the Sophomore Fender Project, an award voted on by attendees at the 2023 Open House. His work has been featured at multiple Open House events, showcasing his talent and commitment. Since junior year, he has gained hands-on experience through Diman's Cooperative Education program, working at County Street Collision in Fall River. After graduation, Tyler hopes to join the Automotive Collision Repair & Refinishing Advisory Board and plans to pursue a degree in Business Management.



Joselaine Jimenez

AUTOMOTIVE TECHNOLOGY

Joselaine Jimenez of Fall River is the daughter of Francisco Perez and Amalfi Jimenez. She is a driven and accomplished student whose achievements reflect both academic excellence and strong professional skills. An Automotive Technology shop student, Joselaine attended Doran Middle School before enrolling at Diman, where she consistently earned honors, including high honors in her junior and senior years. She is a member of both the National Honor Society and the National Technical Honor Society. Her awards include the Jon H. Poteat Scholarship in Grade 11, a Mathematics award, and multiple volleyball honors as a defensive specialist, ranking number one in the state for digs. Joselaine participated in dual enrollment at Bristol Community College during her senior year and served as a Student Ambassador and a four-year Key Club member. Through Automotive Technology, she discovered a passion for customer service and excels as a service writer while on co-op at Nahas Auto Repair in Swansea. Joselaine aspires to attend college and earn a degree in pharmacy.



Madison Medeiros

BUSINESS TECHNOLOGY

Madison Medeiros, daughter of Shaun and Jennifer Medeiros of Westport, is the 2026 Outstanding Vocational Student for Business Technology. A graduate of Holy Trinity School, Madison has earned high honors all four years and received numerous awards, including Most Outstanding Freshman and Academic Excellence in Algebra II, Science, and History. She is also a recipient of the John and Abigail Adams Scholarship. Madison serves as Vice President of the National Honor Society and is an ambassador for the National Technical Honor Society.

She completed dual enrollment coursework at Bristol Community College and plans to pursue a double major in Finance and Marketing. Madison is Vice President of Finance for DECA, a Student Ambassador, and a member of several organizations, including SkillsUSA and Key Club. She earned second place at districts and second place in Massachusetts in DECA competitions. A four year member of the girls basketball team, Madison also volunteers extensively and organized a successful youth basketball fundraiser. She currently works at Bay Coast Bank through Diman's Cooperative Education program.







Christian Rodrigues

CARPENTRY–CABINETMAKING

Christian Rodrigues of Fall River, son of Sara and Gary Rodrigues, is this year's Outstanding Vocational student in the Carpentry – Cabinetmaking program. He earned high honors all four years and received multiple Academic Excellence awards, as well as the John and Abigail Adams Scholarship. Christian is a member of the National Honor Society and the National Technical Honor Society and participated in Dual Enrollment.

He demonstrated outstanding technical skill through SkillsUSA, earning a Gold Medal in Cabinetmaking during his junior year and advancing to the state level.

Christian consistently treated the shop like a professional workplace, prioritizing safety, organization, and quality craftsmanship. He has been actively involved in community service, including Angels Anonymous, food pantry support, the Balanced Learning Center, and building playhouses for Rosemary's Kids Wish Houses. He also participated in Tennis, Winter Track, and Cross Country, earning the Coaches Award & Sportsmanship Award. Through Diman's Cooperative Education program, he worked for Walter Furman Millwork and currently works for Interior Woodworking Solutions. Christian plans to attend college to study Engineering.



Dominic Delgado

CULINARY ARTS

The Culinary Arts program proudly recognizes Dominic Delgado as the 2026 Outstanding Vocational Student. A native of Fall River, Dominic is the son of William Delgado and a graduate of Kuss Middle School. Throughout his high school career, Dominic has demonstrated strong academic achievement, earning honors in Grade 9 and high honors in Grades 10, 11, and 12.

He has been actively involved in both DECA and SkillsUSA, competing in the School-Based Enterprise competition and Community Service events. Dominic is deeply committed to giving back to the community and has participated in meaningful service projects, including building bicycles for children in need.

In addition to his academic and vocational success, Dominic is a dedicated athlete. He competed in varsity tennis for four years and played football during his junior year. Known for his strong work ethic and leadership, Dominic consistently supports and mentors other students in the shop, helping create a positive learning environment. He is currently participating in the Diman's Cooperative Education Program at Roger Williams University and plans to obtain his Journeyman's license to become an electrician.





BON APPÉTIT
Dominic

Victoria Rocha

DENTAL ASSISTING

The Dental Assisting program proudly names, Victoria Rocha, as this year's Outstanding Vocational Student. Victoria lives in Fall River and is the daughter of Deivid Rocha and Luzinete Davi. She has excelled both academically and vocationally at Diman. Since sophomore year she has made academic honors, and has received numerous academic awards.

Victoria has been actively involved in numerous school activities and clubs, including the National Technical Honor Society, Key Club, and Student Government, where she was voted as her Class President for her junior and senior year. Victoria was the VP of Hospitality for DECA and has participated in district and state competitions. As a member of SkillUSA, Victoria and her teammates won the gold medal her junior year, advancing her to Nationals where her team placed sixth in the entire nation!

Victoria prides herself in all of the volunteer opportunities she has participated in. She has given many hours of her time to Diman and its communities, while still maintaining a GPA of 3.37 and while employed at Shield Dentistry through Diman's Cooperative Education program. Victoria will be attending Bridgewater State University in the fall majoring in Biology on the pre-Dental track.





Jacob Branco

DRAFTING

Jacob Branco, son of Ted and Linda Branco of Fall River, Massachusetts, is a dedicated student and emerging professional with a strong foundation in technical education and leadership. Jacob attended Matthew J. Kuss Middle School before enrolling at Diman Regional Vocational Technical High School, where he studied in the Drafting shop. Throughout all four years at Diman, he earned high honors, reflecting consistent academic excellence. During his senior year, Jacob was awarded the John and Abigail Adams Scholarship.

He is an active member of DECA, competing in Principles of Entrepreneurship and developing real-world business skills. Athletically, Jacob represents Diman as a member of the boys soccer, basketball, and tennis teams earning Coaches Award, Offensive Player of the Year, and Multi-Year All Star. Jacob is currently employed as a draftsman at Tamer Industries in Somerset, Massachusetts as part of Diman's Cooperative Education Program. He plans to continue his education by pursuing a degree in Mechanical Engineering at the collegiate level.





Kaitlyn DeSousa

ELECTRICITY

Kaitlyn DeSousa, daughter of Tony and Lisa DeSousa of Westport, is an accomplished student ranked fourth in her class with a perfect 4.0 GPA and recognized as the Outstanding Vocational Student for the Electricity shop. She has demonstrated exceptional academic dedication through her involvement in the National Honor Society, National Technical Honor Society, and International Club.

Kaitlyn is equally committed to serving her community, volunteering with My Brother's Keeper and participating in church events. Her strong work ethic and passion for learning are evident in both her academic success and her achievements in the Electrical shop. Through the Cooperative Education program, she is gaining real-world experience as an electrical apprentice at Econ Electric in Warren, Rhode Island, where she contributes to a variety of projects.

She has earned several honors, including the John and Abigail Adams Scholarship. Kaitlyn plans to begin at Bristol Community College through the Massachusetts Transfer program and continue her education at the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth, pursuing a future in electrical engineering.


CERTIFIED
SERVICE

Ace Wittkamper

ELECTRONICS ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY

The Electronics Engineering Technology program proudly recognizes Ace Wittkamper as the 2026 Outstanding Vocational Student. Resident of Fall River, Ace is the daughter of Andrew Wittkamper and Katie Brady. Throughout high school, Ace demonstrated exceptional academic achievement, earning high honors all four years, the English Award as a freshman, and the John and Abigail Adams Scholarship. They further challenged themselves through Dual Enrollment during junior year. Ace was highly involved in school life, participating in student government, Hilltopper Marching and Jazz Band, yearbook and newspaper clubs, and serving as a Student Ambassador. They also held leadership roles on the Advisory Board, served as student representative to the School Committee, and contributed to the Vision of a Graduate and Senior Class Committees.

In SkillsUSA Electronics Technology Competition, Ace earned gold medals at district competitions in both sophomore and junior years, a bronze medal at states, and placed 10th nationally. They gave back through Family Planning's Teen Pregnancy Prevention program and gained hands-on experience in the Diman's Cooperative Education program at EMC Technologies. After graduation, Ace plans to attend UMass Dartmouth to pursue Electrical Engineering.





Kalvin Massey

FACILITIES MAINTENANCE MANAGEMENT

Kalvin Massey of Fall River, Massachusetts, is the Outstanding Vocational Student in the Facilities Maintenance Management program at Diman Regional Vocational Technical High School and the son of Gregory Massey and Kuntear Oeur. Throughout his high school career, Kalvin has demonstrated strong leadership, commitment, and a passion for hands-on learning.

He volunteered for three years at Diman's Open House, proudly representing his program and welcoming prospective students and families. During his junior and senior years, he gained valuable real-world experience through cooperative employment with Vision Construction, applying his skills on active job sites.

Kalvin competed in the SkillsUSA Masonry competitions, earning multiple gold medals at the district level and advancing to the state level. In addition, he is a dedicated student-athlete, playing varsity football for three years and competing in varsity track during his sophomore, junior, and senior years. He also serves as vice president of Diman's DECA program. Kalvin has earned honor roll recognition multiple times, and his leadership, dedication, and determination make him an outstanding representative of his program.





DIMAN
Building and Property
Maintenance

Karley Kaliff

GRAPHIC DESIGN & VISUAL COMMUNICATION

Karley Kaliff has been named the Outstanding Vocational Student for Graphic Design & Visual Communication, an honor recognizing her dedication, talent, and leadership at Diman Regional Vocational Technical High School. Karley, along with her guardians, Kevin and Jackie Woyciechowski, reside in Fall River, Massachusetts.

Karley earned high honors throughout all four years and is a member of both the National Honor Society and the National Technical Honor Society. Her academic achievements include top awards in Geometry and U.S. History I as a freshman, U.S. History II as a sophomore, and World History as a junior. She also earned the John and Abigail Adams Scholarship and participated in Dual Enrollment during her junior year.

Highly involved in school life, Karley served as a Student Ambassador, participated in the International Club, competed in DECA, and was active in SkillsUSA, earning a perfect-score Leadership Award at the Fall State Conference. She currently works as a digital press operator at Potters Printing as part of Diman's Cooperative Educational program. Karley plans to pursue a bachelor's degree in Graphic Design at MassArt or UMass Dartmouth.





Sophia Lourenco

HEALTH ASSISTING

The Outstanding Vocational Student for the Health Assisting program is Sophia Lourenco, daughter of Roy and Michelle Lourenco. During her time at Diman, Sophia earned academic high honors every semester and set ambitious goals. She is a recipient of the John and Abigail Adams Scholarship and received Academic Excellence Awards in English, Mathematics, and Science. Sophia serves as President of both the National Honor Society and the National Technical Honor Society, as well as being a Chapter Officer for Diman SkillsUSA. In the SkillsUSA competition, Sophia earned a gold medal, placing 1st in the country in the Nurse Assisting competition at the 2025 national conference in Atlanta, Georgia. She is also president of DECA and earned a silver medal in Financial Services Team Decision Making at the district level. Sophia is a member of Varsity Girls Tennis and received the Coach's Award. She volunteers as a CCD teacher at Espirito Santo Church and works as a Certified Nurse Assistant at Charlton Memorial Hospital through Diman's Cooperative Education Program. Sophia is compassionate, self-motivated, and plans to pursue nursing at a four-year university.







Mason Valois

HEATING, VENTILATION, AIR CONDITIONING & REFRIGERATION

The HVAC/R department is proud to present Mason Valois, son of Stephen and Lisa Valois, as its Outstanding Vocational Student. Mason has been an honor student all four years at Diman. He participated in SkillsUSA junior and senior year, earning a bronze medal as a junior. Mason has been involved in athletics including baseball, golf, and track. He has participated in the Diman's Cooperative Education program at Fahrenheit Heating and AC since junior year, gaining valuable real-life experience in the trade.

Mason is hardworking, reliable, and mature. He demonstrates professionalism well beyond his years. Sophomore year, he was one of the youngest students selected for a limited participation capstone project involving the installation of ductless mini-split heat pump systems through a MassSave grant. This reflects the trust and respect he has earned from his teachers.

Mason plans to attend the University of Rhode Island and major in Ocean Engineering.


Fahrenheit
Heating Air Conditioning

Brennon Sousa

MEDICAL ASSISTING

The Medical Assisting program is proud to recognize Brennon Sousa as its 2026 Outstanding Vocational Student. A native of Fall River, Brennon is the son of Ryan Sousa and Crystal Matos and a graduate of Atlantis Charter School. Throughout his high school years, Brennon has exhibited tremendous grit and determination to overcome self-limiting obstacles, gaining confidence and excelling in all medical assisting skills. This preparation led to a successful co-op position at Dr. Shreter's office, part of the Prima CARE community, where he performs valuable administrative and clinical responsibilities. From his exploratory year as a freshman, Brennon has conducted himself with 100% effort, balancing academics, shop, and community service while demonstrating care and empathy to those around him. Brennan has received honors or high honors all four years of high school. A member of both the National Honor Society and National Technical Honor Society, and recipient of the John and Abigail Adams Scholarship and Chancellor's Scholarship, Brennon continues to place a high value on education as he works toward his goal of becoming a pediatric nurse.







Luis Sousa

METAL FABRICATION & WELDING

The Metal Fabrication & Welding Program is proud to recognize Luis Sousa as the 2026 Outstanding Vocational Student. A native of Fall River, Luis is the son of Luis and Cidalia Sousa and a graduate of John J Doran School. Throughout his high school years, Luis has demonstrated exceptional skill, dedication, and leadership in his craft. His journey began with a third place finish at the district SkillsUSA Welding Competition during his sophomore year, where his talent presented itself early. In his junior year, he earned second place at the state competition. He also competed in both the Notch Mechanical Pipe Welding Competition winning first place, and he placed third in the Project MFG Maritime National Competition. His goal for this year is to place first at the SkillsUSA State Welding Competition, compete at the National Competition, and then enter into the World Skills Competition. Luis has also earned honor roll for all four years at Diman. After graduation, Luis plans on entering into the apprenticeship program at either Local 51 or Local 537 Pipe Fitters and – Welders Union.


LINCOLN
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850

Cooper Martin

PLUMBING

Cooper Martin of Fall River, son of Christopher Martin and Dory Stephenson–Martin, is a highly motivated and dependable Plumbing student whose academic achievement and work ethic distinguish him among his peers earning him the recognition of being this year's Outstanding Vocational Student.
A graduate of Atlantis Charter School, Cooper has earned high honors and achieved academic excellence in science, reflecting his strong commitment to learning. He is also a recipient of the John and Abigail Adams Scholarship and earned recognition through the Diman Junior Certificate of Achievement Vocabulary Bowl. In addition to his academic success, Cooper participated in football during his freshman and sophomore years, developing teamwork, discipline, and perseverance. He has applied these qualities to the workforce as part of Diman's Cooperative Education program working as an apprentice plumber with RS Anctil Commercial Plumbing Contractors, where he continues to build real-world skills aligned to his career pathway. Cooper's dedication, reliability, and focus make him a strong representative of Diman's Plumbing program and a promising future trades professional.





William Gagnon

PRECISION MACHINING & ENGINEERING

The Precision Machining & Engineering (formerly Advanced Manufacturing) program has named William Gagnon of Fall River as its Outstanding Vocational Student. A graduate of Holy Trinity School, William is the son of Steven and Sheryl Gagnon. William was a recipient of the John and Abigail Adams Scholarship during his senior year and earned high honors all four years at Diman. William is an active member of his community as a Boy Scout working on several community service projects. He is also working towards his Eagle Scout badge. William is a member of SkillsUSA and as a junior he and his team competed and earned a gold medal at States and 4th place at the national level. His team is competing again this year at the SkillsUSA State competition in April. William is employed through Diman's Cooperative Education program at Rectorseal in Fall River. He plans to continue working in the trade as a full time machinist after graduation.


COLCHESTER

Bryce Dreas

PROGRAMMING & WEB DEVELOPMENT

Bryce Dreas of Swansea, nephew of Robert Marshall and Alyssa Nellen, is a senior in the Programming & Web Development program and a graduate of Joseph Case Junior High. Throughout his high school career, Bryce has consistently demonstrated dedication, responsibility, and a strong work ethic, making him a deserving recipient of the Outstanding Vocational Student Award.

Academically, Bryce has earned honors or high honors all four years, reflecting his commitment to excellence in both academic and vocational studies. He has also been an active member of the Diman Chess Club, where he has demonstrated leadership, teamwork, and a willingness to support his peers.

In the vocational program, Bryce has distinguished himself through exceptional shop performance. His accomplishments include building a website for the Diman Bengal Educational Foundation, mentoring freshmen, and consistently demonstrating strong technical skills and problem-solving abilities. Known for being dependable, safety-conscious, and always willing to take on new challenges, Bryce takes great pride in his work. His dedication, professionalism, and passion for his trade make him an outstanding role model and a worthy honoree.


DIMAN
Programming and
Web Development

Stephanie Ward

PRACTICAL NURSING

Diman Regional Technical Institute's School of Practical Nursing is proud to recognize Stephanie Ward of Westport, Massachusetts as this year's Outstanding Vocational Student. Stephanie has long aspired to become a nurse; however, life's responsibilities often took precedence as she focused on raising her family. From a young age, she was inspired by her mother, who has dedicated more than 40 years to the nursing profession. Stephanie began her own healthcare career in 2003, working as a CNA in local nursing homes and home care settings.

In 2020, Stephanie felt a renewed calling to pursue her lifelong dream and began completing prerequisite coursework at a community college. She was accepted into the full-time Practical Nursing program in 2025, marking the beginning of her formal nursing journey. Stephanie plans to continue her education through the LPN–to–RN bridge program at Bristol Community College, with aspirations to work in wound care or hospice nursing.





PRACTICAL NURSE
D
STUDENT

Grateful Appreciation

Thank you to everyone who makes this event possible

Jennifer DeMariano

Leslie Carmo

Katie Warren

Leslie Weckesser

Brian Bentley

Joseph Marciszyn

Business Technology

Drafting

Graphic Design & Visual Communications

Building & Grounds Maintenance Department

IT Department

Photography Club

Mrs. Gaudencio
Aileen Rodriguez
Nicholas Medeiros
Trinity Young
Savannah Greatrix
Emma Bergeron
McKenzie Jeronimo
Talon Medeiros
Mia Melara
Orion Wittkamper
Layla Ferreira

Thank You

To Our Co-Operative Education Employers For Providing Unique Opportunities To Our Diman Students

BayCoast Bank

Southcoast Health

RECTORSEAL

SHIELD PEDIATRIC DENTISTRY

ECON

Roger Williams University

IWS INTERIOR WOODWORKING SOLUTIONS

ANCTIL PLUMBING & HEATING

emctechnologies

YOU IMAGINE IT WE PRINT IT! POTTER'S PRINTING

FAHRENHEIT HEATING & COOLING

Nahas Auto General Auto Repair

COUNTY STREET COLLISION

Prima CARE

TAMER INDUSTRIES



DIMAN REGIONAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL

Produced by Graphic Design and Visual Communications
Designed By Graphic Design and Visual Communication Student: Ruby Benoit