

THE JOHNSONIAN

2021

Gabriel Martelli is no stranger to hard work. A graduate from North Pocono High School, he says he has always been a hard worker. In May 2019 he became an Eagle Scout after organizing a river clean up and restoring a portion of a walkway at Sweeney's Beach in Scranton. He said that completing this project was the "greatest moment of his life." It gave him a sense of accomplishment and leadership experience. This hard work transferred to his time at Johnson College.

While in shop class as a kid, Gabriel loved designing and building things. He was interested in going for engineering and was accepted to a different college, but when a representative from Johnson College visited his high school and he learned more about Johnson, it changed his mind. He saw Johnson College as the first stepping stone towards his career. At first, he was interested in both Electrical Engineering Technology (EET) and Advanced Manufacturing Technology (AMT). While participating in a Shadow Day for EET, he went down to the AMT lab and was amazed by the 3D printers and all the equipment. He did another Shadow Day for AMT and knew that was the right place for him.

The moments that stand out most to Gabriel are the ones with his teachers: Cole Goldstein, Rick Fornes '94, and Andy Zwanch '82. "They are truly great instructors," Gabriel said, "they communicated well. They knew how to help you and engage with their students in a way that kept them motivated and never left anyone behind." They built a classroom culture where the only thing a struggling student had to do was speak up and the faculty would be right there responding – especially during the pandemic.

Gabriel said that the transition to virtual was not easy at first. He felt that he and his fellow classmates struggled. He shared, "the biggest challenge was the implementation of taking a hands-on college, that a lot of people attend for that reason, and putting it on a virtual platform. It was a very bumpy road at first, but towards the end, it did get better and [faculty] did help a lot."

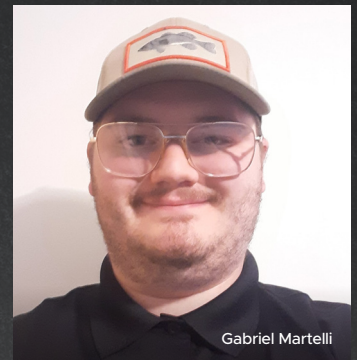
In addition to his faculty, Gabriel's favorite part of the program was the strong bond formed with his classmates. He said that coming to college and meeting great, quality people was an awesome experience. The two years went faster than he thought they would.

The best piece of advice Mr. Zwanch gave him was that life may throw a lot of curveballs at you, but you have to keep your head in the game. That advice kept Gabriel going academically through the pandemic.

Gabriel did his internship at Automated Lifestyles LLC, a home automation and networking company that integrates technology to create smart homes. "We can program your home so at the press of a button all your lights can turn on." By the time Gabriel graduated, he was offered

a full-time position as a service technician. He services and installs all products placed into the homes before the clients can be trained on how to use them. His education at Johnson College, and the on the job training that he received during his internship, gave him a good foundation for the work he's doing now. "I love the job," Gabriel said, "I think it's the greatest job I've ever had." Besides seeing the most expensive car he has ever seen, he loves the job environment and it fills all the expectations he has had for a work environment.

The advice he would give to incoming students is that college is going to be different than what you expect. It's very different from high school. He also said, "Stay positive and just keep going. Keep working through it. You're going to be the best of the best because as Johnson says, 'we work.' As long as you work hard and put in the time you'll get what you give."



Gabriel Martelli



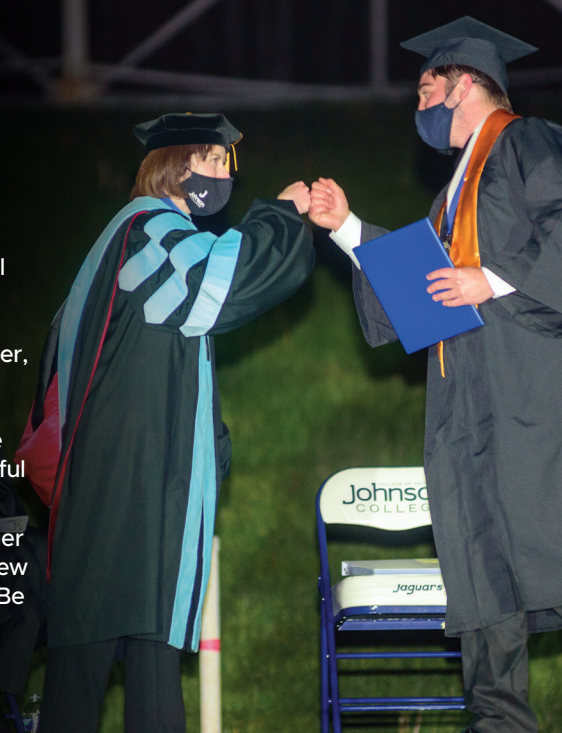
MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT & CEO

What a year it has been, but we did it Johnson College! Once again, we took what others saw as insurmountable circumstances and utilized all of our strengths to come out the other side stronger than ever. This year brought the pandemic, managing two institutional accreditations, an extremely positive virtual visit from our Middle States Site Evaluation Team, new and engaging fundraising events, more grants awarded than ever before, the strongest enrollment in our history, the best registration numbers going into a Fall semester, the demolition of our Richmond Hall, the design of a new Gateway Building for campus and greater Scranton community, and a strategic planning process that was inclusive and engaging. And through all of this, we kept providing the best Johnson College experience for our students. We kept them safe and we remained opened, and I know they are grateful for that.

Thank you faculty, staff, board members, industry partners, alumni, and students for another outstanding year. While there will always be work to do, improvements to be made, and new efforts to try, please take some time to reflect on all that we have accomplished together. Be proud Johnson College. If a pandemic didn't stop us, nothing will. And something tells me, we are just getting started!

Katie Leonard

Katie Leonard, Ed.D



AWARDS NIGHT

On Tuesday, May 4, 2021, Johnson College held its 2021 Awards Night outside, on campus on the lawn in front of the Health Science Technology Center. Our soon-to-be graduates, their families, along with our faculty and staff, celebrated their hard work and academic accomplishments. Congratulations to all our award recipients.



COMMENCEMENT

On a chilly May 11, 2021, Johnson College conferred degrees to over 160 graduates at commencement exercises held at the Circle Drive-In Theater. Graduates were awarded Associate in Science degrees (A.S.), Associate of Applied Science degrees (A.A.S.), and academic certificates. Candy Frye '94, Director of New Business Development at A. Pickett Construction, Inc. and Johnson College graduate, gave the commencement address, while the degrees were presented by Dr. Katie Leonard, President and CEO of Johnson College, and Marianne Gilmartin, Esq., the 2020-2021 Chair of the Board of Directors. David Weaver, a graduate of the Heating Ventilation and Air Conditioning Technology program and recipient of the Johnson College Award for Academic Excellence in the Associate of Applied Science programs and Jessica Bodt, a graduate of the Radiologic Technology Program, and recipient of the Johnson College Award for Academic Excellence in the Associate of Science programs served as student speakers.





GRANTS

Throughout the 2020-2021 academic year, our College Advancement department applied for and received a record number of grants for Johnson College. Thanks to their hard work, we received close to \$2 million dollars in grant awards from private foundations, and local, state and federal agencies. They include: The United States Department of Education: USDA Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program; Pennsylvania Department of Education: Smart PA Grant Program; Pennsylvania Department of Education: Perkins Grant Program; Commonwealth of PA: CARES Act Emergency Relief for Institutions of Higher Education; In partnership with the United Neighborhood Centers of Northeastern Pennsylvania: The Moses Taylor Foundation and The Northeastern Pennsylvania Health Care Foundation's Careers in Care initiative; The Moffat Family Charitable Trust; The Margaret Briggs Foundation; PPL Foundation; The Sordoni Family Foundation; and The Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Program.



TURKEY DINNER

Johnson College, Toyota of Scranton, and ShopRite hosted a no-contact, drive-through turkey dinner giveaway on Sunday, February 28, 2021, on the Johnson College campus where over 200 meals were distributed. ShopRite donated all of the food, as Toyota of Scranton staff members and Johnson College Automotive Technology Program students prepared the meals for distribution. "Johnson College and Toyota of Scranton took our strong partnership beyond the classroom and with ShopRite's generous donation, together, we fed many families in need within our community," said Dr. Katie Leonard, Johnson College President & CEO. It was an amazing and inspiring experience for everyone within the Johnson College Community who volunteered that weekend.



CARPENTRY AUCTION

The Carpentry & Cabinetmaking Technology program revived its annual auction to benefit the Children's Advocacy Center (CAC) of NEPA on Wednesday, April 28, 2021 after canceling in 2020 due to the ongoing pandemic. The event was held behind the Woolworth Building, near the carpentry lab.

More than 60 items were created by the Carpentry & Cabinetmaking students for auction including cutting boards, tables, cabinets, and a book case, among other pieces. Most of the items were made from repurposed wood.

The students raised more than \$3,200 for the organization. Todd Campbell '82, CCM Program Director, said that all the students were happy to participate for the good cause. Todd said that the carpentry department has been supporting CAC for almost ten years. Prior to the four years of auctions, the department has built tables and benches for the organization. This event showcases the College's mission to prepare students for their careers in essential industries and how to be essential, contributing members of their communities.

FORKLIFT/CTC CLASS

On Saturday, March 20, 2021, Dr. Katie Leonard, President & CEO of Johnson College, congratulated students from The Career Technology Center of Lackawanna County for receiving certification for completing Johnson College Continuing Education's Forklift Operator Training Course. The CTC students were taught OSHA Powered Industrial Truck Operator Training Requirements (29CFR Standard 1910.178 and ASME B56.1). They also became authorized operators of forklifts through theory and tactile testing. Instructional topics included pre-operational inspection, picking up, traveling, and placing loads, parking procedures, refueling, and practical operation.



JOHNSON COLLEGE OPEN

On Friday, May 21, 2021, Johnson College hosted the 28th Annual Johnson College Open presented by Gerrity's Supermarkets at Pine Hills Country Club in Taylor, PA, to raise funds for the Presidential Scholarship Fund. The tournament was sold out with 140 golfers registered. Over \$40,000 was raised for student scholarships, through golfer registrations and sponsorship opportunities. It was a great day!

SAVE THE DATES

OPEN HOUSE | Wednesday, July 14

SUMMER ALUMNI EVENT | Scranton/Wilkes-Barre Railriders Game | Saturday, August 14

1ST DAY OF THE FALL SEMESTER | Monday, August 30

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