

Award Nominations Requested

Do you know of an alumnus or friend of Erskine Academy who has accomplished outstanding deeds in their life or contributed greatly to the school? Please consider nominating them for an award. The awards are presented at the annual Alumni Reunion.

Distinguished Alumni Award
(open to alumni only)

Exemplary Service (to Erskine Academy) Award
(open to anyone)

Volunteer Leadership Award
(open to alumni only)

Award criteria and the nomination form can be found on the Erskine Alumni web page or by contacting the Alumni Office for assistance.

**THE ANNUAL DEADLINE FOR
SUBMITTING NOMINATIONS
IS APRIL 1.**

Contact us... and please notify us of any errors or omissions.

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If this issue is addressed to your son or daughter who no longer maintains a permanent address at your home, please provide his or her updated address to the Alumni Office. An online form is also available on the Erskine Academy website on the "For Alumni" page. Printing by Albison's Printing Co., Augusta, Maine.

as an observer but as a person capable of making a real difference, finishing the pursuits begun by our grandparents and parents alike. In many ways it is not only an opportunity but a responsibility, one I know that all of you can see to fruition.

As a society we like to celebrate crossing the finish line. We have gathered here tonight to admire the hard work and dedication each one of you has demonstrated these past four years. Being able to finish strong requires a certain inner will that has been cultivated in your experience at Erskine. The core tenets that have guided your education, scholarship, leadership, stewardship, and relationships, are the cornerstones to a personal foundation that can help you rise to the occasion. The extension of these core values doesn't end with your commencement tonight, they are a part of you always and will help you shape the world you are about to enter.

When I was contacted about speaking tonight, Mr. McQuarrie reminded me of the core values of Erskine Academy: scholarship, leadership, stewardship, and relationships, and as I began writing this speech it became clearer how essential those core values had been in my own life as I pursued higher education, a career, and a growing family life. The very pillars that Erskine has built itself on are a part of each and every student that has walked its hallways. As you leave the Erskine community know that the core values that it stands for go with you. Inside all of you is the strength of will that comes with an Erskine education; it is the will to change the world for the better, in ways both great and small. I know all of you can make a profound difference in our society; do not be afraid to make that difference.

Coming back to the moment at hand, this night is about reveling in the success of the past four years of your dedication and hard work. Take a moment to think about how far you've come, how you started, how you finished, how you plan to take the lessons you've learned in your formative years onto your life's

pursuits, and maybe even thank a faculty member or two. I know there are few prouder of your accomplishments than they. Congratulations to you all, thank you!

After graduating from Erskine in 2005, Zac attended Colby College and joined its chemistry department, from which he received the Stan Award for demonstrated leadership and achievement in chemistry. Even with a very demanding academic schedule, Zac was a three-year varsity baseball player for the White Mules.

Directly following his graduation from Colby in 2009, Zac pursued graduate studies at the University of Maine, earning the Masters of Science degree in Chemical Oceanography in 2012.

With his academic credentials in hand, Zac began his career as a lab manager for a Boston-based start up company, Oasys Water, where he and his colleagues develop cutting-edge water treatment technology. Zac is Program Manager of Applied Research and Development at Oasys Water and part of the team that commissioned the first Forward Osmosis Membrane Brine Concentrator based in Changzing, China, which many of us read about proudly in a Boston Globe article featuring Zac and his work.

Zac is a member of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers and the American Chemical Society and is the author of several published professional scientific articles, including his most recent, a 2015 piece entitled, "Forward Osmosis: Uses in pretreatment and brine concentration in complete water treatment solutions."

Zac married his wife Maggie in 2014, and the two were expecting their first child in October. The couple recently moved back to Maine and are making a home in Kennebunk. ☺

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