

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Sept. 12, 2022

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Autry Technology Center Names September Students of the Month

ENID, OKLA. — Autry Technology Center has named three students as the September Students of the Month. These students were selected based on their performance in and out of the classroom as students, role models and future professionals.

Erik Alatorre is a second-year high school student in the Welding Technology program at Autry Technology Center. He is also a senior at Pioneer High School, where he plays football.

Alatorre chose to attend Autry Tech after his brother completed the welding program. Last year, he ran for a SkillsUSA state officer position and an Autry Professional Representative role. He also won the SkillsUSA Regional Welding competition last year and placed at the NW District SkillsUSA Leadership contest, moving on to compete at the state level. Alatorre also ran and won the A.M. Shop Foreman's position this year.

"I have found Erik to be an overachiever, even as a first-year student," said Ryland Stonehocker, Autry Tech Welding Technology instructor. "Erik surpassed everyone in his motivation in shop progress and did extremely well in knowledge-based curriculum set forth by the Department of Career Tech. Erik is a very personable young man who has become a natural leader, with honesty, integrity and motivation for work."

After completing the Welding Technology program, Alatorre plans to attend Cowley College to become a welding inspector.

Natalee Ryne is an adult student in her second year of the Clinical Medical Assisting program at Autry Technology Center. Ryne started her journey in the healthcare field in the Medical Front Office program before she entered the Clinical Medical Assisting program.

"Natalee is a vibrant, young adult student who aspires to be in the medical field," said Rocio Guzman-Lopez, Autry Tech Clinical Medical Assisting instructor. "She has seen the value of having both front and back-office training and certifications. She is a natural leader within her group in class. She is cheerful and kind; always willing to assist others and takes the initiative when given group activities. She is an intelligent and determined young adult."

Ms. Guzman-Lopez said she admires how she came back for her second semester and is working ahead in the curriculum. Ryne has already taken and passed the state exam!

Ryne chose to come to Autry Tech to further her education because she likes the hands-on opportunities provided. Natalee currently works at Hobby Lobby and enjoys crocheting, listening to music, and playing video

games. Natalee's career goals are to be accepted into the Surgical Tech program in order to become a traveling surg tech.

Ashley Tune is a second-year adult student in the Business & Office Services program at Autry Technology Center. She is also in the Cosmetology program. Last year, Tune served as the reporter for the Business Professionals of America (BPA) student organization and was named the April Student of the Month. Tune also attended BPA Fall Leadership Conference as an officer and competed in multiple events at both the state and national BPA contest.

"Ashley has been an encouraging leader in the afternoon class," said Penny Guthrie, Autry Tech Business & Office Services instructor. "She arrives early to class daily, ready to work and willing to help. As a second year BOS student, Ashley volunteers to assist new students as needed. One thing that stands out for me is how she has managed to help pull together a team to complete a task for BOS. She encourages each member of the team to get involved then she compliments their strengths to encourage participation. She is genuine and professional while doing so. Another characteristic is her drive to be professional and grow her knowledge. She seems to have a continuous drive to learn and improve."

Tune chose to come to Autry Tech because she learns best when working in a hands-on environment. She has family who have attended Autry Tech and her sister is currently attending the BOS program with her. Her future career plans are to combine her education from both the Business & Office Services and Cosmetology programs to own and operate a salon with ambitions to someday own a chain of salons.

Autry Technology Center has been a part of the Enid community since 1967 and is one of 29 CareerTech schools across Oklahoma. The center has more than 25 career programs and offers a wide variety of evening and weekend short-term courses and certifications for many diverse career fields. Autry serves nearly 16,000 individuals each year, including many area employees who receive training through the Workforce Development Department that works with over 500 local businesses each year.

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Erik Alatorre is the SkillsUSA September Student of the Month. He is a student in Welding Technology program at Autry Technology Center.



Natalee Ryne is the HOSA September Student of the Month. She is a student in the Clinical Medical Assisting program at Autry Technology Center.



Ashley Tune is the BPA September Student of the Month. She is a student in the Business & Office Services and Cosmetology programs at Autry Technology Center.