

## PRESS RELEASE

# CASSIDY BROZOVICH NAMED 2023 DISTINGUISHED SENIOR AT THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

COLUMBUS, Ohio—Cassidy M. Brozovich of Warren, Ohio, has been named a 2023 Distinguished Senior at The Ohio State University College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences (CFAES).

“The Distinguished Senior Award is the most prestigious undergraduate award in CFAES and honors top graduating seniors on the Ohio State Columbus campus,” said Ann Christy, CFAES professor and associate dean for academic programs. “The 25 award recipients exemplify the CFAES mission in areas such as academics and scholarship, research and innovation, service and involvement, and influence and leadership.”

Brozovich, an ecological engineering major in the Department of Food, Agricultural, and Biological Engineering (FABE), was nominated by college faculty and staff who felt that she personified the award’s attributes of academic, disciplinary, and professional excellence.

She is the first to admit that her undergraduate career has had some hiccups. One misfortune was failing calculus during her first semester at Ohio State. “Despite everyone telling me that I would never make it as an engineer, I decided to keep pushing,” Brozovich said. “While I earned an ‘A’ the next time around, what was important was that I proved to myself that I am resilient, adaptable to my environment, and can be successful under pressure.”

According to her FABE nominator and advisor, Christopher J. Tkach, “One of the things that stands out most to me about Cassidy is her passion for the field. She is always seeking out new opportunities to learn and grow. She is always looking for ways to go above and beyond in her work, and this drive has consistently resulted in high-quality outcomes.”

Brozovich said that her greatest sense of accomplishment has come from her involvement and leadership in the campus community. She became the first female president of Ohio State’s chapter of Buckeye Precious Plastic, a club focused on reducing plastic waste, educating the community, and creating products from recycled plastic. She is also secretary of the Quarter-Scale Tractor Team, member of the Ecological Engineering Society, former vice president of the American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers, and co-founder of Diamond Grove Fellows, an organization focused on encouraging involvement in space research.

The Trumbull County resident is interested in space research and Ohio State was recently selected as home for the terrestrial facility of Starlab’s George Washington Carver Space Park.

Brozovich plans to continue her education in Ohio State FABE as a graduate student. “I am interested in researching the design of a 3D-printed substrate to grow plants in space through the Starlab project,” she said.

“Having a 3D-printed substrate allows for recyclable materials to be used, decreasing waste, and increasing the lifespan of the product in a resource limited environment.”

By having customizable designs, each species will have exactly what they need to have an optimum yield. This research would not only lead to advancements in the use of hydroponic systems to grow food for astronauts during long-duration space flights, but also in controlled environment systems here on Earth.

A reception for the Distinguished Senior Award recipients and their families was held on Wednesday, March 22, hosted by Ann Christy and Cathann A. Kress, vice president for agricultural administration and CFAES dean. Meet the 25 outstanding students and learn more about each via a YouTube video release at [go.osu.edu/CFAES2023DSA](https://go.osu.edu/CFAES2023DSA).

“Honoring the 25 recipients for their excellence will be a highlight for us this spring. These students have excelled and most certainly will continue to thrive in their future careers,” said Christy.

In autumn 2022, there were 2,248 undergraduate students in CFAES pursuing bachelor of science degrees in 22 majors. Learn more about CFAES academic programs at [go.osu.edu/B4V2](https://go.osu.edu/B4V2).



## **Cassidy M. Brozovich**

**WARREN, OH**

**FOOD, AGRICULTURAL AND BIOLOGICAL ENGINEERING  
- ECOLOGICAL ENGINEERING**

**DEPARTMENT OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL AND  
BIOLOGICAL ENGINEERING**

Photo available by sending a request to [flood.13@osu.edu](mailto:flood.13@osu.edu)

### **FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:**

#### **WRITER(S)**

Sherrie R. Whaley  
[whaley.3@osu.edu](mailto:whaley.3@osu.edu)  
614-582-6111

#### **SOURCE(S):**

R. Warren Flood  
[flood.13@osu.edu](mailto:flood.13@osu.edu)  
614-247-6624

---

#### **2023 DISTINGUISHED SENIOR AWARD**



**THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY**

COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL,  
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

#### **Academic Programs**

100 Agricultural Administration  
2120 Fyffe Road | Columbus, OH 43210

614-292-6891 | [students.cfaes.ohio-state.edu](https://students.cfaes.ohio-state.edu)