

Press Release

March 11, 2019

Axelrod Named 2019 Distinguished Senior at The Ohio State University

COLUMBUS, Ohio—Bryce Axelrod of Seville, Ohio, has been named a 2019 Distinguished Senior at The Ohio State University's College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences (CFAES).

"The Distinguished Senior Award is the most prestigious undergraduate award in CFAES, recognizing the top graduating seniors from each of the academic units on the Columbus campus," said Steven Neal, CFAES professor and associate dean for academic programs.

Axelrod, a sustainable plant systems major from Medina County, will be honored at an on-campus awards dinner on March 27 where all 25 distinguished CFAES seniors will be recognized.

The CFAES Distinguished Senior Award honors academic, disciplinary and professional excellence.

"One of the hallmarks of our College is an emphasis on student success, and it is heartwarming to see it exemplified through the accomplishments of our students," Neal said. "Recipients are our future innovators and leaders who have already made an impact within the academic environment at this university and beyond."

David Barker, professor in the Department of Horticulture and Crop Science and an Axelrod nominator, wrote, "Bryce transferred into the department from Cuyahoga Community College with an associate of applied science degree and Kent State University as a rank 3-junior. His goal was to achieve a diverse academic background in different horticultural areas, preferably in greenhouse operations and management and/or landscape design and management."

While excelling academically, Axelrod has worked in a variety of roles within the department's Ornamental Plant Germplasm Center including field/nursery operations dealing with the maintenance, installation, removal, and transplanting of ornamentals, as well as greenhouse operations and lab operations dealing with various seed cleaning techniques and equipment, seed counting/weighing, seed germination tests, and micro-propagation and associated equipment.

Axelrod has worked to develop his own business as a freelance/independent landscape design and build consultant. "Bryce's area of expertise includes ornamental landscape maintenance and redesign for smaller residential homes, hand-drawn designs, new beds/planters, installations of current ornamentals for new concepts, seeding for turf, and maintenance of established beds and plantings," Barker wrote. "His business has complemented and extended his academic curriculum."

He has also been successful in national landscape design competitions winning second place at the 41st Annual National Collegiate Landscape Competition at Brigham Young University in 2018. He also won first place at the 40th Annual National Collegiate Landscape Competition held at Mississippi State University in 2017. He is a member of Phi

Distinguished Senior Award



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

CFAES

Theta Kappa Honor Society through Cuyahoga Community College.

Axelrod completed an internship with the Rocky River Parks Department in Rocky River, Ohio. There he shadowed the city forester, redesigned and maintained park beds, and worked with the maintenance and grounds crews to clean up parks and their entrances.

After graduation, Axelrod plans to work in the greenhouse industry, preferably in ornamental production. At some point, he would also like to enter the hemp industry, become familiar with hemp operations and have “a better knowledge of how this valuable crop can be incorporated into the world. Continuing my education in graduate school someday is another option as well.”

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Electronic files of head shot for this individual award recipients may be secured by making an email request to Warren Flood at flood.13@osu.edu.