

## **Foreign Languages & Literatures Prizes 2012**

### ***The Gelber Prize in French awarded to Matthew Rottenberg '12***

Matthew Rothenberg has had a distinguished career in French at Skidmore. Matt's thoughtful writing demonstrates keen understanding of French and Francophone literature and culture. He speaks with the ease and maturity of native fluency. Matt spent last year in Paris on Skidmore's program, and worked as an intern second semester. He earned a 4.0 average in his French courses and the grade of A+ in four of them—a staggering number by any standard. With such a record, it is no surprise that Matt is this year's unanimous choice for the Gelber Prize for excellence in French.

### ***Consulate General Prize in German awarded to Thomas Coon '12***

Thomas Coon is a talented and accomplished student of German at Skidmore. He graduates with a B.A. in German and a B.A. in Classics. His outstanding senior honors thesis combines his interests in both majors; it is a meticulously researched and well-written study on the influence of classical antiquity on culture in Nazi Germany. Tom has intellectual curiosity, a quick and agile mind, and a devilish wit. He routinely dazzled us with his ability to learn complex grammatical structures in one class and use them correctly throughout the semester. We wish Tom well in his future career as an educator.

### ***The Dante Prize in Italian awarded to Victoria Engros '12***

Victoria (Tory) Engros '12 began her study of Italian here at Skidmore and has excelled in all her Italian language, literature and culture courses leading to the completion of a Minor in Italian. During last summer, Tory studied in. Tory is academically serious and committed to her study of Italian. Her passion for the Italian language and culture is evident in her continued class preparation, participation and discussions. The Italian section of the department congratulates Tory for her proficiency in the Italian language and culture. We have appreciated and enjoyed to have Tory as a student in our Italian courses. Felicitazioni Tory!

### ***The Sonja Carson Prize in Spanish awarded to Sanida Lukovic '12***

Evincing a keen passion for learning and a profound intellectual curiosity, Sanida always strives for the highest quality and precision in her work. Using her near native Spanish skills in written and oral assignments, she is also a creative and critical thinker who invests time and energy to explore an issue in depth. She is graduating with a double major in Biochemistry and Spanish, demonstrating the breadth of her intellect, and she will soon be applying to medical school. In short, Sanida represents the type of student that Skidmore College values in addition to being an outstanding human being.

## **International Affairs Program Prize 2012**

### ***Jerome Solomon Ginsberg Memorial Award in International Affairs awarded to Soon Lee '12***

Soon Lee graduates with a B.A. in International Affairs and a Minor in French. She is admired for her exceptional intellectual curiosity and her spirit of international learning that raises the level of intellectual discourses in the classroom to the highest levels. Soon asks tough questions, makes the most insightful comments and never fails to amaze and delight. Her IA capstone project explores human rights violations experienced by Muslim women in France. This excellent research demonstrates Soon's cultural sensibility, her analytical and critical abilities and her insistent thirst for the truth. To foster her education, Soon received a Fulbright grant to study in South Korea.

### **Douglas McDevitt Award of the UNYSCSA awarded to Doug Pilawa '12**

Doug Pilawa graduates with a B.A. in French. He is a co-recipient of the Douglas McDevitt Award given annually by the UNYSCSA to a senior swimmer or diver who excels athletically and academically. Doug is an award winning diver, an enthusiastic skateboarder, and a committed athlete. He is a passionate student of France in all its complexity, reveling in the language and in his quest for fluency, delighting in his study of its literature and culture. His French papers are sophisticated and demonstrate a remarkable attention to detail and nuance. He embodies the values we model for our students, and it is no surprise that he wishes to pursue a career in academic life as a professor.