

MacDuffie School sends three students on Ivy League path

GRANBY - The MacDuffie School will see three local students tackle Ivy League education in the fall of 2019. The three young women, Nicolette Peterson, Aurora Basnet, and Yunxia Hallowell will set foot on the college path at some of the top-ranked Ivy League schools on the East coast. It is an impressive representation among a senior class of only 75 learners.

Peterson, a native of Granby, Mass. will go to the University of Pennsylvania.

"I'm planning on majoring in cognitive science and studying pre-med at Penn. I'm very excited, but I'm definitely a little nervous too. I'll be living in the middle of Philadelphia, which is a very different environment than Granby where I've grown up. I'll miss all of the incredible friends and teachers that I've been able to spend the past six years with. Also, I'll definitely miss making it rain with Mr. Vennell," said Peterson, referring to an activity led by Mr. Vennell during assembly where the entire student body

layers sounds of snapping, shuffling feet, and rubbing hands to simulate the sound of a thunderstorm.

Basnet, also from Granby, will pursue a degree at Cornell in global and public health sciences on a pre-med path.

"Becoming a Cornell student is one of my wildest dreams manifesting. At Cornell, I am incredibly excited to delve further into my passions for public health practice and policy. However, despite all the excitement I have for my future, I will terribly miss the MacDuffie community that has molded me into who I am today. After all, although I am becoming a Cornellian, I will forever be a Mustang," said Basnet.

Yunxia Hallowell, who hails from Springfield, Mass. will join the Princeton ranks this fall.

"I'm so excited to have the opportunity to be a student at Princeton, and I'm so grateful to my family, my mentors, and everyone else who helped me through the college process. I'm

especially thankful to my teachers, whether they dealt with me for one semester or six years; I'll miss my MacDuffie teachers next year," said Hallowell, "I'm looking forward to the opportunity to do impactful work with my professors," she said.

Hallowell is currently undecided on a major, but says she is thinking about majoring in the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International affairs.

"I am very proud of all of our students, but want to commend these three young women in particular for their accomplishments. The Ivy League schools are looking a special kind of student, who wishes to make a lasting impact in the world. These three students meet that standard and more!" said Head of School Steve Griffin.

Students at The MacDuffie School represent 25 different countries, bringing with them a diversity of experience to a shared corner of the globe in Granby, Mass.

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