The Department of Human Development congratulates and honors its outstanding 2013 senior graduates.

Henry Ricciuti Award for Outstanding Seniors in Human Development

Recipients are chosen from the top 25% of the graduating class in Human Development. Recipients have achieved distinction in research or have contributed to exceptional community and campus service during their time at Cornell.

Back row from left: Kyla Cretekos-Gross
Rachel Linner
Marie Camerota
Shelby Distenfeld
Meera Menon
Natalie Finn
Julie Avrutine

Front row from left: Zachary Nollet
Alisha Desai
Maggie Diu
Anne Laurita
Rebecca Morgan
not pictured: Brittany Tusa

Honors in Human Development

These students completed original empirical research and wrote and defended a senior honors thesis in Human Development.

From left: Rebecca Morgan, Elizabeth DuPre, Zachary Nollet, Natalie Finn, Marie Camerota, Maggie Diu, Evelyn Fok, Shelby Distenfeld, Meera Menon, Julie Avrutine, Dr. Marianella Casasola. (not pictured: Brittany Tusa)

Prestigious University and Human Ecology Award Winners

Recipients of these awards are chosen from among the most outstanding students at Cornell University. Excellence in leadership and public service are also required.

Merrill Presidential Scholars
Anne Laurita
Alisha Desai
College Symbol Bearer
Kyla Cretekos-Gross

Urie Bronfenbrenner Awards for Achievement in Research

Recipients of these awards are chosen by faculty nominations of students who have achieved unusual distinction in research.

From left: Suveera Dang (Junior winner), Julie Avrutine

Janet and Joseph Zuckerman Award for Excellence in Human Development Studies

This award is given to the student(s) whose senior honors thesis is judged by HD faculty to be the most outstanding of the year.

2013 Winner
Meera Menon (center)
2013 Honorable Mentions
Julie Avrutine
Marie Camerota

“If the children and youth of a nation are afforded opportunity to develop their capacities to the fullest, if they are given the knowledge to understand the world and the wisdom to change it, then the prospects for the future are bright. In contrast, a society which neglects its children, however well it may function in other respects, risks eventual disorganization and demise.”