

Bantivoglio Honors Concentration, Honors College

A message from Kira Rose, *2020-21 HSO President and Civil Engineering major*



Honor is a powerful word. Of course, honor signifies distinction, privilege, and esteem; honor is the leg up, the thirteenth in a baker's dozen, and the cherry on top. But honor also denotes strength of character such as righteousness, dependability, and integrity. Honor is doing the right thing when no one is looking; honor is going the extra mile; honor is utmost achievement and maximum fulfillment. At Rowan University, Honor takes on even broader contexts and significance. The Bantivoglio Honors College boasts more than six hundred students, fifteen extracurricular interest groups and counting, dozens of Honors classes, as much free printing as your heart desires, and is expanding every day. Honors students can look forward to our completely free trips to museums and attractions in Philadelphia and New York City, a decked-out annual semi-formal dance, an entirely student run murder mystery dinner, a stipend to study abroad, and some of the most intimate and insightful academic courses on campus. But within the depths of the opportunities and resources Honors has to offer, one community is formed.

For me, it is the unity of the Honors community that I cherish most. Our oneness is in the electric air as the priority registration breakfast falls to a hush and the only sounds are hurriedly tapping fingers on laptop keyboards. Our congruence is in the artistic doodle masterpieces, formulaic marvels, and academic color-coded wonders proudly left on the Whitney lounge whiteboards. If the walls of the Honors wing could talk, they would tell of the uplifting messages on sticky notes that scatter the hallway during finals week, the wide-open doors of the Honors faculty offices, and the hundreds of hours of selfless volunteer work completed every semester. Recently after being elected to the Honors executive board my freshman year, I remember laying in the sun at the Honors end-of-year picnic with my two best friends whom I had un-coincidentally met through Honors. Stuffing my smiling face with free chicken nuggets and soft pretzels, I thought, "It doesn't get any better than this." But it did, and I can now attest as a rising senior that every moment I have spent on the Honors executive board and within the open arms of this Honors family has proved better than the last.

Our unified comradery creates social connection and our unique scholarly experiences add deep insight to our already profound educations. Honors provides the opportunities and support necessary for students to not only leave their comfort zones but to truly grow through every experience they encounter no matter the scale. More than a multifaceted word, Honors is a responsibility, an advantage, a powerful community, and a momentous chance.