

For Immediate Release



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Augusta Technical College Announces 2022 GOAL Winner Alina Walls

Augusta, GA, December 10, 2021

Alina Walls, an Accounting student at Augusta Technical College, has been named as the college's winner of the 2022 Georgia Occupational Award of Leadership (GOAL). The announcement was made via Facebook Live by college president, Dr. Jermaine Whirl on December 7, 2021.



Ms. Walls chose to attend Augusta Technical College to thrive in the competitive field of accounting and to utilize her valuable technical knowledge, skills, and experience to positively impact the community and change lives. After being selected, Ms. Walls stated, "I am so humbled and excited to be selected as Augusta Tech's GOAL Winner. It is such an honor to represent my college, my fellow students, and to show off what wonderful opportunities are available at our technical colleges!"

Ms. Walls was chosen by a panel of local leaders over three other nominees for the award. The runners-up were Larry Andrew Overholt, Computer Programming; Cortney Scott, Cosmetology; and Velvet Taylor, Accounting. GOAL, a statewide program of the Technical College System of Georgia (TCSG), honors excellence in academics and leadership among the state's technical college students. Local GOAL winners are selected at each of the state's 22 technical colleges.

"Augusta Technical College is excited to have Ms. Alina Walls as our GOAL student of the year for 2022," stated College President Dr. Jermaine Whirl. "Her personal story exemplifies courage, persistence, and passion. We're positive that she will represent us well in the GOAL regional and state competitions. But most importantly, she'll forever be an advocate of the value of technical education given her experiences at Augusta Tech."

Ms. Walls will represent Augusta Technical College at the regional competition on February 24, 2022, at Central Georgia Technical College in Warner Robins. The nine regional finalists, three finalists from the three regions, will be announced at the GOAL conference at the Grand Hyatt in April 2022, and if selected, Ms. Walls will participate in the state competition at the conference. A panel of leaders from the business, industry and government sectors will interview them and choose one to be the 2022 State GOAL Winner, TCSG's Student of the Year, and the recipient of the

GOAL medallion.

The grand prize includes a brand-new car, courtesy of KIA, the statewide corporate sponsor of the GOAL program.

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About Augusta Technical College

Augusta Technical College, a unit of the Technical College System of Georgia, is a public postsecondary institution that provides academic and technical education, customized business and industry training, continuing education, student support, economic development, and adult education services to its service area (Burke, Columbia, Lincoln, McDuffie, and Richmond Counties) at a competitive financial value. Associate of Science Degrees, Associate of Applied Science Degrees, diplomas, and technical certificates of credit are provided through traditional and distance delivery methods. For more information, visit augustatech.edu.

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