

ROCKY MOUNTAIN COLLEGE COMMENCEMENT, SATURDAY, MAY 4

For more information: Dan Burkhardt, Rocky Mountain College director of marketing and publications, 657-1104 or burkhard@rocky.edu.

Photo: Loren Acton, astronaut and solar physicist
Photo credit: Dave M. Shumway, RMC

NOTE: LIST OF 2013 RMC GRADUATES WITH HOMETOWNS ATTACHED

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BILLINGS – Rocky Mountain College will hold its 131th Commencement, Saturday, May 4, 2013, at 1 p.m., in the Fortin Education Center.

RMC will graduate 220 students. The public is welcome to attend baccalaureate and commencement.

The commencement speaker will be astronaut and solar physicist, Dr. Loren W. Acton, a native of Montana. His speech is titled, "It's a Rocky road."

An honorary doctorate of humane letters will be conferred on Carl A. Hansen, RMC chair, Board of Trustees.

Student speakers will be the winners of the RMC President Cup award, Johnathan Diem and Anudari Batjargal. This is RMC's highest student honor, bestowed on students – one male and one female – for scholarship, leadership and community service.

Diem, from Cascade, Idaho, who was Associated Students of RMC president and a member of the 2011 national championship ski team, is graduating with a master of accountancy degree. Diem lettered as an All-American three times academically and once athletically in the 2011 Skier-X. Diem also served as student representative on the RMC Presidential Search Committee, helping to select a new leader for RMC.

Batjargal, from Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, is graduating with a degree in aviation management and business. She was active with the RMC Institute for Peace Studies. She not only was a President Cup winner, but was also named outstanding student in aviation, business management, and mathematics. She was also selected for Who's Who in American Colleges & Universities.

Dr. Acton was born in Lewistown, Mont., and graduated from Senior High School in Billings. He received his bachelor's degree from Montana State University, his doctorate from the University of Colorado, and spent most of his career as a solar physicist.

Dr. Acton flew on STS-51F/Spacelab-2 (Challenger) in 1985, spending over 190 hours in space as a payload specialist. This particular flight earned the distinction of being classed as an abort to orbit because of some interesting launch anomalies that illustrated the redundancy and enormous resiliency of the now-retired Shuttle Transportation System.

An accomplished scientist who happened to use space as his laboratory, Dr. Acton played a key role in forming the Space Science and Engineering Laboratory at Montana State University – Bozeman. He has been a special friend of Rocky Mountain College, and served on the RMC's National Advisory Council.

Carl A. Hansen is being recognized for his faithful service to his alma mater as a member of the Rocky Mountain College Board of Trustees, and as its current chair. Hansen received his bachelor of science degree in business administration and economics from Rocky Mountain College.

Hansen began his career in financial services in 1998 and is currently vice president, financial consultant, with D.A. Davidson. Hansen has completed additional training with the Cannon Financial Institute and the College of Financial Planning. He also received his Certified Financial Planner certification, which demonstrates a comprehensive knowledge of financial planning in insurance, investment planning, retirement planning, employee benefits and estate planning.

Besides his role on the RMC Board, Hansen is past president and umpire-in-chief of Boulder-Arrowhead Little League and co-treasurer for the Mayflower Congregational Church. Facilitating philanthropy is an important facet of Hansen's profession. Hansen and his wife, Marianna, a CPA, have two children, Hannah and Miles.

Music at RMC's Commencement will be performed by both the Rocky Mountain College Choir and the RMC Band. Half century graduates will be honored.

Baccalaureate will be celebrated on Friday, May 3, 2013, at 7:30 p.m., at First Presbyterian Church, on the corner of Poly Drive and 13th Street. The speaker will be Dr. Linaya Leaf, RMC professor of English and theatre, who is retiring this year.

2013 CANDIDATES FOR GRADUATION

Honorary Baccalaureate Degree

Sarah Corinne Loch – Billings, Mont.

Master of Accountancy

*** Summa Cum Laude 3.8 – 4.0 GPA

** Magna Cum Laude 3.6 – 3.79 GPA

* Cum Laude 3.4 – 3.59 GPA

Johnathan Isaac Diem*** – Cascade, Idaho

Jonathan R. Hoth** - Billings, Mont.

Master of Educational Leadership

Tessa Lea Beach – Thermopolis, Wyo.

Toni Miller Berg – Hardin, Mont.

Marianne Christine Bradley – Billings, Mont.

Steven Lawrence Ewing – Ashland, Mont.

Melanie G. Davis-Ferguson – Wolf Point, Mont.

Samantha Ann Glynn – Indianapolis, Ind.

James M. Goltz – Laurel, Mont.

Debra J. Hayes – Fromberg, Mont.

Pamela Jean Henderson – Busby, Mont.

Coulter Lee Hill – Billings, Mont.

Justin M. Huck – Billings, Mont.

Ben Lambert – Bozeman, Mont.

Jesse Jay Moore – Roundup, Mont.

Brent Robert Nice – Graham, Wash.

Jason William Olson – Camino, Calif.

Master of Physician Assistant Studies

Elise Anderson-Ehrman – Chaska, Minn.

Zachary James Appel – Manhattan, Kan.

Alex Wade Baker – Yellville, Ark.

Laura Beth Bottelson – Eden Prairie, Minn.

Kevin Max Brandt – Monterey, Calif.

Michelle A. Connors – Billings, Mont.

Christopher M. Dorozynski – Billings, Mont.

James L. Elwell – Midvale, Utah

Alexandra Fine – Salt Lake City, Utah

Kayleigh Aila Minette Frost – Cody, Wyo.

Lance Griffin – Butte, Mont.

Carly Michelle Haas – Grand Forks, N.D.

Sean Michael Healy – Gladstone, Ore.

Maddie Lane Johnson – Great Falls, Mont.

Amanda Jo Kingzett – Ellendale, N.D.

Guthrie Khristian Lewis – Helena, Mont.

Shanna Nadine McGowan – Hood River, Ore.

Marie Amani Meyers – Harrisburg, Ore.

Rolin Alan Pryun – Missoula, Mont.
Tina Michelle Renk – Ontario, Ore.
Elizabeth Ann Seifert – Lone Tree, Colo.
Nathan Shuttlesworth – Butte, Mont.
Keri Lynn Siewert – Colstrip, Mont.
Matthew P. Snarr – Idaho Falls, Idaho
Meagan A. Sullivan – Janesville, Wis.
Lindsay Blair Urso – Spokane, Wash.
Adam Lee Van Schelt – Farmington, Utah
Tyler Bacon Wagstaff – Kalispell, Mont.
Leah Rae Wiedrich – Williston, N.D.
Michael J. Wilson – Dallas, Texas

Bachelor of Arts

*** Summa Cum Laude 3.8 – 4.0 GPA
** Magna Cum Laude 3.6 – 3.79 GPA
* Cum Laude 3.4 – 3.59 GPA

Darryl Stephon Alexander – Compton, Calif.
Morgan Kelcee Amos* - Bakersfield, Calif.
Steffan Douglas Blume – Clarkston, Wash.
Kerry Rose Breining*** - Whitehall, Mont.
James Michael Briggs** - Great Falls, Mont.
Lauren Anne Brophy*** - Helena, Mont.
Jamie Alicia Elenbaas* - Billings, Mont.
Marianne Cherie Freeborn – Eureka, Calif.
Stephanie Ellen Gallacher* - Glasgow, Scotland
Sarah M. Harris – Laurel, Mont.
Codie Jo Hauff – Hobson, Mont.
Brittany Paige Hodgson – Manor, Saskatchewan, Canada
Cassie Beth Kouba** - Billings, Mont.
Nicholas Paul Louis Lover* - Colorado Springs, Colo.
Grant Aaron Melia – San Diego, Calif.
Jase Patrick Oriet – Manhattan, Mont.
Kyle Ross Pratt – Rockford, Ill.
Matthew Harold Radue** - Forsyth, Mont.
Jennifer Alicia Rassley – Belgrade, Mont.
Bailey Elizabeth Renova – Billings, Mont.
Janie Evelyn Rife*** - Billings, Mont.
Taisha Amber Rocha – Peerless, Mont.
Holeigh Amanda Shafer***- Puyallup, Wash.
Jillian Avery Stanek** - Shepherd, Mont.
Catherine Kay Zickuhr Thiel – Billings, Mont.
Kyle Ryan Tusler** - Terry, Mont.
Carla Alfia D’Andrea Williams** - Alexandria, Va.

Henry Lee Winters – New Orleans, La.

Bachelor of Science

*** Summa Cum Laude 3.8 – 4.0 GPA

** Magna Cum Laude 3.6 – 3.79 GPA

* Cum Laude 3.4 – 3.59 GPA

Daedra Noel Ackerman* - Livingston, Mont.

Kathleen Marybeth Allen – Livermore, Calif.

Levi Quentin Anderson** - Billings, Mont.

Justin Curtis Arney** - Laurel, Mont.

Anthony Arveschoug** - Pueblo, Colo.

Jonathon David Ashcraft** - Twin Bridges, Mont.

Jessica Anne Marie Baldwin – Newport, Wash.

Blake Heim Barnes – Eden Prairie, Minn.

Derek A. Bartel – Lewistown, Mont.

Jillian Brie Bates – Billings, Mont.

Anudari Batjargal*** - Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

Briana Victoria Beer – Billings, Mont.

Emily Anne Bishoff – Gardiner, Mont.

Kenneth Jacob Borrouso – St. Bernard Parish, La.

Lindsey Lea Brendgord – Great Falls, Mont.

Eric James Buer – Huntley, Mont.

Hunter Alan Burningham – Ten Sleep, Wyo.

Meredith Marie Burton** - Skaneateles, N.Y.

Kathryn Susan Carrell – Las Vegas, Nev.

Jacob Steven Carter – Billings, Mont.

Joshua Aaron Chapman – Billings, Mont.

Britney Nichole Cheff** - Ronan, Mont.

Hannah Jean Clark – Billings, Mont.

Karen Sue Collins* - Billings, Mont.

Matthew J. Concienne – Grandview, Wash.

Kimberly Annette Cordova – Corona, Calif.

Haleigh Eliaxabeth Crnkovich – Big Timber, Mont.

Alesha BreAnna DeLeon – Hollister, Calif.

Andrew John Desin – Billings, Mont.

Kristin Nichole Dillehay – Rosewood, Ohio

Teresa Elizabeth Doherty – Rockledge, Pa.

Jacob Z. Downs*** - Laurel, Mont.

Megan I. Durfee – Carleton, Ore.

Cole Joseph Earley – Cape Girardeau, Mo.

Bradley James Eliel – Townsend, Mont.

Daniel George Emrick, Jr.** - Fenton, Mich.

Nathan G. Evans – Eagle Rock, Mo.

Kimberly Anne Marie Ferguson* - Alma, Mich.

Ryan Leo Ferguson – Clyde Park, Mont.
Kelsey Nicole Flathers*** - Coos Bay, Ore.
Siobhan Erin Flynn*** - Townsend, Mont.
Matthew David Fogarty – Retting, Calif.
Adrianna Maria Frank – Billings, Mont.
Ian James Garrison – Lynnwood, Wash.
Shelby Rae Garrison – Sheridan, Wyo.
Juan Diego Girsales – Boynton Beach, Fla.
Hayden Michael Hadley – Baker, Mont.
Michaela Lynn Hale – Fairbanks, Alaska
Ryan Darwin Hall*** - San Luis Obispo, Calif.
Nelson Hedrich*** - Paris, France
Nicholas Paul Heffernan – Brighton, England
Adam Lee Hewins – Vero Beach, Fla.
Monica Diane Hollowell*** - Huntley Project, Mont.
Sebastian Holmqvist – Gothenburg, Sweden
Amanda G. Hunter*** - Billings, Mont.
Taylor Christensen Ita – Havre, Mont.
Amie Nicole Jensen – Pleasant View, Utah
Joshua Dale Jordan – Huntington Beach, Calif.
Douglas W. Karmowski – Richland, Wash.
Laura Ann Kearney** - Billings, Mont.
Shauna Leigh Ketcham*** - Livermore, Calif.
Skyler Jay Kinkade – Thompson Falls, Mont.
Allyson Marie Klem – Billings, Mont.
Jake William Knaub – Laurel, Mont.
Nicholas Kyle Knell – Lander, Wyo.
James Krebs – Billings, Mont.
Kaitlyn Donna Kuchin** - Billings, Mont.
Rhiannon Laird – Granger, Ind.
Alex S. Lamping – Clancy, Mont.
Heather Maureen Lansdown – Calgary, Alberta, Canada
Stevie Lee – Vallejo, Calif.
Alyssa Christine Little – Baldwin, N.D.
Kelcy Mae Lott*** - Twin Bridges, Mont.
Laurene Necole Luis*** - Antioch, Calif.
Ashley Renee Maldonado – Billings, Mont.
Austin Caley Mapston*** - Denton, Mont.
Perry Anthony Martinez – La Puente, Calif.
Sam Peter Matush – Effort, Pa.
Kalli M. McCloskey – Butte, Mont.
Matthew Downs McCloskey – Dana Point, Calif.
Leah Michele McCord** - Molt, Mont.
Teri Lea McCormick – Hardin, Mont.
Jordan Scot Robert McIntyre – Missoula, Mont.
Frederick Christ Mehling, III – Billings, Mont.

Richard Weston Merrill* - Buffalo, Mont.
James Adam Miller – Chinook, Mont.
Cesar Mireles* - Bakersfield, Calif.
Arianna Deshea Montgomery*** - Coolidge, Ariz.
Kirsty Montignani* - Dunfermline, Scotland
Samuel Mick Moos – Townsend, Mont.
Bethany Sarah Moullet*** - Huntley, Mont.
James Scott Murawski – Strong City, Kan.
Nicole Lee Nelson – Glasgow, Mont.
Travis Edward Newman* - Auburn, Wash.
Joanna Nibler – Salem, Ore.
Arch J. Oliver, IV – Salt Lake City, Utah
Jonathon Robert Olsen* - Boulder, Mont.
Nikita Ann Olson** - Billings, Mont.
Laura Alejandra Olvera – Bakersfield, Calif.
Mimmi Palovaara – Boden, Sweden
Halley Anna Parnell – Orcas Island, Wash.
Lenore Kay Pierson – Bridger, Mont.
Melissa Pietz – Phoenix, Ariz.
Colton Ryan Pollard – Riverton, Wyo.
Cherokee Jonathon Kimball Rawl* - Billings, Mont.
Evan Jackson Rice – Billings, Mont.
Jamee L. Robbins – Oakley, Calif.
Tiara Marie Rogers – Billings, Mont.
Kevin Patrick Rohde – Centennial, Colo.
Caden John Rottrup – Billings, Mont.
Naomi Delaine Routen** - Big Timber, Mont.
Cameron David Sapp – Billings, Mont.
Konnor Winston Scally** - Martinsdale, Mont.
Cody Lee Scheierman – Soda Springs, Idaho
Jillian Streed Schellenberg* - Jenison, Mich.
Erin Nicole Schlemmer – Joliet, Mont.
Angela Irene Schneider – Glendive, Mont.
Talitha Joy Smith** - Dillon, Mont.
Jacob Cole Saint John – Big Horn, Wyo.
Jared Jeffery Strickland – Three Forks, Mont.
Anslee Janeva Stuart – Post Falls, Idaho
Emil Soderberg Svensson** - Stockholm, Sweden
Melissa Carol Sweeney – Deer Park, Wash.
Megan Tenney – Billings, Mont.
Ty Joseph Thorson – Geraldine, Mont.
Esther Timofeyev* - Moses Lake, Wash.
Jason Patrick Tobin*** - Billings, Mont.
Brittani Jo Toten – Billings, Mont.
Jobe Basil Traywick* - Arcata, Calif.
Bjorn Malcolm Tuaz*** - Saint Gervais, France

Alex Jay Urbanski – Billings, Mont.
Dmitriy M, Vasilevskiy – North Port, Fla.
Tyler Ryan Vaughn – Helena, Mont.
James Voisey – Banstead, England
Shelby Lauren Wallach** - Antioch, Calif.
Katlyn Weber – Lakeside, Mont.
Amelia Willamina Whaley** - Loveland, Colo.
Misty L. Wichman – Billings, Mont.
John Mark Wilkinson – Billings, Mont.
Michael James Willis – Sacramento, Calif.
Tyler Richard Wright – Richmond, Va.
Cade Gihei Yamamoto – Quincy, Wash.
Sara Kristina Yngve – Kristinehamn, Sweden

Rated by both U.S. News & World Report and Forbes Magazine as one of the nation's best colleges in the West, Rocky Mountain College is a private liberal arts college located in Billings, Montana. For 12 consecutive years U.S. News & World Report has ranked RMC in the top 10 best colleges in the West and as a best value school. Forbes ranked RMC as the best college in Montana. At RMC, 50 defined majors are available in 22 disciplines, with 33 minors. RMC offers professional studies in aviation, equestrian, business and physician assistant studies. RMC offers three post-graduate programs: A master's degree in physician assistant studies (MPAS), a master's of accountancy and a master's in educational leadership. An amazing 99 percent of RMC graduates find work or placement in graduate school within three months of graduation; 88 percent of those who apply to medical school are accepted. RMC is home to the 2009 NAIA Men's Basketball National Champions and the 2005, 2007, 2011 USCSA National Men's Racing Champions. RMC is also an NAIA Champion of Character. To learn more about RMC go to www.rocky.edu.

#

4/17/2013