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## **Student Wins National Multi-Cultural Student Award**

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## STUDENT WINS NATIONAL MULTI-CULTURAL STUDENT AWARD

November 11, 2015

Dimon Paige, an advertising, public relations: corporate communication major at Lindenwood University, is one of 50 college students in the United States recently named to the American Advertising Federation's (AAF) Most Promising Multicultural Student Class of 2016. She was the only student from Missouri to receive that honor.

A native of Kansas City, Mo., Paige, 21, will visit New York on Feb. 15-19 to engage in industry immersion, the Building Bridges for Our Future Luncheon, a career expo, and the Most Promising University, an industry-focused professional development workshop. At the luncheon she will officially be inducted into the Most Promising Multicultural Class of 2016 in front of hundreds of industry professionals. Paige is the third Lindenwood student in two years to receive the award.

The AAF's Most Promising Multicultural Students (MPMS) program connects the advertising industry with the nation's top multicultural college seniors, defined on [aaftl.com](http://aaftl.com) as U.S. citizens of African, Asian, Latino, Native American, or Pacific Islander descent. This event provides opportunities to recruit fresh talent, prepare the advertising industry's best young prospects, and to help the industry's workforce better reflect the diversity of today's society. The program not only honors the students but also enhances their knowledge and understanding of the advertising industry by offering networking, interviewing, and industry immersion opportunities with advertising professionals.

In addition to being senior multicultural corporate communications students, award applicants needed a 3.2 or higher GPA, recommendation from a professor, and an application including a professional photo, a created personal hashtag, and answers to five essay questions. Paige said she did not expect to earn the honor, but kept a positive attitude thanks to support from friends and family.

"I cannot begin to explain how big this is for me, my family, Lindenwood, and Missouri," Paige said. "To have been selected out of hundreds of other candidates surpasses any emotion that I have ever experienced."

Kristy Tucciarone, program manager and professor of advertising, public relations: corporate communications at Lindenwood, said she was impressed that Paige was the only student chosen from Missouri.

"Any award at the national level is amazing, because it means you have reached some level of self-actualization, but the AAF Most Promising Multicultural Student honor is even more amazing because it means we celebrate diversity and embrace cultures," Tucciarone said. "Congratulations to Dimon for shining bright like a diamond."

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## Press Release Contact:

Public Relations  
Lindenwood University  
[publicRelations@lindenwood.edu](mailto:publicRelations@lindenwood.edu)





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