

# NEWS RELEASE

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## State award goes to Glen Oaks student



CENTREVILLE---Tina Holst, a Mendon mother of three who is studying for an Associate Degree in Early Childhood Education at Glen Oaks Community College, is the this year's recipient of the 2009 MOSPA (Michigan Occupation Special Populations Association) Outstanding Post-Secondary Student State Award.

Holst was nominated for the honor by Karen Webber, Special Populations Advisor at Glen Oaks. Webber said Holst was recommended for the award due to her perseverance, personal growth and exemplary achievement in a Career and Technical Education Program. Holst and Webber will receive the 2009 MOSPA Award on May 7 at the State Awards Recognition Banquet in Bay Harbor, Michigan.

Holst said she is "overjoyed" to be receiving the honor. The hard working single mother has three children, ages five to 10, and is aiming for a career as a pre-school teacher. Holst is an active member of the St. Joseph County Great Start Collaborative which supports parents as leaders, advisors and advocates. Webber said, "Tina takes concepts learned through early childhood curriculum and exercises practical applications through community service. Also, Tina communicates her experience to classmates during classroom discussions and through visual illustrations in projects. She has become the liaison between the Great Start Collaborative and Glen Oaks Community College Early Childhood Program." She is also a volunteer co-facilitator for the St. Joseph County Domestic and Sexual Assault Service.

Holst, who maintains a 3.6 grade point average while attending Glen Oaks Community College, is a member of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honorary society.