

LAKETECH



2008 STUDENT OF THE YEAR

Lake Technical Center is proud to announce that Cierra Chappell, a Tavares resident, has been selected as the 2008 Student of the Year. Ms. Chappell, a Commercial Art and Graphic Design graduate, enrolled in August 2006 as a dual-enrolled Umatilla High School senior. Ms. Chappell states, “I was very pleased with my decision to attend Lake Tech. The experience was totally different from college or high school. I had a lot of one-on-one contact with the teacher combined with hands-on learning activities. I worked very, very hard to achieve my goals. I tried to be very dependable and devoted to my studies, so I graduated with a grade average of 95. I challenged myself to learn as much as possible about graphic design. The last year was very difficult since my close friend and classmate suddenly died. A lot of other people would have given up, but I was committed to completing my program.”

In November 2007, Ms. Chappell began employment with English Communications in Leesburg; she was recently promoted to a junior graphic designer. Ms. Johnson, Commercial Art Technology and Graphic Design instructor states, “Ms. Chappell was a reserved high school student who matured into the class helper, proofreader and Adobe InDesign guru. She has blossomed into a person with integrity and professional skills and will be an asset to any company that she works with.”

Ms. Chappell participated in several student organizations. She is a charter member of Lake Technical Center’s first chapter of the National Technical Honor Society. She also was active in SkillsUSA and entered the promotional bulletin board category earning third place at both district and state competitions. She was one of twelve high school students selected to serve as a voting delegate representing Florida technical education at the national SkillsUSA competition in Kansas City, MO. Ms. Chappell says, “Attending Nationals was an awesome experience. I had never been on an airplane! It was also my first time being away from home for a week.”

Each year program instructors nominate students for the Student of the Year award. A selection committee evaluates each nominee based upon the criteria of outstanding academic achievement, strong commitment to the program, work ethic, attitude and attendance. The other nominees for the award included: Stockwell Haines, Computer Programming; Roni Metzger, Legal Administrative Specialist and Brian Emery, Accounting and Legal Administrative Specialist.

Lake Technical Center is a public postsecondary technical school offering high quality training that costs less than most private technical colleges. The Center is accredited by the Commission of the Council on Occupational Education, 41 Perimeter Center East, NE, Suite 640, Atlanta, GA 30346, 800-917-2081. Most programs are approved for VA. Eligible veterans may be certified through the Financial Aid Office. Financial aid may be available for those who qualify. Lake Technical Center is an equal opportunity institution. The Lake Express bus service stops at the front of the main campus. The main campus is conveniently located at 2001 Kurt St., Eustis and the Institute of Public Safety (IPS) campus is located at 1565 Lane Park Cut-off, Tavares. Questions may be answered by visiting www.laketechnic.org or calling the main campus at 352-589-2250 or the IPS campus at 352-742-6463.