The FLCC Alumni Association will present the 2014 Distinguished Alumni Awards to John Derby ’82, Kathleen Saxby ’78, and Brett Utter ’97.

John Derby ’82 participated in student government and worked at Wegmans Food Markets, Inc. while earning his A.A.S. in accounting at CCFL. He held multiple positions in various Wegmans stores from 1979 –1995 before becoming the assistant director of Shoppers Club and Shoppers Club for Business and then the director of consumer e-business from 2000 – 2002. Today John uses his leadership skills as director of advertising, Shoppers Club and Shoppers Club for Business for Wegmans. He directs an in-house agency of 70 people responsible for developing and executing communication strategies across all media channels, operates a commercial sales team covering six states, and oversees a customer contact center. He is also dedicated to serving the community as a coach for the Honeoye Falls United Youth Soccer Program and volunteering on various United Way committees. John and Karen, his wife of 25 years, have two daughters, Nicole and Jordan, and a son, Jacob.

Kathleen Saxby ’78 has been designing garments since age 13. She holds degrees in retail business management (CCFL), men’s design and marketing (Fashion Institute of Technology) and international business management (SUNY Empire State College). In addition, she gained 14 years of experience in retail and textile firms and also worked in design development for companies such as Ralph Lauren, Liz Claiborne, and Macy’s Private Label before starting her own design business, Saxby Design. Her own Saxby Design private clothing collection is featured in Japan. Kathleen is currently writing a book about her fashion design and development experience. She shares her insights about design, development, and fit at styleintegrity.com, where she is chief visionary officer, as well as blogger/speaker/advisor/design thinker for an audience comprised of industry professionals and consumers. She has volunteered her time and shared her expertise about interview etiquette, business attire, and networking as a guest speaker for FLCC students. Reflecting on how FLCC influenced her career path, Kathleen explains, “FLCC influenced my experience in customer relations by recognizing the importance of customer first. My participation in college-based competitive business and retail management events led me to function with integrity, whether designing a quality product, mentoring/coaching, or managing people. Customer relationship management continues as a primary focus in all career steps I take.”

Brett Utter ’97 was a member of Phi Theta Kappa when he was a student at FLCC. He received a degree in humanities from FLCC and a bachelor’s degree in business administration in 2010 from SUNY Empire State College. Brett is currently the director of Wegmans Food Markets, Inc.’s Culinary Innovation Center. The Culinary Innovation Center is a 56,000-square-foot, state-of-the-art production, research, and development facility which provides products for all stores across the mid-Atlantic region. Brett is also a volunteer on the board of directors of Canandaigua non-profit organizations. He and his wife, Sarah ’81, own Finger Lakes Gallery & Frame on Main Street in Canandaigua.