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Valencia College Awards Honorary Degrees
How Two Former Alumni made a lasting impact within the community

ORLANDO, FL. MARCH 23, 2019 -- Valencia College will be honoring two former alumni with honorary degrees due to their outstanding achievements and impacts within the community. This year's formal commencement ceremony will be held at memorial Coliseum on May 14, 2019 at 11:00 am. This event is held annually in hopes of recognizing people who have made outstanding contributions to the state or society in different ways.

This Year's Honorees are George T. Hale and Rachel Cabanis, two former alumni to the college who have both had exciting careers within their respective professions. Hale, established the states first educational television cooperative in the 1970's. He is known as his "ability to envision the future and make it a reality for the state's telecommunications industry." Cabanis is a lawyer noted for her book *Breaking Through* which has been noted as the "greatest statement of one woman's choices written in this decade."

Alongside his contributions to the television market, Mr. Hale has also donated thousands of dollars to educational television, and owns a handicap camp on his private estate in which over 300 individuals attend during spring and summer. Cabanis is a full time partner at an Orlando Law Firm and is being honored by Valencia for her "honesty and integrity in making difficult choices in a complex world and succeeding despite numerous obstacles."

Valencia College is a community college located in Orlando Florida. It was founded in 1967 and is part of the **Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS)**. The institution offers various degree options such as an associate of Arts or an Associate of Science. It is regarded as "the best community college in the nation" and was the inaugural winner of the Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence.