

## CSN 2020 Graduate Receives National Honor

*Prestigious collegiate organization praises 'ambitious and resilient Class of 2020'*

June 8, 2020 – Complete College America is honoring CSN Class of 2020 graduate Krista McFarling-Kelly as one of 20 college graduates from around the country to highlight in its [CCA 20 for 2020](#) campaign, which kicks off today.

Krista, one of more than 3,500 CSN graduates this year, was chosen as the college's 2020 Student Commencement Speaker.

“My parents always told me how a degree would make all the difference between having a job and having a career,” Krista said. She plans on enrolling at the University of Nevada, Reno this fall and hopes to become an OB/GYN.

“We are so incredibly proud of Krista,” said CSN President Dr. Federico Zaragoza. “She is an incredibly articulate, intelligent, and caring person.”

Complete College America is a national nonprofit focused on helping colleges increase student completion rates. Its 20 for 2020 campaign tells the compelling stories of 20 of this year's university and community college graduates.

Krista enrolled at CSN in January 2017 after taking a semester off following high school. She said the moment she stepped onto campus, “Immediately I knew it was for me.”

While at CSN, she became the vice president, and later president, of the black student union, one of the more active student clubs on campus. Although she majored in biology, she also has an interest in the performing arts, and wants to keep the option open of pursuing acting as a career one day.

She said she was honored by the attention from Complete College America. “No words can express how grateful I am,” she said.

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*About CSN: Founded in 1971, the College of Southern Nevada is the state's largest and most diverse higher education institution. CSN is accredited through the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities and specializes in two-year degrees and workforce development that lead directly to high-demand careers or transfer to a university. It also offers seven bachelor's degrees in specialized fields and is the state's largest provider of adult basic education and literacy training. CSN is a Minority Serving Institution and Nevada's first Hispanic Serving Institution. Our students create flexible schedules with day, evening and weekend classes taught on three main campuses and multiple locations throughout Southern Nevada or online. CSN is an Equal Employment Opportunity/Affirmative Action institution.*