

# Morales named Terra State's Fremont Rotary Student of the Month

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*(Photo: Submitted)*

FREMONT - Terra State Community College has recognized Juan Morales as the January 2018 Fremont Rotary Student of the Month. Originally from Texas, Juan now resides in Fremont. After earning his degree in biology, he plans to enter the registered nurse program at Terra State with the goal of becoming a nurse practitioner.

Juan was nominated for the award by Michelle White, associate professor of engineering/technology/math and Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) adviser.

"Juan has been through a lot of life challenges and personal growth," White said. "He was incarcerated in a Texas prison and came out of it a stronger individual who still had to learn about self-control. Once in Ohio, Juan has been discovering who he is and who he is yet to be."

Juan has excelled in the classroom at Terra State. He has a 3.302 grade point average and has been named to the dean's list several times. He also received the Michael Dodson Memorial Endowment.

Outside of the classroom, Juan has been very active, especially in PTK. After being named treasurer of the Terra State chapter, he ran for a state office and became the Northwest District Representative for the Ohio Region PTK.

"Juan has really grown and developed as a leader through PTK," White said. "He works so very hard at Terra State in promoting the organization's fundraising activities."

Beyond Terra State, Juan also volunteers at Fremont's Care and Share. "He is a very motivated individual who is really into helping others," said White.

Juan is a single parent and is very involved in the life of his daughter, Ezrianna Estep. He thanks her for being an awesome blessing, his aunt Noemi Barrientos for pushing him to get good grades, and Deb Dodson for giving him a second chance when he felt his past would hinder him from reaching his full potential.

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