Let’s give a big hello to our September Spotlight member, Monserrate Alevante. Monserrate has been a Student Member since 2018 and is active in the AWWA NJ NJIT Student Chapter. She is the Social Media Chair of the Chapter where she helps with promoting and connecting the chapter with other students. She participated in the 2018-2019 ICE Challenge, and her team won 1st place. She also participated in the AWWA NJ Water Filter Building Competition where her team won the Recognition Award. Monserrate helps with events, presentations, meetings and reaches out to NJIT students and lets them know about the AWWA NJ NJIT Chapter. Monserrate is a Senior at NJIT and her major is Civil Engineering with a Minor in Environmental Engineering. At the Student Chapter she participates by volunteering for cleanups with NJIT Green and more. She is also part of the Reslife as Resident Assistant for NJIT.

Why did you decide to go into the field of water?

I am studying Civil Engineering. After I joined the AWWA NJ chapter at NJIT, I noticed how much water impacts all of us, especially living in Newark NJ. I feel that by being a part of the Chapter I am able to learn ways to make a bigger impact in my community.

How did you become a volunteer for AWWA? What motivates you to be active in the Section?

I became a volunteer for AWWA when someone invited me to the Section’s Filter Building Competition. After seeing the competition, I decided to become part of the group. I am motivated to continue to volunteer when people come to the events and participate. At the Chapter, we do a lot of different activities throughout the year, such as visiting water plants, participating in cleanups, attending conferences, and participating in competitions. All these activities are educational. Knowing that I can inform and connect people with their passion makes me happy – like when I got the chance to see others succeed and enjoy our programs.

How long have you been an AWWA member and what have you gotten from your membership?

I have been an AWWA member for 2 years now. It has been great to learn and interact with people who have the same goals as I do. My first year I gained a lot of knowledge from being a member. My second year I am more involved in networking and making more of an impact around our community by using what I know to connect people to grow our AWWA NJIT Chapter.

Hobbies and outside interests?

I am a very outgoing person. I like to visit new places and try new types of food around the country.