



FACULTY & STAFF PREPARE FOR NEW YEAR AT SPRING WORKSHOP



LTC HOSTS ANNUAL CRAWFORD COUNTY AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE BANQUET



DISNEY'S BEAUTY AND THE BEAST COMING TO LINCOLN TRAIL COLLEGE.

# LINCOLN TRAIL COLLEGE

## Network



Baseball players work with students in the 4th grade swimming program



The women's basketball team poses in front of a plane at the Crawford County Air Show



Men's basketball players help pack food for the Crawford County NOW program

### LTC ATHLETES GIVE BACK TO THE COMMUNITY

Lincoln Trail College student-athletes are learning about giving back by volunteering their time in the community. Teams have embraced having their athletes participate in a variety of different efforts in the community.

“If we want to build good leaders, we have to have them know that you do things without an expectation that you’ll get something in return,” says Athletic Director and Baseball Coach Kevin Bowers. “What we’ve seen is that they end up getting back more than they realize and that snowballs into a great sense of inner satisfaction.”

Baseball players have been involved in many different things ranging from serving as instructors for the 4th-



Baseball players help out with the Robinson Elks Hoops Shoot

grade swimming program to helping put up Christmas lights to manning concessions stands at high school football games to helping with the annual Fraternal Order of Police Pancake Breakfast. Bowers says he often sees a transformation in his players when they help.

“Take the 4th-grade swim program. I’ve seen guys go into that who are kind of closed off and keep to themselves, but after helping, they really come out of their shell and become more open.”

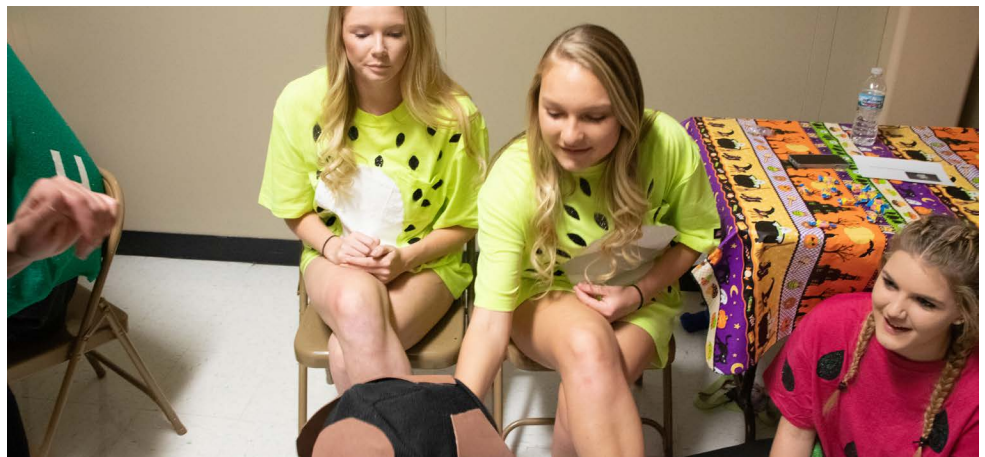
The transformations aren’t always small either, says Bowers. “I think volunteering can really help people find their way in life. I’ve had guys change what they want to do for a career because of the seeds that were planted when they were volunteering. For example, I’ve probably had at least five guys decide that they want to be teachers after they helped out with the swim program.”

Men’s Basketball Coach Luke Stuckey says his players have formed some great relationships while helping out in the community. “It’s something I hear them talk about all the time. They find giving back to be very rewarding.”

Stuckey says one of the reasons he wants his players to


**UPCOMING  
FEBRUARY  
EVENTS**

- 2 Band Festival**  
Zwermann Arts Center Theater
- 3 Superb Owl Party**  
5 p.m., Statesmen Grill
- 6 Phi Theta Kappa Cookie Sales**  
10-1, Williams Hall Foyer
- 7 CNA Exam**  
4 p.m., Williams Hall 119
- 9 Pearson Testing**  
9 a.m., Williams Hall 119
- Admitted Student Day**  
10 a.m., Zwermann Arts Center Theater
- 14 CNA Exam**  
4 p.m., Williams Hall 119
- Lincoln Trail College Foundation  
Concert Series Presents: Carla Cooke**  
7 p.m., Zwermann Arts Center Theater
- 16 Crawford County CEO Comedy Show**  
7 p.m., Zwermann Arts Center Theater
- 18 College Closed - Presidents Day**
- 19 Pearson Testing**  
9 a.m., Williams Hall 119
- 20 Phi Theta Kappa Cookie Sales**  
10-1, Williams Hall Foyer
- 22 Pearson Testing**  
8 a.m., Williams Hall 119
- 23 Beekeeping Basics**  
8 a.m., Student Union 207
- Women in Trades**  
11 a.m., Lincoln Room
- 28 LTC Foundation Meeting**  
12 p.m., Lincoln Room



*Volleyball players hand out candy during Trick or Treat at the Trail. Each of LTC's athletic teams participates in Trick or Treat at the Trail, helping decorate buildings, passing out candy, and helping clean up after the event that regularly draws more than 2000 people to Lincoln Trail College.*

volunteer is because the community does a lot to support the team and he wants his players to support the community that supports them. "We also want our players to know that there are things out there that are bigger than their sport."

That's a sentiment echoed by Women's Basketball Coach Scott Sparks. "It's important to see the impact that you can have. There are people that look up to our players because they are athletes. Volunteering can help keep you humble and remind you that the world doesn't revolve around you."

One of the things Sparks has had his players do since he started is going to the elementary schools and reading to kids. In addition to reading, they also deliver the kids a bag of goodies from Lincoln Trail College. His players also helped out at the Crawford County Air Show, at the Shrine Club Barbecue, and they regularly give time at the food pantry.

"We find that our players get a great sense of fulfillment when they give back and it also gives them a sense of the importance of hard work and dedication that translates in the classroom and on the court."

Stuckey says that seeing the impact you can have on other people is a great way to learn leadership. He says he's also had a good sense of buy-in from his players because he's given them the freedom to decide how they give back. He says the players have enjoyed reading to the pre-K students on campus. They also regularly help with the Crawford County Nutrition on Weekends program. The team also worked with the Boy Scouts on their physical fitness circuit.

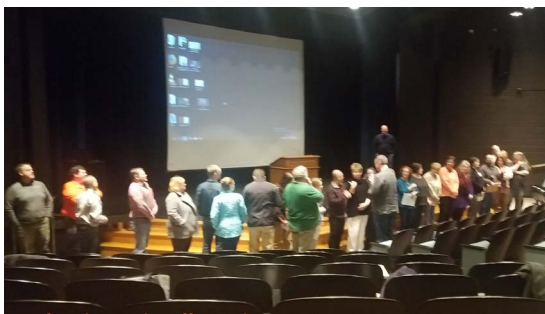
Bowers says in addition to developing leadership, the altruistic efforts of the athletes also help them mature. "What I'm most proud of is how our athletes are willing to help at a moment's notice. They're mature enough to know the importance of giving back and helping out. I've seen many of them be eager to help out without a second thought."

## LTC FACULTY AND STAFF PREPARE FOR SPRING SEMESTER

Faculty and staff at Lincoln Trail College gathered January 3rd and 4th for their annual Spring Workshop. “The goal of LTC’s Faculty/Staff Workshop is to promote a sense of community and team,” says LTC Dean of Instruction Brent Todd. This year, Dean Todd established three intended outcomes for the workshop:

- 1) Faculty and staff delineated, through a team scenario-based model, about the various committees that handle student issues.
- 2) Faculty and staff learned about the dangers of opioids and how to administer Narcan in the event that an overdose occurs on campus.
- 3) Faculty and staff shared promising practices from attendance at regional and national conferences, workshops, and seminars.

“The workshop is an opportunity to keep lines of communication open and for us to come together to talk about the opportunities and challenges we are encountering,” says LTC President Ryan Gower. “More importantly it is a time for us to learn from each other and push ourselves to get better at what we do.”



*LTC faculty and staff members participate in a communication exercise during the Spring Workshop*

This year a group of faculty and staff shared their experiences with the Innovations in Technology & Teaching grants introduced by IECC last year. Lincoln Trail College received more than \$32,000 in grant awards that funded collaborative learning spaces and improving online delivery. According to Tara Buerster, IECC Director of Human Resources, activities like this are an important part of professional development at Illinois Eastern Community Colleges. “In a time where colleges are finding themselves struggling for enrollment, it is more important than ever to invest in our people and our programs to deliver exceptional services to our students. The Innovations in Technology & Teaching Awards program has been a great investment to transform learning

experiences for our students.”

Toward these ends, Assistant Professor Cyndi Boyce walked LTC faculty through the differences between group activities, flipped classrooms, and collaborative learning activities. “Institutions of higher learning must evolve,” says Gower. “We must move beyond simply introducing students to information and into showing them how to interact with and apply that information. Employers need students with strong communication and analytical skills. The changes that our faculty are bringing to our classrooms result in higher level learning that meets the needs of both students and the industries that will employ them.”



See what students have to say about collaborative learning at LTC. Watch the LTTV video:  
<http://www.youtube.com/LincolnTrailCollege>

## LTC HOSTS BANQUET FOR COUNTY'S TOP ACHIEVERS



On January 8, Lincoln Trail College hosted ten students and their families as they were presented the Crawford County Award for Excellence (CCA) Scholarship. The scholarship, which is awarded to the top ten percent of the graduating class in each of Lincoln Trail College's primary feeder schools, is the highest-level award that is given to prospective students.

"Our goal in creating the CCAE was twofold," says LTC President Ryan Gower. "The highest achieving students in our district were often overlooking LTC as a potential first step in earning their degree - they weren't even applying. By making this scholarship available to them, we have a platform from which we can explain the benefits they could receive at a school like ours."

If 2018 is any indication, the CCAE scholarship is having the desired effect. "Last year 28 students were offered the CCAE scholarship," says Amber Malone, Administrative Assistant in the LTC Admissions Office. "This Spring, we have 10 CCAE students on our campus, and they were among our top students last Fall."



2018 CCAE recipients, Mindy Ault and Jayce Fielder, talk to this year's recipients about LTC and what the scholarship mean to them. Ault was not considering LTC until she was awarded the scholarship and plans to get into education. Fielder was considering offers from other schools before choosing LTC. He plans to pursue electrical engineering.



LTC President Dr. Ryan Gower talks with students and parents about Lincoln Trail College and the Crawford County Award for Excellence. So far, there are 13 students that have either accepted or are considering accepting the award.

The CCAE was always intended to be more than a recruiting tactic. "As we move to embrace collaborative and peer-to-peer learning activities in our classrooms, the addition of these high achieving students enriches the educational environment for all Lincoln Trail Students," says Gower. "Our faculty delivers exceptional education, and these students are now active partners in the process."

## DISNEY'S BEAUTY AND THE BEAST COMING TO LTC



LTC Theater is pleased to announce that auditions for the musical *Disney's Beauty and the Beast* will take place in the LTC Theater Monday and Tuesday, January 14 and 15, 2019, beginning at 6:00 p.m. Callbacks, if needed will be held January 16.

Based on the Academy Award-winning animated feature, the stage version includes all of the songs written by Alan Menken and the late Howard Ashman, along with new songs by Mr. Menken and Tim Rice. The show will be under the direction of Barbara Shimer

and music director Sandra Nichols. A veteran crew will bring the production to life including technical director Larry Quick, producer Robert Quick, costumers Cary Schiller and Mary Arabatgis, lighting designer Chris Blair and choreographer Jessica Cheesman. Steve Jenkins will oversee the Robinson High School Building Trades class as they construct the set.

In this production, they are roles for Belle, the Beast and the villain, Gaston. Also appearing Belle's father Maurice, Gaston's sidekick LeFou, Cogsworth, the enchanted mantle clock, Lumiere, the enchanted candelabra, Mrs. Potts, the enchanted teapot, and her teacup son, Chip. Chip may be cast as either a boy or girl. Other roles include the feather duster, Babette, the wardrobe Madame de la Grande Bouche, Monsieur D'Arque, and the Three Silly Girls. Ensemble roles are available as wolves, enchanted objects and townspeople. There are a limited number of roles for children as young as seven. Some ensemble roles include lines and singing solos. There are a number of opportunities to help backstage as well.

Auditioners need only attend one session and should plan on reading the dialogue and singing the part for their preferred role. However, actors may be asked to read other characters and may be considered for other roles. Please bring a list of scheduling conflicts to the audition. There is a dance component to the audition, so please wear comfortable clothing.

Rehearsals will begin with a full cast read-through on Monday, January 21 at 6:30 p.m. The rehearsal schedule will be discussed at the first read-through. Performances will be in the LTC Zwermann Arts Center March 22-24, and 29-31. Tickets go on sale March 11. Performing Arts Angels will have the opportunity to reserve tickets beginning February 25.

Audition materials including the required songs and lines as well as the information form and calendar are available at the Performing Arts Office or can be downloaded at [www.LTCPerformingArts.org/auditions](http://www.LTCPerformingArts.org/auditions).



**FEBRUARY ATHLETIC EVENTS**

**Baseball**

9	Three Rivers (at Millington, TN)	12:30
9	SW Tennessee (at Millington, TN)	3:00
10	Dyersburg St. (at Millington, TN)	10:00
10	SW Tennessee (at Millington, TN)	1:00
15	at Georgia Highlands	12:00
16	at Georgia Highlands (DH)	2:00
23	Cleary JV (at Grand Park, IN)	10:00
24	Cleary JV (at Grand Park, IN)	12:00

**Men's Basketball**

2	at Lewis & Clark	3:00
6	Southwestern	7:30
9	Olney Central	3:00
13	at Vincennes	7:00
16	at Kaskaskia	3:00
20	Shawnee	7:30
23	Wabash Valley	3:00
26	at John A. Logan	7:00

**Softball**

15-16	at Booneville, MS	TBD
22-23	at Jackson State	12:00

**Women's Basketball**

6	Southwestern	5:30
9	Olney Central	1:00
13	at Vincennes	5:00
16	at Kaskaskia	1:00
20	Shawnee	5:30
23	Wabash Valley	1:00
26	at John A. Logan	5:00

**LINCOLN TRAIL COLLEGE**  
2018 ATHLETICS FALL REPORT CARD

SPORT	TEAM GPA
VOLLEYBALL	3.44
BASEBALL	3.41
WOMEN'S BASKETBALL	3.29
SOFTBALL	3.22
GOLF	3.06
MEN'S BASKETBALL	2.92
<b>LTC ATHLETICS OVERALL</b>	<b>3.27</b>

**10** CONSECUTIVE SEMESTERS WITH AN OVERALL GPA ABOVE 3.0.

**STUDENT-ATHLETES COMBINE FOR 3.27 GPA**

Lincoln Trail College student-athletes have combined for a GPA above 3.0 for the tenth consecutive semester. Student-athletes combined for a 3.27 GPA in the Fall 2019 semester.

“I couldn’t be happier with the performance of our student-athletes in the classroom,” said Athletic Director Kevin Bowers. “We have an expectation at Lincoln Trail College that not only will they perform at a high level on the court and field, but also that they’ll work hard in the classroom.”

The volleyball team had the highest team GPA at 3.44 with the baseball team right behind with a 3.41 GPA. The women’s basketball team scored a 3.29 GPA, the softball team had a 3.22 GPA and the golf team combined for a 3.06 GPA. The men’s basketball team finished with a cumulative GPA of 2.92.

“We’re very fortunate to have so many dedicated people at LTC that work to help make sure that our student-athletes succeed in the classroom,” said Bowers. “Our faculty is top notch and we have a great support staff that makes sure the student-athletes have access to resources to help them learn and grow.”

The overall GPA for student-athletes has been steadily improving. In the fall of ’16, student-athletes had a combined GPA of 3.13 and it improved to 3.19 in the spring of ’17. A year ago, student-athletes improved their GPA to 3.26, though it did decline in the spring of ’18 to 3.15. Overall, 13 student-athletes had a 4.0 GPA in the fall semester.

“We’re always looking to improve,” said Bowers. “The reason our coaches stress academics so much is that we want our players to understand the importance of getting a good education while playing the sport that they love. The reality is very few college athletes get the opportunity to play professionally, so we want to make sure that our student-athletes have a solid foundation to build a future from.”