

NETWORK



MAY 2023



HIGHLIGHTS



LTC recognizes faculty and staff during the annual Service Recognition Banquet



LTC student serves as key figure in college campus blockchain movement



LTC prepares for 53rd Annual Commencement Exercises

6 LINCOLN TRAIL COLLEGE STUDENTS HONORED

Six Lincoln Trail College students were honored with the College's most prestigious student awards on April 14. Alexis Davis was awarded the Joseph C. Piland Excellence in Scholarship Award, Guadalupe Amicone, Tomas Bascon, and Juan Solivellas were awarded the J. Rod Harmon Excellence in Service Award, and Leticia Guimaraes and Clint Wickliffe were awarded the Bev L. Turkal Excellence in Leadership Award.

The Joseph C. Piland Excellence in Scholarship Award is presented to a full-time Lincoln Trail College student who has demonstrated outstanding academic merit and sustained excellence in the classroom. The award is given to honor Joseph C. Piland who was the first President of Lincoln Trail College. His vision and passion for education were instrumental in the development of a comprehensive community college for Crawford County.

Davis, who serves as the Vice President of Fellowship for Lincoln Trail College's Alpha Iota Epsilon Chapter of the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, was recognized as an enthusiastic student

who is an asset to the student body at LTC. She is a Phi Theta Kappa All-Academic Team Member and was cited as being instrumental in helping research Phi Theta Kappa's honors project and writing up the proposal for Phi Theta Kappa's college project.

The J. Rod Harmon Excellence in Service Award is presented to a full-time Lincoln Trail College student who has demonstrated outstanding service to the college or the community. Rod Harmon served as a faculty member at Lincoln Trail College for 27 years and has been the Executive Director of the Lincoln Trail College Foundation since 2005. He is well known for his rich sense of humor, dedication to his wife Diana, and commitment to creating opportunities for all residents of Crawford County to have access to a high-quality education.

Amicone, Bascon, and Solivellas were all recognized, in part, for their help serving as Spanish tutors at Robinson High School. Amicone was also recognized for her natural leadership style and for encouraging her fellow international students to be active participants in campus and community activities. Bascon was recognized as being a mentor and a leader and for encouraging others to contribute to the campus and community. Solivellas was also recognized for his participation in Phi Theta Kappa, where he serves as the chapter's Vice President of Scholarship.

The Bev L. Turkal Excellence in Leadership Award is presented to a full-time Lincoln Trail College student who has shown great Leadership qualities and skills. This award is given to honor Bev L. Turkal, a true Leader in Education, whose passion was to make a difference and change the lives of children, teens, adults and lifelong learners. Bev believed to be a strong leader one must live life, care, and show empathy, must have high energy and be competitive to accomplish the goals set to make things happen.



UPCOMING JUNE EVENTS

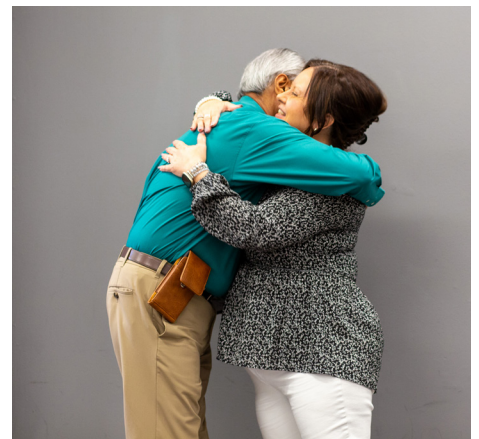
- 2 Last Day of Intersession Classes
- 5 Summer Session Classes Begin
- 19 COLLEGE CLOSED: Juneteenth
- 22 Willy Wonka Kids
7 p.m., Zwermann Arts Center Theater
- 23 Willy Wonka Kids
7 p.m., Zwermann Arts Center Theater
- 24 Newsies, Jr.
7 p.m., Zwermann Arts Center Theater
- 25 Newsies, Jr.
7 p.m., Zwermann Arts Center Theater

In her nomination, Guimaraes was described as great student, a competitive athlete, and a high energy worker. She was recognized for being very intentional in her goal to improve her English language skills and how her work in the ESL classroom and her active involvement in student life have helped her accomplish this goal. It was said that she positively influences her classmates to push themselves to set and achieve goals.

Wickliffe was recognized for his growth as a leader in his time at LTC. In his nomination, it was stated that he "possesses good character and maturity, serves as a role model for fellow students, and is an excellent student. Clint demonstrates strength and resilience while persevering through adversity, always keeping his head held high."

The three awards are given annually, and students are nominated by faculty and staff members. A committee selects the recipients of the awards.

LTC FACULTY AND STAFF RECOGNIZED FOR EXCELLENCE



On April 14, 2023, Lincoln Trail College hosted its 44th Annual Service Recognition Awards Banquet to recognize faculty and staff members for their commitment to the college's mission and their years of service.

During the banquet, five employees were awarded for their outstanding contributions to the college. Amie Mayhall received the Faculty Excellence Award for her exemplary performance, while Mike McElyea won the Faculty Excellence in Teaching Award and Tyler Browning received the Faculty Excellence in Online Education Award for their exceptional teaching skills. Tina Lindley and Jamie Henry were awarded the Staff Excellence Award for their outstanding contributions to the college.

In addition to the special awards, employees were recognized for their years of service. Dr. Brad Logsdon, Collin Maynard, Kristi Rawlings, and Dennis York received three-year awards for their dedication to the college. Autumn Hoalt was awarded a five-year award, Jackson Hemrich was recognized for his ten years of service, and Kevin Bowers, Carrie Brown, and Amie Mayhall were awarded for their 20 years of service. Jackie Shamhart received well-deserved recognition for her 25 years of service.

Another highlight of the event was the recognition of Gazi Rahman, who is retiring from teaching this year. Rahman has been with Lincoln Trail College since 1977 and was honored for his remarkable contributions to the college.

Illinois Eastern Community Colleges Chancellor Dr. Ryan Gower and LTC Dean of Instruction Cyndi Boyce congratulated the awardees and thanked them for their dedicated service to the College.

LTC STUDENT AIDS OTHER COLLEGES THROUGH UBA



Lincoln Trail College student Nicholas Harness has a passion for blockchain and Web3 and that passion has led to him being an instrumental figure in the movement on campuses around the world. He's the founder of the University Blockchain Alliance, an organization with the goal of making the blockchain space more accessible to students.

Blockchain is a technology that allows people to share information securely and transparently without relying on a central authority. It's like a digital ledger where transactions are recorded and verified by a network of computers, making it difficult to tamper with. This makes it a highly reliable and secure method for recording and sharing information, which is useful for applications like financial transactions, supply chain management, and digital identity verification.

Web3 refers to the next generation of the internet, where data and applications are decentralized and powered by blockchain technology. It's a new paradigm that shifts control from centralized entities to users, enabling greater privacy, security, and freedom online. In Web3, users have greater ownership and control over their data and are able to participate in a more open and democratic digital ecosystem.

Harness's passion for blockchain technology began in high school when he recognized the lack of blockchain and cryptocurrency resources for smaller universities and colleges. This led him to establish the UVA, which has since grown to include over 150 schools and has a presence in 30 countries. Harness believes that a lack of student interest can be a major obstacle for smaller universities that want to establish blockchain clubs. "The UBA's role is to bring in connections, partnerships, and opportunities that would help smaller universities grow their blockchain clubs."

Through the UBA, students from any university can participate in the blockchain and cryptocurrency space and gain access to resources that were previously only available to large universities. Harness said, "our network allows students to participate in research, attend events, and connect with other blockchain clubs and industry professionals." This has helped to promote the adoption of blockchain technology and has created a more equitable playing field for all students interested in the space.

Harness's goal is to promote the mass adoption of blockchain technology and to level the playing field for students interested in the space. He believes that organizations like the UBA will play an increasingly important role in shaping the future of the space. "As blockchain technology continues to evolve, the UBA will provide resources and opportunities to students from all backgrounds, helping to create a more diverse and inclusive blockchain community."

Harness says the growth of UBA has also given him a chance to grow. One of the areas where he's seen growth has been in his communications and networking skills. Another area of growth has been in technology. "I've never been that technically minded. I'm awful when it comes to the computer science side of things. I'm an economics student and more interested in that facet and have better understanding the economic and financial outlook. In the last year and a half as we've built out UBA, I've gotten a lot more familiar with kind of that end of things. I've had the opportunity to sit in on workshops led by some of the best minds in the space. We're working with essentially some of the people who built this space, the original people who were

at the universities and putting out research papers when they were students or when they were in-house researchers. It's like we're working with some of the greatest academic minds where it's like it's hard not to improve, hard not to learn when you're around those people and talking to them and you're just nonstop getting in-depth explained on how out everything works."

Harness has used the connections he's made through UBA to benefit students at Lincoln Trail College. He's been involved in Student Senate, Phi Theta Kappa, and Future Business Leaders of America and has done things like bringing speakers to meetings virtually to talk about business, emerging technology, and the tech space in general.

As for his future, Harness plans to continue his education at the University of Illinois where he will study economics. He plans to continue his work with the UBA and would like to start a business. Recently he's been working with a company that harnesses the power of artificial intelligence to help colleges and college students. He also wants to keep helping Lincoln Trail College and other Illinois Eastern Community College students.

"UBA is working on a conference that would essentially rival some of the largest Web3 events in the US. We want it to be a mecca for the student space. We're hoping to get a group of students from LTC to the event and give them an opportunity to get their foot in the door and learn more about the space. We'll have speakers from all of the top companies, a lot of the most well-known people in the tech world, and a lot of the founders of the largest companies [at the event]. It will be a great opportunity and we intent to make the opportunity open to LTC and the other IECC schools."






LTC PREPARES FOR 53RD ANNUAL COMMENCEMENT



Lincoln Trail College's 53rd Annual Commencement Ceremony will be May 12 at 7 p.m. at the Sports Center.

Illinois Eastern Community Colleges Chancellor Dr. Ryan Gower will preside over the ceremony and will give the welcome. Mike McElyea, who is retiring from his adjunct instructor position with the college, is giving the inspirational ready.

A pair of students will speak at the ceremony. Trustee Barbara Shimer will introduce the first speaker, Maycee Decker. Dean of Instructor Cynthia Boyce will introduce the second student speaker, Clint Wickliffe.

Boyce will present the candidates and Coordinator of Marketing and Public Information Chris Forde will announce the name of each graduate. Trustee John Brooks will confer the degrees.

Boyce will close out the ceremony with closing reflections.

A faculty ensemble made up of Michael Patilla, Sophie Kershaw-Patilla, Michael Emmerich, Dominik Bauer, and Michael Bach is providing the music for the ceremony. They will play the *Lincoln Trail College Alma Mater*, *The Star-Spangled Banner*, *Pomp and Circumstance*, and *We're Loyal to You, Illinois (Illinois Loyalty)*.

Leading students, faculty, and staff into the Sports Center will be Gazi Rahman, who is retiring after 47 years of service to Lincoln Trail College. Rahman was selected as the gonfalon, who carries the College's official flag during the ceremony. The gonfalon carrier leads the procession of graduates and symbolizes the unity and pride of the graduating class.

First-year students Madisyn McIntosh, Sean Stone, and Abigail Vaughn were selected to serve as the graduation marshals.

Lincoln Trail College's Nursing Program will have a ceremony of its own prior to the Commencement. They are planning a reception for the Alpha Delta Nu Nursing Honor Society at 5 p.m. in DeMent Auditorium followed by their Pinning Ceremony at 5:30 p.m. in the Zwermann Arts Center Theater.

PHI THETA KAPPA INDUCTS NEW MEMBERS



Lincoln Trail College inducted its newest members into the Alpha Iota Epsilon Chapter of the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society. Phi Theta Kappa recognizes the academic achievement of college students and provides opportunities for its members to grow as scholars and leaders.

Phi Theta Kappa officers led the induction ceremony. Vice President of Scholarship Juan Solivellas presented the candidates, and President Hannah Meese led the Presentation of the Charge. Solivellas, Meese, and Vice President of Fellowship Alexis Davis explained Phi Theta Kappa symbolism to new members. Meese led the Phi Theta Kappa Pledge and solemnity. Faith Sanders and Dee Jane performed the Phi Theta Kappa song.

New members inducted into Phi Theta Kappa were: Guadalupe Amicone, Alicia Atencio, Ella Baxter, Tomas Bascon Blacut, Cole Bonds, Emma Burshur, Makenna Case, Lauren Clark, Sandra Cooper, Ditton Curl, Felipe Dasilva, Alexis Davis, Maycee Decker, Thomas Ditchfield, Grace Dudley, Conner Fitts, Evan Gower, Isabella Granja, Ana Guedes, Jaleena Hemrich, Gary Higginbotham, Kenneth Pryor Jr., Macy Knight, Jake Lynch, Campbell McBride, Madisyn McIntosh, Chance Moscardelli, Braelyn Patton, Krista Phillips, Jackson Pittman, Stephanie Rinard, Hannah Saucerman, Jake Smothers, Sean Stone, Sarah Valdez, Abigail Vaughn, Kaleigh Walin, Nathan Wieber, and Noah Wolf.

Established by Missouri two-year college presidents in 1918, Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society recognizes and encourages the academic achievement of two-year college students and provides opportunities for individual growth and development through honors, leadership, and service programming. Today, Phi Theta Kappa is the largest honor society in American higher education, with over 3.8 million members and 1,300 chapters in 10 countries.

FBLA COMPETES AT STATE LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

Lincoln Trail College earned five awards at the Illinois Future Business Leaders of American Collegiate State Leadership Conference in Effingham.

LTC took the top three spots in the Macroeconomics category with Cole Harness finishing first followed by Krista Phillips and Juan Solivellas. Solivellas was first in the Microeconomics category. Madisyn McIntosh, Krista Phillips, and Guadalupe Amicone finished second in Business Presentation.

“The State Leadership Conference is always a great time to network and take the opportunity to compete against other community college students and four-year university students in Illinois to work for the chance to compete against students from all over the US,” said Amie Mayhall, the faculty advisor for LTC’s FBLA Collegiate Chapter. “I am so proud of our students for taking the opportunity to grow professionally and to compete.”

LTC OFFERING YOUTH PROGRAMS THIS SUMMER



Lincoln Trail College is offering a variety of classes for youths this summer. Classes include photography, career exploration, sign language, cartoon drawing, and karate for kids. The classes will be available in June and July.

Karate for Kids begins June 5 and runs through June 28 and there are two different sessions available. Karate I meets from 6-7 p.m. on Monday nights while Karate II meets from 7-9 p.m. Monday nights. Both classes cover basic martial arts concepts, self-defense, and movement in a program that will provide students with improved confidence and self-esteem. Instructor Andy Bradbury brings many years of instruction to the classroom and will provide a fun atmosphere for the children. The fee for Karate I is \$35 while Karate II is \$45.

Photography runs from June 12-15 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Instructor Tony Austin will lead the fun and interactive class for children in grades 5-8. Kids will learn the basics of using a camera and how to compose great shots. They'll also develop critical thinking skills by learning how to analyze and critique their own photos and those of their peers. The fee is \$10, and the registration deadline is June 7.

LTC will offer a career exploration program June 26-29 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. for students entering grades 7-9 this fall. Students will get a chance to experience traditional and non-traditional careers during the camp. They'll learn about job opportunities, expected wages, and program requirements and students will get the chance to have some hands-on experiences during the free camp. The registration deadline is June 21.

Sign Language for Kids runs from July 3-6 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. and is for kids in grades 4-8. The class introduces the kids to the basics of sign language. The fee is \$10 and students need to register by June 28.

There are two sessions of Cartoon Drawing available this summer. The session for students in grades 9 and 10 meets July 17-20 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. while the session for kids in grades 6-8 meets July 24-27 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Students will explore character creation and development, colors, storyboards, and layout by creating an original comic strip from start to finish. The cost of the class is \$10, and students need to register by July 12.

Parents that want to register their kids for any of the programs can visit the Eagleton Library at Lincoln Trail College or by calling 618-544-8657, extension 1425.

LTC IN PICTURES



Juan Solivellas and Alexis Davis were named to the All-Illinois Phi Theta Kappa Team.



LTC students enjoy a meal together during Craze Daze.



Dr. Michael Patilla conducts the LTC Jazz Band during the Spring Instrumental Ensemble Concert.



Dr. Michael Patilla directs the Statesmen Singers during the Spring Vocal Concert.



Lincoln Trail College and Frontier Community College students worked together on pole climbing.



Students in LTC's Student Publications Class had the opportunity to tour WTHI in Terre Haute, Ind.



Dr. Jared Gullett talks with Nuttall Middle School students about LTC's Certified Medical Assistant program.



LTC student Maycee Decker gives visiting Robinson High School students a lesson on anatomy using one of LTC's cadavers.

TWO STATESMEN GOLFERS QUALIFY FOR NATIONALS



KaCee Fulkerson (left) and Connor Hagan (right) show off their National Tournament qualifications

Two Lincoln Trail College golfers qualified for the NJCAA National Tournament. KaCee Fulkerson and Connor Hagan will compete May 23-26 at Swan Lake Resort in Plymouth, Indiana.

Fulkerson finished sixth at the Region 24 Championship at Pfau Course at Indiana University with a score of 234. Hagan was eighth overall with a score of 238.

"I'm so proud of these guys," said Statesmen golf coach Jay Prindable. "They played in super tough conditions over the two days of the event with winds gusting to 35 miles per hour."

As a team, LTC missed qualifying for the National Tournament by just six strokes. Kaden Carter shot a 264, Eli Gooch had a 271 and Jake Smothers finished with 257. The Statesmen finished tied for fourth as a team in the competition.