

# NETWORK



JUNE 2023



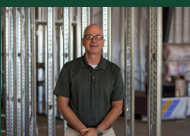
## HIGHLIGHTS



LTC's Patilla helps create quartet of Illinois guitar professors



Two new instructors join LTC's faculty



Crawford County Recreation Center names McDonald Executive Director

## STUDENT-ATHLETES COMBINE FOR 3.26 GPA

Consistency in the classroom is one of the hallmarks of Lincoln Trail College student-athletes. In the Spring 2023 Semester, LTC's student-athletes combined for a 3.27 GPA. They combined for a 3.26 GPA for the 2022-23 Academic Year. LTC had 38 student-athletes achieve a perfect 4.0 GPA in the spring.

"I'm incredibly proud of what our student-athletes accomplish in the classroom," said Athletic Director and Baseball Coach Kevin Bowers. "We had a tremendous amount of success in the classroom in the fall and we sustained that this spring."

LTC has marked 19 consecutive semesters where the combined GPA for the Athletic Department has been at least a 3.0.

The baseball team, which had 18 players with 4.0 GPAs, combined for a team GPA of 3.55 in the spring. The softball team had a 3.44 GPA and volleyball was right behind with a 3.43 GPA followed by the golf team's 3.42 GPA. The women's soccer team had a 3.38 GPA followed by the men's soccer team with a 3.09 GPA, the women's basketball team with a



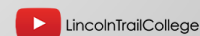
# LINCOLN TRAIL COLLEGE

## 2022-23 ATHLETICS REPORT CARD

<u>SPORT</u>	<u>SPRING '22</u>	<u>OVERALL</u>
BASEBALL	3.55	3.50
SOFTBALL	3.44	3.43
WOMEN'S SOCCER	3.38	3.38
VOLLEYBALL	3.43	3.26
MEN'S SOCCER	3.09	3.12
GOLF	3.42	3.02
WOMEN'S BASKETBALL	2.89	3.01
MEN'S BASKETBALL	2.56	2.84

**LTC ATHLETICS OVERALL 3.27 3.26**

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



### UPCOMING JULY EVENTS

- 4 COLLEGE CLOSED: Independence Day
- 6, 13
- 20, 27 **Decorative Welding**  
6 p.m., Red McCoy Welding Center
- 10-13 **Sign Language for Kids**  
9 a.m. - 12 p.m., Williams Hall 108
- 11-13 **Cake Decorating**  
6-7:30 p.m., Statesmen Grill
- 17-20 **Cartoon Drawing for Kids in Grades 9-10**  
9 a.m. - 12 p.m., Williams Hall 108
- 19 **LTC Foundation Concert Series:  
An Evening with Cody Ray Slaughter - Your  
Favorite Elvis Songs and More**  
7 p.m., Zwermann Arts Center Theater
- 24-27 **Cartoon Drawing for Kids in Grades 6-8**  
9 a.m. - 12 p.m., Williams Hall 108
- 27 **LTC Foundation Meeting**  
12 p.m., Lincoln Room
- 28 **Final Day of Summer Semester Classes**
- 31 **Summer Semester Final Exams**

2.89 GPA, and the men's basketball team with a 2.56 GPA.

All eight of LTC's teams had at least one player with a perfect 4.0 GPA. The volleyball team had six players with 4.0 GPAs, the men's soccer team had five players achieve that mark and softball had four players with 4.0 GPAs. The women's soccer team had two players with 4.0's while the men's basketball, women's basketball, and golf teams each had one student-athlete with a perfect GPA.

For the year, seven of LTC's eight teams boasted GPAs of at least 3.0 led by the baseball team's 3.50 GPA. Softball finished with a 3.43 GPA and women's soccer had a 3.38 GPA. The volleyball team had a 3.26 GPA, the men's soccer team had a 3.12 GPA, the golf team had a 3.02 GPA, and the women's basketball team had a 3.01 GPA. The men's basketball team finished the year with a 2.84 GPA.

"This was a remarkable year for our athletic department in the classroom," said Bowers. "This is a team effort. We have an excellent faculty and staff that works hard to make all of our students successful. Not only that, but we have extremely dedicated staff to provide guidance and one-on-one attention to students. It's clear to see that our faculty and staff are invested in the lives of our students."

## LTC SPRING ACADEMIC HONORS

Lincoln Trail College has released its academic honor lists for the Spring 2023 Semester. Three lists have been established by Illinois Eastern Community Colleges to indicate students who have achieved academic excellence. They are the Chancellor's Honors List, the President's Academic Honors List, and the Dean's Academic Honors List.

To qualify for any of the honor lists, a student must be enrolled full-time (12 hours or more) and must be taking college-level classes.



To be named to the Chancellor's Academic Honors List, students must achieve a grade point average of 3.90 or greater on a 4.0 scale; between 3.75 and 3.89 for the President's Academic Honors List; and between 3.50 and 3.74 for the Dean's Academic Honor's List.

The following students have earned Spring 2023 academic honors:

### CHANCELLOR'S ACADEMIC HONORS LIST

Guadalupe Amicone, Tomas Bascon Blacut, Romain Belleannee, Jonathan Beverly, Caleb Black, Joseph Bonds, Jacie Bradbury, Charles Branch, Treyton Brown, Kaden Carter, Lauren Clark, Haleigh Clayton, Sandra Cooper, Lydia Copenhaver, Lucas Davids-Badger, Alexis Davis, Kyle Easton, Christopher Felix, Drew Fieger, Ana Guedes, Timothy Harris, Luke Hatfield, Madolyn Hayes, Alexia Heafner, Isaiah Henriquez, Gary Higginbotham, Reese Johnson, Samuel Kestranek, Macy Knight, Tyler Larginho, Brendon Luecke, Campbell McBride, Madisyn McIntosh, Madison McKenzie, Mathew McMahan, Coleton McMichael, Nora McWhorter, Brandon Miller, Sara Mills, Curtus Moak, Colby Morse, Chance Moscardelli, Mateus Moura, Harlei Myers, Faith O'Handley, Diego Olguin Aguilera, William Palmer, Jeremiah Patterson, Drake Perry, Krista Phillips, Jayden Pinkston, Jackson Pittman, Jonathon Popp, Jay Prindable, Steve Reed, Curtis Richey, Hannah Rodgers, Hannah Saucerman, Mason Schafer, Katharine Schrader, Delainey Shorter, Juan Solivellas Garcia, Zharina Stephens, Sean Stone, Abigail Vaughn, Logan Webster, Nathan Wieber, Jessica Willis, Kaden Winter, Noah Wolf, and Cathy Ziegler.

### PRESIDENT'S ACADEMIC HONORS LIST

Samuel Berger, Addison Brasier, Sydney Byrley, Nestlee Cook, Grace Dudley, Lilly Foster, KaCee Fulkerson, Carter Jewell, Tori Linnenkamp, Jake Lynch, Hannah Meese, Alexis Mendenhall, Carson Musgrave, Benjamin Pena, Kambry Price, Liz Price, Stephanie Rinard, Harrison Rudd, Michael Smolinski, Kathryn Stephens, and Mallory Wagner.

### DEAN'S ACADEMIC HONORS LIST

Kaitlyn Boengen, Olivia Bright, Cyrus Chester, Felipe Dasilva, Maycee Decker, Alyssa Fielder, Connor Fitts, Victor Gonzalez, Eli Gooch, Evan Gower, Leticia Guimaraes, Jaylee Hayes, Mitchell Henneberry, Whitney Hernandez Garcia, Autumn Kelly, Melodie Kershaw, Jonathan Littlejohn, Kearsty Nielson, Graycie Poe, Tucker Pruitt, Kendall Scott, David Smothers, Brady Vaughn, Matthew Wells, and Ethan Zakowski.

## **PATILLA JOINS ILLINOIS GUITAR QUARTET**



Lincoln Trail College's Dr. Michael Patilla is joining other guitar instructors in Illinois to form a quartet. Patilla is joined by Dr. Angelo Favis from Illinois State University, Dr. Isaac Lausell from Southern Illinois University, and Dr. Guido Sánchez-Portuguez from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

"I had the idea of putting the quartet together," said Patilla. "I've been friends with Angelo for over 20 years and I was Facebook friends with Isaac, but we had never met in person. The idea just came to me one day and I contacted Angelo to ask if he would be interested and if he knew of a fourth guitarist we could include. He knew Guido at the U of I. We scheduled a couple of Zoom meetings to discuss the details, and everyone was really excited about the prospect."

The quartet is called MAGIQ – The Guitar Quartet of Illinois. It takes its name from the first letter of the first name of each member of the quartet plus the "q" for quartet. MAGIQ will play its first concert at the University of Illinois in October. MAGIQ will perform at LTC's Zwermann Arts Center Theater on February 22, 2024. The quartet will also be the featured performers and clinicians for the Midwest Guitar Ensemble Festival at Illinois State University in March 2024.

"I'm very excited about the quartet because I believe it will go a long way to enhance guitar education throughout the state of Illinois. With our combined knowledge and experience, there will be many opportunities for us to perform and teach, hopefully enhancing the classical guitar scene on a large scale. I'm very proud that I will be able to represent Lincoln Trail and IECC, along with these fantastic musical leaders from U of I, ISU and SIU, all of which are world-class music schools."

Patilla has been active as a classical guitarist for over 35 years, performing throughout the United States, Europe, and Asia. He earned a Doctor of Musical Arts degree from the Eastman School of Music in Rochester. As a Fulbright Scholar, he served as a guest lecturer at the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Honduras, performed concerts throughout the country, made various radio and television appearances, and collaborated with Honduran composers to publish a collection of works for guitar. Before joining Lincoln Trail College in 2021, he served as Associate Dean of Correctional Programs at Lake Land College and was previously a Professor of Music and Coordinator of the String Area at Mississippi State University for 18 years.

Favis has been an active performer of solo and chamber music, giving recitals in the United States and abroad. He has been a featured soloist with the Saigon Philharmonic Orchestra and

the Philippine Philharmonic Orchestra. He has served as an adjudicator in several competitions and is himself a prizewinner in the American String Teachers Association National Solo Competition and the Eighth International Solo Competition sponsored by the Guitar Foundation of America. Angelo has given master classes at the University of the Philippines, Roosevelt University, Mahidol University in Bangkok, Thailand, and the Ho Chi Minh City Conservatory of Music in Vietnam. Angelo earned his B.M. and M.M. in Guitar Performance under Lawrence Ferrara and David Tanenbaum at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music, and his D.M.A. from the Manhattan School of Music under Nicholas Goluses and David Starobin.

Lausell has led the guitar program at Southern Illinois University Carbondale School of Music since 2021. As a recording artist and clinician, he is actively teaching across the United States, Latin America, and Europe. As a writer, Lausell developed methods for jazz improvisation and classical guitar technique. His approach combines lute, classical, and electric guitar techniques along with modal, tonal and post tonal music theory models.

Sánchez-Portuguez graduated with honors from the University of Costa Rica's School of Music and earned a Master's Degree and a Doctor of Music from Indiana University's Jacobs School of Music. He toured around the world as the first guitar of the Guitar Orchestra of Costa Rica. He was a lecturer at the Jacobs School of Music where he also served as the Resident Arranger and Musical Director of the Latin American Popular Music Ensemble. Before joining the University of Illinois, he served as the Director of Guitar Studies at Franklin College and as an instructor at Parkland College.



**CAKE DECORATING**  
 JULY 11-13, 6-7:30 PM | NORVITA LEGG | \$55  
 REGISTER BY JULY 6

Attention all sweet tooth and aspiring bakers! Have you ever wanted to learn the art of cake decorating, but didn't know where to start? Look no further than our fun and delicious class covering the basics of cake decorating! In this class, you'll learn how to turn an ordinary cake into a work of art that will have everyone's mouths watering. Whether you're a complete beginner or just looking to sharpen your skills, this class is perfect for anyone who loves to bake and wants to add some extra flair to their cakes. You'll also take home your very own cake decorating kit!

TO REGISTER, CALL:  
 618-544-8657 EXT. 1425

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 Community Education  
 www.iccc.edu/icc/communityed



**Decorative WELDING**  
 JULY 6, 13, 20, 27, 6-8 PM | JACKSON HEMRICH | \$15  
 REGISTER BY JULY 3

Are you ready to unleash your inner artist while learning an exciting new skill? Look no further than a decorative welding course! Get ready to play with fire and metal as you explore the world of welding and create beautiful, one-of-a-kind pieces of metal artwork. This course is perfect for anyone who loves to work with their hands and wants to explore their artistic side. You'll get to experiment with different types of metals, tools, and finishing techniques to create your own unique masterpiece.

TO REGISTER, CALL:  
 618-544-8657 EXT. 1425

 LINCOLN TRAIL COLLEGE  
 Community Education  
 www.iccc.edu/icc/communityed



**SIGN LANGUAGE for Kids!**  
 JULY 10-13, 9 AM - 12 PM  
 Instructor: Tony Austin | \$10

Get ready to express yourself with your hands in this awesome sign language class for kids in grades 4-8! You'll learn the basics of sign language and have a blast communicating in a whole new way.

TO REGISTER, CALL: 618-544-8657, EXT. 1425

 LINCOLN TRAIL COLLEGE  
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**CARTOON DRAWING**  
 ONLY \$10

FOR GRADES 6-8  
 JULY 24-27, 9 AM-12 PM  
 REGISTER BY JULY 12

FOR GRADES 9-10  
 JULY 17-20, 9 AM-12 PM  
 REGISTER BY JULY 12

EXPLORE CHARACTER CREATION & DEVELOPMENT, COLORS, STORYBOARDS, & LAYOUT BY CREATING AN ORIGINAL COMIC STRIP FROM START TO FINISH WITH INSTRUCTOR ANGE COMPTON  
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## **ALEXANDER JOINS LTC AS A SOCIAL SCIENCE INSTRUCTOR**

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A Lincoln Trail College alumnus is returning to his alma mater to serve as a Social Science Instructor. Austin Alexander received an Associate in Science Degree in 2010 and an Associate of Science and Arts Degree in 2011.

"I am excited that my career path is going full circle," said Alexander. "I started my college path at Lincoln Trail College and now I have the opportunity to give back to the school community where my path started."

While at LTC, Alexander was involved in the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society and served as its president from 2009-2010. He won the Outstanding Economics Student Award in 2009 and the Outstanding History Student Award in 2010.

After graduating from LTC, Alexander earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in History with a Teacher Certification and a Minor in Spanish from Eastern Illinois University in 2013. He earned his Master of Arts in History from EIU in 2020.

Alexander brings a wealth of experience to LTC, having previously taught an array of subjects, including World History, Modern World History, Civics, World Geography, and World Contemporary Issues at Lawrenceville High School. Over the years, he has taken on additional responsibilities, serving as the Freshman Class Sponsor for a decade, the Interact Club Sponsor for seven years, and the Varsity Scholastic Bowl Coach for two years.

He says he's really enjoyed helping with extra-curriculars. "Scholastic Bowl has always been my passion. I have participated in it since I was in junior high and to coach it now has been a dream come true. I really enjoy working with my Interact students. We have done various activities to help our local community. We have helped the local Rotary Club sell Christmas trees which the proceeds of went to the scholarship fund, we have worked for the local Fish and Loaves and led food collection drives for them, several various drives for troops stationed overseas, each year we host a Trivia Night and donate the funds raised to local groups like the Parkside Elementary Night Owls groups which was an after school tutoring group and Lawrenceville's Christmas at the Park committee which is bringing a skating rink to the park in December."

Lawrenceville High School has not only served as his place of employment for the last ten years but also as the place where he met his wife, who teaches science there. "We actually got married in the auditorium." They have three children, Sophie, Henry, and Archie.

Alexander received a full-ride scholarship to LTC for playing the tuba in the concert and pep bands. He jokes that like most history teachers, he knows every line of Billy Joel's "We Didn't Start the Fire."

Outside of work, Alexander is involved in many community groups and has held a number of leadership roles. He's an avid St. Louis sports fan and he boasts a large necktie collection. "I currently own over 80 and counting!"

## McCARTY JOINS LTC AS A MUSIC INSTRUCTOR

Dr. John McCarty is joining Lincoln Trail College as a Music Instructor. He comes to LTC from Elon University in North Carolina, where he taught in the music theatre program.

Growing up, McCarty quickly found music to be his passion. "I didn't have any musicians in my family as I was growing up, but once music classes began in school, I was hooked! In third grade, I convinced my parents to let me take piano lessons, I joined all the bands and choirs in school, I participated in my high school musicals, and started taking voice lessons at the end of my time in high school. I went to the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, Minnesota where I was a K-12 vocal music education and voice major. My masters degree is in choral conducting from the University of Minnesota and my doctorate is in choral conducting, pedagogy, and literature from James Madison University in Virginia."

His first teaching position was at Bridgewater College in Virginia, where he served as the director of choral music. From there, McCarty moved to Miami, Florida where he held two part-time teaching positions: one in the music theatre program at the University of Miami and another in the music department at Miami Dade, the nation's second-largest two-year college. While teaching, McCarty has also sung in professional choirs and conducted several church and community choirs.

"Professionally, I am most proud of the amazing accomplishments of my former students. I supervised the vocal music education students at Bridgewater College, and I am proud that all of them either went to graduate school or have successful teaching careers; some of them have even been selected as 'teacher of the year' in their districts. My voice students have performed in regional theatres, national tours, and I have a voice student who just graduated from Elon who is going to be singing in a show on Broadway beginning this summer."

For McCarty, the move to Lincoln Trail College brings him closer to his roots. "I'm originally from Iowa and most of my family lives in Iowa or Illinois, so I'm excited to be back in the Midwest!"

Outside of work, McCarty enjoys traveling and cooking. "Wherever I am, I make it my mission to find the best bakeries, coffee shops, and restaurants around." He'll be joined by his husband, who is an actor, singer, dancer, director, and choreographer.



## **MCDONALD NAMED EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF REC CENTER**

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A longtime Crawford County resident and business owner has been named the Executive Director of the Crawford County Recreation Center. Dan McDonald was selected from a pool of more than 45 applicants to run the new facility.

"I am extremely happy to be part of the CCRC," said McDonald. "As a 30-year resident and longtime business owner in the county, I see the CCRC as having many different facets...a health and wellness place for our community, or an outlet for intramural activities, or a place for social gathering. Business wise, it is that also...a business that the county needs for our current population and one that might help draw potential new residents. It really can be and/or do many different things. I am really excited for my home county, and I am honored that I am being trusted with leading the staff at CCRC."

McDonald says his vision for the CCRC is to make it a destination for area residents. "My real vision is that everyone in the county will look at the CCRC as their place. Not only a place of physical fitness, but an actual fun place to go. A place that feels inclusive and offers a sense of belonging."

The Crawford County Recreation Center is going to follow a similar model to that of a YMCA according to McDonald. It will offer traditional fitness equipment like treadmills and free weights along with an indoor walking track. Additionally, the CCRC will have activity rooms that will allow for a variety of different fitness and recreation classes and a gymnasium that will allow for sports like basketball, pickleball, and volleyball. The CCRC will also take over the operation of the indoor pool at Lincoln Trail College and McDonald says the plan is to expand its availability and use. He says there are also plans to use the grounds around the CCRC to put on events like soccer, 5ks, and triathlons.

"All that stated, perhaps our biggest amenity will be the Hershey childcare room. Members will be able to bring children with them and have supervised childcare for their children to stay and play, while the parent is exercising or taking a structured class."

The Crawford County Recreation Center is a grassroots effort of several community members who had a goal of improving the lives of people in Crawford County. Many local businesses and industries and individuals have contributed to the project. Construction on the CCRC started in the fall of 2022 and is expected to be completed this summer.

"We are really excited to welcome the community, and we appreciate their patience as we have worked our way through the design and build out. We know there will be a few growing pains, but that is expected with any new operation. What I really want people to know is every person who visits us at the CCRC will be treated like the most important member we have, because they are!"



# LTC IN PICTURES



Lincoln Trail College Class of '23 celebrates together.



Gazi Rahman, who served as the Gonfalon for this year's Commencement, leads the graduation party to the ceremony.



Cathy Ziegler ('23) celebrates on the way to LTC's 53rd Annual Commencement



Clint Wickliffe was one of two student speakers at LTC's Commencement.



The Class of '23 moves their tassels after Trustee John Brooks confers their degrees



Jesse Laster ('23) hugs Junsie Cotten after earning his degree.



Grace Dudley ('23) is congratulated by Tina Lindley. Dudley worked in the faculty office during her time as a student.



Hannah Rodgers ('23) tosses her cap in celebration of earning an Associate of Science and Arts Degree.

## ALUMNI & ATHLETICS GOLF OUTING SET FOR JULY 8



Lincoln Trail College is pleased to announce its upcoming annual Alumni and Athletics Golf outing on Saturday, July 8, at Quail Creek Country Club. As an eagerly awaited tradition, this event serves as a vital fundraiser for the College's athletic department, which is committed to supporting student-athletes in their pursuit of excellence.

Golfers of all skill levels are invited to participate in this exciting event, which will commence with a social time and introductions

at 12:00 p.m., followed by the official tee-off at 1:00 p.m. The tournament will culminate with a cash bar, food, and a performance by the band American Pie.

Registration for the golf outing is now open, with a fee of \$75 per player, which includes entry to the event and access to all its activities. Players can sign up at [ltcathletics.com](http://ltcathletics.com), and local businesses and individuals can take advantage of the hole sponsorship opportunities available.

All the proceeds from the Alumni and Athletics Golf outing will go towards supporting Lincoln Trail College student-athletes in achieving their dreams by providing them with the resources they need to succeed both on and off the field. So by participating in this event, you are not only having a fantastic time but also supporting a noble cause that positively impacts the lives of aspiring athletes.

Don't miss out on this opportunity to experience the perfect blend of philanthropy and fun. Register now and join us in making a meaningful difference in the lives of Lincoln Trail College student-athletes!

## AUSTIN WINS FIRST STATESMEN SWEEPSTAKES

Denny Austin is the winner of the grand prize of the Statesmen Sweepstakes. Austin's ticket was drawn on May 12 for the \$25,000 grand prize. Deborah Valle won \$1000 while Brandon King and Todd Songer each won \$500 prizes.

Cyndi Boyce won the final monthly prize drawing for \$250. Danny Cravens, Stewart Schutte, Sandi Lindsey, An Roy, Glen Phillips, Crystal Reinbold-Baxter, Rena Gower, Tobey Rice, and Austin won monthly prizes. Amie Mayhall won the monthly prize twice.



The Statesmen Sweepstakes is returning for the 2023-24 year. Once again, the grand prize is \$25,000 and there will be \$250 monthly prizes drawn from June through May. Tickets for the upcoming Statesmen Sweepstakes drawing are \$50 and available online, by phone or in person.

The Statesmen Sweepstakes is a fundraiser for the Lincoln Trail College Athletic Scholarship Fund.