



LINCOLN TRAIL COLLEGE *Network*

NOVEMBER 2018

UPCOMING DECEMBER EVENTS

- 1 **Breakfast with Santa**
8:45 a.m., Statesmen Grill
- 2 **Dodgeball Tournament**
12 p.m., Sports Center
Youth Recitals
1:30 p.m., Zwermann Arts Center Theater
- 3-6 **Music Juries**
Zwermann Arts Center Theater
- 4 **Pearson Testing**
9 a.m., Williams Hall 119
- 5 **LTC Foundation Presents:
The Harlem Wizards**
7 p.m., Sports Center
- 6 **CNA Exam**
4 p.m., Williams Hall 108
- 7 **Last Day of Fall Semester Classes**
- 8 **ACT Testing**
8 a.m., Williams Hall 108
- 9 **Finals Study Night**
5 p.m., Student Union
- 10-13 **Final Exams**
- 12 **Phi Theta Kappa Cookie Sales**
10-1, Williams Hall Foyer
- 13 **Process Technology Advisory Council**
11 a.m., Lincoln Room
CNA Exam
4 p.m., Williams Hall 110
- 14 **Last Day of Fall Semester**
- 19-1/1 **COLLEGE CLOSED - Winter Break**
- 31 **LTC Foundation Concert Series Presents:
Vegas Country**
7 p.m., Zwermann Arts Center Theater

LTC STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY TIES



First Financial Bank gave students a presentation on money management. A number of Lincoln Trail College students attended to learn ways they can be fiscally responsible both in college and when they begin their professional lives.

Community Colleges are intended to have a major impact on surrounding communities. Measuring this impact can be a tricky proposition. A recent study suggests that 61% of all community college graduates stay within 50 miles of the institution where they earn their degree. It has been well understood that community colleges exist to educate people to become good citizens and provide the training they need to fill local jobs. But there are many other ways community colleges impact their local communities. LTC graduates own or are employed by area businesses, and local industry leans on LTC's student population for full-time, part-time and seasonal positions. LTC administrators, faculty and staff serve in important leadership positions in our local non-profits, school boards, and service clubs like Kiwanis, Rotary, and the Lions Club. Many LTC students rent from area realtors and a portion of their federal and state aid is spent in local restaurants and various retail outlets. Area high school students save thousands of dollars on their college education by participating in LTC's Dual Credit program, which allows them to earn credit towards their college degree while they are still in High School. The significance of community impact is something LTC President Dr. Ryan Gower has been reinforcing on campus lately. "It is important for Lincoln Trail College to engage our local communities," says Gower. "Our Community Education and Community Service events are opportunities for us to build relationships and be relevant to residents who want to learn but are not seeking to earn a degree or certificate. It is important for us to remember that education is not something we do to somebody. It is a delicate partnership between a teacher and a student. In the same way, we must involve



People line up to enter Trick or Treat at the Trail. The event regularly draws more than 2000 children and their families to Lincoln Trail College where they get the opportunity to get free treats from LTC faculty, staff, student organizations, and community partners.

our community – our businesses, our alumni, our elected officials – in our efforts to enhance our local communities.” This partnership between Lincoln Trail College and area businesses is evident in two big events that take place in the Fall term.

A record number of younger residents interacted with Lincoln Trail College this year during the annual Trick-or-Treat at the Trail event. According to Deanna Chrysler, Administrative Assistant to the President, this event is about more than fun and games. “It is the College’s biggest community event and an opportunity for local businesses to partner with the college to do something special for our children. It reminds all of us, college and businesses alike, of the importance of working together.” Trick or

Treat at the Trail is an event that is hosted at LTC, but requires many local businesses to make it a success. This year more than 35 businesses participated and **more than 2,200 residents were on campus for the event.** While the event is intended to benefit children, Chrysler asserts that the benefits extend to children of all ages. “Many of the faculty, staff, and students have just as much fun planning, decorating, and dressing for the event as what the children do going through the Trail!”

A new LTC Community Event is right around the corner with “Breakfast with Santa” taking place on December 1, 2018. Area residents will have the opportunity to visit Santa at the North Pole (LTC’s Zwermann Arts Center Theater) and have a professional photo taken. Afterwards, they can enjoy a meal with family friends, and some of Santa’s little helpers. Under the direction of Tara Gallion, the event will also showcase the talent of LTC’s Youth Theater program. Students will perform select scenes from “Elf Jr.,” sing Christmas songs and get the audience into the action with interactive games and activities. “It’s a more formal event than what we have done in the past,” says Chrysler. “But the feedback has been positive and we are almost fully sold out of tickets already.”

Breakfast with Santa
December 1

LINCOLN TRAIL COLLEGE

8:45 • PICTURES WITH SANTA
 9:15 • BREAKFAST
 10:00 • HOLIDAY MUSIC PERFORMANCE

TICKETS:
 \$5 ADULTS
 \$3 CHILDREN UNDER 12
 FREE CHILDREN UNDER 2

**FOR TICKETS, CALL:
 618-544-8657**

social media icons: @lcc.edu/ltc, facebook.com/LincolnTrailCollege, @LTC_IL, @LTC_IL, lincolntrail, LincolnTrailCollege

“At one level these are just fun, feel-good events for area residents,” says Gower. “At a different level, they are opportunities for LTC to engage our community and build relationships that will benefit us as we seek to engage in other, more academic, endeavors in the future.”

To get your tickets for Breakfast with Santa, call 618-544-8657.

LTC ADULT ED WORKING TO REACH MORE IN NEED



Lincoln Trail College is looking at ways its Adult Education program can reach more people. Rena Gower, who oversees the program at LTC, says there are more than 2000 adults in Crawford County without a high school diploma.

“We understand there are many reasons why people didn’t earn a high school diploma and we also understand there are reasons why some of them do not seek their high school equivalency. What we want to find out is what we can do to help better accommodate them so they can get the benefits of earning a GED.”

The college has developed a survey to see what areas the college can help. Gower says she wants to find out if things like offering transportation, child watch services, or offering classes on weekends would be beneficial. She says they also want to know how many people have started working on a GED but have not finished yet.

“We know there are needs and we want to get those needs met because there are a lot of good reasons to get a GED. For example, GED graduates earn an average of \$9000 more a year than those without a high school diploma.”

The importance of education extends beyond the checkbook. People without a high school diploma are more than twice as likely to be unemployed, working in low-wage jobs, living in poverty, and relying on government aid programs than those with higher levels of education. The National Coalition of Literacy says research shows that the children of low-literate parents are more likely to get poor grades, display behavioral problems, have high absentee rates, repeat school years or drop out. The coalition says low-literate parents who improve their own skills are more likely to have a positive impact on their children’s educational achievements. Gower says it’s never too late to go back to school and earn your GED. She says the program has had students of many different ages through the years.

According to Danyelle Ayres, an instructor in the LTC GED program, students in the program can expect lots of one-on-one attention. “Everyone is capable, I’ve always felt that. I haven’t had one student that I’ve felt couldn’t do this. It’s just a matter of setting your mind to it and working hard to finish.” Gower says students that earn their GED often tell her how much of a boost of confidence it was.

Lincoln Trail College currently offers GED classes on eight-week schedules. There are currently day and evening classes available and the classes are free. Gower says people interested in learning more about the GED program should call her.

Lincoln Trail College President Dr. Ryan Gower says investing in programs like adult education is a part of his future plans for the College. “Adult education is an important part of our mission. We want to do our part in removing structural barriers that may be preventing people from pursuing education.”

PATHWAYS TO MED STUDENTS MEET WITH SIUSM STUDENTS



Students participating in the Community College Pathways to Medicine program at Lincoln Trail College got the chance in November to learn about the MedPrep program at Southern Illinois University-Carbondale. The November 6 event was the second of a four-part series that gives students the chance to learn about careers in medicine.

Faculty and students at SIU took advantage of IECC's Zoom software so they could speak with the local students, which was a mixture of high school and Lincoln Trail College students along with their parents. The MedPrep program is a science-focused post-baccalaureate program to assist students who earn degrees outside of the traditional pathways to medical school. Since its inception in the 1970s, more than one thousand students have completed the program and matriculated into medical school. The MedPrep students provided insightful information about their experiences in college tips for student success in pursuing medical careers.

Community College Pathways to Medicine is a unique partnership between Lincoln Trail College and the SIU School of Medicine. The students participating are learning about what to expect when applying to medical school and what to expect when they are in med school. What makes the program unique is the students are getting to interact with faculty, staff, and students from SIUSM.

The program meets for the next time February 12 at Lincoln Trail College. It culminates in April when the students will have the opportunity to visit the SIU School of Medicine in Springfield.



WINTER CHORAL CONCERT NOV. 30

Choral Music director Rebecca Carmack announces details for the holiday choral concert, *Winter's Night by Candlelight*.

All three of LTC's ensembles will take part. The Concert Choir will perform the familiar "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas" and the Austrian carol, "Still, Still, Still." The collegiate ensemble, Statesmen Singers, has a poignant look back at childhood with "Remembering December" as well as a rousing version of an old carol, "Wenceslas!" The auditioned choir, Camerata Illiana, will display their versatility with "In Dulci Jubilo" and the spiritual, "See Dat Babe." The choirs will combine to perform Christmas favorites including "The First Noel" and "Joy to the World." The choirs are pleased to be joined by the First United Methodist Church Handbell Choir.

This concert will be held at Robinson First United Methodist Church, 201 W. Walnut Street, on November 30 at 7 p.m. This event is not ticketed but donations are welcome.

HALL TO LEAD NEW WOMEN'S SOCCER PROGRAM



Shawn Hall has been named the head coach for the inaugural season of the Lincoln Trail College Women's Soccer program.

Hall is a native of Evansville, Ind. and currently resides in Robinson, Ill. He teaches 1st-5th-grade math in Hutsonville. Hall is a graduate of the University of Southern Indiana.

Hall has been involved in soccer since he was six-years-old. He played club soccer for a decade and also played for Reitz Memorial Catholic High School in Indiana. In high school and club soccer, he played center forward, sweeper and right wing back. After college, he resumed playing competitive and recreational soccer, which he continues to this day. He has spent time helping get the Robinson youth league and club and travel soccer programs to continue progressing forward.

Hall says he's excited about starting the new program at Lincoln Trail. "Right now, I'm doing a lot of traveling for scouting and recruiting purposes. First, I need to build the Lincoln Trail Women's Soccer program and be ready for next Fall. Second, we need to get the field up and in regulation. Once here and playing, I plan on making the ladies into even better soccer players. Coaching them in high pressure, counter-attacking, wing play, and possession soccer. I will make them better players so they can extend their soccer careers after their two years at LTC. Last, but definitely not least, I will continue to make sure they work hard in the classroom to prepare for the next stage of their college careers as well. I want to compete and win every game, but I will not sacrifice that for failure in the classroom. Academics is top priority."

LTC will play its first women's soccer games in the Fall of 2019. The addition of women's soccer will add 30 new students to the college. To prepare for the new sport, the College is in the process of making improvements to the soccer field, including bringing in new soil to expand the field's area to meet NJCAA guidelines. The field is expected to be in playing condition by August 2019.

LADY STATESMEN COME WITHIN ONE WITH OF NJCAA TOURNAMENT



The Lincoln Trail College volleyball team came within one win of reaching the NJCAA National Tournament.

The Lady Statesmen advanced to the finals of the District J tournament with a 3-2, come-from-behind victory at Lewis and Clark. LTC trailed 2-0 after dropping the first set 25-13 and the second set 25-20. The Lady Statesmen won the third set 25-22 and forced a fifth set with a 25-23 win in the fourth set. LTC won the decisive fifth set 15-12.

"Our win against Lewis and Clark was huge," said Lady Statesmen coach Dana Goodwin. "I am so proud of them for digging deep and pulling out the last three set wins. We did that only one other time this season at Wabash



DECEMBER SPORTS CALENDAR

Men's Basketball

1	at Southwestern	3:00
5	at Ivy Tech	7:00
8	at Olney Central	3:00
17	Vincennes	7:30

Women's Basketball

1	at Southwestern	1:00
4	at MacMurray	6:00
8	at Olney Central	1:00
17	Vincennes	5:30

Follow the Statesmen at ltcathletics.com

Valley College, so during the Lewis and Clark game, I kept referring back to how we can do it because we have done it before.”

LTC faced Parkland in the District J Championship. Parkland came into the game with a 51-2 record and ranked second in the nation. The Lady Statesmen fell in the finals 3-0.

Goodwin says this year's team made great strides. “I think this will give the freshmen hope for having an even better season next year. Coming off a 1-25 season in 2017, the improvements that were made this year were very significant. In order to keep building for next season, I have to hold my expectations to this level and higher.”



One of the highlights in this year's Freshman class was the play of Mandi Alspach. The middle hitter from Hutsonville, Ill. earned All-Region 24 Second-Team honors after finishing with 225 kills and 126 blocks. “I have never once seen her get down on herself or her teammates,” says Goodwin. “She was consistently uplifting and encouraging in both games and practices. I am extremely said that she will only be at LT for one year.” Alspach has verbally committed to continuing her collegiate career at Saint Mary of the Woods College.

Goodwin also had high praise for this year's sophomores. “The sophomore class brought a lot of positive attitudes and leadership to the team this year. They were always in such high spirits and brought a lot of ‘life’ to games and practices.”

The Lady Statesmen finished the 2018 campaign with a 10-19 record. Goodwin says she's already set a goal of having a winning record in 2019 and she wants to compete well in the postseason.

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