

KNIGHTLINE

Olney Central College



Summer 2019

Upcoming Events

July

11 Information Systems Technology Information Night, West Richland Center in Noble, 6 p.m.

16 OCC Registration Blitz Day, Student Services, 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

23 Last Day to Withdraw from 8-week Summer Semester Classes

26 Last Day of Summer Semester Classes

26 Children's Theatre Workshop Production of *Getting to Know Oklahoma*, 7 p.m.

27 Children's Theatre Workshop Production of *Getting to Know Oklahoma*, 2 p.m.

29-30 Summer Semester Final Exams

29-30 Summer Textbook Buyback, OCC Bookstore, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. & 5-6:30 p.m.

29 Fall Semester Textbook Sales Begin

29 Summer Youth Explorers Camp Begins

August

8 Faculty/Staff Fall Workshop

15 Fall Semester Classes Begin



Director of Bands Wade Baker conducts the OCC Concert Band during its performance June 17 at New York City's legendary Carnegie Hall.

OCC Concert Band performs at Carnegie Hall

Olney Central College's Music Department is celebrating the Concert Band's stellar performance at New York City's venerable Carnegie Hall.

"It was the coolest experience ever," said OCC Director of Bands Wade Baker. "The kids have worked very hard and everyone seemed to have a good time. The experience of playing there was fantastic. The band sounded better than it ever has in the two years I have been here. It was apparent there was a change in the demeanor of the students while we were there. This trip made a huge difference in the trajectory of the program and I can't wait to see the lasting results."

The students performed June 17 as part of Carnegie Hall's Symphonic Series and wrapped up an evening, featuring OCC along with high school and middle school orchestras and concert bands.

"Everyone up there was super excited," Baker said of the nearly 30 OCC musicians who participated in the four-day trip. "They seemed more calm than I was. I had never been so nervous in my life. I think everyone was impressed with the way we sounded."

Musicians around the globe dream of

performing on the legendary stage and OCC students say the experience was awe-inspiring.

"Carnegie Hall is amazing," said Mykayla Schilt, a music education major from Sumner. "It was a really good feeling to be on stage. You would think I would have been nervous, but I wasn't. It was a really good feeling to be there."

Recent OCC graduate Josh Moats agrees.

"I really enjoyed the experience," said Moats, a former Flora resident who now resides in Noble. "It's not every day you get to play on a world-renowned stage. We sounded phenomenal and it showed we really put a lot of hard work and effort into this performance."

OCC Dean of Instruction Michael Conn, a musician himself, accompanied the students.

"I am very proud of our students, who sounded excellent and represented our college with distinction in a world-class venue," he said.

Prior to their performance, the students participated in a clinic led by Dr. Chad R. Nicholson, Director of Bands at the University of Arizona. The veteran musician listened to the group's selections, providing constructive feedback.

See Carnegie, Page 2

OCC recognizes efforts of neighbor Curtis Koch

O & M Team Leader Clay Atkins presented Curtis Koch with a gift card in recognition of his volunteer work on campus.

For the past several years, Koch has been collecting and disposing of litter while walking on the college grounds. Koch, who resides in the apartments across the street from OCC, also makes sure the storm drains are free of trash.

"We appreciate all that he does," Atkins said. "He is a really good neighbor to the college."

Koch, who worked as a janitor and assisted his parents with their rental properties, said picking up stray trash is just a "natural thing to do."



Carnegie *Continued from Page 1*

"The kids really seemed to enjoy it," Baker added.

The trip included sightseeing excursions. Conn took groups to visit iconic NYC landmarks Central Park and the Metropolitan Museum of Art. The students also attended a Broadway production of the Tony-award nominated musical "Mean Girls."

Schilt said traveling through Times Square and Manhattan is something she will never forget.

"It was a once in a lifetime opportunity and I'm thankful to everyone who donated toward our trip and made it possible," she added. "It was very special. I'm overjoyed it got to happen. It really brought us closer as a band."

Baker said the experience will have lasting impacts not only on the students, but the program itself.

"For me, the biggest takeaway is the change in perspective of those who went on the trip and the community," Baker said. "The kids worked really hard and gave the community something to believe in and support. In return, the kids know the community is supporting them. All of the donations we received to help sponsor the trip, including \$500 from the Olney VFW, was amazing. It changed lives forever. It put us on the map and it will help with recruitment."

Moats is grateful for the opportunity and those who assisted in the effort.

"I would like to express my thanks to Wade and all of the sponsors who made it possible for us to go," he said. "This trip shows you don't have to go to a four-year school to get the experience of a lifetime. I think it is the best thing that has happened to me in my life so far."

The invitation to perform at Carnegie Hall followed Baker's selection as a quarter-finalist for the 2019 Grammy Music Educator Award given by the Recording Academy and the Grammy Museum. Baker advanced to the semi-final round of last year's competition. He is one of 189 nominees advancing to the 2020 quarter-final round.

Both Moats and Schilt are pleased with their decision to join OCC's Music Department.

"I think Wade is one of the best instructors you could ask for," Moats said. "He provides guidance in music and life, incorporating the two."

Schilt added, "The music program at OCC has been amazing. It has changed my life and broadened my horizons. I've met new people and Wade has really helped improve my musicianship. He is a great band director and I couldn't ask for a better instructor."



In addition to performing at Carnegie Hall, OCC students enjoyed sightseeing in Times Square and Central Park. The students also visited the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Amie Mayhall named Director of Health Information Technology Program

Associate Professor Amie Mayhall has been named Director of the Health Information Technology Program at Olney Central College.

The two-year degree is available to students this fall and joins OCC's other health career programs, including Medical Coding Associate and Medical Office Assistant.

Mayhall said the Medical Office Advisory Council encouraged the new program's development as many employers are looking to hire individuals with a Health Information Technology Degree. The group is comprised of professionals from area healthcare facilities like Sarah Bush Lincoln Hospital, Carle Richland Memorial Hospital, Clay County Hospital, Crawford Memorial Hospital, Lawrence County Memorial Hospital, and more.

"Our advisory council was very proactive in seeking this opportunity for prospective employees," Mayhall said. "It is a well-rounded curriculum which offers a broad understanding of the field and how each position is important to the field."

Health Information Technology and OCC's other health career programs provide an avenue outside of nursing for students to enter the growing healthcare field.

"The degree can lead to the ability to work in almost any healthcare setting including hospitals, physicians' practices, mental health facilities, the pharmaceutical industry and health product vendors," Mayhall said.

HIT graduates can fill positions within health information areas such as: billing, medical records, and coding departments.

Those who choose to continue their education and obtain a bachelor's degree have even greater opportunities for career advancement.

While similar to the Medical Office Assistant Program, Mayhall said Health Information Technology offers an expanded curriculum. Additional courses include Healthcare Leadership Management, Data



Management and Information Governance and HIT Professional Practice.

The first-year of the HIT Program aligns with OCC's Medical Coding Associate Certificate, enabling students to earn the Health Information Technology Degree with additional summer courses.

"This is important because there are employers who are looking for coders with an Associate Degree," Mayhall added.

The HIT courses will be taught by highly-qualified faculty and staff. Mayhall, a Certified Coding Associate with a master's degree in Business Administration, recently received certification as a Registered Health Information Administrator through the American Health Information Management Association while OCC Associate Professor Shasta Bennett holds a master's degree in Global Human Resources Management. Other instructors include Heather Colwell, a Registered Health Information Administrator, currently serving as Director of Health Information Management at Lawrence County Memorial Hospital; Lezlie Lambird, a Registered Health Information Technologist who is employed as Director of Medical Records at Carle Richland Memorial Hospital; and Carole Krager, a Certified Coding Specialist and Outpatient Coder at HSHS St. Anthony's Memorial Hospital.

"It is wonderful for our students," Mayhall said. "Not only are they receiving a quality education, but they are getting exposed to individuals who are working in the field and are networking with potential employers. It is an awesome opportunity for our students to make a name for themselves."

To learn more about the Health Information Technology Program or any of the health-related careers at OCC, contact Mayhall at mayhalla@iecc.edu or call 395-7777 to register.

Fall semester classes begin Aug. 15.

OCC Fall Registration Blitz July 16

2 Holiday World tickets will be given away

OCC will host a Registration Blitz Day on Tuesday, July 16.

From 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., individuals will be able to stop by Student Services and register for fall semester classes without an appointment. The OCC Financial Aid Office, Student Records and Business Office will be available to assist those attending.

New students should arrange for transcripts to be sent to OCC in advance.

One lucky student will win two Holiday World tickets in the Blitz Day Drawing.

Fall schedules are available at www.iecc.edu/occ.

Sign up now for IECC Alerts

The IECC Alerts System notifies students and employees of campus emergencies and closures by email and text message.

You can sign up to receive IECC alerts through your Entrata account.

If you have already signed up, please check to make sure your contact information is current.

Lock Vehicles

Students utilizing the OCC parking lots are advised to keep their vehicles locked when unattended.

Lost and Found

If you have lost an item, please check with Student Services.

Casey Wyllie joins Blue Knights' coaching staff

Casey Wyllie has joined the Olney Central College coaching staff after serving the last two years as the Director of Basketball Operations at Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville.

While working at SIUE, Wyllie was responsible for the day-to-day operations of the program including weekly schedules, planning and coordinating team travel, academics and budget management. Wyllie also acted as the team liaison for compliance which included maintaining and turning in phone logs to compliance, proactively identifying and resolving any walk-on eligibility issues, previewing official and unofficial visit compliance paperwork and informing compliance of all coaches' travel schedules.

In addition, Wyllie coordinated planned and directed all SIUE summer basketball camps.

During his time at SIUE, Wyllie was part of back-to-back OVC Conference Tournament appearances, which was the first time the Cougars had made the tournament since the 2014-2015 season.

Prior to SIUE, Wyllie had a brief coaching stop at Vincennes University in Vincennes, Ind., during June 2017.

Before Vincennes, Wyllie served as a Graduate Assistant Coach for Louisiana Tech in Ruston, La., from 2015-2017. He assisted the Director of Basketball Operations at Louisiana Tech with the day-to-day operations of the program including organizing recruiting efforts, travel arrangements and summer basketball camps. He earned his master's degree in Kinesiology with a concentration in Administration of Sport and Physical Activity from Louisiana Tech in November 2017.

During his time at Louisiana Tech, the Bulldogs finished with a combined record of 46-20 while making back-to-back Conference USA Tournament appearances.

Wyllie earned his bachelor's degree in Workforce Education from SIU at Carbondale in 2015. During his time at SIU, Wyllie gained valuable coaching experience as the head freshmen boys' basketball coach at Benton High School. He finished with a combined record of 43-23, including a 21-0 record in his third season.

Wyllie earned an associate's degree from John A. Logan College in 2012. During his time at John A. Logan, he coached at Elverado High School in Elkville during the 2011-12 season.

A native of Dwight, Ill., Wyllie is a 2010 graduate of Dwight Township High School. During his senior year, Dwight finished the season with a 28-4 record and made a sectional finals appearance.

Coach Mike Burris said of Wyllie, "We are excited to add Casey to our staff this year. He is young, energetic, and passionate about coaching young people. He is a Southern Illinois native, which will help in our recruiting efforts. He is a hungry, young coach who we think will do a tremendous job here. Casey is a great addition to our community and basketball program."

Mayhall receives Registered Health Information Administrator Certification

Olney Central College Associate Professor Amie Mayhall has received her certification as a Registered Health Information Administrator.

The credentials, awarded by the American Health Information Management Association, are a necessary step in a process of seeking accreditation for OCC's Health Information Technology Program. The two-year degree is available to students this fall and joins OCC's other health career programs including Medical Coding Associate and Medical Office Assistant.

The HIT Degree expands students' marketability and is in high demand among area healthcare employers.

"Throughout my career, I have seen

numerous changes and I have tried to be on the front end to have new programs that are appealing to employers and their facilities," Mayhall said. "We have a booming new degree that local employers are asking for."

The degree can lead to the ability to work in almost any healthcare setting including hospitals, physicians' practices, mental health facilities, the pharmaceutical industry and health product vendors. HIT graduates can fill positions within health information areas such as: billing, medical records, and coding departments.

Those who choose to continue their education and obtain a bachelor's degree have even greater opportunities for ca-

reer advancement.

Mayhall began working toward her RHIA certification a year and a half ago and completed her testing in December. The process included earning a Post Baccalaureate Certificate in HAS Health Information Management from Weber State University in Utah.

Mayhall also holds a master's degree in Business Administration and is a Certified Coding Associate.

For more information about the Health Information Technology Program or any of the health-related careers at OCC, contact Mayhall at mayhalla@iecc.edu or call 395-7777 to register.

Fall semester classes begin Aug. 15.



Mari Yamato to teach oil painting course this fall

Artist Mari Yamato invites area residents to join her for an oil painting class this fall at Olney Central College.

The course is designed for both novice and experienced painters who are interested in enhancing their skills. While instructors typically assign art projects for students, Yamato's open studio class will give participants a chance to explore their own interests while receiving feedback from a seasoned artist. During the sessions, Yamato will both advise and mentor students, who are encouraged to bring in their own projects to complete.

"This isn't a lecture-based class," Yamato stressed. "It will be very hands-on. I will be helping with techniques, colors or other areas students feel they are lacking in. If students have questions, I will be there to answer them. It will be a very laid back class. Community members are encouraged to join. If they can't make one of the classes, it isn't a big deal as the students will be working at their own pace."

Yamato, of Olney, has a background in illustration and earned a bachelor's degree from Indiana Wesleyan University. She has taught art classes, including ceramics, at OCC for the past two years. She has been painting with oils since middle school and it remains her favorite medium.

"I've been developing my art skills since I was very young," Yamato said. "I knew in kindergarten I wanted to be an artist."

ART 2298 Art Topics (Oil Painting) will meet at 6 p.m. on Wednesdays, beginning Aug. 21.

"I'm looking forward to teaching different people from different backgrounds and styles," Yamato said. "The focus of the class is more of a journey as a community. It is an opportunity to see a variety of styles and develop new techniques."

For more information or to register, call 395-7777.



CAMPUS IMPROVEMENTS

Several improvement projects have been completed this summer at OCC. New stairwell doors were installed in Wattleworth Hall and a garage door was replaced in the Automotive Building. New lighting also has been installed on the pedestrian bridge.



IST Program Information Nights July 11 and Aug. 6

Individuals interested in learning more about Olney Central College's new Information Systems Technology Program are invited to attend a free Information Night at 6 p.m. on Thursday, July 11 in Room 106 at the West Richland Center in Noble.

Computer networking is essential in today's business world. The IST Program, which begins in August, will provide students with a solid foundation in both computer maintenance and networking.

OCC's partnership with the CISCO Networking Academy ensures students are learning the latest industry standards while gaining hands-on experience in a state-of-the-art lab.

Students can earn a two-year transfer

degree, which offers electives and provides the basics of IST, while preparing students to successfully complete a bachelor's degree.

The two-year Associate in Applied Science Degree incorporates more technology and enables students to enter the workforce right away. Students have the opportunity to specialize in either Network Administration or Cybersecurity.

Students who excel in the program also will be prepared to take multiple industry certifications.

IST Instructor PJ Zeilstra will be available during the event to answer any specific program-related questions. Refreshments also will be provided.

For more information, contact Advi-

sors Vicki Thompson at thompsonv@iecc.edu, and Jodi Schneider at schneiderj@iecc.edu, or call 395-7777. No pre-registration is required.

A second Information Night will be held at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 6 in Room 106 at the WRC.

The Information Systems Technology Program is an Illinois Eastern Community Colleges Title III Block Grant initiative. The Title III program is supported in part by a five-year grant awarded to Olney Central College from the U.S. Department of Education effective October 1, 2018. The estimated total cost for all project activities is \$2,506,775 financed by the grant award of \$2,249,968 (90%) and \$256,807 (10%) by Olney Central College.

Still time to register for OCC summer Youth Explorers Camp

OCC is offering a summer Youth Explorers Camp for students entering sixth through ninth grades.

Students will spend the week of July 29-Aug. 2 exploring one of five subject areas taught by OCC faculty. Sessions meet from 9 a.m. to noon and include:

- Grease and Gears with Tyler Boyles
- The Artist Within with Heather Sandy
- Jazz for the Young Musician with Wade Baker
- Fun with Physical Science with Rob Mason and Aaron Lineberry & Ew! Awesome Biology! with Chris Mathews
- Expression Through Theater, Music and Technology with Jessica McDonald

The cost for the camp is \$100 per student, which is due at registration. For more information, call 395-7777.

Concealed Carry Recertification

OCC will offer two Concealed Carry Recertification Classes on July 13.

The first class meets from 8 to 11 a.m. and the second is being offered from 1 to 4 p.m. Both classes will be held at the Olney Gun Club.

To register, call 395-7777.



VFW DONATION

The Olney VFW Post donated \$500 to the OCC Music Department to assist with its trip to perform at New York City's Carnegie Hall.



ATHLETE REGISTRATION DAY

OCC welcomed athletes and their families to the annual Student Athlete Registration Day on June 25.