

# the Spotlight

## Newsletter

Issue 5 - Fall 2017

### A Busy and Successful Community

*By Dr. James Bell, Dean of Faculty*

A popular meme enjoying its fifteen minutes of fame on social media right now features a quotation most often attributed to Henry David Thoreau and typically superimposed on a close-up of the author's face or on a peaceful landscape shot. The quotation reads, "Success usually comes to those who are too busy to be looking for it." The sentiment cannot, in fact, be found in the works of the nineteenth century American author, but more likely first appeared in print in a 1942 volume of the Locomotive Engineers Journal. Whatever its origin, the assertion captures two constant re-

alities of life at Northwestern: busyness and success.

This issue of the Spotlight highlights the successes of our faculty, from inclusion on state and national boards to recognition at the state and national levels for professional contributions. Closer to home, faculty and staff have been honored for their years of service and contributions to the university, among them John Barton Award winner Dr. M. Cris Gordon and Thelma Crouch Award winner Debbie Skinner. This issue of the Spotlight also includes multiple stories of student and faculty research that has culminated in presentations and publications.

These successes are clearly a by-product of the busyness and commitment of our students, staff, and faculty who continue to work within—and for—the campus community and the community beyond. They educate, entertain, adjudicate, fundraise, and serve in many other ways. As always, though, they leave some time for sun-gazing (see page 14) and other fun.

We hope you enjoy this belated issue of the Spotlight, its delayed publication itself a testament to the busy nature of all our days!

#### *Please review, update website*

As a reminder, please take a few minutes to review your departmental/divisional websites to assure all information is present and updated.

Please make all changes sooner rather than later.

Remember the website will be locked in May and June for HLC Accreditation review.

In the  
Spotlight

A Busy and Successful Community

# Native American heritage is topic for Woodward program

Diverse speakers, at the Woodward Campus for the annual Native American Heritage Program, presented on several topics during a day of discussion and lecture on historical events and the Native American perspective on Monday, Nov. 13. Broadcasts went via ITV to Alva and Enid locations.

Park Ranger Kevin Mohr, Chief of Interpretation with the Washita Battlefield National Historic Site in Cheyenne, presented a lecture for the U.S. History to 1877 course taught by Ken Kelsey, instructor of history and fine arts. Mohr's lecture, "Westward through Washita," recounted the Civil War's end and saw the influx of pioneers and veterans in search of gold and free land. In the West, the indigenous people, like the Cheyenne Indians who occupied this territory, were seen as an obstacle to remove. The Battle of the Washita began the end of an era of freedom for the Great Plains Indi-

ans. Kelsey's class also broadcasts regularly to Mooreland High School and Sharon-Mutual High School. Thirty-two students from Mooreland participated in this event.

nificant turning point in Oklahoma and U.S. history.

The second lecture of the day featured Minoma Littlehawk-Sills (Cheyenne) for Northwestern's



*Sydney Stover, park ranger, leads students in educational activities and games in the Commons Area. There were items made from the American Bison and army-issued supplies on display during the Native American Heritage Program.*



*Park Ranger Kevin Mohr talks on "Westward through Washita" during the Native American Heritage Program on the Woodward campus.*

Mohr has been in the field of Interpretation for eight years, starting his career at Carlsbad Caverns National Park in southeast New Mexico. After three years guiding cave tours, he transferred to Everglades National Park in south Florida. For four years he interpreted the complex ecosystem of the "river of grass." In September 2014, Mohr transferred to Washita Battlefield National Historic Site. The year 2018 will commemorate 150 years after the Battle of the Washita, a sig-

General Humanities I course, taught by Carol Mote, adjunct instructor of English. Littlehawk-Sills' topic was the Sand Creek Massacre and Battle of the Washita from the Cheyenne perspective.

Littlehawk-Sills was born in Perryton, Texas, and raised in Oklahoma. She is a member of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes. She was raised by her Cheyenne grandparents, the late Daniel Warren Big Foot Littlehawk and the late Leah Bear Head. She is the mother of two

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## Native American...



*Minoma Littlehawk-Sills spoke on the Sand Creek Massacre and Battle of the Washita from the Cheyenne perspective. Littlehawk-Sills displayed artifacts in the Commons area and talked with students about them.*

and a grandmother of two. She resides in Seiling with her husband, Irvin Sills.

In addition, Northwestern-Woodward played host to additional programs, served authentic Indian meal of Indian tacos, corn soup and a Native American dessert for lunch and dinner.

Sydney Stover, Park Ranger at the Washita Battlefield National Historic Site, had activities and games for students in the Commons. Items fashioned from the American Bison and army-issued supplies were available for tactile learning, as well as games and activities to help understand the clash of cultures that resulted in the Battle of the Washita.

Stover earned a Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology and a Master of Arts in Public History from Eastern Washington University. After attending a ranger program in Glacier National Park, she was determined to become a National Park Service Park Ranger (NPS). She began her NPS career at Capitol Reef National Park in her home state of Utah. Over the next few years, she worked at park sites in Alaska, North Carolina, Arizona, and Wyoming. Now, as an employee at Washita Battlefield National Historic Site, Stover's goal is to inspire others to become park rangers and stewards of American stories.

## Castle Players perform during Constitution Week

The Castle Players Theatre Troup assisted Northwestern employee

Mary Barker with her capstone project for Constitution Week Sept. 18-22.

Lucas, Chloe Henderson, Madi Wilson, and Katherine Blair took turns dressing up in time-period outfits and

reading parts of the Constitution.



*Peyton Lucas, above, and Madi Wilson, right, read sections of the Constitution during Constitution Week in September, helping Mary Barker with her Capstone Project.*



# Wells among 15 chosen in class of Fellows

Dr. Shelly Wells, associate professor of nursing and chair to Northwestern's Division of Nursing, is one of 15 distinguished nurse educators to be selected for the 11th class of fellows who will be inducted into the prestigious Academy of Nursing Education, the National League for Nursing (NLN).

The new class members bring the total academy membership to 248 leaders in nursing education, from nursing programs across the academic spectrum and from other organizations committed to advancing the quality of health care in the U.S. and around the world. Following tradition, the induction ceremony took place at the NLN Honors Convocation in September during the 2017 Education Summit in San Diego, California.

Wells is thrilled to be recognized as one among a select few in the nation for this award.

"To be recognized for one's work is always rewarding, but to be named in the top 248 visionary nursing educators in the nation is very humbling - especially when looking at the other 247 people and knowing their body of work in nursing education over the years."

In a competitive application process, the Academy of Nursing Education Review Panel has a great deal to consider before recommending fellowship candidates to the NLN Board of Governors, the oversight body for the academy. Evaluations take into account applicants' contributions to innovative teaching and/or learning strategies; nursing education research; faculty development activities; academic leadership; promotion of public policy that advances nursing education; and/or collaborative educational, practice, or community partnerships.

"The profession of nursing is a wonderful career choice," Wells said. "It has taken me all over the world from my beginnings in Kansas City to other areas in the United States including Washington D.C., Honduras, the Dominican Republic, Malaysia and Singapore. One can engage in nursing wherever you find yourself. Nursing is not just about hospitals like so many people think. Nurses are engaged in work in communities, corporations, government, education and non-profit agencies. The great thing about nursing is that you can always find something very interesting to do."

Wells, who began working at Northwestern in 2012, has years of experience in the field of health care. She's been active in health care for almost 40 years in such areas as a unit secretary in a Kansas City Hospital, a pharmacy technician, a nursing assistant while in nursing school and a registered nurse. Wells' mother was a nurse, too, so it seems as if health care has always been a part of her life.

"I enjoy doing what I can to make things the best that they can be for my patients and the nurses that I have worked with and supervised throughout my career.

"My inspiration to enter into health care has ultimately been my faith. I have received many blessings in my life, and one of those is the gift to be able to share my skills and talents to help and care about people.

There is not another career field that is more about caring and helping than nursing."

Wells served to bring Northwestern's first doctoral program to help northwest Oklahoma get ahead in the medical field.

"I am proud to be a part of Northwestern as they have accomplished great things for the people in the state.

Being able to address the basic and advanced health care needs of the citizens in northwest Oklahoma and throughout the country by educating nurses at all levels at Northwestern really meets a need for the state. The mission at Northwestern is a natural fit when educating nurses, as nurses must be critical thinkers dedicated to service of people of many different cultures and must deliver that service in a fiscally responsible manner."

Dr. Bo Hannaford, vice president for academic affairs, said Wells has been a tremendous asset as the chair to the Division of Nursing and as a faculty member at Northwestern.

"Dr. Wells is well-deserving of this national honor," he said. "Not only is she a great leader for Northwestern, but is an important leader for the state of Oklahoma. She provides great insight for our nursing students and her leadership in implementing our first doctoral program is a great example of the impact she has here at Northwestern. I am very proud to have Dr. Wells as a colleague."

The NLN established the Academy of Nursing Education to foster excel-



*Dr. Shelly Wells*

lence

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# Funds raised during 24-hour livestream event

The Computer Science program sponsored a 24-hour livestream to raise funds for Child's Play Charity from Saturday, Dec. 2, until 9 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 3.

Members of the program gathered in the Bill and Billie Buckles

Computer Science and Robotics Labs in Shockley Hall to play a mix of video games as well as a few group activities live broadcasting the event on Twitch. A few teachers from various departments stopped by as well.

As the students worked in teams and as solo players, their goal was to help generate content to be watched during the livestream as viewers gave donations. A group of students play on level 1-110 in World of Warcraft with another group playing League of Legends for the duration of the livestream.

The public was encouraged to participate in the event by watching and sharing the students' livestream and/or through giving donations to the Child's Play Charity.

Child's Play Charity seeks to improve the lives of children in more than 100 hospitals worldwide and domestic violence shelters through the generosity and kindness of the video game industry and the power of play.

Child's Play works in two ways: first, with the help of hospital staff, the organization sets up gift wish lists full of video games, toys, books, and other fun stuff for kids, and second, Child's Play also receives cash donations throughout the year. With those cash donations, they purchase new consoles, peripherals, games, and more for hospitals and therapy facilities.

These donations allow for children to enjoy age-appropriate entertainment and interact with their peers, friends, and family, while providing vital distraction from an otherwise generally unpleasant experience. The organization has raised nearly \$44 million since 2003.

From the past two livestream charity events, Evan Vaverka, instructor of computer science, estimates the students have raised approximately \$1,250 for two separate charities.



Members of the Computer Science program participated in the 24-hour livestream event to benefit Child's Play Charity early in December. The event was broadcast live on Twitch.

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## Wells chosen...

lence in nursing education by recognizing and capitalizing on the wisdom of outstanding nurse educators.

"The Board of Governors takes its responsibility in the selection process very seriously," said Anne R. Bavier, PhD, RN, FAAN, NLN president and dean and professor of the College of Nursing and Health Innovation at the University of Texas at Arlington. "We look forward to personally congratulating each of these outstanding individuals. They are a wonderful re-

flection of the enterprise, creativity, and drive that motivate excellence in nursing education."

"Fellows support the mission and core values of the NLN and assist in the work required to prepare graduates from all types of nursing programs," NLN CEO Beverly Malone said (PhD, RN, FAAN). "They serve as mentors and resources for new educators and those in clinical practice who hope to someday enter the ranks of nurse faculty."

# Woodward students visit Northwestern for ‘Teach Oklahoma’ course

Northwestern played host to eight Woodward High School students recently for the high school’s “Teach Oklahoma” course.

Teach Oklahoma was designed to mentor high school students about teaching and provide a fundamental knowledge about the teaching profession in Oklahoma. The course is supported through the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education.

While visiting Northwestern the students participated in teacher preparation classes for subjects such as reading and intermediate language arts. They were able to have an open dialogue about the teacher preparation program and participate in prepping courses such as intermediate math methods and elementary school programs. Amber Donaldson, director of secondary language arts from the Oklahoma State Department of Education, was also at Northwestern-Alva as a guest speaker.

Woodward High School’s students were able to see the types of work Northwestern’s teacher candidates create in their programs, such as students’ video record their own lessons to use as a reference. The students were able to watch some examples of videos to show the length of preparation that goes into creating and sharing a lesson plan.

The eight high school students also took a tour of Northwestern-Alva. Those students included Caitlyn Allen, Brittany Berry, Mariela Castillo, Cassey Collins, Caitlyn Crawford, Patricia Lira, Chloe Murphy, Makenize Williams, and sponsors JoLynn Love and Michelle McDonald.

Dr. Christee Jenlink, professor of education, chair to the Division of

Education and associate dean of the School of Education, understands and believes in the importance of students actively learning and getting hands-on experience, especially in the teaching field.

“The Teach Oklahoma program is more critical than ever in light of the teacher shortage not only in Oklahoma but across the nation,” Jenlink said. “The program provides immersive experiences for high school students who are considering a career in teaching. With Northwestern’s history of excellence

in teacher preparation, having the Woodward students visit the campus to experience the program complements the work that is occurring in the Teach Oklahoma course at Woodward High School.”

Northwestern’s teacher education program, which is housed in the Division of Education, is accredited by the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) and approved by the Commission for Educational Quality and Accountability (CEQA).



*Students from Woodward High School visiting Northwestern recently to learn more about the teacher education program include (front row, left to right) Patricia Lira, Makenize Williams, Cassey Collins, Caitlyn Allen, (back row, left to right) sponsor Michelle McDonald, Mariela Castillo, Brittany Berry, Chloe Murphy, Caitlyn Crawford and sponsor JoLynn Love.*



*While at Northwestern-Alva, high school students and Northwestern teacher candidates had the opportunity to meet and discuss education with Amber Donaldson, director of secondary language arts from the Oklahoma State Department of Education.*

# Lane publishes collection, Earnest is contributor

Dr. Kathryn Lane, associate professor of English and chair to the English, Foreign Language and Humanities Department at Northwestern Oklahoma State University, recently edited and published a collection of various contributors' essays titled "Age of the Geek: Depictions of Nerds and Geeks in Popular Media."



Dr. Kathryn Lane

Lane has been presenting on the topic for a few years at a conference for the Southwest Popular/American Culture Association (SWPACA), an academic organization that looks at popular culture and its various artifacts, including everything from literature to television, music, movies, social media, and toys.

Lane and other Northwestern faculty are members of this organization, which serves Oklahoma and the surrounding states in the region. Lane attended her first southwest conference during her first year of teaching at Northwestern. Later, she enquired about adding a new topic area to the conference to provide a positive spin on "the geek in pop culture."

"I went to them and said I have an idea for an area, but I don't know what to name it," she said. "So they named it a 'special area,' and they gave me two years to develop it and see if there was interest. There was so much interest in those first two years it's now considered one of their standard areas instead of 'special area' with a two-year limit."

Lane gives presentations on everything from the popular television shows "The Big Bang Theory" to "Scorpion" and more.

"Looking at television series as

cultural artifacts allows scholars to track changes in societal norms," Lane said. "For example, when looking at 'Scorpion,' I've presented on the weaponization of genius. In my last analysis of 'Blindspot,' I analyzed how the lead character of Jane's body is seen as public property in the series and what that reflects about the perception of women's bodies in our current culture. Viewers rarely think of how they're consuming—and potentially internalizing—their viewing choices, but the reality is that there are very few passive consumers anymore."

After Lane's third year presenting on this topic, a cultural studies editor from Palgrave MacMillan Publishing approached her to execute a call for papers for a collection about the topic.

"I also had offers from other publishers, but Palgrave was by far the most prestigious and the most academically rigorous," she said.

In the call for papers process, Lane received many "blind" abstracts, read through each one, then selected the most relevant and in-depth to her topic. She was not aware who wrote what papers on what topics when they were submitted. After the blind abstract selection process and throughout the two-year process of putting together the book, Lane spoke with nearly 20 contributors, who include established scholars, outstanding graduate students and faculty members from universities in the United States and other countries.

One blind abstract, ironically, was selected from Dr. Kathleen Earnest, a Northwestern assistant professor of English.

"I was very pleased," Earnest said about finding out her abstract was chosen. "It was rewarding to be included in such a diverse collection

of essays. Researching and writing a paper for this collection provided a break from the usual routines of classroom teaching... Working with Dr. Lane throughout the process was rewarding, also. She was organized and encouraged contributors to stay on target for deadlines."



Dr. Kathy Earnest

Earnest's essay is titled "Changing Faces: Exploring Depictions of Geeks in Various Texts," and she aims for readers to see a more complex depiction of geeks or nerds than the typically humorous portrayals seen in pop culture media. Earnest discovered an older definition of what it meant to be a "geek" and described the person as a carnival performer who might do bizarre things to attract an audience, "such as bite the head off a chicken." Earnest's writing was inspired by Jon Katz's book "Geeks: How Two Lost Boys Rode the Internet Out of Idaho," and television characters such as Patrick Jane in "The Mentalist," Sherlock Holmes in "Elementary," and Mr. Finch and John Reese in "Person of Interest," the characters portrayed as very bright individuals who employ rather outrageous techniques to solve crimes.

"I chose this topic because I wanted to look at a contrasting depiction of the nerd or geek in popular media," Earnest said. "I had presented at panels on this topic at SWPACA conferences in Albuquerque, New Mexico."

Once Lane had all of her contributors' abstracts selected, it was time for the process of merging, organizing and summarizing the content of the book.

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## Lane publishes, Earnest contributes...

She also submitted three proposals for the book,

Utilizing media—film, TV, YouTube, Twitter, fiction—that often defines daily lives, Lane and other contributors interrogate what it means to be labeled a “nerd” or “geek.”

“I wrote the introduction and conclusion to the collection,” Lane said. “It took a massive amount of research to do that. Of course serving as the editor I needed to be very knowledgeable about the field in general, so I could check my contributors or make sure something was coming across as clearly as possible – an enormous amount of research and writing and rewriting went into this.

“So it was really an academically rigorous approach to what many people consider an easily dismissed area of study, but our scholarship is really solid.

“Shannon Leaper [research and instructional services librarian and assistant professor of library and information services at Northwestern] was instrumental with helping me with my research, and there are a number of people who helped me. Dr. Jenny Sattler [assistant professor of physics], Dr. Mary Riegel [assistant professor of mathematics], and Leaper all read drafts, gave feedback and helped with visuals just to get another pair of eyes on it because when you’re the editor, you want someone to be honest.”

Lane believes the book brings new light through the various forms of research and perspective for the reader about the common depictions of nerds and geeks.

“I think one of the things I find most interesting about the book is the

interdisciplinary nature of it, like the quantitative Twitter study and an auto-ethnographic piece being side by side in the book. The different perspectives are important, too, because having international contributors, the way they perceive those terms of ‘geek’ and ‘nerd’ are also filtered through another layer of culture.”

She ensured each contributor’s essay was double-peer-reviewed. The manuscript was blindly reviewed an additional four times by the publishing company.

As demanding as this project was for Lane to work on alongside her daily responsibilities as department chair, assistant professor and adviser, she persevered for the opportunity.

“I’ll be honest, the only way I finished this is that I worked like a crazy person every summer and on holiday breaks,” she said. “I don’t know if I would’ve pursued publishing in this area except that Palgrave came to me because they were interested in my titles, they looked me up via SWPACA and the things I’ve done there, so when that falls into your lap it’s like, ‘oh okay, yeah, I’m going to do this,’ because how do you not? It was challenging.”

Lane also believes her topic and being a part of the pop culture organization has had a positive influence on her teaching at Northwestern.

She also has advice for students,

faculty and community members who are looking to pursuing publishing.

“Accept that you will rewrite,” Lane said, adding that her introduction had four distinct versions at some point, and she experienced the same thing with her conclusion. She also noted that all of her contributors ended up rewriting their essays significantly.

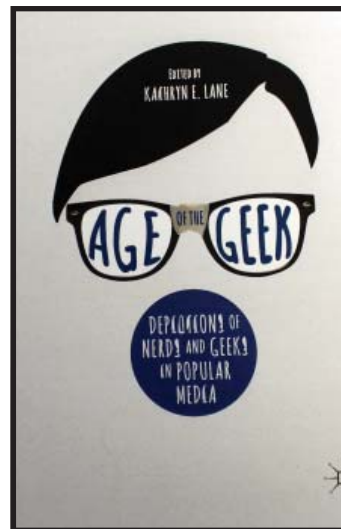
“You want it to be a product that you’re proud of,” Lane said. “It’s the same thing I tell my freshmen. I think it works across the board, and everyone gets busy, and they’re like ‘oh, it’ll be okay; yeah, you turn in a bad paper, oh, there were typos - oh whatever,’ but this is posterity, right? My professional reputation is on the line. I now have an Amazon page and that’s crazy to me.”

So, does Lane consider herself a geek or nerd?

“I think we all geek out about certain things or nerd out about certain things,” she said. “I’m not as technologically savvy, so I might be more of a nerd.”

“Age of the Geek: Depictions of Nerds and Geeks in Popular Media” is currently available on eBook format or hardback on Amazon.com and Palgrave.com for \$80. Lane also donated a copy to the Northwestern library.

Next year the book will be available for purchase in paperback form.



*“Age of the Geek: Depictions of Nerds and Geeks in Popular Media,” had more than 60 downloads in its first month as an e-book. It is currently available for purchase online through Amazon and Palgrave websites as an e-book or hardcover, or for check out through Northwestern’s library.*



# Weast serves as adjudicator for 4A, 6A contests

On Oct. 4-7, Kimberly Weast, Professor of Theatre Arts and Chair to the Department of Fine Arts, judged 6A OSSAA Regional One Act Competition in the Oklahoma City area. It was a good day of observing and critiquing 6A theatre performances.

Weast also served as a judge for the 4A OSSAA State One Act Competition. She said it was a wonderful day of observ-

ing and critiquing state productions, especially to have the top three high school winners from western Oklahoma. Two of the plays were directed by Northwestern Alumni Jason Paris, Cherokee High and Nick Bradt, Alva High.



A large group of painters had a great time at the Watercolor Workshop held in December within the Art Annex in Jesse Dunn. Artist-in-Residence Christine Aria led the workshop and was assisted by Kyle Larson, assistant professor of art.

# Watercolor Workshop enjoyed by many

Members of the Northwestern family got into the holiday spirit while creating some art early in December!

The Visual Arts program and NWOSU Art Society sponsored a free holiday-themed Watercolor

Workshop in the Jesse Dunn Art Annex, room 327.

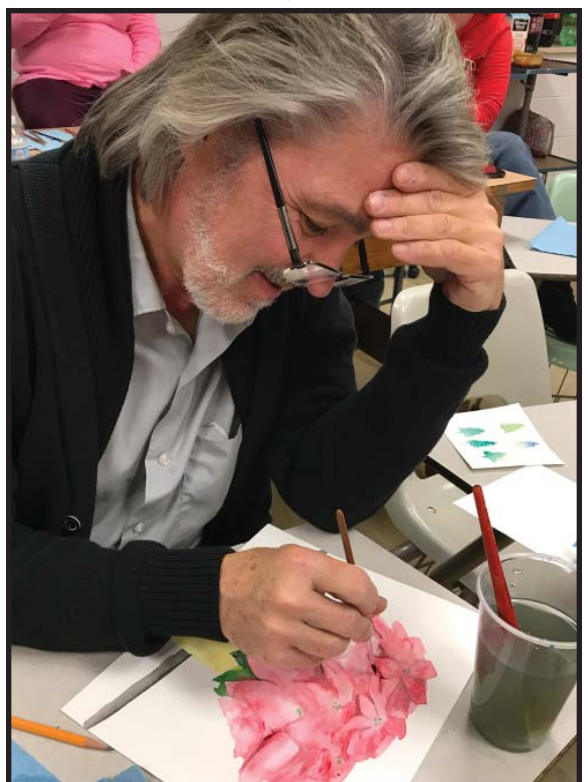
The workshop was led by Artist-in-Residence Christine Aria.

Those in attendance learned some basic water-

color techniques, enjoyed some treats and listened to holiday music while making their pieces of art.



Steve and Margaret Thompson got into the spirit of the evening by learning some basic watercolor techniques.



Max Ridgway made painting this group of poinsettias look easy.

# Faculty, Staff honored for years of service

Northwestern's employees were honored during the 14th annual Employee Service Recognition Ceremony Nov. 14-15.

Ceremonies were held in Alva and Enid to honor employees who work at Alva, Enid and Woodward campus locations.

Dr. Bo Hannaford, vice president for academic affairs, presented Dr. M. Cris Gordon, assistant professor of psychology and chair to the psychology department, the John Barton Distinguished Teaching and Service Award during the annual ceremony. Nominations for the award are made by faculty, staff and students, then the recipient is determined by a selection committee. To be selected, the recipient must be a full-time faculty member at Northwestern and exemplify distinguished teaching and administrative leadership.

Dr. David Pecha, vice president for administration, presented Debbie Skinner, administrative assistant to the vice president for academic affairs, the Thelma Crouch Staff Employee of the Year award. This award was established to recognize exceptional performance and/or service by a member of the Northwestern staff. The recipient of this award shows dedication to Northwestern and its students. The Student Government Association accepts nominations for this award and then determines the recipient.

Employees honored for their years of service are listed by name and job title:

- Five-year service recognition: Dr. Dennis Angle, TRIO-SSS director; Dr. James Bell, associate vice president for academics and dean of faculty; Judy Dollar, payroll accountant; Paige Fischer, director of recruitment; Brooke Fuller, director of

- assessment and institutional effectiveness; Stockton Graves, head rodeo coach; Angie Henson, administrative assistant for the DNP program and service learning coordinator; Leigh Kirby, instructor of psychology; Tim Lauderdale, associate director of athletics for internal operations; Shannon Leaper, research and instructional services librarian; Marvinna Molby, maintenance; Dr. Joseph Nnanna, associate professor of business; Dr. Jen Oswald, assistant professor of education; and Dr. Shelly Wells, professor of nursing and chair to the Division of Nursing

- 10-year service recognition: Matt Adair, instructor of mass communication; Deborah Anderson, custodial supervisor; Rita Castleberry, director of financial aid and scholarships; Dr. Cheryl Kent, assistant professor of nursing and assistant chair to the Division of Nursing; Markangela Kinnett, secretary/health and safety assistant

- 15-year service recognition: Dr. Mary Brune, assistant professor of nursing; Chauncey Durham, ITV assistant coordinator; Sharon McConkey, ITV coordinator; Dr. Dean Scarbrough, professor of agriculture and chair to the Department of Agriculture; Darcie Obermeier, maintenance; Dr. Dena Walker, assistant professor of mathematics; Kimberly Weast, professor of fine arts and chair to the Department of Fine Arts; Janet Valencia, secretary of the Division of Business and Department of Social Work

- 20-year service recognition: Dr. Wayne McMillin, dean of Northwestern-Enid

- 25-year service recognition: Dr. Kay Decker, professor of sociology and chair to the Department of Social Sciences; Susan Jeffries, library services director and assistant professor of library and information services; Kenneth Knabe, HVAC technician; Sheri Lahr, registrar; Natalie Miller, assistant certification officer; Richard Vogel, HVAC lead man and maintenance

Those honored by the SL/CE committee for their ser-



*Northwestern's five-year service award recipients are (from left to right, back row) Dr. Dennis Angle, Brooke Fuller, Tim Lauderdale, Dr. Jen Oswald; (left to right, front row) Marvinna Molby, Shannon Leaper, Dr. Shelly Wells, Stockton Graves, and Paige Fischer. Not pictured are Judy Dollar, Angie Henson, Leigh Kirby, Dr. Joseph Nnanna and Dr. James Bell.*



*Northwestern's 10-year service award recipients are (from left to right) Matt Adair, Deborah Anderson, Rita Castleberry, and Markangela Kinnett. Not Pictured is Dr. Cheryl Kent.*



*Northwestern's 15-year service award recipients are (from left to right, back row) Janet Valencia, Kimberly Weast, Dr. Dean Scarbrough; (front row, left to right) Darcie Obermeier and Dr. Dena Walker. Not pictured are Dr. Mary Brune and Chauncey Durham.*

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# Faculty, Staff honored...

vice learning initiatives included:

- Greatest Student Involvement: Dr. Ramona Bartlow, assistant professor of



*Dr. James Bell presents Northwestern's 20-year service award to Dr. Wayne McMillin (right).*



*Northwestern's 25-year service award recipients are (from left to right) Sheri Lahr, Dr. Kay Decker, Susan Jeffries and Natalie Miller. Not pictured are Kenneth Knabe and Richard Vogel.*



*Crouch Award Recipient with family: Debbie Skinner received the Thelma Crouch Staff Employee of the Year award. With her to accept her award is her family (from left to right) Kellcie Burnett, Mark Skinner and Lane Skinner.*

nursing, for having the greatest student involvement in the Nursing Leadership Service Learning course during the 2016-17 academic year

- Greatest Community Impact: Dr. Kylene Rehder, associate professor of social work and chair to the Department of Social Work, for having the greatest community impact with the service learning in the Division of Social Work during the 2016-17 academic year

- Applaud Award: Dr. Marc Decker, assistant professor of music and director of bands, along with the Northwestern Pep Band for their extraordinary service during the 2016-17 academic year

- Most Expressive Award: Rebecca Cook, international student adviser, for having the most expressive club/organization project and events during the 2016-17 academic year with the Festival of Cultures

- Distinguished Service Award: Kirk Rogers, instructor for criminal justice, for extraordinary service in the Criminal Justice Internship Service Learning Course during the 2016-17 academic year

Several employees also were recognized during the ceremony for their service to the Faculty Senate, Staff Council and Professional Staff Council, as well as for

Grant and Diversity Initiatives.

Grant and Diversity Initiative recognitions recipients were: Jennifer Pribble, assistant professor of social work; Tammy Brown, assistant professor of speech and chair to the Communication Department; Dr. Leslie Collins, assistant professor of nursing and assistant chair to the Division of Nursing; Dr. Jennifer Page, assistant professor of English; Dr. Roxie James, assistant professor for the English, Foreign Language and Humanities Department; Dr. Kate Lane, associate professor of English and Chair to the English, Foreign Language and Humanities Department; Sadiia Jones, assistant director of Athletics for Compliance and Student Services; Craig Liddell, head women's soccer coach and instructor of health and sports science; Dr. Steven Mackie, associate professor of education; Josh Hawkins, instructor of education; Ken Kelsey, instructor of history and fine arts; Karsten Longhurst, instructor of music and director of choral studies; Kyle Larson, assistant professor of art; Dr. Tim Maharry, professor of mathematics and chair to the Mathematics and Computer Science Department; Dr. Roger Brown, assistant professor of business; Taylor Randolph, instructor of psychology; Jason Ogg, patron services assistant; Dr. Wei Zhou, associate professor of business; Ralph Bourret, associate professor of business; Dr. Francisco Martinez, professor of Spanish; Marc Decker and Cook.



*John Barton Award: Dr. Bo Hannaford (right) presents Dr. M. Cris Gordon (left) the John Barton Distinguished Teaching and Service Award.*

# Hundreds attend Homecoming

Hundreds gathered around the downtown square on Saturday, Sept. 30, for Northwestern's annual Homecoming parade, then headed to Ranger Field to hear the massed bands perform, learn who the Ranger Royalty and homecoming button winners would be, and watch a close Ranger football game, all to celebrate Northwestern's homecoming.

The theme was "Come Back, Give Back, Continue the Legacy..." People came from all over to be in Alva for this event.

Leading the parade on Saturday was parade marshal Dr. Peggy Wisdom, 1968 graduate of Northwestern. Wisdom has developed a distinguished career in medicine and teaching. She is a professor and vice chairman of neurology at the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center.

After the conclusion of the parade, the winners of the floats and bands were announced.

First place for on-campus floats was Alpha Sigma Alpha, second

place was Delta Zeta, and third place was Northwestern's Student Government Association (SGA).

In the off-campus, non-profit float category first place went to Cherokee Strip Museum #1, Rose Blunk's float; second place to the Woods County Democrats; and third place to Cherokee Strip Museum #2,



*Dr. Peggy Wisdom leads the 2017 Northwestern Homecoming Parade.*

Yvonne Thilstead's float.

In the off-campus, commercial business float category, first place went to Alva State Bank, second place to BancCentral and third place to Beadles Nursing Home.

The President's Award and Northwestern's Alumni Ranger Spirit Award for floats both went to Alva State Bank.

Bands who participated in the parade and received recognition in the middle school category included first place Pioneer-Pleasant Vale Middle School and second place was Blackwell Middle School; first

place for 2A was Pioneer-Pleasant Vale High School, second was Laverne High School; first place for 3A was Chisholm High School, second place for Alva High School; first place for 4A was Hugoton High School, second place was Kingfisher High School; and first place for 5A was Woodward High School. Also participating were Kismet, Kan., Burlington, Garber, Cimarron, Waukomis, Turpin, Ringwood, Newkirk and Seiling.

Nearly 1,000 students from 19 schools from Oklahoma and Kansas participated in the parade and the massed-band performance. This was one of the largest massed bands hosted in recent history.

Northwestern played host to several other activities, from pep rallies and reunions, to the annual collaborations of the current and past band members and the current and alumni cheerleaders, to the crowning of the Ranger King and Queen.

Northwestern's Ranger Royalty was announced during the halftime event. Ranger King is Demetri T. Wilson of Homestead, Florida. He is a junior criminal justice major and is a health and sports science education minor. Wilson was sponsored by the Northwestern football team. He is a student assistant coach for the team. Wilson is the son of Clayrinski D. Wilson and Akiko Wilson.

Ranger Queen is Sadie Vore, a junior early childhood education major from Burlington. Vore was sponsored by the Baptist Collegiate Ministry, and she is the Student Government Association secretary. Vore is the daughter of Shane and Shannon Vore.



*Lisa, Danny (Northwestern alums) and Ava Zarella make the rounds at the student organization booths on the square at Homecoming. They visited the Chem Club's Candy Stop and the Student Nurses' Association's food booth.*



*Continued on Page 13*

Continued from Page 12

# Hundreds attend...

Kelsi Smith of Burlington was crowned Freshman Queen during the Ranger Royalty Finalist banquet. Smith is a nursing major. She is the daughter of Aaron and Kandi Smith.

Winner of the Northwestern homecoming button drawing for the \$500 Alva Chamber Bucks was freshman Mason Monsees of Enid, criminal justice major.

Northwestern's on-campus activities had a great turnout of decorations that showed Ranger spirit.

First place for the on-campus Paint Palooza Board Competition was Math Club, with the International Student Association taking second place.

The winner of the residence hall decoration contest was Fryer Hall. The building winner was Carter Hall for the Division of Nursing.

Northwestern's Homecoming Committee added a drawing incentive for button salespersons where two winners could take home \$50 in Chamber Bucks. The winner of the drawing for button salespersons for on-campus sales was Valarie Case, university relations specialist for Northwestern, and the winner for off-campus sales was Michelle Shelite.

"Thank you to everyone who sold and purchased Northwestern homecoming buttons and to those merchants who provided incentives to be used with these buttons," Karen Koehn, Homecoming button chair, said. "This is a great community, and the support you invest in our university's homecoming is heartwarming! Homecoming festivities are only successful when the entire community comes together to make it work! You continue to inspire me and restate my favorite saying, 'Lucky me...I live in Alva, OK!'"

Homecoming is a community effort, and the homecoming committee is grateful for everyone who made the week and official homecoming day a success.

"This year's homecoming was amazing," said Dr. David Pecha, homecoming chairman and vice president for administration. "There are so many

hard working people to thank for putting in countless hours to make it the incredible event it was for not only Northwestern students, faculty and staff but the entire community as well."

Photos from the homecoming events can be found at <https://nwosuhomecoming.shutterstock.com/>.



*Northwestern's Homecoming was less than 100 people shy of having a 1,000-person band on Ranger Field for the massed band performance. This was one of the largest performances in recent history.*



# Eclipse Day is a hit on campus

A solar eclipse took place on Aug. 21 – the first day of classes at Northwestern – and the Department of Natural Sciences played host to a watch party for students and employees.

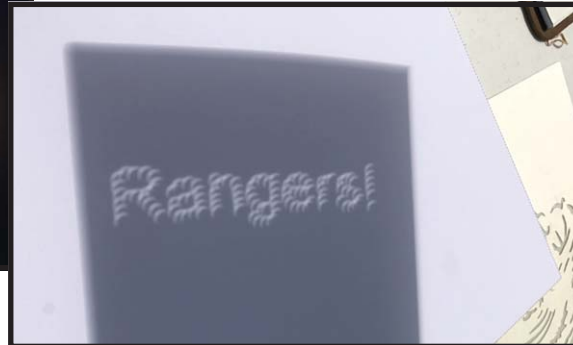
Viewers went to the Green Space on the northwest corner of the Alva campus to view the phenomenon safely through telescopes from 11:34 a.m. to 2:31 p.m., with the high point of the eclipse being at 1:02 p.m.

Every incoming freshman and transfer student received a pair of certified glasses in their orientation packet. The Department of Natural Sciences had 100 extra pairs of eclipse viewing glasses at the event for people to have and share, along with two telescopes

set up with proper filters for viewing at higher magnification and for taking pictures through the eyepieces. Oversized social

media frames were available for selfies.

Another total solar eclipse will not happen again until 2024.



*Check out the interesting shadow pattern from this template during the Eclipse. (top) Dr. Jenny Sattler (right) takes a few moments to reset the telescope for better viewing.*



*This group got together for a group photo during eclipse activities on August 21.*



*Dr. Bell and Dr. Cunningham had fun with one of the templates made for Eclipse Day fun!*



*Many students and employees took advantage of the telescopes, glasses and fun during the eclipse in August.*

## Nuring program is tops in state, ranked No. 18 in central U.S.

Northwestern's nursing program has been named the 18th best out of 754 nursing schools in the central United States by Nursejournal.org. Criteria used for the ranking included quality, affordability, convenience, satisfaction and value.

Northwestern is the top-ranked Oklahoma nursing school in this listing.

"Anytime Northwestern nursing is recognized regionally or nationally, it acknowledges the hard work of our students and the devotion of our faculty to the profession of nursing," Dr. Shelly Wells, professor of nursing and chair of the Division of Nursing, said. "The Division of Nursing has worked tirelessly to address the health care needs of the citizens of Northwest Oklahoma and the surrounding

areas. It is our hope that this recognition will attract more men and women to the nursing program at Northwestern."

Northwestern's nursing program currently has 59 students in the Bachelor of Science in Nursing program and the online RN-to-BSN degree program. The first official se-



mester of the BSN-to-DNP program has 19 students pursuing a doctorate as a nurse practitioner.

The nursing program ranks among the top in the state for national RN licensing examination (NCLEX) pass rates. The BSN program is accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing, Inc. (ACEN) and is approved by the Oklahoma Board of Nursing (OBN). The BSN-to-DNP program for Family Nurse Practitioners has received provisional approval from the Oklahoma Board of Nursing.

For more information on Northwestern's nursing degree programs, visit [www.nwsu.edu/school-of-professional-studies/nursing](http://www.nwsu.edu/school-of-professional-studies/nursing) or contact Wells at (580) 327-8489 or [scwells@nwsu.edu](mailto:scwells@nwsu.edu).

## Pi Gamma Nu established for Social Sciences

Northwestern's Department of Social Sciences has established a chapter (Oklahoma Kappa) of Pi Gamma Mu. Formed in 1924 and based out of Winfield, Kansas, the honor society seeks "to encourage and promote excellence in the social sciences and to uphold the ideals of scholarship and service." It represents the oldest and preeminent honor society in the social sciences. About 150 chapters are active today in the United States and abroad.



Dr. Kay Decker, professor of sociology and chair of the department of social sciences, and Prof. Jana Brown, instructor of history and pro-

gram coordinator of social sciences, are serving as faculty sponsors of this new chapter at Northwestern.

Membership is open to juniors, seniors, graduate students, online students, and faculty. Applicants for admission must have earned twenty hours in social science-related classes with a "B" grade average. The honor society accepts individuals from the fields of anthropology, criminal justice, economics, history, history of education,

human and cultural geography, international relations, political science, psychology, social philosophy, social work, and sociology.

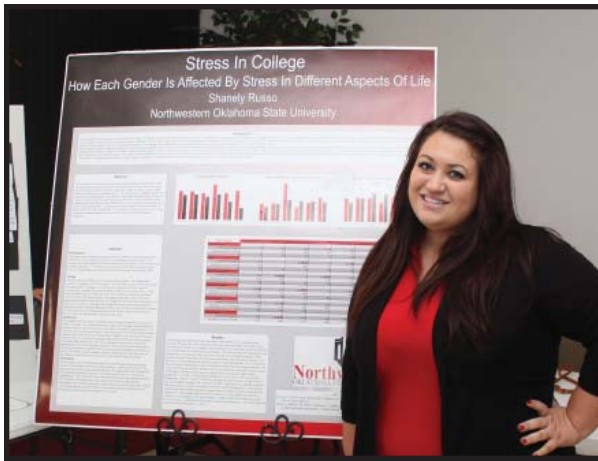
At no cost to the university, numerous benefits are made available to Pi Gamma Mu members. They are eligible to apply for one of eleven annual scholarships, present research papers at international and regional conventions, and submit articles for publication in the organization's peer-reviewed professional journal. Moreover, members interested in federal employment enjoy the opportunity for advancement in government service rating.

Interdisciplinary in nature, Pi Gamma Mu stipulates that each chapter is also eligible to apply for up to \$300 in annual lectureship grants.

For more information on joining Pi Gamma Mu at Northwestern, please contact Prof. Jana Brown at (580) 327-8521 or [jdbrown@nwsu.edu](mailto:jdbrown@nwsu.edu).

# 46 Participants compete in Research Day, state competition in March

Northwestern's Alva campus played host to the 12th annual Ranger Research Day in the Student Center Ballroom, where 38 projects were entered with 46 participants having the opportunity to display, share and discuss their research with peers, professors and the Alva community.



*Shanely Russo of Cherokee won first place in the Psychology category of poster presentations on her research topic, "Stress in College: How Each Gender Is Affected by Stress in Different Aspects of Life."*

Graduate and undergraduate students created poster presentations or prepared oral presentations of academic research papers conducted in one of their classes. All presenters have been encouraged to attend Oklahoma Research Day on March 9, 2018, which Northwestern will host at Enid's Central National Bank Center. Registration for Oklahoma Research Day is now open at [www.oklahomaresearchday.com](http://www.oklahomaresearchday.com).

Student poster entries were critiqued and eligible for awards. Winners with hometown, classification, research project name and sponsor include:

Psychology category first place went to Shanely Russo, senior psy-

chology major from Cherokee, for her project titled "Stress in College: How Each Gender Is Affected by Stress in Different Aspects of Life." Randolph Taylor, instructor of psychology, was Russo's sponsor.

Second place for psychology went to Whitney Hake, senior psychology major from Enid, for her project titled "Interactions between Number of ACE Exposure, Treatment Effects, and Teenage Pregnancy." Taylor was Hake's sponsor.

Third place for psychology went to Kaylen McCary, senior psychology major from Enid, for her project titled, "Life Satisfaction and Pet Ownership." Taylor was McCary's sponsor.

First place in the category of history went to Brandy Hinesley-Chambers, senior general studies major from Shawnee, for her project titled "The Greenwood Massacre." Dr. Eric Schmaltz, professor of history, was Hinesley-Chambers' sponsor.

Second place for history went to Clinton Shelton, junior social sciences major from Henderson, Kentucky, for his project titled "The Hitlerjugend (Hitler Youth): A Case Study of Manipulation and Indoctrination of German Youth, 1926–

1945." Schmaltz and Jana Brown, instructor of history, were Shelton's sponsors.

In the biology category, first place went to Willow Gahr, senior biology major from Carmen, for her project titled "Rattle Me This: One Trial Learning in Rattlesnakes." Dr. Aaron Place, professor of biology, was Gahr's sponsor.

Second place for biology went to Audrey Estes, senior biology major from Alva, for her project titled "Bacteria and Spice Correlation." Dr. Venkata Moorthy, professor of biology, was her sponsor.

For the physics category, Gahr won first place for her project titled "AI: Arduino Investigation." Dr. Steven Maier, professor of physics, was her sponsor.

For the nursing category, first place went to Ashley Putnam, senior nursing major from Ponca City, and Taylor Kennedy, senior nursing major from Fairfax, for their project titled "Alternative Therapy in Decreasing Preeclampsia." Dr. Leslie Collins, assistant professor of nurs-

*Continued on Page 17*



*Ashley Putnam (left) and Taylor Kennedy (right) won first place in the Nursing category of poster presentations for their project titled "Alternative Therapy in Decreasing Preeclampsia."*



# Research Day...



*Brandy Hinesley-Chambers, of Shawnee, won first place in the history category of poster presentations and first place in the history category for research papers on her research project titled "The Greenwood Massacre."*

ing and assistant chair of the Division of Nursing, was their sponsor.

Second place in nursing went to Whitney Johnson, senior nursing major from Lamont, and Tanya Karnes, senior nursing major from Beaver, for their project titled "Fighting the Prevalence of Heart Failure Readmission." Collins was their sponsor.

Third place in nursing went to April Troop, senior nursing major from Enid, and Jada LaFosse, senior nursing major from Garber, for their project titled "Quantifying Blood Loss in Postpartum Hemorrhage." Collins was their sponsor.

Students oral presentations on research papers were also eligible for awards. Winners with hometown, classification, research paper title and sponsor include:

In the English category, first place went to Ashley Wilson, graduate student in the Master of Arts in American Studies program from Freedom, for her paper titled "Hu-

man Nature and the Western Frontier: Exposing the Inevitability of Groupthink and Vigilante Justice in Walter Van Tilburg Clark's The Ox-Bow Incident." Dr. Shawn Holliday, associate dean of graduate studies, professor of English and director of the Master of Arts in American Studies program,

was Wilson's sponsor.

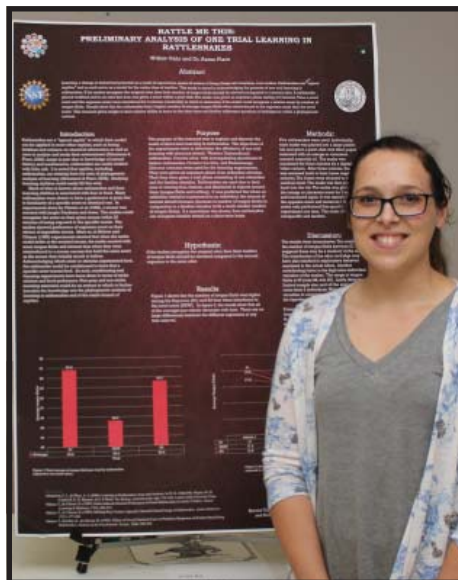
Second in English was Cortney Emerson, sophomore English major from Enid, for her paper titled, "Challenging Society: How Kate Chopin Changed Society's View of Women." Dr. Kathryn Lane,

associate professor of English and Chair to the English, Foreign Language and Humanities Department, was Emerson's sponsor.

In the History category, first place was awarded to Hinesley-Chambers for her research paper titled "The Greenwood Massacre," which was also entered as a poster presentation. Schmaltz was her sponsor.

Holliday said he believes students and community members who are interested in pursuing a graduate degree should participate in Ranger Research Day as well as Oklahoma Research Day because research is an integral part of graduate studies.

For more information on Ranger Research Day, visit [www.nwsu.edu/ranger-research-day](http://www.nwsu.edu/ranger-research-day) or contact Holliday at (580) 327-8589 or [sholliday@nwsu.edu](mailto:sholliday@nwsu.edu).



*Willow Gahr won first place in the biology category of poster presentations for her project titled "Rattle Me This: One Trial Learning in Rattlesnakes."*



*Willow Gahr won first place in the physics category of the poster presentations for her project titled "AI: Arduino Investigation."*

# Chisholm Trail Symposium held in Enid on 150th Anniversary

Northwestern's Department of Social Sciences and the Northwestern Institute for Citizenship Studies hosted the Chisholm Trail Symposium on Friday, Sept. 15, at the Northwestern - Enid campus in commemoration of the trail's 150th anniversary.



Jana Brown, instructor of history from Northwestern's Department of Social Sciences, and Ken Kelsey, instructor of history from Northwestern's Department of Social Sciences and instructor of fine arts from the Department of Fine Arts, helped organize this special event.

Scholars, students, and members of the general public were invited to



*Many were in attendance and enjoyed lectures and discussion during the Chisholm Trail Symposium held on Northwestern's Enid Campus.*

participate. Professional development certificates were also issued to teachers who attended the symposium.

Participants were able to engage in discussion and listen to scholarly presentations during the day-long event. Dr. Bob Blackburn, executive director of the Oklahoma Historical Society, gave the keynote address during the luncheon. In addition, participants and panelists heard lectures from Dr. Brad Bays, associate professor of geography at Oklahoma State University; Historian Frank Norris from the National Park Service; and Jim Fulbright, author of numerous books, including "Trails to Old Pond Creek: The Early Days of Trade & Travel in Northwestern Oklahoma."

A Chisholm Trail Drover from the Oklahoma Historical Society also performed for the audience, while Northwestern's University Singers, under the direction of Karsten Longhurst, director of choral studies, sang several musical numbers befitting the trail's historical legacy to the region.



*Jim Fulbright*

One of the day's highlights was a special presentation honoring Enid historian Robert Klemme. Thanks to Visit Enid, a two-disc DVD set discussing the Chisholm Trail and Bob Klemme was made available for purchase at the symposium.



*Mr. Bob Klemme receives special recognition during the Chisholm Trail Symposium from Taylor Skouby and Kelly Tompkins, Main Street Enid, as Ken Kelsey looks on.*



*This Chisholm Trail Drover, a historical interpreter, was provided by the Oklahoma Historical Society.*

# Social Work students receive program stipends

Northwestern's Department of Social Work announced Northwestern-Woodward junior Marsellia Rael and Northwestern-Enid junior Denise Tyrell as the stipend recipients of the Child Welfare Professional Enhancement Program (CWPEP) for the 2017-2018 academic year.

CWPEP provides funds for students who plan careers in child welfare services in Oklahoma. The stipends are awarded to full-time

students majoring in social work and provide money toward educational expenses to participating students. Students who receive the stipends



*Marsellia Rael*

complete educational internships in child welfare agencies within the Oklahoma Department of Human Services (OKDHS). Upon graduation, students are assured employment in the participating DHS programs.

"I am majoring in social work because there is nothing better than helping children who are going to be the future," Rael said. "I'm lucky enough to be a recipient of the CWPEP and plan on utilizing my education to help families and children improve their lifestyles and bring opportunities to them."

Denise Tyrell said, "My reason for choosing a social work degree, and more specifically Child Wel-

fare, is because I want to make a difference in someone's life. I want my career to have purpose, and I feel like Social Work is the best way to fulfill that. As a Child Welfare specialist, I hope to be an advocate for children and families. I intend to use what I learn during my studies at Northwestern to further this goal."

"The social work program is proud to administer the CWPEP program and play an essential role in securing and retaining quality social workers in the public child welfare system," Dr. Kylene Rehder, Department of Social Work Chair, CWPEP coordinator, and associate profes-



*Denise Tyrell*

sor of social work said. "CWPEP at Northwestern has graduated 15 students, resulting in more than \$115,000 being awarded in educational assistance."

CWPEP is a Title IV-E partnership between the University of Oklahoma, the Oklahoma Department of Human Services, the US Department of Health and Human Services Administration for Children and Families Council, and Council of Social Work Education (CSWE) in accredited social work programs in Oklahoma. The University of Oklahoma manages the child welfare consortium. Other partners along with Northwestern include East Central University and Oral Roberts University.

Funding for the educational program is provided by Title IV-E of the social security act, called the Child Welfare Training program.

## Decker named to two state advisory boards

Dr. Kay Decker was named to two state boards, Oklahoma Main Street Advisory Board of Directors and the Oklahoma Affordable Housing Coalition Board of Directors, this past semester. Her terms of service will continue for the next four years.

As a board member for Oklahoma Main Street, she will assist in planning new initiatives and goals for the Main Street program across the state. Oklahoma's Main Street Program is a Division of the State Dept. of Commerce and carries out the mission of the National

Trust's Main Street program.

The Oklahoma Affordable Housing Coalition Board supports the mission of the National Affordable Housing Coalition in its goal of preserving and developing affordable, quality housing for all Americans.



*Dr. Kay Decker*

# 'AIR' Program welcomes three in fall

The Visual Arts program played host to three artists who lived and worked at NWOSU for a month at a time during Fall 2017. The Artist-in-Residence (AIR) program provides the gift of time for the artists, allowing them the opportunity to create their works in a quiet environment, while also exposing the community to new and interesting ideas.

Each artist worked with visual arts students on a weekly basis and involved students in art projects. They also held culminating exhibitions of the work they created at NWOSU during the First Friday Art Walks downtown and on campus.

## September AIR Robert Camacho

Robert's background in writing has helped him develop a strong linguistically-based art philosophy. He received his Bachelor of Fine Arts in Creative Writing, Literature and Publishing from Emerson College in 2003, and an MFA in Painting from Boston University in 2013.

Robert states: I believe that art is a primary function of the innate capacity of human communication and

do not differentiate it from language. The different methods of image production are, to me, various forms of linguistic/symbolic expression.

What my work focuses on is the odd and not well understood dynamic of symbol manipulation. Symbol manipulation is extremely complicated and yet we perform the function of reading a painting with great ease. This tension is interesting to me. I agree with Gombrich that painting is experimentation.

Robert gave an artist lecture at the Graceful Arts Center on Oct. 3 and exhibited the work he created during his stay at Northwestern at the Runnymede on Oct. 6.

## October AIR Laura DeAngelis

Laura DeAngelis is a multi-faceted artist currently living and working in Boulder Creek, Calif. She graduated in 2012 with an MA in Studio Art from California State University, Sacramento, and earned a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Nevada in 2006.

About her work, Laura states: "My work explores the human condition through various mediums, with

emphasis in photography. I am interested in the duality of human nature - internal/external - and the notion of occupying a liminal space. My work is often influenced by existential thought and psychology. More recently, I have been exploring the



October Artist-in-Residence was Laura DeAngelis. She stands among the pieces included in the collaborative project with the Visual Arts Students.

ephemeral, using photography as a means to communicate time and document temporary structures. Color is a thread that runs through my work and is used to suggest emotive qualities and to highlight visual and formal relationships."

Laura gave an artist lecture at the Graceful Arts Center on Oct. 31 and exhibited the work she created at Northwestern at the Runnymede on Nov. 3. This body of work included a collaborative project with Visual Arts students that incorporated self-portraits they painted on Plexiglas and Laura's photography.

## November AIR Christine Aria

Christine Aria is a San Francisco-based painter. Her intensive representations of the figure range in size from larger-than-life-size portraits

*Continued on Page 21*



Artist -in-Residence Robert Camacho worked on campus in September. He presented his work at the First Friday Art Walk on Oct. 6 at the Runnymede.

# Larson shows work in solo OKC exhibit

Assistant Professor of Art Kyle Larson exhibited his work in a solo show, “Better Off Lost,” at IAO Gallery in Oklahoma City. The opening reception was held on Friday, August 18. This exhibit was on display through Sept. 23.

Pictures of the show can be found at: <http://kyle-larson.com/Install-Views/Better-Off-Lost-IAO-OKC>



*In August, Kyle Larson exhibited his work in a solo show, “Better Off Lost,” at IAO Gallery in Oklahoma City.*

*Continued from Page 20*

## ‘AIR’ Program...

to small paintings on curled scraps and translucent papers.

On Friday, Dec. 1, Christine exhibited the work she made at Northwestern in the Jesse Dunn Tower, located on the 4th floor of the Jesse Dunn Building on the Alva campus. Her new body of work contemplates the role of oil consumption in our lives and culture.

Christine states: “What do we mean when we talk about “oil consumption”? The average American uses around three gallons of oil a day. It is an essential part of our economy; it drives our vehicles, flies our planes, is the base for the synthetic products we use in the household or in the clothing we wear. It is even part of the food we eat.

“Why paint or write or even think about any of this? Because oil is a finite resource. We have already used over half of the earth’s oil supply, in just about a century’s worth of consumption. I use petroleum products every hour of every day, and I wanted to take a moment to slow down and learn about why and how it has become such an essential

part of my existence.

“This body of work began in Alva. It observes the intimate, complex relationship humans have with our petroleum products. It is about the oil jacks that litter the landscape, rocking up and down. It is about the refineries—their necessity and their ugliness. It is about the everyday life that is enabled by petroleum products. It is about the history of oil, of the automobile, of American innovation and destruction and of our need for speed and convenience, which always go hand-in-hand.

“As energy industries continue to innovate and markets shift, as fossil fuel resources be-

come scarcer and renewable energy sources become more abundant, this multimedia installation opens the door to consider humanity’s relationship with oil, and how it will inevitably change within our lifetimes.”

Christine provided an artist talk in the Jesse Dunn Tower and also helped guide the Holiday Watercolor Workshop, both on Dec. 5.



*Christine Aria was the November Artist-in-Residence at Northwestern. She exhibited her work in the Jesse Dunn Tower, located on the fourth floor of the building. This work contemplated the role of oil consumption in our lives and culture.*

# Armstrong attends journalism annual meeting

Dr. Kaylene Armstrong, assistant professor of mass communication, attended the American Journalism Historians Association annual meeting in Little Rock, Arkansas, in October.

As the chair of the AJHA Education Committee, Armstrong solicited nominations for the Excellence in Teaching Award, managed the selection process and then presented the award at the annual meeting.

The annual conference includes three days of research discussions and presentations about journalism history. This year's conference also provided a historic tour of Little Rock, including a visit to Central High School, the site of federal court-ordered integration in 1957 that led to what is known as the Little Rock Crisis.

AJHA was founded in 1981, with the majority of its membership drawn from college and university professors who teach and/or research journalism history. The organization's mission is to "advance education and research in mass communication history. Through its annual convention, regional conferences, committees, awards, speakers, and publications,

members work to raise historical standards and ensure that all scholars and students recognize the vast importance of media history and apply this knowledge to the advancement of society."



*Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas, remains virtually unchanged since court-ordered integration in 1957. While the first nine black students to integrate then were certainly in a minority, today the school has a majority of black students attending.*

# Larson to lead Study Abroad trip

Northwestern's Study Abroad Committee has its sights set on taking a tour group to Europe in May 2018. Study abroad trips are not only for Northwestern students and employees but are open to community members as well. Hurry, the last day to enroll for the adventure is Friday, Feb. 9.

Travelers will spend 10 days abroad, earn college credit, and experience something new. With comfortable walking shoes the travelers can take

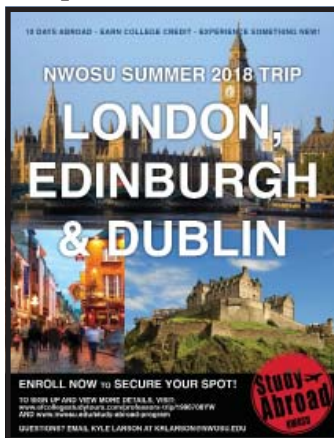
to the streets of three of Europe's most spellbinding cities – London, England; Edinburgh, Scotland; and Dublin, Ireland.

Still going strong after nearly 900 years, Edinburgh's dramatic cityscape includes a medley of tangled cobble streets in Old Town and the quiet elegance of New Town. In London, the group will discover exactly what made a quarter of the world run through the Thames. Travelers will see the Book

of Kells at Trinity College in Dublin, and more.

To learn more about the trip including dates, pricing and payment plans, visit [www.nwsu.edu/study-abroad](http://www.nwsu.edu/study-abroad).

Kyle Larson, assistant professor of art, is the group leader for this study abroad adventure. Larson has very recently attended a training trip to Paris for the upcoming trip. He may be reached at [klarson@nwsu.edu](mailto:klarson@nwsu.edu) or (580) 327-8108.



*Kyle Larson near the Eiffel Tower.*

# Writing Marathon held Oct. 6

The English program played host to a Writing Marathon workshop in downtown Alva on Friday, Oct. 6, at the Graceful Arts Center.

“This event is called a ‘writing marathon’ but requires no running,” Dr. Kathryn Lane, associate professor of English and chair of the English, Foreign Language and Humanities Department, joked. “The goal of a writing marathon is to allow the writer to commune with a location, furthering their sense of place and comradery. It takes the concept of writer from solitary to communal. Frankly, it’s fun.”

The day kicked off at 10 a.m. at the Graceful Arts Center with the entire group writing one round together. From 10:30-10:40 a.m. participants broke into groups of no more than four and headed out into downtown Alva to writer-friendly locations. Each group picked its first destination and decided how long they wanted to write, then shared their work among the group. From there, participants either wrote an-

other round or moved to a new location for more inspiration.

This continued until 1 p.m., when everyone reconvened at the Graceful Arts Center for a “read-around” during which writers could

share up to two minutes of their work. There was no requirement for participants to share their work.

“A writing marathon is a writing experience that you have to try to fully appreciate,” Dr. Lane said.



*Dr. Kathryn Lane, front, works on her first piece for the Writing Marathon held at the Graceful Arts Center in October. Several students and faculty members took part in the day’s activities.*



*Dr. Kathy Earnest writes a selection using the artwork in front of her as her inspiration.*



*On Dec. 4, Northwestern Oklahoma State University’s Department of Fine Arts played host to a festive event for low brass titled “Holiday Tubas.” Students, directors and community members joined for the fun holiday event.*

# “McQuadle: A Dragon’s Tale” entertains kids

Nineteen Northwestern students took to the Herod Hall Auditorium stage Nov. 16-18 for the annual children’s production, “McQuadle: A Dragon’s Tale.”

More than 1,100 elementary students from surrounding schools attended four shows just for them Thursday and Friday, Nov. 16-17. Another show open to the public was presented on Saturday, Nov. 18.

Kimberly Weast, professor of theatre and chair of the Department of Fine Arts, was the director.

According to Pioneer Drama, play publisher website, the production is about McQuadle, a dragon who wants to know his purpose in life, and he will go to almost any length to find it out — even if it means visiting an Evil Queen who lives in a castle on top of the hill.

The cast for the play, their majors, classifications and hometowns along with the characters portrayed, includes: Taylor Alexander, English freshman from Duncan, as “McQuadle;” Michelle Willson, mass communication freshman from Conway Springs, Kansas, as “Little Foot;” Tori Hurley, speech/theatre senior from Sheffield, Iowa, as “Assistant” and “First Wizard;” Mickey Jordan, speech/theatre senior from Iowa Park, Texas, as “Eugene;” Mary Berntsen, freshman undecided major from Conway Springs, Kansas, as “Fairy Princess;” Katherine Blair, instrumental music sophomore from Waynoka, as “First Daughter;” Albert Zedan Borrie, music junior from Tonkawa, as “Chad;” Michael Day, nursing freshman from Okeene, as “Jack of All Trades;” Chloe Henderson, psychology freshman from Conway Springs, Kansas, as “Evil Queen;” Elizabeth Jackson, early childhood education freshman from Yukon, as “Second Daughter;” Dalton Jantz, computer science freshman from Helena, as “Second Jester;” Peyton Lucas, psychology freshman from Fairview, as “Bully” and “Announcer;” Allison Smith, speech/theatre sophomore from Hawkins, Texas, as “Britany;” Madison

Wilson, speech/theatre sophomore from Enid, as “Little Red;” Nicholas Wygle, biology junior from Noble, as “Thurman” and “Lead Wizard;” Ethan Sacket, business administration freshman from Aline, as “First Jester;” Tiffany Willson, business administration sophomore from Conway Springs, Kansas, as “Wee Wee” and “Second Wizard;” Karlie Osborn, history senior from Alva, as “Miracle;” and Michelle Penner, Master of Education graduate student from Cherokee, as “Mother Dragon.”

Production team members, their majors, classifications and hometowns are: Weast and Jordan as scenic designers; Jordan as scenic artist; Weast and Hurley as lighting design; Crosby Dunbar, speech/theatre freshman from Owasso, as lighting board operator; Wygle and Sara Wilson, biology freshman from Alva, as

audio design; Sara Wilson as audio board operator; Alica Hall, Master of American Studies graduate student from Alva, as costume mistress; Meghan Webb, biology sophomore from Alva, as costume assistant; Smith, Dunbar, Madison Wilson, and Jordan as prop masters; Hurley and Wygle as master carpenters; Hurley as make-up design; Wygle, Jordan, Blair, Penner, and Allison as make-up assistants; Hurley as graphic design; Amanda Metcalf, instrumental music junior from Enid, and Tiffany Willson as house managers; and Hurley and Tiffany Willson for public relations/advertising.

The Northwestern students serving as the cast and crew in this production fulfilled class requirements for Weast’s Theatre Production I and II and Acting I courses.



*The Evil Queen (Chloe Henderson) tricks McQuadle (Taylor Alexander) during the fall production of “McQuadle”.*



*The Fairy Princess (Mary Berntsen) saves the day... or not.*



# Sacket begins collegiate career with national FFA award

Ethan Sacket, Northwestern Oklahoma State University freshman from Aline, qualified this spring for the National Future Farmers of America (FFA) convention held in October in Indianapolis, where his team won the National Marketing Plan CDE from FFA.

Sacket and high school classmates Maggie Martens and Addison Spicer presented their marketing plan focused on an expansion with the Freed Family Farms of Fairview. In the Marketing Plan CDE division of the FFA, the scoring is based on the team as a whole and not individual scores.

The three presented a hypothetical marketing plan that was focused on the Freed's extra produce and what to do with it, along with the existing two empty greenhouses that were available to be turned into an addition to the Freed's business as a new-age meal kit delivery service. The delivery service, using FedEx delivery rates, would be provided to customers within Oklahoma, and a one-day delivery radius, as well as to major cities such as Dallas, Denver, and Kansas City. Each meal kit is an individual meal, complete with produce and meat, along with step-by-step instructions on how to cook the meal. To order a meal kit, a minimum of three servings must be purchased priced at \$9 each and could be purchased any time with an overnight delivery, excluding Monday deliveries.

"It was a combination of my adviser and the others on our team," Sacket said about who helped motivate the development of the initial meal kit delivery concept.

According to Gail Kiley Sand-

ers, superintendent for Marketing Plan CDE in New Hampshire for the FFA, students will build their marketing skills by creating the marketing plans from start to finish. Students research factors such as market status, industry trends, buyer profile and consumer behavior. They also create a S.W.O.T. analysis for their business and competitors consisting of business strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats. Students dive into the detailed work of creating a budget, mission statement, long-term and short term goals with strategies for reaching the goals and what to do if a goal is not met, and evaluating their marketing plan in a strategic and beneficial manner to the company.

Freed Family Farms has been selling jams and soaps at the local Farmer's Market, but the plan - if implemented - could bring the small family farm into the 21st Century business world.

Sacket's team competed against students from other states such as California, Texas and Nebraska at the national level, but for all teams, the criteria and overall marketing goal was the same.

"The marketing plan was basically to promote this new addition to a company and showcase that we understand the steps of marketing a product - that was the main goal... As a team we were just happy to get to nationals," Sacket said.

"It was truly an honor just to be able to compete at nationals and as we made it past preliminary competition and the semifinals we were continuously grateful; we put a lot of time and effort into it. So making it, each step, was a great honor and a great opportunity to represent Oklahoma. I'm really

humbled for the experience."

Sacket is undecided between pursuing a degree focused in business administration or mass communication, but the experience has kept him more



Ethan Sacket

open to marketing because of finding a passion for it.

## Cherokee's Paris presents workshop for acting class

On Nov. 1, Professor Kimberly Weast invited Jason Paris to speak with the acting class.

Paris is the musical theatre, history, theatre, speech and art teacher at Cherokee High School. He spoke to with the Acting I class about the Meisner Technique while presenting a workshop.



Jason Paris

# Armstrong publishes dissertation

Dr. Kaylene Armstrong, assistant professor of mass communication, published her dissertation in December.

“How Student Journalists Report Campus Unrest” includes the bulk of Armstrong’s 2013 dissertation about student newspapers during the 1960s but also adds an additional chapter that looks at a more recent protest.

Armstrong’s interest in the student press goes back to her undergraduate days, when she worked as a student on her college newspapers. After about 20 years as a professional journalist, she entered higher education and has advised four college newspapers, including the Northwestern News.

“The history of college newspapers in America is really deeper than many people realize,” she said. “As a genre, student newspapers are the oldest thriving newspapers today. They are older than the New York Times and almost every other

daily newspaper printed out there. And in a world where printed newspapers continue to fold, the student newspaper continues to survive on almost every campus in the country. It may not publish as often, or it may be only online, but it is still alive.”

Armstrong’s book looks at how the student newspaper covered protests on its own campus. She tracked down and interviewed the reporters and editors from campuses where key protests occurred: integration at Ole Miss in 1962, the Free Speech Movement at Berkeley in 1964, building occupations in 1968 at Howard and Columbia, and reactions to the Kent State shootings in 1970. A final chapter considers the 2015 protest at Mizzou.

“Journalists are trained to tell the stories of others and leave themselves out of their writing,” Armstrong wrote for the book summary

that appears online. “Student journalists are no different. They spend their days on their college newspaper writing about what happens to others, especially when what is happening involves protests, sit-ins, riots, hunger strikes and other unrest on the very campuses where they also attend school. Now some of these former student reporters and editors tell their own stories of some of the challenges all student journalists face in reporting events that most administrators would rather see not covered at all.”

Armstrong said except for a few histories of individual student newspapers, no one researches and writes extensively about student newspaper history, so her book begins to fill a void.

The book, published by Lexington Books, is available through Amazon.



## NWOSU, Alva physics students combine for flame experiment

Due to Earth’s gravitational field, masses accelerate downward when released. In contrast, gases that are less dense than air (i.e. hot gases) rise. So hot air around a flame rises, creating an upward air current (convection) which yields a teardrop flame shape. But, if a flame happens to be in freefall, then that removes the effect of Earth’s gravitational field—so there’s no “up” for gas to move to. The result is a spherical flame instead of a teardrop flame.

The dramatic decrease in the green plotted data (going from 1 g

to 0 g) corresponds to freefall, and the image of the flame in the background (recorded at the same instant) is spherical in shape.

Northwestern students built the apparatus and recorded data by dropping it from the top of the Bell Hotel downtown (with approval and support from the owners!). This was also repeated with Alva HS physics students, dropped from an extended ladder of a fire-truck in the HS parking lot.



Left, apparatus used for physics experiment. Above, extended ladder of fire department for experiment.

# Constitution Day celebrated; Bridges speaks on Baldwin

On the evening of Wednesday, Sept. 20, Northwestern's Department of Social Sciences and the Northwestern Institute for Citizenship Studies held their Annual Constitution Day on the Northwestern-Alva campus. The year 2017 also marked the 230th anniversary of the



Guest speaker Dr. David Curtis Bridges with Dr. Aaron Mason, professor of political science at Northwestern.

Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia, Penn.

This year's topic at Northwestern concerned American Founder Abraham Baldwin (1754-1807) of Georgia, a Convention delegate who later signed the U.S. Constitution. He exercised enormous influence upon the development of a number of important institutions in the American Republic's earliest days. His interest in and passion for higher education led him to help write the charter for and then serve as the president of the University of Georgia, which in 1785 became the first state-supported institution of higher education in the United States.

For this occasion, Dr. David Curtis Bridges was invited to share his insights on Baldwin's life and con-

tributions regarding the U. S. Constitution and its relation to higher education. Serving as the president of Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College in Tifton, Georgia, Dr. Curtis demonstrated how Baldwin's case embodies the very American notion that sometimes it is the lesser-known figures who generate the greatest historical achievements.



Abraham Baldwin

Dr. Aaron Mason, professor of political science at Northwestern, led the discussion.

## Benson presents workshop

Kristy Benson, an alumna of the NWOSU Speech/Theatre program, came to the Northwestern campus on Sept. 14 for an all-day workshop on scenic design, research, and model building. Benson was a guest lecturer in the Scenic Design class that morning.

The workshop was open to all

students and faculty to stop by and see the work that this accomplished alumna is doing.



On Labor Day weekend, Castle Players hosted an Ice Cream Social as a celebration for those who could not leave for the break. NWOSU Alums, Micah and Tali Roberts, were in town and talked to the group about working at Lego Land and Orlando, Florida. Pictured also is Mickey Jordan (right).



Kristi Benson working with Madison Wilson on set models. Benson served as guest lecturer during the day.



Kyle Larson looking over the designs of alum, Kristi Benson, during her campus workshop in September.



*The Alumni Band performed during the first half of the Homecoming football game. Led by recent graduate Josh Faulkner (Class of 2015), the band thrilled the audience and inspired our team to play hard. Alumni of the Ranger Band are invited to perform at next year's Homecoming, which is set for October 6, 2018.*

## Bands stay busy with performances

The Ranger Band had an active term performing at six football games, three men's and three women's basketball games, several pep rallies, and a concert at the annual Holiday Gala.

In addition, the Jazz Ensemble toured and performed for middle and high school students at Freedom, Vici, and Fargo. They also made a special trip to the Homestead in December to perform holiday music, and ended the season by playing graduation music at the Northwestern winter commencement ceremonies.

## Schmaltz pens forward for new book on Concentration Camps

Dr. Eric J. Schmaltz, professor of history at Northwestern, has written a foreword entitled "Stalinism Exported Abroad" for independent scholar Ulrich Merten's new book, "The Gulag in East Germany: Soviet Special Camps, 1945-1950," to be published by Cambria Press early in 2018. Schmaltz explains that Merten's recent work "gives a much-deserved 'voice' to thousands upon thousands of German victims of Stalinism exported abroad. The Spetzlager (special camps), as they were called, came under the direct control of the Soviet central camp administration in the eastern occupation zone of Germany..." The central camp administration inside the former Soviet Union is often referred to as the Gulag.

In 1949, the Soviet Union supported the creation of a client state, the German Democratic Republic, better known as Communist East Germany. The Red Army's control over most of Eastern Europe after the war allowed Soviet dictator Joseph Stalin and his NKVD (the

Soviet secret security services under Lavrentiy Beria) to extend their political hold beyond the USSR's borders and therefore establish a society that resembled their own totalitarian police state.

In his analysis, Merten portrays the strikingly divergent fates between western Allied and Soviet detention camps in postwar occupied Germany. Few people in the West outside of Germany today are even aware of the Soviet camps in former East Germany. According to the author's German government sources, 95,000 persons either died in the Soviet special camps or perished while in transit to them during the immediate postwar years. Though also constructing new facilities, the NKVD utilized several former Nazi concentration camps for the detainment of political prisoners, such as the notorious Buchenwald and Sachsenhausen.

Schmaltz observes that the Soviet

and East German history books later only mentioned the Nazi-era victims in reference to these Soviet special camps. The official historical accounts all emphasized the brave resistance of Communist anti-fascists while downplaying other victim groups, including Jews. Schmaltz further reflects that



*Dr. Eric Schmaltz*

the "Soviet concentration camps ensnared a wide segment of the East German population early on, including civilians who were not necessarily significant Nazi Party members, youths (male and female), and real or perceived class and political enemies of all stripes.... State terror unleashed on a few outspoken individuals and political adversaries could therefore serve as a prophylactic measure against potential opposition by frightening the masses into permanent submission."

Author Merten argues that the bru-

*Continued on Page 29*

# Schmaltz pens forward...

tal and repressive treatment of a significant portion of the country's population soon put the German Democratic Republic and its ruling Socialist Unity Party (SED) in a precarious moral and political position vis-à-vis its own citizens. The first significant uprising inside the Soviet Empire was the June 1953 East German Revolt. "The East German Gulag's terrible effectiveness in

establishing and maintaining Communist power in so short a time also contained within it the seeds of the police state's own demise," concludes Schmaltz on the eventual collapse of Soviet Communism and the Soviet Bloc states in Eastern Europe after 1989.

The issue of concentration camps remains quite personal for the author Merten. Merten was born in Berlin,

Germany, and immigrated to the United States as a small child before World War II. Because his father had served as a lawyer in the Prussian Ministry of the Interior, active in prosecuting the Nazi Party, his family became political refugees. His father was dismissed from his post immediately following Hitler's appointment as Chancellor of Germany in 1933 and was placed in the Oranienburg Concentration Camp, charged with high treason. Mr. Merten grew up in New York City and, after the war, returned to Europe, studying at the University of Zurich, Switzerland, and the University of Zaragoza in Spain. He later earned his B.A. degree at Columbia College, Columbia University and M.A. at the Graduate Faculties, Columbia University. He spent his professional life as an international banker, a senior executive of the Bank of America, working almost exclusively in Latin America and the Caribbean, over a span of thirty-eight years.

In 2012, Merten published the highly regarded book, "Forgotten Voices: The Expulsion of the Germans from Eastern Europe after World War II," which has appeared now in eight reprint editions. It was during this time doing research on Germans in Eastern Europe that Merten came into contact with Schmaltz. In 2015, Merten's second book, "Voices from the Gulag: The Oppression of the German Minority in the Soviet Union," came out as a companion piece to "Forgotten Voices." Schmaltz penned the foreword to "Voices from the Gulag" while also contributing research findings for Merten. Copies of Merten's first two books are available at the Northwestern-Alva library, and his new study will be soon be donated there as well.

## Garfield County MRC Unit# 2584

### \*\*MRC Spotlight\*\*

- NWOSU Students and MRC Volunteers participated in a Student Externship.
- NWOSU Students from the GCHD MRC Unit participated with Instructor Mary Brune.
- WAY TO GO! Thanks for your hard work!

#### CHALLENGE AWARDS UNIT HIGHLIGHTS

#### **PARTNERS FOR EMPOWERED COMMUNITIES**

The Oklahoma MRC Nurses unit developed a Nursing Student Summer Externship to provide nursing students from several Oklahoma universities with knowledge and skills in disaster response. The program was a structured summer volunteer experience with nurse educators within the Oklahoma MRC, culminating in 1,283 hours of service and study.

The externship activities include staffing first aid stations, teaching preparedness to middle- and high-school students, and delivering inter-professional trainings for activities such as psychological first aid and volunteer training workshops. MRC Nurses offered creative solutions to expand and enhance public health education to nursing students in their communities.

One had this to say of the program: "It taught me to look beyond the obvious physical results of a disaster and to see the social, psychological, and financial damage. I feel like I now have a more holistic view of how to help those affected by crisis and disaster." The Oklahoma MRC Nurses unit creatively partnered with local universities and engaged healthcare providers to provide valuable information and experience in public health, emergency preparedness and response to the next generation of nurses.



From the 2017 Network Profile of the Medical Reserve Corps: The Medical Reserve Corps: NACCHO 2017 PG 20.

# Holiday Gala adds festive fun and holiday spirit

The traditional Northwest-ern Holiday Gala Concert presented by the Fine Arts Department was held Saturday, Dec. 9, followed by the annual tree-lighting ceremony.

Dr. Janet Cunningham, university president, continued the tradition of lighting the university Christmas tree on the Herod Hall lawn at the Bell Tower immediately following the concert.

Groups performing holiday-themed music included the Concert Choir, Symphony Band featuring Lawana Newell, instructor of music, on one piece; The Jazz Ensemble; University Chorale featured Dr. Marc Decker, associate professor of music and director of bands, on alto saxophone on one selection; and the University Singers.

Band and choir groups performed separately and then together at the end for the traditional sing-along with the audience.



*The University Choirs started the evening with lots of good music. The choirs are directed by Karsten Longhurst.*



*Lawana Newell joined the Sym-phonetic Band for Pie Jesu during the evening.*



*The Jazz Ensemble added to the evening with several holiday selections.*



*Santa and Mrs. Claus even made a brief appearance to the delight of kids of all ages.*



*The tradition continues! Dr. Cunningham lit the campus tree as the University Singers sang.*

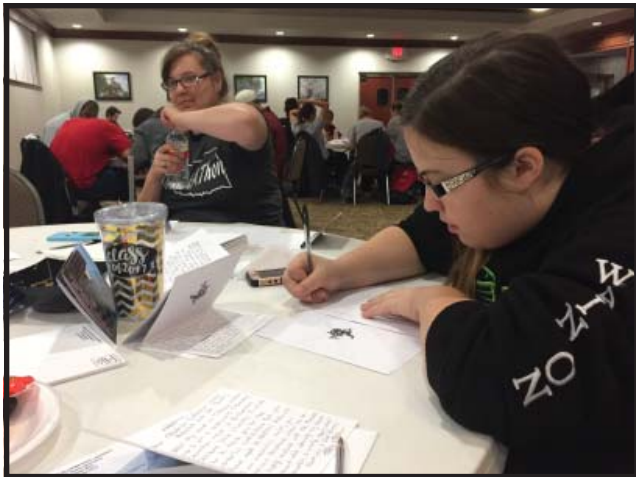


*Dr. Bell looks forward to enjoying some hot chocolate or cider. SGA served these treats to concert goers.*

# More than 300 students volunteer at Thank-A-Thon

This year, 303 Northwestern students called and wrote to hundreds of donors to thank them for their gifts to the university during the annual Thank-A-Thon event that spanned four days in November.

Students from the following



*Members of Castle Players Theatre Troupe work diligently, along with many other students, at the Thank-A-Thon.*

organizations participated: Northwestern Scholar Ambassadors, Division of Nursing, Student Government Affairs, International Student Association, Enid Leadership Council, Woodward's Leadership Advisory Board, Math Club, Psychology Club, Art Society, Alpha Sigma Alpha, Delta Zeta, Sigma Tau Delta, Castle Players, University Singers and choir. Student athletes and various coaches from the following organizations also participated: baseball, men's and women's basket-



*NWOSU Art Society members were also part of the group working hard to make sure that Foundation donors know how much they are appreciated.*

ball, cross country, football, rodeo, soccer, softball and volleyball.

By the end of the four-day event, over 3,000 contacts were made to those who had supported Northwestern and its students.

"We are so fortunate and blessed to have such a caring and compassionate community of friends, family and alumni who support and embrace Northwestern," said Melissa Jenlink, Northwestern Foundation & Alumni Association relationship

manager. "This year's Thank-A-Thon participants wrote over 2,300 letters and made over 750 calls."

The Northwestern students who participated use this as an opportunity to contact the donors who have made an impact.

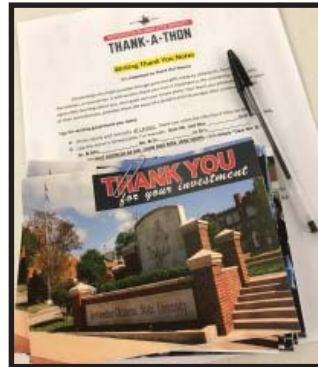
"I love participating in Thank-A-Thon," said sophomore speech and theatre major Madison Wilson, Enid, Okla. "I get to know the

donors who make our scholarships happen."

Wilson expressed her appreciation for these alumni and donors who help provide opportunities for students like her.

"I have the opportunity to thank them for caring and giving back to us and let them know it makes a big difference in our lives. Our donors have made a difference in my life and I will forever be grateful."

For more information or to update your contact information, call Jenlink at 580-327-8592 or email her at [mjjenlink@nwosu.edu](mailto:mjjenlink@nwosu.edu).



*Professor Kimberly Weast performed professionally as Martha Watson with the Enid Symphony in "White Christmas," Nov. 24-26, 2017. She stated that it was terrifying to be acting, singing and "moving" again in front of sold-out crowds.*



*Employees of the Sight and Sound Theatre in Branson drove to the campus of Northwestern in December and spoke to students interested in pursuing jobs in vocal performance, theatre performance, or tech work.*

## 24 students accepted in new DNP program; faculty member added

Twenty-four students were accepted into the inaugural class of the Doctor of Nursing Practice program.

This program is designed to educate students for service as family nurse practitioners.

Dr. Courtney Ballina came on board as a member of the DNP faculty in August 2017. Dr. Shelly Wells and Dr. Wayne McMillin assisted with course development and instruction this semester.

## Students attend national conference

Three mass communication majors, along with Dr. Kaylene Armstrong, attended the annual Fall National College Media Convention hosted by Associated Collegiate Press and College Media Association, Oct. 26-28 in Dallas, Texas.

Students attending included two members of the Northwestern News staff, news editor Deitra Wedd and editorial page editor Michelle Willson, and broadcast journalism student Bailey Rankin.

The three-day conference included hundreds of sessions on all aspects of print and broadcast journalism. Several keynote speakers were the highlight of the convention, including CBS newsman Bob Schieffer and print journalist Hugh Aynesworth, the only person to witness President John F. Kennedy's murder, Lee Harvey Oswald's arrest and then Oswald's murder.

Armstrong, assistant professor of mass communication at NWOSU and a member of CMA, presented a session for newspaper advisers on moti-

vating students in the newsroom.

ACP and CMA work together each fall to organize the media convention, which is generally held in cities east of the Mississippi River. This combined event draws about 1,500

students from across the country. In the spring, ACP conducts another conference on the West Coast while CMA provides its spring convention in New York City. Both organizations work to promote college media.



*Deitra Wedd, Bailey Rankin, Michelle Willson and Dr. Kaylene Armstrong attended the Fall National College Media Convention in Dallas.*



# Nursing faculty members, students attend conferences

All of the nursing department faculty members and nursing undergraduate students attended the annual Caring across Cultures conference in Oklahoma City.

Dr. Wells represented Northwestern at the Oklahoma State Nurses Association annual convention while Dr. Thompson was at the Association of Oklahoma Nurse Practitioners Conference.

Dr. Bartlow reports that “all of the junior and senior generic stu-

dents attended the Oklahoma Student Nurses Association meeting in Norman Oct. 27 for an all-day, fun-filled conference. They learned lots of new and interesting information.”

Dr. Leslie Collins just returned from a national conference in Atlanta. The conference was the “AACN Baccalaureate Education Conference.”

Dr. Collins stated, “This year’s focus was on Leadership, Innovation, and Strategy: The Keys to Delivering High Quality Nursing

Programs. I had the privilege of learning from fantastic speakers on all of these topics and look forward to passing on the information to faculty at the next meeting!”

It is important for students and faculty at all levels to be engaged in state and national meetings, not only for the purposes of networking and student recruitment, but to stay abreast of state and national policy decisions affecting the nursing profession and our patients.

## Jordan directs “Vanities”

Mickey Jordan, a senior speech and theatre major from Iowa Park, Texas, directed his capstone theatrical production titled “Vanities” on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, Oct. 12-14, in Northwestern’s Herod Hall Auditorium.



Senior theatre student, Mickey Jordan, directs cast members in “Vanities,” his senior capstone production. The show played Oct. 12-14 in Herod Hall Auditorium.

“Vanities” is an adult comedy by Jack Heifner about three Texas high school friends—Kathy, Mary and Joanne—and the journey of their friendship over the course of 11 years, from 1963-1974.

The cast and roles for the production were: Karlie Osborn, senior history major from Alva, as “Kathy;” Erin Hopkins Davis, senior mass communication major from Fairview, as “Joanne;” Shelbi Morland, sophomore mathematics major from Laverne, as “Mary;” and Ken Kelsey, Northwestern instructor of history and fine arts, as “Principal.”

Northwestern’s theatre program challenges students to prepare for their future by putting them in charge of their own final capstone project. Students are required to select a play production and see it through the entire process of casting, set building, technical effects and more to the final, audience-ready production.

Before the play, Jordan said, “I’m

really excited for the production. I’m looking forward to the opening night audiences, and all of the performances. Through the classes and my degree and now my capstone, I believe Northwestern has prepared me for my future.”



Joanne, Kathy and Mary (Erin Hopkins, Karli Osborn and Shelbi Morland in real life) perform in the October production of “Vanities.”

# Dignity Drive raises nearly \$500 in donations

Students in the Social Workers Association of Tomorrow (SWAT) chapter at Northwestern Oklahoma State University called upon the

community to for its fall Compassion in Action Dignity Drive.

SWAT is a student-run organization that seeks to enhance the so-

cial work learning experience. One of SWAT's purposes is to employ community service projects while supporting community partners and their consumers. The Compassion in Action Dignity Drive is one of the community service projects SWAT students host to give back to the community. Approximately \$500 worth of donations included feminine hygiene products, toothbrushes, body wash, shampoo and conditioner, lotion, mouthwash, and deodorant. The Dignity Drive was a success and has allowed SWAT to provide others with basic needs in the Enid Community.

"Last year we donated to a local church for families involved in their soup kitchen," Dr. Jennifer Pribble, SWAT sponsor and assistant professor of social work, said. "This year's donations are being given to the YWCA in Enid, a women's shelter for domestic violence survivors... Women and children needing aid

*Continued on Page 35*



SWAT members (left to right) Levi Sanders, president; Sierra Miller, secretary; Annie Moss, member; and Dana Kausek, vice president with some of the products that were donated in the Dignity Drive.

## Nursing department, Vance sign MOU for training

On Nov. 15, the Division of Nursing signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Vance Air Force Base on the NWOSU Enid Campus.

The MOU for the Vance Partnership will allow Northwestern Nursing students to participate in clinical experiences that they cannot get in their other agency experiences.

Opportunities may include additional pediatric and mental health experiences as well as other types of nursing. Dr. Wells said they look forward to the medical staff coming to the Ket-

terman Lab for training opportunities.

This partnership is a win-win for both Northwestern and Vance.



Dr. Shelly Wells and Col. Anthony Waldroup, Commander, 71st Medical Group, sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Northwestern and Vance Air Force Base to aid both with better training opportunities.

Continued from Page 34

## Dignity Drive....

from a domestic violence situation can look into the YWCA located in Enid.”

SWAT members would like to thank everyone who assisted with putting this event together and those from all three Northwestern locations who were able to donate.

“Being able to see students and faculty pour into the community is a sight that I will never tire of seeing,” Levi Sanders, SWAT president and Goltry senior, said. “It was a privilege having this event. SWAT is grateful to everyone that pitched in to make the holiday season brighter.”

Northwestern’s SWAT members and social work majors, with their hometowns, classification and SWAT involvement, include: Sanders; Dana Kausek, Enid senior, vice president (Enid); Sierra Miller, Enid senior, secretary; Reba Finley, Arnett sophomore, vice president (Alva); Katelyn Van Vickle, Shattuck junior, vice president (Woodward); and members Jordan Cremers, Ponca City senior, member; Emma Reed, Freedom sophomore, member; Jamie Metcalf, Blackwell senior, member; Madeline Turner, Enid junior, member; Mirissa Branine, Woodward senior, member; Annie Moss, Enid senior, member; Marsellia Rael, Woodward senior, member; Jennifer Ruppel, Woodward senior, member; Denise Tyrell, Enid sophomore, member; Jessica Goodballet, Mooreland junior, member; Lauren Hitchcock, Kiowa, Kansas, sophomore, member; Morgan Lopez, Seneca, Missouri, junior, member; Alicia James, Laverne junior, member; Jordan Koehn, Hooker junior, member; and Courtney Campbell, Enid doctoral candidate, member.

SWAT plans to have another donation drive at the same time next year. Donations will be welcome in November through the beginning of December in 2018.



*In November, the Castle Players Theatre Troupe took a trip to Oklahoma City to see the 20th international tour of RENT. Northwestern alum Ashley Otensmeier (seated, right) is the backstage audio engineer for the 20th Anniversary International Tour. Following the performance she gave the troupe a backstage tour and spoke about working in the professional world.*



*Castle Players took a trip to Branson to see “Moses” at the Sight and Sound Theatre. The group got a backstage tour of the set and talked to the employees about job opportunities.*

# Larson completes residency in Chile

Kyle Larson, assistant professor of art, headed to Santiago, Chile, in late June to participate in the Molten Capital Residency for the month of July. The Molten Capital is an international artist-in-residence program.

The residency is organized with Galeria NAC Director Nicole Andreu Cooper, the Museo de Arte Contemporáneo (MAC) in Santiago, the collector Armando Valenzuela, and artist Ben Zawalich.

The primary location for the residency is within the Museo Arte Contemporáneo (MAC), Quinta Normal in Santiago, Chile ([www.mac.uchile.cl](http://www.mac.uchile.cl)). There are also opportunities available for collaborations with participating international artist residencies, galleries, cultural centers, and alternative spaces.

Larson chose to work at a historic painting studio/gallery called APECH. APECH was a refuge for artists during the oppressive Pinochet regime. It is now led by professional artists and art professors, and is a historic art space which holds cultural events and exhibitions monthly.

During his stay, Larson was paired with Chilean artists Mauricio Cortez and Camilo Inostroza. While accomplished printmakers and artists, Mauricio and Camilo were new to large-scale painting. Larson guided them through the process as they worked on collaborative paintings alongside Larson's individual body of work. In the end, they put together an extensive painting exhibition of the work created that month.

To see images of the work made in Chile and the opening reception, please follow the link:

<https://www.moltencapital.com/residence/2017/8/9/residencia-04-kyle-larson-usa-mauricio-cortez-chile-camilo-inostroza-chile>

Click the following to see installation shots of the show at APECH: <http://kyle-larson.com/Install-Views/Molten-Capital-A-I-R-Santiago-Chile>

Click the following to see the in-

dividual works Larson created during his month in Chile:

<http://kyle-larson.com/Works/Molten-Capital-A-I-R>

To learn more about the Molten Capital Residency and APECH, visit:

[www.moltencapital.com](http://www.moltencapital.com) and [www.apech.cl](http://www.apech.cl)



*Kyle Larson, center, working on art pieces while completing his residency in Chile in July.*



*People gather during the exhibition opening reception at APECH. Those in attendance were able to enjoy the works created by Kyle Larson, Camilo Inostroza and Mauricio Cortez during the month of July*

# Teacher's Closet aids all graduating students

The Teacher's Closet, a preparation aid for graduating university students entering the professional world that was started this year, has grown through many donations and has expanded into more rooms thanks to the generosity of others.

Dr. Jen Oswald, assistant professor of education, and Dr. Jennifer Page, assistant professor of English, developed the Teacher's Closet for students who needed a little extra help getting ready for life after graduation.

Oswald and Page explained

that transitioning from a student's casual clothing to a teacher candidate's professional wardrobe can be quite challenging. The financial investment required to purchase new clothing often presents an obstacle for an education major's budget as these students also must spend significant portions of their limited discretionary income on background checks and required testing.

Students from all departments are welcome to 'shop' at the Teacher's Closet. For assistance, students must contact Dr. Oswald or Dr. Page for an appointment.

The groups plan to have two volunteer sessions for the Teacher's Closet every semester to help with donation organization and general maintenance.

For more information contact Oswald at (580) 327-8451 or [jdooswald@nwsu.edu](mailto:jdooswald@nwsu.edu).



Joel Gonzalez receives wardrobe guidance from Dr. James Bell.



Bobbie Peron, Trista Watson, Samantha Rojas, Haley Stacy, Samantha Wilson and Rylee Rankin pick out a few items and squeeze in a few laughs on the side at the Teacher's Closet during an evening shopping event.



Brianna Wellman and Haley Stacy have a little fun at the Teacher's Closet.

## Kirby services as Interim Department Chair



Dr. Leigh Kirby

Dr. Leigh Kirby, instructor of psychology, has taken on the responsibilities of interim department chair for psychology for the spring 2018 semester.

Previous department chair, Dr. Cris Gordon, has accepted a position at Mount Marty College in Watertown, South Dakota. Dr. Gordon left her Northwestern position at the end of December.

"We appreciate Dr. Kirby's willingness to step up at mid-year to take on these added responsibilities," James Bell, associate vice president for academics and dean of faculty, said.



Matthew Thomas, Matthew Cowart and Kale Dice look sharp after a visit to the Teacher's Closet.

# Concert Series brings great entertainment

Northwest Oklahoma Concert Series (NWOCS), an organization that seeks to bring cultural performances and entertainment to north-west Oklahoma, began its 2017-2018 season Tuesday, Sept. 19. All four events were scheduled on Tuesdays at 7 p.m. in Herod Hall Auditorium.

The season began with *Artrageous* on Sept. 19, which was very well received.

*Artrageous* is a one-of-a-kind interactive performance of art and music that incorporates many different art forms on the same stage.



*Artrageous*

The audience was able to experience live art, music, dance, and life-sized puppetry, and audience members got to be part of the show. The “larger-than-life masterpiece” images created included well-known pop icons.

Celtic Christmas performed on Nov. 28.

This group helped rekindle the flame in the hearth with stories, music, song, and dance from the infinitely rich treasury of Ireland’s cultural heritage. The show returned viewers to the days before the motor car, the television, and the telephone as they spent an evening with Tomáseen Foley and some of the most gifted Celtic musicians, dancers and singers performing today.

Tomáseen Foley’s *A Celtic Christmas* recreated the joy and innocence of a night before Christmas in a farmhouse in the remote parish of Teampall, an Ghleanntain in the west of Ireland, when the neighbors gather around the fire to grace the long wintry night with the laughter of their stories, the joy of their music, and dances they always said they were much too old for.

Long, long before Riverdance, ordinary Irish men and women in hobnailed boots knocked sparks off the flagstone floors with jigs, reels and

hornpipes, and the rafters rang with the fiery music of the fiddle, bodhran, tin whistle, and the mesmerizing uilleann pipes.

Tomáseen Foley’s *A Celtic Christmas* featured Grammy

Award-winning guitarist William Coulter; fiddle, flute, whistle-player and vocalist Kathleen Keane; and world-champion-level Irish dancer Brian Bigley on uilleann pipes, whistles, and flute.

Russian String Orchestra is scheduled for Feb. 27.

Founded in 1991, the orchestra, composed of some of Russia’s finest young string players, has carved a niche for itself under the creative baton of its founder and music director Misha Rachlevsky. Whether it is their highly-acclaimed

CDs or mesmerizing concerts, the orchestra’s warmth and high energy create addictive performances that stay with listeners long after the last note has been played.

About half of almost 2,000 concerts the orchestra has performed to date have taken place in Moscow, with the rest being played on tours in 24 countries in Europe, North and South America and the Far East. The orchestra’s discography of more than 30 albums has received widespread international acclaim, such as the Diapason d’Or award in France, Critics Choice in London’s Gramophone, Critics Choice in The New York Times and Record of the Year award in Hong Kong. Of about 1,000 compositions in the orchestra’s repertoire, more than 20 were written especially for the orchestra by composers from Russia, Europe and the USA.

The signature quality of the orchestra is depth and variety of its repertoire, from early baroque to compositions written on commission from Chamber Orchestra



*Celtic Christmas*

Kremlin. The orchestra prides itself on offering interesting and often unique programs not only for its home audience but on tour as well.

*Continued on Page 39*

# Choirs keep busy performing

This semester has been very exciting and successful for the NWOSU choirs. They have had multiple recruiting events, including the All-State Clinic and High School Holiday Festival, which brought in a total of 19 schools to our campus. They also had the annual fall recruiting tour during which they visited a total of 8 different schools and met

with students interested in attending NWOSU.

The choirs have also been very busy with their many performances this year. Among these have been A Night at the Musicals, a fall concert with numerous tunes from famous Broadway shows; and the annual Holiday High School Festival Concert, featuring Dr. Cristian Grases

from the University of Southern California. He worked for an entire day with 100 high school singers from Laverne, Alva, Cushing, and Woodward High Schools in addition to the Chorale for a wonderful performance. The choirs ended their semester with a joint concert with the band, the Holiday Gala. Some

*Continued on Page 40*



*University Choir members take a moment for a quick picture during the group's fall tour.*



*Students rehearse with Dr. Mark Lucas during the Junior High All-State Clinic held on campus.*

*Continued from Page 38*

## Concert Series...

For more information on the Russian Strings Orchestra visit [www.kremlinontour.com](http://www.kremlinontour.com).

The final performance of the series will be *Flipside: The Patti Page Story*, April 3.

Written from interviews with Miss Patti Page, *Flipside* features 28 of Page's greatest hits, including "Tennessee Waltz," "Old Cape Cod," "(How Much Is) That Doggie in the Window?" and "Mockingbird Hill."

Created and conceived by Oklahoma-native artist Greg White, *Flipside* offers a personal spin on that Singing Rage, Miss

Patti Page.

Winner of 18 Kennedy Center Awards (including Best Musical), *Flipside: The Patti Page Story* played to overwhelmingly responsive (and record-breaking) crowds at NYC's prestigious 59 E. 59 Off-Broadway Theatre. *Flipside* preserves the life and musical legacy of one of America's most beloved musical icons. For more information visit [www.flipsidethemusical.com](http://www.flipsidethemusical.com).

Tickets may be purchased online at <https://nwocs.ticketbud.com> or from Holder Drug or Graceful Arts Center. The reserved seating

section at each concert will be held until five minutes prior to the performance.

Stay up-to-date with NWOCS by liking the Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/NorthwestOkCS/](http://www.facebook.com/NorthwestOkCS/) or on Twitter at @NorthwestOkCS. Keep an eye out for the hashtag #NWOCS.

The Northwest Oklahoma Concert Series is supported by Northwestern, the Oklahoma Arts Council, the National Endowment for the Arts, the Charles Morton Share Trust and the generosity of Series subscribers..

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## Choirs keep busy...

standout pieces from these concerts were “You Will Be Found,” from the musical *Dear Evan Hansen*; a medley from the musical *Big River*; “Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming”, which featured an amazing saxophone solo by Dr. Decker and Hank Nichols from Laverne High School; and the traditional sing-a-long favorites from the Holiday Gala.

Not only have the choirs performed in their normal concerts, but the University Singers have also done quite a few performances for the Alva community and neighboring communities. In September, the Singers performed in Enid for the Chisholm Trail Symposium. They also performed once again this year at the Oklahoma State Regents meeting, hosted at Northwestern in September.

On Dec. 6, they performed for the Alva Municipal League's annual meeting, and then later for the Homestead Retirement home. They also dropped by the Alva Senior Citizen's Center one afternoon to spread holiday caroling cheer!



*The crowd at the 'Night at the Musicals' concert shows appreciation after the performance of Lo How a Rose E'er Blooming from the musical Big River.*



*The University Singers treat the residents of The Homestead in Alva to a holiday concert in December.*



*Dr. Cristian Grases, from the University of Southern California, leads a rehearsal during the High School Fall Festival in Herod Hall Auditorium.*



*Dr. Grases conducts the High School Fall Festival Choir - 100 strong - from Laverne, Alva, Cushing and Woodward High Schools plus the Northwestern University Chorale, in a culminating concert.*



# Enid campus plays host to Fall Fest, near 400 attend

Happy Halloween – the Enid campus hosted the Fall Festival for children of all ages.

There were close to 400 children and families who visited the Enid campus for games, food, and fun.

Each child purchased tickets to

play games in the commons area. These games were developed by university clubs and local community agencies. All money raised went to support these groups.

A costume contest was held, hotdogs were eaten, and great times were had!



*Fall Fest was attended by approximately 400 people.*

*Games were provided by campus clubs and community agencies.*



*The costume contest was enjoyed by kids of all ages at the Fall Fest.*

## Widicks welcome baby boy

Stephanie and James Widick announce the arrival of their new baby boy, Judge Robert Widick.

Judge was born on Jan. 5 at 8:04 p.m. He weighed 8 lbs. 7 oz. and was 20.5" long.

Stephanie is doing wonderfully and enjoying her maternity leave from the psychology department. Judge is doing great at this time and has visited the Northwestern campus a few times already.



## Thank You!

To all of you who contributed information and stories for this newsletter - you are appreciated! It couldn't happen without you. Special thanks to Valarie Case and Ali Gavitt for photos and newswriting!

# Rehder honored by social work school

Dr. Kylene Rehder, an associate professor, director of the Social Work Program and chair of the Department of Social Work at Northwestern, was chosen as one of 100 honorees in the field of social work from the Anne and Henry Zarrow School of Social Work at the University of Oklahoma during the school's 100 for the 100th anniversary celebration.

Rehder has worked at Northwestern since 2005 and is credited with leading the social work program to external accreditation by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE). Northwestern's social work program is only one of five CSWE accredited universities in the state and is the only one in western Oklahoma. With the development of a social work program in the region, the landscape of social services in Northwest Oklahoma has been transformed.

The honorees are social workers, former faculty, directors, alumni

and other friends and supporters of the school. The anniversary celebration culminated with a very special dinner event: "An Evening of Celebration: 100 Years of Social Work" on Friday, Sept. 15, 2017, in the University of Oklahoma Molly Shi Boren Ballroom.

Rehder is beyond thrilled to be included as one of the 100 for the 100th anniversary celebration, particularly because she understands the brilliant and dedicated social workers this state encompasses.

"I am truly humbled by this honor because our state encompasses so many brilliant and dedicated social workers who work tirelessly to enhance human well-being," Rehder said. "It is a dream come true to chair the Department of Social Work at Northwestern as it is where I origi-

nally developed my passion in social work and my commitment to help meet the basic needs of all people. It is a privilege to work as a professional social worker, and having your contributions recognized by the University of Oklahoma's Anne and Henry Zarrow School of Social Work and your alma mater is a wonderful professional experience."

The 100 selected individuals are being honored in two main ways. The first includes a year-long tribute on the school's website that showcases those selected with a photo and short biography. The second was at the 100th anniversary event in September.

Rehder obtained a bachelor's degree in social work from Northwestern (2001) and a Master of Social Work from the University of Oklahoma (2003), graduating summa cum laude. In 2013, she completed a doctorate degree from North Central University, where her dissertation research focused on the use of technology in social work education and practice.

Rehder is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and a Board Approved Clinical Supervisor by the Oklahoma State Board of Licensed Social Workers. She has a rich history of involvement in the National Association of Social Workers Oklahoma chapter (NASW-OK), holding key roles such as Northwest Branch Chair, Chapter Committee on Leadership Identification (CCNLI), steering committee for the Social Work Public Education Campaign, and a member of the Political Action for Candidate Election



Kylene Rehder



Fall graduates were honored at the Enid Recognition Ceremony on Dec. 7. Front row: Hilda Feeland, Taylor Black, Whitney Hake. Second row: Dr. Wayne McMillin, Jennifer Heitman, Carly Farmer, Caleb Lang, Devin Watson, Brandy Hinesley-Chambers. Back row: Laura Clover-Peters, Trent Misak, Dr. Janet Cunningham.

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# Rehder honored...

(PACE) committee.

Her research efforts on licensure laws, titles and requirements provided the necessary foundation for legislative changes, bringing the Oklahoma's Social Work Practice Act in alignment with other jurisdictions and the Social Work National Model Act. In 2015, Re-

hder was appointed by the governor to serve on the State Board of Licensed Social Workers and is currently the board's secretary. She is an advisory board member for the Child Welfare Professional Enhancement Program (CWPEP), which focuses on strengthening child welfare services in Okla-

homa. In addition, she is a board member of Freedom West Community Development Corporation, a non-profit development entity in Northwest Oklahoma that works to revitalize rural communities to increase community sustainability through proactive social and economic change efforts. Freedom West CDC was awarded Social Services Organization of the Year in 2015 by NASW-OK.

Rehder serves as a clinical consultant to many Northwest Oklahoma agencies and is a member of the Oklahoma Medical Reserve Corps (OKMRC), where she serves as a disaster mental health responder. She is the Jake and Jayne Lindsay Endowed Chair in Social Work at Northwestern and was awarded the university's Distinguished Service Award in 2012. In 2013, she was named the prestigious John Barton Distinguished Teaching and Service Award recipient.



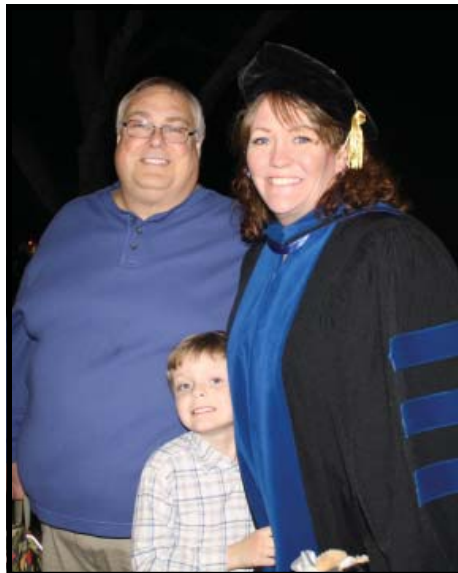
On Saturday, Nov. 11, members of the Castle Players Theater Troupe and participants in the children's show took a break from rehearsal to watch Cherokee High School's play "Peter and the Star Catchers." The show was directed by Jason Paris, who spoke to the Acting I class earlier in the semester.

## 12 welcomed to grad programs

The Psychology Department had a full fall semester, and faculty kept busy.

This was the first semester to welcome students to the new Masters of Science in General Psychology (MGP). The goal of the MGP degree is to make a contribution to the supply of academically prepared graduates in the state of Oklahoma who will perform necessary duties in the field of behavioral sciences.

The department welcomed three students to the program for the fall semester. Nine students were also welcomed in to the Masters of Counseling Psychology Program.



Dr. Leigh Kirby graduated from Texas A&M University Commerce on Dec. 16 with her Ph.D. in Counselor Education and Supervision.

## Mental Health Coalition hosts Enid movie event

On Oct. 30, the viewing of *Resilience* was hosted and sponsored by the Mental Health Coalition.

The Mental Health Coalition of Enid is a committee of Human Service Alliance of Greater Enid, a joint venture of service entities working to identify urgent community problems and research existing programs for solutions. Mr. Taylor Randolph is the chair of this committee.

The viewing was well attended by many individuals from the community.

# Store, Photos bring smiles to kids

Santa made another successful visit to Northwestern in December, brightening the day for many kids!

Children of all ages were welcome to visit with Santa and have their photo taken with him during the eighth annual Photos with Santa and Holiday Gift Store for Kids event on Dec. 16 in the Student Center. Members of the NWOSU Art Society (NAS) sponsor this annual event.

Starbucks drinks and snacks also were available for purchase during the event via the Ranger Market and made many people happy.

Volunteers helping to make this a fun event for the children will include members from the Castle Players drama club, as well as Northwestern faculty and staff and local community members. Youth, plus sponsors, from the Presbyterian Church also helped.

“We are so thankful for all the individuals and groups who volunteer each year to help our small art club bring a fun activity to the children in the area,” Angelia Case, NAS sponsor, said. “We wouldn’t be able to offer this event if our volunteers didn’t come together to help.”

All the children had a chance to have their photo taken with Santa Claus in a very festive environment.

Right next door to Santa Land was the Holiday Gift Store for Kids. Children were able to shop for loved ones, friends, teachers and even

pets.

Case said that NAS members and other volunteers were on hand to help each child with their selections and to stay on budget.

It was a great day of hard work and smiles.



*Meet the people of the Holiday Store and Photos with Santa. Without the volunteerism of these people, NWOSU Art Society wouldn't be able to offer this service to our community. Thank you all.*



*Art Society member, Amanda Metcalf, assists her little shopper during the Holiday Store.*



*Photographer Valarie Case is ready for the photo of the Meeker family.*



*We have some real characters come through the store and member Alanna Negelein had one here! Talk about fun shopping....*



*Mary Riegel helps the Meeker family select their photos after their visit with Santa.*

# Bridge BBQ successful, offers communication for faculty, students

The Northwestern - Enid Campus and Northern Oklahoma College held the Bridge BBQ on Sept 27.

This opportunity allowed for faculty and recruitment staff to meet with students, answer questions and explain different educational program opportunities.

Mr. Taylor Randolph and Dr. Leigh Kirby were among many Northwestern employees who participated in the Bridge BBQ to help recruit students to the Northwestern campuses.



Many students attended the Northwestern - Northern Oklahoma College Bridge BBQ in September.



It's not everyday you have this kind of opportunity. Thanks to the NOC Jets Activities for providing the animals from Extreme Animals.



Dr. Hannaford and Dr. Bell had the hot dogs under control.



All kinds of goodies and information were available at the BBQ.

Please keep *The Spotlight* in mind as you go through the spring semester. You are encouraged to email Dr. Bell or Angelia at any time with news. Please put "Spotlight" in the subject area of your email.

Have a great semester!