



Kansas City Kansas
Community College™

CREATING
our future

2022-2023 KCKCC Annual Report



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KCKCC graduates celebrated after the 2023 Commencement.



On behalf of the Board of Trustees of Kansas City Kansas Community College, it is my pleasure to share with you the college's 2022-2023 annual report.

This year we have seen great accomplishments as we are poised to celebrate KCKCC's Centennial Anniversary in the upcoming year. KCKCC opened its first residence hall, continued its course toward the downtown center and embraced our mission to transform our community one student at a time.

Additionally, I am humbled and in awe of the courage, focus and character shown by our KCKCC president, administration, faculty and staff over this past year. The board extends both praise and gratitude for their responsiveness and for remaining strong and focused upon our mission.

With a focus on creating the foundation for our next 100 years, the board has worked closely along with the president to ensure that KCKCC programs, curriculum and offerings give students the opportunity to reach their goals. More students than ever before will have a chance to obtain a high-quality education, better employment and greater opportunities in Wyandotte County.

This past year KCKCC completed its strategic plan while planning for the future. With this renewed focus, each of us will continue to take steps (and at times, first steps) to contribute to our collective success, knowing that the most important work is the work we will do together.

KCKCC reminds me of a quote by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.: "You don't have to see the whole staircase, just take the first step."

The steps we are taking together will make history at KCKCC and in Wyandotte County. We were born to climb this staircase, and I am honored to be taking this journey with you!

All the best for 2023-2024!

SINCERELY,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "E. Criswell", written over a light blue horizontal line.

Evelyn R. Criswell
Chair, KCKCC Board of Trustees



Community members, trustees and employees celebrated the installation of new sculptures on campus.



Dear Blue Devils and friends of KCKCC,
As I reflect on this past year, I continue to be amazed and thankful for the incredible work done by Kansas City Kansas Community College faculty, staff and students! As shown on the cover, our students continue to excel in music as well as many other areas. In fact, KCKCC music students have won more Downbeat national music awards than any other community college in the country and most four-year colleges.

This year, KCKCC celebrates its Centennial Anniversary turning 100 years old on September 10th. The past 100 years have been full of triumphs and transforming countless lives in our community. We are invested in creating an even better future through enhanced workforce partnerships, launching new programs and services, and

a continued commitment to build the downtown Kansas City Kansas Community Education, Health and Wellness Center a mere two blocks from where we began in 1923! Construction will begin this winter with a goal to have the new 95,000 sq.ft. facility open for fall 2025.

This past year, KCKCC completed its three-year strategic plan and has now embarked on the next plan, setting the stage for the next 100 years. This focused work has reaped great benefits for students, employees and community members. Of course, this purposeful and continued strategic growth cannot be achieved without the steadfast commitment of KCKCC's 700+ faculty and staff, and the persistence and indomitable spirit of our incredible students!

As you read this year's annual report, you are experiencing a mere fraction of the countless accomplishments achieved by our Blue Devil family of students and employees. I hope you share my excitement at the great achievements of our remarkable students through music, debate, athletics, Skills USA and of course academic achievements.

Our dedicated faculty and staff continue to strategically prepare for the future as we celebrate the College's Centennial. With these focused efforts, KCKCC continues to play a more significant role in the communities we serve in both Wyandotte and Leavenworth Counties. And the considerable efforts put forward this last year will help prepare Kansas City Kansas Community College and our communities for many great successes throughout our next 100 years.

I hope you enjoy reading about and seeing images of the remarkable accomplishments highlighted in this report. KCKCC has excellent faculty, staff and students. With our enduring and dedicated service, we will continue to lift up the lives and futures of everyone we touch. Thank you!!

I could not be more proud to work with such incredible people and be a KCKCC Blue Devil!

#KCKCCPROUD

Dr. Greg Mosier
President



STUDENT SUCCESSES

The KCKCC culinary arts program excelled in competitions this year.

BLUE DEVILS RECOGNIZED FOR EXCELLENCE

Students continue to earn recognitions for excellence. National organizations have rewarded the active collaboration of faculty and students to promote learning.

In the Arts, Communications and Humanities Division, music and communication students earned national recognitions. Vocal and instrumental jazz students continued their dominance, receiving a combined 15 awards in *DownBeat* magazine's 2023 Student Music Awards. *DownBeat* has the widest circulation of any jazz magazine in the United States and has been recognizing student achievement at the middle school, high school and collegiate levels with the Student Music Awards (SMA) since 1978.

KCKCC has earned 30 Student Music Awards in the last two years. Since 2017, the year KCKCC received its first SMA, the only school to have earned more than 30 awards in a two-year period is the University of Miami's Frost School of Music in 2021 and 2022. No other community college in the United States has earned more than six awards in a single year during that time.

From 2017 to 2022, only five schools in the country have earned more awards than KCKCC - University of Miami, Caleb Chapman's Soundhouse (a middle and high school honors program in American Fork, Utah), University of Northern Colorado, Berklee College of Music and Manhattan School of Music.

Pianist **Parker Woolworth** was honored in the categories of Jazz Soloist, Jazz Combo (for the Parker Woolworth Trio) and Original Jazz Composition (for "Under the Table"), and **Luck20** was recognized in the Blues/Pop/Rock Group category.

In addition to the overall awards, KCKCC received 11 other SMAs this year:

- ▶ **Henry Fears** (trombone), Community College Jazz Soloist Outstanding Performance
- ▶ **The Standard Vocal Jazz Ensemble**, Community College Small Vocal Jazz Group Outstanding Performance



- ▶ **Maddie Huwe**, Outstanding Soloist, "The List"
- ▶ **The Standard Vocal Jazz Ensemble**, Community College Large Vocal Jazz Ensemble Outstanding Performance
- ▶ **Spitfire Sarcasm**, Community College Blues/Pop/Rock Group Outstanding Performance
- ▶ **Henry Fears** (trombone), Community College Blues/Pop/Rock Group Soloist Outstanding Performance
- ▶ **The Standard Vocal Jazz Ensemble**, Community College Latin Jazz Ensemble Outstanding Performance
- ▶ **Henry Fears**, Community College Original Composition for Small Ensemble Outstanding Performance, "Look Up"
- ▶ **Erin Auman**, Community College Live Engineered Recording Outstanding Performance
- ▶ **Jessie Glennon**, Community College Studio Engineering Recording Outstanding Performance
- ▶ **Jim Mair**, High School Honors Ensemble Outstanding Performance: 2022 Greater Kansas City Youth Jazz Orchestra (directed by Jim Mair)

The KCKCC Debate Team, which is down the hall from Music, had another banner year. **Chris Lappee** and **Nathan Newby** won numerous awards this year, including advancing to the Elite 8 at the National



Parliamentary Debate Association National Tournament. The team was undefeated against community colleges and placed the highest among community college participants.

The team received the Champions Community College Sweepstakes at three tournaments this year – Webster University Gorlock Tournament, the MAFA State Tournament and the National Parliamentary Debate Association National Tournament, as well as a Champions Debate Sweepstakes at the Phi Rho Pi Community College National Tournament.

Student **Chris Lapee** won several championships – JV Lincoln-Douglas debate (Western Kentucky); Lincoln-Douglas debate (MAFA State Tournament); parliamentary debate, with partner **Nathan Newby** (MAFA State Tournament); IPDA debate (Harper College), Lincoln-Douglas debate and parliamentary debate, with **Newby** (Phi Rho Pi)

Career and Technical Education (CTE) students competed in Skills USA against other students in their program of study. Several KCKCC students won awards at the SkillsUSA Kansas State Championship competitions this spring:

- **Lizbeth Delamora** - Baking and Pastry Arts (high school division), Gold
- **Luis Martinez**- Baking and Pastry Arts (postsecondary division), Silver
- **Emmani Jackson** - Baking and Pastry Arts (high school division), Bronze



- **Justin Webb** - Culinary Arts (postsecondary division), Gold
- **Ezequiel Cuevas-Perez** - Culinary Arts (high school division), Silver
- **Tyler Henson** - Carpentry (high school division PCC), Gold
- **Flor Molina/Emily Sanchez Guzman** - Nail Care, Nail Care Model (high school division), Gold
- **Coner Berry** - Automotive Maintenance and Light Repair (high school division), Bronze

Among the CTE programs sending students to the competitions were Automotive Technology, Construction Technology (PCC), Culinary Arts, Electrical Technology, Nail Technology and Welding Technology. All gold medal winners at the state level advanced to the national SkillsUSA competitions that were held in Atlanta in June.

SkillsUSA is a career and technical education student organization in the United States geared toward those enrolled in programs for skilled, technical and service occupations. These awards showcase only a small percentage of the transformations occurring in classrooms every day. Faculty and student collaboration continues to reap rewards for the students, the college and the community. The future is bright for KCKCC students.



STUDENT ATHLETES RECOGNIZED FOR ACADEMIC SUCCESS

KCKCC recognized 83 Blue Devil student-athletes January 25 for earning at least a 3.0 grade point average during the fall 2022 semester. The athletes who achieved academic success during the fall semester are:

Baseball - Lee Allen Jr., Christian Ammann, Jett Buck, Matt Buffington, Hector Candelas, Cooper Carlgren, Alex Carrillo, Mason Davenport, Caleb Deer, Mark Elliott, Maclane Finley, Gehrig Goldbeck, Payton McHarg, Jackson Mervosh, John Moritz, Zander Putthoff, Caleb Reed, Carson Rosen, Jorge Sanchez, Pablo Sanchez, Nate Ugialoro and Juan Cabrera.

Men's Basketball - Gary Bess, Kevin Charles, Joshua Dames, Reggie Morris and Jalen Moses.

Men's Soccer - Felipe Acherboim, Victor Bideau, Guilherme Capaldi, Vasilis Christodoulou, Julien DeAngelis, Pedro Faria, Derrick Guardado, Patrick Hansen, Reshano Hasselbaink, MacAllister Holland, Simon Prodan, Mateus Ribeiro, Rory Stenhouse, Ajay Stewart, Axel Tonietto and Henrique Zachello.

Women's Soccer - Kennia Acuna-Soto, Kaileaha Alcantara, Viola Bischoff, Samantha Calderon, Kate Erpelding, Aislinn Harrison, Ellie Heiman, Cordi Payne, Paige Proper, Payton Rayos, Ava Romsland, Kayleigh Sumler and Rand Taleb.

Softball - Emily Ashford, Jessica Bell, Kaitlyn Bradbury, Kaia Cordill, Stella Harber, Jayden Hull, McKenna Lester, Jaycee

Long, Landri Lopez, Ruby Nola, Samantha Price, Lauren Salpas, Maya Sheldon, Savannah Short, Adrianna Smith, Annika Smith and Trinity Tauer.

Golf - Josh Killingsworth and Josiah Morris.

Volleyball - Emma Ayers, Kiala Blackman, Jessy Canales Guzman, Taryn Dial, Grace Gordon, Jessica Gray, Hayley Hastings and Lydia Huston.

Women's Basketball - Victoria Jones, Rebecca Christodoulou, Kardae Gales, Sarah Khamis, Laura Guillamat-Ribo, Lacy Whitcomb and Jennifer Guilbeaux.



KCKCC CULINARY TEAM EARNS GOLD MEDAL

Kansas City Kansas Community College's High School Culinary Team proved the outstanding quality of the college's Culinary Arts program. The team brought home gold and "Best in Show" from the Johnson County Community College High School Culinary Competition on February 10.

Members of the KCKCC team included – Caitlyn Mayes, senior at Turner High School; Lizbeth Flores, junior at F.L. Schlagle High School; Joselyn Valencia, junior at J.C. Harmon High School; Deanna Jones, senior at Piper High School and Ezequiel Perez, senior at J.C. Harmon.

Fourteen teams participated in this year's competition from both Kansas and Missouri. Each team prepared a three-course meal in 60 minutes. In addition the teams demonstrated knife skills in a 15-minute test. Teams did not compete against each other but against a set of standards established by the American Culinary Federation.

Students had the opportunity to try out for the competition team in December and started working with each other in January. The team, along with coach Chef Justin Mitchell, instructor in the KCKCC Culinary Arts program, created the menu. The menu included an appetizer – chicken and the egg, with a chicken thigh, poached egg, ciabatta stuffing, crispy chicken skin and romesco; entrée – wild boar with butternut squash, braised vegetables, roasted root vegetables, apple ginger puree, pommes dauphine and blueberry gastrique and dessert – almond cake with a coffee buttercream, espresso crème anglaise, chocolate Bavarian, espresso foam, candied glass and chocolate ganache.



ATHLETICS 2022 HALL OF FAME

KCKCC Athletics Department recognized the 2022 Hall of Fame inductees during a ceremony November 12. This year's inductees included a former Blue Devils baseball player from 1986-88, Steve Bushnell, and the 2012 KCKCC volleyball team. The 2022 KCKCC softball team, who received their District B Championship rings, were recognized as well.

Bushnell attended Sumner Academy and played for the Blue Devils as a pitcher and shortstop from 1986 to 1988. He also earned the KCKCC Baseball Mike Haen Hustle Award in 1988 before transferring to Emporia State University in 1989. After playing for the Hornets, Bushnell went on to head the baseball team at Seaman High School in Topeka, Kansas. In his 21 seasons as head coach, he led the team to 18 playoff appearances, nine state championships and four runner-up finishes. In 2019, he entered the Emporia State University Hall of Fame and was recently inducted into the 2022 class of the Kansas Association of Baseball Coaches Hall of Fame.

The 2012 KCKCC volleyball team had one of the most memorable seasons in program history. Finishing with the best record ever at 32-8. The Blue Devils were ranked sixth in the nation in the NJCAA Poll.

36 KCKCC STUDENTS EARN NJCAA ACADEMIC AWARDS

The National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) announced the 2021-22 All-Academic Teams in summer 2022, recognizing student-athletes across the country for their dedication in the classroom.

Student-athletes are eligible to earn academic honors by achieving an overall grade point average (GPA) of 3.6 or higher for the 2021-22 academic year. For KCKCC, there were three teams and 36 individual student-athletes who earned academic awards. The three teams were - Men's Soccer (3.19 GPA), Baseball (3.26 GPA) and Softball (3.57 GPA).

All-Academic First Team (4.0 GPA) - Logan Barnard (baseball), Bradi Basler (softball), Alexander Carrillo (baseball), Emma De Brouwer (softball), Pedro Faria (men's soccer), Stella Harber (softball), Camden Karlin (baseball), Rosanna Kasemier (women's soccer), Abigail Marcouillier (volleyball), Ruby Nola (softball), Jo-Annie Perez Rodriguez (volleyball), Madison Pope (softball), Tre Simmons (baseball) and Leah Williams (women's soccer).

All-Academic Second Team (3.80-3.99 GPA) - Brendyn Bard (baseball), Azucena Lopez (women's soccer), John Moritz (baseball), Katharina Oelschlaeger (women's soccer), McKenzie Ogden (softball), Paige Proper (women's soccer) and Bawi Thang (men's soccer).

All-Academic Third Team (3.60-3.79 GPA) - Felipe Acherboim (men's soccer), Emily Ashford (softball), Jacob Becker (baseball), Hallee Burress (volleyball), Samantha Calderon (women's soccer), Guilherme Capaldi (men's soccer), Cooper Carlgren (baseball), Davit Chinchaladze (men's soccer), Kelcey Hund (volleyball), Samantha Reynolds (softball), Maya Sheldon (softball), Brock Stewart (baseball), Trinity Tauer (softball), Dimitry Tchanchcheu (men's soccer) and Eli Tormes (baseball).



KCKCC CELEBRATES COMMUNITY COLLEGE AWARENESS MONTH

KCKCC celebrated Community College Awareness Month in April. Students received snacks and commemorative centennial pennants. In addition, students, faculty and staff had the opportunity to take photos and share what they like best about KCKCC. These photos were shared in the On Campus newsletter and the college's social media channels.



UKHS EMPLOYEES EARN GED

KCKCC and the University of Kansas Health System (UKHS) partnered to offer the “Because We Care” GED Program onsite at UKHS. The program helps health system employees earn their GED while they are working.

Students celebrated earning their GED during a graduation ceremony on August 30. The students honored were Sha’Ninfa Tia Marie Dunn, Jaxon Dunnivan, Alexis Soledad Mora, Lizbeth Pena Leon and Stephanie Lorraine Wright.

THE STANDARD OPENS FOR SWEET HONEY IN THE ROCK

KCKCC’s The Standard opened for internationally acclaimed a cappella ensemble Sweet Honey in the Rock on March 3 at the Folly Theater. Raised in the Black church music tradition, Sweet Honey in the Rock, a female-led African American group, has performed songs of freedom for five decades and has earned three Grammy® Award nominations living out their vocation as “musical missionaries of equality, empowerment and love.” The concert featured a variety of positive and socially conscious music, including gospel, folk and R&B.

KCKCC ALUMNI PERFORM WITH JOSH GROBAN

Twenty alumni of KCKCC’s Music Program performed with Josh Groban in July 2022 at Starlight Theatre. Prior to the performance, the group had several rehearsals to prepare for the event and sang backup on songs performed by Groban.



COMMENCEMENT CELEBRATION

KCKCC celebrated its 2023 graduates during two commencement ceremonies in May at the KCKCC Fieldhouse. At 2 p.m. graduates were honored for earning Associate of Applied Science and certificates. At the 7 p.m. ceremony graduates were honored for earning Associate of Arts, Associate of General Studies and Associate of Science. Irene Caudillo, President and Chief Executive Officer of El Centro, Inc., encouraged graduates in her keynote address.

TWO UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH SYMPOSIUMS HELD THIS YEAR

KCKCC hosted two research symposiums in April. The Undergraduate Student Research Symposium in the Psychological Sciences celebrated student engagement in psychological science research. The event was sponsored by The Psi Beta/Psychology Club and Psychology Department in collaboration with the departments of Undergraduate Research and Student Activities.

During the Interdisciplinary Undergraduate Research Symposium, students shared research posters that they completed this year. Those who attended had the opportunity to visit each poster and hear about the student's research project.





COMMUNITY

KCKCC celebrates its 100th anniversary during the 2023-24 academic year.

KCKCC CELEBRATES 100 YEARS

On September 10, 1923, KCKCC opened its doors to its first class of students, forever changing the educational landscape for those seeking higher education opportunities in Wyandotte County. To celebrate 100 years of serving students and the community, KCKCC is hosting celebrations throughout the 2023-24 academic year.

KCKCC will host a birthday bash for employees and students at each of its three locations in September. The party will feature refreshments, speakers and the opportunity for students, faculty and staff to contribute items for a time capsule.

KCKCC plans to celebrate this important milestone with the community. A community celebration will be held Saturday, April 13, 2024, showcasing the college, students, programs and more.

An interactive calendar on the Centennial website will list events for the college's year-long Centennial Celebration. Community members can check out the website for events or other centennial information. In addition to a milestone timeline, the website features an archive of the 100 Stories, telling the stories of those who have been impacted by the college. If you know of someone who would be a great story to feature, please email marketing@kckcc.edu.

KCKCC will also feature its history and plans for the next hundred years in an anniversary magazine. The magazine will showcase the college, a historical timeline, program growth and impact of KCKCC in the community. The college's wish is that everyone who wants to participate in this historic milestone has the opportunity. The college has and continues to make an impact on everyone who walks through its doors, so make plans to celebrate the college's 100th anniversary.

NURSING STUDENTS GIVE BACK TO COMMUNITY

Nursing Professor Terri Schwager and her clinical students in the Registered Nurse (RN) Program recently completed community service projects with the Police Athletic League. They developed a brochure for the organization, pulled weeds and built three trellises. The students also observed several educational activities and projects that included growing healthy food for community members, homework assistance and helping individuals learn how to fix bicycles.



Career & Transfer Fairs

KCKCC hosted several career and transfer fairs during the last year. KCKCC and Workforce Partnership hosted the annual fall Job Fair September 22. More than 45 employers attended the fair.



Trunk or Treat Events

KCKCC hosted two Trunk or Treat events in October - one at KCKCC-TEC and the second at the Pioneer Career Center. Both events were free and open to the community. Activities included trick-or-treating, inflatables, food trucks and carnival rides.



President's Leadership Circle

The KCKCC Foundation hosted the President's Leadership Circle on November 10. KCKCC President Dr. Greg Mosier presented about the college's plans for growth. Community leaders at the event also shared ideas on ways KCKCC could grow in the future.

KCKCC PURCHASES 12 ACRES ON K-7 TO BUILD NEW SITE IN LEAVENWORTH COUNTY

Kansas City Kansas Community College has served Leavenworth County for the past 35 years. Since 2015, the Leavenworth School District has allowed KCKCC to use its former Leavenworth West Middle School to offer both academic and technical education programs in the Leavenworth region. As KCKCC nears its 100th Anniversary, the college embarks on a bold new vision to enhance and build state-of-the-art facilities and programs across the institution's service region.

As part of this new vision, and KCKCC's relentless pursuit of excellence, the college worked with the city of Lansing to purchase the southern 12 acres of the Lansing Towne Center to build a new, advanced educational facility to better serve Leavenworth County. The land is parallel to K-7 and just north of Country Club Bank in Lansing. With the land purchase, a new facility will be designed to provide modern classrooms, labs and technical training spaces that will offer greater capacity and new programs in the county.

Until the new site is constructed, programs and services will continue at the KCKCC Pioneer Career Center. The center offers more than 30 academic classes for dual-enrolled high school and adult students in Construction Technology, Criminal Justice, Culinary Arts, Early Childhood Education, Electrical Technology, General Education, Health Professions and HVAC.



NEW KCKCC FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP CREATED FOR LOCAL STUDENTS

The David L. Weber Stride for Your Future Scholarship was established to honor David Weber, who passed away unexpectedly in 2022. His friend and classmate at F.L. Schlagle High School created the scholarship to benefit local students who are Schlagle graduates.

"We both graduated from F.L. Schlagle and were set to embark on our higher education paths, but we lacked the cashflow to pursue," said Gretchen Ronnau, KCKCC Foundation donor. "David delayed for a year to work full-time and save as much as possible, and I was fortunate to receive a scholarship to KCKCC, which allowed me to keep working while I took my first year of classes."

The first recipient of the scholarship is Javier Ochoa Perez, a full-time student pursuing a degree in Digital Imaging Design.

"Learning the background of this scholarship inspired me because I am also a KCK native," he said. "It's not been an easy journey, but seeing so much growth in the region and new, young faces fighting for a better future, it inspires me. Right after high school, I didn't jump into college. It wasn't easy getting back to a place where I could say I believed in myself. One of the first steps I took in finding my way was applying to KCKCC. To be surrounded by instructors who actually care and believe in students, it means a lot."

98TH-ANNUAL CANDLE LIGHTING CEREMONY

KCKCC celebrated its oldest tradition, the 98th-annual Candle Lighting Ceremony, on November 30 in the KCKCC Performing Arts Center. Several groups performed during the event, including the national award-winning KCKCC Jazz Band, The Standard Vocal Jazz Ensemble and The Blue Devil Funk Band. Video and photo presentations were shared from the KCKCC Pioneer Career Center (PCC) and the Dr. Thomas R. Burke Technical Education Center (TEC). Joseph Straws, a graduate of KCKCC, gave the keynote address and encouraged attendees to donate to the scholarship fund. The event serves as a scholarship fundraiser for the KCKCC Foundation.

KCKCC faculty members started the Candle Lighting Ceremony in December 1924, the year after KCKCC was founded. It remains the oldest tradition at KCKCC and serves as an opportunity for students, staff and faculty to celebrate the upcoming holiday season. During that first year, a collection taken provided funds for student scholarships, and this continues to be a part of the holiday event.



FOUNDATION RECOGNIZED SIX FOR 2023 HALL OF FAME

The Kansas City Kansas Community College Foundation recognized six individuals during the 2023 Hall of Fame Awards and Scholarship Event in April. This year's honorees included: Timothy L Dupree, Sr.; Nelda Godfrey; Ramón Murguía; Curtis V. Smith; Gerald Ulrich and Henry Wash.

The Hall of Fame started in 1996 to recognize individuals, organizations and corporate supporters in the community who have made notable contributions to education. Hall of Fame inductees are selected based on a demonstrated commitment to education, their effort to improve the quality of life in the community through a commitment to education, increasing educational opportunities for others and supporting significant changes that have improved the quality of education.



STUDENTS GRADUATE FROM WELDING PROGRAM AT LANSING CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

The third cohort of students graduated from KCKCC's Welding Technology Program at the Lansing Correctional Facility (LCF) in May. Several business and organizational partners made this program possible, including JE Dunn, Kansas Board of Regents, Kansas Department of Corrections, Kansas Department of Education, Lansing Correctional Facility, SWAGG Inc., TRIO Educational Opportunity Centers, Vera Institute of Justice, Village Initiative, Workforce Partnership of Leavenworth Kansas and Zephyr Products, Inc.



REMEMBERING KCKCC'S OLDEST ALUM

At 105 years old, Esther Foreman was celebrated as Kansas City Kansas Community College's oldest alum. The lifelong Wyandotte County resident had a strong connection to the college and worked to give back in a variety of ways. Sadly, on January 30, Esther passed away.

When asked what led to her wonderful and long life, Esther was humble and said she did not have any interesting stories to tell. That, however, was far from the truth. Esther was a teacher, poet, pianist, philanthropist and a world traveler.

"On a few occasions throughout life, an opportunity allows you to meet an individual who has lived a remarkable life and someone who you will remember in your mind and heart forever," said Dr. Greg Mosier, KCKCC President. "Esther Foreman is definitely one of those people. Her remarkable commitment to education, philanthropy and art are a few of her contributions to the community."

After retiring as a teacher, Esther volunteered with several community organizations. She also loved to travel, especially with friends from KCKCC. Organized by the late Henry Louis, KCKCC faculty, staff and friends of the college began taking trips in the early 1970s. One of her favorite and most impactful projects at KCKCC was the Cooper-Foreman Heirloom and Native Gardens, located on the north side of the Flint Building on the KCKCC campus. It is a collection of seven ethno-botanical gardens, funded by Esther and maintained by volunteers. The gardens were named for her parents, Ethel and Louis Cooper and for her late husband, Horace Foreman. All of them loved flowers and gardening. In 2008, the garden was moved from the Wyandotte County Museum to KCKCC. Esther visited the gardens often until the start of the COVID-19 pandemic.

KCKCC BOARD OF TRUSTEES HOSTS ANNUAL FOOD DRIVE

The KCKCC Board of Trustees held its annual food drive in fall 2022, which collected food, toiletries and monetary donations to support KCKCC's food pantry - Blue's Kitchen Cabinet. The items collected were displayed at the board's November meeting.



KCCLI VISITS KCKCC

KCKCC hosted the Kansas Community College Leadership Institute (KCCLI) October 6. During the visit, KCKCC President Dr. Greg Mosier gave a presentation on upcoming projects at the college. Attendees also had the opportunity to tour Centennial Hall. KCCLI is a 10-month leadership development program for individuals in the Kansas Community College system that aspire to hone their leadership skills and prepare to exercise leadership on their campuses.



KCKCC COMPLETES 2020-23 STRATEGIC PLAN

KCKCC completed the 2020-23 Strategic Plan in summer 2023. Strategic planning is a process higher education institutions and other businesses use to set long term goals and priorities. It is a way to focus on where resources and funding should be used to ensure long term success for the college. Strategic plans are revisited every few years to ensure goals and objectives are current. The college's next strategic plan includes updated goals and measures, while also creating the initiatives necessary to help the college accomplish its mission.

KCKCC SPONSOR FOR ROCK THE DOTTE CONCERT SERIES

KCKCC sponsored the Rock the Dotte concert series this summer at Azura Amphitheater. The college hosted a booth at each concert, with the focus on increasing social media followers from those attending the concerts. Students and staff also had the opportunity to enter a drawing to receive free tickets to the concerts.





COLLEGE SUCCESSES

Two new sculptures from artist Rita Blitt are just some of the new artwork that was installed at KCKCC this year.

ART CONTINUES TO BE A FOCUS AT KCKCC

When walking through KCKCC, art adorns walls, campus paths and open spaces. Adding art to the college has been a focus of President Dr. Greg Mosier since his arrival at the college. This year, the focus on art continued as the college added sculptures and murals to various community spaces.

In May, KCKCC unveiled two sculptures from artist Rita Blitt. The first, a brilliant burnt-orange sculpture entitled, “Resilience,” stands 16 feet tall greeting visitors who pass by the courtyard outside the Learning Commons. “Perseverance,” the second sculpture, features the college’s trademark blue and stands 14 feet tall. It can be seen next to the pond outside the Jewell Building. Both sculptures were designed from Blitt’s 1993 original drawings and are organic shapes that peer toward the sky.

On the south side of the Humanities Building, KCKCC installed the “We Are Better Together,” heart from the KC Parade of Hearts. Dennis Stanton, of Prairie Village, Kansas, designed the sculpture as part of the KC Parade of Hearts exhibit. The first side shows a series of hands reaching out, while the opposite side shows hands grasping each other in different handshakes. KCKCC purchased one of the popular sculptures when the hearts were auctioned off at the conclusion of the exhibition. In 2022, KC Parade of Hearts exhibited more than 100 5-foot by 5-foot hearts, all designed by local artists. The hearts were displayed throughout the city as an example of unification.

A Centennial Mural adorns the outside wall of the Humanities building near the heart sculpture. Artists Isaac Tapia and Rodrigo Alvarez painted the mural depicting KCKCC through its first 100 years with a vision toward its next century. The KCKCC Art Gallery hosted a Paint Throwdown while the mural was being painted so students and employees could meet Tapia, Alvarez and Stanton.

This year the art studio space received a refresh, including a mural designed and installed by KCKCC student Justice Burris. The mural in black, white and red depicts a variety of types of artists throughout time in an imaginative manner.

The KCKCC Art Gallery provides another source of art inspiration for students, employees and community members. The gallery hosted six exhibits at KCKCC this year. Among this year’s exhibits were:

- ▶ “Adopted: Journey of Asianx Women Artists,” a celebration of South Asian culture featuring art, dance and classical music from the sub-continent of India.
- ▶ “Holler If You See Me,” an exhibition featuring 10 Black Appalachian artists’ efforts for inclusion, equality and negotiating self-amidst systematic disenfranchisement, violence and loss. The exhibit was also taken to the Kansas African American Museum in Wichita, Kansas.
- ▶ “This Skin I’m In Exhibit,” a collection of images and narratives by artists in and engaged with the LGBTQIA+ community.
- ▶ Student Art Exhibit, highlighting the talents of KCKCC student artists. Art professors nominated their students to apply for this exhibition, and local artist Isaac Tapia of IT-RA ICONS, juried for the show and selected the winners.

During Fall 2022 the High School Portfolio Day came to campus, which is done in partnership with the Art and Digital Design Departments. The program served 80 students from USD 500 who are interested in a career in the arts. Students enjoyed active learning workshops, tours with Admissions and professional portfolio reviews.

Art brings inspiration and beauty to everyday life. By focusing on providing art from internationally-renown artists such as Rita Blitt, students, employees and community members can experience art as part of their daily routine – an experience many would not otherwise have. KCKCC will continue to expand its art collection for decades to come.



KCKCC ATHLETIC TEAMS STRIVE FOR SUCCESS

KCKCC's athletic teams had another exciting year, bringing home wins and national awards.

The volleyball squad went 24-10 during the season. The Blue Devils swept Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College to advance to the Plains District B Championship Match against Cowley County, where they eventually fell to the Cougars. The team's longest winning stretch was eight matches. Five players earned postseason awards as Nicole Hughes earned First Team All-Conference and All-Region, while Gracey Lovgren and Taryn Dial earned Second Team All-Conference and All-Region honors. Carlee Lill and Naomi Jemison were both named All-Conference Honorable Mentions. Hughes was also named a VolleyballMag.com NJCAA DII All-American.

The KCKCC baseball team went 40-23 overall on the season and advanced to the Region VI Super Regional Tournament, after defeating Dodge City in the opening round. Despite falling to Barton County in their first game of the Super Regional, the Blue Devils bounced back and pulled off three straight wins. KCKCC fell one game short of the Championship game to Cowley. Hector Candelas and Brady Patterson were each named Player of the Week at least once.

The men's basketball team finished 19-13 overall and advanced to the semifinal round of the Region VI Tournament. The Blue Devils fell to Allen County, 74-63, to end their season. Bradley

Lightbourne was named an All-Conference First Team member, while Joshua Dames and Jalen Broyles earned Honorable Mention. Dames, Jeremiah Stanton and Broyles were also named KJCCC DII Player of the Week once, while Lightbourne earned the honor twice during the season.

The women's basketball team capped their season with an 18-13 overall record. The team won their first seven games of the year. After defeating Fort Scott at home for Sophomore Day, the Blue Devils hosted Allen in the First Round of the Region VI Tournament, where they narrowly fell 56-53. Jada Johnson was named to the All-Conference First Team, as well as Freshman of the Year. She also earned Player of the Week honors twice.

The men's golf team began their fall campaign in August, before wrapping up their season in April. The Blue Devils took a fourth place finish at Colbert Hills in Manhattan, Kansas and finished with a sixth place finish at the final District Tournament of the season. Josh Killingsworth was named an All-Conference Honorable Mention as he placed 17th at the Tournament.

The KCKCC softball team finished 21-24 on the year, ending their season at Johnson County. The squad rallied for six straight wins from April 10-17, including a sweep over eventual conference tournament champion Independence. Ruby Nola and Trinity Tauer earned All-Conference postseason

honors, with Nola garnering First Team and Tauer earning Honorable Mention. Savannah Short and Adrianna Smith also earned KJCCC Player of the Week once during the season.

The women's soccer team won five games starting with the season opener against Pratt where Jana Richter scored five goals. The squad later defeated Neosho County twice, crosstown rival Johnson County and Dodge City. KCKCC faced Barton in the first round of the Conference Tournament where they fell 4-2. Postseason honors went to Jordan Bedard who was named to the First Team All-Conference, as well as First Team All-Region. Viola Bischoff, Mia Hurt, Payton Rayos and Karli Angle were named to the All-Conference Second Team.

The KCKCC men's soccer team earned three wins, two of which came late in the season. The Blue Devils defeated nationally ranked Johnson County and Coffeyville. The team faced Barton in the first round of the Conference Tournament where they fell in penalty kicks. Pedro Faria was named the Conference Offensive Player of the Year, while Yushann Malcolm earned First Team All-Conference honors. Faria also earned Second Team All-Region honors.

ROSS NAMED TO NFCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

KCKCC Head Softball Coach Lana Ross was named the NJCAA Division Representative for the National Fastpitch Coaches Association (NFCA) Board of Directors. Ross is one of eight members voted to the NFCA's 2023 Board of Directors.

In 2022, Ross guided the Blue Devils to a District B Championship and a seventh-place showing at the NJCAA DII National Tournament. She reached 100 KCKCC victories and 700 for her career during the first round of the KJCCC District Playoffs. Ross, who is currently serving as the NJCAA Coaches Association president for softball, also served as head coach at Fort Scott Community College and Iowa Western Community College.

MCVEY NAMED KCKCC ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

Greg McVey started as the KCKCC's new Athletic Director in May. McVey is responsible for leading Blue Devil Athletics, which includes overseeing eight NJCAA teams – men's and women's soccer, men's and women's basketball, women's volleyball, baseball, softball and golf.

He has spent 30 years working in intercollegiate athletics at several levels including the NJCAA, NAIA and NCAA, giving him a broad perspective on the role athletics plays in higher education. His most recent position was Athletic Director at Santa Fe College, a position he has held since 2021. In his first year with the Saints, Santa Fe won the Men's Basketball Central Conference crown and qualified for the NJCAA Region VIII/FCSAA Tournament. McVey has also taken an administrative roles as a member of the Executive Committee for the National Alliance of Two-Year College Athletic Administrators.





KCKCC MARKETING WINS FIVE NCMPR MEDALLIONS

The KCKCC Marketing Division received several awards in the 2022 District 5 National Council of Marketing & Public Relations Medallion Awards. NCMPR is the only organization of its kind that exclusively represents marketing and public relations professionals at community and technical colleges.

KCKCC received:

- ▶ Gold Medallion in the Social Media Post category for a post made about the first graduates of the Lansing Correctional Facility's Welding Program.
- ▶ Gold Medallion in the Social Media or Online Marketing Campaign category for the June 2022 marketing event at the Legends Outlets.
- ▶ Silver Medallion in the Print Advertisement category for an advertisement in Downbeat Magazine recognizing KCKCC for the 15 Downbeat Student Music Awards it received in 2022.
- ▶ Silver Medallion in the Digital Advertisement category for a series of social media graphics recognizing KCKCC Softball during its 2022 NJCAA Tournament appearance.
- ▶ Silver Medallion in the Successful Recruitment or Marketing Program category for KCKCC's "Pursue Your Passion at KCKCC" marketing campaign.

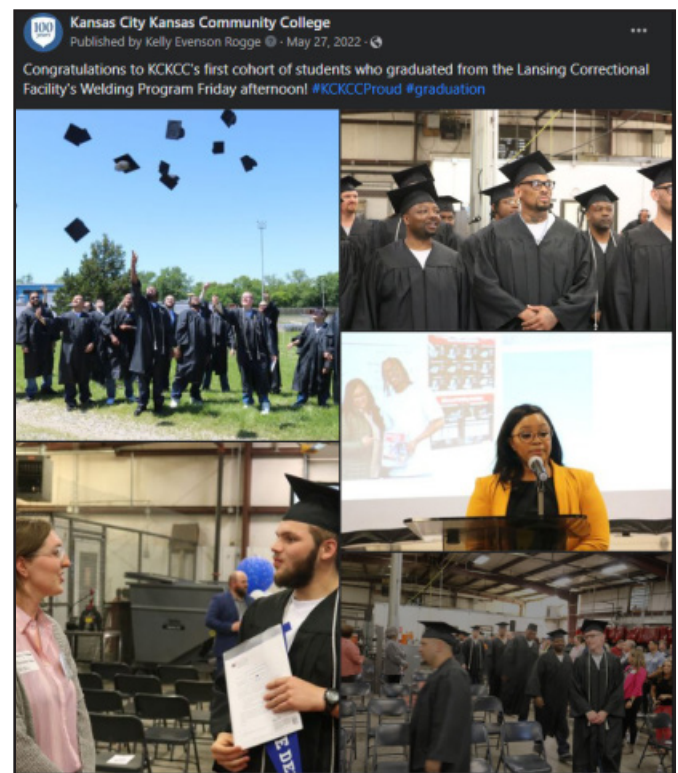


A BUSY YEAR FOR THE KCKCC WELLNESS & FITNESS CENTER

The KCKCC Wellness & Fitness Center hosted several events during the 2022-23 academic year. Some of these events included KCKCC Walk Across Kansas, Turkey Games, Merry Fitmas, 30/60 Miles in 30 Days and the Indoor Duathlon 2023. The final event of the year, and the center's biggest, was the annual Blue Devil 5k and Kids Trot. The course for the Blue Devil 5K winds through the KCKCC campus on roads, walking paths and sidewalks. Awards were given to the top overall male and female finishers. In addition, the winner of each age group received an award.

KCKCC MARKETING WINS PARAGON AWARD

The KCKCC Marketing staff received an award at the 2022 Paragon Awards, the national competition for the National Council of Marketing & Public Relations. KCKCC received a Silver in the Social Media Post category for a post made about the first graduates of the Lansing Correctional Facility's Welding Program. Each year, NCMPR's Paragon Awards recognize outstanding achievement in design and communication at community and technical colleges.



KCKCC CONTINUING EDUCATION STUDENTS EARNED GED

Students celebrated earning their GED during a May ceremony on the KCKCC Main Campus. In order to earn a GED, students must pass several exams with a score of at least 145 on each one. Subjects tested include mathematics, social studies, science and language arts. KCKCC's Continuing Education courses allow students to improve their skills in each subject to prepare for the exams.



KCKCC HOSTED AREA BUSINESS AND EDUCATIONAL LEADERS

KCKCC hosted Kansas State University President Richard Linton, area businesses and educational institutions in November at KCKCC-TEC to discuss the business and education partnerships necessary to successfully meet workforce needs. K-State representatives visited the Kansas City area to listen to residents of Wyandotte and Johnson counties. The event focused on ways higher education institutions in Kansas City are partnering to meet industry needs.

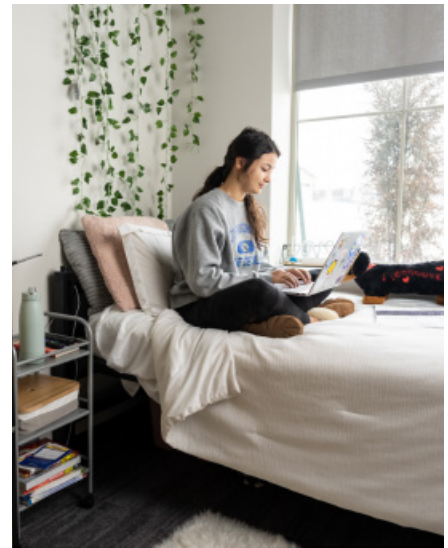




PIONEER CAREER CENTER SERVES LEAVENWORTH COUNTY

KCKCC-PCC had a busy 2022-23 academic year. Students in the Construction Program built a shed for a local customer, and HVAC students worked in the community on various projects. KCKCC-PCC hosted several community events including a Trunk or Treat event for Halloween and a holiday event where community members wrote letters to Santa, sent cards to military service members and decorated cookies.

In addition, PCC hosted a community Easter event, with more than 300 community members attending. Students, faculty and staff participated in the Leavenworth Veterans Day Parade and the Leavenworth St. Patrick's Day Parade. Other activities included presenting a \$1,200 check to the Leavenworth United Way, hosting multiple blood drives, serving as a Silver Sponsor for the Lansing Chamber of Commerce banquet and offering several Community Education classes during the year.



KCKCC RECEIVES CAPSTONE AWARD

KCKCC received a 2023 Kansas City Business Journal Capstone Award. Centennial Hall was one of three projects selected in the Community Impact category.

Centennial Hall includes 260 beds and is the first student housing development on KCKCC's Main Campus. Each floor is divided into wings with student and community spaces built in. Every student also has a private bedroom and shared living space. Other amenities include a group study hall, study spaces, multi-purpose spaces, laundry facility, a FEMA rated storm shelter, gaming room and an outdoor patio/grilling area. Opened in August 2022, Centennial Hall is currently at 100 percent occupancy for the fall semester and has more students on a wait list. The college financed the project with a special revenue bond, which will be paid off using student housing fees over the next 20 years.

According to the judges' notes, "this project is changing the landscape for KCK with this on-campus residential living, giving students access to academic resources, dining and other campus amenities."

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION WITH REP. DAVIDS AND AREA BUSINESS LEADERS

KCKCC hosted a roundtable discussion with Rep. Sharice Davids and Kansas City business leaders in September at KCKCC-TEC. The group discussed new federal manufacturing, supply chain laws and workforce development. Davids helped provide funding for equipment for the college's Automation Engineer Technology Program.

Among those at the roundtable were Dr. Greg Mosier, KCKCC President; Carlos Gomez, Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Kansas City President; Kim Randolph, Founder of the Heartland Black Chamber of Commerce; Kristen Storey, International Express Trucking Business Development Manager; Mindy Rocha, CEO of CJ Industries and Monica Brede, Senior Director of Business Retention & Workforce Solutions for the Wyandotte Economic Development Council.



STROHMAN NAMED NFCA NJCAA DII ASSISTANT COACH OF THE YEAR

KCKCC softball coach Jenn Strohman was named Assistant Coach of the Year by the National Fastpitch Coaches Association's NJCAA DII. She is one of 11 coaches who were honored as 2022 Easton/NFCA Assistant Coaches of the Year. An integral part of the KCKCC program, Strohman helped guide the Blue Devils to a seventh-place finish at the 2022 NJCAA DII National Championship, following the team's first District B title since 2004. Working with the hitters and outfielders, Strohman tutored a pair of First-Team NFCA All-Americans, as well as four KJCCC DII All-Conference players. She is the sole person in charge of the softball complex as well as the academics from study hall to grade checks. Due to her diligence, the team has continually been a top program in the Athletic Department as well as a top-10 finisher in the Easton/NFCA Team GPA awards.

These awards salute the efforts of coaches from the various NFCA membership categories for their tireless dedication to the sport of softball and to the continued education, growth and development of young women, both on and off the playing field. The winners were nominated by NFCA member coaches and selected by a panel of their peers on the NFCA Awards Committee.

KCKCC WELCOMES FOUR NEW CABINET MEMBERS

KCKCC welcomed four new cabinet members during the 2022-23 academic year.



Dr. Scott Balog

Dr. Scott Balog became KCKCC's first Executive Vice President in April 2023. He brings more than 20 years of experience working in higher education leadership positions, including extensive work in entrepreneurship and innovation, to KCKCC. During his 17-year tenure at Tallahassee Community College (TCC) in Florida, Balog worked closely with the college's president as Assistant to the President, Director of Institutional Research and Planning and Chief of Staff. He has extensive experience in institutional strategic planning and master plans, aligning closely with what KCKCC developed in recent years. During the last three years of his tenure at TCC, he served as Executive Director for the college's Center for Innovation where he supported new models for education and workforce training and established technology hubs in a variety of areas, such as cloud computing, data science, cybersecurity and artificial intelligence.



Dr. Fabiola Riobé

Dr. Fabiola Riobé became the college's first Vice President for Educational Innovation and Global Programs in May 2023. She previously worked at SUNY Rockland Community College in Suffern, N.Y., where she served as the Associate Provost for Academic Innovation, Online Education and Global Opportunities. In this role, she led career and professional development, academic technology and instructional design as well as e-learning, global engagement, academic and career strategies and strategic initiatives. Prior to Rockland, Riobé was the President and Executive Director of Community Colleges for International Development in Houston; the founding Director and Master Teacher for the American Cultural Association, American Language Center in Morocco; Director and Professional Work Fellow for ETS in Princeton, N.J. and a Wall Street Market Research, International Consultant for MENA, West Africa Region in London.



Dr. Shelley Kneuvean

Dr. Shelley Kneuvean became the new Chief Financial Officer at KCKCC in September 2022. She brings more than 20 years of combined experience in higher education and government financial settings. Prior to coming to KCKCC, she was the Vice President of Finance and Administration at Baker University and was also the Vice Chancellor of Finance and Administration at Metropolitan Community College. Before her work in higher education, Kneuvean worked for various city and county governments.



Kristy Green

Kristy Green became the Chief Marketing Officer at KCKCC in August 2022. She has been with the college since October 2021. Green came to KCKCC from HNTB Corporation where she developed strategies to attract new clients and retain existing clients as well as other marketing responsibilities. Previous positions also included serving as the Executive Director for District Marketing and Communications at MCC, Marketing and Strategy Manager at the University of Missouri-Kansas City, Community Relations Manager for MoDOT and Director of Public Relations and Marketing at Missouri Western State University.



REECE APPOINTED TO LOAN REPAYMENT TASK FORCE

Tammy Reece, Director of Financial Aid at KCKCC, was selected to serve on a task force involving the “Resumption of Loan Repayment,” sponsored by the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators.

The task force was formed to help institutions find effective ways to communicate to student loan borrowers once repayments of federal student loans resume. Payments have been paused since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic in March 2020. Task force members attended virtual meetings and participated in discussions as they prepare a report related to the resumption of payments. They also included suggestions and best practices to help students transition successfully to the repayment process.



FACULTY MEMBERS RECEIVE TEACH AWARDS

Several faculty members received Teaching Excellence and Colleague Honor (TEACH) Awards. Sarah Webb and Tom Grady were presented with the Spring 2022 TEACH awards while Todd Gordon and Kristofer-Paul L. White received the Fall 2022 TEACH awards. The TEACH Award is co-sponsored by Faculty Senate and the Center for Teaching Excellence. It is a peer-nominated and peer-reviewed award, given to both a full-time and an adjunct faculty member who make a difference in the lives of their students each semester. Their names are also engraved on a plaque in KCKCC-TEC.



KCKCC HOSTS ANNUAL EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION AND RETIREMENT CEREMONY

KCKCC recognized 139 employees May 5 at the annual Employee Recognition and Retirement Ceremony. Employees were recognized for years of service, followed by honoring this year's retirees. Shai Perry received the Outstanding Staff Employee of the Year Award, and Traci Dillavou received the Henry Louis Excellence in Teaching Award.

MOSIER SERVES AS BOARD OF DIRECTORS CHAIR TO LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

KCKCC President Dr. Greg Mosier was selected to serve as Chair for Wyandotte Economic Development Council (WYEDC) Board of Directors in 2023. He previously served as First Vice Chair of WYEDC and has worked closely with economic development efforts in Wyandotte County since he became the college's president in 2018.

WYEDC is a 17-member board with both public and private members, including the mayors of Kansas City, Kan., Bonner Springs and Edwardsville as well as representation from the Kansas City Board of Public Utilities and Wyandotte County, among others. The council's mission is to promote and strengthen the Wyandotte County economy through programs, partnerships, incentives and leadership in office, retail and industrial markets.

CORBETT LEADS WORKSHOP AT INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

KCKCC's Coordinator and Professor of Audio Engineering, Dr. Ian Corbett, attended the Audio Engineering Society's Latin American Conference in Buenos Aires, Argentina in 2022. At the conference, he led a workshop on miking live jazz and acoustic music events and was a judge for the student recording competition.



STAFFORD SERVES AS GUEST CONDUCTOR AT MILLIKIN VOCAL FESTIVAL

Dr. John Stafford, Associate Professor of Music and Director of Choral Activities, was a clinician at the Millikin Vocal Festival in September 2022. This two-day festival includes a teacher-nominated honor choir, as well as other opportunities for students to work with Millikin voice faculty. More than 200 students attended the festival.

KCKCC CONDUCTS COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SURVEY

The results from the college's community engagement survey were presented during the June 2023 Board of Trustees meeting. Based on the employees who responded to the survey, 1,380 hours of community service per month have been contributed, which translates to 16,560 hours of service each year. According to the Points of Light Foundation, \$31.80 is the value of each hour of service. Using that formula, KCKCC employees have invested more than \$526,608 through service to area communities.

The numbers shared in the report are self-reported and not all employees responded to the survey. KCKCC employees have a long-standing habit of community engagement. Those who responded volunteer on average 18 hours a month and have a 17-year track record of continuous community service.



OZEGOVIC RECEIVES 2023 KCKCC NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARD RECIPIENT

Dr. Jelena Ozegovic, Professor of Psychology, is KCKCC's 2023 recipient of the annual National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development (NISOD) Excellence Award. NISOD's Excellence Awards recognize men and women each year who have demonstrated an outstanding commitment and contribution to their students and colleagues. Established in 1991, the awards program has honored more than 30,000 recipients, allowing member colleges to recognize those who go above and beyond every day.



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