

# What's Happening

October 21, 2022

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#### www.noc.edu

# Miss NOC Enid, Tonkawa held Tuesday at KPAC



The Miss NOC Enid and Miss NOC Tonkawa Scholarship Competitions are Tuesday, Oct. 25 at the Kinzer Performing Arts Center in Tonkawa. The dual competition starts at 7:30 p.m. Tonkawa entries include Yessenia Aguilar, Ponca City; Makayla McCullough, Alva; Kennedy Brown, Ponca City; Alyssa Walker, Ponca City; Hayley Spaeth, Okeene; Kira Pendleton, Tonkawa; Regan Clapper, Pawnee; Mikaila Kraus, Okarche. Enid entries include Kaycee



Babek, Meeker; Isyss Morgan, Enid; Ashleigh Miller, Cushing; Carson Collins, Mannford. The current Miss NOC's are Mia-Claire Jones (Enid) and Emma Valgora (Tonkawa). The winners move on to compete in the Miss Oklahoma Pageant in the summer. (photos by John Pickard/Northern Oklahoma College)



Eight NOC nursing students celebrated graduation last Friday night at the Renfro Center at NOC Tonkawa. Front Row (L-R): Kaylee Terry, Tara Mueggenborg, Saeble Harp. Back Row (L-R): Adrianna Lopez, Kacie Platt, Rebecca Gordon, Meliah Boyd, Amber Drapalla. (photo courtesy of Cope Photography)

# Eight nursing students graduate

night at the Renfro Center at NOC Tonkawa.

Receiving pins were Meliah Boyd (Tonkawa Gordon (Tonkawa), Saeble Harp (Tonkawa), NOC President Dr. Clark Harris. Adriana Lopez (Enid), Tara Mueggenborg Terry (Tonkawa).

Dr. Nikole Hicks, NOC Nursing Division Chair, said the event is truly a celebration.

Hicks said. "Tonight's event is the culmination of a lot of blood, sweat, and tears. I know these survive, but you are stronger for the experience. graduates appreciate all their friends and families for their support in what is one of the most

Eight Northern Oklahoma College Nursing difficult degree programs. We are so excited to students received their nursing pins Friday help them make the transition from nursing student to professional nurse."

Friday's guest speaker was Paula Harris, forcampus), Amber Drapalla (Enid), Rebecca mer nurse, nursing instructor, and the wife of

"Paula (Harris) has been such a joy to work (Stillwater), Kacie Platt (Tonkawa), and Kaylee with since she joined the NOC family," Hicks said.

In her remarks, Harris told the nursing graduates, "You have successfully completed your "We are here to celebrate these graduates," Dr. nursing education in the midst of an extraordinary public health emergency. Not only did you

(See **Nursing** on Page 3)



#### Nursing

(Continued from Page 2)

During a global pandemic you learned how to perform nursing skills and how to think like a soul as you work in a complex and often times nurse. You honed your ability to be resilient, accountable, and responsible. You learned how to be a member of a healthcare team, how to work rewarding profession in which your life and autonomously and how to provide leadership. All skills that will serve you well as a nurse. During this remarkable journey, you had the support of family and friends many of whom are here to celebrate with you today."

experiences in the nursing program," she continued. "You will help patients and their families face the unknown and navigate the healthcare environment. You will be their anchor in emony. Tara Mueggenborg was presented the the storm. I encourage you to use the art of nursing presence by being intentional, authentic, and in relationship with your patients and

The Preceptor Award was presented to Brianna Tom. Accepting the award was Amber Drapalla with Dr. Vickie Crouch. (photo courtesy of Cope Photography)

their loved ones. This will actually feed your chaotic work environment."

"I want to thank you for choosing to enter this work touches that of another. I can promise you that you will never be bored, you will make a difference in someone's life every day that you go to work, you will work hard, and some days you will end your shift and think "what a ride!" "Just as the nursing faculty guided you through The profound work that you do will impact so many people's lives in a way that you will never know and may never imagine."

> Two awards were presented at the pinning cer-Spirit of Nursing Award, and the Exceptional Preceptor Award was presented to Brianna Tom of Stillwater Medical Center.



The Spirit of Nursing Award was presented to nursing graduate Tara Mueggenborg, presented by nursing instructor Dr. Vickie Crouch. (photo courtesy of Cope Photography)



#### **NOC Stillwater Room 165** Wednesday, October 26, 2022 8 am-11 am

# On-Site Flu Vaccine

For NOC employees who are covered by NOC health Also insurance. Bring insurance card(s) and Driver's License offering the new COVID with you to avoid any delays in immunization. Booster, BiValent,

Only attend the clinic if you intend on to eligible receiving an immunization. DO NOT recipients attend the clinic if you are feeling sick, have a fever, or are exhibiting any respiratory symptoms.

Immunizations should be deferred if you are sick or have a fever.

On-Campus Flu Clinic provided by Foster Corner Drug. Social distancing and face masks are strongly encouraged.

# Fall enrollment up at NOC

Northern Oklahoma College has an increase the NOC Foundation, Inc. in student head count and credit hours according to a report given to board of regents last Fire and Safety Report for Tonkawa and Enid. Wednesday.

Dr. Rick Edgington reported that NOC has a 5% increase over Fall 2021. NOC now reports 3,278 students including those at Tonkawa, Enid, Stillwater, University Center in Ponca City, Online, and Concurrent (High School) enrollment.

hours over Fall 2021.

The largest increase in 2022 Fall enrollment is in concurrent enrollment with 436 students enrolled compared to 344 in Fall 2021.

Dr. Edgington also reported the final enrollment numbers for Summer 2022 with student Learning Commons Grand Opening set for latheadcount at 959, an increase of 18% over Summer 2021 with a credit hour production increase of 14% over Summer 2021.

Internal Audit Report with no major findings reported, approved the 2022-23 employee handbook with policy revisions and additions, and approved policy revisions and changes to in the Brown Conference Room at 1 p.m.

The regents also approved the NOC Annual

A total of \$1.05 million in funding alloca-Vice President for Enrollment Management tions were approved by the regents including \$400,000.00 in computer hardware, software, licensing, and fees and the purchase of two buses one for Tonkawa and Enid at a cost of \$285,000.00 each.

In the president's report, Dr. Clark Harris reported that student activities were up this se-NOC is also reporting a 2% increase in credit mester, he also reported that NOC employees participated in a survey asking for suggested ways to increase revenue and reduce expenses. He said the data survey responses will be compiled and sent to employees in the near future.

Harris also said he was excited for the Pickens er in the afternoon.

Regents also approved the declaration of surplus property including roustabout costumes, In other business, NOC approved the FY2022 old theatre curtains, athletic uniforms, and cheer uniforms. All the materials designated as surplus are at least five-years old.

The next meeting is set for Nov. 9 in Stillwater

### Jets athletic reunion set for Oct. 29

The Northern Oklahoma College Enid Jets are hosting an All-Athletics Alumni Reunion Saturday, Oct. 29.

Alums will be hosted for a luncheon from 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. at the Gantz Center. Following the luncheon, there will be athletic team breakouts for each sport including Meet the Jets, Athletic Activities, and Campus Tours.

The bookstore will be open from 1 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. for NOC memorabilia.

Late afternoon and evening will be reserved for alumni groups to meet off campus.

RSVP to NOC Alumni Coordinator Kayla Wooderson at 580.628.6473 or kayla.wooderson@ noc.edu.



# CATHOLIC **STUDENT ASSOCIATION**

Looking for fellow Catholics?

Interested in joining NOC Tonkawa's Catholic Student Association?

Catholic Student Association

Join Us Thursday, October 27<sup>th</sup> at Noon Harold Hall 3rd **Floor Student** Lounge

Pizza and

For more information contact **Dr. Alvce Webb** or (580) 628-6664



Former Maverick athletes look at memorabilia at the NOC Tonkawa All-Athletic Reunion held Oct. 15.

#### Maverick athletes reunite at event

Over 100 former NOC Tonkawa Maverick thank you for coming back today, we ask you Renfro Center.

Former baseball, basketball, cheer, softball, and soccer athletes had an opportunity to catch up with teammates, look at NOC sports memorabilia and bid on old athletic equipment.

NOC President Dr. Clark Harris welcomed the alums to the event.

here," Dr. Harris said. "We appreciate all you have done for NOC and we appreciate your willingness to stay connected to NOC. We hope you have a great day."

Athletic director Alan Foster thanked the alums for coming back for the event saying, "We

Athletes and their families attended the first to connect to our current student athletes and ever athletics reunion Saturday, Oct. 15 at the show them the future. We thank you for sharing your time today and hope this is the first of many athletic alumni events."

> Among the alums were members of Lady Mavs Basketball Coach Greg Krause's first team in 1982-83.

"It was great to see members of my first team here," Krause said. "Your first year as a head "Welcome back to NOC, we're glad you're coach is always special. They really enjoyed reuniting with each other too. We also had a former player from the 1985-87 years. All of them are looking forward to the next reunion and encouraging others to come."

(See **Reunion** on Page 6)

Also

offering

to eligible



**NOC Tonkawa** Renfro Ballroom Friday, October 28, 2022 8 am-1 pm

# On-Site Flu Vaccine

For NOC employees who are covered by NOC health insurance. Bring insurance card(s) and Driver's License the new COVID with you to avoid any delays in immunization.

Booster, BiValent, Only attend the clinic if you intend on receiving an immunization. DO NOT recipients attend the clinic if you are feeling sick, have a fever, or are exhibiting any respiratory symptoms.

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#### Mavericks

(Continued from Page 5)

Mavs' baseball had the most attendees.

"It was great seeing all my former players again," said coach Ryan Bay. "They all really enjoyed the day and they're already asking when the next get together will be."

Alums were treated to a lunch, courtesy of NOC, and then attended practices for the individual sports. The day ended with off-campus activities.

The event was organized by NOC Alumni and Community Relations Director Kayla Wooderson.



Life changing.

## **NOC October Birthdays**



Alyce Webb	Oct. 22	Courtney Miller	Oct. 28
Tammy Davis	Oct. 24	Pam Keeler	Oct. 28
Julie Baggett	Oct. 26	Vickie Crouch	Oct. 28
Gene Mayo	Oct. 27	Eddie Dixon	Oct. 29
Wendy O'Neill	Oct. 27	Darryl Rogers	Oct. 30



ALUMNI LUNCHEON 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM GANTZ STUDENT CENTER

JANTZ STUDENT CENTER
MONTGOMERY HALL
NOC ENID

Following the luncheon there will be individual athletic team breakout groups with the following:

Meet the Jets | Athletic Activities | Campus Tour

Bookstore will be open 1:00-1:30 pm for NOC memorabilia.

Late afternoon/evening will be reserved for alumni groups to meet off campus.

# RSVP by Monday, October 17 to Kayla Wooderson 580.628.6473 | kayla.wooderson@noc.edu

As more details are finalized, updates will be posted on social media pages.



NOC Alumni Facebook



Facebook

#### **Pickens Learning Commons official**

homa College library to the Pickens Learning Commons is complete as Northern Oklahoma College dedicated the updated facility at last Wednesday's grand opening.

Dr. Clark Harris, Hugh Pickens, artist Yatika Starr Fields, NOC Board of Regents Chairman Jami Groendyke, Tonkawa Chamber of Commerce President Kristy Favela, and NOC Vice President for Community Relations and Development Sheri Snyder.

Dr. Harris said the project was part of his "Building a Better NOC" initiative started last year.

"This project along with the generous support from the Pickens Museum connects with the current NOC Strategic Goals as well as to the Core Values of personalized education, continuous improvement and community and civic engagement," Harris said. "NOC strives to provide initiatives to insure student learning and student success. Programs and activities ect. conducted by the institution are also designed project exemplifies all of this."

Regent chair Jami Groendyke said she is inspired by the Pickens' family generosity.

"Today signifies an important day for Northern Oklahoma College," Groendyke said. "On American inspiration and he hopes this work behalf of the NOC Board of Regents, it gives me great pleasure to assist in this formal recognition and dedication. As an NOC alumna myself, I am inspired by the Pickens' generosity to give back to this institution. As a Native American, I am proud of the gift of Native art that is showcased here at Northern also made possible by the Pickens family."

In his remarks, Pickens spoke of the value of

"Art can do a lot of things, Pickens said. "Art can inspire us, art can help us be open to other

The transformation of the Northern Okla- ideas, art can uplift our minds and spirits. Art can change the world. I know this for a fact because it changed mine."

Pickens began collecting art in the 1960's, then combined collections with his wife Dr. S.J. Pick-The event included remarks by NOC President ens in 1984 and continued to collect art for 33 years where they spend hours in their studio admiring the art work they had acquired.

> Pickens then said that (former NOC President) Dr. Cheryl Evans had asked if NOC could display art by artist Yatika Starr Fields. Pickens then commissioned Fields to paint a mural in the Cultural Engagement Center at NOC. He then said that (current president) Dr. Clark Harris had asked that Pickens' presence at NOC continue and the result (100'x 20' mural) and over 80 pieces of art is on display today.

> "I am displaying this art to honor my late wife's memory," he said. "I hope the students today will see this art and be inspired by it."

> Native American Artist Yatika Starr Fields thanked Pickens for bringing him into the proj-

"I want to thank Mr. Pickens for allowing to promote a quality of life that enhances the me to share his vision," he said. "To have this students' total growth and development. The amount if art work in one place here at NOC in Tonkawa is truly amazing. It's not something you see in Oklahoma so NOC and Tonkawa are very fortunate."

> Fields explained the mural as a work of Native will inspire others.

> "I want to help students gain an inspiration to the energy of this mural and see vision of the past and the future," he said.

> Chamber President Kristy Street said the new learning center is an amazing facility.

> "I love how beautiful this Native American art work is and how it can bring cultures together and inspire students," she said. "I love how NOC and the City of Tonkawa can come to-

> > (See Pickens on Page 8)

Also

offering

to eligible





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#### **Pickens**

(Continued from Page 7)

gether. That's what Tonkawa means and I love that idea."

In the opening remarks of the event, Vice President for Community Relations & Development Sheri Snyder said, "Today, we want to not only share this amazing transformation within the Vineyard Library, but also want to formally recognize our private donor, Mr. Hugh Pickens and the Doctor Pickens Museum, Inc.," said Sheri Snyder. "We are so proud of our partnership with Hugh and The Doctor Pickens Museum, which started in 2020, when Hugh commissioned the beautiful 50-foot murals painted by Osage artist Yatika Starr Fields in our Cultural Engagement Center. Many of you were here in June 2021 when we held the artist reception and formal recognition."

"We are extremely grateful that this partnership has continued," Snyder said. "In April of this year, President Harris shared the vision of the Tonkawa Library and new contemporary Student Learning Commons with the Northern Oklahoma College Board of Regents, where they not only approved the project, but also approved the naming of the facility thanks to the substantial support from the Doctor Pickens Museum, Inc.

Tonkawa Chamber of Commerce Directors also held a ribbon cutting ceremony for the event.

The dedication coincided with Pickens' birthday so in honor of the event, the NOC Roustabouts sang Happy Birthday to Pickens.



NOC Tonkawa formally dedicated the Pickens Learning Commons Wednesday, Oct. 12. Pictured (L-R): Vice President for Community Relations & Development Sheri Snyder, Mural Artist Yatika Starr Fields, former NOC President Dr. Cheryl Evans, art collector Hugh Pickens, NOC President Dr. Clark Harris. (photo by John Pickard/Northern Oklahoma College).





NOC Nursing Students recently participated in a White Coat Ceremony at the Renfro Center in Tonkawa. (photo by John Pickard/Northern Oklahoma College)

# Nursing students participate in White Coat Ceremony

The Northern Oklahoma College Division of Nursing held a White Coat Ceremony Thursday, Oct. 6 at the Renfro Center in Tonkawa.

The first White Coat Ceremony was created by Dr. Arnold P. Gold in 1993 to bring a focus on human caring back to the practice of medicine. The ceremony has expanded from medical schools to multiple healthcare disciplines, including nursing, . During the ceremony, students are cloaked and recite a professionalism pledge to acknowledge the importance of Beth Hall, Aubrey Ingmire, Rosette Pruit, Valhuman caring and the need to keep patients at the center of that care. The cloaking ceremony symbolizes the passing of the nursing profession to a future generation who have the responsibility to provide compassionate care with the most up-to-date evidence throughout their careers, leaving the profession better off when they leave than when they began.

"The white coat ceremony honors nursing's traditions and acknowledges the equal contributions nurses at all levels make to humanistic caring healthcare practices," said NOC Nursing Division Chair Dr. Nikole Hicks. "The placement of the ceremony for NOC nursing students marks their transition from the practice lab to patient care settings within our commu-

Students in the Class of 2024 participating in the ceremony include the following:

Tonkawa - Ann Galindo, Caid Glowacki, rie Roblyer, Jennifer Schaefer, Cheyanne Shaw, Teagan Stewart, Brett Stoup, Jessica Waller, and Vanessa Wright.

Enid - Jessica Belair, Christopher Caez-Rojas, Jacqueline Camarena, Kasey Collins, Curtis Conner, Maria Cornwell, Cindi Hagans, Lauren Haley, Alyson Myers, and Meagan Rexrode. Stillwater – Evan Gibson, Brian Halpin, Taylor

(See White Coat on Page 10)



#### White Coat

(Continued from Page 9)

Hargrove, Kirbie Howard, Josephine Huai, Alexandria Madden, Ashton Ottley, Payton Par-Vogel, Jenny Zhan.

as follows:

Tonkawa - Meliah Boyd, '22; Lauren Eller, '23; Rebecca Gordon, '22; Saeble Harp, '22; Kristen Leading Fox, '23; Kacie Platt, '22, Haylee Rog-

ers, '23; Emily Smith, '23; and Kaylee Terry, '22. Enid – Mikaela Browning, '23; Amber Drapalrish, Maggie Swann, Cordelia Tillman, Caitlyn la, '22; Caitlyn Flackman, '23; Patricia Frickenschmidt, '23; Trist Kilian, '23; Adriana Lopez, NOC Nursing Students acting as mentors are '22; Janeka Perry, '23; Joey Simmons, '23; and Michael Ward, '23.

> Stillwater - Courtney Covert, '23; Ava Frank, '23; Ashley Knox, '23; Tara Mueggenborg, '22; Kylee Pameticy, '23; Harley Waldrep, '23.

# NOC Distinguished Alumni nominations due Nov. 1

Northern Oklahoma College is seeking nominations for the 2023 NOC Distinguished Alumni Award.

Nominations are due Nov. 1, according to Kayla Wooderson, alumni relations coordinator.

NOC Hall of Fame at the Alumni and Friends Reunion to be held in the Renfro Center, April 1, 2023. This is the 21st year for the NOC Hall of Fame event.

The NOC Roustabouts will perform at the event before their annual benefit show at the Kinzer Performing Arts Center.

The Distinguished Alumni Award, has been established to recognize the achievements of former students whose personal lives, professional achievements and community service exemplify the objectives of NOC. This award is Selected honorees will be inducted into the highest honor that Northern bestows upon an outstanding alumnus/a. To view the past honorees, visit the website at <a href="https://www.noc.">https://www.noc.</a> edu/development/alumni/distinguished-alumni-hall-of-fame/award-recipients/.

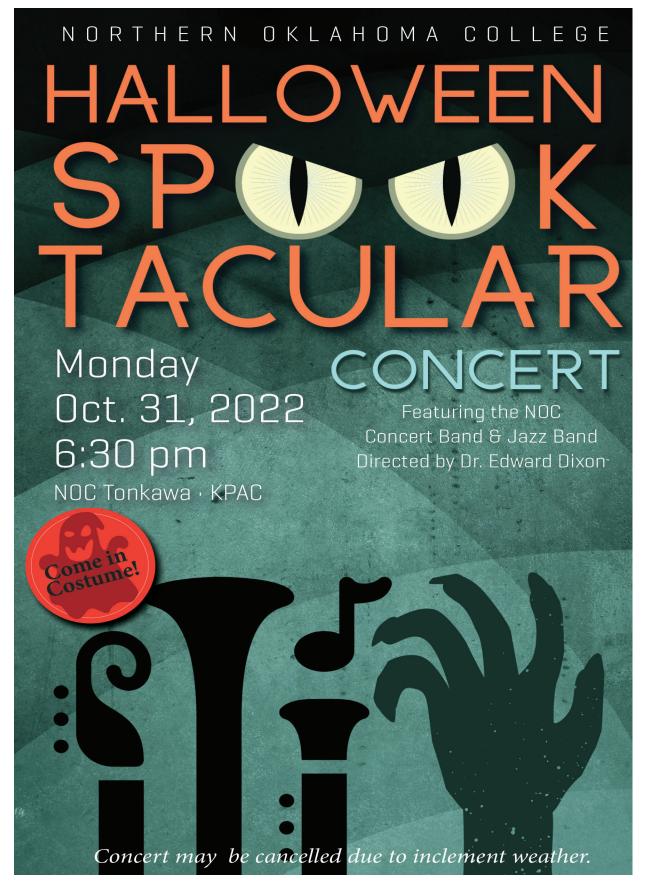
Contact Wooderson at 580.628.6473, kayla. wooderson@noc.edu or visit the NOC website at www.noc.edu/alumni.

#### Cafeteria announces Taco Bar Tuesday

Shelley Covey from Aladdin Food announces that Tuesday, Oct. 25, will be a Taco Tuesday on both the Tonkawa and Enid campuses



Life changing.

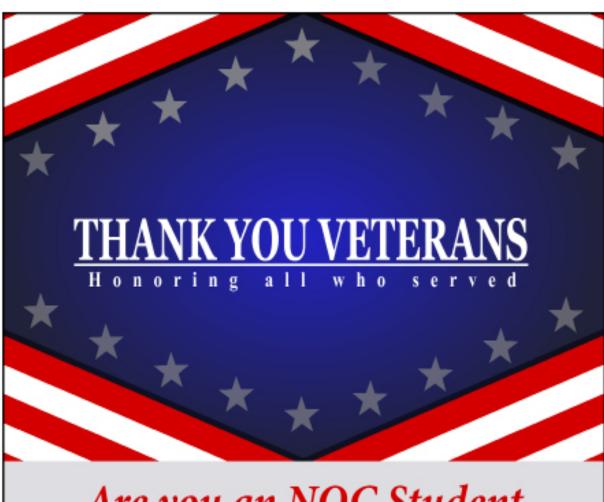




NOC Language Arts instructor Dr. Don Stinson led off the Chikaskia Literary Festival Thursday at NOC Enid. The festival, now in its 9th year had readers from four states at the annual NOC event. This year, the event was held at the Bivins Chapel on the NOC Enid campus.



Interim NOC Stillwater Vice President Wade Watkins spoke to Northern Encounter participants on Wednesday. Students and their parents learned about NOC Stillwater.



# Are you an NOC Student or Alum who is also a Veteran?

NOC would be honored to have you join NOC Regent Brad Fox, NOC Alum and Veteran, along with Northern faculty and staff on their float for the Ponca City Veterans' Day Parade.

The parade will be Saturday, November 5, 2022 and begins at 10:45 am. Let us honor you!

To join the NOC Float contact Kayla Wooderson, Director of Alumni and College Relations, at kayla.wooderson@noc.edu or 580.628.6473.

### NOC Nursing receives accreditation

Northern Oklahoma College Division of Nursing received an area of commendation this week as the Accreditation Commission for Education (ACEN) granted continuing accreditation to the associate nursing program.

"There has been an extensive amount of work done by the faculty to make program improvements and help us to have a successful accreditation outcome," said Dr. Nikole Hicks, NOC Nursing Division Chair. "The support from (NOC President) Dr. Clark Harris and the Board of Regents has been critically important and will continue to be a crucial part of our success moving forward. I appreciate the opportunity to become part of NOC and lead this truly dedicated faculty. I am looking forward to more exceptional outcomes in the future."

The area of commendation came in NOC's innovative Academic Practice Partner program. Students selected to participate in this program during the last semester of the nursing program https://bit.ly/3CMefAS.

work one-on-one with a registered nurse preceptor in a paid clinical experience at a partner facility. Academic Practice Partnerships benefit students be ready for practice upon graduation and help the clinical facilities support their transition to the registered nurse workforce upon graduation. NOC is pleased to have strong partnerships with clinical facilities within our communities that make this program possible.

ACEN peer evaluator visited NOC this past spring to verify the nursing program's compliance with accreditation standards as part of the evaluation process.

The next evaluation site visit is scheduled in Spring 2030.

NOC offers nursing at all three locations including Tonkawa, Enid, and Stillwater. The next class is for Fall 2023. Interested students may apply to the NOC Nursing Program at

### 24 Works on Paper exhibit til Nov. 4

24 Works on Paper, Oklahoma's only traveling art exhibit that features artists who live and Michael R. Grauer, Curator of Cowboy Collecwork in the state, will be on view from Sept. 26 – Nov. 4 in the Eleanor Hays Art Gallery at Northern Oklahoma College in Tonkawa.

Artists chosen for the curated exhibit differ in age, background and style and what unifies them is that they all make work on paper - in media such as printmaking, drawing, painting and photography.

The guest curator for 24 Works on Paper was tions and Western Art at the National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum. The biennial exhibition is managed by the Oklahoma Visual Arts Coalition, a statewide nonprofit whose mission is to grow and develop Oklahoma's visual arts community through education, promotion, connection and funding.



Life changing.



#### Current Miss NOC's reflect on year

#### Emma Valgora - Miss NOC Tonkawa

Miss NOC Tonkawa Emma Valgora's yearlong reign comes to end Oct. 25 when the new Miss NOC Tonkawa will be crowned.

It's been quite a ride, said the sophomore elementary education/music theatre major from know Ponca City.

"It's been so much fun and I hate to see it end. It's kind of sad," she said. "I have had so much make a differfun and been able to meet so many amazing people."

She had spe-

Valgora participated in pageants previous to Miss NOC but never dreamed she would be selected.

"You're on stage with so many talented young women and when I was selected, I was stunned," Varner who she said. "It was definitely a surreal moment helped during and one that I will never forget." her Miss NOC

Among the many highlights of her year was to Tonkawa year. participate in the Miss Oklahoma Pageant. "There is a

"That was so amazing to be in Tulsa with so many talented women from all across the state," she said. "Just to be on stage was an amazing experience."

Valgora would like a return to the Miss Oklahoma pageant, to qualify she must win a sanctioned competition this year.

"I would love to go back," she said.

Valgora's impact statement during her year was Mental Health and Suicide Prevention, a subject she feels strongly. During Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Week at NOC, Valgora spoke during a fine arts performance at NOC Tonkawa.

"It was a great way to talk about things that are so important but people don't want to talk about," she said. "I hope that bringing these things out in the public will make a difference." During her year, Valgora spoke to many groups and rode in various parades among her duties.

"It's a lot of fun to talk to people and be in a

position where I can be a role model for others," she said. "You never know when you have an opportunity to make a difference."

She had special thanks for Miss NOC coordinates who helped during her Miss NOC Tonkawa year.

"There is a reason Shannon was



Emma Valgora

named director of the year (with NOC Enid's Terri Sunderland) last year," Valgora said. "She is amazing and I appreciate her so much for all she has done for me. I consider her a great friend for life. I could not have done this without her."

Valgora is uncertain of her future plans but does plan to continue music theatre at a university.

"I love it so much, I've loved it since my mom put me in voice lessons and I started doing productions in Ponca City," she said. "It's a lot of hard work but it is so rewarding. I can't imagine not performing."

Even though her year is up, Valgora is excited to see the new Miss NOC Tonkawa on Tuesday.

What advice does Valgora have for the Miss

See Miss NOC on Page 15)



#### Miss NOC

(Continued from Page 13)

NOC that will be selected on Oct. 25?

"Do the best you can to make the most of your year," she said. "It only comes around once and the year goes by really fast so enjoy it."

#### Mia-Claire Jones, Miss NOC Enid

Mia-Claire Jones' year as Miss NOC Enid ends Tuesday with the crowning of a new Miss NOC Enid.

It's been a fast and furious year for the sophomore from Morrison, Oklahoma, studying Pre-Med.

"It's been a blast," Jones said. "It's gone by really fast but I've enjoyed it so very much."

Jones had never participated in a pageant before last year's Miss NOC event and was shocked when she won.

"I did it for the scholarship money," she said. "I thought 'why not' give it a try?"

"I was kind of scared," she added. "I'd been in front of people before but this was totally different. It really pushed me out of my comfort zone."

What's been the best part of being Miss NOC? "Just meeting so many great people and experiencing new things," she said. "I know I've met people that will be lifelong friends."

When Jones was planning for the talent portion of the Miss NOC Scholarship Competition, she planned to play a piano selection. This was a challenge for Jones because she had just taught herself to play piano during COVID-19.

"That was pretty scary," she said. "But I got through it okay."

Jones is now takes regular lessons.

Jones' impact statement is "Adopt Positivity" which she is very passionate.

"I gave away a lot of toothbrushes," she said. "I want people to be positive and not be afraid to

smile. When people smile, they are happy. Smiling is like a superpower for people. It cuts through the negativity and makes people feel good."

Jones enjoys being a role model.

"You never know who you are impacting," she said. "If some little



**Mia-Claire Jones** 

girl sees me as Miss NOC Enid, that may encourage her to try and do the same thing. You have to try things in order to be successful."

She enjoyed her experience at the Miss Oklahoma Pageant so much she is trying to qualify for this year's pageant.

"I've been participating in competitions this year because I had so much fun at last year's," she said.

What's her advice for this year's winner?

"It's your year so make it the best it can be," she said.

She plans to attend Oklahoma State University next fall. Her goals are to become a sports physician for sports' team.



NOC invites you to give the gift of gratitude by mailing a letter. The booth will be open from October 24th through November 11th and on the common floor(2). Stamps, letters, and envelopes will be provided.



FEELING GRATITUDE AND NOT EXPRESSING IT IS LIKE WRAPPING A PRESENT AND NOT GIVING IT.



#### **NOC Calendar**

Oct. 21

Final Day to Withdraw from L8 Courses with Full Refund

Tonkawa Haunted Sale Barn, 7<sup>th</sup> and Riviera, 8 p.m. – 11 p.m., (Students Free with ID), Tonkawa

Oct. 22

Tonkawa Haunted Sale Barn, 7th and Riviera, 8 p.m. – 11 p.m., (Students Free with ID), Tonkawa

Oct. 23

Enid Zombie Tag, Enid

Home Soccer vs. Rich Mountain, 1 p.m., 3 p.m.

Oct. 24

24 Works on Paper Art Exhibit (Mon - Fri), KPAC, 1 p.m. - 5 p.m., Tonkawa

Spooky Yoga Mondays, EB Lobby, 8 p. m., Enid

Halloween Decoration Contest (All Week), Residence Hall, Enid

Oct. 25

Taco Tuesday, Enid and Tonkawa campuses

Free Lunch, BCM, 11:30 a.m. - 12:45 p.m., Tonkawa

Runner Girls, Tonkawa Track, 2:30 p.m., Tonkawa

Renew at the BCM, BCM, 6:30 p.m., Tonkawa

Witches Hockey, Mabee Center, 7:30 p.m., Enid

Oct. 26

On Site Flu Vaccinations, Room 165, 8 a.m. – 11 a.m., Stillwater

Free Student Lunch, Wesley House, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m., Tonkawa

BCM Student Lunch, James Room, 11:30 a.m. - 12:45 p.m., Enid

BCM Gathering, BCM, 7 p.m., Enid

Spooky Movie Night, David Allen Memorial Ballpark, 8 p.m., Enid

Oct. 27

Catholic Student Association, Harold Hall Student Lounge, noon, Tonkawa

Pumpkin Paint Night, Chik-Fil-A, 7 p.m., Enid

Oct. 28

On Site Flu Vaccinations, Renfro Center, 8 a.m. – 11 a.m., Tonkawa

Jets Madness, Mabee Center, 6 p.m., Enid

Spooky Treats Night, Montgomery Hall, 7 p.m., Enid

Tonkawa Haunted Sale Barn, 7th and Riviera, 8 p.m. – 11 p.m., (Students Free with ID),

Tonkawa

Oct. 29

Jets Athletic Reunion, Gantz Center, 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.

For additional information, visit the following links: NOC Calendar

# FAFSA

Free Application for Federal Student Aid

2023-2024



NEED HELP PAYING FOR COLLEGE? APPLY FOR FINANCIAL AID.



Contact a Financial Aid Officer
Tonkawa 580.628.6595
Enid 580.548.2261
Stillwater 580.628.6595
Email: Financial.aid@noc.edu



#### **DEADLINES:**

**OCTOBER 1** 

FAFSA application opens

**JUNE 30** 

FAFSA application closes

#### **Gather Materials**

W2 Forms, Your (and your parents)
2021 Income Information

Create FSA ID

Complete FAFSA
www.studentaid.gov
NOC School Code: 003162

# Need help or have questions?

Scan the QR Code or Go To www.noc.edu/current-students/financial-aid