

What's Happening

February 17, 2023

NOC Public Information Office 580.628.6444

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The Oak Ridge Boys appeared at Northern Oklahoma College Thursday night as part of the Carl and Carolyn Renfro Lectureship Program. (photo by John Pickard/Northern Oklahoma College)

Board of Regents approve cost cutting measures

The Northern Oklahoma College Board of Regents voted Feb. 15 to take action on a proposal that has been in the works for many months. The plan was in relation to reducing the FY2024 budget. The current FY2023 budget used one-time pandemic relief funds to balance the budget. As those funds are no longer available for FY2024, the college's budget will need to be reduced by \$1.5 million to balance the budget. The plan that was approved was a culmination of analyzing cost reduction strategies that were suggested by employees and strategies identified by the Executive Council.

"The process to determine areas that could be cut was difficult," said NOC President Clark Harris. "The NOC Executive Council worked diligently over the last several months to identify areas in the budget that can be reduced. We examined a vast number of suggested cost-saving and revenue generating strategies. We especially kept in mind the guiding principle to look at Reductions in Force as a last resort. The decision to discontinue programs and eliminate positions at the college were not taken lightly, as these decisions are among some of the most difficult decisions any college must make."

The NOC executive council has been meeting weekly focused solely on evaluating the current fiscal situation with the goal to manage significant reductions in the current budget while continuing to emphasize the NOC strategic goals and preserve the high quality of instruction and the college experience at Northern Oklahoma College.

The budget plan was presented and approved today at the NOC Board of Regents meeting and shared with employees afterwards. Included in the plan are a combination of resignations, retirements and a limited number of Reduction In Force (RIF).

"As NOC strives to be fiscally responsible, we

are aware of the impact of budget cuts on all of our NOC family. The faculty and staff have come together to recommend cuts while keeping our high standards of educational experiences for our students top of mind," said Regent Jamie Groendyke, Chair of the NOC Board of Regents. "We believe these cuts will ultimately better the financial position of the college and streamline our processes so our focus can continue to be on our students."

The proposed budget cuts and revenue generating strategies approved include:

- Reevaluate rental rates for all campus facilities including residence halls and rental property in Enid and Tonkawa, and meeting rooms and venues utilized from outside groups.
- Enforce Student Housing Policy in Enid and Tonkawa for freshman and participation students living on campus.
- Continue to identify strategies to recruit new students and improve practices across the college to retain students. While the ten-year trend has shown a declining enrollment, NOC is up five percent for the spring semester, and we want to continue these aggressive strategies.
- Reevaluate charging admissions to activities and events at the college. The Fine Arts division will begin charging for events, beginning with the upcoming musical *Sweeney Todd* in March.
- Continue fundraising efforts and develop new fundraising initiatives associated with Building a Better NOC.
- Explore grant opportunities to enhance campus safety as well support our programs and students.
- Implement a one-time offering of a supplemental retirement option for eligible faculty and staff.
- Shift employee health benefits to a "defined contribution" plan beginning January 1, 2024.
- Adjust faculty compensation for overload courses and evaluate stipends and release times.
- Implement Purchase Cards (P-Cards) or credit card program for employees to utilize for purchases authorized by the college.
- Implement several energy savings strategies and maximize use of facilities across the institution including consolidating building usage for night classes, closing some buildings in the summer and closing one dorm in Tonkawa.
- Discontinue Competitive Cheer on the Enid and Tonkawa campuses at the end of the Spring 2023 semester. Scholarships extended to current freshman cheer team members that have already signed Letters of Intent for the 2023-2024 academic year will be honored.
- Reevaluate campus student activities and events including merging the Miss NOC competitions in Enid and Tonkawa into one competition.

Vice Chair of the Board Brad Fox commented, "On behalf of the Board, we commend the efforts made by the college with this challenging task and appreciate all the faculty and staff's involvement through cost-saving surveys and follow up communications to the executive team in making these difficult decisions."

In other business, the regents approved a resolution supporting the current law on guns on campus; approved the new NOC Tonkawa wellness center membership fees; approved policy revisions and additions to the NOC Employee Handbook, section 4.2.2 System of Compensation of Instructional Overloads and Special Assignments and section 4.2.5 Processes Related to Division Chairs and Faculty Liaisons, approved the FY2023 Budget Revision and Establishment of Fund 497 for American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds totaling \$300,000 for Northern Oklahoma College Nursing Workforce Expansion; and approved the monthly financial report, purchases and allocations.

In regents' comments, Jodi Cline announced that she will not pursue another term on the board with her current term ending June 2023. The next regular board meeting is Wednesday, March 22 at 2 p.m. in the Brown Board Room at NOC Stillwater.



NORTHERN
Oklahoma College
TONKAWA | ENID | STILLWATER



NOC students, faculty, and staff attended Higher Education Day at the State Capitol on Tuesday, Feb. 14.

NOC attends Higher Education Day

Northern Oklahoma College students, faculty, and staff joined other state system institutions at the state Capitol Feb. 14 to demonstrate the value and importance of higher education in the state.

NOC took a contingent of 25 students, faculty, and staff from the Tonkawa, Enid, and Stillwater campuses.

Speakers included Dr. Brandon Tatum, Chief of Staff for Governor Kevin Stitt; Speaker Charles McCall; Rep. Anthony Moore; Sen. Adam Pugh; State Regents chair Michael C. Turpen; and Chancellor Allison D. Garrett.

“Students, faculty and staff from Oklahoma’s public colleges and universities came together today at our State Capitol to highlight the value of a college degree,” said Garrett. “Over half of the top 100 occupations identified by Oklahoma Works as critical to economic growth in our state will require an associate degree or higher,

including the top 29 highest paying jobs. Bachelor’s and associate degree holders earn 75% more and 25% more, respectively, than those with only a high school diploma. Investing in higher education drives economic opportunity for individual Oklahomans and attracts high-wage employers, which creates vibrant communities across our state.”

While bachelor’s degrees in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) disciplines increased 47% and health professions degrees increased more than 26% over the last decade, shortages persist in these sectors. For FY24, the State Regents request \$26.3 million for critical workforce development initiatives, including funds to expand nursing education program and medical residency capacity to address the state’s shortage of Registered Nurses and phy-

(See Higher Ed Day on Page 4)

NEED MONEY FOR COLLEGE?

If so complete the following steps below



Contact the
Scholarship Office
580.628.6760

Email: scholarships@noc.edu

SCAN TO VISIT OUR
SCHOLARSHIP
WEBPAGE



IMPORTANT DATES:

AUGUST 25

Deadline for all Fall scholarships, except PLC Scholarship.

OCTOBER 1

Scholarship application opens. Apply for FAFSA.

JANUARY 25

Deadline to apply for scholarships for the Spring semester for new or transfer students.

FEBRUARY 20

PLC Scholarship deadline and priority date (early acceptance) for all other scholarships for Fall.

1 Apply for admissions to NOC
www.noc.edu/future-students

2 Complete FAFSA
studentaid.gov
NOC School Code: 003162

3 Complete Scholarship Form
www.noc.edu/scholarships

Need help or have questions?

Scan the QR Code or Go To
www.noc.edu/scholarships

Higher Ed Day

(Continued from Page 3)

sicians; support institutional efforts to increase enrollment and graduation in STEM disciplines; and continue providing scholarships for adult students nearing completion of a college degree or pursuing an industry-recognized micro-credential or certificate.

The state system of higher education budget request includes \$23 million to fund the Oklahoma National Guard Educational Assistance Program, the Oklahoma Future Teacher Scholarship and Employment Incentive Program (“Inspired to Teach”), and the Concurrent Enrollment Tuition Waiver program.

The State Regents request \$49.3 million in FY24 to fund performance-based institutional allocations to address operational support needs; strengthen college access and academic success services for students; fund strategic collaborations, shared services, and educational resources that drive long-term efficiencies across the state system; and continue investments in data analytics, digital transformation, and cybersecurity. The budget request also includes capital funding for system and structure upgrades to enhance campus safety and security.

The State Regents request a FY23 supplemental appropriation of \$9 million to fund the Oklahoma National Guard Educational Assistance Program, established by SB 1418 during the 2022 legislative session. While the annualized cost to deliver the program is reflected in public higher education’s FY24 budget request, supplemental funds are needed to reimburse state system institutions for costs incurred during the 2022-23 academic year.

Additional priorities for the State Regents in the legislative session include universal completion of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) for high school seniors, which has spurred college enrollment increases in other states, and maintaining the current law pertaining to weapons on higher education campuses. Oklahoma higher education supports the Second Amendment. Under current law, campus presidents have the discretion to determine who may carry weapons on a college or university campus. The State Regents and the presidents of all 25 state system institutions strongly believe that the current law with regard to weapons on campus is working.

Refinements to the Oklahoma’s Promise scholarship program are also a priority. The State Regents’ goals include streamlining high school course requirements for scholarship eligibility, an adjustable formula for income limits each year to increase flexibility for eligible students and families, and an appeal process to assist students facing unique circumstances.

Recognized by the Southern Regional Education Board as one of the top promise scholarship programs in the nation, Oklahoma’s Promise is considered a national model that combines emphases on academic preparation and financial support for college. More than 100,000 students have earned college tuition scholarships through Oklahoma’s Promise since the program’s inception. For more information about Oklahoma’s Promise or to apply online, visit www.okpromise.org.



Life changing.

ENTREPRENEURIAL LEADERSHIP CHALLENGE

A team challenge. Free and open to the public.

PapiPay mobile has two primary markets, consumers and gas station owners. Teams will compete to turn brainstorming sessions and site visits into business strategies for a consumer mobile payment application that works at convenience stores. Additionally, merchants will sign up to accept the solution for his or her consumers. The purpose of this contest is to utilize the local markets of the competitors to develop a business plan for growing PapiPay mobile usage at gas stations and increase consumer downloads of the PapiPay application.

FOR ANY WHO HAS AN INTEREST IN PRACTICING THEIR ENTREPRENEURSHIP SKILLS.

Participants can come as a team of 3-4 or individuals will be assigned to a team.

Cash Prizes to Top 3 Teams
First Place \$2,500
Second Place \$1,500
Third Place \$1,000

All team members must attend first and last session and one member of each team must attend the middle two virtual sessions to be eligible for cash prizes.

Sponsored by:



4 Sessions

TUESDAYS

Zollars Memorial Library, Room 206
NOC ENID

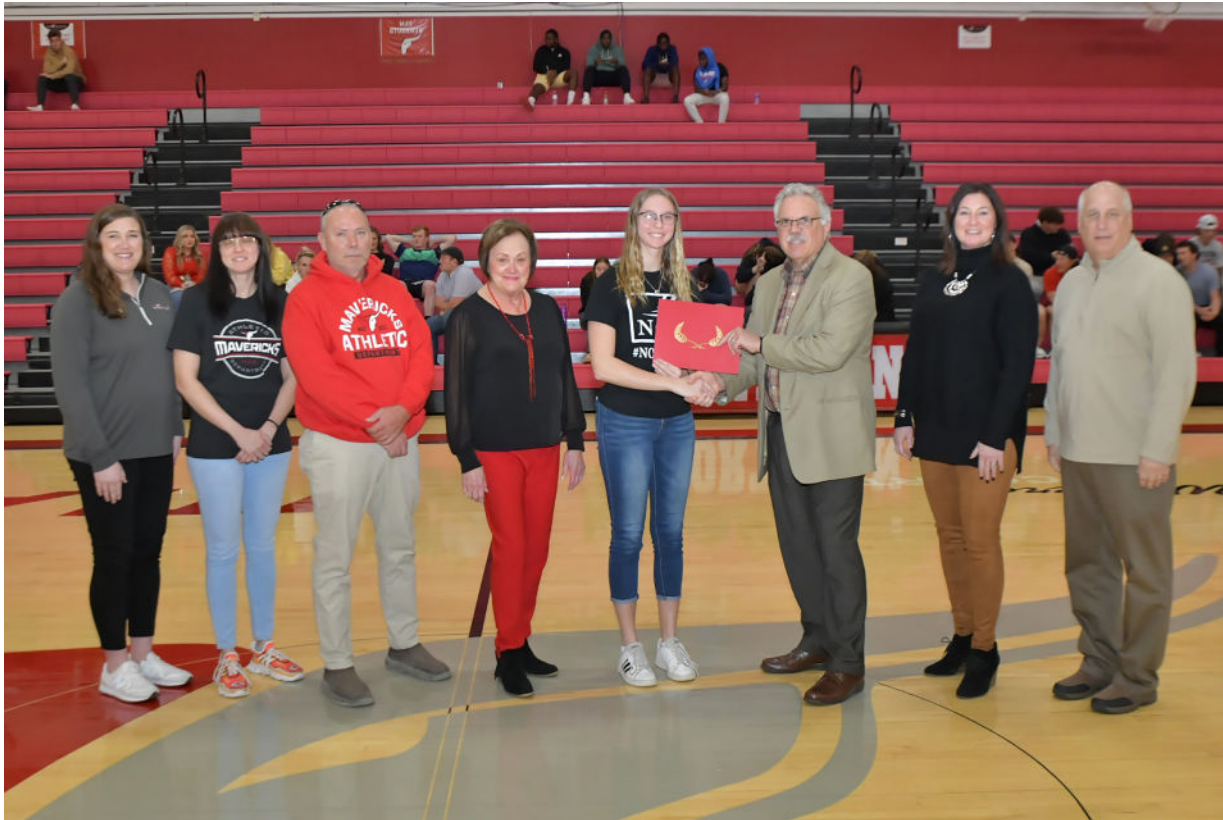
February 28
In Person, 6:00-7:30 pm
March 7
Virtual, 6:00-7:00 pm
April 4
Virtual, 6:00-7:00 pm
April 25
In Person, 6:00-7:30 pm

RSVP by
Friday, February 24, 2023
to Jeremy Hise at 580.548.2393
or jeremy.hise@noc.edu

Light hors d’oeuvres and beverages provided at first session.

A special thanks for the generous donation from Mark Raftery, PapiPay

Like us on LinkedIn and Facebook!
www.noc.edu | www.PapiPay.com



NOC Athletic Training student Samantha Smith received the Nevona Kegans Scholarship Monday night. (photo by John Pickard/Northern Oklahoma College)

Samantha Smith receives Nevona Kegans Scholarship

Northern Oklahoma College Athletic Training student Samantha Smith was named the Nevona Kegans Scholarship recipient for the 2023-24 Academic Year.

Smith is a HPER Athletic Training major from Medford, Oklahoma.

The Nevona Kegans scholarship is presented to an athletic training student attending NOC Tonkawa. Kegan was instrumental in establishing the athletic training program at NOC. Smith is the 5th recipient of this award and re-

ceives a \$500.00 scholarship.

Presenting the scholarship are Nevona Kegans Bossert, NOC Athletic Trainer Summer McClure, NOC President Dr. Clark Harris, Vice President for Development and Community Relations Sheri Snyder, and NOC Athletic Director Alan Foster.

Joining Smith for the presentation were her mother Elisha Schofield and father, Jonathan Smith.



Nominate a Nursing Instructor

Deadline for Consideration: April 3, 2023

DAISY Award finalist must attend the May 6, 2023 Nurses' Pinning for consideration.

Honor the inspirational influence our Nursing Faculty provide their students everyday.

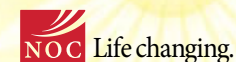
THE DAISY AWARD FOR EXTRAORDINARY NURSING FACULTY at **NORTHERN OKLAHOMA COLLEGE**

The DAISY Award for Extraordinary Nursing Faculty was established by The DAISY Foundation in memory of J. Patrick Barnes who died at age 33 from Immune thrombocytopenia (ITP), an auto-immune disease. The Barnes Family was awestruck by the clinical skills, caring and compassion of the nurses who cared for Patrick. They created this international award to demonstrate appreciation to faculty for their commitment and inspirational influence on their nursing students and to say thank you to nursing faculty everywhere.

To Nominate a Nursing Faculty Member, visit:

<https://www.noc.edu/academics/academic-divisions/nursing-division/daisy-award/>

Or scan the QR code below with your smartphone camera.



Entrepreneurial Leadership Challenge set for Feb. 28

The Enid Entrepreneur Leadership Series, Northern Oklahoma College Enid, and PapiPay are sponsoring a free Entrepreneurial Leadership Challenge starting Feb. 28.

The challenge is free and open to the public for anyone interested in practicing their entrepreneurship skills. Participants may come as a three-to-four-member team or individuals and be assigned to a team.

The challenge will be held over two in-person sessions on Feb. 28 and April 25 at the Zollars Memorial Library Room 206 on the NOC Enid campus from 6 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. and two virtual sessions on March 7 and April 4 from 6 p.m. – 7 p.m.

PapiPay mobile has two primary markets, consumers and gas station owners. Teams will compete to turn brainstorming sessions and site visits into business strategies for a consum-

er mobile payment application that works at convenience stores.

Additionally, merchants will sign up to accept the solution for his or her consumers. The purpose of this contest is to utilize the local markets of the competitors to develop a business plan for growing PapiPay mobile usage at gas stations and increase consumer downloads of the PapiPay application.

Cash prizes of \$2,500 (1st), \$1,500 (2nd), and \$1,000 (3rd) will be awarded.

All team members must attend the first and last session and one member of each team must attend the two virtual sessions to be eligible for the prize money.

For additional information, contact Vice President for NOC Enid Jeremy Hise at 580.548.2393 or Jeremy.hise@noc.edu.

Attendees are asked to RSVP by Feb. 24.

NOC February Birthdays



Cooper Battisti	Feb. 20	Tony Barnes	Feb. 25
Audra Biggs	Feb. 23	Leondra Wilson	Feb. 25
Jimmy Dickinson	Feb. 24	Jonie Johnson	Feb. 28
Jeremy Hise	Feb. 24		



SPRING 2023 ACT PREP WORKSHOP

Tips and Skills for a Higher Score!

Testing with Success
Featuring Shelly Beaty, Testing Specialist

NOC TONKAWA
Wednesday, March 1
Renfro Center

NOC ENID
Thursday, March 2
Gantz Student Center
Montgomery Hall



Check-In 8:30 am
Workshop 9-11:30 am

COST \$20
Pay at Door

Register Online by Friday, February 24
<https://noc.secure.force.com/events/#/list>
(or scan code)

TONKAWA Bryan Hook
580.628.6668 or recruiter1@noc.edu
ENID Leticia Maxwell
580.548.2353 or recruiter2@noc.edu



NOC celebrates Black History Month

Black History Month (February 1 – February 28, 2023).

Black History Month has a different theme every year.

The founder, Woodson believed providing a theme was essential to focus the public's attention. The ASALH (Association for the Study of African American Life and History) said it selects themes that "reflect changes in how people of African descent in the United States have viewed themselves, the influence of social

movements on racial ideologies, and the aspirations of the Black community."

The theme of this year's Black History Month is Black Resistance.

"Black resistance strategies have served as a model for every other social movement in the country, thus, the legacy and importance of these actions cannot be understated."

For more information go to: <https://asalh.org/black-history-themes/>

Black History To Me

by Leon McCoy, Jr. (Husband of NOC Instructor Dr. Mary Ann McCoy)

Black History -- more than a month

Black History -- requires a deeper knowledge of ourselves and communities

Black History -- deeply entwined in America's history

Black History -- learn it, know it, share it and never deny it

Black History -- symbolizes courage and perseverance in the pursuit of justice and equality while being persecuted by oppressors

Black History -- can't be altered; won't be ignored

Black History and your Blackness -- a BLESSING, embrace it; cherish it

Black History -- a window to the past; a vision to the future, the journey's not over; we've come too far to turn-around, the race isn't won; run on, fight on, never quit



Feb. 18: Home Baseball vs. Pratt, noon

Feb. 19: Away Baseball vs. Pratt, noon

Feb. 20: Home Mavs and Lady Mavs Basketball vs. Redlands, 5:30 p.m.

Feb. 20: Away Softball vs. Neosho (KS), 1 p.m.

Feb. 21: Away Baseball vs. Coffeyville, 1 p.m.

Feb. 23: Away Mavs and Lady Mavs Basketball vs. Murray, 5:30 p.m.

Feb. 24: Home Softball vs. Allen, 1 p.m.

Feb. 17: Away Baseball vs. Cloud (KS) at UCO, 5:30 p.m.

Feb. 18: Away Jets and Lady Jets Basketball vs. Murray, 2 p.m.

Feb. 19: Away Softball vs. Neosho (KS) 1 p.m.

Feb. 20: Away Jets and Lady Jets Basketball vs. Seminole, 5:30 p.m.

Feb. 23: Home Jets and Lady Jets Basketball vs. Eastern, 5:30 p.m.

Feb. 24: Home Softball vs. Cloud (KS), 1 p.m.

Nursing applications due March 1

The Northern Oklahoma College Nursing Program is currently applications for Fall 2023.

The deadline for applications is March 1.

Applicants must meet minimum program requirements for admission and be accepted to Northern Oklahoma College prior to acceptance in the Nursing Program. Applicants are selected based on qualifications and space availability.

NOC has nursing programs at Tonkawa, Enid, and Stillwater locations. Apply by March 1 for admission on all three campuses for Fall 2023.

Please call 580.628.6679 or apply at <https://bit.ly/3sg1QB8>.

Nursing Faculty, Staff and Alumni

Save the Date



**Saturday,
March 25, 2023
Renfro Center
NOC Tonkawa**

Fun-filled activities and campus tours throughout the day.
Registration and Mixer at 5:00 pm.
Dinner and Program begins at 5:30 pm.

*Celebrating
50 YEARS
of Nursing*

We would love to hear
your NOC Nursing Story.
To share your story or
for more information on Mixer,
email Kayla Wooderson at
kayla.wooderson@noc.edu

Process Tech applications due March 15

Persons interested in the Northern Oklahoma College Tonkawa Process Technology Program have until March 15, 2023 to apply for the Fall 2023 semester.

Only students who fill out the on-line application will be considered. Program manager Frankie Wood-Black said the program is limited to 24 students.

Wood-Black added the program is available to anyone interested in Process Technology.

The review process begins in late March, applicants will be notified of the review process. The application may be found at <http://www.noc.edu/ptechapplication>.

Art exhibit at Tonkawa through Feb. 28

“Teaching Artists Exhibition,” featuring the work of twelve area educators who also make art is currently on view in Eleanor Hays Art Gallery on the Northern Oklahoma College Tonkawa campus, according to gallery director Audrey Schmitz.

Schmitz curated the exhibition with a vision of recognizing and celebrating the quality and diverse styles of art being produced by educators. A “teaching artist” is defined as a practicing professional artist who has a dual career as an educator and who may work in many settings, from schools and art centers to hospitals and online venues.

Participating artists are Brandon Beichler, Charla Enns and Steven Goodwin of Enid; Betty Hancock, Cushing; Ashley Heitschmidt, Blackwell; Jena G. Kodesh, Red Rock; Alena Jennings, Mindy LittleCook and Theresa Sacket of Ponca City; Carol Morgan and Leah Pappan of Newkirk; Jason McNaughton, Norman.

Over 65 works of art include oil, watercolor

and acrylic painting, digital imagery and photography, monoprints, pastels, mixed-media sculpture, ceramics and jewelry. Styles range from realistic subject matters to fantasy and expressive abstract works. All of the artists demonstrate technical mastery and experimentation with media and reveal a shared celebration of color. Viewers will find the diverse works strategically grouped to create visual experiences capitalizing on related properties of color, line, shape and composition. The majority of the art is available for purchase.

“Teaching Artist Exhibition” remains in the gallery through Feb. 28. The gallery, located in the Kinzer Performing Arts Center, is open 1 p.m. - 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and during evening and weekend events in the KPAC Auditorium. Admission is free. Contact gallery director Audrey Schmitz at 580-628-6670 or audrey.schmitz@noc.edu for more information.

Scholarship Priority Deadline
Tuesday, Feb. 21





NOC Enid (above) and Stillwater (below) held Northern Encounter programs recently to showcase NOC to prospective students and their parents. (photos provided)



February 2-April 13, 2023

**closed March 13-17 and for inclement weather*

THURSDAYS 5-8 PM
by appointment only

FREE E-FILING
for Students, NOC Employees
and the Public

FEATURING
Certified tax preparers provided by
Northern Oklahoma College
Business Division
Income limit of \$60,000



Cultural
Engagement Center
Vineyard
Library-Administration Building
NOC Tonkawa

Sponsored by



NORTHERN
Oklahoma College



IRS

FREE TAX
PREPARATION

Call 580.628.6340
or email
carolyn.johnson@noc.edu
to schedule
an appointment.

PLEASE BRING

- Photo ID for both spouses
- Social Security cards and birthdates for taxpayer, spouse and dependents
- W-2 forms
- 1099 forms
- Receipts for childcare costs, education expenses and other deductions
- Checking account and routing number for refund
- 1095-A or healthcare coverage or exemption

The Tonkawa Chamber of Commerce
presents

4TH ANNUAL TONKAWA FILM FESTIVAL



**APR
14th
15th**

*Wilkin Hall
Theater
Northern
Oklahoma
College*

- Short Films
- Music Videos
- Parade
- Door Prizes

www.TonkawaFilmFestival.com





PROFILING DANGEROUS PEOPLE



COUNTER HOMICIDE TRAINING

CAUSES ★ WARNING SIGNS ★ TRIGGERS ★ MODUS OPERANDI ★ SIGNATURES



WITH SPEAKER PHIL CHALMERS

- True Crime Writer and Criminal Profiler
- Author of the Teen Killer Whisperer
- Host of Where the Bodies are Buried Podcast




FEATURING LIVE INTERVIEWS WITH SERIAL KILLERS AND SCHOOL SHOOTERS



TRAINING TOPICS INCLUDE:

- Causes, Warning Signs and Triggers of Today's Dangerous Killers
- School Shooting Trends
- School Safety Plan
- Dangerous Youth Culture
- Myths of Serial Killers
- Hundreds of Crime Scene Photos
- Active Shooting Videos
- Live Killer Interviews
- Crime Prevention Strategies

WHO SHOULD ATTEND:

- Law Enforcement
- School Resource Officers
- DARE Officers
- Dispatchers
- Counselors
- Probation Officers
- Social Workers
- Victim's Advocates



**SCAN
CODE FOR
TICKETS
\$149**

**April 25, 2023
8 am-4 pm**

**Northern Oklahoma College Tonkawa
Renfro Center
1409 E. Grand Ave. | Tonkawa, OK**

WARNING

EXTREMELY GRAPHIC CONTENT, INCLUDING
IMAGES OF SEX, VIOLENCE, TORTURE AND DEATH.

STOP VIOLENT INCIDENTS BEFORE THEY HAPPEN

Purchase Tickets Online: www.noc.edu/cjevents

Brought to you by
Northern Oklahoma College Foundation
Joe Lewis, Lectureship Chair in Criminal Justice.



Life changing.