

# Degrees conferred at commencement exercises

Northern Oklahoma College Students at the Tonkawa and Enid campuses went through graduation exercises at the 117th Annual Commencement Saturday at Foster-Piper Fieldhouse and Briggs Auditorium.

A total of 653 graduates and 675 earned degrees at the two ceremonies.

NOC Vice President for Academic Affairs Diana Watkins opened the ceremony at Tonkawa, congratulating the students on reaching their goals for the academic year.

"For many of you, today's achievement came with many challenges," she said. "It required flexibility, resilience, and sacrifice. Your strength of character will serve you well in your future."

Watkins also announced students that maintained a 4.0 GPA and those that earned two associate degrees.

NOC Vice President for Enid Jeremy Hise opened the ceremony at Enid, congratulating the students on reaching their goals for graduation.

"Our graduates accomplished a great deal through hard work, dedication, and commitment," he said. "For many of you, this achievement has come with challenges that required flexibility, resilience, and sacrifice. Your degree not only has the power to change your life but the lives of those around you. I encourage you

to work hard, pursue your passions, and enjoy life. I'm proud of you and your Northern family is proud of you."

Flag bearers were introduced at each campus.

They include the following at NOC Tonkawa: Institutional-Emma Valgora; Agriculture and Biological Science-Kale Campbell; Business-Marko Maderas; Fine Arts-Cole Mason; Health, Physical Education, and Recreation-Samantha Smith; Language Arts-Hannah Lake; Mathematics-Francez Darlene Marasigan Fernandez; Nursing-Emily Smith; and Social Science-Lexie Boyer.

Hise also introduced the Flag Bearers for each academic division at Enid.

They include the following: Institutional-Dillon Dibrell; Agriculture and Biological Science-Kaycee Babek; Business-Jillian Clark; Health, Physical Education, and Recreation-Jade Hazelbaker; Language Arts-Ashleigh Miller; Mathematics-Molly Dolan; Nursing-Mikaela Browning; Engineering, Physical Science, and Process Technology-Mia-Claire Jones; and Social Science-Camden Roberts.

President Dr. Clark Harris introduced special guests at the ceremony and then presented the class for the conferring of degrees.

The speaker for the commencement ceremony was Ken Bellmard, Distinguished NOC Alumni in 2015.



**NOC Students at Enid and Tonkawa attended commencement exercises in Tonkawa and Enid last Saturday.**

"In the long run, it doesn't matter what they call your generation," Bellmard told the graduates. "My elders were just as confused about my

generation as your elders are as confused about

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# Degree

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yours today. They couldn't understand the music we listened to, the things we were reading, and the movies we were watching."

Bellmard said that will be the same in 45 years when elders look at this year's generation of graduates.

"What the two generations share is our common experience of the journey that led us to our graduation," he said. "You have flourished in a time of a world-wide pandemic and I urge you to reflect on what you accomplished today."

"As you reflect on today, think about the challenges you overcame," he said. "For some it may be financial, person problems, or problems with your studies. Think of the times you were supported by classmates, teammates, administrators, and instructors. Look around and notice the diversity of those that are sharing this day with you."

"Your graduation proves that you are a self-reliant goal oriented individual," he added.

He cautioned the graduates that history teaches that things do not remain the same and they need to anticipate the challenges of the future.

"Your time at NOC has certainly been life-changing," he told the graduates. "This has been great preparation for what you face now."

He concluded by telling students to "be your own influencer."

The NOC Concert Band performed the Armed Forces Salute and the college choir performed "You Will Reap What You Saw." After the candidates for graduation were announced, the college choir performed NOC's Alma Mater.

## NOC May Birthdays



Ian Layne	May 17	Kathy Hannah	May 24
Linn Laughery	May 21	Janet Jarvis	May 26
T.L. Walker	May 21	Kaylan Eddlemon	May 28

# SUMMER DORMS AVAILABLE

**\$599 per month.**

**If interested,  
please contact  
Student Affairs Office  
ASAP.**



**Tonkawa:**  
**Renna Bowers**  
**580.628.6240**  
**renna.bowers@noc.edu**

**Enid:**  
**Cam Margaris**  
**580.548.2227**  
**cameron.margaris@noc.edu**



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NOC Nursing Graduates 2023. Front Row (L-R): Harley Waldrep, Haylee Rogers, Kylee Pameticky, Michael A. Ward, Ava Franks, Emily Smith, and Trista Kilian. Back Row (L-R): Ashley Wellings, Janeka Perry, Kristen Leading Fox, Courtney Covert, Lauren Cook, Mikaela Browning, Patricia Frickenschmidt, and Caitlin Nagal. (photo by Shiloh Martin/Northern Oklahoma College).

# Nurses’ Pinning at NOC Enid

Fifteen Northern Oklahoma College Nursing Students received their nurses’ pins at a ceremony at NOC Enid Saturday night in the 50th Class of NOC Nursing.

Nursing students from the Stillwater, Enid, and Tonkawa campuses received their pins and cited the Florence Nightingale Pledge.

The guest speaker was former NOC Nursing Faculty Marriya Wright.

The graduates are included by campus and hometown:

**Tonkawa**

Lauren Cook, Perry; Kristen Leading Fox, Pawnee; Haylee Rogers, Tonkawa; Emily N. Smith, Newkirk.

**Enid**

Mikaela Browning, Enid; Caitlyn Nagel, Garber; Patricia Frickenschmidt, Fairmont; Trista Kilian, Medford; Janeka Perry, Enid; Michael A. Ward, Enid.

**Stillwater**

Courtney Covert, Harrah; Ava Frank, Glencoe; Kylee Pameticky, Stillwater; Harley Waldrep, Stillwater; Ashley Wellings, Stillwater.

Exceptional Graduate Award – Emily Smith, Tonkawa; Janeka Perry, Enid; Ava Frank, Stillwater

Alpha Delta Nu Honor Society – Mikae-

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2022-2023

Northern Oklahoma College

Employee Awards Ceremony

Service Pinnings

And Retirement Celebrations

Friday, May 12, 2023

Renfro Center, NOC Tonkawa

End of Year Faculty Meeting 9:30 – 10:00 a.m. (Prior to Event)

Employee Awards/Service Pinnings/Retirement Celebrations 10:00 – 11:45 a.m.

Brunch starts at 10:15 a.m.

Program Remarks start at 10:45 a.m.

If you plan to attend,  
please RSVP by Noon,  
Friday, April 28, 2023 to  
Brittany Cox: 580.628.6214 or  
Email: brittany.cox@noc.edu

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# Marriya Wright earns NOC Daisy Nursing Award

Former Northern Oklahoma College nursing faculty member Marriya Wright was honored with The DAISY Award® for Extraordinary Nursing Faculty at the NOC 2023 Nurses' Pinning Ceremony Saturday, May 6, at Briggs Auditorium at NOC Enid.

The award is part of The DAISY Foundation's mission to express gratitude to nurses with programs that recognize them for the extraordinary, compassionate and skillful care they provide patients and families.

DAISY Award recognitions honor the super-human work nurses do for patients and families every day wherever they practice, in whatever role they serve, and throughout their careers – from Nursing Student through Lifetime Achievement in Nursing.

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.

NOC Nursing Division Chair Dr. Nikole Hicks said, "Marriya Wright is an exceptional representative of NOC nursing. She began her registered nursing career as a graduate of the NOC nursing program and served as faculty for seven years. According to Wright's nomination letters, she has always displayed a high degree of integrity, responsibility, and work ethic. She is willing to go above and beyond to help students learn. She makes them step out of their comfort zones and motivates them to be not only better students but better future nurses. We are pleased to honor Ms. Wright with this award."

Wright is the Dean of Allied Health and Nursing at South Puget Sound Community College in Olympia, Washington. She received her MSN and BSN in Nursing from Oklahoma City University, her AAS in Nursing at Northern Oklahoma College, and her LPN at Meridian Technology Center. In the span of her 20

plus years as a nurse, she worked in med-surg, emergency, labor and delivery, as well as in multiple leadership roles. Before moving to Washington, she was Nursing Faculty here at NOC for six years at both the Tonkawa and Stillwater campuses. She served as the second-year team lead for the last four years at NOC. Wright has a passion for community college and the sense of belonging it gives to students. Students voted her the NISOD Excellence in Teaching award in both 2016 and 2019.

Blind nominations for the award were submitted with a designated committee reviewing and ranking the nominees based on their commitment to student learning and success, utilizing personal interaction, providing rigorous instruction and innovative technologies, striving to provide high quality, accessible nursing education, and modeling the values of excellence, integrity, resourcefulness, impactful relationships, and compassionate service.

The winner was selected by the The DAISY Award® Selection Committee.

Semi-finalists include Brian Baird, Jennifer Lancaster, and Marie Head.

The winner in 2022 was NOC faculty member Kim Brewer.

More information is available at <http://DAISY-foundation.org>.



NOC Nursing Division Chair Dr. Nikole Hicks presented The DAISY Award® for Extraordinary Nursing to Marriya Wright at Saturday's Nurses' Pinning ceremony in Enid. (photo by Shiloh Martin/Northern Oklahoma College)

## Nurses

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la Browning, Lauren Cook, Patricia Frickschmidt

DAISY Award for Extraordinary Faculty – Marriya Wright, MSN, RN



Life changing.

## NJCAA Baseball/Softball Playoff Scoreboard

### Thursday Scores

#### Plains District Baseball

Mavs 10, UA Rich Mountain 0

Jets 6, Western 4

### Thursday Scores

#### South Central District Softball

Rose State 7, Jets 2

Connors 12, Mavs 5

### Friday Schedule

#### Softball at Piedmont

Jets vs. Western, 11 a.m.

Mavs vs. Eastern, 1:30 p.m.

#### Baseball at Enid

Jets vs. Mavs, 4 p.m.



Eighteen NOC Tonkawa students were inducted into the local Phi Theta Kappa Chapter on April 30. (photo by Dina Kleinmann/Northern Oklahoma College)

# NOC Tonkawa students inducted into Phi Theta Kappa

The Northern Oklahoma College Tonkawa Phi Theta Kappa Xi Theta Chapter announced their 2023 inductees this week.

Eighteen students were inducted on April 30.

According to NOC Phi Theta Kappa sponsor Lynn DeMuth, “The Purpose for Phi Theta Kappa shall be to recognize and encourage scholarship among two-year college students. To Achieve this purpose, Phi Theta Kappa shall provide opportunity for the development of leadership and service, for an intellectual climate for exchange of ideas and ideals, for lively

fellowship for scholars, and for stimulation of interest in continuing academic excellence.”

Inductees include Devin Barnett, McKenzie Benes, McKinzie Brown, Kellie Cosgrave, Allie Epperson, Milo Gemmill, Anna Hannon, Laura Hernandez, Autumn Leist, Hannah McElrath, Luke McHenry, Jordan Nelson, Katelyn Qualls, Mallory Riley, Andrew Rogers, Samantha Smith, Sage Wilcox, Rachel Williams.

The chapter is sponsored by math instructors Dee Cooper and Lynn DeMuth.



## NOC Calendar

<b>May 12</b>	Employee Awards, Retirement Celebrations, and Service Pinning Ceremony, Renfro Center, 10 a.m. Tonkawa Residence Halls Close, 10 a.m.
<b>May 15</b>	Begin E6/Online Courses
<b>May 16</b>	Final Day to Add E6/Online Courses
<b>May 17</b>	Final Day to Return Books Purchased for E6 Courses Final Day to Drop E6/Online Courses Board of Regents Meeting, NOC Enid, 2 p.m.
<b>May 22</b>	Begin Summer Office Hours
<b>May 25</b>	All Employee Picnic, NOC Cove
<b>May 26</b>	No Classes/Offices Closed
<b>May 29</b>	Memorial Day, No Classes/Offices Closed
For additional information, visit the following links: <a href="#">NOC Calendar</a>	

## Enid Hispanic Student Club at Cinco De Mayo

The NOC Enid Hispanic Student Club sponsored a booth at First Friday Fiesta Cinco de Mayo in Enid last Friday.

Club members present included Anayeli Vasquez, Lucero Delgadillo – Club President, Nallely Chavez, and Steven Maxwell.

Staff and Faculty included President Harris, Paula Harris, Jeremy Hise, Dr. Charmaine Munro, Leticia Maxwell, and Adrian Ibarra.

Raffle Winners included: 1st place – President Harris, Quilt; 2nd place – Alvaro Cassio, Gift Certificate at Heydy’s Place; 3rd place – James Neal, Gift Certificate at El Carnitas; 4th place – Mike and April Anderson, Mexican Pottery.



# Cinco de Mayo at First Friday



# Livestock Judging Reception





# NOC 2023 Commencement Exercises



*photos by  
Shiloh Martin*