

NOC names auditorium after Dineo Heilmann

Northern Oklahoma College named the auditorium inside the Kinzer Performing Arts Center the “Dineo Heilmann” auditorium on April 23 in Tonkawa.

Heilmann, the longtime college music instructor and Fine Arts Division Chair, taught at NOC from 1986-2017.

The plaque to be displayed in the Kinzer Performing Arts Center says, “2025 NOC Distinguished Alumnus Dineo Heilmann served Northern Oklahoma College admirably as a faculty member, division chair, and Roustabouts Director from 1988 to 2018.”

“A former Roustabout himself, Dineo built on his father Bill Heilmann’s legacy, continuing

the Roustabouts’ tradition of serving as ambassadors of the College, recruiting and attracting students to attend one of the NOC campuses. Thanks to his commitment, leadership, and vision, thousands of students have enjoyed being part of NOC’s life-changing experience.”

“During his thirty-two years of service to NOC, he remained dedicated to the students, faculty, and staff of Northern Oklahoma College and fostered the ultimate goals of higher education. The entire NOC community recognizes the meaningful and significant impact Dineo Heilmann made on our behalf.”

Vice President for Enrollment Management Dr. Rick Edgington introduced Heilmann,



NOC President Diana Morris Watkins and Dineo Heilmann at the KPAC auditorium renaming ceremony April 23 at NOC Tonkawa.

speaking of his generosity to students throughout the years saying, “Dineo was always on the search for musical instruments better than their parents could afford. He was generous to a fault.”

President Diana Morris Watkins also spoke in honor of Heilmann.

“Dineo, I want you to know how cool it was

See **Heilmann** on Page 2)

NOC graduation set for May 3

Former Oklahoma Governor George Nigh will address candidates for graduation at Northern Oklahoma College 2025 commencement exercises Saturday, May 3.

NOC Tonkawa candidates will march into Foster-Piper Fieldhouse on the Tonkawa campus at 9:30 a.m. on May 4.

That same day NOC Enid and Stillwater candidates will enter Briggs Auditorium on the Enid campus at 2:30 p.m.

Pinning ceremonies for graduates from the

NOC nursing program will take place at 7 p.m. on May 3 in the Kinzer Performing Arts Center in Tonkawa.

Nigh served as governor four times, first serving as the Oklahoma governor in 1963 serving an unexpired term and then later serving a second unexpired term in 1979. He then served two full terms from 1979-1987.

While a senior at East Central University in

(See **Graduation** on Page 2)

Graduation

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1950, Nigh gave his first commencement speech to an 8th Grade class in Pittsburgh County in 1950. Since then, Nigh has never missed a year giving a commencement address now counting 76 straight years. He has given over 250 commencement speeches.

Nigh, a native of McAlester, Oklahoma, graduated from McAlester High School. After serving in the United States Navy, Nigh attended Eastern Oklahoma A & M College, now known as Eastern Oklahoma State College. He then graduated from East Central State College in Ada, Oklahoma in 1950. From 1951 to 1959, he alternated between service in the Oklahoma House of Representatives, and as a teacher in the McAlester public schools.

During his tenure in the state legislature, he introduced legislation designating “Oklahoma!” as the state song. He served as lieutenant governor of Oklahoma from 1959 to 1963. Taking office at age 31, he became the youngest state lieutenant governor in the United States.

In 1963, Nigh was sworn in as the 17th governor of Oklahoma for nine days, filling an unexpired term. He later served five days in 1979, serving another unexpired term. 1978, he was elected Oklahoma’s 22nd governor serving from 1979-1987.

He later served as the president of the University of Central Oklahoma from 1992-1997. He also is an Oklahoma Hall of Fame Inductee receiving that honor in 1989.

The Nigh University Student Center at UCO was named in honor of George and his wife, Donna.

George and Donna Nigh also founded the George and Donna Nigh Leadership Academy held yearly in Oklahoma City for students planning a career in public service.

Heilmann

(Continued from Page 1)

that the first naming request I received as president of Northern Oklahoma College was to name something after Dineo Heilmann. My first stage experience at NOC was as a junior high trombone player over in Wilkin as part of honor band with Dineo Heilmann. That’s pretty cool.”

Watkins added that signage will be placed at the KPAC in honor of Heilmann as well as the plaque.

“I’d like to thank my family, friends, and the fine arts division for coming out today for their support,” he said. “I appreciate it very much, it’s a great honor. I’d like to thank the (NOC) board of regents, administration, and whoever sent in the (recommendation) letter to do this, I want to thank you for making this happen.”

The NOC Board of Regents voted to renamed the auditorium at their February meeting.

He received his Associate degree from Northern Oklahoma College, his Bachelor of Music Education from Oklahoma State University where he was named Outstanding Music Student his senior year. He then received a fellowship to complete his Master of Music Education degree at Wichita State University.

Heilmann has been honored twice by the Northern Oklahoma College board of Regents, the first with a “Resolution” of outstanding contribution to music culture and the second he was honored along with his father with a “Resolution” for the 50th anniversary of the Roustabouts for “50 years of inspiring performances”.

Heilmann, Class of Northern Oklahoma College 1982, was recently inducted into the NOC Distinguished Alumni.

★ — NORTHERN OKLAHOMA COLLEGE — ★

★ NOC Aggie Alumni & Friends ★

THE GATHERING

Save The Date

2 MAY 2025

GOLF SCRAMBLE
9 AM | BLACKWELL GOLF COURSE

EVENT & LIVE AUCTION
5 PM | PRE-EVENT MIXER
6 PM | MAIN EVENT
OSAGE CASINO & HOTEL | PONCA CITY

★ — www.noc.edu — ★

Department of Commerce partners with NOC Enid to construct athletic training, education center

OKLAHOMA CITY, OK --- The Oklahoma Department of Commerce is taking steps to enhance the state's workforce pipeline by awarding the first-ever Public-Private Partnership (P3) incentive for Education and Workforce Development. Commerce is partnering with Northern Oklahoma College Enid to construct a new state-of-the-art Athletic Training and Education Center.

"A skilled workforce is critical for Oklahoma to be competitive on the national stage, and this new facility will make Enid a leader in athletic training education and sports medicine services," said Heather Turner, Deputy CEO of Commerce & Executive Director of CORE. "I'm proud of Northern Oklahoma College for stepping up to address the state's rapidly growing need for athletic trainers. This P3 award is just the beginning of Commerce's efforts to enhance and facilitate industry workforce development."

The new Athletic Training and Education Center will add 2,000 square ft. of additional space allowing more students to enroll in high-demand courses. It will also combine the classroom, lab and athletic training room into one centralized location, and equip students with modern, industry-standard equipment to prepare them for real-world careers in sports medicine. The new facility will benefit three area hospitals and Enid Public Schools. This project also provides additional training opportunities for nursing students, particularly in rehabilitation and injury prevention.

"NOC so appreciates ERDA Director Dr. Mar-

cie Mack for guiding us through the P3 process," said Diana Morris Watkins, President of Northern Oklahoma College. "From our own experiences in trying to hire athletic trainers, we are keenly aware of the need to grow the pipeline for athletic training students in Oklahoma. Through this partnership with Enid Public Schools, Great Salt Plains and St. Mary's, NOC will be able to offer a high-quality facility that will increase the number of athletic training and pre-health care students transferring to our four-year partner schools and supplying workforce needs in K-12 schools, colleges and hospitals across the state."

NOC is making a \$1.5 million capital investment in the project, which is expected to be completed in 2026. The P3 award from Commerce is for \$675,000. With the additional space and improved facilities, NOC projects it will be able to serve an additional 27 students in its Allied Health, Athletic Training, and Physical Fitness programs.

About the Oklahoma Department of Commerce

The mission of the Oklahoma Department of Commerce is to cultivate environments and relationships that foster economic growth in Oklahoma. In 2024, Commerce helped incentivize 274 businesses to open or expand in Oklahoma, leading to \$7.865 billion in private capital investment in communities across the state. Commerce directly contributed to the creation of 10,000 of the 30,000 new private-sector jobs that were created in Oklahoma.

EPIC SHORTS FILM FESTIVAL

CELEBRATE CREATIVITY IN STUDENT FILMS!

Friday May 2, 2025
Wilkin Theatre
4pm-6pm





Life changing.

DMI Showcase, Film Festival May 2

The Northern Oklahoma College Digital Media Institute's Annual Student Showcase will be held on Friday, May 2, from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. in Wilkin Hall room 108/110.

DMI's graduating students will be showcasing their creative skills in Maya, After Effects, Photoshop, Premiere Pro, and much more.

Visitors are welcome to take a tour, watch demo reels, talk to the students, and enjoy traditional free ice cream floats.

DMI Director Brad Matson said, "The goal of DMI is to furnish students with an expertise skill set required to secure employment within the realm of cutting-edge computer graphics. Over the span of two years, the program centers on artistic methods utilizing contemporary technology. DMI students cultivate the capacity to translate their concepts and visions into various realms of digital media, encompassing 3D modeling, texturing, animation, motion capture, game environment and asset development, visual effects, motion graphics, graphic

design, digital filmmaking, video editing, and audio refinement."

"This is a great opportunity to expand the awareness to potential employers as well as introducing companies to a talent pool of educated, creative, and driven artists," he said.

Epic Shorts Student Film Festival

DMI will also be hosting the 17th Annual Epic Shorts Student Film Festival at 4 p.m. in the Wilkin Theatre on May 2.

Ten short student films will be screened that afternoon.

"The film crew handles all the writing, directing, lighting, sound, and the three phases of production. This will be the best festival with quality of films since I started this festival," Matson said.

There are cash prizes for 1st, 2nd, 3rd place and Audience Choice. All donations and proceeds benefit Diabetes Solutions of Oklahoma (DSOK).

DISCOVER

STUDENT

TALENTS

FREE ICE CREAM FLOATS

DMI

digital media institute

2025
STUDENT
SHOWCASE

MAY 3RD
Wilkin 108/110
11am-1pm



May NOC Faculty/Staff Birthdays



| | | | |
|-------------------|--------|---------------|--------|
| Bryan Kenney | May 1 | Matthew Gray | May 17 |
| Aron Bassoff | May 9 | Ian Layne | May 17 |
| Brad Gordon | May 9 | Linn Laughrey | May 21 |
| Christopher Storm | May 10 | Brodie Salyer | May 21 |
| Mark Tarrant | May 10 | Teresa Walker | May 21 |
| Ty Shreck | May 11 | Eric Taylor | May 25 |

Daisy Nursing award to be presented at pinning ceremony Friday night

Northern Oklahoma College will honor a Nursing faculty member with The DAISY Award® for Extraordinary Nurse Educators at the NOC 2025 Nurses’ Pinning Ceremony Friday, May 2 at the Kinzer Performing Arts Center in NOC Tonkawa at 7 p.m.

The three finalists are Elaine Briggs, Brian Baird, and Rachel Kroemer

Brian Baird

Brian Baird received his B.S.N. from the University of Oklahoma in 1986 and his M.S. from Southern Nazarene University in 2008. The majority of his nursing career has been spent serving special needs children in their homes and serving within the ICU. His work in the ICU included a nearly 14-year period at Hillcrest Hospital Cushing when it was named Cushing Regional Hospital and a stint at Mercy Hospital in OKC. In 2006, he began teaching freshman nursing students at Northern Oklahoma College; a privilege he continues to enjoy to this day.

Baird’s passion for teaching has been life-long and has been evident to anyone who has known him. He loves to use creativity in his approach and is known for his use of multiple teaching/learning methods. He himself loves to learn and wants his learners to enjoy the process as well. His use of simulation and gaming has earned him a lead role in NOC Nursing’s simulation



Brian Baird

program. Brian is a Certified Healthcare Simulation Educator (CHSE) and currently serves as the Nursing Simulation Coordinator.

Baird and his wife, Robin, have been married almost 36 years. They have four children and two grandchildren. They reside in Perkins in a home they have been building.

Elaine Briggs

After graduating high school in 1979, Briggs attended Central Vo-Tech in Sapulpa in a medical assistant program where she decided she wanted to be a nurse. She completed Oklahoma Baptist University’s nursing program and started her nursing career at St. Francis Hospital in Tulsa where she worked in orthopedics and cardiac care. She then worked in Home Health Care before moving to Oklahoma City where she worked at University Hospital in newborn and special care nursery.

Briggs then moved to Blackwell where her husband started a medical practice. She took time off from nursing to raise her children and then started at NOC as an adjunct instructor, joining NOC as a full-time faculty member in January 2016. She currently serves as the Nursing Success Specialist.



Elaine Briggs



Spring 2025 Final Exam Schedule

The location of the final exam is the regular meeting place of the class.

| Monday May 5th | Tuesday May 6th | Wednesday May 7th | Thursday May 8th |
|--|---|---|---|
| If Course is WF 7:40am MW or WF 8:00am MWF 8:30am EXAM is 8:00 am—9:50 am | If Course is TR 7:45am TR 8:30am TR 9:00am EXAM is 8:00 am—9:50 am | If Course is M or MW 9:00am MWF 9:30am EXAM is 8:00 am —9:50 am | If Course is TR 7:30am TR 7:40am TR 8:00am EXAM is 8:00am -9:50 am |
| If Course is MW or MWF 11:30am EXAM is 10:00 am—11:50 am | If Course is TR 12:00pm EXAM is 10:00 am—11:50 am | If Course is MW or MWF 12:30 pm EXAM is 10:00 am—11:50 am | If Course is TR 10:30am EXAM is 10:00 am—11:50 am |
| If Course is MW or MWF 1:30pm EXAM is 12:00 pm—1:50 pm | OPEN | If Course is MW or MWF 10:30 am EXAM is 12:00 pm—1:50 pm | OPEN |
| If Course is MW or W 2:00pm MWF or W 2:30pm EXAM is 2:00 pm—3:50 pm | If Course is T 2:00pm TR or T 3:00pm EXAM is 2:00 pm—3:50 pm | If Course is MF 3:00pm MW 3:30pm EXAM is 2:00 pm-3:50 pm | If Course is TR 1:30pm EXAM is 2:00 pm-3:50 pm |
| If Course is M 4:30pm EXAM is 5:00 pm-6:50pm | If Course is T or TR or TF 5:30pm EXAM is 5:00 pm-6:50pm | If Course is MW 5:30pm EXAM is 5:00 pm-6:50pm | If Course is TR or T 4:00pm TR 4:30 pm EXAM is 5:00 pm-6:50pm |
| If Course is M 6:00pm M 6:30pm M 7:00pm EXAM is 7:00 pm-8:50 pm | If Course is T 7:00pm EXAM is 7:00 pm-8:50pm | If Course is W 7:00pm EXAM is 7:00 pm-8:50pm | If Course is R 7:00pm EXAM is 7:00 pm-8:50 pm |

(See **Daisy** on Page 5)

Daisy

(Continued from Page 4)

Rachel Kroemer

Rachel Kroemer received her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Washburn University in 2011 and completed her Master of Science in Nursing Education from Fort Hays State University in 2023. She is a member of Phi Kappa Phi and Sigma Theta Tau Honor Societies.



Rachel Kroemer

Kroemer started at NOC in January 2001 as adjunct instructor moving into a full-time position in October 2021. She started Introduction to Nursing in Fall 2024, loves teaching students in Maternal Child and is the faculty advisor for Alpha Delta Nu Nursing Honor Society. Her favorite part about bedside nursing was teaching

new Moms and Dads about their newborn and now she enjoys watching and helping students expand their skills and knowledge base as they begin their nursing career. 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 Nurse Educator Award was created to recognize and celebrate the contributions faculty make to the future of nursing. 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. Northern Oklahoma College, the state's first public two-year community college, is a multi-campus, land-grant institution that provides high quality, accessible, and affordable educational opportunities and services.

Region playoffs begin May 7

Playoff action for NOC Enid and NOC Tonkawa begins Wednesday, May 7. The NJCAA Region 2 Soccer Tournament is held in Piedmont, Oklahoma. The NJCAA Region 2 Baseball Tournament is held this year in Hot Springs, Arkansas. Both NOC softball teams and baseball teams will be in action, the tournament brackets will be available at www.nocmavs.com and www.nocjets.com on Monday, May 4. The tournaments conclude May 11.

FIESTA FRIDAY

Food Trucks • Dancers
Live Music • DJ • and more!

In Celebration of

CINCO DE MAYO

MAY 2, 2025 | 6-9 PM
DOWNTOWN ENID

NOC

Look For Our Booth ! NOC Viva La Raza! Hispanic Student Club

PURCHASE \$5 RAFFLE TICKETS TO WIN GREAT PRIZES!

Contact Dr. Mary Ann McCoy: 580.548.2394

maryann.mccoy@noc.edu

NOC Calendar

May 2

Final Day of Classes
 Final Day to Withdraw from All Courses
 DMI Sophomore Student Showcase, Wilkin 108, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m., Tonkawa
 DMI Epic Shorts Film Festival, Wilkin Auditorium, 4 p.m., Tonkawa
 Away Jets Baseball vs. Murray, 1 p.m./3 p.m.
 Home Mavs Baseball vs. Western, 1 p.m./3 p.m.
 Away Mavs Softball vs. Rose at Ponca City, 2 p.m./4 p.m.
 The Gathering Ag Event, Osage Casino/Hotel in Ponca City, 5 p.m.
 Nurses Pinning, Renfro Center, 7 p.m., Tonkawa

May 3

Tonkawa Commencement, Foster-Piper Fieldhouse, 9:30 a.m.
 Enid/Stillwater Commencement, Briggs Auditorium in Enid, 2:30 p.m.

May 5

Final Examinations
 Ice Cream Truck, College Circle, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m., Tonkawa
 Food for Finals, Jets Cafe, 9 p.m. - 11 p.m., Enid
 Food for Finals, Student Union, 10 p.m. – Midnight, Tonkawa

May 6

Final Examinations

May 7

Final Examinations
 Away Jets Softball at NJCAA Region 2 Tournament in Piedmont, TBA
 Away Mavs Softball at NJCAA Region 2 Tournament in Piedmont, TBA
 Away Jets Baseball at NJCAA Region 2 Tournament in Hot Springs, Arkansas, TBA
 Away Mavs Baseball at NJCAA Region 2 Tournament in Hot Springs, Arkansas, TBA

May 8

Final Examinations
 Away Jets Softball at NJCAA Region 2 Tournament in Piedmont, TBA
 Away Mavs Softball at NJCAA Region 2 Tournament in Piedmont, TBA
 Away Jets Baseball at NJCAA Region 2 Tournament in Hot Springs, Arkansas, TBA
 Away Mavs Baseball at NJCAA Region 2 Tournament in Hot Springs, Arkansas, TBA

May 9

Employee Awards, Retirements Reception, and Service Pinning Ceremony, Renfro Center, 9:30 a.m., Tonkawa
 Residence Halls Close, 10 a.m.



NORTHERN
Oklahoma College

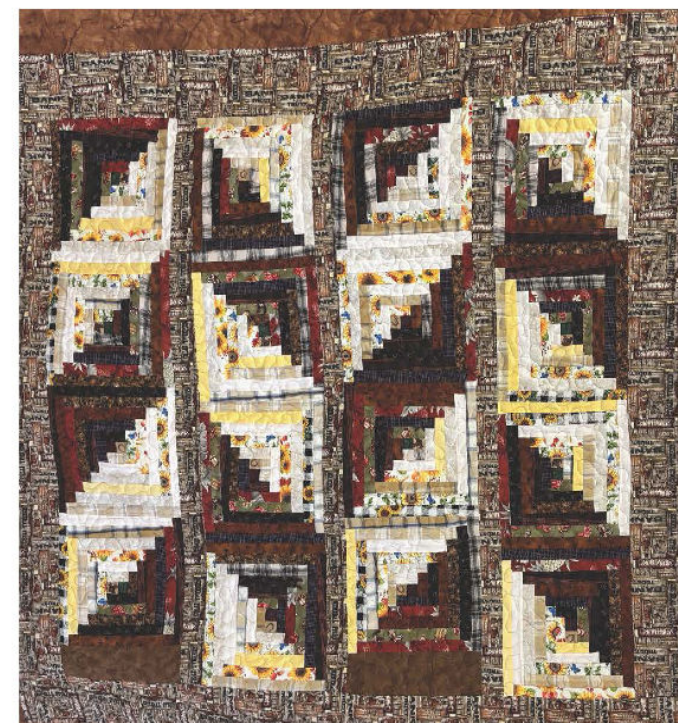
Viva la Raza! Club Raffle

PRIZES

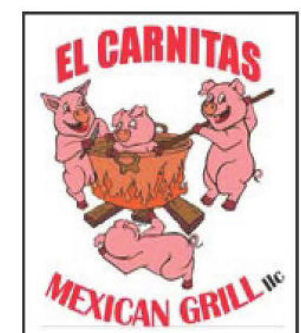
1st place – Handmade Scrappy Log Cabin Quilt (\$250 value)
 2nd place - \$100.00 Visa gift card – 180 Direct Care
 3rd place – \$50.00 Mama Tita's gift certificate
 4th place - \$40.00 El Carnitas gift certificate
 5th place - 1000-piece Mexico Puzzle



TICKETS
\$5



GIFT CARD PRIZES



Raffle Drawing May 2, 2025

During Fiesta Friday, Downtown Enid
 Winner need not be present to win