

# NOC working to address state nursing shortage

NOC is among 14 community colleges attempting to address the state's nursing shortage as the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education and Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding to establish guidelines for public two-year colleges to award students' credit for prior learning in practical nursing programs at technology centers across the state.

"When we come together for the benefit of Oklahoma students, the sky is the limit," said Secretary of Education Nellie Sanders. "I applaud the State Regents and Oklahoma CareerTech for working to remove barriers and uplifting the next generation of nursing students. Through this partnership, we're investing in the future of healthcare in Oklahoma by expanding opportunities for students now."

"This agreement between CareerTech and Higher Education is a massive win for nursing students and for expanding our healthcare workforce pipeline," said House Speaker Pro Tempore Kyle Hilbert, R-Bristow. "The transferability of credits is both time- and cost-effective for our nursing students. This partnership is a fantastic avenue to get more nurses into the field at an accelerated pace to help meet a vital need in our state."

Comprised of representatives from public

higher education and the CareerTech system, the Oklahoma Statewide Nursing Pathways Advisory Group met over the past year to discuss potential solutions to increase the number of nurses in our state. One approach is to reduce barriers for Licensed Practical Nurses (LPNs) to earn college credit for completing the practical nursing program at a participating Oklahoma technology center.

"As a state, our health outcomes are impacted by an ongoing shortage of medical professionals," said State Regents' chair Jack Sherry. "This initiative to expand course articulation between technical and collegiate nursing programs will provide additional educational opportunities for nursing students and improve workforce development in this critical sector."

Through the new articulation agreement, the following campuses will award up to 18 college credit hours to CareerTech students who pass the LPN NCLEX exam:

Applicants must have a valid, unencumbered practical nursing license to practice in the state of Oklahoma and meet all college or program admission requirements.

"Our public colleges and universities are focused on supporting student success and increasing degree completion in high-demand fields," said Chancellor Allison D. Garrett. "The new nursing articulation agreement reflects the

shared commitment of our state higher education and CareerTech systems to create streamlined pathways between practical nursing and associate degree nursing programs, which benefits both individual Oklahomans and the state labor force."

The new articulation agreement supersedes a prior system-level MOU and prior MOUs developed between individual institutions and technology center partners. Twenty-eight technology centers offering practical nursing programs approved by the Oklahoma Board of Nursing are participating in the new articulation agreement:

"This new agreement does a better job of coordinating strategies to alleviate the pressures on Oklahoma's nursing workforce and making the state's health care system more equitable and stable," said Oklahoma CareerTech State Director Brent Haken. "Applying credit from CareerTech's LPN programs to degree programs will lead to an elevated workforce and a more stable and reliable health care system in Oklahoma."

The State Regents' Undergraduate Transfer and Articulation of Courses policy facilitates the transfer of students between institutions of higher education and career technology centers, and the Credit for Prior Learning policy allows institutions to award credit for demonstra-

tion of knowledge upon professional licensure. These policies ensure maximum applicability of credit hours and course work to advance degree completion.

Under the new articulation agreement, which is effective July 1 of this year, the specific number of college credit hours awarded for prior learning to LPNs who complete a practical nursing program at a participating technology center will vary depending on the course structure at the awarding institution, up to a total of 18 credit hours.

For more information about options for adults who have attended a career technology center, hold industry-recognized credentials, have completed military study and training, or hold advanced standing scores to earn college credit and complete a degree program, visit the State Regents' Show What You Know website, <https://showwhatyouknowok.org/>.

# Sophomore transfer days set for Enid (March 6), Tonkawa (March 13)

NOC is hosting sophomore transfer days for the Enid and Tonkawa campuses.

Enid Sophomore Transfer Day is Wednesday, March 6, in the Zollars Library Lobby from 10 a.m. -1 p.m.

The Tonkawa Sophomore Transfer Day is Wednesday, March 13, in the Cultural Engagement Center inside the Vineyard Library/Administration Building.

A number of universities will be present to answer questions and help with the transfer process. NWOSU, OSU, OU, and UCO will be present.

Contact Kathleen Swain at [kathleen.swain@noc.edu](mailto:kathleen.swain@noc.edu) for additional information.

## NOC March Birthdays



Kelli Goad	March 1	Kathy Phillips	March 11
Rachel Love	March 1	Greg Krause	March 16
Kelly Vinson	March 2	Brian Baird	March 22
Kelli Jennings	March 4	Teresa Reich	March 23
Jason Johnson	March 4	Kim Roice	March 26
Alan Foster	March 5	Jamilyn Glidewell	March 27
Scott Harmon	March 7	Jimilea Jansson	March 28
Sherri Martin	March 10	Chris Young	March 28
Nikole Hicks	March 10	April Heitfeld	March 28
Matthew Bolz	March 10	Kurt Campbell	March 30

stand

TALL

and donate

Our donors are head and shoulders above the rest!

## Northern Oklahoma College Stillwater Blood Drive

Tues. March 5 & Wed. March 6  
10 am—2:30pm  
2nd Floor Commons Area

Front and back design!

To make an appointment visit [obi.org](http://obi.org) or call 877-340-8777

OKC ZOO  
ONE FREE ENTRY

All donors get a stand TALL T-shirt with front and back design and one free entry to OKC Zoo!

877-340-8777 • [obi.org](http://obi.org)  
Photo ID required. \*While supplies last.

Scan to play animal trivia for a chance to win!



# Planetarium Show Thursday, March 7

The March planetarium show at the NOC Enid Mackie Planetarium will be Thursday evening March 7 at 7 p.m.

Planetarium director Fritz Osell will show the night sky over Enid during spring and point out where interesting objects may be found in the evening sky.

He will also present a new full dome show for children about “The Legend of Hercules.” The planetarium shows are now greatly enhanced by the implementation of a new and more powerful projection system.

The feature this month is about planets.

“We will show visitors our night sky from Enid and point out stars having known planetary systems,” Osell said. “You will be quite surprised at how many stars have planets. We will also demonstrate to visitors how to gain access to remotely operated telescopes in the Canary Islands and in Chile.”

Public shows are always the first Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. throughout the year.

There is no charge for the show. Donations of non-perishable food items for Our Daily Bread are welcome but not required.

# Nursing, alumni events April 6

Northern Oklahoma College will have a full day of Alumni events at NOC Tonkawa on Saturday, April 6.

Nursing activities include a Student Nurse’s Association Bake Sale, Alpha Delta Nu Honor Society Canned Food Drive, and Nursing Alumni & Friends Tea featuring the Nursing Olympics.

Additional events include The NOC Alumni & Friends Mixer, Alumni & Friends Reunion and Distinguished Alumni Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony for Dr. Michelle Jeffries-Keylon ’92 and Mr. Scott Morris ’91.

The Alumni Program will include the Alumni

Legacy Scholarship Presentation, recognition of the 60th Anniversary of the Roustabouts, recognition of the Class of 1974 and Nursing Classes of 1974, 1999, and 2014. The Roustabouts Benefit Show will conclude the events.

The events and times are as follows:

1 p.m. – Nursing Alumni & Friends Tea, Foster-Piper Fieldhouse

1:45 p.m. – Nursing Olympics, Foster-Piper Fieldhouse

3:30 p.m. – Alumni & Friends Mixer, A.D. Buck Museum and Welcome Center

4:30 p.m. – Alumni & Friends Reunion and Distinguished Alumni Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony, Renfro Center

7:30 p.m. – Roustabouts Benefit Show celebrating 60 years, Kinzer Performing Arts Center

Contact Kayla Wooderson, Director of Alumni and Community Relations at 580.628.6473 or [kayla.wooderson@noc.edu](mailto:kayla.wooderson@noc.edu) for additional information. The deadline to RSVP is Friday, March 15.



NORTHERN OKLAHOMA COLLEGE DIVISION OF FINE ARTS



# Something Rotten

Directed by Chad Anderson

Kinzer Performing Arts Center, NOC Tonkawa

## March 7-10, 2024

Thursday-Saturday, 7:30 pm | Sunday, 2 pm

**\$10 Adults | \$7 Students**

Free Admission for NOC Students and Employees with ID Children under age 12 must be accompanied by an adult.

*Some material may be inappropriate for younger audiences*

For more information contact Chad Anderson | 580.628.6370

Book by  
**Wayne Kirkpatrick & Karey Kirkpatrick**

Music & Lyrics by  
**Wayne Kirkpatrick & Karey Kirkpatrick**

SOMETHING ROTTEN is presented through special arrangement with Musical Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. [www.mtishows.com](http://www.mtishows.com)



# NOC Enid student speaks to Stillwater career tech students

NOC Enid student Adriel Lora gave the keynote address to 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders at Meridian Technology Center in Stillwater Feb. 23.

Lora is a sophomore Business Administration major from Ringwood, Oklahoma.

Lora spoke to students at the Oklahoma Business Professionals of America (BPA) Middle Level Competition Day.

“It was great to share my story with the students about overcoming fears,” Lora said. “I remember what it is like at that age and how BPA changed my life. I hope the students saw that a quiet and shy kid did can develop and come out of their shell and comfort zone. It was great to be able to give back and motivate them for their competitions.”

“I told them that being scared is okay,” he said. “When you are scared about something it means you really care.”

Lora was introduced to the BPA while attending the Northwest Technical Center while at Ringwood.

“I was very quiet and shy,” Lora said. “In fact, the first class I attended there I went to the wrong room and I worried if I was in over my head. Fortunately, the teachers there gave me confidence and it helped me become the person that I have become. They were very encouraging and it made a lot of difference.”

Not only did Lora become a local member of BPA but he later became an officer in the state wide organization. He was elected as one of seven officers while in high school.

He will also speak at a State Conference in Stillwater March 5-6.

He would like to start a BPA chapter at NOC Enid and possibly at NWOSU.

He was recommended to speak by Oklahoma BPA State Advisor Paxton Cavin.



Adriel Lora

Lora plans to transfer to Northwestern Oklahoma State University and study accounting.



**WEDNESDAY,  
March 6, 2024  
10 am - 1 pm  
ZOLLARS MEMORIAL LIBRARY  
LOBBY AREA**

**For more information,  
call Kathleen Swain 580.628.6258  
or email [kathleen.swain@noc.edu](mailto:kathleen.swain@noc.edu)**

**ARE YOU  
GRADUATING?  
*Thinking of transferring?***

Several universities will be present to answer questions and help with the transfer process including Northwestern Oklahoma State University, Oklahoma State University, University of Central Oklahoma, The University of Oklahoma and more!



 **Life changing.**



# Something Rotten opens March 7

The Northern Oklahoma Division of Fine Arts presents “Something Rotten” March 7-10 at the Kinzer Performing Arts Center in Tonkawa.

Showtime is 7:30 p.m. March 7-9 and 2 p.m. on March 10.

Admission is free for NOC students, faculty, and staff with ID. Admission is \$10 for adults and \$7 for children. Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult.

Some material may be inappropriate for younger audiences.

The production is directed by Chad Anderson.

## Income tax prep at NOC Tonkawa

Northern Oklahoma College Tonkawa is providing free basic income tax return preparation for students, NOC employees, and area residents every Thursday starting Feb. 8 at NOC Tonkawa.

Singles or families making less than \$64,000 per year qualify for the free service.

Trained tax preparers from the NOC Business Division and area volunteers will be available for tax assistance each Thursday beginning Thursday, Feb. 8. Taxpayers also have an option to prepare their own basic federal and state tax return using the free e-filing software.

Cara Beth Johnson, Business division chair said, “This is a great opportunity for our students to provide a community service and gain tax preparation experience.”

The Cultural Engagement Center (CEC) is hosting the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program every Thursday through April

11. The CEC will be closed March 18-22 for spring break and for inclement weather. The CEC is located in the Vineyard Administration/Library building.

Interested parties need to bring a photo ID for all filers; 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; and 1095-A, -B, or -C healthcare coverage or exemption.

Tax preparation is done by appointment only. Please contact Cara Beth Johnson at 580.628.6340 or carolyn.johnson@noc.edu. Tax preparers are available from 5 p.m. - 8 p.m. No drop off's will be accepted, individuals must be present during tax preparation.

Northern Oklahoma College and the IRS are sponsoring the program.



**WEDNESDAY,  
March 13, 2024  
10 am - 1 pm**

**CULTURAL ENGAGEMENT CENTER  
LOCATED INSIDE THE VINEYARD  
LIBRARY-ADMINISTRATION BUILDING**

**For more information,  
call Kathleen Swain 580.628.6258  
or email [kathleen.swain@noc.edu](mailto:kathleen.swain@noc.edu)**

## ARE YOU GRADUATING? *Thinking of transferring?*

Several universities will be present to answer questions and help with the transfer process including Northwestern Oklahoma State University, Oklahoma State University, University of Central Oklahoma, The University of Oklahoma and more!





# NOC Calendar

## March 1

End E8 Courses  
Deadline to Pay Tuition/Fees  
Away Jets Softball vs. Crowder (MO), 2 p.m./4 p.m.  
Home Jets Baseball vs. Carl Albert, 5 p.m.

## March 2

Away Mavs Baseball vs. Redlands, 1 p.m./3 p.m.  
Home Jets Baseball vs. Carl Albert, 1 p.m./3 p.m.

## March 3

Home Mavs Softball vs. Ft. Scott (KS), 2 p.m./4 p.m.

## March 4

Away Mavs Softball vs. Cowley (KS), 1 p.m./3 p.m.  
Away Mavs Baseball vs. NWOSU JV, 1 p.m./3 p.m.  
Home Mavs and Lady Mavs Basketball vs. Redlands, 5:30 p.m./7:30 p.m.  
Extreme Petting Zoo, Enid

## March 5

Free BCM Lunch, 11:15 a.m. – 12:45 p.m., Tonkawa  
Home Jets Baseball vs. Hutchinson (KS), 1 p.m.  
Scholarship Thank-A-Thon, Vineyard Library/Admin Building, 5 p.m. - 7 p.m., Tonkawa  
Karaoke, Student Union, 7:30 p.m., Tonkawa

## March 6

Sophomore Transfer Day, Zollars Library Lobby, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m., Enid  
Free Lunch, Wesley House, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m., Tonkawa  
Free BCM Lunch, Gantz Center, 11:30 a.m. – 12:45 p.m., Enid  
Away Mavs Softball vs. Neosho (KS), 1 p.m./3 p.m.  
Scholarship Thank-A-Thon, Everest Admin Building, 5 p.m. - 7 p.m., Enid  
The Gathering, BCM, 7 p.m., Enid  
The Gathering, BCM, 7:30 p.m., Tonkawa

## March 7

Home Jets Baseball vs. Redlands, 1 p.m.  
Home Mavs Softball vs. Pratt (KS), 1 p.m./3 p.m.  
Home Jets Softball vs. Cowley (KS), 1 p.m./3 p.m.  
VITA Tax Preparation, CEC, 4 p.m. – 8 p.m., Tonkawa  
Away Jets and Lady Jets Basketball vs. Redlands, 5:30 p.m./7:30 p.m.  
Away Mavs and Lady Mavs Basketball vs. NEO, 5:30 p.m./7:30 p.m.

## March 8

Fine Arts Auditions, KPAC, 10 a.m., Tonkawa  
Away Mavs Baseball vs. Murray, 1 p.m.

For additional information, visit the following links: NOC Calendar

## Thank-a-Thons set for March 5-6

Scholarship students at NOC Tonkawa and NOC Enid have an opportunity to thank donors at Tonkawa on March 5 and Enid March 6.

Tonkawa scholarship recipients will write letters, make calls, take photos, and record videos

thanking donors at the Vineyard Library/Admin Building from 5 p.m. - 7 p.m. on March 5.

Enid scholarship students will do the same at the Everest Admin Buidling on March 6 from 5 p.m. - 7 p.m.

# Save the Date

**SATURDAY, APRIL 6, 2024**

*Northern Oklahoma College  
Alumni and Friends Reunion and  
Distinguished Alumni Hall of Fame  
Induction Ceremony*

**NOC Nursing Alumni & Friends Tea 1-3 pm**

**Ceremony and Dinner 5:00 PM**

**ROUSTABOUTS BENEFIT CONCERT 7:30 P.M.  
CELEBRATING 60 YEARS**

Special Recognition of the NOC Class of 1974  
and Recognition of the NOC Nursing Classes  
of 1999 and 2014



**Distinguished Alumni  
Hall of Fame Inductees**  
*Dr. Michelle Jeffries Keylon  
and Mr. Scott Morris*



**For more details, please email Kayla Wooderson  
kayla.wooderson@noc.edu or call 580.628.6473.**



# Mavs, Jets athletic seasons ongoing

NOC Mavs and Jets athletes are continuing their seasons with basketball winding down while baseball and softball are ramping up.

The Lady Jets (15-8), Jets (10-19), Mavs (13-12) and Lady Mavs (12-14) complete their regular seasons Thursday, March 7 and then will begin play in the NJCAA Region 2 Tournament

March 13-16 in Muskogee.

Jets (10-6) and Mavs (13-6) baseball are starting conference play while Jets (8-8) and Mavs (3-7) softball start conference play in the next two weeks.

Follow Mavs sports at [www.nocmavs.com](http://www.nocmavs.com) and Jets athletics at [www.nocjets.com](http://www.nocjets.com).



*NOC Scholarship Recipients  
You're Invited*

**Help Us Thank Our Donors**

*Come and Go*



## NOC TONKAWA

March 5, 2024 / 5:00 – 7:00 pm

*Vineyard Library-Administration Building  
Development Office, Room 107*

## NOC ENID

March 6, 2024 / 5:00 – 7:00 pm

*Everest Administration Building*

*Thank - a - Ton*

RSVP to Candy Oller  
[candy.oller@noc.edu](mailto:candy.oller@noc.edu) or 580.628.6789

**Scholarship recipients will call donors, write thank you cards, take photos, record a thank you video, and enjoy some pizza.**



**NORTHERN**  
Oklahoma College

# NOC Nursing Alumni & Friends Tea

**SATURDAY**  
**APRIL 6, 2024**






HIGHLIGHTED ACTIVITIES

**SNA Bake Sale**

**Alpha Delta Nu Honor Society  
Canned Food Drive**

**NOC Nursing Alumni & Friends Tea**  
Foster-Piper Fieldhouse,  
NOC Tonkawa  
1:00 pm | Registration  
1:15-1:45 pm | Welcome & Tea  
1:45 pm | Nursing Olympics

**NOC Alumni & Friends Mixer**  
A. D. Buck History Museum &  
Welcome Center, NOC Tonkawa  
3:30-4:30 pm

**NOC Alumni & Friends Reunion**  
Distinguished Alumni Hall of Fame  
Induction Ceremony  
Renfro Center, NOC Tonkawa  
4:30-5:00 pm | Registration  
5:00-5:45 pm | Dinner  
5:45-7:00 pm | Alumni Program

**Roustabouts Benefit Show**  
Kinzer Performing Arts Center,  
NOC Tonkawa  
7:00 pm | Doors Open  
7:30 pm | "Roustabouts Tribute –  
Celebrating 60 Years"

**ALUMNI PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS**

*Induction of 2024 Distinguished Alumni  
Presentation of Alumni Legacy Scholarship  
Special Recognition of the Class of 1974  
Recognition of the NOC Nursing Classes of 1974, 1999 and 2014  
Recognition of the 60th Anniversary of the NOC Roustabouts Program*



**Deadline to RSVP is Friday, March 15, 2024**

Kayla Wooderson  
Director of Alumni and Community Relations  
580.628.6473 | [kayla.wooderson@noc.edu](mailto:kayla.wooderson@noc.edu)

**ALUMNI TEA**

Tickets for the NOC Nursing Alumni & Friends Tea | No Charge

Tickets for the Alumni & Friends Reunion and  
Distinguished Alumni Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony | \$25 per person.

Tickets for the Roustabouts Benefit Concert | \$10 per person.



**NOC Nursing. Just Exceptional.**