



www.noc.edu

# What's Happening

## April 24, 2026

NOC Public Information Office 580.628.6444

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# Jeff Medders to speak at commencement

Cattle rancher and television producer Jeff Medders will address candidates for graduation at Northern Oklahoma College 2026 commencement exercises Saturday, May 2.

NOC Tonkawa and NOC Stillwater candidates will march into Foster-Piper Fieldhouse on the Tonkawa campus at 9:30 a.m. on May 2.

That same day NOC Enid 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 1, in the Kinzer Performing Arts Center in Tonkawa.

“The NOC family is looking forward to celebrating this significant academic milestone for our students,” said NOC President Diana Morris. “We’re also excited for our students to hear from Distinguished Alumnus Jeff Medders who in addition to being incredibly entertaining is an excellent representation of Northern Oklahoma College values.”

Medders, a 2023 NOC Distinguished Alumni, grew up on a ranch in southeastern Oklahoma, where his passion for the western lifestyle and storytelling took root early. By his junior year of high school, he had already set his course—to become a sportscaster—and he has pursued that goal with unwavering focus ever since.

Originally planning to attend Oklahoma State University, Medders instead chose Northern Oklahoma College as a start to his college career after recognizing the opportunity to gain hands-on experience through its student-run radio station. That decision proved pivotal, launching a career that began with local sports-casting roles in Midland-Odessa, Texas, and Tulsa, Oklahoma.

In 1988, Medders’ career took a defining turn when he began freelancing for the then-fledgling Winner Communications. Over the next 15 years, he became a familiar face across major networks, hosting programming for ESPN, ABC, CBS, CBS Sports Network, Animal Planet, and more.

In 1991, Medders became the face of ProRodeo—a role he has carried for more than three decades. His connection to the sport deepened in 2012 when his company, Geronimo Productions, took on a major role in producing television coverage for the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association (PRCA).

Another pivotal chapter came in 2020, when Rural Media Group acquired the PRCA’s television rights. As President and General Manager of The Cowboy Channel, Medders helped transform the visibility of ProRodeo, expanding its reach to more than 70 million homes during

a year defined by the challenges of COVID-19.

Today, Medders remains one of the premier television hosts in the western sports world, known for his versatility and authenticity—particularly in programming that centers around the horse and the western way of life. He is currently producing *10 Nights in Vegas*, a series he created with Taylor Sheridan.

Medders’ contributions to the industry have earned him induction into the National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum’s Hall of Fame, the Texas Rodeo Cowboy Hall of Fame, and

the Oklahoma State University Arts & Sciences Hall of Fame. He is also recognized as a Distinguished Alumnus of Northern Oklahoma College.



Jeff Medders

## College choir concert Sunday

The Northern Oklahoma College Division of Fine Arts presents the Spring College Choir Concert on Sunday, April 26, at 2 p.m. in the Dineo Heilmann Auditorium inside the Kinzer Performing Arts Center.

The concert features the College Choir, and Madrigal Singers.

Admission is free, children under 12 must accompany an adult.

## Tonkawa Film Festival this weekend

NOC Tonkawa is hosting the 7<sup>th</sup> Tonkawa Film Festival April 24-25 at the Wilkin Theatre.

Films begin Friday with Block 1 from 5:30 p.m. – 7 p.m. and Block 2 from 7:30 p.m. – 9 p.m.

On Saturday, films begin at 4:30 p.m. with

Block 1 through 6 p.m. and Block 2 from 6:30 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Selected screenings will be Saturday night with awards to follow.

Tickets are available at [www.TonkawaFilmFes-](http://www.TonkawaFilmFes-)



The Tonkawa Chamber of Commerce held a ribbon cutting ceremony Wednesday afternoon commemorating the opening of the NOC Greenhouse at the Tonkawa Ag Complex. (photo by Caroline Hillock/NOC).

## NOC holds ribbon cutting ceremony for the new greenhouse

Northern Oklahoma College held a ribbon cutting ceremony Wednesday for the new greenhouse at the NOC Tonkawa Ag Complex.

The ribbon cutting was sponsored by the Tonkawa Chamber of Commerce.

NOC President Diana Morris welcomed the audience to the event.

It is my honor to welcome you as we celebrate this milestone for Northern Oklahoma College," she said. "Adding new high-demand academic programming is a central goal to NOC's strategic plan and today's event marks significant progress toward preparing more students for entry into well-paying and secure career fields and/or transfer to a four-year institution for advanced studies."

Morris provided the background for the proj-

ect. "In 2020, a Team of staff and faculty Northern worked together to apply for a U.S. Department of Education grant that would afford us the opportunity to strengthen the institution. Through this grant and the support of many others, this greenhouse was created to support hands-on learning experiences, collaborative projects and in-depth research."

"The NASNTI program, funded through the U.S. Department of Education, supports institutions like NOC in expanding capacity to better serve Native American and low-income students," she added. "Through this five-year, \$2.2 million project, NOC has focused on three

(See **Greenhouse** on Page 3)

NOC DIVISION OF FINE ARTS *Presents*

# College Choir *and* Madrigal Singers

## SPRING CONCERT

*"SING! Songs of Joy, Hope & Peace"*

**SUN | APR. 26, 2026 | 2 PM**  
Kinzer Performing Arts Center  
The Dineo Heilmann Auditorium  
NOC Tonkawa

**FREE ADMISSION** | *Children under age 12 must be accompanied by an adult.*

# Greenhouse

(Continued from Page 1)

key initiatives: expanding STEM programs, strengthening student services, and increasing support for remote learners.”

“This greenhouse is a direct result of those efforts and represents a significant investment in hands-on learning and workforce-aligned education.”

The NASNTI project is led by project director LeeAnna Bowling.

Tricia Moore, Division Chair for Biology and Agriculture added, “This idea actually began back around 2012 when Bart Cardwell, our Sheep Herd Manager was pursuing an Oklahoma Work Force Grant. In 2019, when I was approached about a potential STEM initiative for NASNTI funding, we were able to pick discussion up again to develop this program, and secure two, beautiful teaching classrooms, by remodeling an existing space and by constructing a greenhouse facility, in addition to securing the necessary equipment to provide a state-of-the-art program and experience for our students.”

“This was truly a collaborative effort,” Moore added, We had input from NOC administration, NASNTI grant consultant, agriculture industry partners, Jeremy Johns and P & K Equipment, Kramer Simpson, Mike Meeker, Todd Woods, and others who meet with us bi-weekly on a Zoom feed to help us with the beginning planning stages, and all members of the Ag & Biological Sciences Division.”

NASNTI Precision Agriculture Specialist Dr. Kyle Parmley gave specifics about how NOC will use a new spray rig and drone technology for the precision ag program while NOC instructor Scott Harmon followed up with his plans to work to utilize the greenhouse and incorporate his work with students to provide business internships and community involvement.

Moore also announced a recently established Horticulture Scholarship that will assist NOC students starting Fall 2026. The scholarship was established by NOC alum Evelyn Coyle.

## April Staculty Birthdays



Ross Buchanan  
Anita Simpson

April 27  
April 27

Adrianna Palomares

April 28

The Tonkawa Film Commission  
presents the  
**7TH ANNUAL**  
**TONKAWA**  
FILM FESTIVAL

**April**  
**24th & 25th**

**Northern**  
**Oklahoma**  
**College**  
**Wilkin Hall**

Tickets Available at:  
[www.TonkawaFilmFestival.com](http://www.TonkawaFilmFestival.com)

# Tonkawa Academic Awards listed

Northern Oklahoma College Tonkawa students were honored Wednesday night at the Annual Academic Awards Banquet at the Renfro Center.

“We are tonight to celebrate our student’s academic achievement, and their hard work,” said Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Shelly Mencacci.

Mencacci also recognized the NOC faculty for their hard work in helping students achieve their academic goals.

“Their passion makes a real difference for our students at our campus,” she said. “Without our dedicated instructors, none of us would be here tonight.”

The following are the awards for 2025-26.

Oklahoma All-USA Academic First Team: Julie Henning, Jose Sosa Martinez

Outstanding President’s Leadership Council Student: Jackson Rhodes

Academic Athlete of the Year: Kaidince Calvert

Agricultural Student: Ashlee Purvine

Biology Pre-Med Student: Jackson Rhodes

Biology Pre-Pharmacy: Kailey Rich

Sheep Center: Paige Burns, Sydney Melton

Chemistry: Robert Evans

Pre-Engineering Student: Ty Jansma

Process Technology: Elijah Coffman

Business Student: Kaidince Calvert

Christine Marshall Accounting Student: Kaidince Calvert

Gene Dougherty Art Student: Macie Brophy, Delaney Fox

Piyush and Lisa Patel DMI Student: Petra Calfy, Gilberto Lopez

Instrumental Music Student: Logan Beeler  
Rhoda Sharp Award: Britany Navarro-Martinez

All-Around Musician: Sam Anderson

Musical Theatre: Gracie Fiscus

Technical Theatre: Angel Garcia

Charlene Bouchard Literature Student: Landon Howe

Elizabeth Totten Memorial Journalism: Kadi Kienholz

Keely Marshall Journalism: Cade Dickinson

Louis R. Vineyard Outstanding Radio & TV Student: Jakeb Koop

Radio Club Student: Rowan Svob

Language Arts: Serenity Starr

Math: Jose Sosa Martinez

Christine Marshall Outstanding Criminal Justice: Lexi Merrill

History: Matison McConnell

Phi Theta Kappa: Kaidince Calvert

Phi Theta Kappa Volunteer: Amy Heick

4.0 Student Award: Madison Fischer, Elizabeth Gunterman, Kole Campbell, Jackson Rhodes, Emma Pistorius, Ainsley Jennings, Jose Sosa Martinez, Kaidince Calvert, Amber Brazendale, Lillian Buie, Petra Calfy, Mya Dewberry, Hannah Foster, Alex Jennings, Regan Loney, Riley Loney, Ashlee Purvine, McKenna Sobasky, Riley Westmoreland.

Reach Higher Graduates: Marissa Aase, Lidise Carmona, Julie Henning, Bryan Cornelsen, Ines Diz-Lopez, Amy Heick, Cheyenne Kester, Charisse Faw Faw

NOC Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Shelly Mencacci emceed the reception.

## STUDENT ACTIVITIES SPRING 2026

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ February 9 <b>Pizza, Pool and Air Hockey</b> Student Union   7:30 pm</li> <li>▶ February 17 <b>Bingo for Food</b> Student Union   7:30 pm</li> <li>▶ February 19 <b>Bedlam Basketball</b> Women   5:30 pm, Men   7:30 pm</li> <li>▶ February 24 <b>Homecoming Voting</b> Student Affairs Office   9 am – 1 pm</li> <li><b>Karaoke</b> Walcher Conference Center   7:30 pm</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ February 25 <b>Homecoming Voting</b> Student Affairs Office   9 am – 1 pm</li> <li>▶ March 2 <b>Homecoming Basketball</b> Women   5:30 pm, Men   7:30 pm <i>[Coronation halftime of men’s game]</i> <b>Homecoming 5th Quarter</b> <i>[Food, games, mechanical bull]</i> East Gym   Immediately Following Game</li> <li>▶ March 3 <b>Homecoming – That’s No Bull Revue</b> Wilkin Auditorium   8 pm</li> <li>▶ March 9 <b>Bingo for Food</b> Student Union   7:30 pm</li> </ul>
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### MARCH 16-20 | SPRING BREAK

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ March 24 <b>Dodgeball</b> Fieldhouse   7:30 pm</li> <li>▶ March 30 <b>Magician Show</b></li> <li>▶ April 6 <b>Easter Egg Hunt</b> Meet at Gazebo   7 pm</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ April 13 <b>Petting Zoo</b> Clock Tower Area   10 am - Noon</li> <li>▶ April 21 <b>Spring Fling</b> Chick-fil-a Truck Ice Cream Truck   5:30 – 7:30 pm Archery Tag   5:30 – 7:30 pm Fading Fast Concert   8 pm</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ April 28 <b>Campus Wide Hide n Seek</b> Meet at Gazebo   8 pm</li> <li>▶ May 4 <b>Food for Finals</b> Cafeteria   10 pm – Midnight</li> <li>▶ May 8 <b>Dorms close at 10 am</b></li> </ul>
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Life changing.



Seven NOC students were inducted into the American Criminal Justice Association on April 9. Pictured (L-R): Hayden Grell, Tonkawa; Lexi Merrill, Hominy; Angelina Rodriguez, Enid; Taryn Ellis, Enid, Riley Hoover, Hunter; Lucinda Foreman, Ponca City; Avry Nailon, Weatherford. (photo provided)

## NOC welcomes new members into American Criminal Justice Association

Northern Oklahoma College's Criminal Justice Society proudly inducted new members into the American Criminal Justice Association during a ceremony held on April 9, 2026 on campus.

The event marked an important milestone for students joining the organization and committing to the values of professionalism, leadership, and service within the criminal justice field.

Students inducted included Hayden Grell, Lexi Merrill, Angelina Rodriguez, Taryn Ellis, Riley Hoover, Lucinda Foreman, and Avry Nailon.

The Criminal Justice Society is a student led organization that provides members with opportunities to engage beyond the classroom through on campus activities, community service projects, field trips to criminal justice agencies, and participation in regional and national conferences and competitions.

The ceremony was attended by Troy Cochran, advisor and current national president, along with Ryan Paul, Dean of Students, and Stacey Frazier, Division Chair.

"Their presence underscored the significance of the occasion and the college's continued support for student involvement and professional development," said sponsor Troy Cochran.

New members were formally recognized and took part in the traditional oath and pinning ceremony, symbolizing their commitment to the principles of the organization and their future in the criminal justice profession.

The induction ceremony reflects the ongoing growth and strength of the Criminal Justice Society and its mission to prepare students for meaningful careers through leadership, service, and real-world experience.

# NOC ENID SPRING 2026 STUDENT ACTIVITIES

## Join Us!

January 21	<b>KARAOKE NIGHT</b>	Gantz Center, Montgomery Hall 7 pm
January 28	<b>BINGO FOR FOOD</b>	Gantz Center 7pm
February 2-6	<b>HOMECOMING WEEK</b>	Times Vary
February 11	<b>CROCHET NIGHT</b>	Gantz Center 7 pm (Making Woobles)
February 18	<b>MOVIE NIGHT</b>	Gantz Center, Montgomery 7 pm Students pick the movie
February 25	<b>BOB ROSS PAINT NIGHT</b>	Gantz Center, Montgomery Hall 7 pm
March 4	<b>CUP PONG TOURNAMENT</b>	Gantz Center, Montgomery Hall 7 pm
March 11	<b>BINGO FOR FOOD</b>	Gantz Center, Montgomery Hall 7 pm
March 25	<b>TRIVIA NIGHT</b>	Gantz Center, Montgomery Hall 7 pm
April 3	<b>GOLF SIMULATOR</b>	Mabee Center Racquetball Courts 7 pm
April 8	<b>BOWLING NIGHT</b>	Oakwood Bowl 7 pm
April 14	<b>BOARD GAME NIGHT</b>	Gantz Center, Montgomery Hall 7 pm
April 22	<b>ARTS &amp; CRAFTS NIGHT</b>	Gantz Center, Montgomery Hall 7 pm
April 29	<b>PING PONG TOURNAMENT</b>	Jets Residence Hall Lobby 7 pm



Northern Oklahoma College's Phi Theta Kappa honor society celebrated National Police Week early by delivering a gift bag of goodies to the Tonkawa Police Department. With NOC dismissing for the semester soon, PTK wanted to show appreciation for the department's dedication to protecting Tonkawa and the NOC campus. National Police Week honors America's law enforcement community. Pictured Back Row (L-R): Sunday Reynolds, Rainey King, Jadison Ackerman, Madyson Austin, Braxten Newton, Advisor Dee Cooper, Jose Sosa Martinez, Claire Lawver, Kaidince Calvert, Charley Carson, Amy Heick. Front Row (L-R): Lt. Aaron Jones and Chief of Police, Nick Payne

## Planetarium show set for May 5

NOC Enid will host a community planetarium show on Tuesday, May 5 at 6 p.m. at the Mackie Planetarium.

Visitors will see the Tales of a Time Traveler - with an Introduction to what to look for in the sky during the month of May.

Groups and schools may arrange a planetarium show by contacting Dr. Frankie Wood-Black at NOC by calling 580-628-6440 or emailing [Astronomy@noc.edu](mailto: Astronomy@noc.edu)

NOC will also be hosting a Summer Planetarium Series at noon on June 17, July 8 and July 29.



# Spring 2026 Final Exam Schedule

Tonkawa, Enid and Stillwater Campuses

MONDAY, May 4	TUESDAY, May 5	WEDNESDAY, May 6	THURSDAY, May 7
<b>COURSE</b> WF 7:40am MW, MWF or WF 8:00am MW or MWF 8:30am MW 8:30am <b>EXAM</b> 8:00 am-9:50 am	<b>COURSE</b> T 8:30 am TR 8:30 am TR 9:00 am <b>EXAM</b> 8:00 am-9:50 am	<b>COURSE</b> M, MW or MWF 9:00 am MTWF or MWF 9:30 am <b>EXAM</b> 8:00 am-9:50 am	<b>COURSE</b> TR 7:30 am TR 7:40 am TR 7:45am TR 8:00 am <b>EXAM</b> 8:00 am-9:50 am
<b>COURSE</b> MW 11:30 am MWF 11:30 am <b>EXAM</b> 10:00 am-11:50 am	<b>COURSE</b> TR 11:30 am TR 12:00 pm <b>EXAM</b> 10:00 am-11:50 am	<b>COURSE</b> MW or MWF 12:30 pm <b>EXAM</b> 10:00 am-11:50 am	<b>COURSE</b> T or TR 10:30 am <b>EXAM</b> 10:00 am-11:50 am
<b>COURSE</b> MW 1:30 pm MWF 1:30pm <b>EXAM</b> 12:00 pm-1:50 pm	<b>OPEN</b>	<b>COURSE</b> MW, MWF or MTWR 10:30 am <b>EXAM</b> 12:00 pm-1:50 pm	<b>OPEN</b>
<b>COURSE</b> MW or W 2:00 pm MWF or W 3:00 pm <b>EXAM</b> 2:00 pm-3:50 pm	<b>COURSE</b> T 2:00 pm TR or T 3:00 pm <b>EXAM</b> 2:00 pm-3:50 pm	<b>COURSE</b> MF 3:00 pm MW 3:30 pm <b>EXAM</b> 2:00 pm-3:50 pm	<b>COURSE</b> TR 1:30 pm <b>EXAM</b> 2:00 pm-3:50 pm
<b>COURSE</b> M 4:30pm <b>EXAM</b> 5:00 pm-6:50 pm	<b>COURSE</b> T, TR, TF 5:30pm <b>EXAM</b> 5:00 pm-6:50 pm	<b>COURSE</b> MW 5:30pm <b>EXAM</b> 5:00 pm-6:50 pm	<b>COURSE</b> TR or T 4:00pm TR 4:30 pm <b>EXAM</b> 5:00 pm-6:50 pm
<b>COURSE</b> M 6:00 pm M 6:30 pm M or MW 7:00pm <b>EXAM</b> 7:00 pm-8:50 pm	<b>COURSE</b> T or TR 7:00pm <b>EXAM</b> 7:00 pm-8:50 pm	<b>COURSE</b> W 7:00pm <b>EXAM</b> 7:00 pm-8:50 pm	<b>COURSE</b> R 6:00pm R 7:00pm <b>EXAM</b> 7:00 pm-8:50 pm

## NOC Foundation establishes the Evelyn Coyle Horticulture Scholarship

The Northern Oklahoma College Foundation, Inc. is pleased to announce the establishment of the Evelyn Coyle Horticulture Student Scholarship Fund.

Through the generous support of Evelyn Scoles Coyle, a 1951 Alumna from Northern Oklahoma Junior College, the establishment of this permanently restricted endowed scholarship fund will provide Horticulture students an opportunity to complete their educational goals at Northern Oklahoma College Tonkawa.

NOC Distinguished Alumna 2021 and longtime Tonkawa, Oklahoma resident, Evelyn Coyle, values higher education and it is her desire to help students pursue their higher educational goals. Ms. Coyle wishes to assist deserving students to be successful in reaching their educational degrees and professional goals.

The scholarship recipient(s) will be selected from candidates submitted by the NOC Horticulture instructor and approved by the NOC Tonkawa Scholarship Committee.

A maximum of \$2,000 will be awarded annually to the scholarship recipient(s). This schol-



**Evelyn Coyle finalizes the Horticulture Student Scholarship agreement with NOC President Diana Morris.**

arship will be applied toward Northern Oklahoma College program expenses for tuition, fees, books, etc.

Those wishing to make a gift to this NOC Foundation fund or others can contact the Foundation office at 580.628.6292 or online at or [www.noc.edu/development/foundation/give-online/](http://www.noc.edu/development/foundation/give-online/).

## NOC athletics spring updates

NOC spring athletics are heading down the homestretch for 2026.

Jets Baseball (34-19) is 9-13 in conference and in 5th place. The Jets host UA Rich Mountain on Saturday for sophomore day on Saturday at 1 p.m.

Jets Softball (20-27) is 5-13 in conference play and in 7th place in the conference. The Jets are at Eastern on Saturday at 2 p.m./4 p.m.

Mavs Baseball (21-23) is 5-13 in conference

play and are currently tied for 6th with UA Rich Mountain. The Mavs host Murray State Saturday with sophomore day scheduled in between games.

Mavs Softball (28-18) is 5-11 in conference and in 6th place. The Mavs host NEO Saturday at 2 p.m. Sophomore day is set for 1:20 p.m. Saturday.

NOC ENID

# PLANETARIUM SHOW



Tuesday,  
May 5, 2026 | 6 pm

Mackie Planetarium

Free Admission

[Donated non-perishable food items accepted]



**NOC** Life changing.



The 2026 DMI Student Showcase is set for Friday, May 1, from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. at Wilkin Hall 108/110. Pictured is scene from the 2025 student showcase.

## *NOC plans DMI Student Showcase, Epic Shorts Film Festival*

The Northern Oklahoma College Digital Media Institute's Annual Student Showcase will be held on Friday, May 1, 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 capac-

ity 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, in addition to exposing talented prospective students to the DMI program and the local educational facilities," Matson added.

(See DMI on Page 9)

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[timelycare.com/noc](https://timelycare.com/noc)

# DMI

(Continued from Page 8)

## Epic Shorts Student Film Festival

The 18th Annual Epic Shorts Student Film Festival will take place on May 1 at 4 p.m. in the Wilkin Theatre, showcasing nine original short films produced entirely by Digital Media Institute students.

These filmmakers handled every aspect of the process, from initial writing and directing to lighting, sound, and final production phases. According to festival founder Brad Matson, this year's lineup represents the highest quality

of work in the event's history.

Attendees can look forward to a fun and competitive screening where cash prizes will be awarded for first, second, and third place, along with a special Audience Choice award.

All proceeds and donations benefit Diabetes Solutions of Oklahoma. These funds provide critical financial support for children in Oklahoma, helping them access insulin pumps, medical supplies, education, and scholarships for specialized diabetes camps.

## NOC Calendar

### April 25

Home Mavs Baseball vs. Murray, 1 p.m./3:30 p.m.

Home Jets Baseball vs. UA Rich Mountain, 1 p.m./3:30 p.m.

Home Mavs Softball vs. NEO, 2 p.m./4 p.m.

Away Jets Softball vs. Eastern, 2 p.m./4 p.m.

Tonkawa Film Festival, Wilkin Hall, 4:30 p.m. – 8 p.m., Wilkin Hall

### April 26

College Choir/Madrigal Singers, Heilmann Auditorium/KPAC, 2 p.m., Tonkawa

### April 28

Free Lunch, BCM, 11:15 a.m. – 1 p.m., Tonkawa

Away Jets Softball vs. Seminole, 2 p.m./4 p.m.

The Gathering, BCM, 8 p.m., Enid

Campus Wide Hide n Seek, Heilmann Gazebo, 8 p.m., Tonkawa

### April 29

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

Ping Pong Tournament, Gantz Center, 7 p.m.,

Enid

The Gathering, BCM, 7:30 p.m., Tonkawa

### April 30

Home Mavs Softball vs. Seminole, 2 p.m./4 p.m.

Virtual Graduation Practice, 3 p.m., All Campuses

### May 1

DMI Sophomore Student Showcase, Wilkin 108//110, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m., Tonkawa

DMI 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Epic Shorts Student Film Festival, Wilkin Theatre, 4 p.m., Tonkawa

The Friends of Agriculture "Gathering," Osage Casino, 5 p.m., Ponca City

Nurses' Pinning, Heilmann Auditorium/KPAC, 7 p.m., Tonkawa

### May 2

Commencement Exercises for NOC Tonkawa/Stillwater, Foster-Piper Fieldhouse, 9:30 a.m., Tonkawa

Commencement Exercises for NOC Enid, Briggs Auditorium, 2:30 p.m., Enid



## Northern Oklahoma College 2025-2026 Employee Service Awards Ceremony, Service Pinning, and Retirement Recognition

Join Us

Friday, May 8, 2026

9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Renfro Center, NOC Tonkawa

End of Year Faculty Meeting 9:30 – 10:15 a.m.

Brunch Begins at 10:30 a.m.

Program Remarks Begin at 11:00 a.m.

*Welcome*

*Service Pinning*

*Special Awards*

*Retirement Recognition*

*Closing Remarks*

Life changing.



**The NOC Star-Gate**  
A Weekly Portal to the North Oklahoma Sky

*Brought to you by the Bert & Janice Mackie Planetarium at Northern Oklahoma College*

This Week's Viewing Conditions:

**The Moon:** The Full Moon is on May 1, and according to the Farmer's Almanac this is the Full Flower Moon. Thus, Moonshine is going to interfere with our nighttime viewing.

**Weather:** Check the forecast! The forecast is promising over the weekend. The next week looks like clouds may make viewing a bit challenging.



just above the southeast horizon about a half hour before sun rise.

**Highlights for the Week of Friday, April 24 to May 1, 2026**

This Week – The Lyrids should still be putting on a show this weekend, so you may be able to see some “shooting stars” throughout the weekend. So, definitely keep your eyes skyward.

If you have been following space news, you might have heard about an exoplanet observed by the Hubble Telescope just disappeared. While, it didn't really disappear, it may not have been really an exoplanet, but debris from a collision of some icy objects. This event occurred around a star approximately 25 light years away, Fomalhaut. This is the brightest star in the constellation Piscis Austrinus. You can see the star

**Astronomical Notes**

Fomalhaut is often called “The Solitary One” because it sits in a relatively empty patch of the southern sky. It is the 18th brightest star in the sky and the brightest in the constellation Piscis Austrinus (the Southern Fish). In Northern Oklahoma, we only see it low on the horizon, and it is currently making its final appearances in the pre-dawn light before it “disappears” behind the glare of the Sun for the summer.

Photo Credit: Exploding Galaxy (M82), Slooh Telescope Canary One, by Dr. Frankie Wood-Black on Feb 5, 2024



**2026**  
*Retirement Honorees*

**CELEBRATING OUR 2026 RETIREES**

*Honoring years of dedication, service, and impact at Northern Oklahoma College*

**HONOREES**

	<b>Terri Pearcy</b> <i>Bookstore Assistant</i>	<b>20</b> YEARS OF SERVICE
	<b>Gene Long</b> <i>Maintenance Assistant Director, Physical Plant – NOC Enid</i>	<b>26</b> YEARS OF SERVICE
	<b>Shannon Cranford</b> <i>Human Resources Director</i>	<b>25</b> YEARS OF SERVICE
	<b>Brenda Pennington</b> <i>Social Science Instructor</i>	<b>20</b> YEARS OF SERVICE
	<b>Fred Heath</b> <i>Maintenance Custodian</i>	<b>22</b> YEARS OF SERVICE
	<b>Mary Ann Moody</b> <i>Residence Life – Threlkeld</i>	<b>10</b> YEARS OF SERVICE
	<b>Teresa Reich</b> <i>Staff Assistant for Financial Aid</i>	<b>2</b> YEARS, 5 MONTHS OF SERVICE

★ **SPECIAL RECOGNITION** ★



**Anita Simpson**  
*Vice President for Financial Affairs*  
**31** YEARS OF SERVICE

**DATES OF SERVICE:**  
July 1, 1995 – July 2, 2026  
 **RETIREMENT DATE:**  
July 2, 2026

*Thank you for your years of dedication, commitment, and service to NOC. Your impact will be felt for years to come.*

