

What's Happening

October 2, 2026

NOC Public Information Office 580.628.6444

news@noc.edu, scott.cloud@noc.edu

125th celebration set for Saturday

Northern Oklahoma College will celebrate its 125th anniversary Saturday, Oct. 3, with a day of activities on the NOC Tonkawa campus, including a silent auction and purse raffle, historical exhibition and free Quasquicentennial Concert.

The celebration begins with the NOC Foundation Silent Auction/Purse Raffle from 3:30-5:30 p.m. at the Renfro Center.

Tickets are \$25 and include heavy hors d'oeuvres. The event is for patrons 21 and older. More than 50 items will be available in the silent auction, including OSU Football Suite Tickets, a TS Fork Gift Certificate, a fire pit and other items.

The raffle prize is a Louis Vuitton Diane designer bag valued at \$2,700. Raffle tickets are \$10 each or 12 for \$100, with the drawing held during intermission of the Quasquicentennial Concert.

Funds raised from the auction and raffle will benefit NOC's First-Generation Scholarship and Program Support.

The college's 125th anniversary historical ex-

hibition will be open beginning at 5:30 p.m. in the Eleanor Hays Art Gallery at the Kinzer Performing Arts Center.

Curated by Gallery Director Audrey Schmitz, the exhibition

highlights NOC's history from its beginnings as University Preparatory School through the present day.

The collection includes a stone mason's mallet used in the construction of Central Hall, ashes from the 1914 Wilkin Hall fire, vintage Roustabouts costumes, Maurice Brewer's 1931 football jersey and cleats, historic sports trophies,



Jerry Steichen

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We are Celebrating 125 Years!
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2026 | NOC TONKAWA

3:30 p.m.

BIDDING FOR BRIGHT FUTURES
NOCF Silent Auction Fundraiser (21 and over)
Benefitting the First Generation Student Scholarship and Program Support
3:30-5:30 p.m. | Renfro Event Hall
Individual Tickets | \$25
Includes two drink tickets and heavy hors d'oeuvres. Cash bar available.
For tickets contact Kayla Wooderson, kayla.wooderson@noc.edu | 580.628.6473

5:30 p.m.

125 LIFE-CHANGING YEARS
Northern Oklahoma College Historical Exhibition
5:30 p.m. | Eleanor Hays Art Gallery | KPAC
Exhibition is on display from September 22 to December 8, 2026
Viewing Hours: 1-5 p.m. | Monday-Friday and during performances

6:30 p.m.

QUASQUICENTENNIAL CONCERT
The Quasquicentennial Gala Orchestra
6:30 p.m. | Dineo Heilmann Auditorium | KPAC
Free Concert. No Tickets Required.
Eleanor Hays Art Gallery doors open at 5:30 p.m.
Heilmann Auditorium doors open at 6 p.m.
For more information, contact the NOC Development Office | 580.628.6214

NOCF BRIGHT FUTURES RAFFLE
Louis Vuitton Designer Bag (\$2,700 Value)
Benefitting the First Generation Student Scholarship and Program Support
(Raffle tickets on sale September 4-October 3)
Raffle drawing at intermission of the Quasquicentennial Concert.
Individual Ticket \$10, or 12 for \$100
For tickets contact Kaylynn Cantrell, 580.628.6292 | kaylynn.cantrell@noc.edu



Celebration

(Continued from Page 1)

college yearbooks, student newspapers and other artifacts.

The exhibition also features historical photographs, early diplomas chronicling the institution's name changes, paintings of campus scenes by NOC Art Professor Emeritus Gene V. Dougherty and 60 framed Faces of NOC highlighting alumni success and the college's impact on former students.

The day's activities conclude with the free Quasquicentennial Concert at 6:30 p.m. in the KPAC's Dineo Heilmann Auditorium.

Northern Distinguished Alumnus and Tonkawa native Jerry Steichen will serve as conductor and host for the concert, which features guest pianist Dr. Thomas Lanners, NOC Fine Arts faculty, the Roustabouts and a 57-member professional orchestra.

A special tribute will honor Heilmann, NOC Fine Arts chair emeritus, former Roustabout and Northern Distinguished Alumnus, for his contributions to NOC and the musical community of north central Oklahoma.

A highlight of the concert will be Lanners' performance of George Gershwin's "Rhapsody in Blue" on NOC's nine-foot Steinway concert grand piano. The Roustabouts will also present a musical journey spanning the group's history from its founding in 1963 through today.

"This concert gives us an opportunity to celebrate not only Northern's 125-year history, but also the people who have made music and the arts such an important part of that history," Steichen said.

"Bringing so many musicians with longstanding connections to Northern back to Tonkawa makes this a particularly special evening."

The concert is free and no tickets are required. Doors open at 6 p.m. A reception will follow the concert, providing guests an opportunity to visit with Roustabouts, musicians and guest artists.

The Oct. 3 celebration commemorates NOC's founding in 1901 as University Preparatory School and its 125 years of serving students and communities across northern Oklahoma.



Dr. Thomas Lanners





Oslo, Copenhagen & Stockholm

SUMMER 2027

STUDY ABROAD

June 9 - June 17, 2027

Day 1 Overnight Flight to Norway [Oslo]

Day 2 Hallo Oslo
Meet your tour director and check into hotel
Oslo city walk
Royal Palace, Karl Johans gate, National Theatre, Egertorget

Day 3 Oslo to Copenhagen
Oslo guided sightseeing tour
Oslo Opera House, Akershus fortress, Vigeland Sculpture Park visit
Norsk Folkemuseum visit
Overnight ferry to Copenhagen

Day 4 Copenhagen
Copenhagen city walk
Church of Our Lady, Round Tower, Stroget, City Hall Square
Canal cruise

Day 5 Copenhagen
Copenhagen guided sightseeing tour
Little Mermaid Statue, Gefion Fountain, Christiansborg Palace, Tivoli Gardens

Day 6 Copenhagen to Stockholm
Travel to Stockholm via the Oeresund Bridge
Granna peppermint candy shop visit

Day 7 Stockholm
Stockholm guided sightseeing tour
Gustav Adolfs Torg, Swedish Parliament, Swedish House of Lords, Stortorget Main Square
Nobel Museum visit

Day 8 Stockholm
Stockholm city walk
Stockholm Stock Exchange, Royal Palace
Vasa Museum visit

Day 9 Flight home
from Stockholm





TourCenter ID:
NOC-NWOSU-2027

←explorica→
by WorldStrides®

For more information please contact:
Jeremy Hise
580.548.2393 | jeremy.hise@noc.edu



NOC Criminal Justice students received hands on training at the Enid Police Department. Front row (left to right) Aubreonna Dority; Ted Fusselman; Angelina Rodrigues; Eve Veliz; Taryn Ellis. Back Row (left to right) Lt. Justin Hodge; Bridget Cole; Penelope Baugus; Grace Smith; Chassidy Morales; Alexa Montes; AJ Harmon; Hayden Grell; PIO Cass Rain.

NOC Criminal Justice students visit Enid Police Department

Northern Oklahoma College's Criminal Justice Society had the opportunity to visit the Enid Police Department Sept. 26, providing students with an inside look at law enforcement operations, training, and the realities of working in the criminal justice profession.

During the visit, students toured the Enid Police Department and its training facilities while learning more about the responsibilities, challenges, and expectations faced by law enforcement professionals.

“The experience gave students an opportunity to connect concepts discussed in the classroom with the day-to-day realities of policing,” said NOC Criminal Justice director Troy Cochran.

Cochran said a highlight of the visit was the opportunity for students to participate in the department's use-of-force decision-making

simulator.

“Students were placed in realistic, rapidly developing scenarios that required them to assess situations, communicate, make decisions, and determine an appropriate response,” he added. “The exercise provided valuable insight into the complexity of police decision-making and demonstrated how quickly circumstances can change during an encounter.”

“The Criminal Justice Society extends its sincere appreciation to Lt. Justin Hodges and Public Information Officer Cass Rains for taking the time to work with the students, answer questions, and provide an honest look at the law enforcement profession,” Cochran concluded. “Their willingness to share their experience and

(See **Criminal Justice** on Page 4)



Criminal Justice

(Continued from Page 3)

expertise helped make the visit both educational and memorable.”
Students on the trip included Aubreonna Dority, Enid; Ted Fusselman, Ponca City; Angelina Rodrigues, Enid; Eve Veliz, Enid; Taryn Ellis, Enid; Bridget Cole, Oklahoma City; Penelope

Baugus, Enid; Grace Smith, Stillwater; Chasidy Morales, Morrison; Alexa Montes, Hennessey; AJ Harmon, Blackwell; and Hayden Grell, Tonkawa.
NOC offers Criminal Justice at both Enid and Tonkawa campuses.

Northern Encounter dates announced

Northern Oklahoma College will give prospective students and their families an opportunity to experience NOC firsthand during three Northern Encounter recruiting events in October.
Northern Encounter will be held Oct. 13 at NOC Tonkawa, Oct. 20 at NOC Enid and Oct. 27 at NOC Stillwater.
Prospective students and their parents will have an opportunity to tour campus, meet NOC faculty and staff, and learn more about academic programs and services available to students. Information will also be available re-

garding admissions, scholarships and financial aid. Visitors can also learn about NOC clubs, organizations and other opportunities to become involved in campus life.
The events will also include door prizes and free NOC swag.
Registration will be held from 9-9:30 a.m. at each location.
For more information, contact Sarah Jo Otto at 580.628.6668 or Recruiter1@noc.edu, or Michael Donaldson at 580.548.2353 or Recruiter2@noc.edu.

Pumpkins, mums for sale at Tonkawa

Northern Oklahoma College is hosting a Fall Mum and Pumpkin Sale Oct. 1- Oct. 25.
Hours are Thursdays and Fridays from 4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m., Saturdays from 8:30 a.m. – noon, and Sundays from 1 p.m. – 4 p.m.
The sale is located on East NOC Drive at the NOC Ag Complex.



STUDENT ACTIVITIES

NOC ENID FALL '26

OCTOBER 5 - 7 PM

MIDNIGHT MADNESS

Raffles, win prizes through fun interactive games on the court, food and drinks

Mabee Center Main Gym



OCTOBER 12- 6:30 PM

MAGICIAN

JONATHAN MEYER

Gantz Student Center



OCTOBER 19- 7 PM

PUMPKIN DECORATING

HALLOWEEN MOVIE

Gantz Student Center



OCTOBER 27 - 7 PM

DODGEBALL

Mabee Center Aux Gym



NOVEMBER 4 - 7 PM

KARAOKE

Food and drinks

Gantz Student Center



NOVEMBER 11

VETERANS DAY

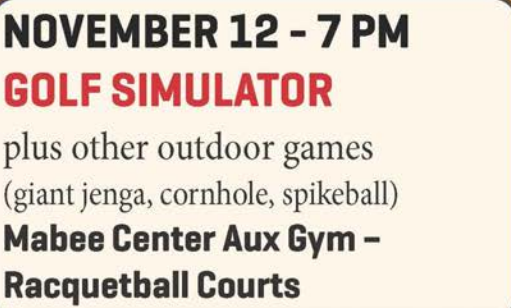


NOVEMBER 12 - 7 PM

GOLF SIMULATOR

plus other outdoor games (giant jenga, cornhole, spikeball)

Mabee Center Aux Gym - Racquetball Courts



NOVEMBER 16 - 7:30 PM

BINGO FOR FOOD

Gantz Student Center



NOVEMBER 23-27

THANKSGIVING BREAK



DECEMBER 7

FOOD FOR FINALS

10-MIDNIGHT

Cafeteria







An NOC Stillwater group was assigned Highland Park Elem. School in Stillwater for Payne County United Way’s Day of Caring. Beyond the regular “flower bed clean-up” in the back parking lot that we were assigned, Sherryl Nelson and I donated a bunch of mulch and spruced up their entrance sign.

Planetarium Show set for Enid Oct. 6

The October Northern Oklahoma College Enid Planetarium show at the Mackie Planetarium will be offered on Tuesday, Oct. 6, at 6 p.m.

The October show will present the night sky over Enid during autumn and point out where constellations, planets and other interesting objects may be found in the evening sky.

There is no charge for NOC Enid planetarium shows. The planetarium is on the east side of NOC’s campus at 100 S. University.

The planetarium is available for private and school groups. Contact Dr. Frankie Wood-Black at frankie.woodblack@noc.edu for additional information.



Life changing.

FALL STUDENT ACTIVITIES

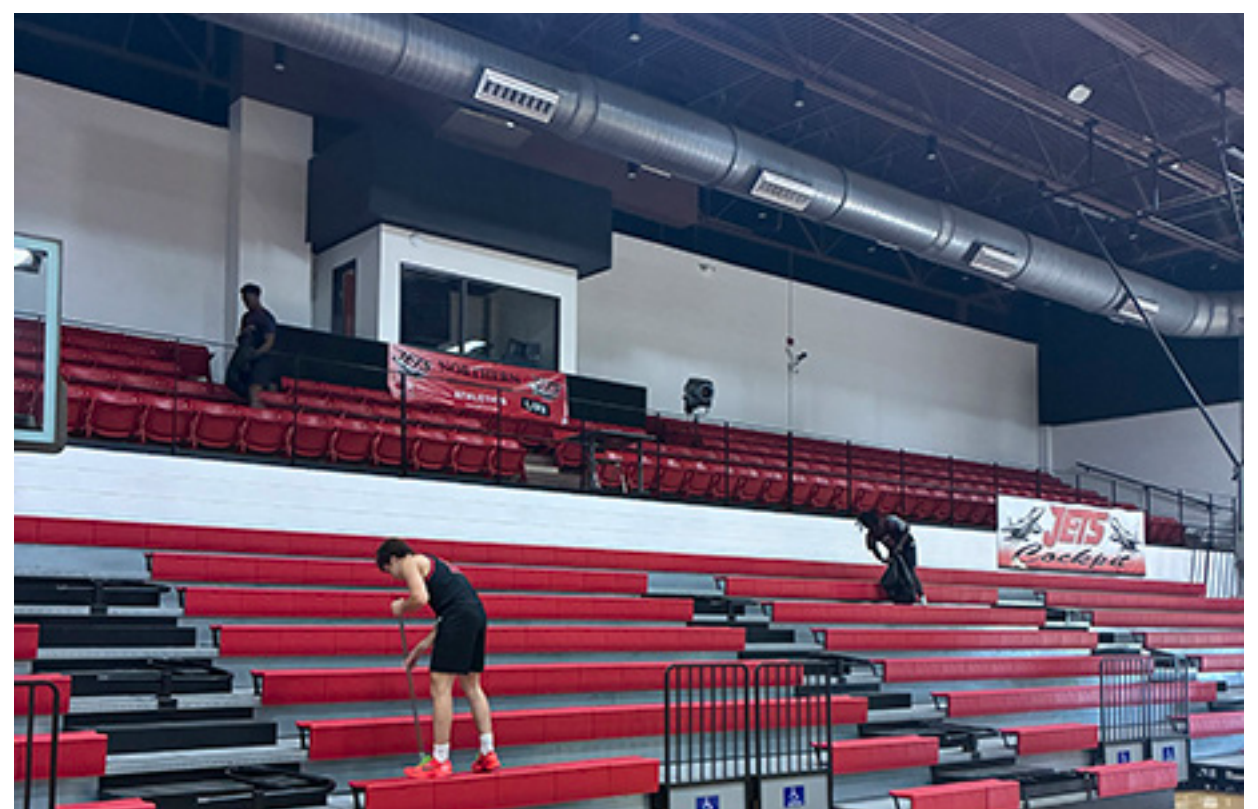
SEPTEMBER 8 Cornhole and Volleyball Between Bush-Duvall and Boehme Halls 8:00 PM	SEPTEMBER 17 Voter Registration Day Dunk Tank by Clock Tower 9:00 AM	SEPTEMBER 21 Board Game Night Memorial Student Union 8:00 PM	SEPTEMBER 28 Singo Renfro Center 8:00 PM
OCTOBER 6 Inflatable Golf By Heilmann Gazebo 5:00 PM	OCTOBER 12 Casino Night Renfro Center 8:00 PM	OCTOBER 19 Ping Pong Night Wellness Center 8:00 PM	OCTOBER 27 Paint Night Wellness Center 8:00 PM
NOVEMBER 5 Pool Tourney Memorial Student Union 8:00 PM	NOVEMBER 8 Homecoming Sheet Decorating and Hot Chocolate By Heilmann Gazebo 7:00 PM	NOVEMBER 9 That's No Bull Review Skits That Will Make You Laugh! Wilkin Auditorium 7:30 PM	NOVEMBER 10 Homecoming Tailgate In The Circle Drive 4:00 PM
NOVEMBER 11 Cupcakes and Flags Clock Tower 9:00 AM	NOVEMBER 19 Miss NOC Competition Kinzer Performing Arts Center 7:30 PM	DECEMBER 3 Smores Night and Hot Chocolate Bar Heilmann Gazebo 7:30 PM	DECEMBER 7 Food for Finals Memorial Student Union 9:00 PM

Contact Student Affairs Office for More Information 580.628.6240

Tonkawa Clean-up Day



Enid Clean-Up Day



NOC Calendar

Oct. 3

Home Mavs Baseball vs. Randall, TBA
Away Jets Softball vs. North Texas, 2 p.m.
Silent Auction/Purse Raffle, Renfro Center, 3:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m., Tonkawa
Quasquicentennial Concert, Heilmann Auditorium KPAC, 6:30 p.m., Tonkawa

Oct. 4

Away Lady Mavs Basketball at Coffeyville (KS) Jamboree
Away Lady Jets Basketball at Coffeyville (KS) Jamboree
Home Lady Jets and Jets Soccer vs. Eastern, 5 p.m./7 p.m.
BCM Open House, BCM, 7 p.m. – 9 p.m., Tonkawa

Oct. 5

Midnight Madness, Mabee Center, 7 p.m., Enid

Oct. 6

UCO College Fair, Zollars Lobby, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m., Enid
Free BCM Lunch, BCM, 11:15 a.m. – 1 p.m., Tonkawa
Planetarium Show, Mackie Planetarium, 6 p.m., Enid
The Gathering, BCM, 8 p.m., Enid
Inflatable Golf, Heilmann Gazebo, 8 p.m., Tonkawa

Oct. 7

Free Lunch, Wesley House, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m., Tonkawa
Free BCM Lunch, Gantz Center Lounge, 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m., Enid
Away Mavs Baseball vs. Northwestern, TBA
Staculty Vaccination Clinic, Gantz 102, 2 p.m. – 5 p.m.
Away Lady Jets and Jets Soccer vs. Rose State, 5 p.m./7 p.m.
Away Jets Softball vs. Hesston, 5 p.m.
The Gathering, BCM, 7:30 p.m., Tonkawa

Oct. 8

ACT Prep, Gantz Center, 8:30 a.m., Enid
Away Jets Baseball vs. Cloud (KS)/Barton (KS), 10 a.m./1 p.m.

Oct. 9

Away Mavs Baseball vs. Oklahoma Christian, TBA
Staculty Vaccination Clinic, Renfro Center, 12:30 p.m. – 5 p.m.
Away Mavs Softball vs. Vernon (TX)/Midwestern (TX) at Wichita Falls, 2 p.m./4 p.m.

125th ANNIVERSARY


NOC
NORTHERN
Oklahoma College

19012026

NORTHERN ENCOUNTER

For High School Juniors, Seniors and Their Guests

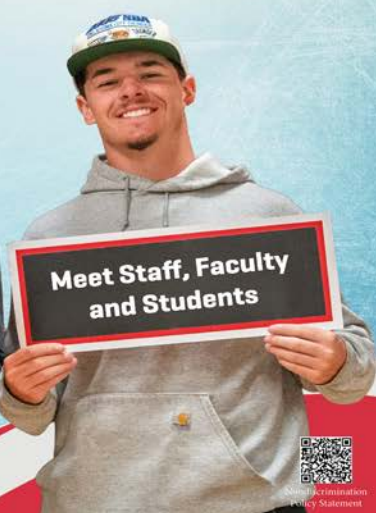
TONKAWA	ENID	STILLWATER
October 13, 2026 & January 28, 2027 Renfro Center	October 20, 2026 & February 4, 2027 Gantz Student Center	October 27, 2026 & February 11, 2027 NOC Stillwater Building



Learn more about NOC
and take a campus tour!



FREE T-Shirt
and Door Prizes
Including Tuition Waivers



Meet Staff, Faculty
and Students

A Free Event!
Registration: 9:00-9:30 am
Event: 9:30-11:30 am

SCAN CODE
TO REGISTER



Contact Information:
Tonkawa: Sarah Jo Otto
580.628.6668 | recruiter1@noc.edu

Enid: Michael Donaldson
580.548.2353 | recruiter2@noc.edu

Northern Oklahoma College: 125 Years of History

Northern Oklahoma College will celebrate its 125th anniversary Oct. 3 with a 6:30 p.m. Quasiquicentennial Concert at the Kinzer Performing Arts Center on the NOC Tonkawa campus.

The celebration marks 125 years since an institution originally created to prepare students for a university education began a journey that would eventually make it Oklahoma's first community college and a multi-campus institution serving students in Tonkawa, Enid and Stillwater.

NOC's story began shortly after the opening of the Cherokee Outlet, when settlers in the Tonkawa area began looking beyond the imme-

diate necessities of establishing farms and communities and toward educational opportunities for their children. By 1900, area residents were concerned about the need for secondary education. Territorial representative James Wilkin became a leading advocate for establishing a school in Tonkawa and introduced legislation creating the University Preparatory School. The bill passed and was signed by Territorial Gov. Cassius Barnes in the spring of 1901. One of the school's original purposes was preparing students to transfer to the University of Oklahoma.

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Central Hall -- The University Preparatory School

Northern Oklahoma College Speakers Series

Unidos-Somos Mas - Together We Are More

Guest Speaker:

**CRISTAL
PRYOR**

HUMAN RESOURCES PROFESSIONAL
AND COMMUNITY LEADER, ENID

**Thursday
October 15, 2026
11:30 a.m.**

Montgomery Hall
NOC Enid

All NOC students, faculty, and staff,
as well as the general public are
invited to attend.



**Live streamed to
Tonkawa and Stillwater**

<https://www.noc.edu/athletics/streaming/noc-events-streaming/>
NOC Speakers Series Sponsored by NOC SGA

Nondiscrimination
Policy Statement



NOC

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The school's first Board of Regents purchased 20 acres on the east side of Tonkawa from Thomas Martin for \$1,500. Construction began on Central Hall in 1901, and the building was completed in March 1902 for \$23,000, including furnishings. James Herbert Kelley was selected as the first president and spent the summer of 1902 traveling the countryside by buggy recruiting students. When classes began, 217 students were enrolled and seven faculty members joined Kelley, who also taught science and psychology.

Growth came quickly. Enrollment reached 410 by 1904, requiring additional facilities. That same year, the school held its first graduation exercises in a large tent. More than 900 people attended the three-day celebration, which included athletic events, debates and a baccalaureate before 17 graduates received diplomas. Fine arts and athletics also became important parts of campus life. Football began in 1904, and early teams competed successfully against schools including Oklahoma A&M and the University of Oklahoma. The institution's reputation grew to the point that it was sometimes known as the "Little Harvard of the Plains."

The young school nearly disappeared during its second decade. Wilkin Hall burned in 1914, and political efforts were underway to eliminate several state-supported schools. In 1917, the school's appropriation was not approved and its doors closed. Approximately 65 students went into military service during World War I, with four losing their lives. Equipment, furnishings, the library and printing plant were sent to other state institutions.

The closure was not permanent. The Oklahoma Legislature approved funding to re-establish the school in 1919, and during the 1920s

the institution took an important step toward becoming the college it is today. In 1921, the school became the University Preparatory and Junior Vocational College, beginning its transition from a preparatory school into higher education. The decade coincided with dramatic growth in Tonkawa following discovery of the Three Sands Oil Field. The city's population grew from approximately 1,800 in 1921 to more than 10,000 by 1923.

The college continued to develop through the Great Depression and World War II. Enrollment grew during the 1930s, while academic programs, fine arts and student activities expanded. During World War II, the college offered civilian aviation training, with ground school on campus and flight instruction in Ponca City and Blackwell. The program eventually became part of the Cadet Air Corps training effort. Following the war, returning veterans arrived on campus through the GI Bill and brought new growth to the institution.

Another major change came in 1941 when the school became Northern Oklahoma Junior College. The remaining high school curriculum was gradually eliminated, ending in 1950. The postwar years brought new facilities and programs, including agriculture, student organizations and broadcasting. In 1956, the college opened Easterling Hall and the Memorial Union, and the institution's band later represented Northern in the Rose Bowl Parade.

Perhaps the most important transition in the modern history of the institution occurred in 1965. Dr. Edwin E. Vineyard became the college's 10th president, and the school's name officially changed to Northern Oklahoma College. Vineyard's early years included significant challenges, but by 1967 NOC had regained full ac-

creditation. The campus expanded with a new student union-cafeteria complex, residence halls and Crowder Science Hall.

The following decades brought continued growth in academics, fine arts, athletics and student life. In the 1970s, high school students were allowed to enroll for college credit for the first time, NOC received a 10-year accreditation from the North Central Association, and the Lady Mavericks basketball team won a national championship in 1978. By fall 1979, enrollment had reached 1,635 students.

Fine arts remained an important part of campus life, with the Roustabouts performing nationally and internationally leading to the construction of the Kinzer Performing Arts Center. The 1990s brought expanded agriculture facilities, new academic programs and significant growth in athletics, including the addition of baseball, softball and men's and women's soccer.

NOC's reach changed dramatically during the 1990s with the purchase of the former Phillips University campus in Enid. Northern had offered classes in Enid previously, but the acquisition—made in partnership with the City of Enid and the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education—gave NOC a permanent second campus. Enrollment across Tonkawa and Enid grew to approximately 3,000 students.

The college became a three-campus institution in the next decade with the creation of the NOC/OSU Gateway Program in Stillwater in cooperation with Oklahoma State University. The period also brought additional facilities in Tonkawa and Enid and continued expansion of academic opportunities. By the early 2010s, the institution that had opened with 217 students in a single building had grown into a multi-campus college serving thousands.

NOC has continued to evolve in recent years. Dr. Cheryl Evans became the institution's first female president in 2011 and served for a decade. The Pickens Learning Commons opened on the Tonkawa campus in 2022, combining contemporary student learning space with a significant art collection. Diana Morris became NOC's 15th president in 2024 and was formally inaugurated in January 2025.

In November 2025, NOC received a \$17 million unrestricted gift from philanthropist MacKenzie Scott, the largest gift in college history. As the college entered its 125th anniversary year in 2026, it continued adding chapters to a story that began with a territorial legislator's belief that young people in northern Oklahoma needed greater educational opportunities.

Other anniversary events include a Silent Auction/Purse Raffle at the Renfro Center from 3:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. to raise funds for the First-Generation Scholarship and Program Support. Also, the Eleanor Hays Art Gallery will open its doors for an Historical Exhibition, September 22 – December 8, 2026, in the Kinzer Performing Arts Center on the Tonkawa campus. The exhibit is open from 1 p.m. – 5 p.m. daily and during events in the performing arts center.

