



Kentucky Supported Higher Education Partnership

KSHEP Newsletter



WELCOME!

Welcome to the KSHEP Newsletter! This quarterly newsletter is a place to share news and information related to inclusive higher education in the Commonwealth.

IN THE ISSUE:

- OCTC announces launch of new CTP
- Student spotlights
- Mentor spotlights
- KSHEP Unconference
- SEPSEA Conference
- Creative Spotlight



Would you like to learn more about KSHEP, or share the information with other people you know?

Please visit the KSHEP website!

<https://kshep.hdiuky.org/>

New CTP program announced at OCTC

Owensboro Community and Technical College has announced the launch of their Career and Life Skills Certificate program. The CLS Certificate program at OCTC is a Comprehensive Transition and Postsecondary (CTP) program, approved through the US Department of Education.

Read more about this new program in this article from the Owensboro Times: <https://www.owensborotimes.com/features/education/2023/04/octc-offering-program-to-support-students-with-intellectual-disabilities-wanting-to-attend-college/>

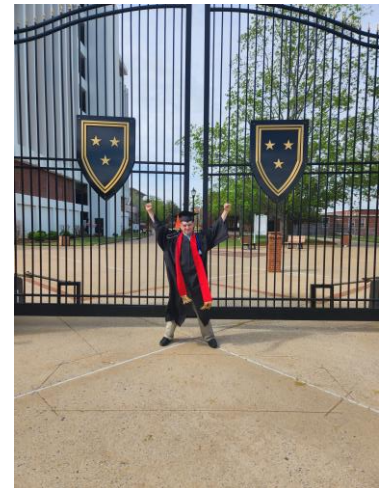
Congratulations! We are excited to partner with you!



KSHEP Student Spotlights **Murray State University:**

TJ Woods will be graduating from the College to Career Experience program at Murray State University on May 13, 2023. During TJ's time at Murray State, he has learned about workplace safety and has prepared for a life outside of college as an emergency medical worker and firefighter. Upon completion of the program, TJ will have become CPR certified and completed 30+ OSH training hours. TJ plans to take the NREMT within the next few weeks, then, hopefully, obtain a job with Murray-Calloway County Emergency Medical Services. This summer TJ plans to also join the Calloway-County Volunteer Fire Department to further his career as a firefighter.

Congratulations, TJ! Way to go!



Northern Kentucky University:

This year we have three students graduating from NKU's SHEP Program: Anna Kelley, Danny Stauffer, and Danielle Adams.



CONGRATULATIONS!!!

Danielle Adams will be recognized at the College of Education Senior Recognition Event due to her academic success, internship performance, and advocacy for the SHEP Program over the past three years. Not only has Danielle excelled in her coursework, but she has taken it upon herself to lead campus tours for prospective students, represent SHEP at transition fairs, and even volunteered as a lunch peer mentor for first year students in the SHEP Program. What's more, Danielle has fully immersed herself in her internship placements both at the Early Learning Center on campus as well as an elementary classroom located in Campbell County. Danielle has always displayed a desire to learn and support people, especially her students.



University of Kentucky:

From Dr. Kathy Sheppard-Jones, Executive Director of the Human Development Institute at the University of Kentucky:

"UK student, Ann Switzer, is now the first student to complete the College and Career Studies Program. College and Career Studies is UK's Comprehensive Transition and Postsecondary (CTP) program. Ann will also receive an academic certificate in Universal Design. We are delighted to celebrate Ann's success as the Spring semester winds down. Read the story featured in UKNow!"

<https://uknow.uky.edu/student-news/blazing-trail-ann-switzer-1st-complete-uk-s-college-and-career-studies-program>

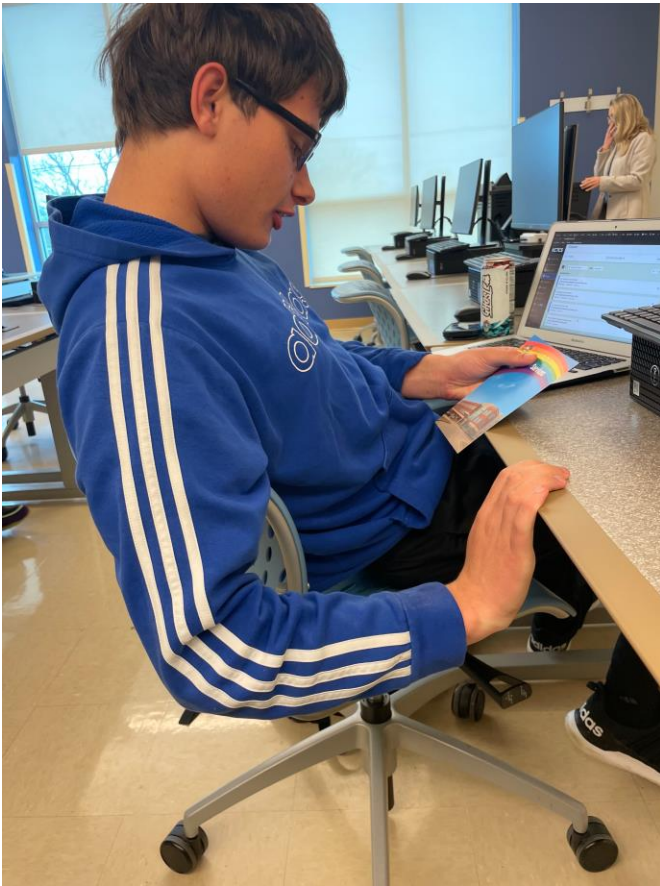
Congratulations, Ann!



Ann Switzer (center) helps record artists' sets at Kenwick Table's open mic night.

Photo by Lindsay Travis.

Bluegrass Community and Technical College:



Boris Buchheit is a Freshman here at BCTC CTP program. This semester, Boris did an internship with our student marketing department within The Crew. Through this internship, Boris was able to photograph several transition fairs, campus life and events.

Our LGBTQ+ Coordinator, Peter Mottas Jr., gave Boris a great opportunity to photograph the Classroom Building on BCTC's Newtown campus. Peter used this image on new placards for his program. Pictured is Boris with the placard. We are very proud of Boris' hard work ethic and talent for photography.

Boris would love to one day work for a Train depot or within that industry.

In other BCTC news:

BCTC CTP has developed a partnership with the Opportunity Middle College program with Fayette County Schools. This program was developed for high school students to take dual credit courses on campus and has expanded to the CTP program. Our first CTP student was an OMC Dual Credit student.

In just three semesters, we have gone from one student to six students. They are being exposed to a lot of subjects and work one on one with a mentor or teacher to complete coursework. OMC CTP students are graduating with 8-10 credit hours and can continue with the CTP program a year after graduation.

Because of this partnership, students are able to access college at the same time frame as their peers. We are hopeful to expand these numbers even more in the next year.

KSHEP Mentor Spotlights

Northern Kentucky University:

Each semester, NKU's SHEP Program gives the "Mentoring Partnership Award" to students who go "above and beyond" in creating dynamic, collaborative, and supportive mentoring partnership. During the school year, this award is granted to one pair of mentoring partners per semester. Each recipient, both peer mentor and mentee, receives a \$500 Amazon e-gift card.

Congratulations to Michael Bushman and Jared Frondorf for being the recipients of the Spring 2023 Mentoring Partnership Award!

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University of Kentucky:

"During my time working with the College and Career Studies Program, I have had the pleasure of working closely with many of the students. The thing I enjoy the most is watching the progress they make throughout the year. Each student has their own journey, and I am honored to be along for the ride!"

- Molly, UK peer mentor and practicum student



Congratulations to Molly Merchant, who has just graduated with honors from UK's Community and Leadership Development program!

Molly worked with the CCS program at UK for their senior practicum. They supported students by attending classes, tutoring, project help, and most importantly by being a steady presence as a leader and peer. Molly will be starting a graduate program in the fall, continuing their journey toward a career in education. Good luck, Molly!

KSHEP UNCONFERENCE

Thanks to all who attended the KSHEP Unconference on April 28! It was great to see so many people come together to talk about inclusive higher education in Kentucky. It was also great to hear so many different questions and perspectives.

Ann Switzer, who is just completing the College and Career Studies program at UK, shared a wonderful presentation about her college experience. Attendees wrote down things they would like to discuss or learn more about, and organizers compiled and combined those ideas to create the breakout session topics on the spot. People then were able to choose which sessions to attend and have conversations around those topics.

There were some fantastic conversations between people of all different backgrounds, including high school students, current and former college students, teachers, parents, program staff, service professionals, advocates, and other community partners.

We are still compiling notes from all the sessions, and look forward to continuing the larger conversation about inclusive higher education in Kentucky. To all the volunteers who helped with this event, and to all who attended and participated, thank you for your time and energy to make the first KSHEP Unconference a success!



Regional Partner Spotlight: SEPSEA

Have you connected with SEPSEA yet?

[SEPSEA \(Southeast Postsecondary Education Alliance\)](#) is a regional alliance of inclusive postsecondary programs. (It is similar to KSHEP, but instead of being a *state* partnership, it includes programs in the *southeast region* of the country.)

Connecting with SEPSEA is a great way to learn more *and* to help spread the word about inclusive higher education options in our area and beyond!

SEPSEA is also having their annual conference this month. It will take place May 17-19 at Lipscomb University in Nashville, TN. The conference is a great way to learn more about college options, meet new people, and have a good time!

Ann Switzer will be presenting a poster session at this conference about her college experience and the importance of community engagement in higher education programs.

You can find out more about the SEPSEA conference here:

<https://www.sepsea.org/2023-conference.html>



Becoming a member of SEPSEA can help you stay up to date on information about inclusive higher education programs, resources, and events across the region.

Learn more here:

<https://www.sepsea.org/membership.html>

Creative Spotlight: art by Rebecca

Check out this recent painting by Rebecca!



Rebecca is a former CTP student at BCTC. She now works at the Human Development Institute as a consultant for KSHEP.

Would you like to submit something for the next KSHEP Newsletter?

- student spotlight
- program update
- theme feature (such as study tips, organizational planning, etc.)
- News and events to share
- anything you think would be related to KSHEP

If so, please send your submission to Erin.Fitzgerald@uky.edu

Thanks, and have a great summer, everyone!



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Human Development Institute