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www.moreheadstate.edu

NEWS RELEASE

April 1, 2022
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MOREHEAD, Ky.---

MSU Delta Gamma chapter celebrates Founder's Day, establishes scholarship

More than 160 Delta Gamma (DG) alumni and active student members from Morehead State University gathered on campus to celebrate the Founder's Day of the Delta Omicron Chapter.

Some of the weekend's events included a welcome reception at The Venue on Main Street, a luncheon in MSU's newly renovated Adron Doran University Center, a memorial service, campus tours and a reception and dance. These events provided members with the opportunity to learn about the chapter today and get involved with alumni chapters.

Debbie Mahalik (Class of 1983) volunteered to serve as the event's primary coordinator. Mahalik and several other volunteers collaborated with the MSU Alumni Association to host the event on campus.

"We are excited to celebrate 50-plus years of Delta Gamma on the campus of MSU," Mahalik said. "Over 1,110 women have become DGs at MSU in the last 50 years. It was exciting to see sisters from all over the US return to Morehead to help us celebrate. Here's to 50 more years."

Alumni members established the Delta Gamma Book Scholarship Endowment in celebration and honor of more than five decades on campus. The Delta Gamma Book Scholarship will support initiated members of the Delta Omicron Chapter in reaching their educational goals. Since establishing the fund, almost \$3,000 has been raised to support this endeavor. The Delta Gamma Book Scholarship Fund will continue to grow through generous contributions from alumni members.

Delta Gamma is a women's fraternity and a member of the National Panhellenic Conference, the umbrella organization of 26 women's fraternities. Founded in 1873

nationally, Delta Gamma has 150 collegiate chapters and 200 alumnae chapters. MSU's Delta Omicron Chapter was chartered in 1969.

For more information on this scholarship or to establish your own, contact MSU's Office of Alumni Relations and Development at 606-783-2033, email giving@moreheadstate.edu or visit alumni.moreheadstate.edu/give.

Photo: Delta Gamma Charter members gathered at the Delta Gamma 50th Anniversary Banquet in the Adron Doran University Center.

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Board of Regents, Audit Committee met March 31

Morehead State University's Board of Regents held its quarterly meeting Thursday, March 31, at 9:30 a.m. in room 329 of the Adron Doran University Center, following a meeting of the Audit Committee.

The Audit Committee accepted the 2020-21 NCAA Agreed Upon Procedures Report and the WMKY audit. The committee also approved the reappointment of the University's auditing firm and the audit price and the scope of the annual fiscal year audit. Committee members also heard a report on the status of current audits from Internal Auditor Joe Hunsucker.

The Board of Regents recognized donors, faculty, staff, and students following the audit committee.

Retirees and long-time MSU supporters Dr. Sue Luckey and her late husband, Dr. George "Mac" Luckey, were recognized for their commitment to MSU and the Morehead community. After Mac's death, Sue created the Dr. George M. Luckey Honors Student Enrichment Endowment for students in the honors program and the Dr. Sue Y. Luckey Scholarship for Business, which provides scholarship support to students studying in the College of Business.

Donors Drs. Kay and Kent Freeland (also a retiree), two lifelong teachers and administrators in public schools and higher education institutions, were recognized for their generosity to MSU. The Freeland Education Scholarship provides an annual award to an aspiring student.

The board also recognized the national award-winning MSU Cheerleading squads. This spring the coed squad won the program's 28th Division I national championship. The all-

girl partner stunt team of Frankie Capilets, Sydney Sturgill, Haley Whitacre and Paige Ernst also won a national championship. The Morehead State cheer program has now won 50 national championships since the first competition in 1988.

Also recognized were faculty, staff and students in MSU's Space Science Center. Later this spring, a satellite, Lunar IceCube, will be launched as a secondary payload on the Artemis I mission. The Lunar IceCube team includes several faculty and staff members of the Space Science Center and more than 50 current and former students at Morehead State.

The board selected Madonna Weathers (Class of 1971, 1972, 1982), a long-time staff member who spent more than four decades serving students at MSU as this year's recipient of the Founders Award for University Service.

A native of Louisville, Weathers came to Morehead State University as a student and completed a Bachelor of Arts in Education in 1971, a Master of Arts in Education in 1972 and a Master of Arts in Higher Education in 1982. She worked at MSU for 44 years, retiring as vice president for student life in 2016.

The board reviewed audit information, approved personnel actions, and faculty tenure promotion. An ad-hoc committee was created to review the board bylaws.

The board voted on several recommendations, including the 2022-23 tuition, mandatory fees and housing rates, acceptance of the second quarter financial report and ratification of the amended operating budget. The board also approved employee compensation, extension of the University's banking services contract with US Bank, delegation of the University's optional retirement plan, and demolition of a residential structure.

University President Dr. Jay Morgan presented a legislative update and a report on the University's 100/135-year celebration. Vice President for Fiscal Services Mary Fister-Tucker gave a presentation on University debt refinancing and Vice President for University Advancement Rick Hesterberg gave a report on the University website redesign project

The board also re-elected Eric Howard to a second term as chair and Sanford Holbrook as vice-chair. Jane Fitzpatrick will serve as secretary and Mary Fister-Tucker was appointed treasurer.

The next quarterly Board of Regents meeting is Thursday, June 16.

For more information, visit www.moreheadstate.edu/bor.

Captions:

Top - From left: MSU President Dr. Jay Morgan; Mindy Highley, assistant vice president for alumni relations and development; Dr. Sue Luckey; Dr. Kay Freeland; and Dr. Kent Freeland.

Middle - MSU Cheerleading squad and MSU President Dr. Jay Morgan (far left), and Head Coach Mark Coleman, back row, second from left.

Bottom - Front row, left to right: Dr. Ben Malphrus, executive director of the Space Science Center and professor of space science; Chloe Hart, ground station engineer/operator; and Dr. Pamela Clark, space systems engineer and director of the Star Theater. Back row, left to right: MSU President Dr. Jay Morgan; Emily Mattle, ground station engineer/operator; Dr. Elijah Jensen, visiting assistant professor of space systems engineering; Ryan Collins, ground station engineer/operator; and Emily Walter, missions operations engineer/spacecraft operator.

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MSU Rock Ensemble presents Neil Young tribute concert

The Morehead State University Rock Ensemble will present "Journey Through the Past: The Music of Neil Young" at 7 p.m. Monday, April 11, at the Morehead Conference Center. Doors open at 5:30 p.m.

Tickets are \$10 for general admission and \$5 with MSU student ID. Seating is limited. Tickets can be purchased online at [eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com) or in-person with check or cash at CoffeeTree Books or Sawstone Brewing Co. in Morehead.

Under the direction of Glenn Ginn, associate professor of music, the MSU Commercial Music Ensemble will showcase legendary singer-songwriter Neil Young's most iconic songs, along with notable guest regional artists and MSU faculty.

"Neil Young is one of the most significant and prolific singer-songwriters of the 20th century. His career spans over 50 years and has released over 40 albums under his own name," Ginn said. "His music tends to affect people on a deeply emotional level rarely duplicated by other artists. For our students who are wanting to be singer-songwriters, there cannot be any better example for them to study."

Featured guests include the band Bedford, comprised of four former members of the MSU Commercial Music Ensemble. Other performers are Cincinnati singer-songwriter John Ford, Morehead-based guitarist and singer Clark Gordon, and other musical artists from the region, including country music singer Tony Pence and Americana performers Baylee Morgan and David Austin. Ginn said this event, now in its sixth year, is an excellent opportunity for MSU music students.

"The students benefit from learning and studying classic rock/pop music that they may not otherwise be familiar with, but as professional musicians and performers need to be

familiar with. They also benefit from the experience of working together as a group and performing in front of a live audience," he said.

This year's concert is co-produced by Music With A Mission, LLC. (MWAM), an organization founded by Glenn Ginn's wife Lisa Ginn to promote live music events that get a large segment of a community together to plan and promote the event. The concert's sponsors include The City of Morehead, Downtown Morehead Inc., Giovanni's, Morehead Tourism, Otis Eastern Service LLC, Sawstone Brewing Co., and St. Claire HealthCare. Lisa Ginn is also partnering with the MSU Music Industry Club student organization to help sponsor and promote this event.

"'Journey Through the Past: The Music of Neil Young' is being sponsored through multiple businesses, organizations and individuals in the Morehead community. Together, the community is making this event possible," Ginn said.

For more information on the concert, contact Lisa Ginn at nwamission21@gmail.com or 606-776-1147.

To learn more about music programs at MSU, contact the Department of Music, Theatre and Dance at mtd@moreheadstate.edu, 606-783-2473 or visit www.moreheadstate.edu/mtd.

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NEWS RELEASE

**April 4, 2022
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Grad School Open House is April 7

Morehead State University's Graduate School will hold an Online Open House from 2 to 5 p.m. on Thursday, April 7.

The online event will allow those interested in continuing their education at MSU to chat with Graduate School advisors. Those who attend the event will receive a promotional code to waive the \$30 application fee.

Dr. Susan Maxey, director of graduate programs, said the event gives students a chance to answer any questions before the academic year. In addition to learning about MSU's 68 graduate programs and dozens of graduate-level, non-degree programs, Maxey said students can learn about the Graduate School's online options.

"Numerous programs are totally online so in this environment of staying home, we make it easy to pursue a degree with convenience," she said.

Visit the Graduate School Online Open House at <https://samba.live/live/ww/spring22> on April 7 from 2 to 5 p.m.

For more information about graduate programs at MSU, visit www.moreheadstate.edu/gradschool.

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Artist and professor Jolene Powell lectures at MSU April 6

Jolene Powell, McCoy Professor of Art and director of Gallery 310 at Marietta College in Marietta, Ohio, will be visiting Morehead State University's Department of Art and Design on Wednesday and Thursday, April 6 and 7. Powell's visit is sponsored by the Buckner and Sally S. Hinkle Endowment for the Humanities and the Department of Art and Design.

During Powell's visit, she will be giving a public lecture titled "Experience and Play" to share her insights on being a working artist and arts professional. Her lecture will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday, April 6, in Room 111 of the Claypool-Young Art Building. It is free and open to the public.

Powell is a painter, arts educator and curator. Although she lives in the Midwest, she has spent several summers painting the coast of Maine and completed her fall 2016 sabbatical at Nes International Artist Residency in Iceland. Powell received Marietta College's Innovative Teaching Award in 2021, the Edward G. Harness Outstanding Educator Award in 2018 and Marietta College's highest honor, the McCoy Teaching Excellence Professorship, in 2007.

Powell earned a Master of Fine Arts (MFA) from Boston University and has exhibited her work in museums and galleries across New England, the East Coast and the Midwest. She has a solo exhibition, "Peaks and Pinnacles," on display at Brandt-Roberts Galleries in Columbus, Ohio.

"Professor Powell's lecture and interactions with MSU students, faculty and staff will provide insight on her experiences as a working artist, arts educator, and gallerist that students and community members alike will find valuable as they, too, navigate their own paths as creative professionals and/or arts advocates," said Robyn Moore, associate professor of photography at MSU.

Learn more about Jolene Powell by visiting www.jolenepowell.com or on Instagram [@jolenepowellart](https://www.instagram.com/jolenepowellart).

For more information about exhibitions and programs in Art and Design, please visit www.moreheadstate.edu/art, email arde@moreheadstate.edu or call 606-783-2766.

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NEWS RELEASE

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Lecture on reproductive rights is April 12

Morehead State's Gender Studies Program is bringing Dr. Ophra Leyser-Whalen, associate professor of sociology and anthropology at the University of Texas at El Paso, to campus for a lecture on reproductive rights Tuesday, April 12, from 4 to 6 p.m. in Breckinridge Hall room 002.

Leyser-Whalen's talk is titled "Reproductive Rights in Texas and Beyond: What's the Future for Kentucky?" She will outline the erosion of reproductive health access over the past 10 years in Texas and discuss these effects from the lens of Texas abortion funds. She will conclude with general projections for what the near future of reproductive access will look like in Texas, Kentucky, and the United States.

"Gender Studies is proud to host Dr. Leyser-Whalen to discuss the timely topic of reproductive rights. As general assemblies across the nation seek to restrict girls' and women's bodily autonomy, the Gender Studies program at MSU offers the opportunity for attendees to better understand the issues at stake," said Dr. Bernadette Barton, MSU professor of sociology and Gender Studies program coordinator.

The event is sponsored by the Gender Studies program and the School of Humanities and Social Sciences.

To learn more about the Gender Studies program at MSU, visit www.moreheadstate.edu/genderstudies, email Barton at b.barton@moreheadstate.edu or call 606-783-2710.

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KFAC reopens with 'Fine Folk' exhibit

After being closed for nearly two years by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Kentucky Folk Art Center (KFAC) is reopening to the public with the exhibit "Fine Folk: Works by Rebecca Miller Campell, Ron Gevedon, Sam McKinney, Pam Oldfield Meade, and Kopana Terry," running through June 1. The show features photography, sculpture, painting, and textile arts and more than 100 works will be on display.

Julia Finch, professor of art and interim director of KFAC, said the artists featured in the show expressed interest in doing a group show before the COVID-19 shutdown in 2020.

"We decided to title the show 'Fine Folk' because their work straddles the line between fine art and folk art. Specifically, the group of artists and I are interested in what happens when we suspend the conflict between 'fine' and 'folk' art and create a space where trained and self-taught artists and their work are presented and celebrated equally."

An artists' reception for the exhibit will be held Tuesday, May 3, from 5-7 p.m. Refreshments will be served, and visitors will have a chance to meet the artists featured in the exhibit. The event is free and open to the public.

"We are so thrilled to welcome new visitors and old friends back to Kentucky Folk Art Center. People should come to see Fine Folk because these artists are local community arts leaders with connections to Rowan and Morgan Counties. You may see someone or something you recognize in the works," Finch said.

Items from the center's permanent collection are also on display on the first floor and the gift shop will be open. There are also two mini exhibitions on display. In the Jimmie

Ruth Auditorium, there is work by MSU alumna Kaylee Thornsberry, whose reworked photographs draw upon her family's history in the region. In the space near the elevator, there is art by Kentucky folk artist Jo Neace Krause, who passed away in March 2022.

To learn more about KFAC, [visit www.moreheadstate.edu/kfac](http://www.moreheadstate.edu/kfac), email kfac@moreheadstate.edu or call 606-783-2204. To show your support for KFAC or to become a member, visit alumni.moreheadstate.edu/kfacmember.

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NEWS RELEASE

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Fehr wins three awards at Kentucky Science Fair

Kiera Fehr, a junior at the Craft Academy for Excellence in Science and Mathematics from Lexington, recently won awards for creating an eco-friendly product at the Kentucky Science Fair, placing third overall in the competition.

Fehr earned two awards for her project titled "A Sustainable Approach to Compostable Package Identification," the Ricoh Americas Corporation Sustainable Development Award and the Office of Naval Research – Navy-Marine Corp Excellence in Research Award. The Ricoh Americas Corporation award recognizes principles and technical innovations that help grow environmentally friendly and socially responsible businesses. Fehr competed in the environmental sciences category. Fehr created a plant-based ink that can be used to print corrugated cardboard shipping boxes.

"I became interested in conducting research in this area when COVID-19 caused my family to accumulate lots of corrugated shipping boxes," Fehr said. "As an avid recycler, I began to put these extra boxes in my composter and vermicompost. When I was researching what else I could do with this excess of cardboard, and I began Googling other ways to use it, I stumbled upon a surprising fact: less than 40% of materials in cardboard bags and boxes labeled as recyclable are made of recyclable material. This inspired me to create a new method to be implemented into the packaging industry in the future."

Fehr's primary mentor on the project was Dr. Lokendra Pal, an associate professor in the Department of Forest Biomaterials at North Carolina State University.

The Craft Academy for Excellence in Science and Mathematics is a dual-credit academy for academically exceptional Kentucky students. Craft Academy provides

students with a postsecondary residential experience to complete their junior and senior years of high school by enrolling in college courses. The Craft Academy's purpose is to meet the unique educational needs of academically gifted and talented high school juniors and seniors in the Commonwealth. The academic rigor of the Craft Academy challenges students to excel at their highest level through project-based STEM+X courses and hands-on learning experiences, with emphasis on innovation, design and creativity, and civic and regional engagement.

To learn more about the Craft Academy at Morehead State, visit www.moreheadstate.edu/craft-academy, email craftacademy@moreheadstate.edu or call 606-783-2093.

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NEWS RELEASE

**April 7, 2022
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President's Spring Concert on the Lawn is April 14

Morehead State President Dr. Jay Morgan and First Lady Amber Morgan invite the campus and community to enjoy an evening of live music on the MSU campus Thursday, April 14, for the return of the annual President's Concert on the Lawn.

The concert is from 4:30 to 6 p.m. at the Matthews Outdoor Performance Area by the Adron Doran University Center (ADUC). It will showcase the talents of the MSU Percussion Ensemble and MSU Steel under the direction of Dr. Ben Cantrell, visiting associate professor of music.

"We are glad that this concert can resume after a hiatus related to the pandemic," Dr. Morgan said. "It is always good to have opportunities like this to showcase the considerable musical talents of MSU employees and students."

The event is free and open to the public. In case of inclement weather, the event will be moved indoors to ADUC.

For additional information about the event, email events@moreheadstate.edu or call 606-783-2033.

To learn more about MSU's Music, Theatre and Dance programs, visit www.moreheadstate.edu/music, email mtd@moreheadstate.edu or call 606-783-2473.

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NEWS RELEASE

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African American Alumni Group raise over \$15,000 in honor of Dr. Jerry Gore

Members of the Morehead State University African American Alumni Group gathered for an event at the Muhammad Ali Center in Louisville on Saturday, April 2. The Jerry Gore Memorial Scholarship "Sneaker Ball," raised over \$15,000 to support scholarships for MSU students.

Nearly 150 MSU alumni were in attendance to honor Gore's legacy and raise money to equip the next generation of MSU Eagles with the tools, experience and resources needed to thrive and achieve success.

MSU alumnus Michael Gray (Class of 1992) organized the event. Gray is a member of the MSU Alumni Association Board of Directors and has volunteered to organize group reunions for more than 20 years.

"It is an honor to be able to bring alumni together to celebrate MSU," Gray said. "MSU changed the course of our lives and provided us with the education and resources we needed to be successful. Dr. Gore's commitment to diversity on campus and throughout the world is something that needs to be celebrated and passed down to generations to come. We are thrilled to be able to come together, have fun and contribute to a worthy cause."

The MSU African American Alumni Group seeks to empower current and future Eagles through the Jerry Gore African American Heritage Memorial Scholarship Fund. Gore promoted the importance of education, equity, advocacy and developmental programs throughout his life. After Gore's passing, the group established the endowment fund in his memory in 2013. Currently, the value of the scholarship endowment is nearly \$87,000.

For more information on this scholarship or to establish your own, contact MSU's Office of Alumni Relations and Development at 606-783-2033, email giving@moreheadstate.edu or visit alumni.moreheadstate.edu/give.

Photo, right: Nearly 150 members of the Morehead State University African American Alumni Group gathered for the Jerry Gore Memorial Scholarship “Sneaker Ball” in Louisville.

Photo, left: Michael Gray (Class of 1992, right) and his wife Sherlonda Gray (left). Michael Gray organized the event to honor Dr. Jerry Gore’s legacy while raising over \$15,000 to support scholarships for MSU students.

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Former MSU faculty member, department chair Dr. Ron Dobler dies at 88

The Morehead State University family mourns the passing of former MSU faculty member and department chair Dr. Ron Dobler, who died Thursday, March 24, 2022.

Born in Poughkeepsie, New York, Dobler earned a bachelor's degree in English in 1957 and a master's degree in English in 1959 from Western Reserve University (later renamed Case Western Reserve University) in Cleveland, Ohio. He later earned a Doctorate in English from the University of Iowa in 1973.

Dobler began an extensive career in education after earning his master's degree. He started teaching English at Mentor High School in Mentor, Ohio, and accepted his first position working in higher education at Parsons College in Fairfield, Iowa.

Dobler and his family relocated to Morehead in 1972 after he accepted a position at MSU with the Department of English. He was a professor of English throughout his career at MSU, starting in 1977. He was chair of the Department of English, Foreign Languages, and Philosophy from 1985 to 1989, assistant to the chair from 1989 to 1992, and interim chair from 1992 to 1993. Dobler retired from MSU two years later in 1995.

Dobler was an avid lover of folklore and folk music. He played banjo, dulcimer and jaw harp and frequently appeared as a singer and folktale teller at regional festivals and workshops. He even came back to work part-time for MSU from October 2012 to February 2013 as an outreach storyteller.

"Ron Dobler was a wonderful friend and colleague in the Department of English, Foreign Languages, and Philosophy. In addition, he was a helpful and supportive mentor for many of us in the department in his role as department chair," said Dr. Ron Morrison, professor of English at MSU. "Ron kept in touch with his old friends by telephone in his later years, and he never failed to ask about MSU. He will be greatly missed."

Dobler was preceded in death by his late wife, Jeanne Dobler, in 2021. He is survived by two daughters: Susan Pierce (Class of 1981) of Louisville; Stacey Dobler (Class of 1984) of Cincinnati, Ohio; two sons, Scott Dobler of Bowling Green and Steve Dobler of Louisville; and six grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held at Northcutt & Son Home for Funerals in Morehead. A joint visitation for Ron and Jeanne is at 10 a.m. Saturday, April 16, with a prayer service and eulogy at 11 a.m. Burial is at St. Edward Cemetery in Louisville.

Memorial contributions may be made to Wesley Manor Nursing Facility (5012 E. Manslick Road) in Louisville or St. Claire HealthCare (222 Medical Circle) in Morehead. View the obituary at www.northcuttandson.com/obituary/GRonald-Dobler.

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MSU art students, alumni and faculty featured in Horse Mania 2022

Morehead State University's Department of Art and Design is getting to trot out some of its creative work in Lexington.

Horse Mania, a popular art initiative in Lexington, selected the designs of Professor of Art Gary Mesa-Gaido, Kayle Thornsberry (Class of 2021) and Haley Younce (Class of 2019) for Horse Mania 2022.

The display features uniquely painted and designed life-sized horse sculptures across the city from April through November. LexArts is sponsoring the project, and it will coincide with the 2022 Breeder's Cup Championships, which take place Nov. 4 and 5 at Keeneland and bring in around 50,000 visitors to Lexington for the event.

Mesa-Gaido is a faculty member in the Department of Art and Design. He teaches courses in digital art, animation, painting, foundations and advanced studios. He has been an active artist for more than two decades and has displayed his work nationally and internationally.

Thornsberry is from West Liberty and earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) in Art and Arts Teaching P-12, Bachelor of Arts with certification in December 2021. She currently has murals on display in Morehead, and the Pikeville Main Street program is displaying her artistic bears in downtown Pikeville.

Younce is from Salyersville and earned a Bachelor of Arts in Studio Art with a teaching certification (K-12) in 2019 and anticipates earning a Master of Arts in Art with a concentration in studio art in December 2022. She found out about Lexington's Horse Mania through a professor within the Department of Art and Design in the fall semester of 2021.

"Any opportunity that is presented to me as an artist is always an opportunity to get my work out there, and my ideology when applying for these projects is that the worst thing that could happen is them telling me no," she said.

After submitting three designs, Horse Mania chose her design titled "Big Blue." According to Younce, "Big Lex," the horse that turned blue from grazing in Kentucky's bluegrass pasture, inspired the design.

"When I found out my design was selected out of the 400 submissions, I was honestly in shock considering the amount of artwork they had to choose from, but I was so grateful for the opportunity to participate in such a beloved public art project," she said. "Also, knowing that my work was chosen alongside my professors that I look up to and learn from shows me that I am taking my artwork and career in the right direction."

To learn more about Horse Mania 2022, visit <https://lexarts.org/discover/horsemania>.

For more information about programs in Art and Design, please visit www.moreheadstate.edu/art, email arde@moreheadstate.edu or call 606-783-2766.

Photo: Haley Younce (Class of 2019) painting "Big Blue," her design selected for display in the popular LexArts initiative Horse Mania 2022 in Lexington.

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MOREHEAD, Ky.---

MSU's Sigma Pi chapter celebrates 50-year anniversary

The Delta-Rho Chapter of Sigma Pi Fraternity at Morehead State University celebrated 50 years with a reunion this past weekend in Morehead. More than 150 Sigma Pi alumni and active students gathered on campus.

In addition to a weekend of activities and social events, there was donor reception for those who donated to the Sigma Pi Educational Foundation and the Delta-Rho Alumni Association Chapter Education Fund. A banquet took place Saturday, April 2, at the Adron Doran University Center (ADUC) Ballroom featuring MSU President Dr. Jay Morgan, an initiated member of Sigma Pi at his alma mater Murray State University, and the first president of the Delta-Rho Chapter, Bob Guillaume (Class of 1972, 1974). It included a silent auction to raise money for scholarships and time to celebrate, dance and rekindle relationships within the Sigma Pi brotherhood.

"This past weekend was more than just an alumni reunion; it was the family reunion for Sigma Pi," said Caleb Browning, an active member of Sigma Pi Fraternity. "As a current student, it was amazing to spend time with alumni and hear stories about their time at MSU. I look forward to our next reunion when I can attend as an alum."

This 50-year reunion event, organized by Daniel Daughtery (Class of 1992, 1993) and Charles Eldridge (Class of 1989, 1993), took place this year after being postponed due to public health concerns during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Delta-Rho Chapter of Sigma Pi Fraternity was founded at MSU in 1971.

"It was absolutely worth the over two years of work put into the planning after two years of planning and COVID-related postponements," Daughtery said. "We couldn't have pulled this off without the help of Dr. Morgan and the entire MSU Alumni Association staff, who helped us with everything from hotel room blocks, website development and payment processing, event planning and the use of the ADUC ballroom for our event."

For more information on this scholarship or to establish your own, contact MSU's Office of Alumni Relations and Development at 606-783-2033, email giving@moreheadstate.edu or visit alumni.moreheadstate.edu/give.

Photo: Current members and alumni from the Delta-Rho Chapter of Sigma Pi Fraternity at MSU gathered to celebrate the fraternity's 50th anniversary this past weekend.

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Morehead State University (MSU) is a comprehensive public university with robust undergraduate and graduate programs, emerging doctoral programs, and an emphasis on the region and beyond. MSU aspires to be the best public regional university in the South through prioritizing student success; outcomes; academic excellence; and rankings, reputation and regional responsiveness.



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NEWS RELEASE

April 12, 2022
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MOREHEAD, Ky.---

MSU Ed.D. program again ranked as one of nation's best by Princeton Review

Morehead State University's Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) program is once again considered one of the best in the nation.

For the second consecutive year, The Princeton Review, a long-time resource for helping high school and college students achieve their academic goals, has named MSU's Ed.D. program to its list of Best Online Doctor of Education Programs for 2022. It is one of 50 programs highlighted for its academic quality, flexibility, affordability, global opportunities, students from diverse career backgrounds and access to innovative technologies.

Find a complete list at www.princetonreview.com/education-school-rankings?rankings=best-online-doctor-education-programs.

"The MSU doctoral program is honored and humbled to be recognized by The Princeton Review. The MSU doctoral program is designed to facilitate professional growth for students in a wide variety of educational endeavors, such as P-12 administrative, higher education and educational technology leadership," said Dr. Tim Simpson, professor of education and associate dean of the Department of Foundational and Graduate Studies in Education.

"In Fall 2022, we will begin an 'Exceptional Child' track for educational leadership, which should be of interest to those in gifted education or special education leadership. Our success is due to personalized attention to student needs and goals and a curriculum that challenges students to be their best. We welcome students to join us in our pursuit of excellence."

For more information on MSU's Ed.D. program, visit www.moreheadstate.edu/study/edd.

To learn more about programs in MSU's Department of Foundational and Graduate Studies in Education, visit www.moreheadstate.edu/fgse, email fgse@moreheadstate.edu or call 606-783-2261.

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NEWS RELEASE

April 13, 2022
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MOREHEAD, Ky.---

'Inscape' reception set for April 21

A reception to celebrate the publication of "Inscape," Morehead State's annual literary and visual arts journal, is scheduled for Thursday, April 21, at 6:30 p.m. in room 111 of the Claypool-Young Art Building.

"Inscape" features the work of current MSU students in the areas of poetry, fiction, nonfiction and visual arts. The works of 33 students are featured in this year's edition. The reception will include readings of select works from "Inscape" contributors, the announcement of the cover art, interior art and literary award winners, and this year's edition will be officially unveiled to the public. Refreshments will also be served. This year marks the 65th annual publication of the journal. Lisa Mesa-Gaido, professor of art at MSU and "Inscape" faculty advisor, said all who attend the reception will receive a hard copy of the journal. It will also be available online after the reception at https://scholarworks.moreheadstate.edu/inscape_magazine_archive.

"Inscape" is a literary and visual arts journal produced by Morehead State University students. Through a joint effort between the Department of English and the Department of Art and Design, "Inscape" provides students with additional opportunities to publish their work, build their portfolio or resume, and expand their experience and knowledge of the submission, editing and publication process. This year's edition was also made possible with support from the MSU Student Government Association and an MSU instructional mini-grant.

For more information, visit www.moreheadstate.edu/inscape.

To explore MSU's Department of Art and Design programs, visit www.moreheadstate.edu/art, email arde@moreheadstate.edu or call 606-783-2766.

To learn more about MSU's Department of English programs, visit www.moreheadstate.edu/english, email english@moreheadstate.edu or call 606-783-9448.

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NEWS RELEASE

April 13, 2022
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MOREHEAD, Ky.---

Sara and Lee Busick went from MSU art students to creative entrepreneurs

Considering that Sara (Class of 2003) and Lee Busick (Class of 2003) are owner-designers of Made to Remember design company, it seems fitting what initially brought the two of them together was a design.

“We met at college freshman orientation thanks to a T-shirt. Lee had his Kentucky Governor’s School for the Arts T-shirt on, and I immediately recognized him,” Sara said, adding that the two attended the Governor’s School of the Arts in high school in 1998. “We went on our first date two days later.”

At Made to Remember, the Busicks put their artistic touch on items like T-shirts, postcards and art prints that tend to have a warm, rustic aesthetic and express their passion for nature and Kentucky’s culture and history. These can come in the form of a quilt pattern on a shirt or a print featuring quotes on the Bluegrass State from the likes of author Ralph Waldo Emerson or President Abraham Lincoln.

Before they created and ran their own business, Sara and Lee came together and found their artistic potential at MSU.

Before deciding to attend college to study art, Sara and Lee both expressed interest in the creative arts.

“I showed an early interest in drawing and was encouraged by my parents, grandparents and multiple teachers to develop this skill,” Lee said. “Over time, my creative interests expanded, but I never lost sight of my goal to one day become a professional artist.”

“My love for creativity spanned visual art, music, drama, interior design, architecture – you name it,” Sara added.

They met at a private liberal arts college but wanted a more extensive college experience, so they transferred to MSU. Their decision was based on scholarships, art programs, school size and opportunities.

Both Sara and Lee would eventually go on to major in art. Sara earned a Bachelor of Arts in Art with a concentration in photography and a minor in business administration. Lee graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Art with a concentration in graphic design.

On the way to graduating together in 2003, Sara said she felt like she and Lee were able to thrive because of the inspiring community of artists.

“The after-hours environment of Claypool-Young Art Building was particularly vibrant,” the couple said, noting they took in many sunrises through the building’s windows. “Amid music and laughter, you could always find another student willing to offer feedback and encouragement. It’s been a pleasure watching so many from our cohort excel in various creative fields over the past two decades.”

Their fellow MSU art students made them feel encouraged. Sara said the faculty they encountered had the most significant positive impact.

“Our classroom experiences were great, but after 19 years, we mostly remember the faculty and staff that went beyond their teaching responsibilities and invested in us as mentors and advocates,” they said.

While Sara and Lee were MSU students, they were doing work as artists that would lay the groundwork for their future business together. Sara was doing freelance photography while Lee was doing portrait commissions, murals and taking his first paid graphic design projects. Shortly after marrying in 2003, the two decided to collaborate and take on projects together.

“By combining our skills, we could offer potential clients a greater range of creative services. This set the stage for how we would end up working together later in our careers,” Sara said.

Sara and Lee lived in Ohio and Indiana after college. During that time, they furthered their education, with Sara earning a Master of Arts in Cultural Policy and Arts Administration from The Ohio State University and Lee earning a Master of Fine Arts (Printmaking) from Indiana University. While pursuing collegiate teaching and developing multiple nonprofit programs for teenagers, they remained committed to their goal of building a business together.

After returning to Kentucky and moving to Midway in 2015, the couple adopted the name 15 United, an homage to Kentucky being the 15th state and a nod to a unified approach. This eventually led to the launch of Made to Remember in December 2020 and a catalog of products in their online store and retail partnerships with the Kentucky Artisan Center, the Speed Art Museum and the Kentucky Historical Society. Made to Remember also garnered award recognition for its work, receiving a 2018 Addy Silver

Award in Sales Promotion (Creative Direction & Photography) for their restaurant menu design for acclaimed chef and restaurateur Ouita Michel's Honeywood restaurant in Lexington.

"Since we started working together, we have always been most passionate about print-based design, so Made to Remember, our product-based business, has allowed us to fully channel our love for various printing processes," the couple said. "We are both interested in bringing ideas to life. Whether developing our products or working with clients, we find great satisfaction in identifying a problem and creating a beautiful and thoughtful solution."

Sara and Lee continue to grow their business with authenticity, passion and purpose. The couple said their MSU experience played a huge part in their development as artists and business owners.

"Our liberal arts education prepared us to explore possibilities and not be intimidated by them. It taught us the value of constantly learning and growing," they said. "Our degrees in studio art helped us see that a good idea is never enough – you must be committed to executing the idea. Creative work can sometimes feel relentless, but there is nothing more satisfying than bringing an idea to life."

To learn about 15 United and Made to Remember, visit www.madetoremember.co.

For more information about programs in Art and Design, please visit www.moreheadstate.edu/art, email arde@moreheadstate.edu or call 606-783-2766.

College can change lives and communities. Higher educational attainment increases tax revenue, decreases unemployment and even improves health outcomes. Learn more from the KY Council on Postsecondary Education at kyhigheredmatters.org.

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NEWS RELEASE

April 14, 2022
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MOREHEAD, Ky.---

MSU's Spring Gala returns to in-person celebration with 'Back on Broadway'

For the first time in two years, Morehead State University will treat alumni, faculty, staff, students and friends to a glamorous night of entertainment on campus with the return of MSU's Annual Spring Gala.

The 2022 Spring Gala, "Back on Broadway," is at 6 p.m. on Saturday, April 30, at the Adron Doran University Center (ADUC). The evening begins with a reception featuring hors d'oeuvres, wine, cocktails and a silent auction, followed by dinner and a show.

This year's show features some of the biggest hits from popular Broadway musicals, including "Chicago," "Hamilton," "The Lion King," "Grease," and "Phantom of the Opera," among others. It highlights the talents of the faculty, staff and students from the Department of Music, Theatre and Dance. After the show, dessert and dancing will close out the festivities.

The proceeds from this event, which raises nearly \$100,000 annually, provide educational opportunities for MSU students.

"After two years of virtual events, we are thrilled to be able to host alumni and friends on campus for the Spring Gala," said Allison Caudill, assistant director of alumni relations and development. "This annual event has been a tradition on campus for over 25 years and is a wonderful opportunity to showcase the talents of our students and raise money to support current and future Eagles. We are grateful to all of the generous supporters that make the event a success."

Tickets are available, and the registration deadline is Friday, April 15.

Tickets for the MSU Spring Gala are on sale now. To purchase tickets online, visit www.moreheadstate.edu/gala.

Additional information is available by calling the Office of Alumni Relations and Development at 606-783-2033 or 1-877-783-ALUM (2586).

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NEWS RELEASE

April 14, 2022
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MOREHEAD, Ky.---

MSU Department of English hosts 'An Afternoon with Silas House'

The Morehead State University Department of English is hosting a reading of acclaimed Appalachian author Silas House titled "An Afternoon with Silas House." This virtual event is via WebEx at 4 p.m. Wednesday, April 20. The event is free and open to the public.

Silas House is a nationally best-selling author. He has written novels, including "Clay's Quilt" (2001), "A Parchment of Leaves" (2003), "The Coal Tattoo" (2005), "Eli the Good" (2009) and co-authored "Same Sun Here" (2012) with Neela Vaswani. He has also published a creative nonfiction book (2009's "Something's Rising" with co-author Jason Howard) and has written three plays. One of his plays, "This is My Heart for You," was performed by MSU's The Little Company in 2019.

During the event, House will discuss his most recent novel, "Southernmost," which focuses on judgment, courage, heartbreak and change. The presentation also touches on rural identity, spirituality and the changing South. House will also discuss his craft and life as a successful author and writer.

MSU Professor of English Dr. Ron Morrison helped to organize the event.

"We are absolutely delighted that Silas House will be speaking at this virtual event. Mr. House has emerged as an important and influential voice in Appalachian literature, but the reach of his work extends well beyond Appalachian culture, and he has written on environmental issues, popular music and gender/sexual orientation," Morrison said.

"The focus of his talk will be his 2019 novel 'Southernmost,' but he is sure to provide lively commentary on a range of issues. This is a wonderful opportunity for faculty, students and the general public to interact with an award-winning author."

To join the event, visit <https://moreheadstate.webex.com/meet/s.henneberg>.

For more information, contact Dr. Sylvia Henneberg, interim associate dean of the School of English, Communication, Media and Languages, at s.henneberg@moreheadstate.edu or call 606-783-9300.

To learn more about MSU's Department of English, visit www.moreheadstate.edu/english, email english@moreheadstate.edu or call 606-783-9448.

Photos: Best-selling Appalachian author Silas House (right) will discuss his latest book "Southernmost" (left) when MSU hosts "An Afternoon with Silas House" via WebEx at 4 p.m. Wednesday, April 20.

###

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NEWS RELEASE

April 18, 2022
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MOREHEAD, Ky.---

MSU Concert Choir and Chamber Singers present 'My Spirit Soars' concert

The Morehead State University Concert Choir and Chamber Singers will present a concert at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, April 21, at First Baptist Church at 123 East Main Street in Morehead. The show is the culmination of a three-day tour of Kentucky towns and cities. Admission is free and open to the public.

"Choir tour is my favorite activity of the school year," said Dr. Greg Detweiler, MSU music education professor and director of choral studies. "We have waited a long time to resume touring and I am looking forward to enjoying every minute of it."

Detweiler conducts the 40-voice Concert Choir and 13-voice Chamber Singers. The concert, entitled "My Spirit Soars," is a collection of pieces capturing images of flight, stars, the heavens and rejoicing. It begins with the Kentucky Appalachian folk song, "Bright Morning Star," and concludes with "We Can Mend the Sky" by Jake Runestad. The vocalists will also perform "Awake, My Soul," "Song of Triumph," "Come Let's Rejoice" and "I Don' Feel No Ways Tired" in the show. The evening includes a beautiful arrangement by Daniel Elder of the famous childhood poem "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star" and the well-known pop song "All Star" set in madrigal style.

The program was initially designed for a May tour of Peru and contains Appalachian tunes such as "Every Night When the Sun Goes Down" by Gwyneth Walker and compositions using Spanish texts. These include "Dios Te Salve Maria (Ave Maria)" by Kentucky composer Richard Burchard, "Poema de la Duda" by the Ecuadorian composer Juan Carlos Urrutia Palacio, "Esto Les Digo" by Kinley Lange and "Sililiza" by Jim Papouis. Dr. Eric Brown, MSU assistant professor of voice, will join the choir to sing the baritone solo in "Every Night" and three MSU percussion majors will provide the percussion accompaniments for the Spanish pieces: Taylor Pfaff (junior from Columbus, Ohio), Tanner Prewitt (sophomore from Mt. Sterling), and Zach Smith (junior from

Shelbyville). Additional vocal soloists in the program include Jocelyn Goldy (sophomore from Morehead), Britney Hopkins (junior from Pikeville), Summer Lighthall (junior from Burlington), Emily McCreary (sophomore from Catlettsburg), Tania Sempertegui (graduate student from Guayaquil, Ecuador) and Katie Webb (a junior from Mt. Sterling).

Chamber Singers will also present a set of three short pieces using German texts. Included are “Die Harmonie in der Ehe (Harmony in Marriage)” by Franz Joseph Haydn and two of Johannes Brahms’ “Liebeslieder Walzer (Love Waltzes).” Joining the choir for these will be staff accompanist William Murphy and graduate student Tania Sempertegui.

Concert Choir and Chamber Singers represent the University on regional, national and international tours. Recent trips have included tours to Spain, Italy, Ireland, Hungary/Austria and Costa Rica. Chamber Singers won two gold medals at the Musica Eterna Roma International Choir Festival in Rome in 2016. During the 2014 Ireland tour, the choirs competed in the Mayo International Choral Festival. Concert Choir won first place in the Sacred Division and Chamber Singers won the festival’s grand prize. In 2012, the MSU Chamber Singers also won their division with the gold diploma at the World Choir Games in Cincinnati.

For more information on the concert, email Detweiler at g.detweiler@moreheadstate.edu or call 606-783-2480.

To learn more about music programs at MSU, visit www.moreheadstate.edu/music.

###

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NEWS RELEASE

**April 19, 2022
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MOREHEAD, Ky.---**

Clean-ups planned to commemorate Earth Day

Two clean-ups are scheduled in the community during April to commemorate Earth Day.

The first clean-up is scheduled for Friday, April 22. Volunteers will clean the stream banks of Triplett Creek in Morehead, removing trash and old tires. Those who wish to volunteer will meet at the Triplett Creek Gazebo, next to the Morehead Memorial Tree Walk on Don Greenhill City Park, at 10 a.m.

A clean-up at Lockegee Rock is scheduled for Friday, April 29, beginning at 10 a.m. Volunteers will meet at the trailhead that leads to the rock and should access the trail from the entrance on Highway 1274, as the access road is closed on the side near Cave Run Lake on Highway 801.

Holly Niehoff, chair of Morehead State's Earthwise Eagles Sustainability Committee, said the clean-ups are important.

"Getting involved helps protect our waterways and wildlife and it helps to encourage people to leave no trace. We are blessed with a beautiful place to call our home. We should want to keep our home in pristine condition," she said.

Tools, trash bags and gloves will be provided at both events. Volunteers should dress appropriately for the outdoors and bring water, snacks, insect repellent, and sunscreen to the event.

The events are sponsored by Kentucky PRIDE and the Rowan County Solid Waste Office. The PRIDE initiative promotes Personal Responsibility In a Desirable

Environment in 42 Southern and Eastern Kentucky counties. To learn more, visit <https://kypride.org/>.

Also in the community, the Rowan County Landfill will hold a free disposal day on Saturday, April 30, from 8 a.m. to noon. Participants must be residents of Rowan County. Hazardous materials will not be accepted. Tires will be accepted for a fee of \$6 for each standard tire and \$12 for each commercial vehicle tire.

In addition, the Rowan County Fiscal Court will hold three tire collection days, May 4, 5 and 6, from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., at the county services building on American Legion Way. The event is sponsored by the fiscal court and the Kentucky Division of Waste Management. The following types of tires will be accepted:

- Passenger vehicle
- Light truck
- Truck
- Agricultural
- Lawn tractor
- ATV
- Bicycle
- Tires on rims

The following will not be accepted:

- Foam/calcium filled tires
- Heavy equipment (OTR) tires
- Solid tires with or without pressed on rims
- Any tire with a bead greater Than 1 ¾”

To learn more about clean-up events in Morehead and Rowan County, contact Solid Waste and Floodplain Coordinator Tyler Brown at 606-784-6345 or tyler.brown@rcky.us.

For more information about Earthwise Eagles, visit www.moreheadstate.edu/earthwise, email Niehoff at h.niehoff@moreheadstate.edu or call 606-783-2179.

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NEWS RELEASE

April 20, 2022
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MOREHEAD, Ky.---

BFA Thesis Exhibit opens April 27

The Annual MSU Art and Design Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) Thesis Exhibition opens Wednesday, April 27, at the Golding-Yang Art Gallery in Morehead State's Claypool-Young Art Building. The gallery will hold an opening reception from 5 to 7 p.m. Masks are optional. The exhibit will be on display until Wednesday, May 11.

The works of five students will be featured in the exhibit, including paintings, drawings, sculptures, ceramics and more. Students involved in the show include:

- Tayler Burnette from Morehead
- Liz Ketz from Lexington
- Sinclaire Dorsey from Ashland
- Saul Gollihue from Greenup
- Brenna Molden from Somerset

New this year are two annual BFA awards that will be presented during the exhibition's final days, the Golding-Yang BFA Award for Best Individual Artwork and the Golding-Yang BFA for Best Body of Work. Art and Design faculty members choose the award winners.

"Graduating with a bachelor's in fine arts is a privilege and also very hard work," said Melissa Yungbluth, gallery director and instructor of Art. "These students are asked to create and present an entire body of work, as well as write and speak publicly about it. This year happens to be all women artists that are exhibiting five very different bodies of work: photography, painting, ceramics, and installation."

The Golding-Yang Art Gallery, located within the Claypool-Young Art Building, is a pivotal educational and cultural component of the Department of Art and Design, the

Caudill College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, the MSU campus and the community at large. The gallery is open to the public Monday through Friday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

For more information about the exhibit or the gallery, contact Yungbluth at myungbluth@moreheadstate.edu or Tammy Stone at 606-783-2766.

To learn more about MSU's Department of Art and Design programs, visit www.moreheadstate.edu/art, email arde@moreheadstate.edu or call 606-783-2766.

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NEWS RELEASE

**April 21, 2022
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MOREHEAD, Ky.---**

MSU establishes new Center for Career Development and Experiential Education

Morehead State University is taking another step to ensure the academic experience in and out of the classroom will put students closer to future success.

MSU announces the establishment of the new Center for Career Development and Experiential Education. It is a merger of existing departments, including Career Services, Undergraduate Research, Education Abroad, Service-Learning, and Internships. The center will serve as the central resource for a career-centered campus culture that actively engages every student in achieving their personal and professional goals.

"I am eager to lead this talented team in building even more opportunities for our students to complement what they are learning in the classroom with professional practice and hands-on experience," said Megan Boone, interim director of the Center for Career Development and Experiential Education. "We want all Eagles to be set up for career success."

The Center for Career Development and Experiential Education's mission is to guide and support all MSU students to explore their strengths and passions, engage in career-readiness activities and participate in hands-on experiences to develop in-demand skills. It will cultivate a network of faculty, staff, alumni, employers and community partners to facilitate connections and opportunities focused on the lifelong success of our students and alumni.

"The formation of the new Center for Career Development and Experiential Education represents yet another of MSU's investments in our students' career readiness," said Dr. Laurie Couch, associate provost for undergraduate education and student success. "The center will support our faculty as they engage students in transformational, skill-building activities that build skills like oral and written communication, critical thinking,

teamwork and professionalism. The center also will help students learn to capitalize on those experiences to enhance their competitiveness in the job market.”

The center also emphasizes these core values:

- Equity – Providing an inclusive environment where opportunities are designed for all students, emphasizing diverse perspectives and underrepresented groups.
- Service-oriented – Guiding a student-focused team of professionals to exceed the expectations of our partners through communication and collaboration.
- Growth mentality – Innovating continuously by designing programs and services to serve our constituents best using data-informed practices.
- Resiliency – Promoting self-development focused on overcoming challenges throughout one's career journey.

The center will support faculty participating in Level UP, an initiative to ensure students opportunities to engage in hands-on classroom experiences to prepare them for success while completing courses that build students' communication, professionalism, critical thinking and teamwork skills.

“Much in line with our Level UP initiative, the center will provide a support system to develop more intentional and degree embedded experiential learning opportunities for our students to enhance their career readiness,” said Dr. Antony Norman, provost and vice president for academic affairs. “The center will serve as visible ‘hub’ for students looking for career preparation support, for faculty seeking to develop or connect students to experiential learning opportunities, and potential employers who have internships and other career building experiences to offer.”

To learn more about the Level UP Program at MSU, please contact the Office of Undergraduate Education & Student Success at uess@moreheadstate.edu or visit www.moreheadstate.edu/levelup.

For more information on the Center for Career Development and Experiential Education, visit www.moreheadstate.edu/career, email careerservices@moreheadstate.edu or call 606-783-2233.

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NEWS RELEASE

April 21, 2022
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MOREHEAD, Ky.---

Project translates MSPR news stories to Spanish

A collaboration between Morehead State Public Radio, WMKY (90.3 FM) and MSU's Spanish program is helping the community by translating news stories from the radio station from English to Spanish.

Paul Hitchcock, general manager of MSPR, said the station has been offering Spanish language versions of public service announcements for a couple of years and started offering Spanish versions of statewide news stories from the public news service, Kentucky News Connection, about a year ago. The idea of expanding to include local and regional news translations was brought up earlier this year at a meeting of the radio station's Community Advisory Board. Hitchcock reached out to Louise Mason, coordinator of service-learning at MSU, who then reached out to Professor of Spanish, Dr. Itza Zavala-Garrett. The three discussed ways to make MSPR news more accessible to Spanish speakers and decided to have students in Zavala-Garrett's Advanced Grammar and Literature class do the translations. Students who translated the stories were:

Paola Basaldúa from Somerset, a senior double majoring in biomedical science and Spanish.

Larkin Danis from Mt. Sterling, a senior double majoring in Spanish and marketing.

Holly Hendrix, a sophomore from Hebron with a double major in Spanish and global studies.

The course is part of MSU's Level UP program, ensuring students have the opportunity to engage in high-impact experiences like undergraduate research, education abroad, service-learning, or an internship through courses that build students' communication, professionalism, critical thinking, and teamwork skills.

"MSPR is very excited to partner with MSU's Service Learning and Level UP programs. We're honored to provide this educational tool for the students who have worked diligently in translating the stories," Hitchcock said. "I'm extremely grateful for the support from MSPR's Community Advisory Board and the leadership of Dr. Itza Zavala-Garrett and Louise Mason. We're proud to offer this extension of MSPR's continued service to the community and region, especially the Hispanic and Latino community."

The story translations are posted along with the English versions on MSPR's website and are archived at <https://www.wmky.org/noticias-en-espanol>. Hitchcock said he'd like to see MSPR offer more Spanish language news in the future, such as a weekly Spanish-language newscast comprised of local and regional news, additional public service announcements in Spanish, and a regular Hispanic/Latino music program hosted by MSU students or members of the local Hispanic/Latino community.

Zavala-Garrett said the project serves the dual purpose of giving the students practical, real-world experience while providing a needed service for the area's growing Latino community.

"It seems the Latino community is growing each year in Morehead, and the new generation is becoming bilingual," she said. "Some sawmill workers are temporarily here by themselves or with their families. Many attend bilingual religious services; they prefer reading the news and listening to the radio in their mother tongue. Having bilingual resources for them is a positive way to welcome them and make them feel part of this amazing community."

To learn more about MSPR, visit www.wmky.org.

For more information about the Level UP program at MSU, visit www.moreheadstate.edu/levelup.

To explore language programs at MSU, visit www.moreheadstate.edu/study/languages, email cml@moreheadstate.edu or call 606-783-2134.

Photo Caption: Students prepare to translate news articles in a studio at MSPR. From left: Larkin Danis, Paola Basaldua, Dr. Itza Zavala-Garrett and Holly Hendrix.

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NEWS RELEASE

April 22, 2022
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MOREHEAD, Ky.---

Joe Grubb is having his 'dreams come true' as Blizzard Entertainment's principal game designer

Some households may discourage an overwhelming passion for playing video games as a kid. In Joe Grubb's (Class of 2006) home, that wasn't the case.

"I've got a photo somewhere from when I was about two years old sitting on my dad's lap playing the Intellivision (gaming console). I was fortunate that my parents leaned into it and supported my interests in games," Grubb said. "I would look forward to the weekends when my parents would take me to Movie Warehouse to rent a new game."

Grubb spent much of his formative years growing up in Morehead playing video games, whether it was "Space Quest" or "King's Quest" from floppy disks on the PC or graduating to popular Blizzard Entertainment video game franchises like "World of Warcraft" and "Diablo."

Now, Grubb isn't just playing Blizzard Entertainment games. He oversees their popular games as the company's principal game designer.

"10-year-old me would flip out to know that he'd grow up to design video games," Grubb said.

When the time finally came for Grubb to go to college, he decided to attend Morehead State University. He followed in the footsteps of his mother, Debbie Abell (Class of 1977), professor emeritus and former associate provost and dean of graduate and undergraduate programs, and his father, Jeff Grubb (Class of 1977). While his goal to design video games for a living was clear, he admittedly did not have a clear-cut way to get him to the next level.

"I just didn't know how to go about it," he said. "I was always decent as an artist growing up, so I figured I'd try to use art as my way into the industry."

Along the way, Grubb received invaluable guidance and experience thanks to the faculty in MSU's Department of Art and Design. Even though MSU did not offer courses in digital 3D design, he took multiple independent studies under art professor Gary Mesa-Gaido. Through that experience, Grubb completed certificate training from the Academy of Art to get started in 3D and later continued on another 1:1 independent study with Mesa-Gaido to create multiple fully 3D projects from initial sketching to final 3D video. Also, in an industry where players appreciate the most minute visual touches, he immediately thinks back to classes with the late art professor Deeno Golding where he learned about graphic design and attention to detail.

"I have never been so careful when cutting a mat than I was in Deeno's classes," Grubb said. "Every. Detail. Mattered."

After attending MSU and earning a bachelor's degree in art with a concentration in art in 2006, he attended Carnegie Mellon University (CMU), taking classes in its Entertainment Technology Center and transitioning from art and design to game design.

"It was great to combine what I learned from MSU with what I was learning at CMU," Grubb said. "I had the art knowledge, so communicating with artists was easy because we had a common language. I also had a solid foundation in graphic design, which helped immensely with user experience design."

After graduating with a Master's in Entertainment Technology from CMU in 2008, Grubb got his foot in the door with a video game design company, Cheyenne World Entertainment, in Arizona. He would work as a designer for various gaming companies across the country, including Gazillion Entertainment, Tencent Boston, Inc. and Kabam. As principal designer for Kabam, he worked on "Star Wars: Uprising," a game accepted as official "Star Wars" canon.

"It's kind of wild to know that I've created part of the 'Star Wars' story," he said.

In 2015, Grubb went on to make a digital collectible card game (CCG) with Dire Wolf Digital. From 2018 to 2021, he took on the role as lead designer for Big Huge Games, where he had a key role in the design of the "DomiNations" combat strategy game. This eventually led to Grubb obtaining his current job with Blizzard Entertainment in May 2021.

As principal game designer for games like "Diablo Immortal," Grubb said instead of designing the tiniest details himself as a design team member, his primary role is to "hold the 10,000-foot vision and empower your design team to execute against that vision."

Grubb said that whether it was communication skills, attention to detail, a tough skin for criticism or a strong work ethic, the lessons learned and relationships formed at MSU helped him in achieving what might be his dream job.

"I've been a huge fan of Blizzard games for a long time. Even back when they made games for the SNES (Super Nintendo Entertainment System)," he said. "There's a lot of great studios that are making awesome games. But, yeah...Blizzard was my personal 'I made my dreams come true.'"

To learn more about MSU's Department of Art and Design programs, visit www.moreheadstate.edu/art, email arde@moreheadstate.edu or call 606-783-2766.

College can change lives and communities. Higher educational attainment increases tax revenue, decreases unemployment and even improves health outcomes. Learn more from the KY Council on Postsecondary Education at kyhigheredmatters.org.

Photos: Joe Grubb (Class of 2006, right) is a principal game designer for Blizzard Entertainment, where he has worked on popular games like "Diablo Immortal" (pictured above).

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NEWS RELEASE

April 22, 2022
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MOREHEAD, Ky.---

MSU successfully achieves SACSCOC reaccreditation

Since its founding in 1887, Morehead State University has been a light to the mountains where students from Eastern Kentucky and beyond achieve the goal of a college education.

Over the past three years, MSU has conducted a thorough reaffirmation and reaccreditation process with the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC). The University has received full reaccreditation with no deficiencies in what was a very successful reaccreditation process.

“Over the past three years, many individuals on our campus worked very hard to prepare for, and ultimately exhibit, that we are in good standing with the Principles of Accreditation within the SACSCOC,” said MSU President Dr. Jay Morgan. “This successful reaccreditation exhibits the strength of Morehead State University.”

The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) is responsible for the accreditation of degree-granting higher education institutions in the Southern states. These include institutions in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia and Latin America, as well as specific international sites approved by the SACSCOC Board of Trustees that award associate, baccalaureate, masters or doctoral degrees.

MSU also received a request from the Commission to utilize their Quality Enhancement Plan and submissions as a model for other schools.

To learn more about MSU’s accreditation, visit www.moreheadstate.edu/accreditation.

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NEWS RELEASE

April 25, 2022
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MOREHEAD, Ky.---

MSU holds ribbon-cutting ceremony for Little Bell Tower's new bells

Morehead State University is now hearing new and improved sounds from a familiar campus landmark.

In February, MSU finished installing four new bronze bells in the Little Bell Tower. The University will hold a ribbon-cutting ceremony at the Little Bell Tower commemorating the new bells at 5 p.m. Wednesday, April 27.

Built in 1997, the Little Bell Tower was a gift from the late Lucille Caudill Little. The four-story bell tower previously featured an electronic carillon controlled by a computer in the Camden-Carroll Library. MSU named the tower in honor of Lucille, a former faculty member, and her husband, the late W. Paul Little, both long-time Lexington philanthropists.

Due to disrepair, there hasn't been bell sounds coming from the tower in over 10 years. Kim Oatman, assistant vice president for facilities and operations, said they received lots of questions about why the bell tower did not have real bells. The Student Government Association (SGA) leaders asked what it would take to get bells in the bell tower.

"Through our research, we found an opportunity to purchase a set of used bells from an existing church that was being torn down," Oatman said. "Funding was worked out and we took advantage of the opportunity to get the used, low-cost bells for a fraction of what new bells would cost."

"Considering that the Bell Tower is one of the main landmarks of MSU's campus, the SGA felt that it was only right that the bell tower should toll again," said Emily Wiley, a senior from London and president of SGA. "SGA has been entertaining the idea for years but finally took the opportunity to do so."

SGA initiated the project in 2021. It was financed primarily through MSU's surplus COVID-19 funds for approximately \$55,000. The oldest bell foundry in the country, McShane Bell Company, partnered with MSU to acquire three bells cast by the Meneely Bell Company in 1929 and a McShane bell cast in 1940.

Oatman said the biggest challenge was making sure the structure could hold the heavy bells. The bells range from 18 inches to 29 inches in diameter and weigh between 400 and 2,000 pounds. It resulted in MSU hiring a structural engineer to assess the structure and design a frame that could safely hold the bells, which were placed and mounted with the help of a crane and a lift. The bells also feature an electronic control panel that causes electromagnetic strikers to ring the bells that play four-bell peals, strikes every hour and simple tunes. The largest bell features the inscription "Student Government Association 2021."

"The feedback we have received has been positive. Our campus community likes the added functionality of the bells," Oatman said.

"Bringing the bells back to campus has been long overdue for quite some time now, and SGA is grateful to have had the opportunity to have a hand in improving the MSU experience for students, employees and alumni alike," Wiley said.

For more information about the Student Government Association, visit www.moreheadstate.edu/sga, email sga@moreheadstate.edu or call 606-783-2071.

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NEWS RELEASE

April 26, 2022
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MOREHEAD, Ky.---

MSU named Gold-Level Military Friendly School for 2022-23

This year, Morehead State University received even greater recognition for its service to veterans and active military students.

MSU has been named a Gold-level Military Friendly School® for 2022-23. Previously, the University received a Bronze-level ranking for three consecutive years.

Victory Media, originator of the family of Military Friendly employment, entrepreneurship and education resources for veterans and their families, published the 2022-23 Military Friendly Schools and Employers ratings at www.militaryfriendly.com and in the upcoming May issue of G.I. Jobs magazine.

For more than a decade, Military Friendly ratings have set the standard for companies and colleges demonstrating positive employment and education outcomes for veterans and their families.

“I am extremely proud of the collective efforts of everyone that impacts a military-related student in some way, shape or form in Eagle nation,” said Dr. Silas Session, director of military initiatives. “Let’s continue to work together to provide an atmosphere of excellence to enable all students to soar higher. As we embark upon the 10-year anniversary of the dedication of the Veterans Resource Center to its name’s sake, LTC Alan R. Baldwin, let’s continue to reflect on and build upon the superb and phenomenal foundation he developed.”

Military Friendly® Schools strive toward and succeed in the areas that matter most in helping veterans transition from the military to school and, ultimately, satisfying careers in the civilian world. The methodology for the ranking and the names of awardees are published online at www.militaryfriendly.com.

MSU assists military and veteran students through:

- Application fee waiver.
- Priority registration.
- Credit for military training and service.
- No academic penalty upon documented deployment.
- Participation in the Yellow Ribbon Program.
- Organization for student veterans, Eagle Vets.
- LTC Alan R. Baldwin Veterans Resource Center.

Additional information for veterans, national guardsmen and reservists, and military families is available at www.moreheadstate.edu/veterans or by contacting Session at 606-783-9416 or ssession@moreheadstate.edu.

Photo: Amanda Isele, originally from Waycross, Georgia, was in the United States Marine Corps from 2003 until 2016. She is currently a sophomore majoring

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MOREHEAD, Ky.---

MSU's Level UP Program provides valuable service-learning opportunities

Morehead State University's Level UP Program offers valuable and unique hands-on learning experiences. It also provides service-learning opportunities for students in various majors.

In Assistant Music Professor Ryan McGillicuddy's Music and Microcomputers course, students work in teams learn to listen to music recordings with missing instrument parts and use software to transcribe the missing parts. The class is a way to address the issue MSU jazz music ensembles have found when many music pieces they would like to perform live have one or more parts missing. The Level UP class improved transcription skills in the students and provided them with valuable skills for their future careers.

"Through teamwork, Ryan McGillicuddy and his students are involved in a project that will increase MSU students' jazz music repertoire. In this situation, everyone wins," said Sandra Mason, coordinator of service learning. "The students get some good experience, the MSU Department of Music, Theatre and Dance gets more complete sets of sheet music, and the community gets to hear some music that hasn't been played here for a while."

Students in the Family Law course taught by Laken Albrink, assistant professor of legal studies, are working at Legal Aid of the Bluegrass' (LAB) Pro Se Divorce Clinic. Clients go through LAB's intake process and if they meet specific criteria, students help them with the paperwork to complete their no-cost divorce.

"The Pro Se Divorce Clinic provides legal studies students with the opportunity to engage with clients, develop and practice skills in professionalism and oral communication, and provide an opportunity for students to think critically about the relationship between poverty and access to critical legal services," Albrink said.

As a form of outreach to MSU's 22-county service region, Dr. Janet Ratliff, associate professor of management and entrepreneurship, reaches out to middle school teachers. She trains them to teach their students to compile a business plan. MSU students get in on the act in her Business Plan Development course when they serve as judges when middle school students from the service region enter a "Shark Tank"-style Business Pitch Competition.

"MSU's service region has long suffered from 'brain drain,' students leaving the region to make a living," Mason said. "Dr. Ratliff and her students are making a difference by promoting the skills Eastern Kentucky students can use to start their own businesses, thereby staying in and enriching our state."

Associate Professor of Mathematics Dr. Mike Dobranski's Level UP course Math in Business, Industry and Government (a.k.a. BIG Math) is a service-learning class that allows students to work with clients and organizations to solve problems in Kentucky.

This semester, his students are working with Dr. Laurie Couch, associate provost for undergraduate education and student success, and Courtney Andrews, director of institutional research and analysis. The goal is to understand the relationship between grade point average (GPA), college admission test scores and other demographic and socioeconomic data and how they correlate to MSU students' retention and graduation rates. The math students work in teams of nine and analyze data to understand better what factors correlate with success.

"Working with clients has helped my students make the connection between the academic concepts we study in class and real-world applications," Dobranski said.

Level UP is an initiative to ensure students can engage in experiences to prepare them for success, including undergraduate research, education abroad, service learning and internships. It includes courses that build students' communication, professionalism, critical thinking and teamwork skills. Level UP further focuses on training students to convey evidence of these career skills that are highly desirable to employers across disciplines.

To learn more about the Level UP Program at MSU, please contact the Office of Undergraduate Education & Student Success at uess@moreheadstate.edu or visit www.moreheadstate.edu/levelup.

Photo: Level UP Program classes allow students in the Family Law course taught by Laken Albrink, assistant professor of legal studies, to work at Legal Aid of the Bluegrass' (LAB) Pro Se Divorce Clinic.

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Additional information for veterans, national guardsmen and reservists, and military families is available at www.moreheadstate.edu/veterans or by contacting Session at 606-783-9416 or ssession@moreheadstate.edu.

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NEWS RELEASE

April 27, 2022
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MOREHEAD, Ky.---

Student film screening April 28

Morehead State's Convergent Media Program will hold a red-carpet event to screen student films on Thursday, April 28, at 7:30 p.m. in Breckinridge Hall, room 001.

"Snapshot," a short film by Willard Ferguson, a senior convergent media major from Louisa, is the featured film. At 7 p.m., a brief meet-and-greet with the director, cast, and crew will be held in the lobby of Breckinridge Hall. Horror, film noir and avant-garde genres will be featured.

The works of several other convergent media majors will be featured at the event. They include:

- "Smothered Candle" by senior Willard Ferguson of Louisa, Clay Wallace, a junior from Frankfort and Jacob Hedges (Class of 2021) of Clearfield.
- "Drifter Episode 1 SPRING 2022 season" by senior Aspen Hester of LaGrange/MSU TV Crew.
- "Yet Another" by sophomore Chase Brewer of Stanton and senior Katrina Holbrook of Flemingsburg.
- "Bummerland" by McKenna Johnson, a sophomore from Newport.
- News feature on the making of "Snapshot."

The evening will conclude with a question-and-answer session with Ferguson.

"The premiere is going to be an opportunity to see the creative endeavors that our students have been up to over the last year or so," said Dr. Nettie Brock, assistant professor of communication. "Attending the event will be a fantastic chance to experience what a movie premiere is like, as well as have an opportunity to speak to these filmmakers about their creative process. This is mostly just intended to be a fun

event at the end of the semester to enjoy the work of our students. The evening will be a fun time and is something that we hope to repeat in future semesters."

For more information about MSU's Convergent Media program, visit www.moreheadstate.edu/study/convergentmedia, email cml@moreheadstate.edu or call 606-783-2134.

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NEWS RELEASE

April 28, 2022
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MSU Ceramics Guild's Pottery Fair May 3-4

Morehead State's Ceramics Guild is hosting a pottery fair May 3 and 4, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., in the ceramics studio in room 104 of the Claypool-Young Art Building.

Dozens of items will be available for sale, including dinnerware, trinkets, décor pieces, and fine artwork. Sinclair Dorsey, a senior fine arts major from Ashland and secretary of the Ceramics Guild, said the fair is an important learning experience.

"Folks should come to the fair to support our MSU students and to also interact with ceramics, to learn about the ceramic studio, and to learn about the effort MSU students put into their craft," Dorsey said.

All proceeds from the fair will go to the artists and to the ceramics guild to fund educational opportunities for members.

For more information about programs in MSU's Department of Art and Design, visit www.moreheadstate.edu/art, email arde@moreheadstate.edu or call 606-783-2766.

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