



**Communications & Marketing**  
**Morehead State University**  
**134 Third Street**  
**Morehead, KY 40351**

**Phone: 606-783-9328**  
**Email: [news@moreheadstate.edu](mailto:news@moreheadstate.edu)**  
**Web: [moreheadstate.edu](http://moreheadstate.edu)**

## **NEWS RELEASE**

**Dec. 5, 2023**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**MOREHEAD, Ky.---**

### **Morehead State students win multiple vocal competitions**

Four Morehead State University music students were winners at two different vocal competitions this past November.

Campbellsville University hosted both competitions. On Nov. 11, Mason Pack, a junior music major from Louisa, won the Bluegrass Young Artist Music Theater competition of the Kentucky Music Teachers Association. Alura Schaum, a sophomore history major from Cynthiana, and Eli Campbell, a sophomore vocal performance major from Ashland, earned Honorable Mentions in the Bluegrass Young Artist Classical Competition.

On Nov. 17 and 18, MSU singers competed against nearly 200 singers from around the state in the Kentucky auditions of the National Association of Teachers of Singing. Ashley Vela, a freshman music major from Lexington, won the Freshman Women Classical division. Schaum won in Sophomore Women Classical and Sophomore Women Music Theatre divisions. The students will compete at the Mid-South Regional auditions at Tennessee State University in March.

“It is wonderful to see how our students can stack up against the powerhouse schools throughout the state of Kentucky,” said Dr. Roma Prindle, professor of voice at MSU.

To learn more about programs in the [Department of Music, Theatre & Dance](#), email [mtd@moreheadstate.edu](mailto:mtd@moreheadstate.edu) or call [606-783-2473](tel:606-783-2473).

Photo: Several Morehead State music students, under the instruction of Professor of Voice Dr. Roma Prindle (pictured front, center), were recognized at two vocal competitions that took place at Campbellsville University. Pictured, from left to right, are MSU students Caleb Akers, Mason Pack, Eli Campbell, Alura Schaum, Ashley Vela, and Magoffin County High School sophomore Erin Grace Rudd.

###

Morehead State University is a comprehensive public university located in Morehead, Kentucky. With a rich history and a commitment to innovation, the University's academic programs, research initiatives, and community outreach efforts are designed to empower students to succeed. Serving Eastern Kentucky for more than 135 years, MSU is ranked among the top public universities in the South by U.S. News & World Report and boasts more than 70,000 proud alumni.

*MSU is an affirmative action, equal opportunity, educational institution.*



**Communications & Marketing**  
**Morehead State University**  
**134 Third Street**  
**Morehead, KY 40351**

**Phone: 606-783-9328**  
**Email: [news@moreheadstate.edu](mailto:news@moreheadstate.edu)**  
**Web: [moreheadstate.edu](http://moreheadstate.edu)**

## **NEWS RELEASE**

**Dec. 8, 2023**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**MOREHEAD, Ky.---**

### **Morehead State students share Kentucky history through Level UP courses**

Through its Level UP program, Morehead State University prepares students for career success by ensuring they have multiple opportunities to apply what they learn in the classroom in real-world settings throughout their undergraduate years. MSU students recently gained valuable experience while helping preserve and share Kentucky's history.

In the Level UP course titled "Language Arts for Early Elementary," Assistant Professor of Early Childhood, Elementary and Special Education Dr. Gera Nelson had her students complete a collaborative service-learning project with Tilden Hogge Elementary School to enhance their teamwork skills.

"This collaboration has so many benefits to our students. It allows our students to refine their teamwork skills in a real-world educational setting, fosters a sense of civic responsibility, and builds experiences for their resume that show they are effective teachers," Nelson said.

MSU students had the opportunity to volunteer at the school's recent Kentucky History Night, where they worked in teams to develop a lesson complete with an informational display board and hands-on activities. The student's projects featured various activities designed to bring Kentucky's history to life. These activities included constructing Kentucky's state bird, the cardinal, using feathers and a paper plate, building Fort Boonesborough with popsicle sticks, and simulating coal mining in tubs.

"Our students and families enjoyed the hands-on educational activities and displays that the MSU students prepared to go along with our theme of Kentucky history," said Tilden Hogge Elementary School Principal Jessica Elliott (Class of 2009). "We appreciate the partnership as it's a great way for our students to learn a little more, our future MSU educators to experience a successful family involvement and engagement event, and

partnerships to be fostered between families and outside agencies to allow for a more all-encompassing experience and environment for our students."

MSU student Isabella Gilvin, a junior elementary education major from Dover, also sees the benefits to her career development.

"It was so much fun interacting with students and their families. As an upcoming senior at Morehead State University, I value the opportunity to use my family engagement strategies in a rural area before I start teaching," she said.

"Level UP courses and service-learning projects not only benefit the community but also enrich the educational journey of our students," said Andrew Sexton (Class of 2020 and 2022), coordinator of service learning.

Level UP: Experience Your Future is a unique program that builds in-demand skills, including teamwork, professionalism, critical thinking, oral communication, and written communication through service learning, internships, education abroad, and undergraduate research.

To learn more about Level UP, contact the [Center for Career Development and Experiential Education](#) at [606-783-2233](tel:606-783-2233) or [careerservices@moreheadstate.edu](mailto:careerservices@moreheadstate.edu).

For more information about MSU's [Ernst and Sara Volgenau College of Education and its programs](#), call [606-783-2162](tel:606-783-2162) or email [ad.miller@moreheadstate.edu](mailto:ad.miller@moreheadstate.edu).

Photo: Morehead State students completed a collaborative service-learning project with Tilden Hogge Elementary School to enhance their teamwork skills and teach students about Kentucky history as part of MSU's Level UP program.

###

Morehead State University is a comprehensive public university located in Morehead, Kentucky. With a rich history and a commitment to innovation, the University's academic programs, research initiatives, and community outreach efforts are designed to empower students to succeed. Serving Eastern Kentucky for more than 135 years, MSU is ranked among the top public universities in the South by U.S. News & World Report and boasts more than 70,000 proud alumni.

*MSU is an affirmative action, equal opportunity, educational institution.*



**Communications & Marketing**  
**Morehead State University**  
**134 Third Street**  
**Morehead, KY 40351**

**Phone: 606-783-9328**  
**Email: [news@moreheadstate.edu](mailto:news@moreheadstate.edu)**  
**Web: [moreheadstate.edu](http://moreheadstate.edu)**

## **NEWS RELEASE**

**Dec. 11, 2023**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**MOREHEAD, Ky.---**

### **Morehead State recognizes newest graduates at Fall 2023 Commencement**

Morehead State University honored approximately 400 graduates at ceremonies on Dec. 9.

Graduates celebrated their academic accomplishments with family, friends, loved ones, faculty, staff, and members of the Eagle Nation, both past and present. It included congratulations from MSU President Dr. Jay Morgan.

The ceremony honored graduates of the Caudill College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, the Elmer R. Smith College of Business and Technology, the College of Science, and the Ernst and Sara Lane Volgenau College of Education.

Isaiah Davis (Class of 2023) of Fort Worth, Texas, was the student speaker representing the Elmer R. Smith College of Business & Technology. As an MSU student-athlete, Davis was a starting wide receiver, kick returner, and special teams player for MSU Football and was part of the team's Leadership Council. He plans to pursue a master's degree, potentially a Master of Business Administration (MBA).

"Despite my story being my own, every student here has had their own story here at Morehead State. Their own set of challenges, their own set of trials, where they fought, persevered, and stayed patient and firm, even on the days when they felt they couldn't any longer," Davis said. "However, they did. Y'all did. You made it! And I'm so proud and respect every single one of y'all for your perseverance."

Photo gallery: <https://flic.kr/s/aHBqjB6tYT>

Full ceremony: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=stPGmr-G6Ks>

###

Morehead State University is a comprehensive public university located in Morehead, Kentucky. With a rich history and a commitment to innovation, the University's academic programs, research initiatives, and community outreach efforts are designed to empower students to succeed. Serving Eastern Kentucky for more than 135 years, MSU is ranked among the top public universities in the South by U.S. News & World Report and boasts more than 70,000 proud alumni.

*MSU is an affirmative action, equal opportunity, educational institution.*



**Communications & Marketing**  
**Morehead State University**  
**134 Third Street**  
**Morehead, KY 40351**

**Phone: 606-783-9328**  
**Email: [news@moreheadstate.edu](mailto:news@moreheadstate.edu)**  
**Web: [moreheadstate.edu](http://moreheadstate.edu)**

## **NEWS RELEASE**

**Dec. 14, 2023**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**MOREHEAD, Ky.---**

### **Morehead State students gain valuable experience through local mock interviews**

Morehead State University prepares students for career success, including successfully completing one of the first steps to employment.

MSU's Center for Career Development and Experiential Education partnered with the School of Business Administration so students could participate in mock interviews with local business community members. On Monday, Nov. 6, Dr. Christy Trent, instructor of business communication and management, hosted eight employers in her three Business Communications classes to conduct mock interviews with over 100 students. Trent had the students choose a team with an industry focus that matches their career goals, such as construction, real estate, finance, insurance, sports marketing, accounting, small business management, entrepreneurship, hospitality, and sales. The classes are part of the Level UP program, which helps students develop specific career skills.

The 22-student teams researched real-world internship opportunities and prepared resumes and cover letters. Students also had the chance to use the center's free Suit Bank to obtain professional clothing. On the day of the mock interviews, students dressed professionally and came with materials for their mock interview sessions.

Each employer had a rubric to provide direct feedback to individual students, scoring them on professional appearance, ability to answer questions using the STAR (Situation, Task, Action, Result) method, and interpersonal skills. This experience refined their communication and interpersonal skills and honed their ability to navigate the complexities of business interactions.

Belinda Stafford from Eastern Kentucky Power Cooperative (EKPC) noted the students' "maturity at this point in the game, and their ability to communicate in the manner they did with a complete stranger was impressive."

"This mock interview event offers a practical experience that prepares our students for future internships, graduate school, and job interviews in professional fields," Trent said.

Level UP: Experience Your Future is a unique program that builds in-demand skills, including teamwork, professionalism, critical thinking, oral communication, and written communication through service learning, internships, education abroad, and undergraduate research.

For more information on the [Center for Career Development and Experiential Education](#), contact [606-783-2233](tel:606-783-2233) or [careerservices@moreheadstate.edu](mailto:careerservices@moreheadstate.edu).

Photo: Morehead State students in the School of Business Administration participated in mock interviews with local businesses to gain valuable experience. Pictured, left to right, are Instructor of Business Communication and Management Dr. Christy Trent, Terry Craig (GE Aerospace), Oliver Rice (Family Dollar), Mark Hogge (Middough), Jacob Wilson (Fastenal), Jasmyne Lewis (Rowan County Public Library), Kay Moss (Stober), Whitney Cornette (NE Area Health Education Center) and Belinda Stafford (East Kentucky Power Cooperative).

###

Morehead State University is a comprehensive public university located in Morehead, Kentucky. With a rich history and a commitment to innovation, the University's academic programs, research initiatives, and community outreach efforts are designed to empower students to succeed. Serving Eastern Kentucky for more than 135 years, MSU is ranked among the top public universities in the South by U.S. News & World Report and boasts more than 70,000 proud alumni.

*MSU is an affirmative action, equal opportunity, educational institution.*





**Communications & Marketing**  
**Morehead State University**  
**134 Third Street**  
**Morehead, KY 40351**

**Phone: 606-783-9328**  
**Email: [news@moreheadstate.edu](mailto:news@moreheadstate.edu)**  
**Web: [moreheadstate.edu](http://moreheadstate.edu)**

## **NEWS RELEASE**

**Dec. 14, 2023**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**MOREHEAD, Ky.---**

### **41 students earn Adobe Certification during fall semester**

Students in Morehead State's Caudill College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences earned an impressive 41 Adobe Certified Professional certifications during the Fall 2023 semester.

Three students earned exceptionally high marks on the exams. Dustin Lewis, a junior convergent media major from Stopover, earned a perfect, 1000/1000 score on the exam, which earned him the top score at MSU and placed him among the top scorers nationally. Senior Art Major Cal Leadingham from Flatwoods and Mercedes Mason, a senior convergent media major from Flemingsburg, each scored 984/1000 on the Visual Design Using Photoshop exam, placing them among the top scorers nationwide.

The total certification numbers for the semester are as follows:

- Twelve students earned certification in Visual Design using Photoshop.
- Three students earned certification in Graphic Design and Illustration using Illustrator.
- One student earned certification in Print & Digital Media Publication using InDesign.
- Eighteen students earned certification in Digital Video using Premiere Pro.
- One student earned certification in Multiplatform Animation using Animate.
- One student earned certification in Web Authoring using Adobe Dreamweaver.
- Three students earned certification as a Visual Design Specialist (earned by a student who has passed the Illustrator, InDesign, and Photoshop exams).
- One student earned certification as a Video Design Specialist (earned by a student who has passed the Premiere Pro, After Effects, and Photoshop exams).
- One student earned certification as a Web Design Specialist (earned by a student who has passed the Premiere Pro, Animate, and Photoshop exams).

“The fact that our students were able to achieve these types of scores really speaks to the quality education that is built into our programs,” said Tony Glover, certification program coordinator for the Caudill College.

“There is no better way to level up a student than to have them obtain a great degree that prepares them for the future, then top that off with industry-standard certifications that make their resume stand out even more. I want to say thanks to all the faculty, staff, and especially the students for putting in all the hard work and dedication to their craft which made this achievement possible.”

MSU's Caudill College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences provides a liberal arts background, turning your passion into a gateway toward any number of career paths. The college is home to programs in the creative and performing arts and programs built around contemporary practices in strategic communications and new media. To learn more, visit the [college website](#), email [ccahss@moreheadstate.edu](mailto:ccahss@moreheadstate.edu), or call [606-783-2650](tel:606-783-2650).

###

Morehead State University is a comprehensive public university located in Morehead, Kentucky. With a rich history and a commitment to innovation, the University's academic programs, research initiatives, and community outreach efforts are designed to empower students to succeed. Serving Eastern Kentucky for more than 135 years, MSU is ranked among the top public universities in the South by U.S. News & World Report and boasts more than 70,000 proud alumni.

*MSU is an affirmative action, equal opportunity, educational institution.*



**Communications & Marketing**  
**Morehead State University**  
**134 Third Street**  
**Morehead, KY 40351**

**Phone: 606-783-9328**  
**Email: [news@moreheadstate.edu](mailto:news@moreheadstate.edu)**  
**Web: [moreheadstate.edu](http://moreheadstate.edu)**

## **NEWS RELEASE**

**Dec. 18, 2023**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**MOREHEAD, Ky.---**

### **Morehead State students gain valuable experience through local mock interviews**

Morehead State University prepares students for career success, including successfully completing one of the first steps to employment.

MSU's Center for Career Development and Experiential Education partnered with the School of Business Administration so students could participate in mock interviews with local business community members. On Monday, Nov. 6, Dr. Christy Trent, instructor of business communication and management, hosted eight employers in her three Business Communications classes to conduct mock interviews with over 100 students. Trent had the students choose a team with an industry focus that matches their career goals, such as construction, real estate, finance, insurance, sports marketing, accounting, small business management, entrepreneurship, hospitality, and sales.

The 22-student teams researched real-world internship opportunities and prepared resumes and cover letters. Students also had the chance to use the center's free Suit Bank to obtain professional clothing. On the day of the mock interviews, students dressed professionally and came with materials for their mock interview sessions.

Each employer had a rubric to provide direct feedback to individual students, scoring them on professional appearance, ability to answer questions using the STAR (Situation, Task, Action, Result) method, and interpersonal skills. This experience refined their communication and interpersonal skills and honed their ability to navigate the complexities of business interactions.

Belinda Stafford from Eastern Kentucky Power Cooperative (EKPC) noted the students' "maturity at this point in the game, and their ability to communicate in the manner they did with a complete stranger was impressive."

"This mock interview event offers a practical experience that prepares our students for future internships, graduate school, and job interviews in professional fields," Trent said.

For more information on the [Center for Career Development and Experiential Education](#), contact [606-783-2233](tel:606-783-2233) or [careerservices@moreheadstate.edu](mailto:careerservices@moreheadstate.edu).

Photo: Morehead State students in the School of Business Administration participated in mock interviews with local businesses to gain valuable experience. Pictured, left to right, are Instructor of Business Communication and Management Dr. Christy Trent, Terry Craig (GE Aerospace), Oliver Rice (Family Dollar), Mark Hogge (Middough), Jacob Wilson (Fastenal), Jasmyne Lewis (Rowan County Public Library), Kay Moss (Stober), Whitney Cornette (NE Area Health Education Center) and Belinda Stafford (East Kentucky Power Cooperative).

###

Morehead State University is a comprehensive public university located in Morehead, Kentucky. With a rich history and a commitment to innovation, the University's academic programs, research initiatives, and community outreach efforts are designed to empower students to succeed. Serving Eastern Kentucky for more than 135 years, MSU is ranked among the top public universities in the South by U.S. News & World Report and boasts more than 70,000 proud alumni.

*MSU is an affirmative action, equal opportunity, educational institution.*



**Communications & Marketing**  
**Morehead State University**  
**134 Third Street**  
**Morehead, KY 40351**

**Phone: 606-783-9328**  
**Email: [news@moreheadstate.edu](mailto:news@moreheadstate.edu)**  
**Web: [moreheadstate.edu](http://moreheadstate.edu)**

## **NEWS RELEASE**

**Dec. 18, 2023**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**MOREHEAD, Ky.---**

### **MSU Closed for Winter Break Dec. 20-Jan. 1**

Morehead State Will be closed Wednesday, Dec. 20, through Monday, Jan. 1, for Winter Break. Administrative offices will be closed, and classes will not meet.

The University Store is closed Dec. 20-Jan. 1.

The Camden-Carroll Library will close Saturday, Dec. 9, and reopen Jan. 2.

The University Post Office will be closed Monday, Dec. 25, but will be open the rest of the break, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Call 606-783-2816 for more information.

The Recreation & Wellness Center will be open from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. Dec. 20-23, with the pool open from 3 to 7 p.m. The Rec will be closed from Dec. 23 to Jan. 1 and reopens at 6 a.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 2.

Starbucks in the Adron Doran University Center will be closed for Winter Break. After the break, hours will be as follows:

- Jan. 2-5, 8 a.m.-2 p.m.
- Jan. 8-12, 8 a.m.-2 p.m.

Starbucks will resume normal hours on Tuesday, Jan. 16.

The MSU Police Department is staffed 24 hours a day during the break. The police department can be reached by calling 606-783-2035 or using the LiveSafe smartphone app.

Regular operating hours resume Tuesday, Jan. 2.

###

Morehead State University is a comprehensive public university located in Morehead, Kentucky. With a rich history and a commitment to innovation, the University's academic programs, research initiatives, and community outreach efforts are designed to empower students to succeed. Serving Eastern Kentucky for more than 135 years, MSU is ranked among the top public universities in the South by U.S. News & World Report and boasts more than 70,000 proud alumni.

*MSU is an affirmative action, equal opportunity, educational institution.*



**Communications & Marketing**  
**Morehead State University**  
**134 Third Street**  
**Morehead, KY 40351**

**Phone: 606-783-9328**  
**Email: [news@moreheadstate.edu](mailto:news@moreheadstate.edu)**  
**Web: [moreheadstate.edu](http://moreheadstate.edu)**

## **NEWS RELEASE**

**Dec. 19, 2023**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**MOREHEAD, Ky.---**

### **Morehead State alum awarded grant to help student-athletes**

Dr. Jamaal Jackson (Class of 2023) is a graduate of Morehead State's Doctor of Education in Adult and Higher Education Leadership program. He's applying the skills he learned in the program to help student-athletes succeed on and off the court.

Jackson is the head men's basketball coach and deputy director of athletics for external operations at Kentucky State University (KSU) and his innovative approach to helping student-athletes has been awarded the KYNETIC (Kentucky Network for Innovation & Commercialization) Cycle 8 Grant.

Jackson led an effort to create a groundbreaking e-learning tool tailored for the departmental staff for college or university athletic programs.

The tool consists of modules designed to pinpoint and address graduation barriers faced by Black male student-athletes, including mental health challenges, and offering valuable guidance for helping students in overcoming these obstacles. The KYNETIC Cycle 8 Grant will support Jackson and others as they work to develop and introduce the product to the marketplace.

"The KYNETIC team helped me through every step, and being awarded the grant is just the beginning for me and my team," Jackson said. "We hope to develop our e-Learning tool and successfully market it to institutions throughout the nation, not just for use in athletics, but for all different student populations.

Jackson said many of the skills and approaches he uses to be a leader on and off the basketball court came during his time at MSU.

"The relationships built with my diverse cohort were very helpful in helping me through the process of earning the Ed.D. degree and will be very helpful as I continue to grow professionally," Jackson said. "The ideas that were shared, stories about different paths,

why's, and backgrounds, along with the need to constantly motivate each other, is something that I'll never forget."

"The Morehead State University doctoral program is proud of Dr. Jackson's accomplishment," said Dr. Timothy Simpson, director of the MSU Doctoral Program. "He had the ability to recognize a problem facing student athletics, design a solution in collaboration with others to support students and staff, and the tenacity to see the solution to reality. Dr. Jackson is an excellent representative of our program's desire to create educational leaders in the Commonwealth."

To learn more about MSU's [Ed.D. program](#), email [fgse@moreheadstate.edu](mailto:fgse@moreheadstate.edu) or call [606-783-2261](tel:606-783-2261).

###

Morehead State University is a comprehensive public university located in Morehead, Kentucky. With a rich history and a commitment to innovation, the University's academic programs, research initiatives, and community outreach efforts are designed to empower students to succeed. Serving Eastern Kentucky for more than 135 years, MSU is ranked among the top public universities in the South by U.S. News & World Report and boasts more than 70,000 proud alumni.

*MSU is an affirmative action, equal opportunity, educational institution.*





**Communications & Marketing**  
**Morehead State University**  
**134 Third Street**  
**Morehead, KY 40351**

**Phone: 606-783-9328**  
**Email: [news@moreheadstate.edu](mailto:news@moreheadstate.edu)**  
**Web: [moreheadstate.edu](http://moreheadstate.edu)**

## **NEWS RELEASE**

**Dec. 20, 2023**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**MOREHEAD, Ky.---**

### **Morehead State alum awarded grant to help student-athletes**

Dr. Jamaal Jackson (Class of 2023) is a graduate of Morehead State's Doctor of Education in Adult and Higher Education Leadership program. He's applying the skills he learned in the program to help student-athletes succeed on and off the court.

Jackson is the head men's basketball coach at Kentucky State University (KSU) and his innovative approach to helping student-athletes has been awarded the KYNETIC (Kentucky Network for Innovation & Commercialization) Cycle 8 Grant.

Jackson led an effort to create a groundbreaking e-learning tool tailored for the departmental staff for college or university athletic programs.

The tool consists of modules designed to pinpoint and address graduation barriers faced by Black male student-athletes, including mental health challenges, and offering valuable guidance for helping students in overcoming these obstacles. The KYNETIC Cycle 8 Grant will support Jackson and others as they work to develop and introduce the product to the marketplace.

"The KYNETIC team helped me through every step, and being awarded the grant is just the beginning for me and my team," Jackson said. "We hope to develop our e-Learning tool and successfully market it to institutions throughout the nation, not just for use in athletics, but for all different student populations.

Jackson said many of the skills and approaches he uses to be a leader on and off the basketball court came during his time at MSU.

"The relationships built with my diverse cohort were very helpful in helping me through the process of earning the Ed.D. degree and will be very helpful as I continue to grow professionally," Jackson said. "The ideas that were shared, stories about different paths, why's, and backgrounds, along with the need to constantly motivate each other, is something that I'll never forget."

"The Morehead State University doctoral program is proud of Dr. Jackson's accomplishment," said Dr. Timothy Simpson, director of the MSU Doctoral Program. "He had the ability to recognize a problem facing student athletics, design a solution in collaboration with others to support students and staff, and the tenacity to see the solution to reality. Dr. Jackson is an excellent representative of our program's desire to create educational leaders in the Commonwealth."

To learn more about MSU's [Ed.D. program](#), email [fgse@moreheadstate.edu](mailto:fgse@moreheadstate.edu) or call [606-783-2261](tel:606-783-2261).

###

Morehead State University is a comprehensive public university located in Morehead, Kentucky. With a rich history and a commitment to innovation, the University's academic programs, research initiatives, and community outreach efforts are designed to empower students to succeed. Serving Eastern Kentucky for more than 135 years, MSU is ranked among the top public universities in the South by U.S. News & World Report and boasts more than 70,000 proud alumni.

*MSU is an affirmative action, equal opportunity, educational institution.*

## **MSU remembers retired Communications Professor Dr. Larry Albert**

Dr. Lawrence Stephen “Larry” Albert, a retired professor emeritus of speech communication, died Sunday, Dec. 17, at the age of 72.

Albert came to MSU in 1986 as an assistant professor of speech. He served as the chair of the Department of Communications from 1990 to 1993. He retired in 2017 after 31 years of service. He was a proud supporter of the Kentucky Center for Traditional Music, where his son, Thomas Albert, is a lecturer. An accomplished musician, Larry was a member of the band Rusted Clay and collaborated with local musicians Russ Ward, Harvey Pennington and the late Leo Blair.

Albert received his bachelor’s degree from Virginia Commonwealth University, his master’s degree from the University of Virginia and his Ph.D. from Pennsylvania State University. He was a member of the Speech Communication Association, the American Society for Training and Development and was vice president of the Kentucky Association of Communication Arts.

He is survived by his wife of 48 years, Linda; three children, John (Emily), Daniel (Jessica), and Thomas (Amber); a grandson, Oliver; a sister, Mary Jean; a brother, Edward; and in the memories of all those whose lives he impacted.

A celebration of life is planned for a later date.

The Michael R. Gray funeral home in Morehead is in charge of arrangements.

### **Lawrence Stephen "Larry" Albert**

**September 2, 1951 — December 17, 2023**

#### **Morehead**

Lawrence Stephen Albert, 72, of Morehead, KY, passed away Sunday December 17, 2023, at St. Claire Regional Medical Center, surrounded by his family and loved ones.

Larry was born to John and Marjorie Albert on September 2, 1951, as one of five children. He is preceded in death by his parents; brother, Rick; and brother, Greg.

A critical and analytical thinker, he loved to understand how things worked, which resulted in a truly astonishing number of trades and hobbies. Music, woodworking, photography, carpentry, automobiles—he threw himself into all of them with enthusiasm. Thanks to this diverse skillset, he was able to share many of his interests with his children, forming close bonds as he encouraged them to grow and develop their skills.

Though he enjoyed his many hobbies, it was his love of music for which he was known by many in the community. Being born into a musical family, his enthusiasm started at an early age, and many of his early childhood memories revolved around it. As he grew, so did his passion, and he performed professionally and leisurely with numerous groups beginning at a young age while honing his craft. Larry made lifelong friends throughout his musical journey and continued to make music with one of his earliest friends, Monte Pullis, up until days before his passing. While living in Morehead, he met several musicians and continued to perform in different bands, forming

steadfast friendships. He thoroughly enjoyed the music he made with Russ Ward, Harvey Pennington, and countless others. Larry extended this passion to his sons, teaching them to play instruments, encouraging their musical growth, and loving the experience of making music with them. One of his last musical pleasures consisted of participating in a weekly old-time jam in Lexington, where he made even more cherished friendships.

Professionally, Larry taught at Penn State for 6 years before accepting the position of Professor in the Department of Communication at Morehead State University, which he held for 31 years, where he worked tirelessly to better the lives of each student that passed through his classrooms. He had a willing ear for all who needed it and was happy to provide advice and assistance to any student who requested it. Though he loved his career, Larry retired in 2017 to focus his efforts on his hobbies and eventually embrace his beloved title of Grandad.

He is survived by his wife of 48 years, Linda; three children, John (Emily), Daniel (Jessica), and Thomas (Amber); a grandson, Oliver; a sister, Mary Jean; a brother, Edward; and in the memories of all those whose lives he impacted.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that you donate to Doctors Without Borders, one of Larry's favorite foundations.

The Michael R. Gray Funeral Home, 808 Old Flemingsburg Road, Morehead, Kentucky 40351 is caring for all arrangements for Lawrence Stephen Albert.

**There will be a gathering to memorialize and celebrate the life of Larry Albert on Saturday, January 6, 2024 from 2:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M. in the Fellowship Hall of the First Baptist Church of Morehead at 123 East Main Street. Light refreshments will be available. Musicians are encouraged to bring instruments.**