



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

Phone: 606-783-9328
Email: news@moreheadstate.edu
Web: moreheadstate.edu

NEWS RELEASE

March 5, 2024
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MOREHEAD, Ky.---

Morehead State awarded grant to increase student service learning

Morehead State University provides valuable real-world experience to students through service-learning opportunities. MSU received a substantial financial award to expand the possibilities for Eagles to volunteer and impact their community.

As a Kentucky Campus Compact member school, MSU recently received an EngageKY+ Volunteer Generation Fund grant totaling over \$36,000. This grant aims to reduce barriers to volunteering for underrepresented populations and enhance current and newly created volunteer programs for undergraduate students.

"We are thrilled to award an EngageKY+ Volunteer Generation Fund (VGF) grant to Kentucky Campus Compact member school, Morehead State University," said Mindy Wilson, AmeriCorps program manager of Kentucky Campus Compact. "Their dedication to empowering volunteers and strengthening our communities aligns perfectly with the goals of the VGF program. We are confident that this grant will enable Morehead State's Engaged Eagles Initiative to further their mission and create meaningful opportunities for engagement."

MSU will use the funding to support service projects through the Engaged Eagles Initiative, which supports the University's first-year seminar day of service, Make an Impact Day, and faculty-led projects through the March to Service. This will create more opportunities for students to engage with the community.

Wilson spoke with faculty at the Spring March to Service Kickoff to discuss the importance of career skill development through service projects, allowing students to grow as professionals by giving back to others. Andrew Sexton (Class of 2020, 2022), coordinator of service learning in the Center for Career Development and Experiential Education, collaborated with Kentucky Campus Compact and MSU's Office of Research and Sponsored Programs to secure this funding, which will also go toward faculty and staff professional development on campus in addition to GivePulse software to foster student engagement across campus.

"Morehead State University holds firm to its commitment of making a meaningful difference in our service region," said MSU President Jay Morgan. "We take immense pride in the collaborative efforts of our dedicated faculty, staff, students, and valued community partners to meet the shared needs and improve the quality of life among residents in our region and beyond."

Any student involved in community service through this initiative and beyond can get recognition through the [Presidential Community Engaged Eagles list](#).

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

Photo, left to right: Mindy Wilson, AmeriCorps program manager of Kentucky Campus Compact, and Andrew Sexton, coordinator of service learning in the Center for Career Development and Experiential Education.

###

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NEWS RELEASE

March 7, 2024
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MOREHEAD, Ky.---

Centennial Eagle creator Sam McKinney speaks to Morehead State campus

The world-renowned artist responsible for Morehead State's Centennial Eagle statue is coming to share his knowledge and experience with the campus community.

Sam McKinney (Class of 1973, 1992) will discuss the creation of the statue and his art at 2 p.m. Monday, March 25, at the Adron Doran University Center (ADUC) Theater. The event is free and open to the public.

The Kentucky-born sculptor and painter has displayed his work both nationally and internationally. Last year, thanks to a generous gift from MSU alum Ronald "Ron" Cartee (Class of 1965) and the Cartee Family, McKinney created a bronze Eagle statue (titled "Spirit of Aspiration") MSU unveiled at a special dedication ceremony during Homecoming 2023.

Professor of Art Lisa Mesa-Gaido said McKinney will highlight artwork he has created throughout his prolific career.

"It is important for individuals to see members of our community be successful and persistent in pursuing their dreams and passions," Mesa-Gaido said. "One of Sam's passions has been art, which he has dedicated his entire life to. For aspiring and regional artists, seeing Sam be so accomplished and make a living at what he loves is inspiring and provides a model for them."

McKinney has influenced MSU art alumni like Kaylee Thornsberry (Class of 2021). Thornsberry, an independent artist and art teacher, took private lessons in painting and sculpture from McKinney for years and asked Thornsberry to assist when he was creating the bronze eagle statue. She helped McKinney roll out hundreds of feathers and worked on the eagle's feet, punching out small circles of clay and pressing them around the feet and legs to add texture. Thornsberry returned to campus to see the statue's unveiling.

"Watching the veil come off of that Eagle could take your breath away, and to know I even got to touch it and play even the smallest role in creating it was an honor," Thornsberry said. "To be able to tell everyone that I worked on what has become a staple of campus is unbelievable. I have so much gratitude for Sam and all the opportunities he has provided me. I'm honored to be called one of his proteges."

Getting to learn from and collaborate with McKinney over the years, Thornsberry thinks his upcoming presentation is a must-see for any aspiring artist.

"Any artist that gets the chance to hear from Sam should jump on the opportunity, he has endless knowledge to share. He knows his craft and loves it; it's an honor to hear him talk," she said. "Sam is a great example of what the art department helps foster and how it can be beneficial to the overall campus and community."

To learn more about the [Department of Communications, Media, Art and Design programs](#), email cmad@moreheadstate.edu or call [606-783-2766](tel:606-783-2766).

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NEWS RELEASE

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MOREHEAD, Ky.---

Morehead State students display research at Posters-at-the-Capitol

Morehead State undergraduate students presented their hands-on research to state legislators and the governor at [Posters-at-the-Capitol](#) on Thursday, March 7, at the State Capitol in Frankfort.

Posters-at-the-Capitol is an event hosted collaboratively among eight higher education institutions: Eastern Kentucky University, Kentucky Community and Technical College System, Kentucky State University, Morehead State University, Murray State University, Northern Kentucky University, the University of Kentucky, University of Louisville, and Western Kentucky University. It allows undergraduate students to engage in scholarship, research, and creative work important to their educational experience and professional development.

MSU had 12 research posters at the event, including contributions from The Craft Academy for Excellence in Science and Mathematics. This year's Posters-at-the-Capitol also featured Lightning Talks, where each participating institution presented one poster in the Rotunda in front of an audience. Landon Fitch, a senior computer sciences major from Catlettsburg, was Morehead State's presenter. Alexis Mathews, coordinator of undergraduate research, said MSU also had 40 abstract submissions this year, the most they have had in years.

"Posters-at-the-Capitol is meant to showcase the importance of undergraduate research to state legislators who are responsible for higher education funding," Mathews said. "It's also a great opportunity for our students to meet their legislators and share their research with audiences. Engaging in undergraduate research is helping them build career skills that employers are looking for. And with this event they get that presentation experience as well, which will help them when they're looking to present at other conferences."

Research presentations include:

- Meg Akers of Winchester; Stephanie Perry of Louisa; Dr. Bernadette Barton, professor of sociology and gender studies; "Mythbusting: Transgender Truths."
- Madison Beam of Mt. Sterling; Dr. Lisa Shannon, professor of social work; "Examining The Difference in Maternal Health for Women Based on Distance from Hospital."
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- Marissa Blair of Morehead; Dr. Zachary Lee, assistant professor of chemistry; Dr. David A. Dixon, professor of chemistry, The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa; "Predicting the Reactions of CS₂, OCS, and CO₂ with Group IV and Group VI Transition Metal Oxides."
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- Jason White of Prestonsburg; Deidra L. Robinson, instructor of social work; "Collateral Consequences of College Admissions: Exploring the Attitudes and Experiences of Students in Recovery."

To learn more about [MSU's undergraduate research opportunities](#), contact the [Center for Career Development and Experiential Education](#) at careerservices@moreheadstate.edu or [606-783-2233](tel:606-783-2233).

VIEW PHOTOS at

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/msu1887/albums/72177720315324494/>

Photo: Morehead State and Craft Academy students, faculty and staff traveled to present research at this year's Posters-at-the-Capitol in Frankfort.

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Morehead State hosts Spring Tubafest March 18-April 8

Spring Tubafest, a series of concerts featuring instruments in the tuba family, is March 18-April 8.

Tubafest features guest performances, workshops, clinics, and masterclasses to help students hone their skills. This year's guest performers will be Dr. Gail Robertson, associate professor of tuba and euphonium at the University of Central Arkansas; Pianist T.O. Sterrett and Dr. Brandon Smith, visiting professor of tuba and euphonium at the University of Kentucky.

Robertson earned her B.A. degree from the University of Central Florida and an M.M. from Indiana University, where she served as graduate assistant to Harvey Phillips. She completed her D.M.A. as a University Distinguished Fellow at Michigan State University (studies with Phil Sinder and Ava Ordman). Dr. Robertson has taught on the faculties of Eastern Michigan University, the University of Central Florida, Bethune-Cookman University, and the University of Florida and remains active as a teacher, adjudicator, jazz clinician, composer, arranger, and free-lance artist, both nationally and internationally. She is half of the SymbiosisDuo, which she formed with Dr. Stacy Baker, professor of music at MSU.

Sterrett is a conductor and keyboardist whose work on Broadway includes arranger/orchestrator/music supervisor for "Gutenberg! The Musical!" (featuring Josh Gad and Andrew Rannells), associate conductor, keyboards and cast album for "Shrek the Musical," assistant conductor and pianist for "Wicked," and pianist/assistant conductor at "Cats." He has worked on many other Broadway shows, including "The Book of Mormon," "The Phantom of the Opera," "Something Rotten," "Matilda," "Elf," and "Mamma Mia."

Smith led the tuba and euphonium studio at Valdosta State University, where he taught applied lessons, studio classes, brass methods, and music appreciation. Smith has given masterclasses at several universities, including Kennesaw State University,

Florida A&M University, Mississippi State University, University of Tennessee, University of North Carolina at Charlotte, and Reinhardt University. Smith's students have performed at the Army Band Tuba and Euphonium Conference and the Southeast Regional Tuba and Euphonium Conference.

The schedule of events is as follows:

- March 18, [Guest Artists](#) Dr. Gail Robertson, euphonium and T.O. Sterrett, piano.
- 1 p.m., MSU Tuba/Euphonium Ensemble Rehearsal with Dr. Robertson, 117 Baird Music Hall.
- 3 p.m., Arranging and Composing for Tuba/Euphonium Ensemble with Dr. Robertson, 117 Baird Music Hall.
- 3 p.m., Musical Theatre Audition Workshop with T.O. Sterrett, Baird Music Hall.
- 7:30 p.m., SymbiosisDuo Recital "Dreams, Dances, and Destinations" - Dr. Gail Robertson, euphonium; Dr. Stacy Baker, tuba; and T.O. Sterrett, piano, Baird Music Hall.
- March 22, 11a.m., [Guest Artist Recital](#), Dr. Brandon Smith, Visiting Lecturer of Tuba and Euphonium, University of Kentucky, Baird Music Hall.
- April 8, 2:30 p.m., ["SPACE TUBAS"](#) celebrating the Great North American Eclipse with the MSU Tuba/Euphonium Ensemble, Dr. Stacy Baker, director, MSU Space Science Center lawn.

All events are free and open to the public.

For more information, contact Dr. Stacy Baker at 606-783-2107 or s.baker@moreheadstate.edu.

Explore programs in the [Department of Music, Theater, and Dance](#) by emailing mtd@moreheadstate.edu or calling 606-783-2473.

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NEWS RELEASE

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Joe Wilson proves it is never too late to earn your degree at Morehead State

Joe Wilson (Class of 2023) is a carpenter who spent most of his life building things for pleasure, as a profession, or a little bit of both. As he reached the typical retirement age, Wilson, now 72, decided he did not want to slow down. He wanted to build on his education and earn his college degree from Morehead State University.

Wilson grew up on a farm in Asher in Leslie County as one of 11 brothers and sisters. He helped one of his neighbors build a house when he was a young boy and found his passion, dropping out of high school at 16 to build homes and support his family. He built many houses and a few businesses (including a small grocery store and restaurant he went on to run briefly and later sell) over 35 years in carpentry.

"I just like to work outside, you know," Wilson said. "To build homes, it's just something I like to do."

Wilson kept building houses but wanted something to occupy his time in the colder months. However, instead of picking up a new hobby or interest, Wilson wanted to be known as something else: a college graduate.

Wilson earned his GED and enrolled in the Hazard Community & Technical College in the fall of 2016. He took part-time classes and earned an associate's degree in the fall of 2020.

Tracy Counts, a transfer advisor and enrollment services counselor for regional campuses, taught Wilson as an adjunct instructor in her Introduction to Gerontology course. When he expressed an interest in transferring to MSU, she and the staff at the University Center of the Mountains (where he took his MSU classes) did everything they could to help him navigate online courses. They adopted him as the "office grandpa."

"We would all worry if he was late coming to do his coursework on Mondays and Fridays," Counts said. "He has such a sweet spirit about him that he is wonderful to be around."

"She kind of kept making sure I kept my classes up to date and stuff like that," Wilson said of Counts. "They're all nice people, and they're all real good to me."

Wilson enjoyed taking many math and science classes at MSU on his way to earning a Bachelor of University Studies in December of 2023 at age 71. As a father of two and a beaming grandfather, his achievement made many people happy and proud.

"...And me being so young, you know," Wilson said, laughing. "It means a lot to me, of course. I don't praise myself, but I'm glad I got my college degree at my age."

Wilson is still building houses and plans to start another one next month. He said he would eventually slow down on the carpentry and use his degree to get a part-time job at Hazard Community & Technical College, where President/CEO Jennifer Lindon told him he has a standing offer to join the staff.

"Jennifer told me she'd find me something to do," he said.

Counts said assisting and mentoring Wilson toward earning his college degree was rewarding and insightful.

"Helping him gave me a better perspective of what students face when transferring to Morehead State once they have finished the transfer process with admissions. This was a great experience for me as well. I'm so proud of him sticking with it when it was getting hard toward the end," she said. "He was determined to finish what he had started even though the dream was over 50 years in the making."

"If anybody's 70-plus and wants to get a college degree, I'll praise them for that," Wilson said. "I'd encourage them to go ahead and go back to college if they wanted to...ain't nothing wrong with getting a good education."

To learn more about transferring to MSU or completing your degree, visit www.moreheadstate.edu/transfer, email transfer@moreheadstate.edu or call [606-783-2000](tel:606-783-2000).

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KCTM mid-semester concert is March 27

The Kentucky Center for Traditional Music (KCTM) will hold its “Sounds of Our Heritage” mid-semester concert on Wednesday, March 27, at the Rowan County Arts Center at 7 p.m.

The event will feature performances from all sections of the student ensemble. KCTM students will present various musical styles, including Bluegrass, string band, and old-time country music.

Admission is free, and the concert is open to the public.

Daxson Lewis, director of KCTM, said concerts like this give MSU students beneficial performance experiences in these styles of music.

“Our students are training to be industry professionals, studying not only the skills necessary to present a show as a performer but also the techniques required to produce a performance as an audio engineer, stage manager, sound tech, stage designer, etc. All are equally important,” Lewis said. “The Mid-Semester and End of Semester Showcase performances are an opportunity to present the accomplishments of our students while also giving back to the community that steadfastly supports us.”

Located in the heart of the Bluegrass State, where Bluegrass, old-time, and country music history has its roots, KCTM preserves, teaches, helps develop, and celebrates our rich mountain heritage. KCTM offers an opportunity to study with musicians who have performed with legends like Johnny Cash and at the Grand Ole Opry and to learn from professionals about performance, history, recording, the music industry, and more.

For more information or to learn more about [KCTM](#), email kctm@moreheadstate.edu or call [606-783-9001](tel:606-783-9001).

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



Communications & Marketing
Morehead State University
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NEWS RELEASE

March 20, 2024
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MOREHEAD, Ky.---

Rogers Challenge open to Morehead State students

The 20th Annual Judy Rogers Creative Consciousness Challenge seeks student submissions for the 2024 contest. The submission deadline is Friday, March 29.

The contest is open to all students, allowing them to highlight their creative work supporting women and gender studies research, art, and activism. Contributions should illustrate transformative gender consciousness with a focus on underrepresented groups, including Black, Indigenous, and other people of color; transmasculine and non-binary people; LGBTQIA+ people; people with disabilities; and immigrants.

The following media are accepted in the contest:

- 2D and 3D artwork, including paintings, drawings, ceramics, sculpture, photography, etc.
- Video production, including documentaries, video essays, music videos, etc.
- TikTok (short) videos.
- Memes.
- Creative writing, including essays, stories, and poems.
- Research, including papers, posters, and presentations.
- Record of social activism.

All submissions must include a 500-word essay, a crucial component that explains how gender studies influenced the work. All entries must be original undergraduate work not previously submitted to the contest, and contestants may only submit one entry. Cash prizes will be awarded for first, second, and third place.

Submissions should be emailed to Gender Studies Program Director Dr. Bernadette Barton at b.barton@moreheadstate.edu. Physical media may be dropped off at 355 Rader Hall.

The challenge is named in honor of Dr. Judy R. Rogers, a retired professor of English at Morehead State. Rogers also served as chairperson of the MSU Faculty Senate, associate vice president of academic affairs, and dean of undergraduate programs from 1967 to 1997. [The Caudill College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences](#), and the [gender studies program](#) sponsor the challenge.

For information about programs in the Caudill College, email ccahss@moreheadstate.edu or call 606-783-2650.

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NEWS RELEASE

March 21, 2024
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MOREHEAD, Ky.---

Senior art exhibition opens at Morehead State March 25

Morehead State's annual juried senior art exhibition, "[All Things Considered](#)," will be on display from March 25 to April 11 in the Golding-Yang Gallery in the Claypool-Young Art Building.

The opening reception is Wednesday, April 10, from 5 to 7 p.m. in the gallery.

The show features mixed media, paintings, sculptures, photography, and more by 27 graduating senior art students. Gallery Director and Instructor of Art and Design Michael Bowen and the art faculty are jurors.

"This exhibit allows each student to show off the amazing work they have completed at MSU. It is the culmination of their studies and allows them to share their artistic voice not only with the campus and student body but with their friends and family," Bowen said. "For some, it may even be their first time exhibiting their work besides our sophomore review."

"People should come to see the amazing work and the great accomplishments of our students and support them as they begin the journey into their professional artistic career. So far, the work I've seen is top-notch, and I am extremely proud of these young artists."

[The Golding-Yang Art Gallery](#), located within the Claypool-Young Art Building, is a pivotal educational and cultural component of the Department of Communication, Media, Art & Design, the Caudill College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, the MSU campus and the community at large. The Golding-Yang Gallery is open to the public Monday through Friday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. To learn more, email Bowen at r.bowen@moreheadstate.edu.

Learn more about programs in the [Department of Communication, Media, Art & Design](#) by emailing cmad@moreheadstate.edu or calling 606-783-2766.

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NEWS RELEASE

March 26, 2024
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MOREHEAD, Ky.---

Morehead State extends deadline to help students

Morehead State University takes pride in providing affordable, quality education while helping students and families navigate the financial aid process.

The nationwide delay by the U.S. Department of Education in the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid – Pell Grants) is causing uncertainties for the families of prospective students who receive aid. As one of Kentucky's most affordable four-year universities, MSU is here to help.

We are extending our priority commitment date from May 1 to June 15. We've also moved our merit scholarship priority deadline to June 15.

Students can [confirm their enrollment](#) online and are encouraged to do so before June 15, as space is limited.

Enrollment Services staff are available to help students, families, and schools as they navigate the FAFSA (Pell Grants) and financial aid process.

MSU President Jay Morgan noted, "MSU continues to be one of the most affordable colleges in Kentucky, and we're glad to continue offering affordable opportunities to the students and families of Kentucky and beyond."

Morehead State offers:

- Students can [self-report their estimated Cost of Attendance](#) based on their 2024-25 FAFSA.
- Attend FAFSA days at schools and local communities with MSU enrollment and financial aid staff.
- Schedule [one-on-one appointments](#) with our financial aid staff (in-person or virtually) for students and families.

- Join our free online live event, “College Affordability 101,” on Thursday, April 11, at 7 p.m.

Morehead State University is a top-ranked U.S. News & World Report school, earning distinction as a Top 20 public regional university in the South, with very high rankings for undergraduate teaching. MSU is committed to academic excellence, a welcoming campus atmosphere, beneficial learning experiences inside and outside the classroom, and student support.

For more information, call the [Office of Enrollment Services](#) at [606-783-2000](tel:606-783-2000), [800-585-6781](tel:800-585-6781), or email admissions@moreheadstate.edu.

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NEWS RELEASE

March 26, 2024
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MOREHEAD, Ky.---

Dr. Robbie Fletcher selected as Kentucky's education commissioner

A Morehead State University education graduate has been chosen to lead Kentucky's education department.

Dr. Robbie Fletcher (Class of 1996, 2013), superintendent of Lawrence County Schools, will serve as the Kentucky Department of Education's (KDE) Commissioner of Education. Fletcher begins his tenure as the chief state school officer on July 1, pending Kentucky Senate confirmation.

"I appreciate the members of the Kentucky Board of Education nominating me as the next Kentucky Commissioner of Education," Fletcher said. "With Senate confirmation, I look forward to serving ALL students and ALL those involved in our educational system."

Fletcher earned a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics and Physics from Morehead State in 1996. After earning a Master of Education (M.Ed.) in Educational Leadership and Administration from the University of Kentucky in 2002, he returned to MSU to earn a Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) in Educational Leadership and Administration in 2013.

Fletcher has been Lawrence County's superintendent since 2014 and previously was principal at Sheldon Clark High School (2009-14) and Warfield Middle School (2005-09), both in Martin County. He began his career in 1996 as a math and science teacher before becoming Inez Middle School's assistant principal in 2004.

As Kentucky's education commissioner, Fletcher will oversee the daily operations of the KDE. He will also be superintendent of the Kentucky School for the Blind, the Kentucky School of the Deaf, and the state's 50 area technology centers.

Fletcher said the degrees he earned at MSU and his campus experience helped prepare him for this new role.

"I am very thankful for the educational opportunities that I received as part of the undergraduate and doctoral programs from Morehead State University. The staff of MSU invested a lot of time into this former mathematics/physics teacher and provided valuable resources for my doctoral work in response to intervention (RTI) in the high school setting," he said. "I commend Morehead State and all of our colleges and universities throughout Kentucky that provide opportunities for our students to achieve their dreams."

Fletcher said he does not take this responsibility lightly and plans to dedicate all his efforts to improving educational opportunities in Kentucky.

"I sincerely believe there is no greater compliment, no greater honor, or no greater responsibility than when parents or guardians allow another person to be a part of their child's life. When a child sits on one of our buses or walks through the doorway of one of our schools, a parent or guardian is saying, 'I trust you with my greatest accomplishment,'" he said. "I will do my best to honor that trust that we have been given for over 600,000 Kentucky students by being 'ALL IN' each and every day."

To learn more about [Ernst and Sara Volgenau College of Education programs](#), call [606-783-2162](tel:606-783-2162) or email ad.miller@moreheadstate.edu.

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NEWS RELEASE

March 26, 2024
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MOREHEAD, Ky.---

Morehead State's Star Theater hosting Solar Eclipse event

Morehead State's [Star Theater](#) will host a [community celebration](#) commemorating the solar eclipse on Monday, April 8, from 2 to 4 p.m.

The event includes viewing of the eclipse outside and viewing glasses will be available on a first-come, first-served basis. A remote live feed will be available if weather conditions prohibit outdoor viewing.

The event includes a performance by MSU's [Tuba and Euphonium Ensemble, "Space Tubas,"](#) at 2:30 p.m. At 3:30 p.m., the Star Theater will host a screening of the planetarium program "[Sunstruck.](#)"

Dr. Pamela Clark, director of the Star Theater, said the celebration was organized because the eclipse is a unique astronomical event.

"We are experiencing a near totality (97%) solar eclipse, and it will be 20 years before we have another total solar eclipse over the U.S.," Clark said. "I hope folks enjoy the dramatic experience of a solar eclipse, learn more about the sun, and appreciate its wonders and the impact of the sun 'going away' even for a short time."

Housed in the [Space Science Center](#), the Star Theater at Morehead State University is a state-of-the-art digital planetarium serving the surrounding area of Eastern Kentucky. The planetarium offers public shows on second and fourth Saturdays throughout the year, as well as a variety of special programs and events.

For more information, contact the Star Theater at star.theater@moreheadstate.edu or [606-783-9593](tel:606-783-9593).

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NEWS RELEASE

March 27, 2024
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MOREHEAD, Ky.---

Morehead State's Star Theater hosting Solar Eclipse event

The Morehead State University Board of Regents meets Friday, March 29, at 9:30 a.m. in room 329 of the Adron Doran University Center.

The meeting will start with an audit committee meeting and regular board business will begin at 9:45 a.m.

Following recognition of student, faculty, and staff accomplishments, the board will hear recommendations and reports from MSU President Dr. Jay Morgan. The board will then vote on consent agenda items, which include:

- Ratify Personnel Actions
- Approve Faculty Tenure, Promotions and Sabbaticals
- Approve Athletics Contract
- Approve University Endowment Match
- Approve Revision to SGA Constitution
- Approve University Audits

The board will also vote on several recommendations, including:

- Approve Second Quarter Financial Report
- Approve Tuition, Fee, and Housing Rates for 2024-2025
- Approve New Fee Categories
- Approve Plan for Razing of Facility

The board will then enter a closed executive session to discuss matters relating to the future disposition of real estate. The Board will take no action while in the session.

There will be several presentations at the meeting, including an update on the status of a bond sale to finance a new residence hall, an update on academic year 2024-25 meal plans, a report on personal service contracts, and a legislative update.

The next [Board of Regents](#) meeting is Friday, June 14.

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NEWS RELEASE

March 28, 2024
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MOREHEAD, Ky.---

Beginner's Mind Exhibition Opens April 1

Thirty-six color and black and white photos taken by introductory photography students last fall are featured in the "Beginner's Mind" exhibition at the Camden-Carroll Library.

The exhibit will be on display in the Athena Room from April 1 to Aug. 30.

The exhibition's name is an homage to the Zen Buddhist concept of the same name.

"Through the craft of fine art photography, students express their inherent sensitivity to the world, explore their empathy for others, and create images that embody emotions, ideas, and imaginings both personal and universal," said Dr. Robyn Moore, associate professor of photography and digital art.

The opening reception is Wednesday, April 3, from 4 to 6 p.m. Refreshments will be offered at the reception.

In the fall 2023 semester, Elizabeth Mesa-Gaido, professor of art, was approached by Stacy Scott, acquisitions librarian at the library, about having a photography exhibition in the Athena Room. Mesa-Gaido then asked Moore, who worked with Scott on the details for the exhibition.

"This exhibition will be another example of how the library and Department of Communication, Media, Art and Design can work together to promote student voices and artwork on campus," said Moore.

The exhibit will be on display during the library's regular hours. Visit the library's website for the schedule.

For more information about the "Beginner's Mind" exhibition, contact Moore at r.moore@moreheadstate.edu or call 606-783-2868.

To learn more about programs in the Department of Communications, Media, Art and Design, email cmad@moreheadstate.edu or call 606-783-2766.

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NEWS RELEASE

March 28, 2024
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MOREHEAD, Ky.---

Morehead State art program prepared Juan Dontrese Brown for career in creative design

Juan Dontrese Brown (Class of 1998) is a proud Morehead State Eagle who soars as a designer, creator and leader.

Brown is a former director of brand creative at Capital One and former creative director of Marketing at Victorinox/Swiss Army Knife Inc. Now a sought-after public speaker, he is making a difference through design with his company [Hidden in Plain Site](#).

Hidden in Plain Site is a virtual reality exploration of several lesser-known historical sites that tell the story and history of the Black experience in America. Brown lives in Richmond, Virginia.

Originally from Louisville, Brown enrolled at Georgetown College with aspirations to attend college on an athletic scholarship and pursue a career as a traditional artist.

“I thought I was going to be an abstract painter, traveling Europe, speaking French with a beret. Honestly,” Brown said, laughing.

During his sophomore year, Brown was in an art class with a guest speaker on graphic design that inspired him. In collaboration with the late art professor Jim McCormick, he helped build the curriculum that would become Georgetown College’s graphic design program, with Brown as its first official graduate.

He then enrolled at Morehead State to pursue a graduate degree in art. He said the talent level of the MSU faculty helped to push him to become a better artist. He was challenged to improve and step up his artistic game by the late Deeno Golding, who Brown said was the first black male teacher he ever had as a student, and he thought of as a father figure. Professor of Art Gary Mesa-Gaido helped him expand his boundaries

as an interdisciplinary artist and designer and ended up attending Brown's wedding years after he graduated from MSU.

The bonds he formed with his MSU instructors are connections he treasures to this day.

"Just to see their intentionality in making sure they connected with us and showed that they cared for us was tremendous," Brown said. "These are relationships that I will never let go of. They are just so strong."

After graduating from MSU, he went on to earn a Master of Fine Arts from the Savannah College of Art & Design and work as a professional graphic designer.

Brown's career is coming full circle. He's giving back to his undergraduate alma mater in a considerable way.

When he returned to Georgetown College to receive the Distinguished Alumni Award, he was asked help with a new marketing campaign, which he said is "a testament to the transformative power of education and the importance of giving back to our communities."

He is working with Georgetown College on its new campaign and tagline, "The Six Foundational Pillars." He'll be on campus to help launch the campaign in April.

"The education I received at Georgetown, Morehead State University, and the Savannah College of Art and Design has contributed to me becoming a leader in the space of storytelling, creative marketing, branding strategy, business acumen, community engagement, and social impact," he said.

Learn more about programs in the [Department of Communication, Media, Art & Design](#) by emailing cmad@moreheadstate.edu or calling [606-783-2766](tel:606-783-2766).

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NEWS RELEASE

March 29, 2024
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MOREHEAD, Ky.---

Camden-Carroll Library holds used book sale

Morehead State University's Camden-Carroll Library (CCL) will hold a discounted book sale on Friday, April 5, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., on the second floor of the library.

Approximately 10,000 books are available for a dollar each. Visitors must pay with cash or check.

CCL is removing old and outdated material to make room for new or more relevant material and updating the second-floor plan to create a new classroom space, collaboration space, and an overall more welcoming atmosphere.

"There are books from many different disciplines for the blowout price of a dollar each," said Rodney Watkins, interim dean of library services. "If the public or students have any interest in books regarding art, education, circuits, solar energy, or other disciplines, we will have them."

To learn more about [MSU's Camden-Carroll Library](#), email library@moreheadstate.edu or call [606-783-2200](tel:606-783-2200).

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