Celebration of Excellence & Commencement 2017

Our favorite time of the year is when we celebrate the successes of our students! Our Celebration of Excellence and our Commencement ceremonies bring together the students who have worked hard all year to achieve their goals, with the people who have been at their side to support and encourage them along the way.

See Page 3 for more photos plus Celebration of Excellence & Commencement Details!
GO TO COLLEGE TUITION FREE.

WORK READY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Ready. Set. Work.

We know what you're thinking. There's probably a catch. But, here in Kentucky, employers are struggling to find enough people to fill positions in high demand, high paying fields. They need you. So we're making it easier to get you the credential you need and a job you'll love.

If you've ever considered a career in health care, manufacturing, construction, logistics, business and IT, you qualify. If you're a Kentucky resident with a high school degree or GED, you qualify. If you have not earned an associate degree or higher, you qualify.

Kentucky's Work Ready scholarship helps Kentuckians earn an industry-recognized certificate or credential by covering all tuition costs.

To qualify, you should:
• Be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident
• Be a Kentucky resident
• Be a high school or GED graduate
• Have not earned an associate's or higher degree
• Not be in default on any obligation to KHEAA

Areas of study:
• Health care
• Advanced manufacturing
• Transportation/logistics
• Business services/IT
• Construction

Applying is easy:
• Complete the FAFSA
• Complete the application at your college of choice
• Complete the scholarship application

Eligibility:
Expires when the first of the following conditions is met:
• Receipt of scholarship funding for the equivalent of four academic terms;
• Receipt of the scholarship for 32 credit hours of enrollment; or
• Receipt of a first associate's degree
• Recipients must earn a grade point average of 2.0 or higher each semester the scholarship is received in order to be eligible the following semester.

Beginning this fall semester, the Fort Knox community will have more education options with the addition of our Engineering & Electronics Technology Program. The program will be offered in the evening and is open to everyone, including active duty military, family members and the general public. The Associate in Applied Science (AAS) degree and certificate program provides course work, competencies and experiences to prepare students for careers in electronics, computer maintenance, communications, and instrumentation. Courses will be offered on campus, on-line, and hybrid, a combination of both.

We are proud to partner with the LGE-KU in its internship program, which is designed to assist students in applying their education to productive work experiences. They work side-by-side with energy industry professionals and utilize some of the best technologies available.

LG&E and KU’s paid internships run concurrently with full-time class attendance. Students typically work part-time while attending school and full-time during the summer months. The internship is flexible, designed to work around the students’ classroom schedule. Internships typically run from 18-24 months.

Some internships offer up to 12 hours of paid tuition assistance per semester for students who qualify. Interns earn between $14.65 and $16.30 per hour. Craft-worker professionals in many different career fields often earn six-figure incomes annually.

Mr. Joshua Bennett, an Engineering and Electronics Technology student, completed his first semester experience as an intern at LGE-KU. “I thoroughly enjoy my internship with LGE-KU!” Bennett said. “I feel my success is a direct correlation of being able to take exactly what I learn in the classroom, and applying that daily on the job as an Instrumentation and Electronics Tech.”
Celebration of Excellence Night

The Celebration of Excellence recognizes scholarship and academic achievement, as well as student leadership and involvement. Student ambassadors, who represent the college both internally and within the community, Student Government Officers, Graduates of Excellence with 4.0 GPAs, President’s List, Dean’s List, scholarship awardees and program award winners were all honored during an evening of celebration on Thursday, May 4.

We were excited to honor a special student who epitomizes the term “lifelong learner.” Florence Owen, 85, was honored with the Humanities Award for 21 consecutive semesters of classes and her ability to enrich classroom discussion through the wealth of her life experiences and her own insight. She is another remarkable ECTC student!

Commencement 2017

About 170 students, cheered by enthusiastic family and friends, were awarded diplomas at our 52nd Commencement Ceremony on May 8. There is nothing more exciting for the faculty, staff and students at ECTC than to share in their joy at accomplishing their goals. Approximately 1,115 degrees and diplomas were awarded to graduating students for the 2016-2017 academic year.
Renew & Relax Spring Expo Empowers and Pampers Lady Veterans

ECTC hosted a Lady Veteran Renew & Relax Spring Expo to empower and pamper Lady Veterans and Active duty females in our communities. The event was co-sponsored by the ECTC Veteran Center of Excellence, Lady Veteran Connect & the Kentucky Department of Veteran Affairs. This free event offered ladies information on education, careers, community services, and resources along with featured guest speakers.

ECTC’s Dr. Tiffany Evans, Provost, was the Welcoming Speaker, who presented an inspirational and empowering message to the Lady Veterans in attendance. With over 150 participants, the event was an a la carte type of day where the ladies could flow at their own leisure. Lady Veterans were treated to massage, Zumba, yoga, meditation & acupressure. Speakers, resource & sales vendors, DJ, photo booth, refreshments, lunch, door prizes, & a photographer were all a part of the daylong events.

KYFAME
KENTUCKY FEDERATION FOR ADVANCED MANUFACTURING EDUCATION
Graduation

Nine ECTC students in the KYFAME program (Kentucky Federation of Advanced Manufacturing Education) are the first in the Lincoln Trail Chapter to graduate and begin their full-time careers.

KYFAME is a partnership of regional manufacturers whose purpose is to implement apprentice-style training to create a pipeline of highly-skilled workers. The five-semester college degree program matches higher education with continuous real-world experience.

The program allows them to take classes two days a week, while working at their sponsoring manufacturer three days a week. Students earn a competitive salary while attending college, with the potential to graduate debt-free.

Pictured Left to Right:
Mike Hazzard, ECTC, Technical Division Chair
Shane Wilson, Altec
Nathan Shewmaker, TGKY
Zach Jordan, Metalsa hired Gordon Food Service, Elizabethtown
Chase Rich, Metalsa, Elizabethtown
Liam Dawson, Metalsa, hired at Akebono, Elizabethtown
Brian Coulter, LG & E, Springfield
Austin Board, LG & E, Irvington
Kristal DiCarlo, AGC
Jeff Mills, Akebono
Tommy Wheatley, Metalsa

We are proud to announce our KYFAME graduates and thankful for our manufacturing partners and our graduates’ employers.
START HERE...GO ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD!

By Kevin Parrett

At ECTC you can literally start here and go anywhere….around the globe! Students, faculty, and staff have opportunities to study abroad and tour internationally. Imagine standing in the middle of the Colosseum in Rome, climbing the Great Wall of China, being in the world’s largest city (Shanghai), visiting the Louvre Museum in Paris, seeing Big Ben in London, and learning about their local cultures. Introduction to cultures around the globe is critical in today’s interconnected environment.

Some of these opportunities are open to the general public. Options include class tours for credit and non-credit cultural tours.

Some options include:
- Kentucky Institute for International Studies (KIIS)
- Education First College Study Tours (EF)
- Explorica Student Tours
- International Scholar Laureate Program (ISLP)

One of ECTC’s partners, Explorica, states this on its Web site,
https://www.explorica.com/blog/benefits-educational-travel:
In today’s digital world, geographic borders no longer exist. In work, school and across society, the skills developed by interacting with other cultures are becoming increasingly valuable. To become global citizens, students must have opportunities to interact and immerse themselves in foreign cultures.

ECTC leads all 16 KCTCS colleges in sending students and other groups abroad and has helped create other successful programs around the state. In addition to leading our international tours, I serve as the Chair for Global Studies and International Partnerships (GSIP) for KCTCS and am the voting member for the system within the Kentucky Council on Education Abroad (KCEA).

Contact me for more information at kparrett0003@kctcs.edu.

A Dark Day on August 21 when Mother Nature Steals the Show!

Join the ECTC Campus community on Monday, August 21, for the “Foreshadowing” of a rare natural phenomenon...a total solar eclipse. Just before 1 p.m. that day, we will begin to experience a nearly 98% eclipse that will last about two hours. You’ll be able to safely view the phenomenon with special eclipse-viewing glasses provided by the ECTC STEM committee.

Leading up to the main event, faculty will present perspectives about the total eclipse of the sun from viewpoints related to history, religion, philosophy, science and literature. You’ll also enjoy sun- and moon-themed music and snacks. Student organizations will hold a membership drive and help distribute the viewing glasses. More information to come, so stay tuned for details about how to appreciate this super-natural event!
Students Excel in SkillsUSA State Competition

Congratulations to all of the ECTC students who competed in the 2017 State Skills USA competition on April 19-22. These 18 students competed well during their 10 contests, bringing home 14 gold medals, three silver medals and one bronze medal. Their hard work and talent were obvious with each student earning a medal for their efforts.

Most of the following State Winners are eligible to compete at the National Skills USA Conference on June 19-23 in Louisville, KY. We wish them the best as they advance to compete and represent ECTC on the very competitive national level!

ECTC State Competition Winners:

**Commercial Baking:** Mary Crowder - 1st Place
**Cake Decorating:** Donny Onnoy - 1st Place
**Diesel:** Christian Payne - 1st Place
**Electrical Construction Wiring:** Kevin Buchanan - 1st Place
**HVAC & Refrigeration:** Corey Lawrence - 1st Place
**Industrial Motor Controls:** Dylan Barnes - 1st Place
**Gina Edwards - 3rd Place**
**Mechtronics:**
**Brandon Hughes and Nicholas Lamer - 1st Place**
**Matthew Riggs and Gary Mudd - 2nd Place**
**Plumbing:** Daniel Faust - 1st Place
**Related Technical Math:** Chloe Callahan - 1st Place
**Team Works:**
**Lee Stahl, Nobert Apatang, Vernon McCombs, and Cade Bowen - 1st Place**

Picture: Donny Onnoy - 1st Place in Cake Decorating
Phi Theta Kappa Honor Students Attend Catalyst Convention in Nashville

In early April, four ECTC honor students (Megan Evans, Chris Forbes, Jessica Hilyar, and Thomas Pierce) attended Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society Catalyst convention in Nashville, TN. Phi Theta Kappa is the nation’s oldest and largest honor society for community colleges. It began in 1918 and has over 3 million members. More than $37 million in transfer scholarship opportunities are available to members every year through Phi Theta Kappa.

Students heard motivational speakers/famous individuals, attended state meetings, participated in educational forums, attended general sessions, and mingled with nearly 4,000 other community college honor students from around the US and world. The main goal of the convention is to award chapters in various categories and celebrate that success.

In 2017, ECTC’s Alpha Lambda Delta chapter won two state awards:
1) Most distinguished theme in Kentucky
2) Ranked 5th out of 25 Kentucky chapters for its Honors in Action project

ECTC students chose theme 4 Peace and War from the 2016-2017 honors study guide. This theme was discussed and chosen since two active members were veterans: one from Iraq, one from Afghanistan. The veterans stated they found peace at ECTC furthering their education, after coming back from war in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Students performed research on Peace and War and worked with different veteran groups on campus and in the community. During Veterans Day week, the local chapter helped share information and assistance available for veterans attending ECTC.

Honor students used day of departure as one for sight-seeing within the host city. In Nashville, ECTC students visited the Parthenon replica in Centennial Park, across from Vanderbilt University’s main campus. This structure is a replica of the Parthenon in Greece. Inside, there is a museum of local art along with the Athena statue, the largest indoor statue in the US.

ECTC honor students receiving two state awards at the conference: 2nd from left Chris Forbes, Thomas Pierce, Jessica Hilyar, and Megan Evans. Individuals on far left and far right are Kentucky Regional officers Triston Cox (left) and Ryan Cook (right).

Did You Know?

During spring and fall semesters, Phi Theta Kappa meets weekly, and students can hold leadership roles within the local chapter to build leadership skills.
“First Year Experience” Enhances Student Success

When classes start on the Elizabethtown Community and Technical College campuses this fall, first-time college students will have the chance to take a new course that could change their lives: First Year Experience (FYE 105). Being offered for the first time at ECTC, this 3-hour college success course will cover the essential skills freshmen need to master, regardless if they’re 18 or 48 – skills like time management, career/life planning, campus resources, and basic study skills.

The benefits of a college success course for new freshmen has been acknowledged for decades: data shows that students who successfully complete an FYE course demonstrate higher retention and a higher GPA than students who don’t, and most of the community colleges and universities across the state offer a similar course to their freshmen. The FYE program at ECTC being launched this fall comes as the result of a Title III grant, which will allow the pilot group of 300 “FYE Scholars” to take the course tuition-free and has also provided funding for two new “success coaches” for the program.

Communications Professor and FYE Program Coordinator Katrina Eicher recently conducted a day of training for the FYE instructors who will start with the “FYE Scholars” in the fall. “We know this will make a huge difference in the lives of our freshmen,” Katrina said. “It will equip them to understand what to expect and how to ‘do’ college; we know it will enable them to be more successful students.” Enriching lives and encouraging success – the new FYE 105 program at ECTC will definitely give many new students an edge in reaching their academic and life goals.