

LTC ADMITTED STUDENT DAY FEBRUARY 1

Lincoln Trail College will welcome future Statesmen to campus February 1 during the second-annual Admitted Student Day. All graduating seniors are invited to attend this event which is designed to help demonstrate why starting their academic journey at LTC is a good decision.

The event will give the students a chance to talk to faculty about classes and programs. LTC advisers will be on hand to help students plan for their future at LTC and students will also be able to get their questions about financial aid and scholarships answered with representatives from LTC's Financial Aid Department. Lincoln Trail College President Dr. Ryan Gower and Dean of Instruction Brent Todd will welcome the students to Admitted Student Day.

"We want students to see what they can expect at Lincoln Trail College," says Coordinator of Marketing and Public Information Chris Forde. "Many of the students coming to Admitted Student Day are still trying to make a final college decision and we want them to see what we can offer at LTC."

According to LTC President Dr. Ryan Gower, the Admitted Student Day event is an important part of the College's enrollment management plan. "Competition for enrollment is real. We happen to believe that we provide an excellent educational experience for our students and that experience is available here at a fraction of the price of our peer institutions. This event gives us an opportunity to tell our story."

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FEBRUARY EVENTS

- 1 Admitted Student Day 10-1, LTC Campus
- 3 Children's Art Exhibition Open House 4-6:30 p.m., Library
- 4 LTC Foundation Concert Series: The Gutherie Brothers: Scarborough Fair, A Tribute to Simon and Garfunkel 7 p.m., Zwermann Arts Center Theater
- 5 Phi Theta Kappa Cookie Sales 10-1, Williams Hall Foyer
- 11 Nutrition Series: Going Vegetarian 5:30 p.m., Library
- 12 Spring Crochet Class Begins 6 p.m., Library
- 17 COLLEGE CLOSED Presidents Day
- 19 Phi Theta Kappa Cookie Sales 10-1, Williams Hall Foyer
- 22 Ensemble Waiver Auditions 9 a.m., Zwermann Arts Center Theater
- 26 Women's Self Defense Workshop 6 p.m., Activity Annex



Admitted Student Day covers more than academics and aid at LTC. The event will also give students the chance to learn about the other college experiences they can have. A panel of current students will be on hand to tell event attendees what they like most about being an LTC student. They'll also have the chance to learn about different extracurricular opportunities through a variety of booths that will be set up during the event. Students can also tour the campus and they can attend LTC's Homecoming basketball games that afternoon.

"Student life is a huge part of college," says Forde. "We want students to see things like Student Senate and Phi Theta Kappa. We want them to know that they'll have wonderful opportunities to meet with students from all over the world and we'd love them to experience the atmosphere of a Lincoln Trail College basketball game. We also want them to talk to our students and hear about their experiences at LTC."

For the College, the goal of Admitted Student Day is to get students to commit to attending LTC. "This is one more opportunity for us to interact with prospective students," says Forde. "We want them to see the personal touch Lincoln Trail has to offer them with small class sizes and



one-on-one attention and we want them to see how Lincoln Trail College is a financially smart decision."

JANUARY 2020

SPORT MANAGEMENT PREPARES FOR SYMPOSIUM



Lincoln Trail College will give students considering careers in sport a chance to learn more about the opportunities available at a Sport Management Symposium on January 24 at the Zwermann Arts Center Theater.

The symposium will feature speakers from the University of Illinois, the St. Louis Cardinals, and Clemson University. They will talk with students about their careers as well as opportunities available in the industry.

"Sport is one of the fastest-growing careers out there right now," says lead instructor Tyler Browning. "Students today have more opportunities to get into the industry than they did even a few years ago. We want them to be able to see what's available and what they need to do to start those careers."

Browning says he's also hoping that this event will spur more interest in LTC's program. "We've been able to do a lot of different things in our program. We've heard from the founder of ESPN, we've heard from Division I coaches, we've heard from representatives from the Chicago Blackhawks, the Chicago White Sox, the St. Louis Cardinals, and the Miami Heat. We've toured facilities at the University of Illinois and the United Center. Students that go through our program get opportunities for internships. When you graduate with a degree in Sport Management from LTC, you have a good foundation."

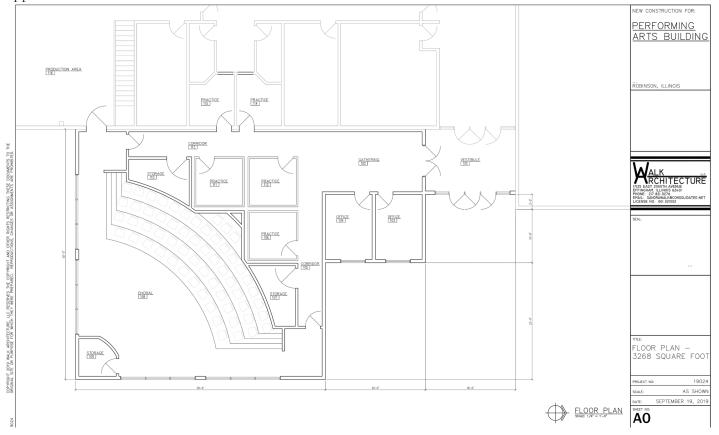
The free event runs from 9 a.m. to noon at the Zwermann Arts Center Theater.

EXCITEMENT GROWS FOR ADDITION TO LTC THEATER

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The recent commitment of the LTC Foundation to fund an additional \$150,000 for the expansion of the Zwermann Arts Center is creating excitement on campus. Students are excited to see the groundbreaking and faculty and staff are beginning to imagine the ways the building can support academic programs. LTC Dean of Instruction Brent Todd sees a financial, convenience, and academic benefits for the college. "From a scheduling perspective, this project will have a substantially positive impact," says Todd. "In recent semesters, LTC experienced an influx of dual enrollment students on its campus. The College lacks the capacity to accommodate every student interested in courses like Music Appreciation and World Music."



The new addition will have a large classroom designed specifically with choral performances in mind but will be flexible enough to allow other courses to be taught in the space as well. LTC President Dr. Ryan Gower believes a space like this is consistent with the college's mission of providing a quality and affordable education. "While we pride ourselves on having a highly personalized learning experience, there are certain courses where having a lecture hall that can accommodate 100 students makes sense. This will also allow us to divert dollars that are being used to pay for multiple sections of the same class so we can expand our offerings in other subjects."

Perhaps nobody is as eager to see the new addition be built that LTC Performing Arts Director Rebecca Carmack. "The new rehearsal and classroom space will allow us to serve the needs of the college, performing arts department and community. While the current space has done that over the years, we now need a space that can easily convert from a classroom to a rehearsal space due to the growth of our classes and ensembles and the new building will allow us to do just that. The building will also offer us additional storage and practice rooms in which we can teach applied lessons. With the growth of our applied lesson program, we often run short on instructional space. I believe the practice rooms are highly beneficial when it comes to recruiting new students as it allows our applied students a space to practice their instrument. I think the unique aesthetic effect of the new addition will draw students in and create an ideal learning space." The addition of spaces to deliver applied lessons (guitar, vocal, piano lessons) was a big draw for the LTC Foundation. "Our president has talked about the college becoming a place that serves everyone in Crawford County," says LTC Foundation Executive Director Rod Harmon. "We are excited that more area school children will have the chance to find a passion for music and the arts in this new area."

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GULLETT JOINS LTC HEALTH CAREERS PROGRAMS



Lincoln Trail College has a new face heading the Health Careers program. Dr. Jared Gullett started with the College beginning with the Spring 2020 Semester. Gullett will work with students in the Certified Medical Assistant and Electronic Medical Records program.

Gullett served as a chiropractor before coming to Lincoln Trail College. He earned his Doctorate of Chiropractic from Logan College of Chiropractic. He earned his Bachelor of Science in Human Biology from Logan University and he has an Associate of Science in Biological Sciences from Vincennes University.

Outside of work, Gullett enjoys working in his woodshop and golfing. He's married to Emily and they have three kids, Blake, Zara, and Maeve.

LTC CELEBRATES HOMECOMING FEBRUARY 1



Lincoln Trail College will celebrate Homecoming February 1 when the men's and women's basketball teams face Southeastern Illinois College.

LTC's Student Senate is planning a series of events during the week leading up to the Homecoming games. They've created five themed days for students, faculty, and staff to dress up and participate. The first day is a pajama day on January 27. The following day is themed crazy hat day. They're encouraging people to dress like superheroes on Jan. 29 and Jan. 30 is designated throwback day. The day before the games is spirit day, where they're encouraging people to embrace their Statesmen spirit and dress up to support the College.

Student Senate is also planning a special event for the night of Jan. 31. They're putting on their first-ever Statesmen Escape, which features escape room challenges along with a scavenger hunt. The Statesmen Escape event is for teams of six and registration forms are available in the Administrative Office in Williams Hall and on the Student Senate Board in the Student Union.







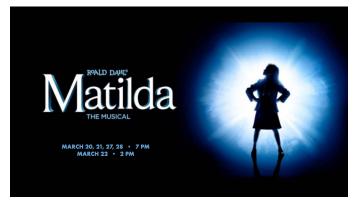
VEGETARIAN DIET FEB. 11 | 5:30 | LTC LIBRARY | FREE

Are you curious about whether a vegetarian diet is healthy, or maybe just want to experiment with some meatless meals? According to the Academy of Nutifion and Dietetics, a well-planned vegetarian diet is a healthy and nutritionality adequate diet. This lesson will define the different types of vegetarian diets and review nutrition concern especially for specific population groups. TO REGISTER, CALL:

618-544-8657







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FEBRUARY ATHLETIC EVENTS

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Baseball

3:00 7:00 7:30

3:00

7:30

3:00 7:30 3:00

7:30

7:30

TBD

TBD 1:00

12:00

1:00

5:30 1:00

5:30 1:00

5:30

1:00

5:30

7	at Chattanooga St.	2:00
8	at Chattanooga St.	12:00
14	at Georgia Highlands	2:00
15	at Georgia Highlands	12:00
21	at Southern Union	12:00
22	at Southern Union	12:00
24	vs. Sinclair (at Grand Park)	12:00
28	at Gordon College	2:00
29	at Gordon College	12:00

Men's Basketball

1	Southeastern	
3	Rose Hulman	
5	Vincennes	
8	at Rend Lake	
12	Wabash Valley	
15	at Southwestern	
19	at Olney Central	
22	John A. Logan	
24	at Shawnee	
26	Lewis & Clark	

Softball

15	at Booneville, MS	
16	at Booneville, MS	
22	at Jackson St.	
23	at Jackson St.	

Women's Basketball

1	Southeastern	
5 8	Vincennes	
	at Rend Lake	
12	Wabash Valley	
15	at Southwestern	
19	at Olney Central	
22	John A. Logan	
24	at Shawnee	



Lincoln Trail College student-athletes have combined for a GPA above 3.0 for the 12th consecutive semester. In the Fall 2019 Semester, the department had a combined GPA of 3.13.

"I'm very proud of the performance of our student-athletes in the classroom," said Athletic Director Kevin Bowers. "This is the mark that we strive for each semester as coaches and we know that our students take note of that."

Six of the College's seven teams had team GPA's over 3.0, led by the golf team's 3.60. The volleyball team finished with a 3.33 GPA followed by the baseball team with a 3.24. The women's soccer team, which began play in 2019, had a team GPA of 3.19, the women's basketball team had a 3.04 GPA and the softball team had a 3.03 GPA. The men's basketball team finished with a 2.63 GPA.

Bowers says that maintaining grades is as important as winning is to the coaches and he says they consider that cumulative mark of at least 3.0 as a benchmark. He says the student-athletes also see it. "There's no doubt that this message reaches our students and they take a lot of pride in how our department performs academically."

Bowers says one of the reasons why student-athletes succeed at Lincoln Trail College is because there's a great support system in place. "We have outstanding faculty that want to see our students succeed and on top of that, there's a great support staff there to help make sure that all of our students have the resources they need to learn and grow."

He says one of the reasons why academics are so important to the coaches is because they want their players to understand the value of an education. "We want our student-athletes to understand that they are getting a good foundation for life here. Not many people have the opportunity to play professionally, so having a good education is going to open a lot of doors for them."

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

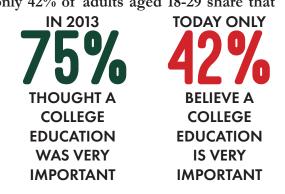
The Road Ahead.



For more than a century, a college degree has been recognized as one of the best vehicles for individuals to realize the American Dream. Today, our industries and communities are experiencing rapid advances in technology and undergoing dramatic social change. The need for a highly educated citizenry has never been greater. The inconvenient truth is that many institutions of higher education have made questionable financial decisions that have resulted in soaring tuition and unprecedented levels of student debt. These actions, coupled with doubts about the work-readiness of college graduates, have rapidly eroded the perceived value of a college degree. IECC has stayed true to the intent of our community college system - to provide access to quality and affordable higher education for area residents. While our cost of attendance is among the lowest in the state, we suffer from a "guilt of association" with the broader system of higher education in the United States. More and more college students (and their parents and their employers) are asking the question "is college worth it?" If you don't think this is a serious issue, read on.

In 2013, nearly 75% of traditional-aged college students in the United

States indicated that a college education was very important. Today, only 42% of adults aged 18-29 share that belief. This dramatic shift in attitude about the value of a degree should concern college administrators and the communities they serve. Students who don't value a college degree are unlikely to seek to earn one. The potential ramifications for colleges, individuals, employers, and our society-at-large should create a sense of worry for all. Beyond the pragmatic benefits of earning a college degree, higher education plays a role in developing men and women of character that are prepared to participate in our great democracy. It is critically important that the public understand and believe in the value of higher education. To remain viable in the years ahead, Lincoln Trail College must develop the capacity to demonstrate to prospective students the return on investment they will receive.



Implicit in this, of course, is that we are gathering the information we need to demonstrate our success. This also means that we must demonstrate our willingness to adjust our course when data suggests change is needed. We are preparing our students for a world that is rapidly changing. We should not forget that those trends will almost certainly require the faculty and staff of Lincoln Trail College to change accordingly. As we find ways to move from passive to inquiry-based learning and explore delivery that falls outside our conventional 50-minute "MWF" class schedule we are sure to encounter obstacles and inconveniences. We will work through these together, with the best interest of our students and communities in mind, to ensure that fifty years from now Lincoln Trail College graduates are confident in the value of the education we have provided.

Forward together,

Ryan Gower, Ph.D. President Lincoln Trail College

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