

OLNEY CENTRAL COLLEGE KNIGHTLINE



July 2024

CALENDAR

JULY

19 — Last Day to Withdraw from Summer Semester Classes

26 — Last Day of Summer Semester Classes

26 — OCC Theater/OAC Summer Children's Theatre Workshop presents *Disney's The Little Mermaid*, OCC Theater, 7 p.m.

27 — OCC Theater/OAC Summer Children's Theatre Workshop presents *Disney's The Little Mermaid*, OCC Theater, 2 p.m.

29-30 — Final Exams

29 — Fall Semester Textbook Sales Begin

AUGUST

7 — Faculty/Staff Workshop

15 — Fall Semester Classes Begin

28 — Last Day for Fall Semester Textbook Returns

Bookstore Hours

August 12-14

7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

August 15

7:30 a.m.-7 p.m.

August 16

7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

August 19

7:30 a.m.-7 p.m.

OCC earns high marks from University HQ

Olney Central College has been honored by University HQ in its ranking of the Top 25 Best Associate Degree Programs in Illinois. OCC secured the No. 9 spot in the 2024 ratings by the prominent independent online education organization.

"Olney Central College is pleased to receive this No. 9 ranking from University HQ," said OCC President and Vice Chancellor for Business Chris Simpson. "It is a testament to the high-quality educational experience we provide to our students and the commitment and dedication of the OCC faculty and staff."

University HQ is renowned for providing students with comprehensive resources for researching top-ranked colleges and universities, scholarships and career information.

The organization's rankings are based on data from government sources, which includes key factors such as tuition cost, retention and graduation rates, graduating salary, number of programs offered and other critical statistics.

For the complete list of Top 25 Best Associate Degree Programs in Illinois, visit <https://universityhq.org/best-colleges/illinois>.



Music Department receives \$18,000 grant

The Olney Central College Music Department is the recipient of an \$18,000 Johnsie Fiock Fildes Foundation grant, which will benefit the new recording studio.

"Because of the grant, we will be able to obtain higher end microphones and cables, all the stuff you would expect to be in a professional recording studio," said OCC Director of Bands Wade Baker. "We're excited and grateful to be selected to receive these funds."

Baker anticipates purchasing the remaining equipment by the end of July. Renovation work is continuing in the former Upholstery Repair Building and Baker expects the facility to be fully functional by August.

Baker said the studio will be especially beneficial to students who are planning to continue their education in audio recording. Once completed, the facility will be available for both college and community use.



Renovations continue as the Music Department prepares to open its new Recording Studio this fall.

OCC Ignite Curiosity Summer Camps

More than 100 youth participated in Olney Central College's Ignite Curiosity Summer Camps.

During these one-day, fun-filled camps, students engaged in a variety of activities from creating their own computer game to touching a human brain.

Ew! Awesome Biology

At right, OCC Life Science Professor Chris Mathews shows students a brain. Below, campers visit a stream to collect organisms with Life Science Professor Dr. Sarah Bergbower. Students brought the specimens back to the classroom and viewed them under microscopes.



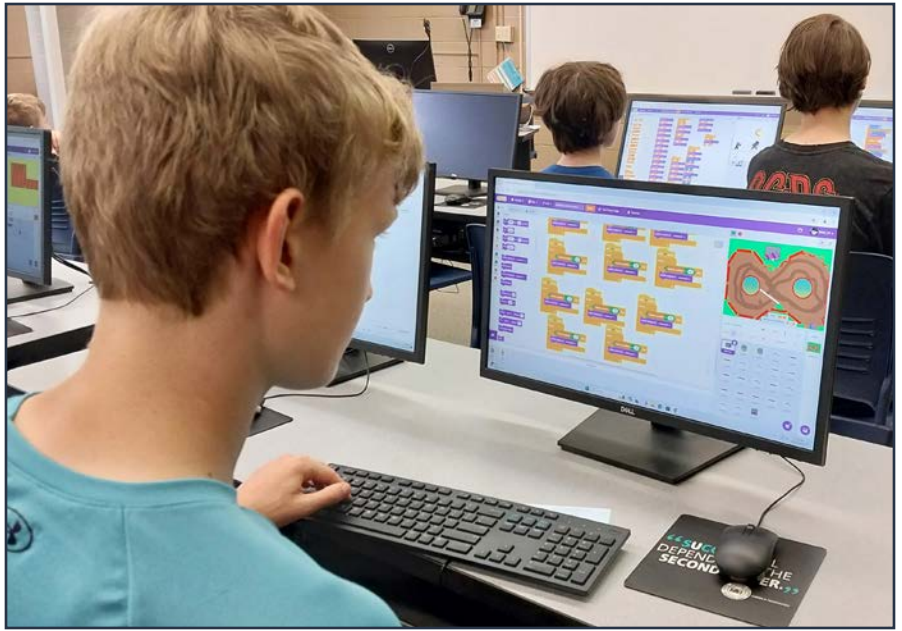
Starting Your Own Business

OCC Accounting Professor John Kendall shares tips with young entrepreneurs. During the camp, youths were brainstorming innovative business ideas, learning the ropes of running a business and creating marketing plans with the help of the IECC Small Business Development Center.



My Own Game - Coding

At right, students put their coding knowledge to the test developing interactive computer games. Below, Information Systems Technology Professor Jane McCormick answers a camper's question.



Stylist for a Day

Above, OCC Cosmetology students assist Instructor Nancy Stremme in treating campers to makeovers. At left, students teach campers how to style hair.



Jazz for Young Musicians

Director of Bands Wade Baker worked with campers to improve their skills as they learned the techniques and nuances of Jazz.



Blowing Stuff Up with Science

Budding scientists had an amazing time exploring physics and chemistry under the expert guidance of OCC Physics Professor Rob Mason and Chemistry Professor Dr. Aaron Lineberry. Campers participated in a rocket launch and watched chemical reactions.

OCC Baseball Golf Outing

The Olney Central College Baseball Alumni Golf Outing will be Aug. 19 at the Richland Golf Club.

Registration begins at 10 a.m. followed by a shotgun start at noon. Dinner is at 6 p.m.

Registrations are due by Aug. 1. The cost is \$400 per team and non-golfers may attend the dinner for \$25.

For more information, contact Head Coach Phil Britton at 618-388-1000 or brittonp1@iecc.edu.



CNA Students

Students in OCC Nursing Professor Becky Coleman's CNA class recently practiced donning isolation gear.

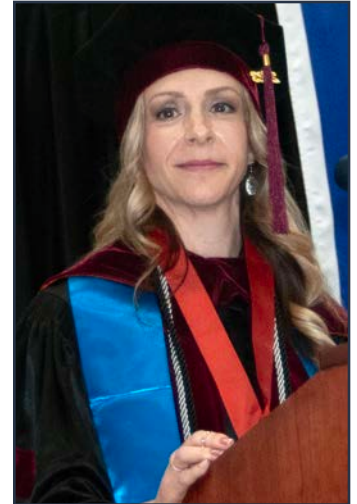
Dr. Sarah Bergbower presenter for JAM

Life Science Professor Dr. Sarah Bergbower will be among the distinguished presenters at the Joint Annual Meeting of the American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science (ASCLS), Association of Genetic Technologists (AGT), and Society of American Federal Medical Laboratory Scientists (SAFMLS). The event will take place from July 8-12 in Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dr. Bergbower's session, titled "Fungal Meningitis Outbreak Following Cosmetic Surgery Tourism: A Case Study," will address the CDC's response to a fungal meningitis outbreak in 2023 linked to cosmetic surgeries. Her presentation will emphasize the critical role of laboratory testing and its proper interpretation, highlighting the importance of understanding testing limitations and probabilities.

The Joint Annual Meeting (JAM) conference brings together laboratory professionals from around the globe, showcasing a broad spectrum of scientific knowledge and leadership expertise. The event features educational programs, abstracts, posters, and industry engagement platforms.

Dr. Bergbower, a DCLS graduate of the University of Texas Medical Branch (UTMB), focuses her research on evidence-based laboratory medicine. She is particularly interested in the role a Doctorate in Clinical Laboratory Science (DCLS) plays in interpreting laboratory tests and providing recommendations.



OCC Foundation Wine Tasting Fund-raiser

The Olney Central College Foundation will host a Wine Tasting Fund-raiser from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. on October 25.

The event is in the early planning stages and additional information will be released in the coming weeks on the college's social media sites.



LPN Exit

OCC nursing students recently completed their LPN exit experience at Carle Richland Memorial and Richland Nursing and Rehab.