

# OLNEY CENTRAL COLLEGE KNIGHTLINE



OCTOBER 2024

## CALENDAR

### OCTOBER

- 9 — Midterm
- 9 — Midterm Fall Bash, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Student Union
- 9 — Active Minds Bake Sale, 10 a.m., Outside Student Services
- 9 — OCC Jazz and Commercial Music Concert, 7 p.m., OCC Theater
- 14 — College Closed - Columbus Day
- 21 — Spring Registration Underway
- 25 — OCC Foundation Wine Tasting Event, 6:30 p.m., Richland Golf Course
- 31 — Active Minds Costume Contest, 11 a.m., Student Union

### NOVEMBER

- 5 — College Closed - Election Day

### College Visits

- Oct. 17** — Eastern Illinois University Representative Bri Dominguez will be here from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- Oct. 24** — Knox College Fine Arts Representative Jamie Lam will be here from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

## OCC Welcomes Seniors and Eighth Graders to Explore Their Futures at Blue Preview

More than 400 area students attended Olney Central College's Blue Preview on September 25.

The annual event provides both high school seniors and middle school students an opportunity to explore the academic and student life opportunities available at OCC.

Students from Clay City, Edwards County, Newton Community, Full Armor and Richland County high schools attended, alongside eighth graders from Clay City, Richland County and St. Joseph. This year marked the first time middle school students were invited to participate as local school districts are set to incorporate career exploration into their middle school curriculums.

"I think this is a great opportunity for both our middle schools and OCC," said College Admission Representative Curtis Miller. "The college gets promoted while students as young as middle school get to explore potential career paths. It's a win-win, and we're excited to engage with them at such a formative stage."

During the event, students interacted with OCC faculty, learned about the college's wide range of programs and gained insight into campus life. Attendees also had an opportunity to talk with current students about their experiences at OCC.

"Students got hands-on experience with several faculty members, and many expressed how much they enjoyed Blue Preview," Miller added.

Kylie Williams of Richland County High School and Rhianna Carter of Newton Community High School were the recipients of two \$500 scholarships awarded during the event. Attendees also voted for their favorite booth. This year, Nancy Stremme and her Cosmetology students were honored as the winners, earning a prize package that included an Expo dry-erase marker basket, OCC swag and a gift card to the Knight Kafe.

Miller said OCC remains committed to fostering early engagement with students, promoting the opportunities available on campus and encouraging local youth to explore their futures through education.



**OCC Collision Repair Instructor Lonnie Barnes assists a student using the program's virtual reality paint spray system.**



# BLUE PREVIEW





## John James Audubon presentation

Olney Central College welcomed the Ridgway Chapter of the Illinois Audubon Society and their guest speaker, Brian "Fox" Ellis on September 26.

A renowned naturalist, storyteller and author, Ellis brought the legacy of famed ornithologist John James Audubon to life. Through captivating stories, Ellis shared Audubon's incredible discoveries, with a special focus on Illinois birds and plants.

The event offered a fascinating look into both Audubon's life and the natural history of the Prairie State.



# College & Career Fair 2024

IECC students and participating high schools will have the opportunity to connect with Universities, employers, and companies!



scan QR code to register

**For More Information Contact:** Cassandra Goldman  
IECC Dean of Students  
goldmanc@iecc.edu or  
618-262-8641 ext. 3510

## FRI, OCT 18 | 9AM-1PM

Wabash Valley College  
2200 College Drive, Mount Carmel, IL 62863



Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity  
Ill. Public Access



ILLINOIS EASTERN COMMUNITY COLLEGES  
BUSINESS & INDUSTRY



IECC  
Adult Education



### Science Club paints with bacteria

The OCC Science Club created microbial art by “painting” with bacteria on nutrient agar plates.

Using an inoculating loop, they spread bacterial colonies — consisting of trillions of cells — across the plates. Although invisible to the naked eye at first, the pigmented organisms reproduce and reveal vibrant images as they grow.

Students used three species for their artwork: *Micrococcus luteus* (yellow), *Serratia marcescens* (red) and *Bacillus megaterium* (beige).



## Sports Schedule

### Baseball

Oct. 12 — at University of Indianapolis, 11 a.m. CST

Oct. 13 — at Oakland City University, 2 p.m.

### Softball

Oct. 10 — at Parkland College, TBA

Oct. 15 — at Brescia, 3 p.m.

Oct. 18 — at University of Evansville, 11 a.m.

### Men's Basketball

Nov. 1 — vs, Columbia State at Vincennes Kiwanis Classic, 4 p.m.

Nov. 2 — vs. East Mississippi at Vincennes Kiwanis Classic, 4 p.m.

Nov. 6 — at Malcolm X, 7 p.m.

### Women's Basketball

Nov. 1 — at Three Rivers, 3 p.m.



OLNEY CENTRAL COLLEGE  
FOUNDATION PRESENTS:

**WINE TASTING**

**OCTOBER 25TH**

**6:30 PM - 9:30 PM**

**DON'T MISS OUT ON THE CRAZIEST  
FRIDAY NIGHT IN TOWN!**

**BE HOME BY 10PM!**

Entrance fee: \$35 includes wine tastings,  
hors d'oeuvres, silent auction, 50/50, and  
keepsake wine glass

@ Richland Golf Club

**PARTICIPATING VENDORS:**

**BARN & BOTTLE WINERY**

**BERRYVILLE VINEYARDS**

**IRENE'S VINEYARD**

**KOERNER DISTRIBUTING**

**LASATA WINES**

**TUSCAN HILLS WINERY**

**DON'T MISS:**

**\$10 LUX ROW BOURBON TASTING**

# Officers celebrate Fall PTK Awareness Week

Phi Theta Kappa marked Fall PTK Awareness Week September 23-27.

OCC's PTK chapter is working hard to increase student involvement within the organization and promote activities to engage students in campus life. These efforts include sponsoring the Midterm Fall Bash on October 9 and maintaining the Student Lounge food pantry.

PTK officers for the fall semester include Hayley McGann, Courtney Crawford, Brandy Cochran and Emma Gill.

Hayley McGann is serving as PTK President this semester.

She joined Phi Theta Kappa to connect with fellow students and make a positive impact at OCC.

"I served in the U.S. Air Force to fund my college education and now I'm fortunate to receive additional financial support for my studies through scholarships from PTK," she said.

A sophomore at OCC, McGann plans to transfer to a university in Spring 2025 to pursue a master's degree in clinical psychology.

Courtney Crawford is a sophomore at OCC and will graduate in Spring 2025 with an associate's degree in science and arts. This is her second year in Phi Theta Kappa. Last year she served as PTK Public Relations Officer.

After graduating, she plans to transfer to Eastern Illinois University to pursue a degree in Early Childhood Education and Psychology with a teacher's certificate.

"I decided to accept my membership and join Phi Theta Kappa because of the lifetime achievement it offers and the scholarships within the organization. I am so excited that I have been given the opportunity to be a leader for my school and organization. I will use the skills and lessons that I have learned in PTK throughout my life."

Crawford's favorite thing about PTK is meeting other individuals who are excited and motivated about their education and are getting involved in their school and community.

Brandy Cochran is a sophomore at OCC, pursuing a certification in Medical Coding. She plans to transfer to a university to earn an associate's degree in Health Information and continue her education beyond that.

Cochran accepted an invitation to join Phi Theta Kappa while working toward her Massage Therapy Certificate in 2021. She chose to join PTK due to the lifelong connections and networking opportunities it provides.

"What I enjoy most about Phi Theta Kappa is how it helps you build a strong foundation for future success while introducing you to incredible people along the way," she added.

A sophomore at OCC, Emma Gill is currently serving as the Public Relations Officer for Phi Theta Kappa. Her future plans include transferring to pursue a master's degree in either Forensic Psychology or Social Work.

Gill joined PTK for its valuable leadership development opportunities and the scholarships it offers to students planning to transfer.

"What I enjoy most about PTK is the chance to engage in activities around OCC that directly benefit the students," she said. "It's rewarding to contribute to the campus community while also building skills that will support my academic and professional growth."



**Olney Central College Phi Theta Kappa officers are Secretary/Treasurer Brandy Cochran, President Hayley McGann, Vice President Courtney Crawford and Public Relations Officer Emma Gill.**

# SICA Concert Series hosts MusiKaravan Oct. 25

MusiKaravan is set to bring an eclectic musical performance to the Dr. John D. Stull Performing Arts Center at 7 p.m. on October 25 as part of the Southeastern Illinois Concert Association's 2024-2025 concert series.

When COVID-19 hit and concert venues closed their doors, the violinists Etienne Gara and YuEun Kim of the LA-based chamber orchestra Delirium Musicum took to the road in Boris, their 1971 VW bus, for what became a six-month odyssey, performing for farmworkers, winemakers, random passersby and various animals.

As MusiKaravan, their goal was to celebrate, and thank, the people who were "working hard to feed us physically and emotionally."

Now, with the addition of a cellist, MusiKaravan is bringing its eclectic programming to concert stages nationwide and beyond. The artists share tales of their adventures on the road, including playing for an audience of ostriches.

A MusiKaravan concert can be imagined as a fun, impromptu musical picnic, perfect for all ages and backgrounds.

The players:

Etienne Gara, French-Hungarian violinist and Artistic Director of Delirium Musicum, has recorded a solo album on a Stradivarius from 1714, performs internationally and regularly joins the Los Angeles Philharmonic at Walt Disney Concert Hall and the Hollywood Bowl. He was featured on Leonard Cohen's last album.

YuEun Kim, violinist, is an international competition winner and in-demand soloist and chamber musician, who performs around the world and has a YouTube channel boasting over 6,000,000 views.

Stella Cho, cellist, was raised in the UK, made her solo debut at London's Royal Albert Hall at the age of 15, and concertizes on three continents. Her superpower is being a human GPS – she can point you to any restaurant at any time, anywhere.

Concert tickets may be purchased at the door. The cost is \$25 for adults and \$5 for children.



# OCC Music Department to host Fall Concerts Oct. 9 & Nov. 6

Olney Central College's Music Department will present two upcoming concerts, starting with the OCC Jazz and Commercial Music Ensembles at 7 p.m. on October 9 in the Dr. John D. Stull Performing Arts Center.

The OCC Jazz Ensemble, led by Director of Bands Wade Baker, will perform a variety of contemporary pieces, including *Kite* and *Young Stuff* by the American jazz fusion band Snarky Puppy, as well as *The Crossing* by the Menahan Street Band.

"This semester we focused more on contemporary jazz instead of things in the past," Baker said. "We're keeping it fresh."

In addition to the Jazz Ensemble, Baker will direct the Commercial Music Ensemble, which features returning students with more live performance experience. These musicians com-

posed and arranged their own tunes.

"This is an opportunity for the community to get to come out and enjoy the individual expression of our students," Baker said. "The goal is to record these songs in our new studio."

The first-semester Commercial Music Ensemble will take the stage, performing popular hits like *Ain't No Rest for the Wicked* by Cage the Elephant, *Johnny B. Goode* by Chuck Berry and *Moving Out* by Billy Joel.

This group is under the direction of Adjunct Instructor Josh Moats, an OCC graduate. James Whitfield, a fellow alum with a degree in audio production from Eastern Illinois University, will manage the sound for the bands.

"It says a lot about the success of our program that students want to come back and help write the legacy

of the department," Baker added.

On November 6, the community is invited to enjoy performances by the OCC Concert and Big Bands, along with various chamber ensembles, including a brass ensemble, clarinet trio, saxophone trio and flute quartet. Concert Band selections are *Flourish for Wind Band*, *Yorkshire Ballad* and *An English Sea Song Suite*, while the Big Band will surprise audiences with a mix of fun and familiar tunes.

Baker said the program continues to grow, especially with the addition of its premier recording studio.

"I want to thank all the people who have donated funds toward the recording studio, creating a nontraditional environment for our students to thrive in."

Concert admission is free. Donations will be accepted at the door.



## SNA donates items to Olney Fire Department for Patriots Day

In honor of Patriots Day, Olney Central College's Student Nurses Association organized a donation drive to support the Olney Fire Department. The students collected 31 cases of water and 25 cases of sports drinks to help firefighters stay hydrated when responding to calls in the community.

In addition to their own efforts, SNA members reached out to local businesses, who generously contributed to the

cause. The donation drive highlights SNA's dedication to giving back to the community and recognizing the sacrifices made by first responders.

Patriots Day, observed on September 11, is a time to honor those who lost their lives in the tragic events of 9/11 and to celebrate the bravery of the firefighters, police officers and emergency personnel who continue to serve our communities.

PTK PRESENTS:  
**MIDTERM FALL BASH**

OCTOBER 9 | 10 AM - 2 PM  
OCC Student Union

**FREE FOOD**  
**50/50 Gift Basket Drawing**

TRIO - Snacks & Corn Hole  
Active Minds - Bake Sale  
Art Club - Art Sale

Activities Sponsored By PTK 1 Ticket Each  
(Tickets \$1 Each or 6 for \$5)

Fall Photo Booth | Pumpkin Decorating | Apple Fishing  
Poke-A-Pumpkin | Witch's Ring Toss