



GOLD RUSH

APRIL 2020

NORTHERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY

COVID-19 STUDENT EMERGENCY FUND

158

Grants Awarded

239

Applications

\$52,635

Raised

NKU created this fund to support our students who now have financial struggles they never saw coming due to COVID-19.

LEARN MORE: <https://tinyurl.com/lyx8723mj>



NKU'S RIVER CITY PROMISE PROGRAM WITH FREE TUITION

NKU and Gateway Community & Technical College announced the River City Promise Program that offers free tuition and enhanced benefits for Pell eligible high school students from Northern Kentucky's communities.

River City Promise builds upon the Gateway2NKU dual admission program which offers explicit degree pathways for students by eliminating the financial barriers of college. The program applies to students from Bellevue, Dayton, Holmes, Lloyd, Ludlow and Newport High School who graduate in May 2020 and beyond.

"To truly increase access, it takes a wholistic approach to ensure students have a clear path on their educational experience," said NKU President Ashish Vaidya. "As we were renewing the successful Gateway2NKU program, it became clear that we could make a greater impact by extending it to high school students, so they begin their higher education journey with support from both institutions."

All students participating in the RCP and Gateway2NKU programs will have a newly dedicated Service Center on Gateway's campus for a smooth transition between the two institutions. It provides advising, financial literacy, admissions guidance and career alignment services.

NKU students also benefit from Gateway2NKU's reverse transfer—once they reach 60 hours, they can apply to receive their associate degree from Gateway. Additional benefits include joint recruitment and marketing opportunities, integrated orientation to ease the transition to campus and access to shared facilities

Since its inception in 2013, NKU has graduated 465 Gateway transfer students, with 128 participating in the Gateway2NKU program.

COLLEGE CORNER

NKU names Dr. Ginni Fair as dean of the College of Education. Dr. Fair has deep Kentucky education ties, spending the first 10 years of her career teaching in the classroom before moving into higher education. She currently serves as a professor and chair of the Department of Curriculum and Instruction at EKV.

LEARN MORE: <https://tinyurl.com/u5tvehx>

LEARN MORE: <https://tinyurl.com/ugsjaad>



2020 INNOVATION CHALLENGE PITCH COMPETITION

NKU kicked off the spring semester with an Inaugural Student Success Summit and the 2020 Innovation Challenge, a proposal competition for the campus to pitch ideas to support student success. The 10 winning proposals were narrowed down from a pool of 133 submissions during the 2020 Innovation Challenge.

Last October, President Vaidya challenged the campus community to “unleash innovation” and allocated \$500,000 for student success initiatives. 15 finalists pitched their ideas for funding—from \$5,000 to \$100,000—to implement their plans.

“We know that everyone on our campus has ideas about how to better support our students, and we are happy to be able to bring them to life with funding,” said Chief Strategy Office and Vice President Bonita Brown. Winning Proposals include a student innovation lab and home to NKU esports, investing in financial literacy in Kentucky’s education community and graduate scholarships for high school teachers in increase dual-credit instruction. The 2020 Innovation Challenge is part of NKU’s strategic framework, Success by Design, to align student success with the needs of the region. **READ MORE:** <https://tinyurl.com/tk5xnnq>



THE SCOREBOARD

NKU’s men’s basketball team secured its third Horizon League title in four years and second-straight courtesy of a 71-62 triumph over UIC. With the win, NKU has reached postseason play in each of the last four seasons, including three NCAA Tournament appearances and one NIT.

NKU’s women’s basketball team finished at 20-12 with a heartbreaking loss to Green Bay. The 20-win campaign is the first of its Division I era.

BRIEFS

FIVE STAR RANKING FOR NKU’S LGBT FRIENDLINESS

NKU received the highest designation by Campus Pride Index—establishing the university as a national leader in higher education for LGBTQ-inclusive policies, programs and practices.

The university’s 5-star ranking is the best in Greater Cincinnati. Campus Pride Index, the premier LGBTQ national benchmarking tool for colleges and universities, ranked NKU as 27th in the nation out of more than 350 institutions, making it the highest-ranking university in the Commonwealth

LEARN MORE:
<https://tinyurl.com/sf8ppqv>

CHASE COLLEGE OF LAW ENDOWED DEANSHIP

Chase Alumnae, Ambassador Patricia L. Herbold, and her husband, Dr. Robert J. Herbold, made a \$2 million gift to endow Chase College of Law’s dean position. This puts Chase among a highly select group of law schools with endowed deanships and will support the law school dean’s efforts long term. The largest gift in the 127-year history of Chase Law, it is the first endowed named position at Chase and the first endowed named deanship at NKU.

LEARN MORE:
<https://tinyurl.com/yxszwuh>

FACULTY FOCUS

DR. JONATHAN REYNOLDS NAMED VP OF WORLD HISTORY ORGANIZATION

In this role, Dr. Reynolds will lead the World History Association—the largest World History organization—over the next four years. He will serve a two-year term as vice president and the following two years as president.

Dr. Reynolds is an NKU Regents Professor of History and Geography. He teaches courses in African and World History, Historical Methods and a number of Honors courses. He has received multiple awards for his research and teaching, including the Milburn Outstanding Professor and Excellence in Sustained Research. An active leader in historical research, Dr. Reynolds has traveled to West Africa eleven times to conduct fieldwork in Nigeria, Niger, Senegal, Morocco and Ghana.

READ MORE: <https://tinyurl.com/tq3a9xh>

NEW INNOVATION LAB ON CAMPUS

As a continuation of their partnership, NKU and Kroger officially unveiled the Kroger Technology & Digital Innovation Lab. NKU students will gain hands-on learning experience alongside associates from Kroger’s Research & Development group and 84.51 . Teams will focus on initiatives that directly impact Kroger customers across the nation, including nutrition, health and wellness and video analytics. The innovation lab also deepens Kroger’s partnership with NKU. The ribbon cutting ceremony comes less than one year after the opening of the Zero Hunger | Zero Waste FUEL NKU student food pantry.

LEARN MORE:
<https://tinyurl.com/t2n6eaa>

DARRYL A. PEAL NAMED CHIEF DIVERSITY OFFICER

Darryl A. Peal joined NKU as its Chief Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Officer and Title IX Coordinator. He joined the university from the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA). While at the NCAA, Peal served as the managing director for External Engagement and Strategic Partnerships. Peal will help foster an inclusive and engaging campus climate and oversee NKU’s diversity, equity and inclusion efforts.

LEARN MORE:
<https://tinyurl.com/wlg2mgh>

ALUMNI NEWS



HAILE • US BANK
College of Business

SEAN DONOVAN

When Sean Donovan saw a hole in the multi-billion dollar payments processing market, he decided to fix it himself.

Donovan, a co-founder of Finix, has worked in finance since he was 18 years old. The Cincinnati native always knew what career path he would follow. That’s why pursuing a bachelor’s degree in finance at Northern Kentucky University, which was close to his family, was an easy choice.

It didn’t take long for Donovan to realize he was surrounded by students just like himself.

LEARN MORE: <https://tinyurl.com/tsuyl7a>