



GOLD RUSH

FEB. 2012 NORTHERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY



GO FIGURE

➔ \$634,385

Amount NKU students have distributed to area nonprofits through the Mayerson Student Philanthropy Project since its creation 11 years ago.

➔ 1,213,950

Number of page views the NKU homepage received in January.

➔ 3

How many NKU students competed in the Miss Kentucky USA pageant last month.

UNIQUE PARTNERSHIP SENDS NKU STUDENTS BACK TO HIGH SCHOOL

When students in the NKU Master of Social Work program started last semester, they were surprised to be returning to a high school classroom.

The 15 MSW students and their faculty are part of an innovative Dixie Mentorship program at Dixie Heights High School. Classes are held at Dixie and each NKU student is assigned an "at-risk" Dixie student. The NKU students quickly became aware of issues their mentees were facing that even the high school administration wasn't aware of.

"At our first meeting my mentee told me that he was living out of a duffle bag in the woods near the football stadium," one mentor said. "I was a little shocked but when I reported it to the administration, they found him a place to live."

The MSW students in the program have the opportunity to directly address Dixie administrators and influence future policy making and support systems at the school.



The program provides a unique opportunity, as social workers rarely get to experience the inner workings of their clients' environment. The mentors are exposed to a variety of experiences and opportunities to work with students, but also to work with school staff, learning the behind-the-scenes issues of serving at-risk students.

Program coordinators say the at-risk students are responding positively to the mentors for at least two reasons: one-on-one contact focuses on the at-risk student's specific needs and concerns, and the mentors are young adults in tune with children and youth. They hope to get other schools involved.

PINPOINTS

OWENSBORO



JAMIE STONE is a senior public relations major from Owensboro. She graduated from Apollo High School in 2007, and transferred to NKU in 2010. Although NKU wasn't exactly in her back yard, she says she wouldn't trade her experience at Northern for a university closer to home. Jamie says what she enjoys most about NKU is the wide variety of organizations available for students. As a senior, she is hard at work to finish strong, but loves being involved with Kappa Delta, Norse Force and other campus organizations. Jamie is the daughter of Kenny and Rebecca Stone.

COLLEGE CORNER

HAILE/US BANK COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

Carol Cornell, director of the NKU Small Business Development Center, has been inducted into the Kentucky Small Business Development Center's 2011 Million Dollar Loan Club.

The club recognizes small business development centers across the commonwealth whose directors have secured at least \$1 million in loans for their clients. Cornell's success extended well past a million dollars in 2011 as she brought essential business

development support services to numerous clients that represent a variety of business sectors, including early-stage technology clients.

Cornell provides clients with no-cost, confidential business consultation, business development seminars and research to assist clients in making critical business decisions. She oversees the awarding of loans from the US Small Business Administration.

UPTECH TO AID NKY GROWTH BY FUELING 50 STARTUP COMPANIES

With a vision to fuel economic growth in Northern Kentucky, a super business accelerator called UpTech has been created to provide startup companies with what every new business seeks – financial and developmental support.

UpTech is committed to funding 50 of the world's best and brightest early-stage informatics companies. It will invest up to \$100,000 into each of the 50 winning startups that demonstrate their commercial potential through an application and review process. UpTech will also provide each with six months of free, premium office space and essential business support.

Winners will also receive support from two student interns and a graduate assistant from NKU's College of Informatics, along with campus facilities for events and seminars.

"With one of only a handful of informatics colleges in America, Northern Kentucky is poised to develop as an international leader in the informatics field," said NKU President James Votruba. "This initiative is the next step in that development. Attracting innovative companies – and the high-paying jobs that come along – to our region will be critical to our continued growth and prosperity."

THE SCOREBOARD



The NKU men's and women's basketball teams have raced to matching 15-4 records to start the season, recording historic victories along the way. The men's team shocked West Virginia in a 77-74 exhibition win Nov.

4 and then recorded its 700th all-time win last month. Senior guard Casse Mogan leads the women's team in scoring, steals and assists. She helped the Norse record their 800th career win against Bellarmine in January.

FACULTY FOCUS

Four NKU professors and three graduate students have banded together to examine diversity in the Northern Kentucky region. Enacting a program called "Dialoguing about Diversity," the researchers hope to gain a better perspective about what kinds of diversity are present in the region and how different diverse groups communicate.

"I believe this research is important," said project director and NKU Associate Professor of Communication Jimmie Manning. "This data will allow many different groups the data they need to help Northern Kentucky grow as a thriving, contemporary metropolitan region."

The project is funded through an NKU University-Community Partnership Grant.

BRIEFS

NKU NAMES HOMECOMING KING, QUEEN

Seniors Jeffrey Weckbach (Alexandria) and Brittany Jo Hall (Owensboro) have been crowned 2012 Homecoming king and queen. Weckbach is a quadruple major studying political science, economics, criminal justice and philosophy. He is president of Phi Beta Lambda, vice president of Golden Key International Honour Society and vice president of Alpha Tau Omega fraternity. Hall is an organizational leadership major and criminal justice minor. She was crowned Homecoming princess in 2012 and has served as president of Delta Gamma sorority. **MORE:** homecoming.nku.edu
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CHASE LAW HAS AN APP FOR THAT

The NKU Chase College of Law has released a universal mobile touch-screen guide to the college. The app allows students to stay informed about upcoming Chase events; explore the law library catalog; or gain secured access to job postings, exam numbers and other exclusive law school content. The app was designed by NKU's Office of Information Technology and offers additional options such as an extensive storehouse of lecture downloads, tutorials and other presentations. The app is free and available for download at the iTunes app store.
MORE: tinyurl.com/NKUGIJobs

GRANT HELPS WASTE MANAGEMENT EDUCATION

NKU has received a \$22,000 grant from the AT&T Foundation to support school-based and field-based programs in waste management education in five local middle schools. The project teaches students to reduce, reuse and recycle. Along with classroom instruction, student teams inventory school resource conservation, recycling and item disposal. Students will then propose a school improvement project. This work is part of the Kentucky Green and Healthy Schools Program, a nationally recognized, state-wide program that is the only one of its kind in the nation.
MORE: tinyurl.com/NKUmiddleenviro

NKU/MURRAY STATE PARTNERSHIP RECOGNIZED

NKU and Murray State University have been recognized with the University Business' Model of Efficiency Award for their joint disaster recovery solutions. Recipients are judged on guidelines including efficiency challenges faced; solutions achieved through technology, business process or both; time and cost savings demonstrated; and the ability to replicate efficiency improvements at other colleges and universities. The partnership allows each university to use their existing data center to provide business continuance services for the other institution.
MORE: tinyurl.com/NKUmurray

ALUMNI NEWS

O His Soul

It would be difficult for *Parenthood*, NBC's serial drama based on the 1989 hit movie of the same name, to be as dramatic as real parenthood. Which is why the show's producers enlisted singer-songwriter Daniel Martin Moore and his haunting song "O My Soul" in a recent episode. The 2004 NKU graduate originally released the song on his latest album, *In the Cool of the Day*, early last year on Sub Pop records. Check him out at danielmartinmoore.com.

