

SEPTEMBER 2022 | VOLUME 2, ISSUE 8

# STUDENT AFFAIRS SPOTLIGHT

*A Monthly Newsletter Publication of NKU Student Affairs*

## The Start of Something New...

Welcome back to a new year! The 2022-23 academic year has many great things in store for our students. After an exciting kick-off to the year, Student Affairs is proud to highlight upcoming programs and events, as well as our staff who make it all possible. We look forward to an exceptional year with many great opportunities!

### Freshfusion and Victorfest

Freshfusion 2022 did not disappoint! The Center for Student Engagement welcomed the class of 2026. This annual event helped students engage and get connected to all that NKU has to offer! New students explored over 150 booths made up of student organizations, campus departments, and our local Northern Kentucky Community. Students enjoyed free food, including Whit's custard! Attractions included zip lines, an obstacle course, games, and much more!

Freshfusion was one highlight of the annual Victorfest events that start each academic year at NKU. Victorfest wrapped up on September 8. NKU students had an opportunity to participate in a variety of activities during the first 3 weeks of school. See page 6 for pictures from the events.

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# Activities Programming Board

The Center for Student Engagement is excited for you to meet the 2022-23 executive board for the APB!

The Activities Programming Board (APB) supports the mission of Northern Kentucky University by providing diverse programs and activities that meet social, recreational, educational, and cultural needs and interests of students. APB is a closed organization which requires an application process prior to becoming a member. Furthermore, it is designed to be a leadership development and enhancement opportunity for all students involved in the programming process.



## Patrick Hirsch

Patrick Hirsch is a Computer Science and Cybersecurity dual major from Florence, KY. Aside from being Executive Director of the Activities Programming Board and Assistant General Manager of Norse Code Radio, he's active in NKCyber and Norse Film Society. In his free time, Patrick enjoys watching, reading, and over-analyzing MCU content.



## Briana Anderson

Briana Anderson is currently majoring in Radiologic Science along with a minor in Health Science. She was born in Owensboro, KY, but was raised in Louisville, KY. In her free time, she likes to shop online, watch Netflix, and hang out with friends and family. She has been a part of the Activities Programming Board since 2018. This school year, she is the Director of Events on the Executive Board.



## Morgan Miller

Morgan Miller is a senior with a double major in organizational leadership and communication studies. She grew up in Waynesville, OH, where she played volleyball and was an active member in the 4-H program. In her free time, Morgan likes to cook, bake, and catch up on the new seasons of The Bachelor and Survivor. On campus, Morgan is the Director of Membership for the APB, a Desk Manager for University Housing, and a member of the Baptist Campus Ministry.



## Mary Merklin

Mary Helena Merklin is a Marketing major in the Haile College of Business. She grew up in Independence, KY, with her 2 older brothers. Mary enjoyed competitively Irish Dancing for 10 years with the McGing Irish Dancers. She serves as the Director of Public Relations for APB and, in her career, she specializes in Social Media Management.

## Upcoming APB Events



Activities Programming Board

### APB Outdoor Movie

(Mamma Mia!)

Thursday, Sept. 15

8:00p - 11:00p

### APB Fall Carnival

Tuesday, Oct. 4

4:00p - 7:00p

### Speed Friending

Thursday, Oct. 6

4:00p - 5:30p

### President's Academy

Friday, Oct. 7

12:00p - 3:00p

### RSO Advisor Training

(Virtual)

Wednesday, Oct. 12

9:00a - 10:30a

### RSO Advisor Training

(Virtual)

Thursday, Oct. 13

9:00a - 10:30a

### RSO Advisor Training

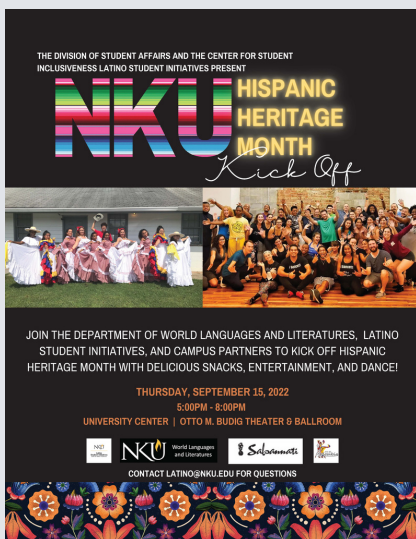
(In-person)

Friday, Oct. 14

2:00p - 3:30p

## 2022 Hispanic Heritage Month at NKU

The NKU Hispanic Heritage Month Kick Off is the first event which launches the series of events that affirm, celebrate, and educate the NKU Community about the histories and contributions of Latinx peoples in the U.S. This year, the NKU's Hispanic Heritage Month Kick-off will be held on Thursday, September 15, 2022 from 5pm – 8pm in the Otto Budig Theater/Ballroom (UC 375). This family-friendly event will showcase the rich diversity in the Latinx community, through dance, music and much more! Light refreshments will be served. Special guests include: Salsannati and Asi Es Colombia dance group. Get ready to celebrate and learn more about the rest of the events for Hispanic Heritage Month. Co-hosted by NKU's Division of Student Affairs - Center for Student Inclusiveness' Latino Student Initiatives and the Department of World Languages and Literatures.



# Latino Student Initiatives

## A Brief History of Hispanic Heritage Month

Hispanic Heritage Month is recognized nationally from September 15th through October 15th. In the US, the term “Hispanic” was originally used to identify descendants of Spanish-speaking origin from Spain and the term “Latino” (and more recently “Latinx” and “Latine”) have been used to refer to a person’s culture or origin—irrespective of race (which has included descendants from origin in Latin America including Brazil, and indigenous or Afro-Latino roots in Central America, South America, and the Caribbean Islands).

The origin of Hispanic Heritage Month, like many of the achievements of Latinx peoples, is rooted in activism and the desire to celebrate the contributions of the Latinx community to the American society. It was first introduced in June of 1968 by Californian Congressperson George E. Brown. The push to recognize the contributions of the Latinx community had gained momentum throughout the 1960s when the civil rights movement was at its peak and there was a growing awareness of the United States' multicultural identities.

By September 17, 1968, Congress passed Public Law 90-48, officially authorizing and requesting the president to issue annual proclamations declaring September 15 and 16 to mark the beginning of National Hispanic Heritage Week and called upon the “people of the United States, especially the educational community, to observe such week with appropriate ceremonies and activities.” In 1987, US Representative Esteban E. Torres of California proposed to expand the celebratory week to a 31-day period so the nation could “properly observe and coordinate events and activities to celebrate Hispanic culture and achievement.” And on September 14, 1989, President George H.W. Bush became the first president to declare the 31-day period from September 15 to October 15 as National Hispanic Heritage Month.

To learn more about Hispanic Heritage Month, see the [Library of Congress](#) page.

## National Hispanic Heritage Month is Sept. 15 - Oct. 15

### Schedule of Events

#### Flaming Hot Discussion w/ Latino Student Initiatives (Fireside Chat)

Wednesday, Sept. 14  
12:00p - 12:50p  
Student Union 102

*Sponsored by the Center for Student Inclusiveness,  
LGBTQA+ Student Initiatives, and Latino Student  
Initiatives*

#### Celebrating the African Diaspora in Latin America Through Music

Wednesday, Sept. 28  
6:00p - 8:00p

University Center, Otto M. Budig  
Theater

*Sponsored by the Center for Student Inclusiveness, African  
American Student Initiatives, and Latino Student  
Initiatives*

#### Hispanic Heritage Month Kick-Off

Thursday, Sept. 15  
5:00p - 8:00p

University Center, Otto M. Budig  
Theater & Ballroom

*Sponsored by the Center for Student Inclusiveness,  
LGBTQA+ Student Initiatives, and Latino Student  
Initiatives*

#### Taste of Hispanic Cuisine

Wednesday, Oct. 5  
3:00p - 5:00p

Student Union Ballroom

*Sponsored by the Student Union, Chartwells, and World  
Languages and Literatures*

#### Huelga: Noche de Poesía y Percusión

Friday, Oct. 7  
6:00p - 8:00p

Student Union Ballroom

*Sponsored by the Center for Student Inclusiveness and the  
Honors College*

For more information, call (859) 572-5821 or visit [nku.edu/latino](http://nku.edu/latino).

# Kickin' it with Campus Rec

## Learn more about how to engage with Campus Recreation

### NKU Women's Club Soccer



A competitive sports club for those who enjoy the game of soccer. WCS competes in the NIRSA Region 2 Conference. It is run by students who organize and facilitate practices, team social activities, games, and tournaments. They play the University of Tennessee in Knoxville next weekend (9/17) to kick off the season.

### RecFEST 2022



The third annual RecFest had a variety of activities for students to choose from and had over 700 student participants! Thank you to everyone who came out to RecFest 2022! We hope you had as much fun as we did!

## Intramural Sports - Get Involved

### Indoor Volleyball



Indoor Volleyball season is almost here! Join us for a preseason tournament on October 12! Regular season starts on October 19, and the registration deadline is October 5!

### Indoor Soccer



Soccer fans, are you ready? Our Indoor Soccer Leagues are on the way! The pre-season tournament is on October 18! Regular season starts on October 24, and the registration deadline is October 11!

To register teams, please visit [www.imleagues.com](http://www.imleagues.com) and select Northern Kentucky University.

## Student Employment with Campus Rec



Meet Alyssa! Alyssa is an aquatic GA with five-years of experience working at the Rec Center. Kayaking and recording her podcast with a friend are her favorite activities. "The people I work with and work culture" are her favorite aspects of working at the Rec.

Campus Rec is always looking for great team members! To apply for available positions, please visit [jobs.nku.edu](http://jobs.nku.edu) for more information.

We hire every semester and work with your class schedules! [JOBS.NKU.EDU](http://JOBS.NKU.EDU)

Our hourly wages range from \$8.50 - \$13.50

**Join our Team!**

Student Employment Positions

- Facility Attendant
- Lifeguard
- Bouldering Wall Assistant
- Membership Services
- Sports Programs Assistant
- Marketing Assistant
- Personal Training
- Group Fitness

Student staff who works at the Rec Center have higher GPAs and are most likely to graduate

**CONTACT US**  
[CAMPUSREC.NKU.EDU](http://CAMPUSREC.NKU.EDU)

# Counseling Services

## Welcome to our new interns

In collaboration with Academic Affairs, Health, Counseling, and Student Wellness is excited to introduce our four (4) master-level interns for this year. The interns provide on-going therapeutic services, conduct mental health assessments, and participate in campus outreach. Each intern is provided with the opportunity to learn and grow personally and professionally while being provided clinical supervision and guidance. The interns play a significant role in what we do every day. With the addition of interns to our counseling staff, we have been able to increase our capacity to treat more students with mental health needs.



**Madison Overwein**  
Clinical Mental Health Counseling  
Practicum Student/Intern



**Jared Laughlin**  
Clinical Mental Health  
Counseling Intern



**Jonathan Jackson**  
Masters of Social Work Intern



**Terry Doan**  
Clinical Psychology  
Practicum Student

## Get Vaccinated

Health, Counseling, and Student Wellness has Pfizer and Moderna COVID-19 bivalent vaccines available for boosters. Flu vaccines are also available starting on September 12, 2022. Appointments are required. Please call (859) 572-5650 to get scheduled.

## Monkeypox Get informed, Stay safe

### What You Need to Know

Monkeypox has been identified in Kentucky. This disease is commonly spread through **skin-to-skin contact**.

The disease is especially impacting gay, bisexual, trans, and other men who have sex with men.

### Know the Symptoms

5-21 days after exposure:  
Painful, pus-filled bumps or sores that appear in the mouth and other parts of your body, fever, headache, muscle ache, and swollen lymph nodes.

### Stay Safe

Talk openly with partners before close contact. Check to see if you and your partner are free from sores, rashes, and other symptoms.

### If You Have Symptoms

If you have symptoms, take a break from seeing others, wear a mask, cover sores/rashes, and call a healthcare provider about testing and treatment options.

### Learn more on the [CDC website](#)

Individuals interested in getting a monkeypox vaccine should call (859) 363-2040. Because vaccine supply remains limited, appointments are scheduled based on a screening for risk factors. Appointment availability and criteria will expand as vaccine supplies increase, which is expected over the coming weeks and months.

# Event Photo Galleries

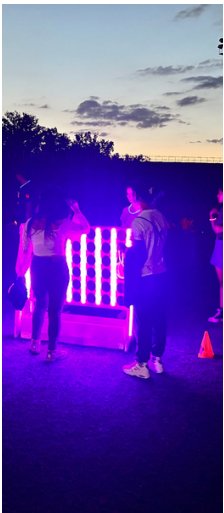
## FreshFusion



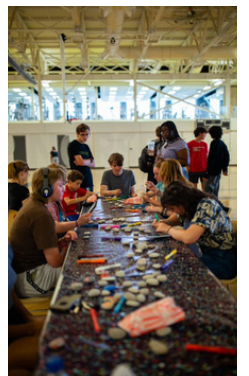
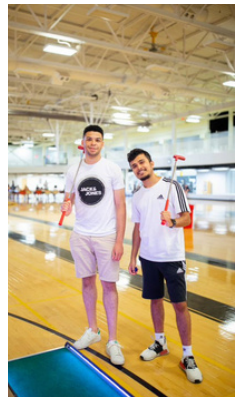
## Victorfest



## Glow Party



## RecFest



# Student Affairs Updates and Events

## Norse Violence Prevention

### Trauma Sensitive Yoga

Learn to recognize and tolerate physical sensations and regain a feeling of safety inside your body. Learn to calm your mind and regulate physical responses and emotions.

**Mondays, 5:30p - 6:30p**

(Sept 12, 19, 26 and Oct 3, 10)

**Campus Recreation Center**

*Sponsored by Norse Violence Prevention, the College of Education, and Campus Recreation.*

## Big Pink Volleyball

Who doesn't enjoy a 4-foot volleyball and fighting against breast cancer?

The 9th annual Big Pink Volleyball Tournament is October 11, starting at 3:00p in the Campus Recreation Center. Faculty, staff, and students are all encouraged to get a team of 406 players and help NKU support the Ft. Thomas St. Elizabeth Breast Cancer Center. Teams are \$25 and \$10 per t-shirt, if desired. There are four divisions this year:

Student Organizations  
Fraternity & Sorority Life  
University Housing students  
Faculty/Staff

The deadline to register on [Presence](#) is Sept. 28.

## NKY Chamber of Commerce News

We are thrilled to announce that, on September 1, Dr. Eddie Howard took over as the chair of the Northern Kentucky Chamber's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion committee. We are excited by this additional connection between NKU and the Northern Kentucky community.



## NKU Fraternity & Sorority Life

The four NKU Greek Life councils have been very busy creating a sense of belonging for the campus. The councils and chapters hosted eight Victorfest events over the past three weeks. These events attracted over 1,200 students!

## Northern Kentucky Leadership Institute

**Service on Saturday** is NKU's annual day of service. The event is on Saturday, September 24. Students, faculty, staff, and alumni are welcome to participate. The event is from 10:00a to 1:00p and will begin in the Student Union Ballroom. The registration deadline is September 19. Please register on [Presence](#).

## Upward Bound

The Summer 2022 NKU Upward Bound Summer Program was a huge success with 19 students from five target high schools living on campus and taking classes ranging from science to Spanish. These students also had the opportunity to participate in several cultural and educational trips, such as college tours and a visit to the Queen City Underground.

## Student Support Services

The ARP HEERF III grant for mental health initiatives has been extended for a second and final year. With this grant, we have waived counseling fees for students for the 2022-23 academic year; hired two additional contract counselors in Counseling Services; hired a contract advocate in Norse Violence Prevention; funded the first year of Talkspace, a new EAP benefit through HR that provides chat and televideo counseling for faculty and staff; and we are able to provide another year of Norse Support, a one-credit hour course equipping students to provide peer-to-peer mental health support.

# Student Affairs Updates and Events

## Northern Kentucky Community Action Commission

We are excited to announce a new partnership that will expand the Help-A-Norse initiative when students present with needs beyond the University's ability to assist. Cultivated by Dr. Neisha Wiley and supported by Drs. Gannon Tagher, Ryan Padgett, Bob Alston, and UCAP Director Peg Adams, this partnership with Northern Kentucky Community Action Commission will provide supportive and developmental services that can help students on their pathway toward an NKU credential.

## African American Student Initiatives

40 R.O.C.K.S. scholars participated in the African American Student Initiatives' signature NKU R.O.C.K.S. program, and engaged in sessions covering: Leadership and Organization, Where I Am From, Spiritual Reflections, Cross Cultural Communication, and more.

## Latino Student Initiatives

The Latinos *Avanzando* Mentorship Program (LAMP) welcomed 25 first-time-in-college students and their families with a traditional *en familia* dinner to kick off their orientation program, which introduced the students to their on-campus support team and included sessions on topics like student success, leadership, Latinx identity, JDEI (Justice, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion), and campus resources.

## University Housing

University Housing and over 400 volunteers welcomed 1,192 students to campus on Thursday, August 18, 2022. Highlights of the day included 15-minute unloading times, a catered lunch for anyone who was part of move-in, and a welcoming and engaging experience that helped set the tone for NKU residential students.

The Residence Hall Association (RHA) hosted more than 300 students on the lawn Friday, August 19, for the new Dr. Strange movie and then held their signature "Paint Wars" on Sunday, August 21, with students throwing colored chalk dust and paint at one another in a giant frenzy celebrating the start of the academic year.

## LGBTQA+ Student Initiatives

The LGBTQA+ Student Initiatives office launched QPLUS, which stands for Queer Persistence, Leadership, Unity, and Service. This mentoring program is intended to assist queer students in developing self-authorship, leadership, and communication skills and fostering intercultural understanding, and community-building opportunities.

## Center for Student Engagement

The Center for Student Engagement, in partnership with APB, offered a number of programs at the start of the academic year, in conjunction with Victorfest. Some of these events included fire pits, s'mores, a Move-In Day Glow Party, Karaoke Night, and a Paint Night. Each of these events were highly successful and brought students together to celebrate the start of the year, make new friends, and engage with new organizations.



Contact Us