



Pratt Community College

Monthly Newsletter

The

The official newsletter of PCC

# BEAVER

March 2016

Buzz

## Call for upcoming newsletter content

If you have information, ideas for new content, fun facts, or PCC trivia, send them to Megan for inclusion in the next newsletter!

>>> [megane@prattcc.edu](mailto:megane@prattcc.edu)

## Highest Paid Grads for Four Years

According to new data released by the Kansas Board of Regents, Pratt Community College students graduating with an associate's degree between 2008 and 2013 have a higher annual wage than the average of associate's degree and bachelor's degree graduates in that same time from all Kansas public colleges and universities.



**PRATT COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
HIGHEST PAID GRADUATES IN STATE**

In the state of Kansas there are 25 combined community colleges and technical schools. PCC students who graduated with an associate's degree in 2013, which is the most recent cohort with measurable post-graduation wage data, made an average of \$40,118. This is the fourth year in a row that data shows PCC as the highest wage earner for graduates. The average of all other Kansas community college graduates was \$32,122 and the technical college sector had an average wage of \$36,930.

Graduates from PCC out-earn even those with degrees from all seven four-year institutions in Kansas for the fifth consecutive year. The average wage of 2013 public university graduates with bachelor's degrees was \$37,937. Kansas State University grads posted a wage average of \$37,107, while those from the University of Kansas averaged \$39,717.

The information comes as the fifth installment of data from Foresight 2020, a 10-year strategic agenda approved by the Kansas Board of Regents for the state's public higher education system. Established in September 2010, the plan sets long-range achievement goals that are measurable, reportable, and ensures the state's higher education system meets Kansans' expectations. The original plan included six goals, but a redesign reduced that number to three: increase higher education attainment among Kansans, improve alignment of the state's higher education system with the needs of the economy, and ensure state university excellence.

The report and its appendices provide data for 21 metrics, including demographics, graduation and retention rates, student success index rates, credential production, and data on graduates' rates of employment and average earnings in Kansas. You can find out more about Foresight 2020 on KBOR.org.

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## Upcoming Dates

PTK Orientation	Mar 1
Concert of Choirs	Mar 7
PTK Induction	Mar 8
Mid-term Week	Mar 7-11
Spring Break	Mar 14-18
Daylight Savings	Mar 13
St. Patricks Day	Mar 17
Fall Enrollement Begins	Mar 21
Good Friday - No Classes	Mar 25
Easter	Mar 27
Faculty Day - No Classes	Mar 28

# PTK Students Honored in Topeka



On Feb. 11, two Pratt Community College students were honored in Topeka as members of Phi Theta Kappa, an international honor society.

PTK Chapter President Andrew Beck and PTK Chapter Vice President Jazzmen Ortiz were named by PCC's chapter as their representatives on the 2016 Kansas All-State Academic Team. Beck is an Electrical Engineering student as well as the PCC Wrestling team captain. Ortiz is studying Psychology and is a Point Guard on the PCC Women's Basketball team.

The All-State Academic Team is a distinguished group of scholars from community colleges across the state who are selected for their academic achievements and contributions to their college and community. Beck and Ortiz, along with the other 50 academic team members, were introduced on the floor of the House of Representatives and honored at a luncheon attended by state legislators and community college trustees and administrators.

"At the conclusion of a luncheon, representatives from four-year institutions were very interested in recruiting Beck for his academic accolades and grappling abilities on the mat," said Dr. Michael Fitzpatrick. "Similarly, Ortiz was highly sought after for her skills in the classroom and on the court. Beck and Ortiz are deserving of their respective awards because they have invested both time and energy into improving the quality of PCC's Phi Zeta chapter."

Michael Calvert, president, Lisa Perez Miller, vice president of students and enrollment management, Michael Fitzpatrick, vice president of instruction, Student Success Specialist Hannah Shaw and Board Trustees Dwane DeWeese and Michelle Hamm were also in attendance.

Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, headquartered in Jackson, Miss., is the largest honor society in higher education with 1,280 chapters on college campuses around the world.

## Performing Arts Presents the 'Concert of Choirs'

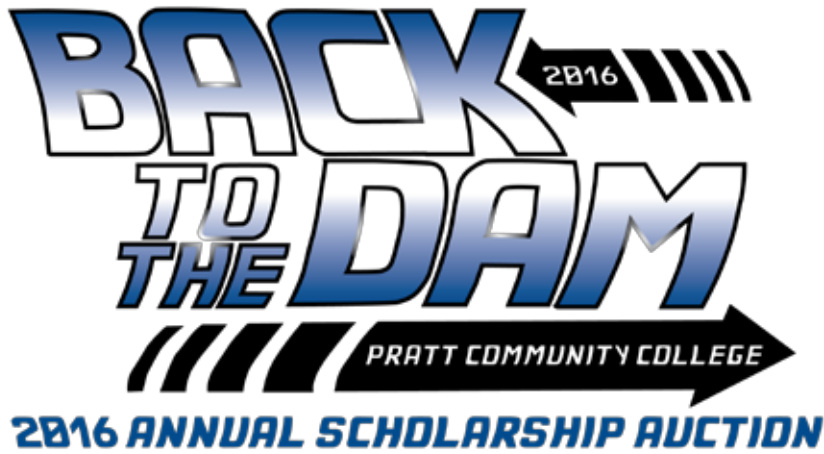


Pratt Community College will host the 'Concert of Choirs' Monday, Mar. 7 at 7:30 p.m. in Carpenter Auditorium.

The show will feature the PCC Choir, Pratt High Robed Choir, Pratt High Women's Chorale, Skyline High Choir, Pratt High Singers, PCC Kids' Choir, Encore, Sweet Adelines and the Joyful Noise Choir.

Doors will open at 7 p.m. and there is a \$5 suggested donation.

# 'Back to the Dam' 29th Annual Scholarship Auction



## Come support our annual scholarship auction

### When

April 23, 2016  
Doors open at 6 p.m.  
Meal begins at 7 p.m.

### Where

Pratt Area 4-H Center  
81 Lake Road  
Pratt, KS 67124

### What

Fundraising for Student Scholarships.

### Cost

\$25 for tickets ordered before April 15  
\$30 for tickets purchased after April 15  
Meal and open bar provided

### Purchase tickets

620.450.2134

### Questions

Contact Kurt McAfee  
620.450.2179  
kurtm@prattcc.edu

Calling all alumni, supporters and friends. Take a trip back in time and join Pratt Community College on Apr. 23 for the annual scholarship auction, a fundraiser that supports the scholarship fund for PCC students. This year the theme is "Back to the Dam" and the evening festivities include dinner, raffles, a silent auction and a live auction.

The event will be held at the Pratt 4-H Center and doors open at 6 p.m.

Raffle and auction items are being collected and stay tuned for a sneak peek at what will be in store. If you have an item that you would like to donate for the raffle or auction please contact Kurt McAfee at 620-450-2179, kurtm@prattcc.edu.

Tickets are on sale now for \$25 until April 15 and will be \$30 after then and at the door. Reserve your tickets by calling 620-450-2134.

## Presentation Explores Kansas Women's Fight for Voting Rights

The Linda Hunt Memorial Library will host "Women Rising: How Kansas Women Gained the Vote, 1859-1912," a presentation and discussion by Diane Eickhoff on Mar. 8, at 8 a.m. Members of the community are invited to attend the free program.

Supported by the Kansas Humanities Council. A free program for PCC students, faculty, staff and community alike. The book, "Revolutionary Heart: The Life of Clarina Nichols and the Pioneering Crusade for Women's Rights" by Diane Eickhoff will be available for check out at the PCC Library and the Pratt Public Library. A question-and-answer segment will conclude this program. A light coffee reception will be offered with limited sitting.

Diane Eickhoff is an independent historian,

writer, and editor of education materials. Her biography of Clarina Nichols, *Revolutionary Heart: The Life of Clarina Nichols and the Pioneering Crusade for Women's Rights*, was named a Kansas Notable Book in 2007.

The Kansas Humanities Council conducts and supports community-based programs, serves as a financial resource through an active grant-making program, and encourages Kansans to engage in the civic and cultural life of their communities. For more information about KHC programs contact the Kansas Humanities Council at 785/357-0359 or visit online at [www.kansashumanities.org](http://www.kansashumanities.org).





# March Featured Artist, The Kansas Art Guild

The Delmar Riney Art Gallery welcomes a new exhibit for the month of March to Pratt Community College. This month's exhibit features multiple artists from the Kansas Art Guild.

The Community Art guild was formed in May, 1977. The first meetings were held at Friends University with eight members present. Nona Bass, President, had just moved from Anaheim, California, to Wichita and was surprised to learn that there was no organization in Wichita for its local artists. She felt it was important that artists could meet and share ideas.

The Guild grew rapidly and soon moved to the Wichita Art Museum. At that time, the name was changed to the Community Art Guild. When the Wichita Art Museum underwent renovation, the Guild moved to the Wichita Center for the Arts, where KAG is currently located. In the summer of 1993, members voted to change the name to the Kansas Art Guild, Inc. At that time, it was decided to incorporate. The name is very appropriate since many of the members live many miles outside the Wichita Area.

Regular meetings are held at 1:00 PM on the first Tuesday of each month at the Wichita Center for the Arts. Members share their recent works which are judged by visiting speakers. The Guild also holds exhibitions at several locations in the area throughout the year. The Guild's goal is to promote art and artists.

Most of the works on exhibit are for sale by the artist. Prices range from \$100 to \$500 per piece. For more information about the Kansas Art Guild or to contact them, visit [www.kansasartguild.com](http://www.kansasartguild.com).

The exhibit will be on display from throughout the month of March in the Delmar Riney Art Gallery at PCC. The gallery shows a new exhibit every month. For more information or to be considered as a "Featured Artist of the Month," contact Lisa Perez Miller at 620-672-3559 or [lisam@prattcc.edu](mailto:lisam@prattcc.edu).



## 2016 Boyd Davies Executive-in-Residence

The 2016 Boyd Davies Executive-in-Residence is Kelly Estes, CEO of BTI since 1987. Estes grew a family business from one dealership location headquartered in Bucklin to a total of five locations in Bucklin, Greensburg, Ness City, Pratt and Hoxie.

Estes used what he knew to grow in other areas of business including wind-energy, and Information Technologies. He also spends his time working in the community on various boards and organizations.

Estes, along with his family, will be awarded with this prize in the PCC Library on Apr. 15.

The Boyd Davies Executive-in-Residence Award is just one of the ways that PCC celebrates being part of the Pratt community.



# PCC Hosts Academic Olympics and Car Show

On Feb 22, about 600 students attended Pratt Community College's annual Academic Olympics. The students came from 25 high schools around the state and competed in various scholastic, technical and artistic categories.

Students took written tests in subjects ranging from animal science to history to nutrition, and contestants in the automotive and agriculture power technology categories were asked to identify machine parts. Acting solos and duets were performed live and photos, news writing and creative writing were also critiqued. The top three students in each category were awarded with certificates recognizing their achievement.

The overall winners of the 2016 Academic Olympics were, in Division I, Conway Springs High School in first place, Trinity Catholic High School in second place, and a tie for third was Pratt and Buhler High School. Division II winners were Skyline High School with first place, Medicine Lodge High School in second place, and Burrton High School received third place.



"We had a really great turnout of students from across the state" said event coordinator Heather Wilson. "The excitement on campus from the high school students taking the tests makes the time and effort put into organizing this event well worth it. We are already looking forward and planning for next year."

Guests to campus during the morning also visited the annual car show presented by the automotive department. Nearly twenty cars of all makes and models were on display on loan from PCC employees, students and community members with ties to the department.

Visitors voted on the People's Choice, which was awarded to PCC student Logan Chadd for his 1969 Chevrolet Camaro. Runner up was the blue and white 1967 Chevrolet Camaro owned by Adam Deda of Doug Reh Body Shop, and third

place was the 1948 Ford Truck owned by PCC Student Austin Clifton.

For more information about Academic Olympics, contact Wilson at [heatherw@prattcc.edu](mailto:heatherw@prattcc.edu) or 620-450-2146. For more information about the car show or the automotive program, contact Greg Bacon at [gregb@prattcc.edu](mailto:gregb@prattcc.edu) or 620-450-2189.





# Wrestling Takes 8 Athletes to Nationals

On Feb. 13, Pratt Community College Wrestling competed in the West Central District Regionals in Chanute, Kan. The match qualified 8 PCC student-athletes for the national tournament, which is a school record, and placed third overall in the tournament.

Clay Bodenheimer – 125 lbs

Dy' Juan Carney – 133 lbs

Downey Wood – 141 lbs

Andrew Beck – 149 lbs (Returning All-American)

Cade Noble – 157 lbs

Syed Rafay Ali – 165 lbs

Micah Felton – 184 lbs

Travis Quarterman – 197 lbs

The NJCAA National Wrestling Championships took place on Feb. 26 and 27 in Council Bluffs, Iowa. The Wrestling team worked very hard leading up to the intense competition.

"I am proud of my athletes and they have worked really hard to get to this place," said Head Coach Ken Kepley. "We want to make everyone proud."

The Pratt CC team finished in the top 25, Felton and Wood were named All-American in their weight class and were recognized and awarded Academic Team of the year for the third time.



## Men's Basketball Season Almost Over

Pratt Community College hosted the Men's Basketball Region VI First Round of the NJCAA Tournament Feb. 25. The #2-seed PCC basketball team took on the #15-seed Cloud County Community College in the Dennis Lesh Sports Arena.

The Beavers ended the regular season Feb. 22 with a 92-79 win to Independence Community College. PCC record sits at 22-9 overall and 15-4 in Jayhawk Conference action.

The Beavers did not come out with the win against Cloud County who will advance to the quarterfinals of the Region VI Tournament on Sunday, Feb. 28 at the Hartman Arena in Park City, Kan.

The road may not be over for the Beaver Basketball team. In the event that Hutchinson Community College wins the Regional Tournament then PCC, as the number 2 seed, will receive an at-large bid and both teams will compete in the NJCAA National Tournament.



# Track and Field Athletes head to Nationals

Five runners from the Pratt Community College Track and Field team are headed to the NJCAA Indoor Championships in Winston-Salem, NC Mar. 4-5.

Divina Flores - Sophomore

Krystal Rivera - Sophomore

Concepcion Vazquez - Freshman

Fallon Spraggins - Freshman

Elisabeth Richins - Sophomore

They will compete in the 4x800 meter relay event. PCC Track and Field is ranked number 10 nationally.

"I am very proud," said Joshua Harden, Head Coach. "These girls have put a lot of work into building this long distance program. They are very deserving."



## New Head Coaches for Cross Country and Track and Field

Pratt Community College is excited to announce the hiring of Eric Larson as the Head Cross Country Coach and Assistant Track and Field Coach in which he will specialize in the training of distance and middle distance student-athletes.

An Overland Park, KS native, Larson comes to Pratt Community College after serving as the Assistant Cross Country/ Track & Field Coach specializing in the distance events at Dakota Wesleyan University (SD). Coach Larson's accomplishments include successfully coaching 2 NAIA All-Americans, 5 NAIA National Qualifiers, 1 NAIA All-Scholar Athlete, 2 NAIA Academic All-Scholarship team, 9 School Records, and the highest men's cross country conference team finish in school history. Coach Larson's coaching knowledge comes from many previous mentors which include Zach Kindler, Ian Hankins, and Brent Bailey.



Larson will join PCC's Joshua Harden who is now the Head Track and Field Coach and Assistant Cross Country Coach. Harden is in his first season at Pratt. He is originally from Coral Springs, FL, and attended Highland Community College from 2011-2012. While at Highland, he was second team all-conference in the triple jump. He jumped his way to a seventh place finish at the 2012 NJCAA Indoor Championships, earning the distinction of All-American. From Highland, Coach Harden attended UMKC where he earned his bachelor's degree in 2015. He was a two-time first team all-conference triple jumper and second team long jumper. In 2015, he was the Western Athletic Conference champion in the triple jump and earned a spot in the NCAA D1 West Regional meet.







MAR 4



Baseball  
PCC vs Hutch  
2:00 Stanion

MAR 9

Pizza with the  
President  
9PM  
Woj/Scholarship



MAR 23

Skate Night  
@ Roll-A-Rink  
9-11



MAR 7

Pizza with the  
President  
(Commuter & Non-Resident)  
Noon - Riney 312

Concert of Choirs  
7:30 Auditorium



MAR 10

Movie Night  
9PM  
Riney - 312



MAR 25  
Good Friday  
No Classes

MAR 28  
Easter Monday  
No Classes

MAR 8

Diane Eickhoff  
Presentation  
Library 8AM

PTK Induction  
Library 7 PM

Pizza with the  
President  
9PM  
Novatny/  
North



MAR 12-20  
SPRING  
BREAK!

MAR 21

EGG  
STRAVAGANZA  
Egg Hunt



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**MARCH**  
Student  
2016 Activities