

YOUR KHEAA COLLEGE CONNECTION

May 2016

8 students to win \$1,000 for college by reading

Eight Kentucky students will win \$1,000 college savings accounts through a summer reading program at participating libraries. Each winner's local library will also receive \$500 for future reading programs.

The On Your Mark, Get Set ... Save for College! is sponsored by the Kentucky Education Savings Plan Trust (KESPT) and the Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives.

Winners will be picked randomly for \$1,000 KESPT accounts. Parents, grandparents and guardians can enter on behalf children 18 or younger by completing an entry form at their local library. Entries must be postmarked by August 19 and received by August 24.



Libraries across Kentucky offer a reading program every summer as part of the national Collaborative Summer Library Program, in which states work together to provide high-quality summer reading program materials for children at the lowest cost possible for their public libraries. Libraries enhance the experience by designing costumes, hosting games and obstacle courses, creating art projects and science and engineering experiments, and more.

KESPT, Kentucky's official 529 college savings plan, was established in 1988 and is administered by KHEAA. It helps parents, other relatives and friends save for college expenses with tax benefits. A KESPT account can be started with as little as \$25 and can be used at any qualified institution in the nation. TIAA-CREF Tuition Financing manages the plan. For more information about KESPT, visit kysaves.com or call toll-free 1-877-598-7878.

Save for College! is sponsored by KESPT and KHEAA. No purchase necessary. Void where prohibited. Visit kysaves.com for official rules and prize details.

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2016 Dream Out Loud winners are announced

Eight Kentucky students have won \$1,000 college savings accounts after participating in the 2016 KESPT Dream Out Loud Challenge. Each winner's school received \$500.

The Dream Out Loud Challenge invited students from pre-kindergarten through sixth grade to submit an original poem, drawing, video or essay answering the question, "How will I change the world after college?" More than 800 children from across the state participated.

The 2016 Dream Out Loud winners are:

- Jace Detre, a kindergarten student at Abraham Lincoln Elementary, Hodgenville, who submitted an essay.
- Ian Durbin, a pre-kindergarten student at Jesse Stuart Elementary in Madisonville, who submitted a video.
- Audrey Richard, a second-grader at Lone Oak Elementary in Paducah, who submitted a video.
- Kaylee Switzer, a second-grader at Lewis County Central Elementary in Vanceburg, who submitted an essay.
- Sam Eppley, a fourth-grader at Mann Elementary in Union, who submitted a poem.
- Kate Fetko, a fourth-grader at Seton Catholic Elementary in Lexington, who submitted a drawing.
- Amber Branum, a sixth-grader at St. Paul Catholic School in Walton, who submitted an essay.
- Mia Gonzalez, a sixth-grader at William H. Natcher Elementary School in Bowling Green, who submitted a video.

A panel of Kentucky business executives, writers and education professionals served as judges. Winning submissions are displayed at kysaves.com.



This winning Dream Out Loud entry was submitted by Kate Fetko of Lexington.

3 state schools named National Green Ribbon Schools

Two Kentucky public schools and one private college have been named Green Ribbon Schools by the U.S. Department of Education. They are Eastern Elementary in Scott County, Russell Cave Elementary in Fayette County and Berea College.

They were recognized for their efforts to reduce environmental impact and utility costs, promote better health among students and staff, and provide environmental education.

The schools will be honored at a Washington, D.C., ceremony in July.

Kentucky has participated in the voluntary Green Ribbon Schools Program since its inception in 2011. Schools are encouraged to participate in the Green Ribbon Schools Program in the 2016-17 school year. For more information on the nomination process, check the [Green Schools page](#) on the Kentucky Department of Education website. More information on the Green Ribbon federal recognition award can be found [here](#). Resources for all schools to move toward becoming green schools can be found [here](#).

Council sets tuition ceilings for state's colleges and universities

The Council on Postsecondary Education has set 2016-17 tuition ceilings for in-state undergraduate students.

The state's public colleges and universities use the ceilings as guidelines when setting their tuition rates. The actual tuition rates will be approved by the council in June.

The ceiling was set at 5 percent for the University of Kentucky and the University of Louisville.

The council approved ceilings of up to \$432 each for Eastern Kentucky University, Kentucky State University, Morehead State University, Murray State University, Northern Kentucky University and Western Kentucky University.

The state's community and technical colleges can increase their tuition costs up to \$9 per credit hour.

Make college more affordable by saving on intangible costs

When it comes to comparing the costs of various colleges, remember that on the broadest level, costs can be tangible or intangible. To save money, follow these tips from KHEAA.

Tangible costs include tuition and fees and room and board.

Intangible costs include everything else: textbooks and supplies; computers; and personal items, such as shampoo, clothes, entertainment, laundry, and other expenses.

Students can save money, sometimes a lot of money, by controlling the costs of their lifestyle. That doesn't mean skimping on shampoo, soap, food and doing their laundry. But they can cut costs by finding sales or using coupons. Always be looking out for buy one, get one free deals.

They can also save quite a bit of money by cutting back on treats such as entertainment and dining out. Doing those things less often will make them even more special when they do treat themselves.

Remember: The less they spend on the intangibles, the less they'll have to take out in student loans. That means that after they graduate they can afford more of the things they enjoy.



OCTC to offer Pell Grants for dual enrollment

High school students from six districts can now apply for and use Pell Grants to pay for their dual enrollment college courses at Owensboro Community and Technical College.

Pell Grants are need-based federal grants that provide up to \$5,815 per year to pay for college. They can be used to help pay for tuition, fees, books and supplies. Pell Grants do not have to be repaid.

Under a pilot program begun by the U.S. Department of Education, an estimated 10,000 low-income students at schools across the country will benefit from the program. The schools can start offering the grants beginning in July.

OCTC provides dual enrollment classes for public school students in the Cloverport, Daviess County, Hancock County, McLean County, Ohio County and Owensboro districts.

Since 2001, its Discover College program has provided over 18,700 secondary students with college credit opportunities while enrolled in high school. Students enrolled in the program will be encouraged to pursue high wage, high demand programs, particularly those in STEM fields with strong employment demand in the region and state.

Grant will help state redesign college remedial classes

A \$326,000 grant from the James Graham Brown Foundation in Louisville will help the state redesign remedial courses for college students. The grant was awarded to the Council on Postsecondary Education.

The “corequisite” model lets students enroll in courses that count toward graduation if the students receive tutoring, mentoring or supplemental instruction.

Many students unprepared for college work take up to two to three semesters of remedial work before taking courses that count toward graduation. The more remedial classes needed, the greater the risk students will drop out. Having to take remedial classes also means students take longer to earn their degrees.

West Virginia, Tennessee and Indiana have successfully piloted corequisite models.

Senior Year Planner

- Let your high school counselor know which school you’re going to so the school can send in final grades, class rank and proof of graduation.
- Send thank-you notes to counselors, teachers and others who helped you through the process.
- Prepare a budget for the coming school year.

Transylvania keeps Battle of the Bumpers title

By MASON DYER

Transylvania University and its supporters has maintained their lock on the Association of Independent Kentucky Colleges and Universities’ “Battle of the Bumpers” license plate sales title for the eighth straight year. The annual friendly competition pits Kentucky’s 19 private nonprofit colleges and universities against each other to see whose supporters purchase the most college-branded Kentucky license plates in a calendar year.



Transylvania supporters purchased 923 plates in calendar 2015, generating \$9,230 in scholarships for Transy students. Ten dollars from the sale of each Kentucky Independent Higher Education license plate goes to the featured school’s general scholarship fund.

Overall Kentucky Independent Higher Education license plate sales generated nearly \$48,000 for student scholarships in 2015. After Transylvania, Centre College (811), Bellarmine University (612) and Georgetown College (460) were the next highest sellers.

Sales of independent college license plates have generated more than half a million dollars in for student scholarships since their introduction in 2002.

The plates cost \$44 on initial issue and \$31 on renewal, with \$10 going to the institution’s general scholarship fund. Plates may be purchased at any Kentucky county clerk’s office.

Plates for the state’s eight public universities are also available. For more information, visit the [Kentucky Department of Transportation’s Division of Motor Vehicle Licensing](#).

Warren County student wins Earth Day photo contest

Drakes Creek Middle School seventh-grader Leslie Hale, 13, is the winner of the sixth annual “Capture the Earth” photography contest, sponsored by the Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet in celebration of Earth Day.

Hale photographed a rainbow over Cumberland Falls using a Nikon Coolpix camera.

“I like how this image captures the beauty of Cumberland Falls through the waterfall and rainbow shining up and out,” she said. “When I first saw the rainbow, I was speechless. But we were sad to see trash in the water. Visitors should be more careful to keep our water clean.”



Photo by Leslie Hale

Skyler Loomis, 13, a seventh-grader at Menifee Middle School, received an honorable mention as his photo captured a monarch caterpillar on a milkweed plant.

“We need to understand that even the smallest things that seem to improve our lives may not be healthy for other creatures, like pesticides,” said Loomis. “I haven’t seen a lot of butterflies and we need to help them regain balance in nature and live a healthy life.”



Photo by Skyler Loomis

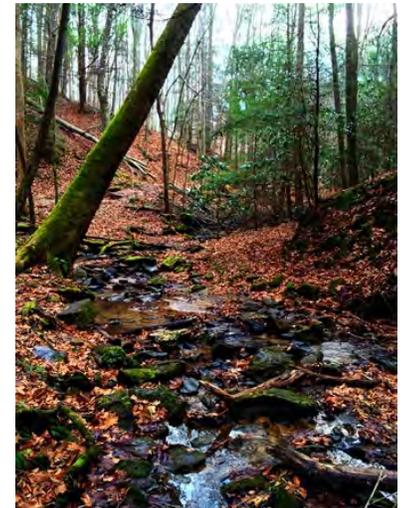


Photo by Benjamin Tackett

Benjamin Michael Tackett, 11, a sixth-grader at Allen Central Middle School, received an honorable mention for his photo taken at the Red River Gorge last December.

“This photo was taken on a trail down inside the gorge and it’s not only beautiful, but peaceful,” Tackett said. “You can hike down and then rest on a rock looking at this view.”

“When we plan vacations we forget about what Kentucky has to offer and honestly, it can’t get any better than this. Water, mountains, wildlife ... what more could you ask for?”

Hale was recognized during the state government Earth Day Celebration on April 21 at the Thomas D. Clark Center for Kentucky History in Frankfort. Leslie will receive a two-night stay with her family at a Kentucky State Resort Park of her choice, compliments of the Kentucky Department of Parks.

For more information, visit <http://eec.ky.gov/Pages/earthday.aspx>.

Deadline for essay contest fast approaching

A rising junior at one of Kentucky's public or private high schools will win a \$500 scholarship and a photo shoot at his or her school through the Promote Your School scholarship contest, sponsored by KHEAA.

The school must participate in the Kentucky Educational Excellence Scholarship (KEES) program to be eligible.

To enter, the student must submit an essay no more than 200 words long and cannot mention the student's name, school, county or community. The essay topic must be shown at the top of the page. The student's name, address and high school must be listed at the bottom of the essay. The student must be a junior during the 2016–2017 school year. For essay topics and additional information, visit kheaa.com/website/contest/intro.

Photos from the winning school will be used in KHEAA publications and on KHEAA websites.

To enter, mail your essay to KHEAA Publications, P.O. Box 798, Frankfort, KY 40602. You may also email your essay to publications@kheaa.com or fax it to 502.696.7574.

The winner will be chosen by a committee of KHEAA employees. The deadline for submissions is May 31.

Students from schools that have been featured the past five years are not eligible for this year's contest. Those schools are Lexington STEAM Academy, Somerset Christian, J. Graham Brown, Sacred Heart and Bowling Green.

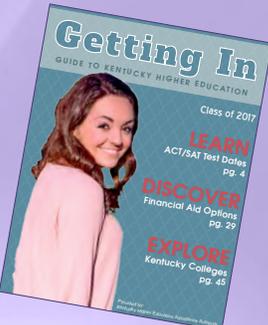
PROMOTE YOUR SCHOOL

Scholarship Essay Contest

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Deadline: May 31
Get the details at
www.kheaa.com/website/contest/rules



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