



EASTERN
West Virginia Community & Technical College

FOUNDATION

NEWSLETTER

Welcome

2020 has been the most remarkable year, to say the least! We had the opportunity to witness a world-wide pandemic, civil unrest, and a turbulent election.

As we are very ready to turn the page to 2021, we pause to reflect on some of the positives. Our Eastern faculty and staff quickly and seamlessly transitioned from in-person to online instruction in the Spring. Fifty-one students completed their education and graduated with their two-year degrees, including 17 nurses. Fifty students completed Workforces Training. One hundred ninety-three high school students earned college credit in Eastern's Early Entrance Program. And, our Foundation supported our students and community with scholarships, direct aid, and arts & cultural activities.

As we look toward 2021, we are eager to see what we can do in the new year – Together! Thank you for your continued support!

**Eastern West Virginia Community & Technical College
Foundation**

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The Arts Are Alive at Eastern

The Arts are alive and well at Eastern West Virginia Community and Technical College. Many cultural and arts opportunities occurred in 2020 through the college's Arts Society. The Arts Society was established a decade ago to support and promote the creative talents of Eastern's students, faculty, staff, and community.

In Spring 2020, Joe McGee, English faculty and award-winning children's author, became the newest Arts Society coordinator. Of his new responsibilities, Joe says, "I'm proud to be part of the Arts Society. It gives students, faculty, staff, and the community a place to imagine, create, and share their talents." This past spring, the Arts Society published the sixth volume of the Eagle's Nest, a collection of writing, art, and photography. Submitted works came from students, faculty, and staff. In addition to printed copies, [the Eagle's Nest publication is available on the Eastern website.](#)

When Eastern moved to predominantly online classes this fall, Kristen Colebank, an artist specializing in watercolor who also serves as the college's instructional technology specialist, started a new virtual art endeavor, Sketch Club, which provides another outlet for Eastern's students, faculty, and staff. By using Microsoft Teams as a virtual forum for the club, participants share their ideas and sketches with others. A guided prompt is provided weekly to get the creative juices flowing. Sketch Club is planning to hold a virtual exhibition during December on the college's Facebook page.

This November, Eastern virtually hosted The Rustic Mechanicals, West Virginia's Shakespeare Troupe, as they released their performance of "A Midsummer Night's Dream" over Zoom. Participants had the opportunity to ask the performers questions through a live Q&A session following the performance. The performance was funded through the West Virginia Humanities Council. In non-pandemic times, the troupe produces three tours a year, hosts several special events, and runs a high school, Apprentice Troupe. They have promised to return in the spring for another performance.

Arts Society Coordinator Joe McGee regularly reminds students and other budding creatives that "Creativity takes courage." Whether it is writing a poem or short story, sketching with a pencil, or painting with watercolors, the Eastern community includes some courageous folks.

Meet Henrietta

This year's enormous and most obvious art effort has been painting the 8-foot chicken statue, known as Henrietta, that sits on the north end of the campus overlooking Corridor H. Local artist Kelson Thorne added his own style to the figure. He used both brushes and spray paint to create his vision, including the Eastern logo. He needed to use more spray paint due to the chicken's features.

When asked about his thoughts on the project, Kelson said, "I was very excited to paint a statue, especially a huge chicken." Henrietta is not the first outdoor art Kelson has added to our community. Kelson painted several outdoor murals in the area this summer, including Queen's Point Coffee in Keyser and the City Pool in Petersburg. He also painted the newly restored Petersburg High School Field House and Locker Room.

Kelson is no stranger to Eastern. His work was displayed during a solo exhibition at Eastern's Eagle's Nest Gallery on the main campus in February.

The painting project was made possible by a generous donation from Pilgrim's Pride.



Pictured-L: Kelson Thorne and Henrietta; Pictured-R: Herman Whetzel, Plant Manager - Pilgrim's Pride Fresh Plant; Kelson Thorne, Artist; Dr. Charles "Chuck" Terrell, EWVCTC President; Charles "Chip" Bolyard, EWVCTC Foundation Consultant.

Eastern Is Proud to Train Area's Healthcare Heroes

Since 2012, Eastern West Virginia Community and Technical College has supplied Registered Nurses to the area's workforce. In fact, nurses who trained at Eastern can be found in West Virginia, Virginia, Maryland, Colorado, and Texas.

Locally, Eastern's nursing graduates are employed at Grant Memorial, Hampshire Memorial, Potomac Valley, WVU Hospitals, Winchester Medical Center, Sentara RMH Medical Center, Garrett Memorial, UPMC Western Medical, Martinsburg VA Medical Center, and numerous local nursing homes, rehabilitation facilities, and doctor's offices.

Eastern's Nursing program is very competitive. The program had more than 50 applicants for the 2020-2022 cohort. Each cohort is limited to 20 students due to program requirements.

The Nursing program recently completed a positive accreditation review by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN). The reviewers visited the campus in February.

You can help keep our medical students' educational costs affordable by supporting the Nursing program with your one-time or recurring gift.

[Click here to visit our Giving Page to learn how you can help support our Healthcare Heroes!](#)

Annual Mountaintop Farm to Table Event Postponed

We sincerely wish we could have been together during the annual "Mountaintop Farm to Table Dinner" that normally would have been held in September. The event is designed to feature and celebrate unique traditions around food and agriculture in West Virginia.

Although we cannot feast and enjoy our time together on a gorgeous mountaintop, you still have a chance to positively impact the Eastern West Virginia Community and Technical College Foundation and create more opportunities for Eastern students and the Potomac Highlands community.

Please review the multiple ways you can give on our "new" [Foundation website](#), highlighting available scholarships, student emergency funds, and giving campaigns.

We look forward to seeing you in 2021 and providing you with an entertaining and enjoyable evening!

If you'd like to be included in next year's "Mountaintop Farm to Table" invitation, [email the Foundation](#).

To learn more about this event, please [click here to visit the website](#).



Eastern Foundation Launches New Website

The Eastern West Virginia Community and Technical College Foundation is pleased to introduce you to our new website.

The new website includes a color photo carousel and an improved [Giving page](#) to highlight the various giving opportunities. We also will highlight Alumni Stories on the site, and use the new [Events page](#) to promote the Foundation's fundraising events.

We hope you like the new look!



[Home](#) [About Us](#) [Giving](#) [Newsletter](#) [Events](#)

www.easternwvctcfoundation.org



Name the Newsletter

Want to leave a lasting legacy to Eastern the easy way?

Then name our newsletter! We are accepting nominations for the Eastern West Virginia Community and Technical College Foundation Newsletter. The newsletter highlights the projects and progress of the College and the Foundation.

Submit your newsletter name suggestion to foundation@easternwv.edu by Friday, January 8, 2021.

Considering Making a Donation?

Consider These New CARES Act Tax incentives

The CARES Act provides additional charitable giving incentives and allows taxpayers, who take the standard deduction, to make up to \$300 of charitable contributions to qualified charities this year. Do you itemize your deductions? The new law allows for cash contributions to qualified charities to be deducted up to 100 percent of your adjusted gross income for the 2020 calendar year.

Many people believe that the state ultimately funds community and technical colleges. Eastern is a state-assisted, not state-supported institution. In FY 2020, the State of West Virginia provided just 42 percent of Eastern's annual budget, shifting the balance to students who can often least afford a college education.

Your donation will make a significant impact on the college and our students.

Support the Foundation While You Shop at Amazon

You can make an impact and support the Eastern Foundation while you shop on Amazon this holiday season. If you are not already supporting the Foundation, simply [Click Here](#) or turn on Amazon Smile in the Amazon app and select Eastern West Virginia Community and Technical College Foundation Inc. AmazonSmile will donate a portion of your purchase to the College's Foundation at no cost to you.

Since November 2019, our Eastern Amazon Supporters have raised more than \$65 for our students. On behalf of the Eastern Foundation, we want to challenge YOU to give more and help us surpass last year's performance!



Eastern Continues to See Campus Improvements

The Eastern West Virginia Community and Technical College Campus continues to see improvements. The college added solar lights to Eastern Drive this summer.

In our continued effort to combat the COVID-19 virus, touch-less faucets, soap dispensers, and paper towel dispensers have been added to the restrooms at the main campus in Moorefield and technical center in Petersburg.



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Mission Statement

A non-profit organization established in 2000, the Eastern West Virginia Community and Technical College Foundation supports Eastern West Virginia Community and Technical College by helping to provide an accessible, quality education for traditional and non-traditional learners in the College's service area (Grant, Hampshire, Hardy, Mineral, Pendleton, and Tucker counties).

