

COMING UP

MONDAY, APRIL 15

Women's Golf at LSC Championship
All day Thackerville, Okla.

TUESDAY, APRIL 16

Women's Golf at LSC Championship
All day Thackerville, Okla.

Wind Ensemble & Orchestra Concert
7:30 p.m. Akin Auditorium

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17

Women's Golf at LSC Championship
All day Thackerville, Okla.

Celebration of Scholarship
1-5 p.m. Bridwell Activities Center

THURSDAY, APRIL 18

Celebration of Scholarship/UGRCFAF
9 a.m.-5 p.m. Bridwell Activities Center

OSPR workshop

11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. CSC Kiowa

FRIDAY, APRIL 19

Senior Exhibition
All day Fain Fine Arts galleries

Harlan Steph Counseling Conference
9 a.m.-4 p.m. WFMA

Softball at St. Edward's
Noon & 2 p.m. Austin, Texas

Men's & Women's Tennis at Arkansas-Fort Smith
1 p.m. Fort Smith, Ark.

Honors Recognition Banquet
6:30 p.m. D.L. Ligon Coliseum

SATURDAY, APRIL 20

Men's & Women's Tennis at Cameron
10 a.m. Lawton, Oklahoma

Softball at St. Edward's
Noon Austin, Texas

SUNDAY, APRIL 21

Men's Golf at LSC Championship
All day Thackerville, Okla.

MONDAY, APRIL 22

Men's Golf at LSC Championship
All day Thackerville, Okla.

TUESDAY, APRIL 23

Men's Golf at LSC Championship
All day Thackerville, Okla.

Piano Studio Recital
7:30 p.m. Akin Auditorium

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24

Men's Golf at LSC Championship
All day Thackerville, Okla.

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AROUND CAMPUS

Printing supplies still available

The MSU Texas Print Shop will remain open from 8 a.m.-noon Mondays and Tuesdays through April to liquidate supplies. Paper, envelopes, and other supplies are still for sale. Note pads are available in packages of five for \$3 a package.

Wind Ensemble & Orchestra Concert

The Department of Music will host a Wind Ensemble & Orchestra Concert at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 16, in Akin Auditorium. Call ext. 4267 for more information.

Celebration of Scholarship/UGRCFAF

The Dr. Billie Doris McAda Graduate School, the Office of Sponsored Programs and Research, and the Office of Undergraduate Research will host the Celebration of Scholarship and Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities Forum Wednesday and Thursday, April 17-18, in the Bridwell Activities Center and Clark Student Center. This two-day event is a showcase for research, scholarship, and creative activity which brings together faculty, graduate and undergraduate students from all disciplines to share posters, oral, or creative presentations with the MSU Texas and Wichita Falls community. Presentations are evaluated by MSU Texas faculty and winners receive recognition. Contact [Julie Scales](#) or call ext. 6274 for more information.

Harlan Steph Counseling Conference

The Gordon T. & Ellen West College of Education will host the Harlan Steph Counseling Conference from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Friday, April 19, at the Wichita Falls Museum of Art at MSU Texas. The speaker will be Kristy Donaldson, who is a certified Enneagram coach, certified child and family Enneagram coach, animal-assisted counseling ambassador, and the owner

of Premier Neurofeedback & Counseling Services PLLC. Her topic will be "Utilizing Play Therapy through the Lifespan." There will be a lunch break from noon-1 p.m.

The price is \$15 for students and \$50 for professionals. [Register for Steph Conference here.](#)

Harlan Steph came to Hardin College in 1943 to teach chemistry and physical education. He pursued a doctorate in education in the late 1940s and was Professor of Education from 1949-1956. In addition to teaching, he was Dean of Men from 1946-1956. He and his wife were house parents in the dorm that is now Memorial Hall. From 1956-1978, he was Professor of Education, and founded the counselor education program. He received the Faculty Award in 1978 and named Professor Emeritus of Education and Psychology in 1979. Steph was known throughout the community for his tireless and unselfish work with young people, especially delinquent and emotionally disturbed children. The first Harlan Steph Conference was held in 1979 in recognition of his contributions to the counseling field at MSU Texas and is held each spring to inform and encourage those in the education counseling field.

Honors Recognition Banquet

The MSU Texas Honors Recognition Banquet begins at 6:30 p.m. Friday, April 19, in D. L. Ligon Coliseum. This event honors excellence in student scholarship, leadership, and service during the 2023-2024 academic year, including the announcement of the Hardin and Clark Scholars and Man and Woman of the Year. The Honors Recognition Banquet includes a full buffet dinner. Tickets to the Banquet are \$20 and are available for purchase at the CSC Information Desk using cash or credit/debit card **through April 16**. Any MSU Texas departments wanting to purchase tickets using an interdepartmental transfer may do so in the Student Affairs Office, CSC 108. For additional information about the MSU Texas Honors Recognition Banquet, please contact the Office of Student Affairs at ext. 7500 or email student.affairs@msutexas.edu.

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THURSDAY, APRIL 25

**MSU Texas Tennis
at LSC Championship**
All day Arlington, Texas

**Speakers & Issues
Special Workshop**
2-3:30 p.m. Fain C106

Speakers & Issues
7 p.m. Dillard 101

**MSU Texas Theatre:
The Pirates of Penzance**
7:30 p.m. Fain Fine Arts Theatre

FRIDAY, APRIL 26

**MSU Texas Tennis
at LSC Championship**
All day Arlington, Texas

**Women's Track
at Corky/Crofoot Shootout**
All day Lubbock, Texas

Softball vs Texas A&M International
1 & 3 p.m. Mustangs Park

Pre-Flight Festival & Market
5-9 p.m. Quad

**MSU Texas Theatre:
The Pirates of Penzance**
7:30 p.m. Fain Fine Arts Theatre

SATURDAY, APRIL 27
**Men's & Women's Tennis
at LSC Championship**
All day Arlington, Texas

**Women's Track
at Corky/Crofoot Shootout**
All day Lubbock, Texas

Softball vs Texas A&M International
Noon Mustangs Park

**MSU Texas Theatre:
The Pirates of Penzance**
7:30 p.m. Fain Fine Arts Theatre

SUNDAY, APRIL 28

**MSU Texas Theatre:
The Pirates of Penzance**
2:30 p.m. Fain Fine Arts Theatre

Senior Exhibition

The culmination of collegiate art work by graduating MSU Texas art students will be on display beginning Friday, April 19, in the Juanita Harvey Art Gallery, and the pit and foyer galleries in the Fain Fine Arts Building. A reception will be held from 6-8 p.m. Friday, May 10, in the gallery. The exhibition will be on display through 5 p.m. Friday, May 17. Gallery hours are from 8 a.m.-noon and 1-5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Call ext. 4264 for more information.

Staff Senate Nominations

Nominations are now open for 2024-2026 Staff Senate representatives. All MSU Texas staff members are invited to submit their nominations for representatives online through **noon Wednesday, April 19.**

The MSU Texas Staff Senate serves as an advisory board to the President of the University regarding matters affecting staff employees. Each EEO category has at least one senate representative. Senators serve two-year terms and are limited to a maximum of two consecutive terms of service. The Staff Senate currently has openings for EEO1, EEO3, and EEO4.

Nomination Instructions:

- Please visit the [Staff Senate voting link](#) to cast your nomination.
- Login will be the username you use to sign in to your computer/MSU Network.
- Password will be your network password.

Nominations are anonymous; any individuals you nominate will not know that you were responsible for their nomination. Supervisors are urged to make computer access available to all staff employees in their respective area for the purpose of senate nominations and elections. Contact [Elizabeth Ysasi by email](#) or call ext. 4335 for more information.

Piano Studio Recital

The Department of Music will host a Piano Studio Recital at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 23, in Akin Auditorium. Call ext. 4267 for more information.

Speakers & Issues:

Isadora Stowe & Manuela Gomez

The Speakers & Issues Series will present artists Isadora Stowe and Manuela Gomez at 7 p.m. Thursday, April 25, in Dillard 101. Their program will be "Sight and Insight; Unpacking the Philosophical Insights of Visual Rhetoric."

Drawing from six years of collaborative research, Stowe and Gomez, with additional research conducted during their tenure as 2022-2023 Humanities Collaborative fellows, explore the philosophical implications of visual culture. The internet has transformed image communication, prompting this presentation to deepen students' awareness as image creators and equip educators with tools for promoting visual equity. Gomez teaches philosophy at El Paso Community College. She has more than 20 years of teaching experience on the U.S.-Mexico border. She was named a 2022 Piper Professor, one of the most prestigious awards in higher education in Texas. Stowe is professor of art at El Paso Community College. Her multimedia practice centers on visual narratives as they relate to the construction of the sense of self. The presentation and accompanying workshop, which will be held from 2-3:30 p.m. also on Thursday, April 25, in Fain C 106, will be relevant to any courses that incorporate image creation. Participants will receive homework assignments and additional resources to facilitate ongoing discussions within their classrooms. [Email John Schulze](#) or call ext. 6249 for more information.

Biology/Chemistry Alumni Lecture Series

The Biology/Chemistry Alumni Lecture Series will present biochemist Chanez Symister from Catena Biosciences. Symister will speak at 1 p.m. Friday, April 26, in Bolin 304. [Email Candice Fulton](#) or call ext. 4450 for more information.

MSU Texas Theatre: The Pirates of Penzance

MSU Texas Theatre will present *The Pirates of Penzance* with music by Arthur Sullivan

and libretto by W.S. Gilbert at 7:30 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, April 25-27, and at 2:30 p.m. Sunday, April 28. Admission free for MSU Texas staff, faculty, and students. Tickets are \$10 for general public. Purchase tickets online at <https://msufineartstickets.universitytickets.com>.

Pre-Flight Festival & Market at MSU Texas

MSU Texas is partnering with community organizations to host a Pre-Flight Festival & Market from 5-9 p.m. Friday, April 26, on the MSU Texas campus Quadrangle.

The Pre-Flight Festival & Market is a community kickoff to the [Guardians of Freedom Air Show](#) Weekend at Sheppard Air Force Base. Attendees at the family-oriented Pre-Flight Festival & Market can explore the Artist & Farmer's Market, enjoy dinner from local food trucks, groove to the beats of a live DJ, have fun with various interactive games, crafts, and inflatables, and meet and interact with real-life Guardians of Freedom Heroes from Sheppard Air Force Base. The Market and Fun Zone area will close at 8 p.m. (before sunset).

Bring the family and hang out after hours at MSU Texas. Then, enjoy the Air Show at SAFB and other community events on Saturday and Sunday!

For more information about the Pre-Flight Festival & Market on April 26, please visit the [Facebook event page](#).

WFMA at MSU Texas paper making workshop

The Wichita Falls Museum of Art at MSU Texas will host a paper making workshop from 2-4 p.m. Saturday, April 27. Instructor will be guest artist Stephanie Rhodes. Space is limited. [RSVP online for the workshop](#). Workshops are free and all supplies provided. Call the museum at ext. 8900 for more information.

EURECA Proposals being accepted

The Office of Undergraduate Research is now accepting EURECA Proposals for Fall 2024. The guidelines for submitting a proposal are attached and available on the Office of Undergraduate Research website under Application Process. All proposals will be submitted electronically to a fillable Microsoft form. **The proposal application deadline is June 1, 2024.** For more information, please contact the Office of Undergraduate Research at 940-397-6274 or email eureca@msutexas.edu.

Credit Union Scholarship reminder

The Midwestern State University Credit Union is proud to award the annual Doris L. Murray, Marjorie A Gramlich, Mike & Patricia Hagler Scholarship for the Fall of 2024/Spring 2025 school year. This scholarship is open to full-time MSU Texas students. Applicants must be enrolled in at least 12 hours per semester.

The scholarship will automatically be continued during the spring semester if satisfactory progress of at least a 2.0 GPA is maintained. Call ext. 4622 or stop by MSU Credit Union for more information or an application form. The application deadline is **noon, June 14**.

CAMPUS NEWS

Board of Regents approves new degree programs

The Texas Tech University System Board of Regents approved new degree programs in political science, electrical engineering and industrial technology for MSU Texas during its regularly scheduled Feb. 29-March 1 meeting held on the MSU Texas campus. Read more about [the programs](#) in the MSU Texas news.

Esports gamer thankful for FallsCon Scholarship

Blair Thacker found a home with MSU Texas Esports & Gaming after she transferred from Vernon College. Thanks to a Wichita Falls area sponsor, she also gained a scholarship after coming to Midwestern State University. Thacker is like many students in that writing essays isn't her favorite pastime, but she wrote an excellent essay in 2022, and was selected as the recipient of the FallsCon Scholarship for 2022-23 for the MSU Texas Esports & Gaming. [Read more about Thacker and esports](#) in the MSU Texas news.

MSU Texas Respiratory Care earns APEX Award

Midwestern State University's Respiratory Care program was honored by the American Association for Respiratory Care (AARC) with the APEX Award. The AARC honored 11 organizations with its 2024-2025 Apex Awards, and MSU Texas was one of two to receive recognition in the Education category, the other being the University of Kansas. [Read more about the APEX honor](#) in the MSU Texas news.

Sociology podcast developed by professor

Wes Cohoon, assistant professor of sociology, says there are misconceptions about the field of sociology. He wants to educate the public about sociology and highlight its uses and practicality for all, so he has developed a podcast called "As a Matter of Interact: Practical Sociology for Everyone." The podcast title focuses on understanding social interactions and structures to help people navigate decisions, understand society, and critically address problems. [Read more about Cohoon's podcast](#) in the MSU Texas news.

From Mustangs basketball to bobsled

After playing basketball and earning his degree at MSU Texas, Jace Johnson's biggest athletic mission was still in

front of him. Since a young age, the sport of bobsledding had intrigued him. Not long after graduating from MSU Texas with his BS in education in May 2023, Johnson went to work on his bobsledding skills, and in less than six months he had qualified for the U.S. Bobsled team for the World Championships. Read more about [Johnson's time on the U.S. Bobsled Team](#) in the MSU Texas news.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Faculty Forum: Sarah Butler

Instructor of Spanish Sarah Butler's topic for the next Faculty Forum will be "Morriña, Muxu'x, and Ayllu: How Three Musicians Use Minority Languages for Major Impact." She will speak at 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 30, in Clark Student Center's Kiowa Room. [Email Jonathan Price](#) or call ext. 4288 for more information.

Department of Music: Didzun Honors Recital

The Department of Music will present the Didzun Honors Recital at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 30, in Akin Auditorium. The recital features performances by singers, instrumentalists, and keyboardists – all students selected by their music teachers as the finest in their classes. Admission is free. Call ext. 4267 for more information.

Department of Music: Choir Concert

The Department of Music will present a choir concert featuring the work of local composers at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, May 2, in Akin Auditorium. Admission is free. Call ext. 4267 for more information.

Faculty Recital with Christopher Vivio

The Department of Music will present a faculty recital with Associate Professor of Music Christopher Vivio on tuba at 7:30 p.m. Friday, May 3, in Akin Auditorium. Admission is free. Call ext. 4267 for more information.

Spring Commencement

MSU Texas will celebrate the Spring class of 2024 with a Graduate wal and through three commencement ceremonies at D.L. Ligon Coliseum as follows:

Friday, May 10

- 3:30-5 p.m. Spirit of the Mustangs Graduate Walk
- 6 p.m. Dr. Billie Doris McAda Graduate School Commencement Ceremony

Saturday, May 11

- 10 a.m. Undergraduate Commencement Ceremony comprised of students from the Dillard College of Business

Administration, Gordon T. & Ellen West College of Education, and the Lamar D. Fain College of Fine Arts.

- 2 p.m. Undergraduate Commencement Ceremony comprised students from the Robert D. & Carol Gunn College of Health Sciences & Human Services, Prothro-Yeager College of Humanities & Social Sciences, and the McCoy College of Science, Mathematics & Engineering.

For more information contact the Office of the Registrar at ext. 4321 or visit the [Commencement webpage](#).

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Five outstanding music students traveled to Tarleton State University March 15-16 to compete in the DFW National Association of Teachers of Singing competition. NATS hosts vocal competitions around the country each year in classical, musical theater, and contemporary commercial music categories. Universities competing in the competition came from schools across the region: Baylor, TCU, SMU, University of North Texas, UT Tyler, UT Dallas, Stephen F. Austin, Tarleton, Weatherford College, among others. Students from the studio of Assistant Professor of Music **Darla Diltz** represented MSU Texas in the annual event.

Davidson Cook and **Lucyan Saafi** sang in the Musical Theater category.

In the Classical category, all three participants were finalists in the competition:

Alaniss Garcia – 1st place, Freshman treble

Valarie Monteith – 3rd place, Junior treble

Alexis Robinson – 1st place, Advanced Adult treble

Eric Lynch, associate professor of French, recently presented the paper titled "Contemporary Poetry as Reconfiguration of the Real" at the American Comparative Literature Organization conference in Montreal, Canada.

Frank B. Wyatt, professor and graduate coordinator for the Department of Athletic Training and Exercise Physiology, with **Suchi Prajapati**, graduate from the Master of Science in Exercise Physiology program, co-authored a work recently published in a scientific journal. "The Effects of 6 Weeks of Time-Based Intermittent Fasting on Body Composition and Metabolic Parameters in Young Adults," was published in the April 2024, Vol 27 (2) edition of the *Journal of Exercise Physiology*.

Artwork by Professor of Art **Catherine Prose** was selected to be included in a national print portfolio exchange titled "Old Wives Tales" curated by Alanna Austin, assistant professor at the Institute of American Indian Arts in Santa Fe, New Mexico. This portfolio exchange brings together 23 artists to visually share old wives' tales from their adolescence and/or culture

that helped to shape and teach them how the world works. This print portfolio will be on exhibit during the Southern Graphics Council Annual Conference in Providence, Rhode Island, April 3-6, 2024, and will become part of the council's permanent archive housed at the Bernard A. Zuckerman Museum of Art at Kennesaw State University, Kennesaw, Georgia.

2023-2024 President's Staff Excellence Awards

Congratulations to

- **Maria Garcia**, Custodian, Facilities Services,
- **Larry Perez**, Custodian, Facilities Services,
- **Phillis Bunch**, Assistant Director, Tutoring and Academic Support Programs,
- and **Kathy McGowan**, Academic Counselor Coordinator, DCOBA

as the 2023-2024 recipients of the President's Staff Excellence Award. Maria, Larry, Phillis, and Kathy received a framed certificate, a check for \$500, and free parking for next year. The awards were presented during the Employee Recognition Celebration on Friday, April 5. In addition to the winners, congratulations also go out to these employees who were nominated for the awards and recognized for their outstanding service to the university.

Classified Staff Award Nominees

- Marilyn Brown, Secretary, DCOBA
- Ross Cleveland, Secretary, Music
- Deborah Foshee, Assistant to the Dean, West College of Education
- Darrious Gilliam, Warehouse Specialist, Purchasing and Contract Mgmt.
- Maria Gonzales, Custodian, Facilities Services
- Kamy Holloway, Secretary, Radiologic Sciences
- Mickie Loggins, Secretary, Respiratory Care
- Timothy Noble, Residence Hall Maintenance Technician
- Lisa Thames, Television Technical Assistant

Non-Classified Staff Award Nominees

- Suzanne Bachmann-Hansen, Academic Counselor, Gunn College of Health Sciences and Human Services
- Melissa Boerma, Assistant to the Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs
- Baylie Bradshaw, Admissions Counselor
- Imani Broadnax, Director, Student Leadership and Involvement
- Emma Brown, Academic Counselor, McAda Graduate School
- Janet Clark, Assistant Director, Student Business Services
- Anna Daugherty, Director, Budget and Strategic Financial Planning
- Michael Ellerkamp, Distance Education Specialist
- Marla Malone, Assistant Director, Nonprofit Management Center
- Amanda Raines, Registrar



Tim Mattox of Facilities Services was the February Staff Senate "You Make a Difference" winner. He was nominated by Mike Chisum, who said this of his colleague: "Tim is always willing to help, even after hours on the weekends. He takes pride in his work and puts the residents first on a daily basis. Tim strives to make Sun Watcher a better place to live by performing tasks that aren't in his daily job description."

The next *Update* will be published April 29, 2024. Please submit your information to public.information@msutexas.edu by **5 p.m. Thursday, April 25**, to be included in the next issue.