

Blue Star Gala set for March 22

Exciting things are happening this March as Kilgore College proudly presents the inaugural Blue Star Gala. This elegant evening will celebrate student success with a night of fine dining, dancing, live entertainment and both silent and live auctions.

Also, don't miss your chance to win a 2025 Chevy Silverado, generously provided by Patterson of Kilgore, through our exclusive raffle.

If you're interested in assisting with the Blue Star Gala, please reach out to Merlyn Holmes [via email](#) or call (903) 988-7521 for more information.

RADICAL HOSPITALITY

KC employees who go "Above & Beyond"

Mary Stephens

I really feel like Mary Stephens (Assistant Coordinator of Support Services/Retention) is THE MOST dedicated employee and THE kindest person I have ever met. I have known her for years, from when I was a student here starting back in 2014, and am just in awe of her. She knows so much, is so helpful, and goes above and beyond for students, no matter what.

She deserves the world and should be recognized for all of her hard work to know how much she is appreciated.

- by Brandy Lachney, Financial Aid Specialist



STEPHENS

Technical Career Fair set for March 20

The Industrial Technology programs of Kilgore College will host a technical career fair March 20.

The fair will be held from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Devall Student Center's Ballroom. KC welcomes employers to attend this event to discuss full-time employment and/or internship opportunities with students.

[MORE INFO HERE](#)

TECHNICAL CAREER FAIR



The Industrial Technology Programs of Kilgore College will be hosting the Spring 2025 Technical Career Fair. We welcome employers to attend this event to discuss full-time employment and/or internship opportunities with students of the following programs:

- Air Conditioning & Refrigeration (HVAC) Technology
- Automotive Technology
- Corrosion Technology
- Diesel Technology
- Industrial Maintenance Technology
- Instrumentation & Electrical Technology
- Manufacturing Technology
- Process Technology
- Welding Technology




Blue Star Gala
AN EVENING CELEBRATING KILGORE COLLEGE STUDENT SUCCESS
MARCH 22, 2025
MAUDE COBB CONVENTION CENTER 6PM-11PM
DINNER, DANCING, ENTERTAINMENT, SILENT & LIVE AUCTION
TRUCK RAFFLE
2025 SLATE GRAY CHEVY SILVERADO CUSTOM BLACK WHEELS - VALUE: \$48,000 \$100 PER TICKET - DRAWINGS AT GALA
PATTERSON KILGORE CHEVROLET CHRYSLER DODGE JEEP RAM
90th Anniversary 1955-2025
KILGORE COLLEGE

WIN THIS TRUCK!



ONLY 600 TICKETS SOLD!

2025 SLATE GRAY CHEVY SILVERADO 1500 | BLACK CUSTOM WHEELS | VALUE: \$48,000

Must be 18 or older to win. Valid ID and insurance required.

Drawing Date: March 22, 2025
Need not be present to win.

\$100 PER TICKET



THANK YOU...

... for a Great Start to Spring 2025!

As we settle into the Spring 2025 semester, I want to express my sincere gratitude for your patience, dedication and teamwork as we've continued to restore and enhance our IT functionality. Despite connectivity challenges, your commitment to ensuring a smooth start for our students has not gone unnoticed. The start of each semester is always a busy time, and this year your hard work has been especially critical in helping students navigate any technology hurdles they've faced.

From assisting with logins to ensuring classes and resources remained accessible, your efforts have made a real difference in creating a supportive learning environment. This has truly been a whole team effort, and I appreciate each and every one of you. I also recognize that Office 365 is a new experience with expanded functionality for some.

To help you get acquainted with this cloud-based version of Microsoft Office, HR Director Kara Sharman is collaborating with Dean Kristen Stovall to provide helpful training materials and resources designed specifically for you. Stay tuned for more information on taking full advantage of these tools!

As a friendly reminder from Dr. Plott and me, please keep cybersecurity top of mind:

- Avoid using unsecured Wi-Fi (such as at hotels, cafes, or coffee shops). Always use secure networks.
- Use college technology for work-related purposes only. Please refrain from checking personal email or conducting personal business on college devices.
- Be cautious with email attachments. If you don't recognize the sender or something looks suspicious, delete it and notify IT immediately.

Finally, a word of thanks to all of you who were able to make the 1/29 Caffeine (Cocoa) and Conversation event. We had a great discussion about HB8 and TACC's Legislative Priorities for the next biennium. For those of you who couldn't make it, our next gathering is scheduled for Thursday, Feb. 20, at 1:30 p.m. I hope to see you then!

Thank you again for your hard work, flexibility and dedication to our students and institution. I am grateful for all you do. Wishing you all a fantastic semester ahead!

Until next time,

Brenda
Dr. Brenda Kays, KC President



FOLLOW DR. KAYS ON TWITTER!
@KCBrendaKays



Dr. Brenda Kays

Former KC Theatre student Emily K. Harrison was on campus Jan. 30 to talk to students about her career in theatre.

Originally from East Texas, Harrison is a theatre-maker, producer and educator based in Boulder, Colo. and Utica, NY. The founder and producing artistic director of Boulder-based, award-winning Square Product Theatre, she holds an MFA in Performance from the Savannah College of Art & Design, a PhD in Theatre from the University of Colorado and a BA in Theatre Studies from Boston's Emerson College. She works as a collaborator with theatre companies & individuals across the nation. [MORE](#)

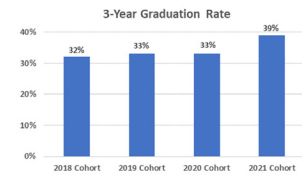


Harrison



ABOVE: Emily Harrison (right) talks to KC Theatre students about plays she has written and performed. Photo by Rachel Stallard/KC

DATA: Did You know?



KC's IPEDS 3-year Graduation Rate for first-time-in-college, full-time cohort of students continues to improve!

Data provided by:
KC Office of Institutional Effectiveness & Research

KC Theatre, Texas Shakespeare Festival will present 'As You Like It'

This Spring, the Texas Shakespeare Festival (TSF) will collaborate with Kilgore College Theatre to present William Shakespeare's *As You Like It*. The production will feature both professional and student actors.

The play will run from Feb. 27 to March 2 in Van Cliburn Auditorium on the Kilgore campus.

Co-directed by Meaghan and Matthew Simpson, *As You Like It* will include a cast of TSF performers and Kilgore College theatre majors.

KC employees are offered two complimentary tickets.

Tickets for the play are \$22 for adults and \$12 for students. They can be purchased at the KC Box Office in the Anne Dean Turk Fine Arts Center, or can be purchased online by visiting www.texasshakespeare.com. For more information, contact the KC Box Office at boxoffice@kilgore.edu, or (903) 983-8119.

Play schedule:

- Feb. 27: 10 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.
- Feb. 28: 10 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.
- March 1: 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.
- March 2: 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

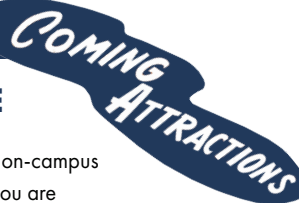


BY WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE



A CO-PRODUCTION OF
THE TEXAS SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL
& KILGORE COLLEGE THEATRE

K C T
H E A
T R E



VIEW NEW CALENDAR ONLINE

With the inception of the college's new website, all on-campus events can be [viewed online by clicking here](#). If you are sponsoring or hosting an event and it is not on the calendar, please [email Judy DeRouen](#) so she can add it to the online calendar.

Birthdays

FEBRUARY 2025

- | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1-Feb Campbell, Madison | 16-Feb Taylor, Stephanie |
| 2-Feb Thurman, Cindy | 19-Feb Cook, Kayla |
| 2-Feb Knighton, Kathy | 23-Feb Prestidge, Amber |
| 5-Feb Heinsohn, Rhonda | 23-Feb Rutherford, Jason |
| 5-Feb Belken, Brandon | 23-Feb Hughes, Susan |
| 6-Feb Kenney, Dorothy | 24-Feb Morris, Sherri |
| 8-Feb Almanza, Manuel | 24-Feb Key, Mandy |
| 8-Feb Martin, Staci | 25-Feb Tutt, Karen |
| 9-Feb Bates, Annita | 26-Feb Kinsey, Amber |
| 10-Feb Moore, Sonja | 28-Feb Stephens, Mark |
| 10-Feb Jackson, Ginger | 28-Feb Allbritton, Savannah |
| 11-Feb Alex Walker | |

MARCH 2025

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| 1-March Rios, Justin | 17-March Wickes, Matthew |
| 1-March Scott, Portia | 19-March Aulds, Angela |
| 1-March Seals, Donnie | 22-March Peninger, Lea |
| 2-March Latson, Ce'ara | 23-March Ramirez, Shelby |
| 3-March Reigstad, Daniel | 24-March Buckner, Mary |
| 7-March Avedikian, Ben | 24-March Davis, Gloria |
| 8-March Waggoner, Rosanne | 25-March Brown, Monica |
| 9-March Hegwood, Michael | 25-March Rogers, Stephanie |
| 9-March McMurrey, Raymond | 27-March Dennis, Ginger |
| 11-March Naghshpour, Parisa | 27-March Slaff, Jared |
| 13-March Ray, Kenya | 28-March Daniels-Cornett, Michele |
| 14-March Ivory, Curtis | 30-March Dubois, Jacob |
| 14-March Jones, Chris | 30-March Gilbreath, Presleigh |
| 14-March Ketchum, Todd | 30-March Holmes, Merlyn |
| 16-March Bell, Kenwood | 30-March Lokey, Corey |
| 17-March Berryman, Ann | |

APRIL 2025

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1-April Briscoe, Andrea | 23-April Miller, Pamela |
| 3-April Kelley, Jackie | 24-April Jackson, Kat |
| 4-April Goodding, Micah | 24-April Rich, Jennifer |
| 4-April Kays, Brenda | 25-April Brenton, Heather |
| 6-April Loomis Deen, Dane | 25-April Golden, Renee' |
| 8-April Harber, Ezekial | 25-April Watson, Jesseca |
| 10-April Ford, Glenda | 26-April Smith, Stacie |
| 10-April Johnson, Brian | 28-April Burrison, Laura |
| 12-April Brasher, Wesley | 28-April Scibona, Karen |
| 14-April Rambo, Jacquelyn | 29-April Bellew, Peggy |
| 15-April Hunt, Bria | 29-April Melton, Ryan |
| 19-April Hunter, Derek | 30-April Hawley, Mary |
| 20-April Graves, Jason | 30-April O'Steen, Alesha |
| 20-April Powdrill, Michael | 30-April Phillips, Claudia |
| 22-April Brooks, Larry | 30-April Tagg, Jeanine |

KC hosting 62nd annual East Texas Regional Science Fair Feb. 7

KC will host the 62nd annual East Texas Regional Science Fair Friday, Feb. 7, showcasing local fair winners from area schools (grades 6-12) who have been invited to attend the competition.



Science projects will be available for public viewing from 7:30 to 9 a.m. Middle School projects will be on display on the pickleball court in the Parks Fitness Center and high school projects will be located in the Devall Student Center. [MORE](#)

Purchase singing Valentines from KC Choir

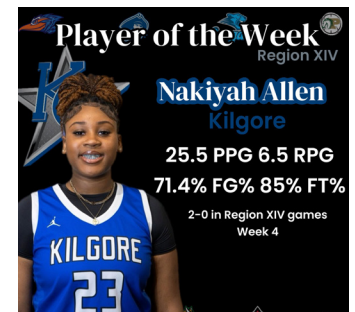
The Kilgore College Choir will perform "Singing Valentines" for your special someone in their office or classroom, Friday, Feb. 14, on the Kilgore campus.



Cost is \$50. Payments can be made by card, cash or check to Kilgore College Choir. Contact Peter Cunningham at pcunningham@kilgore.edu for more info.

Allen honored as Region 14 Player of the Week

Congratulations women's basketball player **Nakiyah Allen** who was named Region 14 Player of the week. She led the Lady Rangers in two big wins against TJC (71-67) and Paris Junior College (82-63).



SAVE THE DATE!

THE BRIDGE TO STUDENT SUCCESS
Enrollment to Completion or Transfer

DATA SUMMIT
FEBRUARY 28, 2025



WELCOME, NEW EMPLOYEES!



Raquel Perez
Admin. Assistant
Registrar's Office



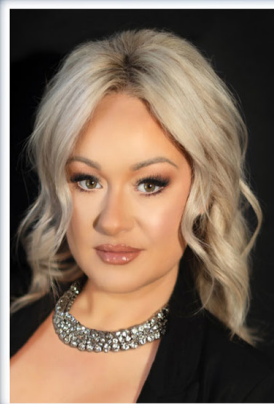
Presleigh Gilbreath
Admin. Assistant
Cashier's Office



Gabriela Garcia
Scholarship
Liaison



Michelle Benton
Museum
Supervisor



Jessica Jester
Counseling, Disabilities
& Social Services



Elizabeth Sweeney
Financial Aid
Specialist



Sierra Johnston
Production Operator
RangerPrint



Stacie Ervin
Admin. Assistant
BSTEM & Dual Credit



Justina Sipes
Admin. Assistant
Registrar's Office



Michael Palafox
IT- Director of Network
Administration



Jennifer Roe
Specialist
Registrar's Office

Claudia Carter
Assistant
Registrar
(NO PHOTO AVAILABLE)



LONGTIME EMPLOYEES HONORED AT CONVOCATION

KC Celebrates 300 Years of Service from 23 Employees

35 YEARS

Dorothy Puckett - Instructor, Biology
Susan Yellott - Instructor, Mathematics

15 YEARS

Estonia Graves - Registrar
Mary Hawley - Administrative Assistant, KC-Longview

30 YEARS

Manny Almanza - Director of Communications & PR



ABOVE: Dorothy Puckett (35 years), Manny Almanza (30 years) and Susan Yellott (35 years) were honored at convocation for their longtime service to KC.

[VIEW ALL PHOTOS FROM CONVOCATION HERE](#)

10 YEARS

Wesley Brasher - Instructor, Cosmetology
Jennifer Deupree - Texas School Ready Grant Coordinator
Derek Hunter - Instructor, Government
Preston Lewis - Instructor, History
Dan Reigstad - Deputy Director/Instructor, ETPA
Portia Scott - Instructor, English
Karen Tutt - Project Coach, Early Childhood

5 YEARS

Kenny Byrd - Instructor, East Texas Police Academy
Donna Davis - Administrative Assistant, KC-Longview
Rhonda Heinsohn - Academic Advisor, Arts & Sciences
Betty Longacre - Liaison, Campus Life
Jaclyn Magness - Specialist, Library Tech Services
Jennifer Rich - Instructor, Mathematics
Darrell Smith - Instructor, Psychology
Jessica Watson - Human Resources

20 YEARS

Lametra Barnes - Administrative Assistant, KC-Longview
Elena Ignatchenko - Instructor, Chemistry
Lillian Jackson - Instructor, Cosmetology

KC to host Licensed Chemical Dependency Counselor Conference

Kilgore College Workforce Development will host a Licensed Chemical Dependency Counselors conference March 28 in the Devall Ballroom.

This session will explore the critical role of professional development in strengthening the knowledge and skills of Licensed Chemical Dependency Counselors (LCDCs) and other behavioral health professionals.

Participants will engage in discussions on emerging trends in substance use, evidence-based

treatment approaches, and strategies for fostering interdisciplinary collaboration.

Through interactive learning and real-world case studies, attendees will gain valuable insights into enhancing service delivery and promoting recovery-oriented systems of care.

Join us in empowering communities through education, advocacy, and professional growth.

Participants will receive 7 CEUs for attending.

[MORE INFO](#)

