

The Norse Parent

NKU Parents Association Newsletter



Congratulations to Lisa Hawley, recipient of the 2011 Parent of the Year award!

With 15 very impressive nominations, the competition was lofty this year among a group of deserving parents who have given their NKU students so much love and support. After careful deliberation and consideration of the heartfelt essays submitted by the sons and daughters of our nominees, Lisa Hawley was chosen as the 2011 recipient of the Parent of the Year award!

In her nomination essay, Victoria Hawley, a freshman, said of her mother,

“I cannot describe my mother in one word. I could call her my best friend, my tutor, my therapist, my confidant, my chauffeur...but none of these titles fit quite right, despite the fact that all of them are true. Instead, I call my mom my hero, a name she is more than worthy of...I love her cooking, her weird sense of humor, her adoration of old radio stories, and her hugs. I love her for her determination, her laugh, her tears, her annoyance, her passion, her will to live life, to never give up. I love everything about my mother, and I can't imagine a greater role model for me or for anyone who knows her.”

Victoria went on to describe how her mother has influenced her intellectual development, explaining,

“But mom taught me not only how to be studious and the value of hard work, but what it means to be an ‘intelligent’ person. A person’s intelligence, I believe, is not measured by what they learn in books, but how they use their time, their talents, and their education; their hopes and dreams for the world; their understanding and acceptance of those around them, no matter how different people may seem; and the size of their hearts.”

In this issue:

- [Parent of the Year P.1-2](#)
- [Parents—Get Involved P. 2](#)
- [Latino Student Affairs P.3](#)
- [Fast Facts P.3](#)
- [Family Weekend Highlights P. 4](#)

Important Dates:

All Month

NKU Volleyball and Soccer—[Click here to see the full NKU Athletics schedule](#)

October 10

Midterm grades are available
Norse Nights event from Campus Recreation

October 17—18

Fall Break—No Classes

October 19

2nd Session classes begin

October 22

Deadline to apply for Spring 2012 graduation

October 25

7pm—8:30pm, SU 107A
Conversation with David Mack, author of this year’s Book Connection book, *Kabuki: The Alchemy*

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Congratulations to all of our Parent of the Year Nominees

Below is a list of all the parents nominated for this award along with the name of their nominator. The effort and emotion put into these nominations were incredible, and all of our nominees should be proud of the influence they have had on their sons and daughters.

- ◆ Melanie Skinner, nominated by Katie-Scarlett Skinner
- ◆ Barbara Irwin-Newth, nominated by Grace Riley
- ◆ Larry and Serena Owen, nominated by Jibril McCaster
- ◆ Jean & Phil Jackson, nominated by Christina Hoesl
- ◆ Tammy Brady, nominated by Erica Brady
- ◆ Bethany Russell, nominated by Abby Potts
- ◆ Jacqueline and Anthony Foote, nominated by Elizabeth Foote
- ◆ Patricia Flannery, nominated by Sarah Flannery
- ◆ Suzanne Lee, nominated by Shanice Lee
- ◆ Keisha Garlington, nominated by Janiqua Burgess
- ◆ Lori and Douglas Krull, nominated by Sarah Krull
- ◆ Lisa and Dan Vogel, nominated by Kathleen Vogel
- ◆ Chris and Kim Combs, nominated by Kalli Schworer
- ◆ Wendell and Joan Williams, nominated by Sarah Schneider



HELP! We Need Your Feedback!!

Please take a few moments to fill out the evaluations for the events that you attended below in order to help us improve future programs and services for all NKU parents!

- **New Student and Parent Convocation**—[Click HERE to complete evaluation](#)
- **Family Weekend 2011**—[Click HERE to complete evaluation](#)
- **ALL Parents Association Members**—[Click HERE to provide information regarding your preferred communication style, methods, and frequency](#)

Interested in getting more involved as an NKU parent?

Become a member of the Parent Advisory Board!

The Parent Advisory Board is a group of NKU parents who volunteer their time to connect with the university and serve as the governing board of the Parents Association. As part of this role, parents will provide feedback to the university, act as liaisons between the university and the general parent population, and learn about important campus resources in an effort to share those resources with all parents. The Board meets no more than once per month during the school year, and no more than once per summer. Any parent or guardian of a current NKU student is welcome to nominate themselves for a position on the Board. *These parent volunteers are incredibly valuable resources to the university and to all NKU parents!*

Learn more about the Parent Advisory Board and nominate yourself TODAY online at:
<http://orientation.nku.edu/parent/pab.php>

Celebrating Culture: Hispanic Heritage Month and Latino Student Affairs at NKU

By Leo Calderon, Director of Latino Student Affairs

Editor's Note: This year Latino Student Affairs celebrates its 10th anniversary at NKU, during which it has made great strides in attracting, supporting, and retaining Latino and non-Latino students.

Dear Parents,

Latino Student Affairs focuses on supporting the Latino and non-Latino student body at NKU and promoting issues affecting the Latino community in the Greater Northern Kentucky/Cincinnati area. We have much to celebrate over the years and it is an honor to share with you a few highlights.

Latino Student Orientation- This event is geared towards incoming students and is designed to introduce them to our office while giving them a general overview of the programs/services available through the office and the university.

National Hispanic Heritage Month- From September 15th-October 15th, we celebrate National Hispanic Heritage Month by bringing in speakers, dancers, and other cultural figures for the purpose of honoring the place of Latino culture in our history and within the surrounding community presently.

Kroger Mentor Program- Three years ago, we partnered with Kroger to create a mentor program which would improve retention, teach professionalism, and enrich the lives of students. Currently, the retention rate for Latino students is one of the highest in the university due in large part to success of the Kroger Mentor Program.

Leadership Conferences- One of our core values is developing leadership among students. From weekly Professional Tuesdays to the annual United Hispanic Leadership Institute Conference in Chicago, our office encourages progress in leadership by providing the leaders of tomorrow with these opportunities.

Recognition Dinner- At the end of each year, we take time to reflect upon the accomplishments of our students and our office. At this ceremony, we recognize and commend volunteerism, academic achievement, scholarships, and awards.

Community Outreach- For the last six to seven years the Latino Student Affairs Office in partnership the Biology Department and the English Language Learning Foundation coordinates the Fun with Science Camp during the summer. Approximately 20 high school students from the Greater Cincinnati Public and private school systems are selected.

Learn more at <http://latino.nku.edu>

Did You Know...

Fast Facts for Parents about Study Abroad

- Every NKU student in any major and minor can study abroad? We have courses abroad for nearly every major at NKU. Students receive academic credit for nearly all programs abroad.
- NKU has programs running over spring break, winter break, and summer break? Study abroad programs range anywhere from 1 week to 6 weeks. Semester long programs are available as well.
- NKU students can study in nearly every continent? We have programs in over 35 countries in the world in North America, South America, Asia, Africa, Europe, and Australia.
- NKU has a scholarship specifically for study abroad award from President Votruba? NKU students have the potential to earn up to \$2,000 to study abroad. Additional scholarships are available as well.

Contact the Office of Education Abroad at 859.572.6908 for more information on programs, deadlines, and scholarships. We are located in the University Center 415.

Highlights from Family Weekend 2011

- ◆ Over 250 families registered, and over 150 attended the weekend's events
- ◆ Over 550 individuals participated in activities as part of Family Weekend
- ◆ Registration numbers quadrupled and attendance increased by more than 250%, compared to last year



**Thank you for making Family Weekend 2011 the best yet!
Be sure to plan to attend again next year!**

Campus Recreation

College can be a stressful time—especially around midterms! Campus Recreation offers opportunities for students to take care of their bodies and minds AND to have a little fun while doing it! Intramural sports or a weekly trip to the Campus Rec may seem like fun activities (and they are!), but they actually have effects that go much deeper. Not only are active students more physically healthy and mentally alert on average, but those students who regularly get involved in activities such as those offered by Campus Recreation are more likely

to have a higher GPA! How's that for overall fitness? Here are just a few great programs for your student to consider:

- Intramural sports, including futsal, flag football, volleyball, basketball, ultimate Frisbee, and more!
- Norse Fitness classes, including Pilates, yoga, Zumba, cycling, and more!
- Over 15 active sports clubs that compete with other area teams.

For more information, visit <http://campusrec.nku.edu>

Featured Resource

Tip of the month:

- ◆ Re-evaluate the relationships around your home since your student has left for college. Remember: This is a major transition for everyone!
 - ◆ Has your student stayed in touch with his or her siblings?
 - ◆ How has the dynamic between parents and other siblings changed since your student began at NKU?
 - ◆ What adaptations need to be made to ensure everyone is feeling supported and not smothered at home?
 - ◆ How will prior household rules apply to your student and his or her siblings when he or she is home more often during breaks?

Special Thanks to our 2011 Parent Panelists:

- Jill & Gregg Shelley
- Sandy & Kelly Ashley
- Nancy & Jerry Harden
- Michele Romito
- Patty Farris
- Chuck & Gina Priddy
- Linda Tretter
- Kim Schraffenberger
- Betty Mulkey

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