

BREAKING TRADITIONS 2016 AWARD WINNERS



SECONDARY FEMALE STATE WINNER

Caroline Schott

Project Lead the Way

Cape Girardeau Career and Technology Center

Nominated by Colin Sheridan

Project Lead the Way Instructor

Caroline Schott, a Project Lead the Way-PLTW student from the Cape Girardeau Career and Technology Center, was nominated by her instructor Colin Sheridan. Mr. Sheridan has been very impressed with Caroline being able to handle many extracurricular activities, such as National Honor and National Technical Honor Society, FBLA, Skills/USA, Math Club, Athletes Give Back, too many community services to mention, along with Varsity Swimming and working on college credits and being able to get things done on time and correctly the first time. He says she has learned the vital task of how to seek out and acquire new information which should allow her to enter any entry level engineering position and be successful. Also impressive is her ability to judge peer encounters and conflicts in a way that allows her to respond in a calm and just way that matches the situation that she is in. Mr. Sheridan says Caroline will continue to pursue her career goals without an outside push from anyone.

Her determination to get past road blocks such as fitting the PLTW into her schedule, being the only girl from Notre Dame to attend the CTE her first year and being the only female in her class is paying off. She credits her mom as being her role model because of her mom joining the navy many years ago when very few women did so, then working in a nontraditional career and continuously encouraging Caroline to follow her dream.

Caroline refers to the famous Dr. Seuss book "Oh the Places You (I) Will Go. She decided upon the University of Missouri-Kansas City to work toward her Civil Engineering Degree, entering the University as a sophomore because she has already earned 30 credits. She will receive a scholarship from the Missouri STEM Foundation.



SECONDARY MALE STATE WINNER

Ethan McGlumphy

Teaching Careers/Early Childhood Careers

Kirksville Area Technical Center

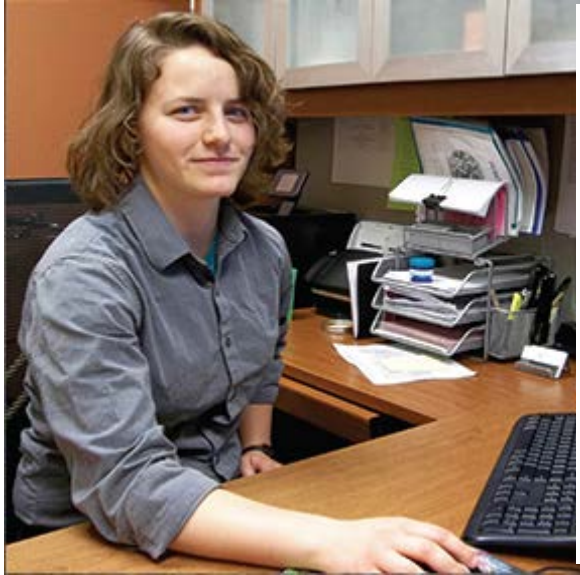
Nominated by Debbie Snyder

Early Childhood Careers Coordinator

Ethan McGlumphy is an impressive student in the Teaching Careers Program at Kirksville Area Technical Center taught by Mrs. Debbie Snyder. Ethan cites his future goal of being a youth minister and desire to understand how to help students learn as his inspiration in enrolling in this class. As a part of the program, Ethan gains hands-on skills working directly in a classroom. Students having Ethan's 1:1 support have made tremendous gains academically. Ethan has also had the opportunity to develop skills in managing behaviors of learners.

Outside of school, Ethan's maturity and assistance to others continues to be impressive. While most high school seniors are asleep, Ethan is on the job shortly after five in the morning assisting an individual with a physical impairment prepare for his day. Ethan is also involved in numerous church volunteer opportunities and mission projects.

Ethan plans to attend college next year at Ozark Christian College to pursue a degree in children's ministry. He will receive a scholarship from the Missouri STEM Foundation.



**POST-SECONDARY/ADULT
FEMALE STATE WINNER**

Megan Ryan

*Engineering Design Technology/Architectural &
Mechanical Design*

Moberly Area Community College

Nominated by Deanna Blickhan

Lead Instructor

Megan Ryan is pursuing an Associate of Applied Science degree in Engineering Systems – Architectural and Mechanical Design at Moberly Area Community College. She was nominated by her lead Instructor, Deanna Blickhan, who said, “Over the years I have had outstanding nontraditional students pass through the program, but Megan is the one I am most impressed with, and proud of. Mega is well-spoken, honest, dedicated, determined, polite, involved, a quick study, confident, reliable, a calculating problem-solver, professional in her dealings with others...I have never felt as strongly about a candidate as deserving of this award.”

Besides being an exemplary student, Megan works full time at the University of Missouri and is training for a half-marathon.

Her high school chemistry teacher first encouraged her to explore non-traditional careers and helped her attend an engineering camp. Megan wrote this about her current mentor, “Deanna’s success in the male-dominated field of Architectural and Mechanical Design has helped me realize that I can make it in a career field I enjoy.”

Her class is currently designing devices for a 3D printer to help children with prosthetic hands use paintbrushes and fishing poles, but her dream job would be as an architectural drafter for a company that designs environmentally friendly, sustainable structures.

Megan will continue her education next year at MACC to complete her degree. She will receive the college's Breaking Traditions scholarship as well as one from the Missouri STEM Foundation.



**POST-SECONDARY/ADULT
MALE STATE WINNER**

David Dornin

Practical Nursing (LPN)

Poplar Bluff Technical Career Center

Nominated by Ruth Hutcheson

Practical Nursing Program Coordinator

Non-traditional roles are nothing new to David. In 1997, following the death of his young wife, the widowed father of two young daughters became both the mother and father striving to provide a stable life for his young family. Putting his own career goals on hold for almost 20 years, David knew he would one day pursue his dream of helping the sick, showing compassion for human life, and influencing others, by example. With his daughters grown, he finally enrolled in the Practical Nursing program.

David's advice to others pursuing non-traditional careers is "Follow your dreams no matter the obstacles or opinions and always be true to yourself." He encourages others to get out of their comfort zone and work hard. He states, "I've always taught my daughters that it takes dedication and persistence to achieve your goals."

David's experience as a parent and demolition contractor has prepared him for the rigorous demands of nursing. His nominator states, "In the clinical setting, his competency and calmness when working with anxious patients and his overall manner inspires confidence in his patients." David will use his scholarship from the Missouri STEM Foundation and Three Rivers College to bridge into the RN program and become a surgical nurse, a phenomenal gift to a man that has waited so long to pursue his dream.



SECONDARY SPIRIT WINNER

Halee Schermerhorn-Barnhart
Civil Engineering & Architecture
Columbia Area Career Center
Nominated by Brad Mann
Civil Engineering Teacher

Halee chose to go into a nontraditional career-technical program because she truly enjoys civil engineering and architecture. Understanding that this is a male dominated field of study and work, and being one of the few females is an honor and a challenge. As a child she always had an interest in bridges and in creating structures with her brother's Legos or Lincoln Logs. Often discouraged with "Go play with your Barbie's," she tried to follow that one "girly" rule up until eighth grade when she was given the opportunity to start in engineering classes.

Giving back she now supports younger students as a tutor in PLTW. She has received the Career Centers' "I Can" award; during Junior and senior year she was the vice president of Engineering Society club, where we designed and raced a cardboard boat to raise money for the food bank.

She also had the responsibility of working two jobs, one before and one after school. Persevering through PLTW courses over the years has taught her that she can do anything she sets her mind to. She found what she wants to pursue in life while experiencing something so unexpected for a young lady. These programs have really affected her outlook on life. She doesn't have to follow tradition, and is not afraid to try new things because you never know what the outcome will be.

Halee will receive scholarships from the State Technical College of Missouri and the Missouri STEM Foundation.



POSTSECONDARY/ADULT SPIRIT WINNER

Kathleen Hinton

*Electronics Engineering Technology
State Technical College of Missouri
Nominated by Linda Franchini
Electronics Instructor*

Katie Hinton is currently a student in the Electronics Engineering Technology, Biomedical Option program at State Technical College of Missouri of which she plans to graduate in May of 2017. Prior to coming back to State Technical College to pursue a second AAS degree, Ms. Hinton had been working in the computer networking field for the past thirteen years. She is a go getter who is a single parent of four, works two jobs and because of her maturity, is sought out by her peers for help. Her instructors say that Ms. Hinton exceeds all expectations as a student. She always has the homework done, has read the lessons and is ready to go in the classroom. Katie chose the biomedical program because she lost two grandparents to cancer, and felt the need to work in the medical field. Now that she has completed almost two semesters, she feels like she has made the right decision as far as her career path and looks forward to expanding her technical knowledge on medical equipment.

Katie will receive the State Technical College Breaking Traditions full tuition waiver, and a scholarship from the Missouri STEM Foundation.



SECONDARY EDUCATOR STATE WINNER

Officer Darrick Bruns

Law Enforcement/CSI Instructor

Northland Career Center

Nominated by Abby Leu

Law Enforcement/CSI Student

Officer Darrick Bruns was nominated as an outstanding educator by Abby Leu, a student in his Law Enforcement/CSI program. According to Abby, “Officer Bruns has changed my life, and the lives of many students by supporting and believing in us. When I began my journey in the LE/CSI program I was a shy student that was no stranger to self-doubt. Officer Bruns started bringing me out of my shell and showed me qualities within myself that I never knew were there. I started to become more outgoing, and able to talk to people as an equal. He showed me that no one is any better than anyone else and we are all equal with equal voice that deserves to be heard. Officer Bruns taught me how to believe in myself!”

Officer Bruns gives every student an opportunity to learn both in and out of the classroom. Abby states, “He stays after school to assist us with assignments.” Officer Bruns opens his classroom doors on weekends and over holiday breaks for students to come in and get extra hands-on assistance within the LE/CSI career field and SkillsUSA.

Abby states Officer Bruns’ credo “We will chase perfection, and we will chase it relentlessly, knowing all the while we can never attain it, but along the way, we shall catch excellence.” Officer Bruns lives by these words and leads by example. He holds all of his students to high standards and pushes us to achieve them. He believes more in us than what we believe in ourselves and then proves to us that we can!



POSTSECONDARY EDUCATOR STATE WINNER

Shannon Voss

*Department Chair, Civil Engineering Technology
State Technical College of Missouri*

Nominated by Ashley Colter

Civil Engineering Technology Student

Shannon Voss is the department chair and instructor for the Civil Engineering Technology program at State Technical College of Missouri. Mrs. Voss earned a BS in Geological Engineering from the University of Missouri-Rolla and an MBA from William Woods University. She has had a successful career as an environmental engineer and a project engineer for the Department of Natural Resources, Meco Engineering and since 2006 a faculty member at State Technical College. As a mother of four children, she is an excellent role model and mentor for young men and women pursuing a non-traditional career. Mrs. Voss is very approachable. Students feel very comfortable asking her for advise not only on the subjects that are taught by her, but also on school in general, work, or even just about life. Mrs. Voss encourages the students to join student organizations, help out with either their home town community or the college community. She believes that by getting the students involved it makes them more diverse and helps them to be more open to a variety of opportunities.



EMPLOYER STATE WINNER

Megan Welch – 3M

Nominated by Phillip Witt

Nevada Regional Technical Center Director

3M Nevada has worked diligently to support the Nevada R V School District. Though 3M is a large company, they have fostered a close relationship with Nevada schools. With a generous donation from 3M in 2014, Nevada Regional Technical Center was able to add the Project Lead the Way – Engineering program. The addition of this program has been instrumental in creating awareness for many students who would have never considered engineering as a possible career.

3M Nevada employees are always willing to lead classroom visits, serve on advisory boards, volunteer as guest lecturers or judges, and reach out to our nontraditional students. They have gone the extra mile to encourage students to pursue their dreams and have provided support to them along the way. In particular, 3M cares about fostering curiosity in STEM among nontraditional students, including but not limited to women. Together we have worked specifically to encourage females to explore the field of engineering through programs such as Smart Girls Rock and our Maker Lab events. There are multiple career paths within the 3M plant and throughout the company that appeal to nontraditional students, including maintenance, engineering, and safety.

3M Nevada believes the future success of Nevada is dependent upon the development of a strong talent pool in the local area. Education is the foundation for success and 3M Nevada welcomes the opportunity to support educational programs aimed at both nontraditional and traditional students.