

WINDS Student Spotlight

JADE CASTILLO



Expected graduation date?

May 10, 2024



What is your major?

Health, Physical Ed, & Recreation, Kinesiology option.

What are your career goals?

I want to get my Bachelor's in Entrepreneurship and one day open my own hair salon!

What do you love about Western?

How everyone is very helpful and nice, if you ask the staff will gladly try to meet your needs.

How has WINDS helped you succeed at Western?

WINDS has helped me succeed at Western by having early/late opening hours, providing resources such as tutoring, advising, and use of computers at all times. The advisors are pretty cool too!

What advice would you give your peers to succeed in college?

Go to class and talk to your instructors if you have questions. They will gladly help you!

What has been your favorite class so far? Why?

Elementary statistics- I enjoyed taking that class because I had a great instructor!

Is there anything you wish to share?

I recommend joining TRIO since it has helped me these past two years!

UPCOMING AT WESTERN

- April 7 | WOSC Cheer Show Off | 5 PM | Gym
- April 10 | Enrollment Event | 11AM - 6PM | Pioneer Central
- April 10 | WINDS Dealey Plaza Trip
- April 11 | Scooterball | 6 PM | Gym
- April 13 | Women's Basketball Kids Camp
- April 15 | Agriculture Scholarships Due
- April 15 | Agriculture Scholarship Essay Contest due
- April 17 | WINDS Grant Aid Due
- April 24 | President's Excellence Luncheon | 11:30 AM
- April 25 | Volleyball Night | 6 PM | Gym
- April 27 | Alumni Hall of Fame Induction
- April 27 | Women's Basketball Open Run | 4 PM

Western Shooting Team are the Back-to-Back National Champions

Western's Shooting Team competed in the 2024 ACUI CAA National Championship in March and came back with the championship trophy for the second year in a row. Along with a championship win, freshman Bailee Pence was named CAA Champion female. The results of the competition can be found below.

Team Results | CAA Champion Team

- Champion Trap Team: (Rustin Fraser, Thomas Reimer, Baylee Pence, Shay Skaggs, Dillon Lopez) 491/500
- Champion Sporting Clays Team: (Brady Reimer, Byron Ford, Baylee Pence, Shay Skaggs, Hunter Martinez) 432/500
- 2nd place Skeet Doubles Team: (Kya Funkhowser, Dillon Lopez, Rustin, Baylee, Hunter Martinez) 465/500
- 4th place Skeet team: (Baylee Pence, Rustin Fraser, Hunter Martinez, Tucker Colby, Byron Ford) 471/500
- 5th place trap doubles team: (Dillon Lopez, Kya Funkhowser, Brady Reimer, Shay Skaggs, Hunter Martinez) 437/500

Individual Class Results | CAA Champion Female: Baylee Pence

Trap | Men's

- Thomas Reimer: 3rd place-class C (after 3 way shoot off for 1st) 99/100-PR
- Rustin Fraser was tied for 2nd with 17 other shooters in Class A shooting 99/100, ending as tied for 15th

Trap | Women's

- Baylee Pence: 3rd-class A (after 2 way shoot off for 3rd) 98/100



The 2024 National Championship Shooting Sports Team (L to R) Coach Jeremy Pence, Thomas Reimer, Brady Reimer, Paris Spraggins, Tucker Colby, Hunter Martinez, Byron Ford, Baylee Pence, Rustin Fraser, Jacob Yaste, Dillon Lopez, Kya Funkhowser, Shay Skaggs, and Jayden Darling.

Sporting Clays | Women's

- Baylee Pence: 3rd-Class C (after 2 way shoot off for 2nd) 90/100

Skeet Doubles | Women's

- Kya Funkhowser: 2nd- Class B 88/100
- Baylee Pence: 3rd-Class AA 96/100



Bailee Pence, CAA Champion Female



LARRY DUFFY HALL: A TIME-HONORED TRIBUTE TO A PIONEER



Larry Duffy during dedication ceremony of Larry Duffy Hall.

Western Oklahoma State College is delighted to announce the official naming of the campus's central hub for musical creativity and education, formally known as the Band Hall, as "Larry Duffy Hall." This honor recognizes the unparalleled contributions of Mr. Larry K. Duffy, a respected member of the Pioneer family since 1978.

Larry Duffy's impact on the institution transcends mere employment, with over 45 years of unwavering dedication spread across two pivotal departments. From his early days, Larry embodied the spirit of a Pioneer, the college's proud mascot, leaving an indelible mark on every corner of the campus through his exceptional leadership and service.

Duffy attended Altus Junior College and earned his Associate in Arts Degree from Western Oklahoma State College in 1975. He then earned his Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Music Education at Southwestern Oklahoma State University. In 1978, Duffy was hired as a vocal and instrumental music instructor, starting a remarkable career at Western. His passion for the arts and commitment to nurturing student talent were evident as he dedicated his heart and soul to this program until 1991. Even today, Larry's love for and dedication to the arts resonates throughout the institution.

Duffy has dedicated his time and talents to numerous projects on campus. He served on the committee for the design and development of the WOSC Performing Arts wing, directed and co-produced 15 all-school Broadway productions, coordinated musical events for WOSC, organized and managed the WOSC Young Artist Series, organized the Oklahoma Junior College Choral Festival, established the WOSC Community Chorus' annual Messiah performance, served as the Messiah director for 20 years.

The year 2019 brought a challenging chapter as severe statewide budget cuts led to the unfortunate decision to eliminate the vocal and instrumental degree programs. Duffy, however, turned adversity into an opportunity for growth. Swiftly taking action, he spearheaded the creation of the "Friends of WOSC Performing Arts," a fundraising initiative that transformed the campus cultural landscape. Under Duffy's guidance, the college has since hosted a diverse array of events, including a community chorus, a children's theatre program, the Miss Altus Pageant, the Nutcracker, and numerous additional performances.

Duffy's pioneering spirit extended beyond the arts to the WOSC Foundation in 1991. Transitioning to the newly created Office of Development and Alumni, he played a pivotal role in the Foundation's growth. His exceptional ability to cultivate relationships helped the Foundation grow from \$525,000 to over

\$7 million in total assets, empowering citizens of southwest Oklahoma to generously support student scholarships, academic and athletic programs, and student and staff development.

His accomplishments for the WOSC Foundation include securing bond funding, construction completion, and lease agreement for a \$1.5 million residential housing facility on campus; initiated, raised private funding, designed and supervised the construction of The Cecil R. Chesser Redbud Lane Project; instrumental in the design, completion, and designation of the Rotary Courtyard dedicated to Western; designed, implemented and raised funds to establish the WOSC Foundation, Inc. Partners in Education Excellence donor recognition wall; managed, improved, and supervised the sale of the WOSC Foundation-owned rodeo property to expand the agriculture and rodeo programs; established the WOSC Alumni Association Hall of Fame wall and annual recognition event.

Reflecting back on his career accomplishments, Duffy said, "These achievements at Western were all due to the cooperative spirit of people with whom I have worked. No one single person is able to accomplish his dreams and goals without the efforts of those that share his dreams."

At the age of 80, he continues to shape his legacy at WOSC, embodying the college's spirit of innovation and community. Larry and his wife, Sharon, have two children who both attended Western. Their son, Michael, is an attorney in Altus. Their daughter, Kimberly Duerksen, is a secondary vocal music educator for Clinton (Oklahoma) Public Schools.

"It is difficult to put into words what Larry Duffy means to Western Oklahoma State College. Since 1978, he has devoted his time and talents to the institution. His love for Western runs deep, which is the reason he has worked tirelessly to support over four decades of students, faculty, and staff. Although he is still painting his Pioneer portrait, it's safe to say that it will be a masterpiece," said Dr. Chad Wiginton, WOSC President.

The dedication ceremony for Larry Duffy Hall took place Friday, March 8, 2024, during a celebration of Duffy's 80th birthday. Family, friends, and colleagues came together to honor Duffy and commemorate his lasting legacy at Western Oklahoma State College.



Left to Right: Dr. Chad Wiginton, WOSC President, Monica Taylor, Director of Development and Alumni, Janna Davis, Development and Alumni Specialist, and Larry Duffy, Executive Secretary for WOSC Foundation

Students Recognized at All-Oklahoma Academic Team Program



All-Oklahoma Academic Team Program. (L to R) Chancellor Allison Garrett, Keegan Kyser, Mallory Orick, Esperanza Cruz, Alejandro Resendiz, and Dr. Chad Wiginton, WOSC President

Students were recognized at the 2024 All-Oklahoma Academic Team and Oklahoma Association of Community Colleges President's Tuition Waiver Awards Ceremony at the Oklahoma State Capitol on March 26. The All-Oklahoma Academic Team Program provides statewide recognition to outstanding two-year college students each year. Western Oklahoma State College students named as part of the 2024 All-Oklahoma Academic Team include Keegan Kyser and Mallory Orick. Receiving an OACC President's Tuition Waiver were Duke High School senior Esperanza Cruz and Altus High School senior Alejandro Resendiz.

Kyser is a Sophomore at WOSC with the career goal of becoming a Parks and Recreation Director. At Western, he is involved in the Western Ambassador program, Science Club, Phi Theta Kappa, and is the Student Senate President. His awards/ honors include the President's Honor Roll, George and Donna Nigh Leadership Academy. Orick is a sophomore at WOSC with the career goal of becoming a dental hygienist. At Western, she is involved in the Western Ambassador program, Student Senate, Phi Theta Kappa, and is the Science Club President. Her awards/ honors include the Ambassador Scholarship, Western's General Scholarship, President's Excellence Award Committee, and President's Honor Roll.

Cruz is a high school senior from Duke, Oklahoma, with the career goal of becoming a Graphic Designer. She is involved in Skills USA, Ambassador, Student Council, and Graphic Designer Community Project. Her awards/ honors include NTHS, Student of the Quarter 2023/2024, Principal's Honor Roll, and Yearbook.

Resendiz is a high school senior from Altus, Oklahoma, with the career goal of working in family, nutrition, and sports medicine. He is involved in the Altus Band (5 Years), the Altus Powerlifting Team, and the National Technical Honor Society. His awards/ honors include Superintendent's Honor Roll Sophomore Year and Principal's Honor Roll Junior Year.

The State Academic Teams were introduced in 1994 to provide scholastic recognition to community college students. The All-Oklahoma Academic Team celebrates college students who excel academically, demonstrate leadership, and contribute to their communities. This program acknowledges exceptional individuals from two-year colleges across the state. To qualify, students need a nomination from their college president, a minimum GPA of 3.5, and eligibility for graduation in the 2023-2024 academic year.

Oklahoma is among 39 states involved in this initiative, which is supported by Phi Theta Kappa, USA TODAY, and the American Association of Community Colleges. Every team member receives recognition through medallions and certificates.

The OACC Tuition Waiver Award is also given at the ceremony. The selection of OACC Tuition Award recipients is solely determined by the college president or their representative. Annually, presidents choose deserving students statewide to receive a \$1,000 tuition waiver, which can be used towards tuition for the upcoming academic year, with \$500 allocated per semester. Nominees may include graduating high school seniors or current community college attendees.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL SHOOTING & SKILLS CAMP APRIL 13, 2024

All students welcome, grades 2-6
Two sessions to choose from:
Session 1: 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. or Session 2: 1 p.m. - 4 p.m.

\$30- pre-registration cost (due April 5) | \$40- day of camp cost

Family discount - Must pre-register | \$30 for the first child and \$10 for all others
Register at wosc.edu/bballcamp



Make Western your SMART START

JOIN US FOR OUR ENROLLMENT EVENT!!

APRIL 10 | 11 AM-6 PM

- Enroll for the summer and/or fall semester
- Enjoy Food Trucks, Music, Games, Prizes, and More!
- All who enroll will receive a FREE T-shirt!
- Scholarships Available for Qualifying Reach Higher Recipients
- Visit with advisors, faculty, staff, and current students
- Schedule an appointment with your advisor today!

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