

EDUCATION BUZZ

Centenary University's School of Education and Humanities Newsletter

Education Forums, Fall 2022 & Spring 2023

By Isabelle Weisman '23

On December 12, 2022, the clinical interns of the Fall 2022 semester gathered with the Centenary faculty, supervisors, local school administrators, and others to commemorate their outstanding accomplishments. Likewise, the clinical interns of the Spring 2023 semester gathered on April 22, 2023, joined by guest speaker, Mrs. Rhonda Pevorus, Centenary's Educational Leader of the Year.

During both forums, each clinical intern reflected upon their experiences in their student teaching placements. The clinical interns' dedication and love for teaching were evident as each expressed their "aha" moments in the field of education, thus far.

As either forum progressed, an open discussion ensued; the attending veteran teachers conveyed their congratulations and luck while likewise offering advice for the student teachers as they take their first steps into their careers.

Both events concluded with bittersweet farewells as the student teachers conclude their time at Centenary yet eagerly move towards the next phase of their lives and careers.

The School of Education and Humanities congratulates the following clinical interns for their great achievements:

Fall 2022

Victoria Andrews
Jordan Apsley
Gabriella Ayers
Gabrielle
Brinkworth
Anthony Carida
Kaycee Cerni
Lauren Connelly
Melanie Flynn
Samantha Johnson
Emily Kuperus
Alyssa Morin
Hope Nafis
Kamryn Polowy
Jeanne Roll
Selena Vieira
Amanda Wakefoose
Melanie Ward
Danielle Yawger



Fall 2022 Student Teachers

Spring 2023

Jeffrey Adams
Albina Alijaj
Elizabeth Austin
Jenna Baranek
Kevin Biedukiewicz
Samantha Brady
Emma Cahill
Rachel S. Crouse
Mariz Desouza
Camilla
Giannattasio
Hailey M. Gregory
Desiree Harrington
Cora Hill
Emma Jones
Tara Kominiak
Zaairah Lamothe
Margaret Lenahan
Andrew Mount
Dara Murphy
Domenique Patrick
Ashley Picado
Taylor Quimby
Alexa Radzewicz
Ashley Rossi
Andrew Rusnak
Sarah Sayner
Emily Slack
Samantha Steinman
Andrew Voorhees
Isabelle Weisman
Ambur Wengrin



Spring 2023 Student Teachers

Alumni Spotlight: Stacy Davies

By Alexandra Koch '24

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This semester's Alumni Spotlight is on Stacy Davies. Davies holds a Master's Degree in Reading from Centenary University and a Master's Degree in Special Education from West Chester University of Pennsylvania. She is currently an adjunct professor in the Master of Education in Literacy Program at Centenary University.

Davies began her journey at Centenary in 2001 as a faculty member in the Education Department. Though she left full-time to teach public school in 2006, she remained as an adjunct while also taking classes at Centenary. In addition to her master's, she earned her supervisor's, reading, and ESL teaching certificates from Centenary University. Regarding the education she received from and her decision to work at Centenary, Davies says, "It is an excellent faculty with amazing and caring professors. It's close to home and offers so many courses and opportunities."

Initially, Davies felt intimidated by the idea of working with others with more experience, but she was welcomed to the Centenary family with open arms. She credits Dr. Barbara Jayne Lewthwaite, the Department Chair in 2001, and the rest of the faculty for giving her such an amazing experience. "Everyone was accepted for what they brought to the table and there were no egos to get in the way," she says. Furthermore, Davies recounts how working with the rest of the faculty helped shape her own career, saying, "I learned so much and am so grateful to have had that experience. It sent me in directions I never would have gone otherwise."

For Davies, the best part of being in the classroom is the students. Their continued growth and excitement for learning makes every day a unique experience that she looks forward to.

She has continued to be a student herself. Her drive to never stop learning has given her the unique opportunity to be on the other side of the desk from students she mentored in the past. One of her reading professors was a student she mentored in undergraduate, and she continues to work with her previous students today.

Davies' years of experience and passion for her students is evident in everything she does, and she provides a positive impact on all of her students. She knows it isn't easy to be in education and offers advice to current students in the Education Program: Education is a demanding field but well-worth the reward. "Keep learning and accept that you won't know everything but continue to learn and make yourself a stronger teacher. Trust your instincts and know that there is never a 'one size fits all' solution. Each situation is different."

Relationships Inspired by Fred Rogers



Director of the Master of Education in Literacy Instruction and ESL Teacher Certification program, **Lexis McCoy**, just earned her doctorate from Northeastern University by completing research regarding the legacy of child development expert Mister Fred Rogers. She collaborated with the Fred Rogers Institute and studied how Fred's legacy is influencing teachers in today's classrooms. The research revealed various relationship building strategies that teachers use after studying Fred's pedagogy that resulted in improved teacher-student relationships. Some of the strategies teachers used after studying Fred's work included more intentionality when interacting with children, slowing down during communication, creating a classroom environment that reflects diverse perspectives, modeling imperfection, and more! Lexis looks forward to continued study of Fred Rogers' work and sharing her work on campus and beyond.

Always Learning: A Clinical Intern's Perspective in a Resource Room

By Kevin Biedukiewicz '23

Clinical Intern at Harmony Township School

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Defensive Corner

The following Ed.D. candidates defended their dissertations in 2022-2023:

Amy Brenner: Teachers' Sense of Efficacy Teaching During a Pandemic: A Survey of Hybrid and Virtual K-12 Teachers

Jessica Garcia: Least Restrictive Environment: Understanding Placement Factors in New Jersey Public Schools

Lindsay Gooditis: Professional Development and Instructional Technology: A Study on Professional Development and the Implementation of Instructional Technology

Anemarie Hall: Does Employing Hattie's Meta-Analysis of the Effect Size of Clarity, Meaningful Feedback and Discussion Result in Increased Feelings of Self-Efficacy in Teachers?

Sally Klemm: A Study of the Perception of the Importance of Providing Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Professional Development Opportunities to Teaching Staff of K-8 School Districts in New Jersey

Ed Labatch: Perceptions of Teachers on the Effectiveness of In-District Alternative Education Programs for Meeting the Academic and Social Emotional Needs of Students in Grades 3-5

Ryan Lausch: Teachers' Perceptions of Accommodation Implementation Between Kindergarten and Eighth Grade in English Language Arts

Jessica McKinney: The Impact of School Climate and Culture on Student Achievement at the Elementary and Secondary Level

Lee-Ellen Pisauero: Response to Intervention: A Study of High School Teachers' Perceptions of Implementation Skills

Kim Sigman: Connections Between Instructional Technology and Learner Outcomes and Teacher Perceptions

Initially, I never thought I'd end up in this position of teaching. Five years ago, as a high school student, I would always turn down teaching as a potential field. However, throughout college, my view shifted, and now I find myself student teaching. It's odd how things just come full circle. Initially, I also wanted to exclusively teach 6-12 history, but as I did my fieldwork within Centenary University's special education courses, I found myself adoring all sorts of aspects of special education and willing to learn more about how to aid any learners within such restrictive, inclusive, or intervention-based environments.

Typically, within student teaching, Centenary students are assigned both a general education class followed by a special education class. However, with my enjoyment learning about special education, I requested a double special education enrollment as it is the field I see myself working in the long-term due to my care and enthusiasm of wanting watch each learner prosper beyond academia and learn some significant 21st century skills in moderation.

My experience thus far hasn't been an easy one, but I've learned a lot about special education throughout my double special education placement for student teaching. I can go on and on about how differentiation and proper classroom procedure aids with developing the most significant classroom environment. However, my biggest takeaway thus far has been learning how to ensure learners are constantly engaged and learning effectively within such an environment. It's a common misconception that someone may think a special education classroom can be "easy to run" due to its smaller size, which is a viewpoint I held initially. However, that is far from the case.

There's this amazing feeling of progressing through content and seeing students go through topics with proper mastery. If this isn't the case, then I still feel rewarded when students grasp onto the content if I had to review a concept. I hope that this writing provides an excellent insight to what is expected of future special education teachers that is beyond just learning in your classroom. Get in there and try your hardest to ensure that your learners are growing. Don't forget, you're going to be faced with many new challenges and the classroom is a lot more different than what we're taught; get advice and collaborate with the professionals—they've been in there a long time and know what has worked and what hasn't. Remember, the students come first!



Historical Methods, Fall 2022:

Most history courses teach students about history—names, dates, events, change over time, mentalities, etc. Historical Methods seeks to teach history students how to move beyond that and become historians. They study various historical theories and methodologies, and eventually write a 25- to 30-page research paper based on a variety of primary and secondary sources. Drew University, home to the international Archive of the United Methodist Church as well as its own collection, has welcomed us each year to see what a vibrant publicly accessible archive looks like. Highlights from the collection (that we could handle!) included an original printing of the King James Bible, richly illuminated medieval texts, a palm-sized Quran, a book that smells like syrup, and a fireproof copy of Ray Bradbury's *Fahrenheit 451*.

Historical Methods also visited the Morris County Historical Society for a tour with director Amy Curry of the 1850s building which houses the society. Amy explained the history of the house and the family that had lived in it, Augustus and Mary Elizabeth Crane and their heirs. She also explained the joys and difficulties of running a small museum, including issues such as fundraising, interpretation, education, and maintenance.



The class (and some guests) examining some fascinating selections from the archive



The class at the Morris County History Society



Students present the Globalization Museum, highlighting how most consumer goods are connected to multiple countries around the globe



Faculty and staff were invited to browse through the museum

World History, Fall 2022

Each year in World History students research a specific object and assess its connection to globalization. Working in groups, they develop a poster based on that object for display in the "Globalization Museum."

For the first time this year the event was held in the library. Students take turns touring the exhibits and asking others about their research. The main goal is for students to prepare something for each other, as well as for outside guests, rather than just for the professor. We had quite a crowd this year! Students researched the global connections of lipstick, avocados, the MacBook, vinyl records, Coca-Cola, and more!

What's Happening in History?

By Dr. Noah Haiduc-Dale

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Crusades, Spring 2023

The Crusades can be difficult for 21st-century American college students to understand. Yes, Americans have their political differences, but very few think it would be not only ok, but religiously sanctioned, to walk across the known world specifically to kill others because of their religious beliefs. Beginning to understand this is essential to understanding that crazy part of Medieval history. To help students fully appreciate this other-worldly mentality, they engage in “The Game.”

For The Game, students are assigned roles from a very real war council that took place in Acre, Palestine (in present day Israel) in 1148. Characters include political figures such as the king and queen of Jerusalem, the king of France, and the Holy Roman Emperor. There is a priest and a Cardinal present as well as the Greek Orthodox Patriarch of Jerusalem. Finally, a variety of knights, local residents, and others round out the attendees. Using materials prepared by Reacting to the Past, a project from Barnard College, students research their characters. Then, for six class periods in a row they come to class in costume and engage in three debates (one each week). The first is to determine if, indeed, the time is right for another Crusade. Once that is approved, they must determine a leader and a target city.

Students give speeches to the council each week, ask each other questions, build alliances (sometimes in secret), argue, fight, call each other names, make promises, and most importantly engage with one another based on the beliefs and ideas held by their character from nearly 900 years ago.



*King Baldwin of Jerusalem, Master Robert of the Knights Templar, and Cardinal Guy of Florence.
The backdrop is the real Crusader Castle of Acre, which is still open for visitors!*



The whole class, in costume!

History and Hereafter: The American Wilderness

By Trinity Tullo-McVicar

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During the Summer 2022 semester, I just finished my junior year at Centenary. Due to forces beyond my control, I knew that I might not get to study abroad or do some of the traditional college things that I would have liked. Dr. Noah Haiduc-Dale's History of the American Wilderness: Adirondacks class was a great opportunity for me to reconnect with the wilderness, make connections with peers, and gain confidence in myself.

After a few weeks of in-class instruction, a hike on Mount Tammany, and an introduction to canoes, our class headed up to Newcomb, NY for a week of hands-on learning in the Adirondacks. I don't think that I realized it at the time, but this trip was going to have a major impact on my life. When we pulled into the campus that we would be staying on for the next week, I was struck by a few things: The lack of car noises, the lush greenery, the mountains in the distance, the slight chill, and the overall beauty and realization that I was as close to nature as I could be. Throughout the class, Noah had us refer to our central question: "what is wilderness?" The more I thought I was in the wilderness, the more my perception on the concept changed.

That night we stood on the beach, staring out at the lake in silence, admiring the serenity of the view in which we were immersed. As we enjoyed our time reflecting, a car drove past us about 400 yards away. The lights and noise brought us back to the reality that humans are everywhere, even when you think you are in a very remote place.

The first full day we spent in the Adirondacks we did a three-mile hike of Castle Rock. The view from the top of the mountain was breathtaking. My biggest takeaway was how sure of myself I felt as we made our way up. Standing on top of the mountain with classmates who were quickly becoming friends, I felt very peaceful and triumphant. That hike also made me eager to keep getting outside and exploring the world around me.

The next hike we did began at 4:00a.m. Mount Goodnow was challenging, but the sunrise and the fog over the expansive mountain range made it all worthwhile. Most of the learning that I did while on this trip, apart from the few lectures, tours, and museum trips, took place on the trails and in my head. Learning to find my pace and that I can do whatever I set my mind to are skills that I hope to use in my personal and professional life.



Crossing the Hudson River



An overhanging cliff on the trails to Castle Rock



Paddling up the Marion River

I formed bonds within one week with peers who I probably would never have talked to if it had not been for this class. We laughed until we couldn't breathe, talked until our throats hurt, and pushed ourselves to new limits. I learned more about myself in one week than I have in my whole life. I felt truly connected to the world and excited to learn. The Adirondacks may be a historically hard place to live, but experiencing it is an opportunity that needs to be seized and appreciated. The only downsides to taking this course are that it does not last longer, and I got blisters. This trip was transformative in many ways, and I highly recommend it to other students interested in learning about themselves and their relation to nature.

Quality Quantitative Quizzes

By Sofia Senesie '24

Spring 2023

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It is no strange fact that most students find any subject of mathematics to be exceptionally atrocious. However, Professor Turrisi's students have given her math courses nothing but praise.

An anonymous student said of the course, "My favorite thing about this course was how independent we could be with the work. We were held responsible for doing the practice problems and homework so that we could get the best possible grades on our weekly assignments. I also enjoyed how all the material was available online. This made it very accessible and helpful for preparing for assessments, especially the final." The student continued to comment on the professor herself, "Professor Turrisi was extremely understanding and accommodating to each students' needs, and I look forward to taking her class next semester!"

Turrisi's teaching style is heavily influenced by student feedback. She ensures that the students understand the material fully for their own success.

Another student said, "When first signing up for this class, I was not expecting to feel so engaged in the material. I learned a lot because Professor T really made sure she went around the room and checked in on everyone."

Of course, all professors want their students to succeed. So, what sets her apart from the rest? She is a professor known for getting real with for students, connecting real world math to real world situations with fun side conversations that enhanced every lesson. One student elaborates, "The one thing I really like about this class was my teacher...that she really cared about us and was always making sure we understood the topics we were learning."

Another student builds on this statement, "In class I learned applicable real world math skills that I know will help me in the future, like calculating loan payments, taxes, and money management." There were many that shared similar opinions. "She was always making jokes and relating the classwork to real life. The class was very fun, and I learned a lot."

Through her own comments and the student-focused quizzes, Professor Turrisi has obtained not only the love but also respect from many of her students, becoming a beloved professor enriching their minds and that of her department.



Graduate Programs Summer '23 Virtual Info Sessions

May 31, 7:00-8:00pm: M.Ed. in Literacy Instruction with ESL Certification and Supervisor Licensure

June 22, 6:30-7:30pm: Ed.D in Educational Leadership & Specialization in Special Education

June 27, 7:00-8:00pm: M.Ed. in Literacy Instruction with ESL Certification and Supervisor Licensure

June 28, 6:30-7:30pm: M.Ed. in Educational Practice with Teacher Leader

June 29, 6:30-7:30pm: M.A. in Educational Leadership, Instructional Leadership, & Supervisor/Principal Licensure

July 13, 6:30-7:30pm: M.A. Special Education, TOSD, and Learning Disabilities Teacher-Consultant



School of Education and Humanities

Events 2022-2023

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Future Educators Day

On October 28, 2022, the School of Education and Humanities hosted its 5th annual Future Educators Day. The program is designed for area high school students and community college students that belong to Future Educators clubs or have an interest in becoming a teacher. County Teachers of the Year highlighted the event with an opening presentation followed by workshops where attendees engaged with each Teacher of the Year in small group presentations, demonstrations, and workshops.

This year's presenters were: Andrea Ritacco (Morris County Teacher of the Year), Shawna Longo (Sussex County Teacher of the Year), Daryl Detrick (Warren County Teacher of the Year), and Brian Smith and Teresa Diaz (Hunterdon County Teachers of the Year).

We also enjoyed having the New Jersey 2019 State Teacher of the Year, Jennifer Skomial, participate in the day. Attendees also participated in a Q&A session with Centenary Education students and faculty. About 130 high school students from area schools in Morris, Sussex, Warren, and Hunterdon County attended the event along with their teachers and club advisors. As always, Visions Federal Credit Union sponsored a delicious lunch in the cafeteria for all attendees. One teacher in attendance provided the following feedback: "We really enjoyed the day and I also always leave inspired by the teachers of the year and your students and staff."

Popular Culture Conference

This spring, the School of Education and Humanities hosted its first annual popular culture conference, Multiverses in the Mid-Atlantic. The event featured a welcome from Centenary University President Dr. Bruce Murphy followed by presentations that focused on a variety of topics related to popular culture through a scholarly perspective. Topics ranged from superheroes and supervillains to cosplay and games. Student presenters included: Quinn Perschy, Onoshope Itunoya Musa, Maya Wicki, Emma Norton, Isaiah Anderson, and Jake Lombardo. Faculty and staff presenters included Dr. Erica McCrystal, Dr. Noah Haiduc-Dale, and Mr. Dennis Higgins. Following the presentations, speakers and audience members participated in a roundtable discussion led by Dean of the School of Education and Humanities, Dr. Robert Battistini. This conference concluded a week of pop culture events hosted by the Cyclone Tabletop Gaming Club. For interest in getting involved in next year's conference, contact Dr Erica McCrystal: erica.mccrystal@centenaryuniversity.edu.

Literacy Conference

Centenary University's School of Education and Humanities hosted a literacy conference entitled, Spring into Joyful Literacy Instruction: Research-based best practices to invigorate your literacy instruction and enhance student motivation on Thursday, April 21st in the University's David and Carol Lackland Center.

Sponsored by the Master of Education in Literacy Instruction Program, this year's keynote address featured Dr. Kenneth Kunz, president of the International Literacy Association (ILA). Dr. Kunz addressed how the sciences of reading/research align with joyful literacy instruction. Through his experiences as a literacy coach and International Literacy Association leader, Dr. Kunz shared tips for prioritizing joy while balancing the demands of a comprehensive literacy program.

The University's Master of Education in Literacy Instruction Program is recognized by the ILA not only for a commitment for supporting the ILA's Standards for the Preparation of Literacy Professionals but also for ensuring that it offers the highest quality curriculum for graduate students to meet state requirements for their NJ Reading Specialist Certification. Candidates have the choice to pair their master's degree and reading specialist certification with a supervisor licensure or ESL certification.

We are very proud to announce that seven of the 2023 Warren County Teachers of the Year are alumni of Centenary's Education programs! Congratulations to all!

The Advantages of Downtime in the Classroom

By Isabelle Weisman '23

Clinical Intern at Hackettstown High School

Spring 2023

Education Buzz



When starting my clinical experience, I pressured myself to primarily focus on making it through my lesson plans and to just relay information accurately. Resulting from this self-generated pressure were feelings of fret when students had too much downtime or when conversations were veering away from the content. Although I had developed and assigned creative projects at this point, I still grew anxious when students became too distracted, even when completing low-stakes assignments. Likewise, despite there being a bit more than a handful of students in these classes, the vast diversity in pacing also caused me to feel uneasy. I was concerned that I was doing something wrong. *Perhaps I was not gaining their interest in the content? Is my own pacing off? Am I not differentiating in an appropriate manner?* Numerous questions surged as I noticed some students were halfway through their work while others were just beginning.

2023 KDE Inductees

Johanna Beam
Samantha Brady
Antonia Cacopardo
Rachel Crouse
Matthew DeFranco
Isabel Dutta
Gina Farino
Gabriella Filian
Victoria Fox
Sara Fusco
Jenna Garofalo
Zaairah Lamothe
Domenique Patrick
Sabrina Pawpaw
Ashley Picado
Taylor Quimby
Lynn Roberto
Ashley Rossi
Danielle Savarin
Sara Sconda
Puja Shah
Emily Slack
Carolyn Stoner
Megan Talmadge
Andrew Voorhees
Maya Wicki

Congratulations!

I soon brought this up to my cooperating teacher who informed me that these moments happen (and quite often, in fact). However, instead of constantly refocusing students, we should sometimes indulge the class in these tangents, and even allow students to have downtime when their work is complete. After all, it's not that they were not learning the content but rather simply worked at different paces.

In actuality, these had not only been acceptable behaviors, but they became an important part in developing rapport with students. It was evident that there was an increase in mutual respect and empathy through these downtime moments. These breaks that initially felt stressful now became community building opportunities and ultimately led to an increasingly positive environment. These moments have, realistically, become some of the most productive; I have learned more about students' interests, how they perceive certain topics and assessment types, and have utilized this knowledge to make adjustments to my approaches to the content. (I similarly believe that my comfort standing in front of the classroom, besides repetition and practice, was quickened due to occurrences like these.)

With such a high emphasis on productivity in our society, we tend to get swept up in the belief that free time and tangents are unproductive and, therefore, useless. However, the opposite can be true. I now look forward to these moments for all of the ensuing benefits they possess. Whether they appear as a "Fun Day Friday," mental health break, or even the occasional conversational tangent, there is value in downtime in the classroom, and I plan to incorporate these positive downtime opportunities within my future pedagogy.

Kappa Delta Epsilon: A Year in Review

By Natalie Kelson '23, KDE President

Spring 2023

Education Buzz

As many of you know, Kappa Delta Epsilon (or KDE) is the Education Honor Society here at Centenary. We joyously report that we will end this school year with nearly 50 members with freshman, sophomores, juniors, and seniors and all represented on our membership rolls. KDE stands for Greek letters that translate to “a circle of well-trained teachers,” and this is certainly what we are always collectively working towards being!

We started off this year with our “KDE Kick Off Meeting” in September. This served as a way to get all members together and get on the same page before diving into everything our officers had planned for the year! This was also a great opportunity for the 2022-2023 Officers to formally introduce themselves. We asked for member feedback about what to focus on for the year and enjoyed some pizza while we all chatted! Then in October, we got down to business with having some volunteers assist with the Future Educators Event hosted by Centenary’s School of Education and Humanities. This was an event that I actually attended when I was in high school, so it was wonderful to participate in the event from the other side through KDE.

Our focus in November was putting together a digital memorial to honor Dr. Cathleen Benedict, a member of the education faculty who sadly passed away last April. We asked KDE members, education students, and faculty to send us any memories, stories, inspiration, and/or pictures they would like us to include. Every person that submitted something was clearly speaking directly from the heart, and that lead to a wonderful end product to remember Dr. Benedict by. The digital memorial was shared not only with the School of Education and Humanities but also Dr. Benedict’s family.

In November we also had some members who volunteered to give an informal tour of Centenary to students from the HILLS House. Then later in the month, we also sponsored a Thanksgiving Recipe Share for the School of Education and Humanities. This project was spearheaded by our Secretary, Shelby Garno. December was also a busy month for us in KDE. We had members volunteering to help with children’s crafts at Hometown Holiday in addition to a Holiday Party for all members to wrap up the semester. This event taught us that future teachers are all fantastic gift givers, as evident by the quality of items in the white elephant gift exchange we did!

As the spring semester started up, KDE held a Souper Bowl Canned Soup Drive benefitting the United Presbyterian Church of Alpha, NJ’s Food Pantry Mission during the month of February. We began our officer and member shout outs on our KDE Instagram to highlight many of our wonderful members. Then March was spent prepping for our yearly Induction Ceremony.

At the Induction Ceremony, we officially inducted 26 new members into Kappa Delta Epsilon, honored 23 graduating seniors with their honor cords, and installed the following individuals as the new 2023-2024 officers:

Shelby Garno, *President*
Zach Orr, *Vice President*
Puja Shah, *Secretary*
Maya Wicki & Sabrina Paupaw, *Parliamentarians*
Danielle Savarin, *Social Media Manager*
Isabel Dutta, *RVCC Liaison*

We are so thankful to all of the members, family members, and faculty who attended this special event. We are very thankful of their support of the Kappa Delta Epsilon Education Honor Society!

On behalf of all the 2022-2023 Officers, all KDE members, and myself, I would like to say a huge thank you to our advisor, Dr. Lexis McCoy for all that she does for KDE and for her constant support of everyone involved! We love you Dr. McCoy!!

To keep up with all things KDE, follow us on Instagram, [@cent_kde!](https://www.instagram.com/cent_kde/)



Hometown Holiday, December 2022



KDE Induction, April 2023

Awards

Spring 2023

Education Buzz

Alyce Hunter Outstanding Dissertation Award

Jessica Garcia

This award was honored for Dr. Garcia's dissertation: Least Restrictive Environment: Understanding Placement Factors in New Jersey Public Schools.

Cathleen Benedict Award

Danielle Yawger

This award was presented in honor of Dr. Cathleen Benedict to help a future teacher prepare his or her classroom.

Distinguished Clinical Interns

Kevin Biedukiewicz, Andrew Mount, Jeanne Roll

This award is presented jointly by the New Jersey Department of Education and the New Jersey Association of Colleges for Teacher Preparation to publicly recognize the top graduates of New Jersey's teacher preparation programs and their highly dedicated cooperating teachers.

Distinguished Teaching Award

Dr. Noah Haiduc-Dale

Dr. Haiduc-Dale was awarded Centenary's highest teaching honor, "The Distinguished Teacher Award." In the citation read at Commencement, students commented on Dr. Haiduc-Dale's "innovation" and "creativity."

Doris L Moore Award

Natalie Kelson

This award is made possible by the generous support of Dr. Sandra Moore and her brother, Peter Moore, in memory of their mother, Doris L. Moore, a former elementary art teacher who upheld the highest standards for herself and her students. The scholarship is awarded to a rising Junior or Senior with at least a 3.00 cumulative GPA in an Education major who exemplifies dedication to education and students.

Honorary Alumni Award

Kathy Turrisi

This was awarded at the 2022 Alumni & Family Day, presented by University President Dr. Bruce Murphy and the Alumni Association.

Strickhausen Awards

Fia Senesie, Emma Norton, Hayley Presti

This award is for juniors who have impressed their professors with their class leadership, the excellence of their course work, and their overall promise.

Awards

(continued)

Spring 2023

Education Buzz

EDUCATION

- Outstanding Fall Graduate*—Samantha Johnson
- Outstanding Spring Graduate*—Rachel Crouse
- Most Promising Future Special Education Teacher*—Melanie Ward
- Most Promising Future Reading Specialist*—Hope Nafis
- Most Likely to Become an Outstanding Principal*—Zachary Orr
- Most Likely to Become an Outstanding Superintendent*—Amanda Wakefoose
- Outstanding Full-Time Clinical Intern*—Amanda Wakefoose

MATHEMATICS

- Outstanding Teacher of Math Student*—Andrew Mount
- Outstanding Educational Mathematics Award*—Summer Sozanski

INDIVIDUALIZED STUDIES

- Outstanding Junior/Senior Individualized Studies Major*—Alexandra Koch
- Outstanding First-year/Sophomore Individualized Studies Major*—Anna Stein
- Outstanding Senior Internship or Project*—Alexa Visconti

HISTORY

- Outstanding Junior/Senior History Student*—Trinity Tullo-McVicar
- Outstanding Class Project*—Quinn Perschy
- Outstanding Critical Engagement in the Department*—Nick Gorab
- Certificates of Merit*—Zach Gehman, Nick Gorab, Quinn Perschy, Vincent Sciacca, Alexandria Sterling, Trinity Tullo-McVicar, Andrew Voorhees

ENGLISH

- Outstanding Junior/Senior English Student*—Michaela Bennett
- Outstanding First-year/Sophomore English Student*—Laurie Frattina
- Outstanding Class Project*—Amanda Masiello
- Outstanding Leadership in the Department*—Izabelle Weisman
- Outstanding Critical Engagement in the Department*—Jake Lombardo
- Commendations for Conference Presentations*—Emma Norton, Jake Lombardo, Maya Wicki
- Certificates of Merit*—Michaela Bennett, Kayla Diee, Nora Dornich, Thomas Edge, Laurie Frattina, Teryn Hardy, Jake Lombardo, Arianna Morillo, Emma Norton, Mary Richardson, Sofia Senesie, Carolyn Stoner, Maria Turker, Izabelle Weisman

*Follow us on social media for updates,
events, opportunities, and more!*

