

## 2017-18 Newsletter Blasts

November 16, 2017

### **Meet the 2017-18 officers for ACTEN**

Jeremy Cowley is your ACTEN president. Jeremy is the Program Director at the Omaha Career Center for the Omaha Public Schools. (Email—[jeremy.cowley@ops.org](mailto:jeremy.cowley@ops.org))

Morgan Trausch was elected to serve as your president-elect. Morgan is an Agricultural Education Instructor at Lawrence-Nelson Public Schools. (Email--[mtrausch@southcentralunified.org](mailto:mtrausch@southcentralunified.org))

Anne Schmall serves as the past president. Anne is an FCS teacher at Bluffs Middle School in Scottsbluff. (Email—[aschmall@sbps.net](mailto:aschmall@sbps.net))

Emily Murphy is our secretary. Emily is an FCS teacher at Omaha Bryan High School. (Email—[emily.murphy@ops.org](mailto:emily.murphy@ops.org))

DeLayne Havlovic is the treasurer of our organization. DeLayne is a Curriculum Supervisor for Omaha Public Schools. (Email—[delayne.havlovic@ops.org](mailto:delayne.havlovic@ops.org))

The officers are serving for your organization. If you have any questions for them, please don't hesitate to contact them.

November 29, 2017

### **2017-2018 ACTEN Board Representatives**

Please welcome the CTE educators who represent your specific discipline. These representatives are your voice for CTE in Nebraska. Please don't hesitate to contact them should you have questions, concerns, or comments on how the Association for Career and Technical Education of Nebraska can better serve you and your program.

Steven Woodside serves as the Administration Division representative. Steven is the principal at Columbus High School. ([Email—woodsides@discoverers.org](mailto:woodsides@discoverers.org))

Siera Meyer and Tyler Schindler serve as the Agriculture Education Division representatives. Siera is the Agriculture teacher at Bruning-Davenport Public Schools. ([Email—smeyer@bdstorm.org](mailto:smeyer@bdstorm.org)) Tyler is an Ag teacher at Omaha Bryan High School. ([Email—tyler.schindler@ops.org](mailto:tyler.schindler@ops.org))

Janelle Stansberry is the division representative for Business Education. Janelle is the Guidance Counselor at Cedar Bluffs High School. ([Email—jstansbe@esu2.org](mailto:jstansbe@esu2.org))

Camelle Kinney and Carmen Hall serve as the Family and Consumer Sciences Division representatives. Camelle is the FCS teacher at North Star High School in Lincoln. ([Email—ckinney@lps.org](mailto:ckinney@lps.org)) Carmen is a FCS teacher at Omaha Bryan High School. ([Email--carmen.hall@ops.org](mailto:carmen.hall@ops.org))

Melissa Hansen is the division representative for Guidance and Career Development. Melissa is a Guidance Counselor at Gretna High School. ([Email—melissahansen@gretnadragons.org](mailto:melissahansen@gretnadragons.org))

Debra Ziegler serves as the Health Science Technology Education division representative. Debra is a Health Sciences teacher at Ralston High School. ([Email—debral\\_ziegler@ralstonschools.org](mailto:debral_ziegler@ralstonschools.org))

Dave Gee is the ACTEN division representative for Engineering and Technology Education. Dave is an Industrial Technology teacher at Nebraska Christian Schools. ([Email—dgee@nebraskachristian.org](mailto:dgee@nebraskachristian.org))

Brittany McPhillips serves as the Marketing Division representative. Brittany is a Business and Marketing teacher at Central City High School. ([Email—bmcphillips@centralcityps.org](mailto:bmcphillips@centralcityps.org))

Dan Phillips is serving as the division representative for Trade and Industrial Education. Dan is the Career Pathways Institute Coordinator for Grand Island Public Schools. ([Email—dphillips@gips.org](mailto:dphillips@gips.org))

Cindy Baum is our newest member on the board serving as the division representative for New and Related Services. Cindy is the Career and Technical Education Curriculum Specialist at Lincoln Public Schools. ([Email--cbaum2@lps.org](mailto:cbaum2@lps.org))

Kathleen Kennedy represents Nebraska Career Education Innovation Foundation on our board. Kathleen is a FCS teacher at Central Valley Schools. ([Email—kathleen.kennedy@centralvps.org](mailto:kathleen.kennedy@centralvps.org))

Richard Katt is the Nebraska Department of Education representative to the ACTEN board. Rich is the State Director for Nebraska Career Education. ([Email--rich.katt@nebraska.gov](mailto:rich.katt@nebraska.gov))

We currently have two divisions that do not have a representative to the board. Those divisions are Adult Workforce Development and Special Populations. If you are interested in serving as a representative to the board, please contact me.

*December 11, 2017*

The ACTE election site was opened on December 8. You have until January 8 to cast your ballot. The ballot includes the office of the national president-elect, the Region V president-elect, the Division President-elect for Health Sciences and Agricultural Education. Nebraska is located in Region V. Please take time to cast your vote.

Information about the candidates is available online.

You should have received an email giving you your passcode to enter the voting site. If you have questions, let me know.

December 20, 2017



Congratulations to the Association for Career and Technical Education for receiving the Quality Association Standard Award!

Jeremy Cowley, president of ACTEN, and Murleen Bellinger, Executive Director for ACTEN, accepted the award at CareerTech Vision in Nashville on December 9. Presenting the award was Dodie Bemis, Vice President of Region V, and Gina Riggs, ACTE President.

The QAS provides a benchmark for state associations to determine levels of performance and satisfactory service to their members. QAS is useful for associations to evaluate their organization and determine whether their leadership is providing minimum, average, or superior programs for their membership.

The hope of the QAS is to prompt states to challenge themselves to improve and maintain the very best possible organization and leadership for their members.



December 20, 2018

**ACTE/ACTEN Educator Awards**

The ACTE Member Awards recognize excellence and dedication within the field of career and technical education among ACTE members. Recipients of these awards are exceptional individuals who have contributed to the success of CTE through the quality of their work and their involvement in the CTE community.

There are eight Member Awards presented:

**ACTEN Teacher of the Year**  
**ACTEN Outstanding Teacher by Division**  
**ACTEN Postsecondary Teacher of the Year**  
**ACTEN Teacher Educator of the Year**  
**ACTEN New Teacher of the Year**  
**ACTEN Administrator of the Year**  
**ACTEN Career Guidance of the Year**  
**ACTEN Carl Perkins Community Service Award**

Candidates begin the application process by nominating themselves (or being nominated by a peer) for their state award. Candidates must hold the appropriate position at the time of initial nomination. Applicants may full- or part-time educators. **Award winners will receive a one-year membership in ACTE/ACTEN dues.**

Candidates should submit their applications on the ACTE Awards Portal at <https://acte.secure-platform.com/a/organizations/NE/home> by March 1, 2018.

Applicants will be applying for the **2020** ACTE Member awards because the national ACTE Awards naming convention is a year ahead. Candidates for the 2019 Member Awards will undergo their review in Nebraska in 2018, Region V and National review in 2019, and National winners will be announced at ACTE's CareerTech VISION 2020. State award recipients will have an opportunity to update their applications prior to their application being advanced to the regional level of competition.

Applicants will need to create an account and password before he/she starts the application. He/she will also want to remember his/her password so that he/she can save the application and go back to work on it again later. The deadline to apply for ACTEN awards is March 1, 2018. If you have any questions, please contact the ACTEN office (402-480-9577 or [actenebraska@gmail.com](mailto:actenebraska@gmail.com)) for assistance.

Open the *Using the Awards Portal* PowerPoint to view tips on how to access the Awards Portal.

January 3, 2018

**Program Highlight**

In case you missed this in the Career Tech Updates from ACTE. A great idea for CTE month, which is held in February. Get together with schools in your area and start planning your career simulation program today.

### [Program simulates career pathways for students](#)

Ninth- and 10th-grade students in Nebraska recently learned about potential jobs through a career-exploration simulation program. The program allowed students to pursue a career and see what type of preparation they would need to enter the field.

[KNOP-TV \(North Platte, Neb.\)](#) (10/17)

### **Manufacturing Jobs in Nebraska**

Maybe a career you need to stress to your students!

### [Neb. manufacturers seek skilled workers](#)

As manufacturers in Nebraska struggle to find enough skilled workers to fill available jobs, some high schools and colleges are working to offer training programs. Officials say more companies also are offering apprenticeship programs in partnership with an area community college. [KETV-TV \(Omaha, Neb.\)](#) (11/8)

January 10, 2018

### **Join Us on Facebook and Twitter**

Did you know that ACTEN has a Facebook page? Did you know that ACETN has a Twitter account?

*Join CTE social media now:*

Facebook: ActeNebraska

Twitter: @ACTENebraska

You may also check out our [webpage--actenebraska.org](http://webpage--actenebraska.org).

### **CTE Month**

I hope you have started preparing for CTE Month® activities at your school. This is copied from the [ACTE website](#). Access the website today to give you ideas for celebrating and promoting CTE in your school.



This CTE Month®, one of the best things you can do to celebrate the accomplishments of your students is to hold a school visit or site visit. For this visit, you can invite new people – policymakers, business leaders, members of the media, or other members of your local community – to visit your programs and discover the 21st century learning that happens in CTE classrooms every day.

**CELEBRATE TODAY,  
OWN TOMORROW!**

By organizing a visit, you can raise awareness of CTE and advance public understanding of the opportunities that CTE offers for students.

Resources for members interested in holding school visits or site visits

- [Hosting Site Visits for Policymakers](#) (most of these tips are relevant for all attendees)
- [How to Plan and Conduct a School Visit](#)
- [Targeting the Media](#)
- [Sample Press Release Template](#)
- [Fact Sheets](#)
- [Advocacy Toolkit](#)
- [CTE Month Success Stories](#) (contains information about school visits nationwide)
- ACTE's recent school visits ([2017](#)) ([2016](#))

More general resources are useful for all CTE Month events, including schools and site visits:

- [Communicating with the Media](#)
- [Engaging Policymakers](#)
- [Working with Business and Industry Leaders](#)
- [CTE Month Merchandise](#)

*January 11, 2018*

### **Article from Career Tech Update—Check it Out!**

Dramco Tool is said to be the first company in Nebraska to allow 16- and 17-year-old students to work at their facility through a Registered Apprenticeship Program. Officials say the move is intended to help the company recruit more workers and put students on a path toward a successful career.

[KOLN-TV/KGIN-TV \(Nebraska\)](#) (11/14)

*January 15, 2018*

### **Encouraging Words from a New CTE Teacher**

#### **School “Has Only Just Begun”**

*By Carmen (Warner) Hall*

*The beginning of the school year can be exciting, overwhelming and in some cases intimidating! At least that's how I felt, as I started my 4th year of teaching in a very urban high school in Omaha. I was intimidated. I wasn't sure if I was going to make it, or how I would do. I knew I was needed, but I wasn't sure how all of this would go. I knew this year would be full of new challenges, new curriculum, new classrooms, and so much more. However, what I did not realize was how much I would enjoy seeing students grow with their skills in just a few months. In the last few months, I have seen my students grown with their basic skills. Now, in our second unit students are practicing proper measuring, following a recipe, and learning how to work with others in a Foods lab.*

Carmen is a Family and Consumer Sciences Teacher at Omaha Bryan High School.

To all new teachers--the first few years of teaching can be all of what Carmen stated. To help keep that positive attitude, find a mentor in your school to give you help and words of encouragement, attend conferences to network with other teachers that are in your same situation, and most of all, join your professional organizations. The benefits of joining a professional organization can help you through those first trying years as well as throughout your teaching career.

*January 18, 2018*

## **Why Be Involved?**

*Written by Kim Dhority, Kansas Business Education Association President*

*Published in the Mountain-Plains Business Education Association newsletter, Notes and Quotes, Fall 2017*

*Edited by Murleen Bellinger, Executive Director for ACTEN*

Do you ever get tired of people saying ‘Get Involved’ in your professional organizations? Did you ever ask yourself why? I am a firm believer the more you can be involved in your community, your school, and yes . . . your professional organizations . . . the better teacher/educator you will be. Let’s look at the top ten reasons listed for joining a professional networking organization.

1. **Broaden Your Knowledge.** Fantastic conferences—CareerTech VISION, Best Practices, National Policy Seminar, Region V Conference, and NCE Conference. These do not include your discipline’s own conferences. ACTE’s website offers a variety of helpful tips on their website along with webinars to enhance your knowledge whether in the classroom, with your student organization, or what is happening on The Hill.
2. **Take Charge of Your Career.** There are thousands of teaching resources out there. Your discipline association and ACTE give you links to resources that are available to you. They may also be great resources as you look for a new job.
3. **Build a Better Resume.** Being in a professional organization builds on your existing resume. If you go a step further and become an officer in one of these organizations it gives you another step on that resume. This also helps to solidify friendships and business partners you would not have without doing that.
4. **Enhance Your Network.** We all tell our students you need to network to build your portfolio and gain job possibilities. We encourage them to become a member of our CSO. However, we don’t always practice what we preach. We need to join and become involved in the professional organizations that are available for our content area. Professional organizations give you the opportunity to network across the nation, across the middle of the country and especially in your own state.

5. **Be a Leader.** There are all sorts of possibilities to lead in this organization. All levels are always looking for people to step into those roles. This gives you the possibility to learn more, gain even more friendships, and help build the organization to be the best it can be.
6. **Become a Mentor.** There are always new teachers entering the education field. These folks need those of us that have been around the block a few times to get the good start. By being a part of our professional organizations and encouraging new teachers to be a part of the organization helps build that foundation. Everyone benefits from this partnership.
7. **Make a New Friend.** Professional organizations give you an opportunity to meet people in your same profession and build relationships that will last a lifetime. Being actively involved gives you more opportunity to meet more people across the state and nation, which in turn will allow you to grow as an educator.
8. **Give Back to the Teaching Community.** By being involved in your professional organizations, you are giving back to its members. This can be done by presenting at conferences, building mentorships, being an officer, or serving on your board in another Sucapacity. As you may have heard, our organizations are only as good as our members' support and involvement.
9. **Strength in Numbers.** In this time of craziness and school funding, it is good to have the backing of all educators. It is vitally important that we show we are a united front and we support each other. What better way of doing that than with an organization that is built around what we teach. ACTE is your best **advocate** for your **CTE classroom**. Encourage others in your school to join ACTE—help us build those 'numbers' and protect our careers.
10. **Stay Inspired and Stay Motivated.** Last but certainly not least, stay inspired and stay motivated by building off the enthusiasm of others. On those days that you aren't sure why you do what you do, lean on the friendships that you have built in this organization. With the presence of social media and a click of the finger, it is simple to touch base with others to 'lean on' for advice, inspiration, or motivation.

*Kim Dhority is a business education instructor at Flint Hills Community College in Emporia, Kansas. She currently serves as the president of the Kansas Business Education Association.*

January 31, 2018

The following information was printed in the February 2018 issue of *Techniques*. Have a super CTE Month®!

### **Celebrate CTE!**

Join us this month as we celebrate our students, teachers, and programming in career and technical education. Help spread awareness in your communities on the importance of CTE for our students and our nation's thriving economy with some of these outreach opportunities:



- Host a school visit and invite members of your community to learn about your school's strong CTE programs firsthand.
- Share your CTE success stories on social media via #CTEMonth.
- Visit [http://www.acteonline.org/ctemonth\\_videocontest/#.WnJ7jK3Mzyk](http://www.acteonline.org/ctemonth_videocontest/#.WnJ7jK3Mzyk) to view and share the winning videos from our CTE Month video PSA contest.
- Write a letter to or call your policymakers from mayors to Congress to inform them on the importance of CTE.
- Reach out to your local media to encourage them to attend events and advise them of the benefits of CTE, or use social media (#CTEMonth) to do the same.
- Work with your community's business and industry leaders to ensure they understand the role CTE plays in readying their future workforce. Help them help you advocate for CTE.
- Gear up with reflective zipper pulls, mood pens and pencils, balloons and other festive CTE Month merchandise at [www.shopacte.com](http://www.shopacte.com) to show your support for CTE at career fairs, local events or at your school.
- Download the CTE Month logo for use with any of your print digital outreach.

Visit [www.acteonline.org/ctemonth](http://www.acteonline.org/ctemonth) to learn more about ways to showcase your CTE programs and your important work this CTE Month.

*February 3, 2018*

Spotlight School—LPS Career Academy

Summary of an article published in the Lincoln Journal Star, Saturday, January 13, 2018

“Make it Mobile” by Margaret Reist

Students in the Lincoln Public Schools Career Academy are helping to build moveable makerspace labs. The work is hands-on: outfitting trailers with shelves to hold bins, tables and other necessities for mobile ‘makerspace labs’ that will travel to after-school programs at various elementary and middle schools. The purpose is to support efforts to create and strengthen after-school programs for kids.

The Career Academy's construction program has become part of the wide-range vision of Beyond School Bells, a statewide public-private partnership. Beyond School Bells has promoted after-school programs from its inception. The makerspace labs bolster existing after-school programs or create a starting point, offering ideas, storage and what amounts to a fully-equipped portable classroom that promotes creativity and problem-solving.

To outfit the labs, Josh Jones, who consults for Beyond School Bells, enlisted the help of students at the Career Academy where he is a coordinator. The high school students' work will be recorded and used as a template for high school students in other communities to build more labs.

February 19, 2018

MPCC Highlights Business as a Career

### **Business: a career to bank on**

A career in business isn't just versatile – it's secure.

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics predicts more than 750,000 new business and financial operation jobs will be needed by 2026 due to globalization, a growing economy and a complex tax and regulatory environment. Even without the anticipated growth - business skills are in demand.

“Business is part of everything, regardless of the career,” said Angie Chittick, business and office technology instructor at Mid-Plains Community College. “Marketing, accounting, management, customer service, technology - every company and organization needs employees with those skills.”

MPCC offers training for careers in business. One of the options is the Associate of Applied Science degree in Business with an emphasis in Business Administration.

The program prepares students for jobs in the fields of banking, insurance, finance management, office supervision, real estate and sales and marketing. The degree can be completed entirely online. On-site and distance learning options are available as well.

MPCC also offers a Business Administration Academic Transfer degree, which prepares students for progression to a four-year program. Students gain skills in accounting, management, marketing and business technologies.

Graduates of both programs tend to leave with more than they bargained for. That includes the abilities to adapt to emerging technologies, collaborate and work as part of a team, think outside the box and apply problem-solving techniques to real-life situations. They also improve their written and verbal communication skills.

“Students end up feeling more confident, not only in themselves, but also in their ability to work with others,” said Chittick. “Business classes provide the foundation to be successful in life. Not only do they enhance employability and develop the critical skills needed to excel in today's job market – they also help students reach their dreams.”

March 2, 2018

### **11 tips for designing solid STEM lessons**

It can be a challenge to design effective lessons focused on science, technology, engineering and math, asserts educator Anne Jolly. In this blog post, she shares 11 questions for teachers

to consider when designing effective, doable STEM lessons -- without overlooking anything important.

March 26, 2018

## **Nebraska CTE Featured in ACTE Career Tech Update**

### **Students train to fill welding jobs**

Students enrolled in a Nebraska high school's welding program say they are training now for future careers. As part of the program, students have the opportunity to participate in internships.

[The Columbus Telegram \(Neb.\)](#)

### **College expands welding, manufacturing programs**

Central Community College-Hastings in Nebraska is planning an expansion to house its growing welding and advanced manufacturing programs. Plans to renovate the existing building began after consultation with area manufacturers, who expressed support for the programs.

[Hastings Tribune \(Neb.\)](#)

April 5, 2018

## **Student Trophy Design Contest**

If you have a 3-D printer at your school, consider having your students' enter this contest.

The deadline is approaching to enter the Student Trophy Design Contest. The student design contest celebrates CTE while showcasing the talents of its greatest achievement, its students. The first-place designer(s) will receive:

- \$1,000 scholarship prize
- One year free rental of a 3-D printer and supplies, courtesy of Stratasys
- One year complimentary ACTE membership for student(s) and their teacher
- Paid trip to ACTE's CareerTech VISION in San Antonio, Texas, to be recognized onstage at the 2018 Awards Banquet
- Recognition in ACTE's promotional channels and *Techniques* magazine

The deadline to enter this contest is **May 1**.

April 21, 2018

## **Nebraska Awardees at Region V Conference**

The Association of Career and Technical Educators (ACTE) Region V held its annual conference on April 11-14 at the Cheyenne Mountain Resort in Colorado Springs, CO.

Three career and technical education professionals were inducted into the Region V Hall of Fame on Thursday. This award recognizes the contributions and distinguished accomplishments of those person who have been identified with the work and purposes of Region V. Those honored include:

- Mary Ann Behrens, Teaching Teachers Techniques, Inc. President/Consultant, Arizona ACTE
  - Mary Ann most recently served as the Region V Fellowship Coordinator. In addition to serving a term as president, conference presenter and the conference/leadership planning committee for AZ-ACTE, she served on the Region V Publications Awards and Conference Planning Committees.
- Dodie Bemis, Executive Director, South Dakota ACTE
  - Dodie currently serves as the Region V Vice President on the ACTE Board and was recently elected president of the National Executive Director's Association. She served as a site committee co-chair for three Region V Conferences and has presented at numerous region conferences as well as Region V state ACTE conferences in addition to serving on numberouse Region V committees.
- Doug Meyer, Interim Skilled and Technical Sciences Program Supervisor, Washington ACTE
  - Doug is a past President of ACTE. In addition to serving a two-year termo as the WA-ACTE President, he served on the Legislative, Resolutions, CTE Support Fund and Policy Committees for Region V.

The Publication Awards and Innovative Program Awards were presented on Friday. The following states received ACTE Region V Publication Awards and received a digital badge to display on future publications:

- Newsletter – Montana, *Montana ACTE-ENews*
- Membership Recruitment – *Arizona, What is ACTE AZ?*
- Conference Publication – *North Dakota, CTE: Growing Leaders and Learners for 100 Years*
- **Advocacy Publication – *Nebraska, CTE in Nebraska***
- Website Publication – *Nevada, Nevada ACTE*

The Innovative Program Awards recognize innovative career and technical education programs from each Region V state that are unique, novel, and are serving to improve and promote the image of career and technical education. Receiving Innovative Program Awards this year were:

- Troy Gabaldon, Arizona – Aviation Technology
- Joan Leik, Montana – Culinary Arts
- Dalon Grimm, David Axt, Sarah Beereth, and Shawn Brink, North Dakota – Career Ready Practices
- Bret Johnson, South Dakota – Architecture & Construction Cluster
- Brenda Grabski and Angel Elam, Washington – Capital High School Marketing

On Saturday, 54 state award winners from 14 states vied for the title of ACTE Region V Excellence Award winner. These awards recognize members for their contributions to career and technical education. The following people were chosen as award recipients for 2018.

**Katie Hatt** was presented with the ACTE Region V New Teacher of the Year award. This award recognizes teachers who have made a significant contribution toward innovative CTE programs and have shown accomplishments early in his/her professional career. Katie is a Medical Careers instructor for Grand Forks Public Schools/ Grand Forks Area Career & Technology Center in Grand Forks, North Dakota.

**Kathleen McCune** was presented the ACTE Region V Post-Secondary Teacher of the Year award. This award recognizes the accomplishments and innovations contributed to the CTE community by a postsecondary teacher/educator. Kathleen is a Business instructor at Mid-Plains Community College in North Platte, Nebraska.

**Peder Gjovik** was presented the ACTE Region V Teacher Educator of the Year award. This award recognizes teacher educators who have demonstrated innovation in teacher education, leadership in improving CTE, and commitment to preparing teachers to deliver high quality CTE programs. Peder is a Professor of Engineering and Technology Education at Valley City State University in Valley City, North Dakota.

**Bernadette Russoniello** was presented the ACTE Region V Teacher of the Year award. This award recognizes teachers who have provided outstanding CTE programs in their respective fields and communities. Bernadette is a Marketing instructor at Maricopa Unified School District in Maricopa, Arizona.

**Meg Gianesello** was presented the ACTE Region V Administrator of the Year award. This award recognizes an administrator who has made significant contributions to CTE programs in their communities and/or state. Meg is the Executive Director of Educational Programs for Chandler Unified School District in Chandler, Arizona.

**Amy Dillard** was presented the ACTE Region V Carl Perkins Community Service Award. This award recognizes a CTE professional who has made significant accomplishments and demonstrated leadership in programs and activities that promote community service. Amy is an Agriculture Education instructor for Gilbert Public Schools in Gilbert, Arizona.

**Shelly Thome** was presented the ACTE Region V Career Guidance Award. This award recognizes a school counselor or career development professional who has made significant contributions to CTE programs in his/her communities and/or state. Shelly is a Counselor Liaison at Western Maricopa Education Center in Glendale, Arizona.

**Jeanne Roberts** was presented the ACTE Region V Lifetime Achievement Award. This award recognizes contributions and distinguished accomplishments of individuals who have been identified with the work and vision of the Association for Career and Technical Education.

Jeanne retired as the Deputy Associate Superintendent/CTE State Director from Arizona Department of Education in Scottsdale, Arizona.

LeAnn Wilson, ACTE Executive Director, commented “From students to businesses, the American economy relies on high-quality career and technical education. All across the country, CTE professionals work hard to lead these programs and prepare students for both education and career success. The National ACTE is grateful for the efforts of these CTE leaders here in Region V, and we congratulate them for this well-deserved recognition.”

The ACTE Region V Excellence Award winners will advance to the national level where they compete against the other 4 Regions at CareerTech Vision 2018 to be named the ACTE Excellence Award winner of the year. CareerTech Vision 2018 will be held November 28-December 1, 2018 in San Antonio, Texas.

May 9, 2018

Please read the following message about how to login to the new ACTE website. Welcome to our new website! To introduce you to the navigation, we’ve created an [infographic](#) and we hope you enjoy the Improved functionality that makes it easier to find professional development, CTE, advocacy and awareness resources. Please note, your **member login credentials** to [acteonline.org](http://acteonline.org) have changed to the following:

Username: **Your email address**

Password: **Your six-digit member ID number + first and last name initials** (e.g., for Jane or John Doe — 123456JD)

Should you have any issues logging in, please contact [memberservices@acteonline.org](mailto:memberservices@acteonline.org) or 800-826-9972. If you have any questions or feedback about the new website, please contact [communications@acteonline.org](mailto:communications@acteonline.org).

May 22, 2018



June 7, 2018

## **ACTE Requests \$1.3 Billion for Perkins to Restore Cuts**

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Recently, ACTE sent requests to the [House](#) and [Senate](#) Appropriations Subcommittees on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies, which have jurisdiction over federal funding for education and workforce development programs, calling for \$1.3 billion for Perkins Basic State Grants in the forthcoming Fiscal Year (FY) 2019 appropriations bills. As we [reported](#), the Perkins state grant program received a \$75 million increase (\$1.192 billion in total) as part of the FY 2018 omnibus funding measure that passed in March! This was an important victory as the federal investment in Perkins has declined by 13 percent over the past decade—nearly \$170 million less in funding for local CTE programs. However, Congress must do more to restore those cuts and ensure that high schools, community colleges and tech centers nationwide have the resources they need to provide high-quality CTE programs for students.

Restoring federal funding for CTE by increasing the Perkins Basic State Grant to \$1.3 billion will strengthen the capacity of CTE programs to deliver academically rigorous CTE content, ensure support for special populations, purchase the latest technology and equipment for the classroom, strengthen employer partnerships, provide college and career counseling services, and deliver educator professional development opportunities. Recently, 38 Senators [echoed this request](#) in a letter to congressional appropriators, [while 170 members](#) of the House of Representatives called for a strong investment in Perkins in FY 2019. Please take a few minutes to help in this effort by contacting your Members of Congress through our [CTE Action Center](#)!

June 9, 2018

## **Congrats to our ACTEN Award Winners!**

### **ACTEN Administrator of the Year**



**Jeremy Cowley, Director of the Career Center  
Omaha Public Schools**

Jeremy Cowley is the Program Director of the Omaha Public Schools Career Center. Mr. Cowley oversees 13 Career and Technical Education programs including over 600 students. Their mission is to connect today's students with tomorrow's careers by integrating real-world education with relevant experiences that engage students, community, and industry. Through this work, industry advisory boards were created or revitalized in all program areas.

Cowley implemented industry shadow days twice per year for teaching staff. Shadow days allow teachers to identify new members for the advisory board as well as keep their skills sharpened for the classroom. Internship opportunities for students and staff have also been developed through these partnerships. Eighty-nine percent of Career Center students are placed in a job, attend college, or join the military.

One unique partnership that Cowley brought to the Career Center is through Gallup Strengths Center to identify entrepreneurial strengths in students. Students learn about their individual entrepreneurial strengths as well as participate in an internship. Over 300 Career Center students participate in the profile annually with seven students participating in the internship in the first year.

Cowley is involved in the advisory boards, numerous trade boards, and the Omaha chapter of the National Association of the Remodeling Industry serving on the workforce development committee. Within OPS, he has served as the chairperson for the learning community. This year he fostered a relationship with Nebraska Loves Public Schools to help promote CTE month statewide. He currently serves as the president of the Association for Career and Technology Education of Nebraska.

### **ACTEN Family and Consumer Sciences Division Teacher of the Year**



**Anne Schmall, FCS Instructor  
Scottsbluff Public Schools**

Anne Schmall has contributed to implementing high quality-CTE programs both in the Scottsbluff Public Schools (SPS) system and Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS) programs throughout the State of Nebraska. When Anne started at Bluffs Middle School ten years ago, she recognized the importance of increasing basic career exploration and career readiness skills in her students. She then revamped her 8th-grade course to support this need. Five years ago the middle school administration decided that this career course was essential for student success, and made it a required course for all 8th-grade students.

Anne has served on four standard and curriculum writing teams in Nebraska for Human Sciences & Education and Middle School FCS. The Middle School standards and curriculum team completely revised the course/standard offerings to ensure a better sequence of content and that they meet the needs of the diverse middle-level FCS programs in Nebraska.

As the adviser for the Scottsbluff High School Family Career and Community Leaders of America, Anne strives to have her students make the connection between their CTE courses, the CTSO's programs, and the world around them. In her three years as the adviser, Anne's students have competed at the district, state, and national level with their STAR projects.

Anne has served in many leadership roles including president of both ACTEN and FCSTN. In 2015, Anne presented at the CareerTech VISION conference in New Orleans. Anne's leadership involvement extends to her work with the Nebraska Department of Education as well. She was involved in the pilot of two different CTE Curriculums for Nebraska; Habitudes for Career Ready Students, and Engage! Career Exploration and Readiness.



## **ACTE Engineering and Technology Division Teacher of the Year**



### **Adam Whitmore, Skilled and Technical Sciences Instructor Columbus Public schools**

Adam Whitmore serves as the Skilled and Technical Sciences Instructor and SkillsUSA adviser at Columbus High School. Adam possesses many unique teaching qualities. Those qualities include being prepared, holding high expectations, being creative, cultivating a sense of belonging, being fair, displaying a personal touch, being compassionate, having a sense of humor, and respecting students. He is student centered and demonstrates genuineness toward his students. He is resourceful and inventive. Through his “Whitmore Challenges” the students apply problem solving skills in the context of real work applications. This has allowed students to develop a competitive edge and skill proficiency aligned with local industry needs. Mr. Whitmore keeps up-to-date with current trends in industry by attending local, state, and national CTE events. He has attended the Educator in Industry Day, the Nebraska Department of Education Fall STS In-Service, Nebraska: Think Advanced Manufacturing event, and ACTE CareerTech VISION.

A parent writes, “When asking our son who he felt inspired him to pursue his major in college, he immediately said, Mr. Whitmore. According to our son, Mr. Whitmore is the smartest guy he knows about anything computers or electronics. Our son appreciated the fact that Mr. Whitmore is serious about the subject, mentors students without trying to be their friend, and holds them to a high standard while helping them attain their goal.”

## **ACTEN Agricultural Education Division Teacher of the Year and ACTE Teacher of the Year**



### **Kristine Spath, Agricultural Education Teacher Waverly High School**

Kristine Spath is the Agricultural Education Teacher and FFA Advisor at Waverly High School. Kristine has obtained certification in the Curriculum in Agriculture Science Education (CASE) allowing her to teach five courses using the CASE curriculum. This curriculum has been nationally developed aligning with the Next Generation Science standards. Kris manages eight programs of study for her students including plant science, animal science, agribusiness and natural resources. All curriculum taught aligns with the Career and Technical Education Career Readiness Standards and students are asked regularly to reflect on their performance in areas such as problem solving, teamwork, and communication.

Her administrator says “due to Mrs. Spath’s efforts, she has had a significant impact on our students, our community and the Agricultural Education in the state of Nebraska. Every year, Kris is searching for professional development opportunities, writing grants, or networking with educators across our state, in order to expand her programs, provide more relevant experiences for students, to grow as a professional, and to do her part in improving Agricultural Education in Nebraska. Most recently, due to her grant writing, the FFA has created a learning garden at our high school, made renovations to the greenhouse, and created more access to technology in the classroom. She is a learner with a burning passion for agriculture education, and one who cares deeply for the education of students and their interests.”

### **ACTEN New Teacher of the Year**



**Carmen Hall, Family and Consumer Sciences Teacher  
Omaha Bryan High School**

Carmen Hall is in her fourth year as a Family and Consumer Sciences teacher. During those four years, she has had to build her own curriculum, serve as a FCCLA adviser, and at her current school she is chartering a new FCCLA Chapter. Carmen’s teaching philosophy includes engaging students, building relationships with students, as well as providing students with a number of opportunities to grow as individuals, to learn, and to reflect. During her four short years of teaching, she feels her proudest moment was hosting a preschool for her Child Development course. Her students worked with young children, taught them appropriate age-level lessons, hands on activities, and planned snacks for the children.

Carmen is a member of ACTEN, ACTE, Family and Consumer Science Teachers of Nebraska (FCSTN), and the Nebraska Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (NAFCS). She joined these organizations not only to gain a network of mentors, but also professional experience, leadership opportunities, and the chance to advocate for career and technical education. Carmen currently serves as the treasurer for FCSTN and is the FCS division representative for ACTEN.

### **ACTEN Member of the Year**



**DeLayne Havlovic  
Omaha Public Schools**

DeLayne Havlovic currently serves as the Curriculum Supervisor in the Omaha Public Schools for business, marketing, information technology, and health sciences. He is responsible for district wide implementation and continual development of curriculum and career pathways for these disciplines. He provides instructional coaching, curriculum support, evaluation, and professional development for 125

BMIT and Health Sciences teachers. He assists with staff development, coordination of Perkins funds, chairs many committees, supports CSO advisers, and the list goes on.

DeLayne is a member of a variety of professional organizations. In these professional organizations he has served in many leadership positions. He has been the president-elect, president, and past president of ACTEN, and currently serves as the treasurer. He has attended the national ACTE conference, CareerTech VISION, and the National Policy Seminar. DeLayne has received the ACTE Administrator of the Year Award both on the state and regional level.

DeLayne has served on a variety of committees at the national level including, but not limited to the program director for the National Business Education Association (NBEA) Convention, the chair of the Legislative and Advocacy Committee for NBEA, and he currently serves as the Mountain-Plains Business Education Association Representative to the NBEA Executive Board. DeLayne has attended and served as a presenter for numerous conventions. As a fellow board member writes, "DeLayne epitomizes quality leadership and dedicated service in his daily responsibilities within Omaha Public Schools and especially in his service to ACTEN and career education in Nebraska."

### **ACTE Region V Postsecondary Teacher of the Year**



**Kathy McCune, Business Instructor  
Mid-Plains Community College, North Platte**

Kathleen McCune is a business instructor at Mid-Plains Community College in North Platte. Kathleen works closely with others in the Business Division of MPCC to provide courses, degrees, diplomas, and certificates in Business Office Technology. She is involved in selecting, mentoring, and evaluating other faculty that teach in the career and technical fields. To encourage advanced education in career and technical fields, Kathleen conducts presentations four times a year to the North Platte High School Health Career Academy. To further support and discover emerging issues in business and economic education, Kathleen represents the Business Education Division of the Association of Career and Technical Education (ACTE/BE) on the Policies Commission for Business and Economic Education (PCBEE). Kathleen has provided articles for *NSBEA Today*, ACTEN—the *Communique*, the *FBLA Pledge*, and recently authored "Chapter 11: Business Education Curriculum and Assessment Encountered In The Post-Secondary/Community College Setting" for the 2017 *NBEA Yearbook*.

Kathleen has served as a District Representative, President and Past-President of the Nebraska Business Education Association. She was named the NSBEA Post-Secondary Teacher of the Year 2013. She is a member of the National Business Education Association and the Mountain-Plains Business Education Association and was named MPBEA Post-Secondary Teacher of the Year 2014. She is a professional member of Phi Beta Lambda,

the past Vice-President of the ARBE-DPE, and is currently a reviewer for the Journal of Research in Business Education.

Kathleen's involvement in the classroom and, professionally, outside the classroom prepares high-quality CTE programs. As a career and technical educator, Kathleen's greatest joy is to see former students move from college into careers. To witness students begin a CTE program with few skills and little self-confidence become talented, confident employees is a wonderful, gratifying teaching experience. Students that become successful and skilled employees make us all better.

June 21, 2018

### **Spotlight School: York High School AG Program**

Congratulations to the York High School Agriculture Education Program for being named the NAEA Outstanding Ag Program during the NCE Conference held in Kearney.

Classroom offerings:

- Average 160+ students in Ag classes per semester
- Introduction to Ag, Food & Natural Resources taught to eighth grade students
- 7 Career Academy - SECC dual credit courses
- 7 NCTA dual credit courses
- Agronomy Academy
- Greenhouse & 12 raised gardens
- Animal Science Lab--features hands-on experiences with a variety of animals

SAE Highlights:

- Students use AET for tracking ASE and FFA
- Over 125 students with active SAE projects
- 25 student SAE programs through the Green House and Live Animal Lab

FFA Highlights:

- 141 state degrees
- 78 American degrees
- 151 high school members
- 78 middle school members
- Over 1500 units of blood collected for Nebraska Community Blood Bank
- Over 8500 fire alarm batteries changed in homes for elderly and handicapped

June 28, 2018

## **Spotlight School—Sutton High School CTE Department**

### **Congratulations to the CTE department at Sutton High School NCE Outstanding High School Program**

The Career and Technical Education team at Sutton Junior/Senior High School has developed and implemented a career program that aims to meet the needs of every student that walks their halls. The CTE team is comprised of the Secondary Principal, School counselor and CTE teachers in the areas of Agriculture, Business, Family and Consumer Science, and Skilled and Technical Sciences. The team has worked tirelessly to build a top-notch college and career program that provides its students with opportunities within the walls of the school as well as within the community of Sutton.

Students at Sutton Junior/Senior High School are gaining real world work experiences in career fields of their interests. In their Career Pathways Program, they are partnering with the local business community and offering students job interview, job shadows, and internship experiences through courses such as Career Prep, Introduction to Internship, and Internship.

The objectives of this program are to provide students with an opportunity to gain experience by job shadowing in career fields they are interested in to help them hone in on their future career path, as well as to build relationships with business owners. They focus on leadership principles identified by the CTE Team to help set Sutton students apart from their peers and future workforce competition. At this time, they have over 60 businesses in the Sutton business community who have either opened their doors to their students or are eagerly awaiting an opportunity to host a job shadow or internship student experience.

The experiences Sutton students are gaining today as a result of these partnerships are valuable and immeasurable for their futures. The Sutton staff are proud to serve their students with their community businesses to provide hands-on, real world educational opportunities for our students.

Aligned with the Nebraska Career Education model, standards, and programs of study, Sutton currently is offering 18 programs of study to its students. Students at Sutton are gaining immeasurable hands on work opportunities as a result of the strong partnership built within the business community and school.

Students job shadow for up to 20 hours in the first semester of their senior year, building relationships with business owners and identifying their career interests. In their second semester, students are participating in internships that are 6-7 weeks in length and allow the students to be at their business daily for up to 3 hours. Students are treated as employees and are able to participate as part of that business team. Students are excited by these opportunities and these hands-on experiences.

The Sutton CTE team consists of the following ACTEN members: Jesse Bower, Agriculture Education, and Nancy Schlautman, Family and Consumer Sciences.

## **Nebraska Featured in ACTE CareerTech Update**

### **Neb. manufacturing firms partner with schools**

Two companies in Nebraska will receive grants to help them create programs to expose middle-school students to careers in manufacturing as part of the state's Developing Youth Talent Initiative program. One company that manufactures center pivot irrigation systems plans to expand its partnership to include the younger students.

July 29, 2018

### **Perkins Reauthorization Bill Heads to President's Desk**

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Earlier today (Wednesday, July 25), the House of Representatives passed legislation to reauthorize the Perkins Act. Following a [successful vote](#) on the measure in the Senate on Monday, the bill will now head to the president's desk where he has indicated, both on [Twitter](#) and through a [statement](#), that he will sign it into law.

Upon House passage, ACTE and Advance CTE issued a [joint statement](#). Senate passage of the bill came after a recent flurry of activity, following a long impasse in the Senate largely focused on the issue of secretarial authority. Earlier this week ACTE [reported](#) on the Senate action and linked to a [letter](#) ACTE and Advance CTE sent to congressional leaders regarding some outstanding concerns with the bill. The House had previously been more active on Perkins reauthorization, holding numerous hearings and approving legislation in [2016](#) and [2017](#).

ACTE hopes to continue working with the House and Senate to clarify certain aspects of the legislation to ensure there are no unintended consequences for states and locals. The bill will take effect on July 1 of next year, and will commence with a transition year.

As ACTE continues to monitor this process, clarification language from the House and Senate and the soon-to-be-law's implementation, check back on the [CTE Policy Watch Blog](#) for updates.

August 6, 2018

## **Welcome to a New School Year**

Attending your professional conferences are such a great way to network, learn, reconnect, and regenerate for the school year. I strongly encourage you to attend at least one conference this year whether it be for your discipline area, state, regional, or even national organization. The benefits are well worth your time.

I attended the ACTE Region V Conference in Colorado Springs this past April. Two things I learned at the conference really stuck with me. One works well for all teachers. If you have a bulletin board and hate to change it every month like I did when I was teaching, then this one is for you. A teacher shared that she used a 'Brag Board' for her students. You could

also name it a 'What's New?', 'What's Happening?', etc board. On the board, she had students post pictures, or writings of what good or positive thing is happening in their life. It could be a picture of a family vacation, a new baby or puppy in the family, making the sports team, getting an A in biology, getting a driver's license--whatever. I thought it was a great way for students and the teacher to get to know each other. They can add to the board any time of the year they want.

The second idea is really more for those who teach personal finance related subjects (but good for all). During the conference, we toured a credit union. The name of the credit union is Ent Credit Union. I suggest you check out their website. The resources are free to anyone. Once in the [ent.com](http://ent.com) site, select Financial Wellness. The site has a link to Calculators. There are 8 different areas for calculators. Under the Education Center, there is information about saving and spending, investing and insurance, identification protection, money management, using credit, etc. If that isn't enough, there are teacher resources. You can tell I was really impressed. Well worth your time to check it out!

Thank you all for being a member of ACTE/ACTEN. I know sometimes it is hard to see what you are getting for your money; however, there definitely are benefits. Take time to look at the [acteonline.org](http://acteonline.org) website. They provide a plethora of resources. Please let me know if there are suggestions you have for providing you support throughout the year.

*August 11, 2018*

### **Spotlight School: Columbus High School**

Belen Manufacturing and Columbus High School have partnered together to create a registered youth apprenticeship program.

The partnership was made official during a signing ceremony at Behlen on August 7. Members of the Columbus Chamber of Commerce, the Nebraska Department of Labor, Columbus High School, and Central Community College were in attendance at the event.

Also in attendance were the first two individuals who will participate in the apprenticeship program, Erik Matson and Reese Schmidt of Columbus. Both expressed gratitude towards Behlen for the opportunities that the apprenticeship will provide to grow in their careers.

According to the U.S. Department of Labor, apprenticeships have dramatically impacted the lives, careers, and opportunities for millions of workers, and more than 150,000 businesses over the last 80 years. Companies that offer apprenticeship programs can diversify their workforce, improve productivity and profitability, standardize training, and reduce turnover.

Check out this link to hear more about this partnership.

<http://columbusnewsteam.com/local-news/behlen-columbus-high-school-begin-youth-apprenticeship-program/>

August 16, 2018

## **Leadership Opportunities from ACTE**

### **ACTE LEAD (Leadership, Exploration and Evaluation)**

New professionals with two- to five-years of CTE experience are invited to apply for this intensive and focused leadership development. Over the course of two, full-day pre-conference workshops, participants will receive rigorous leadership training and find ways to use their skills within ACTE. Participants will receive a \$250 stipend per session. Applications are due **Oct 1**. [READ MORE](#)

### **Fellowship Program Accepting Applications**

The ACTE National Leadership Fellowship Program is accepting applications for the 2019 class of Fellows. Please consider taking part in this opportunity for professional development, increased policy knowledge and leadership development. The Fellowship Program requires a one-year commitment from January–December 2019. Applications are due **Sept. 15**. [READ MORE](#)

August 20, 2018

## **Teach CTE Students Life Skills**

This discussion was shared on LinkedIn. I thought you all might find it of value.

### **Sandy Brossard**

Chief of Teaching and Learning at Richland School District One

### ***Teach CTE Students Life Skills***

As educators, we teach far more than reading, writing, math and other relevant content/subject areas to students. Every day we find ourselves in the position of teaching or reinforcing life skills essential for college and/or career readiness. The presence or absence of these skills--such as communication, decision making, and goal setting--can make or break one's chances for success, despite one's intellectual abilities.

If you have not yet found high quality life skills curricula to support instruction in life skills education, you will want to take a look at [Overcoming Obstacles Life Skills Curricula](http://www.overcomingobstacles.org) at [www.overcomingobstacles.org](http://www.overcomingobstacles.org). The materials are completely free to educators and are currently used in various schools in all 50 states and more than 100 countries. Follow [Overcoming Obstacles](#) on Twitter @OOLifeskills and on Facebook at [Overcoming Obstacles](#).



August 20, 2018

### **Five Ways to Increase Enrollment in CTE Classes**

I know your enrollment has already been determined for this semester. However, as you prepare for recruitment for next semester or next year, the following article provides 5 tips on increasing the enrollment in your classes.

<https://amatrol.com/increasing-student-enrollment-cte/>

### **Cullinan Launches AG Program at North Platte High School**

#### **District to launch agriculture education program**

A Nebraska school district is preparing to start an agriculture education program. Kathleen Cullinan, who has helped to build the program, says instruction in agriculture education courses will be based on real-world situations.

September 14, 2018

### **Check out this article in the Lincoln Journal Star**

#### **Student's summer job involves welding**

A female student at a Nebraska high school is working this summer at Exeter's Horizontal Boring & Tunneling, a local company where she is doing welding work. The student, Summer Carlson, says her interest in welding was piqued early on, and she enrolled in her school's full-year welding program, where she was one of the only female students.

[Lincoln Journal Star \(Neb.\) \(tiered subscription model\)](#) (7/30)

### **Article in CareerTech Update about Crafting a STEM Lesson**

#### **Teacher: How to craft a STEM lesson**

There is no single "right" science, technology, engineering and math lesson, but an ideal lesson incorporates components to solving a real-world problem and getting hands on, educator and author Anne Jolly writes in this blog post. She describes the 11 components of a good STEM lesson and offers links to resources and sample lessons.

[MiddleWeb](#) (8/14)

September 18, 2018

### **Perkins V Guide and Techniques Blog**

#### **Pre-order your guide to Perkins V**

"Perkins V: The Official Guide to the Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act," prepared for CTE practitioners and stakeholders seeking to better understand the law, will provide comprehensive information and guidance to aid in

implementation. Published by ACTE, this book will be available to ship the week of Oct. 15. [Reserve your copy.](#)

### **New -- Techniques blog launch**

PAGES, a Techniques blog, is live. The new, semimonthly blog will feature excerpts from articles in print and wholly original content based on the theme of each new issue.

Contributors will write about topics trending in CTE and highlight stories of educators and programs doing the work to ensure our students graduate college- and career-ready. [Read more.](#)

### **20% Time in the CTE Classroom**

"20% Time in the CTE Classroom" by Sean Crevier is one of the outstanding articles you will find in the September issue of your *Techniques* magazine published by ACTE. The author attended the 'wrong' session at a conference, but instead of leaving, he stayed. The presenters at the conference challenged teachers to use the practice of 20% time in the classroom. According to the article, the concept was introduced by Google for their employees. Each week the employees can devote 20% of their time to whatever they want.

I want go any further and just let you read the article and try it in your classroom to motivate and engage your students.

If you have not yet registered for CareerTech Vision, the advance rate ends today.

### **Deadline is Today for Advance Rate for CareerTech Vision**

If you have not yet registered for CareerTech Vision, the advance rate ends today.

ACTE's CareerTech VISION, happening Nov. 28–Dec. 1 in San Antonio, Texas, will feature compelling keynote speakers Jenna Hager and Patrice Banks, an information-packed agenda with 300+ concurrent sessions, a CareerTech Expo featuring live demonstrations and exhibitor workshops, and the STEM is CTE Symposium. Join us for prime networking and professional development in a city celebrating its 300th year anniversary!