Kalamazoo Public Schools

EXCELSIOR

MARCH 2022 | www.kalamazoopublicschools.com | VOLUME 25, ISSUE 3

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IMPORTANT DATES

Board of Education Meetings

Thursday, March 17, 2022
7 p.m.
Administration Building
1220 Howard St.
Visit kalamazoopublicschools.com/boardmeetings for more information

UPCOMING DATES

PEEP/Kindergarten Orientation
March 9

Grades 9–12 / Half Day
March 9 & 10

Grades PreK–12 / No School
March 11

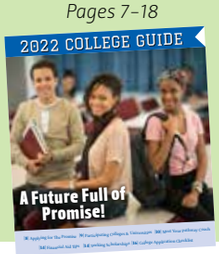
Grades K–5 / Half Day
March 24

Grades PreK–12 / No School
March 25

Spring Break
March 28–April 1

School Reopens
April 4

College Guide 2022
Check out Michigan colleges, tips for taking for the next step, Promise procedures
Pages 7–18



Join KPS for Kindergarten and PEEP Orientation on March 9

Students can begin their journey to becoming Kalamazoo Public Schools scholars with kindergarten and PEEP orientation on March 9.

Each of the district's 17 elementary schools will offer a virtual orientation at 9:30 a.m. and an in-person option at 5:30 p.m. Because of COVID, all in-person guests must wear masks and the event will be limited to adults.

Enrollment is simple and can begin online. Families that need to check their school attendance area can use the district's interactive map and street directory on the district website at https://www.kalamazoopublicschools.com/domain/1075. Simply type in your address, and the service will list all schools associated with that site.

Once families know their school of attendance, they will be able to begin the enrollment process using the kindergarten enrollment portal at www.kalamazoopublicschools.com/kindergarten. That page is also where families can find links to the schools' virtual orientations. Those also can be found on the

(continued on page 3)



Loki Dudley, left, and Luciano Romero work on coloring a worksheet in Mayra Moreno's kindergarten classroom at Northeastern Elementary School.

Kindergarten Preparation Takes Fun, Fearlessness

Is your child ready for kindergarten?

The skills they need are sometimes obvious — sometimes not — but obviously adorable.

For instance, children need to know and be able to say their first name clearly. That may seem obvious, but not necessarily for the child who uses a nickname at home.

"One year, I had a student who was convinced that his name was Pancake," said Renay Williams-Whitson, a kindergarten teacher at Parkwood-Upjohn Elementary School.

We asked three Kalamazoo Public Schools' kindergarten teachers for their suggestions on skills that families can work on to ensure their children have a smooth transition to kindergarten.

Williams-Whitson's other suggestions include:

- Listening to and following

(continued on page 19)



Traeh Barnes and Ti'Mya Johnson work on math with their kindergarten teacher Miranda Rooy at Woods Lake Elementary.

Kalamazoo Public Schools Is Hiring

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kpsjobs.com

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School Buildings Require Same Care and Attention as a Home

You know the feeling. You're looking at your house thinking, "I probably need to get the roof replaced next year," or "Maybe I should look into getting the driveway repaved," or "I wonder if we should upgrade the security system?"

It's the same thing when you're responsible for a school district. You're not the owner of the buildings, but you are charged with being a good steward of the district's assets and making sure they are well cared for and in good working order to ensure that students have a safe and comfortable environment in which to learn, work, and play.

The only difference in the care is the scale.

The district does not have to worry about one roof, but the roofs on 24 schools. That's almost 40 acres of roofs, which is similar to the roofs of about 1,000 homes.



Dr. Rita Raichoudhuri, Superintendent, Kalamazoo Public Schools

The district has to monitor the conditions of 32 acres of asphalt — the area of your driveway and the driveways of about 2,000 of your friends. That's a lot of cracks and potholes to keep an eye on, to patch, and to replace.

The district's facilities team works hard to maintain our buildings. It's a challenging job when our buildings are 60 years old on average. Four of them — Parkwood-Upjohn, Woodward, Lincoln and El Sol are, or almost are, 100 years old. Our facilities department monitors the needs of our buildings — and by extension — our students, using a comprehensive maintenance schedule to ensure the district can responsibly care for our resources.

Likewise, the transportation department does an admirable job maintaining our bus fleet to safely transport our students. In fact, the KPS Transportation Department earned a certificate of excellence for achieving a 100 percent pass rate for school bus inspections last year.

But, buses have a limited lifespan of about 12 years. Our drivers log approximately 1.6 million miles on the road with our fleet of 125 buses as they take children to and from school and activities. That's about 13,000 miles a year per bus. And, just as your car starts to show wear and tear after years of travel, so do our buses.

We know that it takes diligence and commitment to ensure that our houses remain in good repair. Ignoring the little leak in the roof, or the faulty HVAC system, or the cracks in the driveway will only lead to bigger problems in the future. And, no matter how consistent we are with the oil changes and brake jobs — the family car is going to have to be replaced at some point.

And, should we talk about the family computer — the one that's too old for the latest software update? Or the laptop that accidentally got knocked off the table? KPS has 924 laptops, more than 22,000 Chromebooks, and 3,664 desktop computers that need to be replaced on a regular basis to ensure students have access to the latest hardware and software to remain competitive learners.

On May 3, Kalamazoo Public Schools community members will be asked to vote on a $197.1 million bond to fund capital improvements for the district's 24 schools. If approved by voters, the bond is not expected to increase the property tax rate for homeowners in Kalamazoo. Because of increased property values and the retirement of other bonds, the millage rate is expected to be maintained at 8.2 mills.

Among the many projects that will be covered by this bond will be a new El Sol Elementary School, improving HVAC systems, purchasing instructional technology, adding secure entrances at schools, replacing aging roofs, paving projects, and replacing aging portable classrooms with permanent classroom additions.

Please remember to vote by absentee ballot beginning in March or at the polls on May 3.

If you have questions or would like more information about the bond proposal, please call (269) 337-1572 or email bond@kalamazoopublicschools.net.



Join KPS for Kindergarten and PEEP Orientation on March 9 *(continued from page 1)*

schools' websites.

Incoming students, who will be 5 by Sept. 1, can enroll in kindergarten. Parents also may request kindergarten enrollment waivers for children who will be 5 years old no later than Dec. 1.

Parents will need to gather the incoming child's birth certificate, immunization record, proof of hearing and vision screening, if available, and two proofs of residency (for example, a utility bill, lease agreement, or mortgage agreement). While the enrollment process can begin online, families need to visit their assigned school to complete the process by bringing the documents in for review.

Enrolling in KPS kindergarten is the first step in becoming a Kalamazoo Promise scholar. Students who enroll in KPS as kindergarteners, attend all 12 years of school in KPS, and graduate from KPS, while meeting all residency and enrollment requirements, are eligible for a Kalamazoo Promise scholarship that covers up to 100 percent of tuition and fees at most Michigan colleges and universities. This anonymous gift has awarded more than $165 million in scholarships to almost 9,000 KPS graduates.

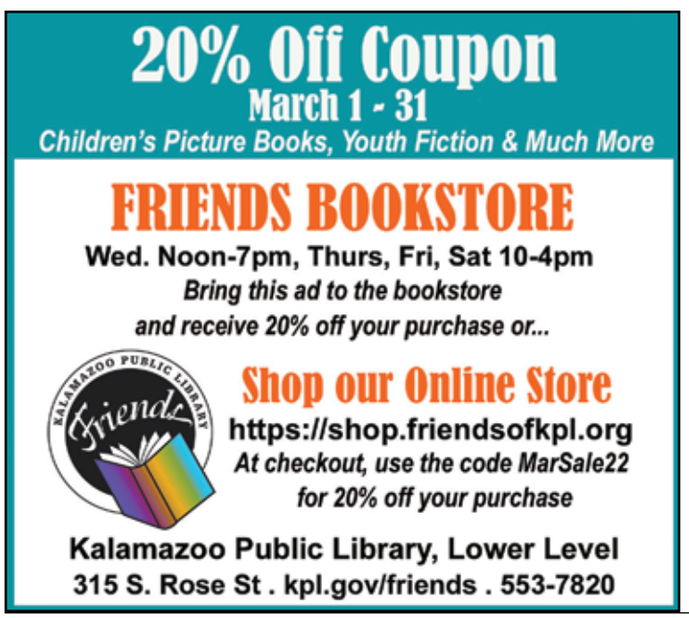
Pre-kindergarten students who will be 4 by Dec. 1, can sign up for PEEP, the KPS Pre-Kindergarten Early Education Program. Families must meet state financial eligibility requirements to qualify for PEEP. Applications for PEEP are taken at all schools. The program operates in: Arcadia, Edison, Greenwood, Lincoln, Northeastern, Parkwood-Upjohn, Prairie Ridge, Spring Valley, Washington, Winchell, and Woodward.

PEEP is part of the state's Great Start Readiness initiative. The program offers half-day or full-day pre-kindergarten classes with highly trained teachers and two support paraprofessionals per classroom. Meals are provided, and transportation is provided for students who live more than a mile from the school in their attendance district or for students who attend magnet schools that are outside their attendance district.

Children who need immunizations to complete the application process can visit the Kalamazoo County Health and Community Services Immunization Clinic, 311 E. Alcott St. During the COVID-19 pandemic, immunizations are by appointment only. The immunization clinic is open 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. For more information and to schedule appointments, call KCHCS at (269) 373-5203.

For more information on kindergarten or other enrollment for grades 1-12, call Student Services at (269) 337-0161. For information on PEEP, call (269) 337-0095.







Únase a KPS para la orientación de Kínder y PEEP el 9 de marzo

Los estudiantes pueden comenzar su viaje para convertirse en alumnos de las Escuelas Públicas de Kalamazoo con la orientación de kínder y PEEP el 9 de marzo.

Cada una de las 17 escuelas primarias del distrito ofrecerá una orientación virtual a las 9 a.m. y una orientación en persona a las 5 p.m. Debido a COVID, todos los invitados en persona deben usar cubrebocas y el evento se limitará solo a adultos.

La inscripción es simple y puede comenzar en línea en www.kalamazoopublicschools.com/kindergarten. Esa página también es donde las familias pueden encontrar los enlaces a las orientaciones virtuales de las escuelas. Estos también se pueden encontrar en el sitio web de las escuelas.

Las familias que necesitan ayuda con el proceso de inscripción y servicios de traducción pueden comunicarse con servicios de ESL y Bilingües de KPS al (269) 337-1579 o abdelazizwi@kalamazoopublicschools.net.

Alumnos entrantes de kínder, son los estudiantes que cumplirán 5 años para el 1 de septiembre. Los padres también pueden solicitar exenciones de inscripción para kínder para los niños que tendrán 5 años a más tardar el 1 de diciembre.

Los padres deberán reunir el certificado de nacimiento del estudiante, el registro de vacunación, la evaluación de audición y visión, si está disponible, y dos comprobantes de residencia (por ejemplo, una factura de servicios públicos, un contrato de renta o un acuerdo de hipoteca). Si bien el proceso de inscripción comienza en línea, las familias deben visitar su escuela asignada para completar el proceso trayendo los documentos a sus escuelas.

Los estudiantes de prekínder que tendrán 4 años para el 1 de diciembre, pueden inscribirse en PEEP, Programa de Educación Temprana de Prekínder de KPS. Las familias deben cumplir con los requisitos estatales de elegibilidad financiera para calificar para PEEP. Los padres deben tener en cuenta que las solicitudes de PEEP se toman en todas las escuelas, pero el programa está disponible en solo 12 escuelas: Arcadia, Edison, Greenwood, Indian Prairie, Lincoln, Northeastern, ParkwoodUpjohn, Prairie Ridge, Spring Valley, Washington, Winchell y Woodward.

PEEP de KPS es parte de la iniciativa estatal Great Start Readiness. El programa ofrece clases de prekínder de medio día o de día completo. Se proporcionan comidas y se proporciona transporte para los estudiantes que viven a más de una milla de la escuela en su distrito de asistencia o para los estudiantes que asisten a escuelas especializadas(magnet) que están fuera de su distrito de asistencia.

Para obtener más información sobre Kínder u otra inscripción para los grados 1-12, llame a Servicios Estudiantiles al (269) 337-0161. Para obtener información sobre PEEP, llame al (269) 337-0095.

انضم الى مدارس كالامازو العامة في جلسة توجيهية لصفوف الروضة والPEEP في 9 مارس

سيتمكن الطلاب من البدء بمسيرتهم ليكونوا رواد مدارس كالامازو العامة مع الجلسة التوجيهية لصفوف الروضة وPEEP في 9 مارس.

ستوفر جميع مدارس المدينة الابتدائية ال17 جلسة توجيهية افتراضية في الساعة 9 صباحاً وجلسة حضور شخصي في الساعة 5 مساءً. بسبب وجود فايروس كورونا سيتوجب على جميع الحاضرين في الجلسة الشخصية ارتداء الكمامة وسيقتصر الحدث على تواجد البالغين فقط.

عملية التسجيل سهلة ويمكن البدء فيها عن طريق الإنترنت بالدخول على الموقع الإلكتروني www.kalamazoopublicschools.com/kindergarten. في هذه الصفحة سيتمكن الأهالي من إيجاد روابط الكترونية للجلسة التوجيهية الافتراضية المنعقدة للمدرسة. يمكن إيجاد هؤلاء الروابط كذلك عبر مواقع المدارس الإلكترونية.

يمكن للأهالي التي تحتاج لمساعدة في عملية التسجيل وخدمات الترجمة التواصل مع قسم خدمات ثنائية اللغة وتعليم اللغة الإنجليزية لغير الناطقين بها التابعة لمدارس كالامازو العامة على الرقم (269) 337-1579 أو عبر البريد الالكتروني abdelazizwi@kalamazoopublicschools.net.

يستطيع طلاب صفوف الروضة القادمون حديثاً الذين سيبلغون سن الخامسة بحلول شهر سبتمبر الالتحاق بالروضة. يستطيع الأهالي أيضاً إعفاءات من التسجيل في الروضة للأفال الذين سيبلغون الخامسة في موعد أقصاه 1 ديسمبر.

سيُطلب من الأهالي جمع شهادة ميلاد الطفل وشهادة المطاعيم اثبات اختبار السمع والنظر إن وجد وإثباتي سكن (مثلاً فاتورة خدمة (كهرباء، غاز، ماء) عقد إيجار، أو عقد رهن عقاري). في حين أن عملية التسجيل ستبدأ عبر الإنترنت الا أن الأهالي سيحتاجون الى زيارة المدرسة التي تم اختيارها لهم لإكمال العملية عن طريق احضار ما تبقى من أوراق الى المدرسة.

يستطيع طلاب ما قبل الروضة الذين سيبلغون من العمر 4 سنوات بحلول 1 ديسمبر التسجيل في PEEP وهو برنامج التعليم المبكر لطلاب ما قبل الروضة في مدارس كالامازو العامة. يجب أن تستوفي العائلات متطلبات الأهلية المالية لولاية متشغن للتأهل لبرنامج PEEP. يجب أن يعلم الأهل أن استمارة التقديم لPEEP موجودة في جميع المدارس ولكن البرنامج غير جاري الا في 12 مدرسة: Arcadia, Edison, Greenwood, Indian Prairie, Lincoln, Northeastern, Parkwood Upjohn, Prairie Ridge, Spring Valley, Washington, Winchell, and Woodward.

يُعد برنامج PEEP التابع لمدارس كالامازو العامة جزء من مبادرة الولاية "الاستعداد لبداية رائعة" Great Start Readiness. يوفر هذا البرنامج حصص صفية ما قبل الروضة بدوام نصف يوم أو يوم كامل. ستوفر وجبات غذائية والمواصلات للطلاب الذين يعيشون على بعد أكثر من ميل واحد عن المدرسة المتواجدة ضمن منطقتهم المسموح لهم بارتيادها أو للطلاب الذين يرتادون مدارس مغناطيسية خارج منطقتهم المسموح لهم بارتيادها.

للمزيد من المعلومات حول الروضة أو أي تساؤلات حول عملية التسجيل للصفوف من 1-12 الرجاء الاتصال على مركز خدمات الطلاب (269) 337-0161. وللمزيد من المعلومات حول برنامج PEEP الاتصال على (269) 337-0095.


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NOTICE

Kalamazoo Public Schools welcomes all students and staff of any religion, race, color, national origin, age, sex, pregnancy, gender identification, height, weight, familial status, marital status, sexual orientation, and disability.

The District will not tolerate or condone any act of bias or discrimination toward any person on the basis of religion, race, color, national origin, age, sex, pregnancy, gender identification, height, weight, familial status, marital status, sexual orientation, and disability in any of its activities, hiring practices, programs or services.

Inquiries by students and/or their parents/guardians should be directed to:

Assistant Superintendent for Instruction and Student Services
Kalamazoo Public Schools
1220 Howard St.
Kalamazoo, MI 49008
(269) 337-0161

All other inquiries should be directed to:

Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources
Kalamazoo Public Schools
1220 Howard St.
Kalamazoo, MI 49008
(269) 337-0177

District Directory at :
www.kalamazoopublicschools.com

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Artists' Corner

Milwood Elementary School art teacher Abbey Ruffer's students have been finding inspiration in nature. Her fifth graders learned about the Sonoran Desert and read the book "Desert Giant: The World of the Saguaro Cactus" by Barbara Bash and studied the landscape, and plants and animals that inhabit the desert. Students created art inspired by images of the Sonoran and the book.

Her third graders read "Beautiful Blackbird" by Ashley Bryan. Students experimented with oil pastels to create the base of their prints. Next, they learned how to draw a bird inspired by the illustrations in the book and transferred that on to their foam printing plate. Lastly, they printed their designs on to their oil pastel backgrounds.


LaDarius Jones, fifth grade, marker


Cariel McKinney, fifth grade, marker


Victory Peery, third grade, ink print on oil pastels



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Meet the Author:
Thi Bui

Event Moved Online!
Tuesday, March 22, 2022
7 pm | KPL Live
Please visit: **readingtogether.us**



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2022 COLLEGE GUIDE



A Future Full of Promise!

|8| Applying for The Promise |9| Participating Colleges & Universities |10| Meet Your Pathway Coach

|12| Financial Aid Tips |14| Seeking Scholarships |16| College Application Checklist

Access and Utilize Your Kalamazoo Promise

So, you've narrowed it down to the colleges and programs you are interested in, you have considered taking or have taken the SAT or ACT, and you have researched or visited campuses that fit your needs and wants. Time to take the next steps to utilize The Kalamazoo Promise.

The Kalamazoo Promise is a scholarship that covers tuition and mandatory fees at all Michigan public universities and colleges, community colleges, Michigan College Alliance (MCA) private colleges and some institutions that provide industry-recognized certificates for graduates of Kalamazoo Public Schools. (See "Oh, the Places You Can Go!" on page 9 for participating institutions or visit www.KalamazooPromise.com).

The Kalamazoo Promise provides in-state tuition and mandatory fees for up to a bachelor's degree or 145 college credits, whichever is reached first. Additionally, the scholarship can be used for all technical or vocational programs offered through approved institutions. This includes an ability to build up degrees, credentials, and certificates, also referred to as "stackable credentials." You have 10 years to utilize The Promise from your high school graduation date.

How much of The Promise am I eligible for?

The Kalamazoo Promise covers tuition and mandatory fees based on how many continuous years you attended and lived in the KPS district:

Grades you attended & lived in KPS	How much benefit you'll get
K-12	100%
1-12	95%
2-12	95%
3-12	95%
4-12	90%
5-12	85%
6-12	80%
7-12	75%
8-12	70%
9-12	65%
10-11-12	None

Apply for and activate your Kalamazoo Promise in 3 easy steps:

The Promise has made it accessible for KPS seniors to apply for and get the tuition and mandatory fee funds credited to their college accounts.

1. Apply for The Promise in the fall of your senior year

Students apply for The Kalamazoo Promise at the beginning of their senior year. The Kalamazoo Promise has Pathway Coaches at each high school who work in collaboration with guidance office staff to help students navigate the scholarship process.

2. Register for your Kalamazoo Promise account through the online portal:

https://portal.KalamazooPromise.com/signup

You will simply need your KPS ID number and to provide a personal email address (please do not use your Kalamazoo Public Schools email because it will end after you graduate). If you do not have another email account, you can create one for free with many services including Google, Yahoo, Microsoft Outlook and others.

You will complete your Kalamazoo Promise application through the online portal and this form is used to determine and confirm your percentage of eligibility.

3. Complete the Kalamazoo Scholarship acceptance form and start survey

The second online form needed is The Kalamazoo Scholarship acceptance form, which lets The Promise know which college you will be attending so the scholarship can be applied to your account at that school. Students submit this form once they have been accepted to the college or university that they wish to attend and must include the student identification number assigned to them by the college. (When you are accepted, colleges will assign you a student ID number for that specific campus; this is the College Student Identification Number that should be placed on this form.)

You will have to complete this form only once, unless you attend summer school at a different institution or if you decide to transfer to another college or university that meets The Promise criteria.

For more information, scan this QR code to go to www.kalamazoopromise.com. ■

Oh, the Places You Can Go!

Colleges & universities that participate in The Promise

There are more than 60 colleges and universities across Michigan that you can attend as a Kalamazoo Promise Scholar. From the very large to the very small, private and public, community college, technical and vocational, your educational options are expansive and exciting.

These are the participating colleges and universities, the city they are located in, and their websites:

Adrian College (MCA), Adrian, www.adrian.edu **(see ad page 11)**

Albion College (MCA), Albion, www.albion.edu

Alma College (MCA), Alma, www.alma.edu

Alpena Community College, Alpena, www.alpenacc.edu

Andrews University (MCA), Berrien Springs, www.andrews.edu

Aquinas College (MCA), Grand Rapids, www.aquinas.edu **(see ad page 17)**

Bay College, Escanaba, www.baycollege.edu

Bay Mills Community College, Brimley, www.bmcc.edu

Calvin College (MCA), Grand Rapids, www.calvin.edu **(see ad page 14)**

Central Michigan University, Mount Pleasant, www.go.cmich.edu

Delta College, University Center, www.delta.edu

Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti, www.emich.edu **(see ad page 15)**

Ferris State University, Big Rapids, www.ferris.edu **(see ad page 17)**

Glen Oaks Community College, Centreville, www.glenoaks.edu

Gogebic Community College, Ironwood, www.gogebic.edu

Grand Rapids Community College, Grand Rapids, www.grcc.edu

Grand Valley State University, Allendale, www.gvsu.edu **(see ad page 12)**

Great Lakes Maritime Academy, Traverse City, www.nmc.edu/maritime

Henry Ford College, Dearborn, www.hfcc.edu

Hillsdale College (MCA), Hillsdale, www.hillsdale.edu

Hope College (MCA), Holland, www.hope.edu

Jackson College, Jackson, www.jccmi.edu

Kalamazoo College (MCA), Kalamazoo, www.kzoo.edu **(see ad page 11)**

Kalamazoo Electrical JATC (Apprenticeship), Kalamazoo, www.kalamazoojatc.com

Kalamazoo Valley Community College, Kalamazoo, www.kvcc.edu **(see ad page 13)**

Kellogg Community College, Battle Creek, www.kellogg.edu **(see ad page 16)**

Kendall College of Art & Design of Ferris State University, Grand Rapids, www.kcad.edu **(see ad page 10)**

Kirtland Community College, Roscommon, www.kirtland.edu

Lake Michigan College, Benton Harbor, www.lakemichigancollege.edu

Lake Superior State University, Sault Ste. Marie, www.lssu.edu

Lansing Community College, Lansing, www.lcc.edu

Macomb Community College, Warren, www.macomb.edu

Madonna University (MCA), Livonia, www.madonna.edu

What is an MCA School?

The colleges and universities listed with (MCA) next to their names are part of a partnership between The Kalamazoo Promise and the Michigan Colleges Alliance, an alliance of 14 private liberal-arts colleges in Michigan.

Through this partnership, Kalamazoo Promise scholars can attend these liberal arts colleges and enjoy the same tuition and fee benefit they would at Michigan public universities and community colleges. The MCA institutions have agreed to fund the difference in costs between their institutions' tuitions and attending a public university for Kalamazoo Promise scholars.

Michigan Career and Technical Institute, Plainwell, www.michigan.gov/mdhhs

Michigan State University, East Lansing, www.msu.edu

Michigan Technological University, Houghton, www.mtu.edu

Mid Michigan Community College, Harrison, www.midmich.edu

Monroe County Community College, Monroe, www.monroeccc.edu

Montcalm Community College, Sidney, www.montcalm.edu

Mott Community College, Flint, www.mcc.edu

Muskegon Community College, Muskegon, www.muskegoncc.edu

North Central Michigan College, Petoskey, www.ncmich.edu

Northern Michigan University, Marquette, www.nmu.edu

Northwestern Michigan College, Traverse City, www.nmc.edu

Oakland Community College, Bloomfield Hills, www.oaklandcc.edu

Oakland University, Rochester Hills, www.oakland.edu

Olivet College (MCA), Olivet, www.olivetcollege.edu **(see ad page 15)**

Saginaw Valley State University, University Center, www.svsu.edu

Schoolcraft College, Livonia, www.schoolcraft.edu

Siena Heights University (MCA), Adrian, www.sienaheights.edu

Southwestern Michigan College, Dowagiac, www.swmich.edu

Spring Arbor University (MCA), Spring Arbor, www.arbor.edu

St. Clair County Community College, Port Huron, www.sc4.edu

University of Detroit Mercy (MCA), Detroit, www.udmercy.edu

University of Michigan Dearborn, Dearborn, www.umdearborn.edu

University of Michigan Flint, Flint, www.flint.umich.edu

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, www.umich.edu

Washtenaw Community College, Ann Arbor, www.wccnet.edu

Wayne County Community College, Detroit, www.wcccd.edu

Wayne State University, Detroit, www.wayne.edu

West Shore Community College, Scottsville, www.westshore.edu

Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, www.wmich.edu **(see ads pages 12 & 18)** ■

Meet your Pathway Coach

Kalamazoo Promise Pathway Coaches are currently virtually available to all students at each high school and work in collaboration with the guidance office staff to help students navigate The Kalamazoo Promise scholarship application process. The coaches are Promise alums who have first-hand experience in using The Promise. They have weekly virtual office hours and can assist seniors and their parents/guardians in completing Promise-related forms, filing appeals, providing resources to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and applying for other scholarships. Additionally, the coaches are versed in career pathways and can provide options and resources on how to use The Promise. Students can set up appointments with their Pathway Coach by email.

The Pathway Coaches assigned to each high school and their email addresses are:



Loy Norrix:
Max Offerman
mofferman@kalamazoopromise.com



Phoenix, KILP, & KFLEx
Melissa Nesbitt
mnesbitt@kalamazoopromise.com



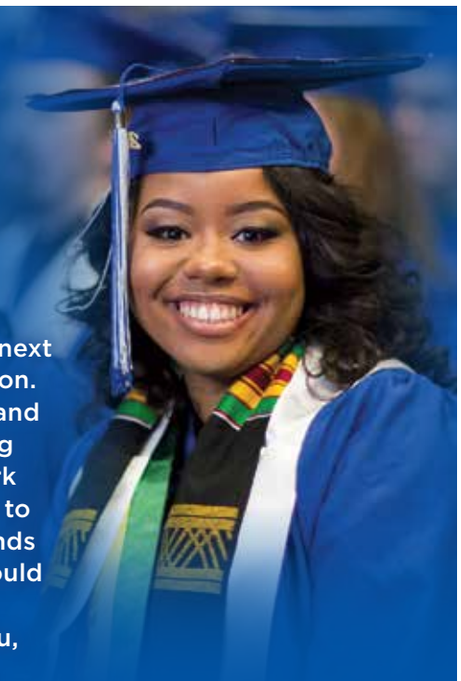
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Trenae Dunigan
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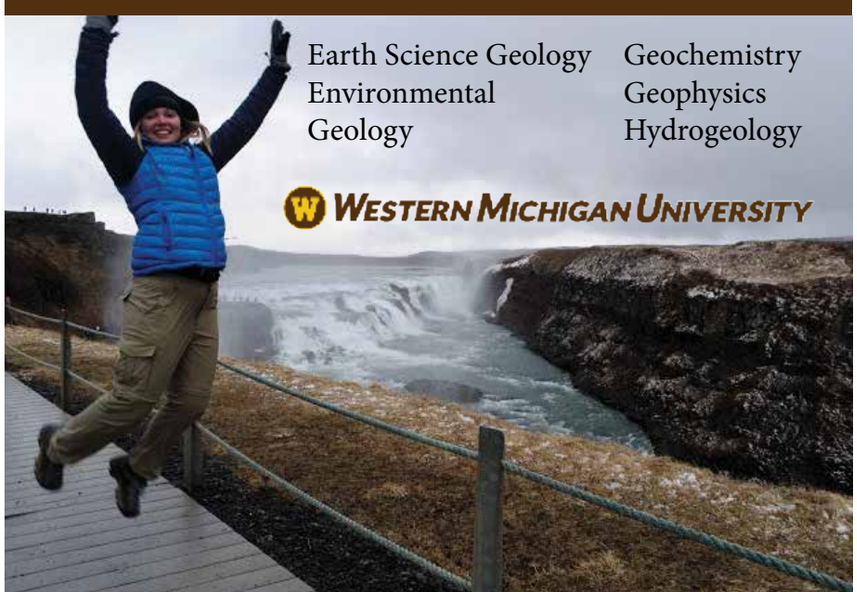


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Applying for Financial Aid

Tips to understand the process

Even with The Promise, there are other costs of going to college and you may still qualify to receive federal student aid to help defray some of those expenses.

Federal student aid comes from the U.S. Department of Education. It can help a student pay for education expenses at a college, career school, or graduate school, including tuition and fees, room and board, books and supplies, transportation, a computer and dependent care.

There are three main categories of federal student aid:


Gregor Cresnar

• *Grant* — Grant money usually doesn't have to be repaid. Most U.S. Department of Education grants are based on a student's financial need.

• *Work-study*—Work-study money is earned by a student through a job on or near campus while attending school and does not have to be repaid.

• *Loan*—Loan money must be repaid with interest. Federal student loans offer low, fixed-interest rates and income-based repayment plans.

For more information on types of aid, visit StudentAid.gov/types.

How to apply for federal student aid

You must complete and submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to apply for federal student aid. College and universities use FAFSA information to determine whether you are eligible to receive federal grants, loans, or work-study funds. States and schools use FAFSA information to determine whether you qualify for additional aid, including merit scholarships. So be sure to fill out a FAFSA even if you think you won't qualify for federal aid.

Pay attention to deadlines

The FAFSA becomes available on Oct. 1 for the next school year. If you want to be considered for aid from your state or college, you must meet their FAFSA deadlines.

State deadlines: Michigan's FAFSA deadline is March 1, though you should submit your FAFSA as soon as possible after Oct. 1.

College deadlines: College financial aid deadlines may be as early as February. For a college's deadline, check the school's website or contact its financial aid office.

You can complete the FAFSA two ways:

• Apply online (the fastest and easiest way) at fafsa.gov.

• Download a PDF version of the FAFSA at fafsa.gov. Fill out the PDF and mail it to the address on the form. (You also can visit www.edpubs.gov or call 1-800-4-FEDAID to request a print-out of the PDF FAFSA.)

Need help?

You can get free information and help from your school counselor, the financial aid office at the college you plan to attend, or the U.S. Department of Education at fafsa.gov or 1-800-4-FEDAID (1-800-433-3243).

You can also watch videos with step-by-step instructions on how to apply for financial aid at www.YouTube.com/FederalStudentAid (visit the "FAFSA: Apply for Aid" playlist) and at StudentAid.gov/fafsa. ■

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CLASSES START MAY 9 AND JUNE 28

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Seek Out Scholarship Opportunities

There are many costs to going to college and scholarships are one way to offset those costs. Here are some local resources for scholarships:

Kalamazoo Community Foundation Scholarships

A great place to begin a search for scholarships is with the Kalamazoo Community Foundation (KZCF), which has more than 50 scholarships with a variety of eligibility criteria. In addition, KZCF has some scholarships available exclusively to Kalamazoo Public Schools students, including:

• ***Brady & Patrick Gallagher Memorial Scholarship*** is a renewable scholarship for a Loy Norrix senior with demonstrated ability and interest in creative arts for full-time college enrollment with financial need.

• ***Communities In Schools/ Kalamazoo Public Education Foundation Scholarship*** is for a KPS senior with a minimum 2.75 GPA to major in education in college full-time. Financial need may be considered, and the scholarship is renewable.

• ***Duane Roberts Scholarship*** is for a KPS senior or graduate who is a minority student with demonstrated commitment to social justice, pursuing a full-time two- or four-year degree or graduate school, with financial need.

• ***Mary Ruth Robinson Scholarship*** is a renewable scholarship for a Kalamazoo Central senior or graduate with a minimum 2.5 GPA who is passionate about education and studying full- or part-time, with financial need.

• ***Melissa Wroblewski Scholarship*** is for a KPS senior pursuing a two- or four-year degree in visual arts full- or part-time.

• ***Mildred McConkey Memorial Scholarship*** is for a KPS senior showing exceptional writing ability with improvement in English composition for full-time college enrollment.

• ***Peter & Inez Schonveld Scholarship*** is for a KPS senior or graduate with demonstrated determination and good citizenship studying full- or part-time in a vocational, technical degree-granting educational institution.

The deadline to apply for KZCF scholarships is March 1. To see and apply for all KZCF's scholarships visit www.kalfound.org/scholarships. Applicants without computer access may call KZCF at (269) 381-4416 to arrange a time to fill out the application.

Heyl Scholarships

Kalamazoo College offers the ***F.W. & Elsie L. Heyl Science and Nursing Scholarships*** for a KPS senior or graduate earning a certificate of completion at Kalamazoo Area Math & Science Center and planning to study natural sciences, mathematics or computer science at Kalamazoo College or nursing at Western Michigan University Bronson School of Nursing. It covers tuition, fees, college housing and books. For information visit www.heyl.kzoo.edu.

Other Scholarship Sources

Many other organizations offer scholarships and your job is to find the ones you might qualify for and to apply by the deadlines. Remember: There is no "secret" scholarship money out there. You don't need to pay a consultant or join a society to help you find scholarships — you can find them yourself for free. Here are some places to look:

- www.StudentAid.gov/scholarships
- Your high school counselors
- Foundations, community and religious organizations, businesses, and civic groups
- Organizations/professional associations related to your field of interest
- Ethnicity-based organizations
- Your employer or a parent's employer. ■



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What to do when: College application checklist

September–November

- ☐ Narrow down your college options to between five and 10 colleges
- ☐ Create a master list or calendar that includes:
  1. Test dates, fees and registration deadlines
  2. College application due dates
  3. Required financial aid application forms and their deadlines (aid applications may be due before college applications)
  4. Other materials you'll need (recommendations, transcripts, etc.)
  5. Your high school's application processing deadlines
- ☐ Register to take or re-take the SAT/ACT exams
- ☐ Schedule as many college visits as possible
- ☐ Start planning how you will pay for college costs not covered by The Promise, such as room and board, books and supplies, personal expenses and transportation
- ☐ Research and apply for scholarships



- ☐ Gather and prepare your application materials
- ☐ Begin writing your college essays
- ☐ Apply to at least two of your college choices by Thanksgiving

December–January

- ☐ Submit the FAFSA (Free Application for Financial Student Aid) if you have not done so already
- ☐ Continue to research and apply for scholarships. Be mindful of deadlines when requesting letters of recommendation
- ☐ Submit your Kalamazoo Promise application if you have not done so already.
- ☐ Finish all college applications by the end of December
- ☐ If you have been waitlisted or have not heard back from schools to which you have applied, send them an updated transcript through Parchment.com with your Trimester 1 grades

February–March

- ☐ Continue to maintain your grades. Colleges can revoke offers of admission if your grades drop senior year
- ☐ Continue applying for scholarships. Many Kalamazoo Community Foundation scholarships have March deadlines (see page 14)

April

- ☐ Once you have decided on a college and accepted your admission:
  1. Let your Pathway Coach know (see page 10)
  2. Turn in your Kalamazoo Promise acceptance letter
- ☐ Keep your grades up!
- ☐ Did you know your attendance is reported on your transcript? Avoid senioritis and attend all of your classes!

May–June

- ☐ Request to have your final transcript sent to your college through Parchment.com.
- ☐ Graduate and celebrate!



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PURSUING PURPOSE in the time of pandemic.

What does it take to rid the world of a devastating illness? More than ambition and knowledge, it requires a strong sense of purpose.

Liberty Kostrzewa found hers as a Kalamazoo Central student, when she heard an epidemiologist speak about the challenges of finding a flu vaccine.

"From that day, I knew I wanted to study viruses and to help people. Creating vaccines will be a dream come true."

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Kindergarten Preparation Takes Fun, Fearlessness *(continued from page 1)*

two-step directions. Students practice this in kindergarten, but it would be great if families could help students refine that skill.

• Practice keeping hands/feet to themselves and practice respecting the space of others.

• Practice holding a pencil and other art tools.

• Writing their first name.

• Ability to say when they need to use the restroom or have other needs.

• Sing the ABCs.

• Count to 10 out loud. Students practice this in school, but the goal is to be able to count to 100 by the end of the school year.

Lincoln International Studies School kindergarten teacher Courtney Horn said kindergarten is hard. It's your first time in school, there's a lot to do, and there are so many things and people.

"I tell children to listen to what their bodies need," Horn said. "Like, if you're tired, ask if you can lay your head down. If we're in tune with our bodies, then we're in tune with the feelings inside, and then we can head off some of those feelings of frustration."

Her other tips include:

• Have children work with writing tools and develop their fine motor skills while drawing lines, zigzags, curves and coloring.

• Write their names — or at least some of the letters in their names.

• Practice counting small groups of objects such as pennies or rocks.



Northeastern Elementary School kindergartener Ahnalise Dyer shows off a colorful unicorn in Amy Hiss' classroom.

• Read to your children and talk about things like the parts of the book, the role of the author and the illustrator, show them where you start reading.

• Talk about social skills such as being patient and taking turns.

• Turn off the electronic devices and practice spending short periods of time — 10 or 20 minutes — on activities like listening to someone read a story or coloring.

"And talk to them about what they are learning, and that it's okay to make mistakes. Mistakes help us learn. It's not okay to give up," Horn said.

El Sol Elementary kindergarten teacher Jennifer Greenman agrees with that wholeheartedly. "What we say every day, in English and Spanish is, 'We're kindergarteners. We never give up, we just keep trying.'"

Greenman said that it's an advantage for children to know their alphabet and how to count, but rather than focus on teaching children specific skills, she encourages parents to think about how to make learning fun.

"Doing more worksheets and workbooks is not the best way to prepare children to become lifelong learners. It should always be enjoyable and about instilling and nurturing a positive learning posture."

Her tips include:

• Bolster their independent work skills so they can sit down and work by themselves.

• Read to them, enjoy stories together and talk about the stories and connect them to other stories. "Reading should be important because it's an amazing part of your life, rather than because it's a skill you have to practice."

• Provide rich life experiences and talk about those experiences to help develop high-level vocabulary.

• Encourage them to express themselves, to be inquisitive and to ask questions.

• Encourage them to play in as many ways as possible — outdoors and indoors.

"Parents are a child's 'first educators' and will always be their most important educators. Help them to enjoy learning," Greenman said. "Parents can help prepare their children by supporting them and encouraging them to be fearless learners."





Chef Samuel • KPS FOOD SERVICE CHEF & Kirsten Strong • KPS FOOD SERVICE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Fish Tacos with Roasted Tomato Salsa-Fresca

Happy National Nutrition Month! The theme this year is "Celebrate a World of Flavors." This recipe packs a vibrant Mexican-flavored punch with the combination of cumin, chili powder, cilantro, and jalapenos.

Cod is a mild and versatile fish that goes great with almost any flavor. By using this fish instead of classic ground beef, you decrease your saturated fat intake. Too much saturated fat in our diet can contribute to heart disease.

By substituting cod, you add the heart-healthy benefits of a lean protein that is an excellent source of Omega-3 fatty acids. It's also a good source of vitamin B12, which helps maintain healthy brain function and form red blood cells, which carry oxygen to our organs. Enjoy this healthier, vitamin B12-packed version of a taco without sacrificing any flavor!



Chef Samuel Dunn

Fish Tacos

1 tsp chili powder
1 tsp ground cumin
⅛ tsp ground black pepper
⅛ tsp kosher salt
1 ¾ Tbsp canola oil
4-6 Pacific cod filets
4 tortillas

Roasted Tomato Salsa-Fresca

2 Tbsp white vinegar
8 Roma tomatoes
1 tsp ground black pepper
2 Tbsp canola oil
½ cup cilantro, chopped
1 cup green onions, chopped
½ cup red onions, diced
½ cup green bell peppers, chopped
¼ cup garlic gloves, peeled and minced
2 Tbsp parsley, chopped
¼ cup jalapeno peppers, chopped

Directions for salsa

1. Preheat oven to 400 degrees.

2. Spread the salsa ingredients in a single layer on a baking sheet lined with parchment, drizzle with vinegar and oil. Season with black pepper. Roast in oven until most of the liquid has evaporated and the vegetables are light golden brown and caramelized, about 25-30 minutes. Immediately chill.

Directions for fish

1. In a bowl, combine the fish, chili powder, cumin, olive oil, salt and pepper. Place the fish in a single layer on a parchment-lined baking sheet and bake at 400 degrees for 5-8 minutes or until opaque and internal temperature reaches 165˚F.

2. Warm the tortillas in a pan on the stovetop or wrap in foil and place in the oven.

3. Assemble each taco, place 2 oz. cooked fish and 3 Tbsp salsa inside each flour tortilla.

Servings: 4

Maple Street Coin Drive Raises Over $3,000 for Kalamazoo Loaves & Fishes

Maple Street Magnet School for the Arts held its third annual coin drive benefiting Kalamazoo Loaves & Fishes. Sponsored by the PTSO, the event was held Nov. 29-Dec. 16. All students were assigned to one of six teams. The PTSO created a friendly competition, offering a pizza party to the team that raised the most money and a doughnut party for the team that raised the second-highest amount.

Friendly challenges were created by teachers during the competition to keep momentum strong and enthusiasm high.

Team Resolve won the pizza party by raising $809.07 for Loaves & Fishes, which provides meals for the food insecure in Kalamazoo. Team Endeavor came in a close second, raising $756.20. The real winner was Loaves & Fishes, which received a total of $3,138.60 from Maple's generous students, staff, and families.



Maple Street donated more than $3,000 to Kalamazoo Loaves & Fishes at the end of its third annual coin drive. Principal Dr. Jeffrey Boggan presents a check to Greta Faworski of Loaves & Fishes.





Children Learn How to Learn with PEEP

Early childhood education is about so much more than learning your ABCs.

It's about learning to learn.

Kalamazoo Public Schools' will hold a Pre-Kindergarten Early Education Program (PEEP) and kindergarten orientation on March 9. Parents can attend a virtual orientation at 9:30 a.m. or an adults-only, in-person meeting at 5:30 p.m. Links for the virtual orientations can be found at www.kalamazoopublicschools.com/kindergarten.

Children who turned 4 by Dec. 1, 2021, can enroll in PEEP this fall.

Elizabeth Jackson-Spaner, PEEP director, says every child should experience a high-quality early childhood education. A great pre-kindergarten class helps a child gain the confidence and skills necessary to be successful as they start their K-12 education. And, those skills may not necessarily be what parents expect.

"Preschool teaches children how to be learners," Jackson-Spaner said. Yes, they participate in activities to boost their pre-literacy and math skills, but they do much more, most of it built around the social and emotional skills that help them prepare for the classroom community.

For many children, their preschool experience is the first



Edison Academy early childhood teacher Damon Travis reads to his PEEP students.



Elizabeth Jackson-Spaner, coordinator of Early Childhood Education (PEEP)

place they can develop valuable skills such as learning how to share, participate in discussions, and take turns.

Using their interactions with other students and a practice of "teachable moments," students develop self-regulation skills, Jackson-Spaner said.

"Children learn to take care of themselves and their friends," she said.

The preschool setting also nurtures children's creativity and curiosity with fun and engaging activities.

PEEP uses the High/Scope Preschool Curriculum, which focuses on eight content areas, identified as essential areas of learning readiness by the National Education Goals Panel:

- Approaches to learning
- Social and emotional development
- Physical development and health
- Language, literacy and communication
- Mathematics
- Creative arts
- Science and technology
- Social studies

Participating in a high-quality, pre-kindergarten program can have long-term impacts, according to the National Education Association. Children in early childhood education programs are:

- Less likely to repeat a grade
- Less likely to be identified as having special needs
- More prepared academically for later grades
- More likely to graduate from high school
- Tend to be higher earners in the workforce

The PEEP office is located at Greenwood Elementary School, 3501 Moreland St. For more information visit www.kalamazoopublicschools.com/PEEP, call (269) 337-0095, or email peep-office@kalamazoopublicschools.net.





Social Justice Youth Awards Honors KPS Students for Volunteerism, Community Activism

Seven Kalamazoo Public Schools student leaders were honored with Social Justice Youth Awards at the Kalamazoo City Commission meeting on Jan. 18. Students were honored for their achievement and leadership in racial and social justice.

The awards are presented annually as part of the city's celebration of MLK Day. Winners exemplify Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s values through their volunteer work and community service.

The awards are presented by the program's sponsors: Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Consumers Energy, Fifth Third Bank, Kalamazoo Non-Violent Opponents of War, Life EMS, the Lodge-Dennis family, and Schupan & Sons. Additionally, one award this year was sponsored by the CSM Group and presented by Dr. Lewis Walker, a trailblazer for the progression of racial equity in Kalamazoo.

A recording of the awards presentation is available on the City of Kalamazoo's YouTube Channel.

This year's winners are:

Brooke Edwards is currently in the Top 10 of the Kalamazoo Central High School Class of 2023 with a 4.1 grade-point average. Edwards serves as a member of the KC Link Crew. As a Link Crew member, she mentors freshmen. She served as a youth advisor for the Youth Mobility Fund via KYDNET to help find solutions for youth who use bus transportation in Kalamazoo. She is also a member of the Greenleaf Trust Wealth Development Club.

Edwards has been involved in MLK Community-wide Celebration and Day of Service, has volunteered with ISAAC, (Interfaith Strategy for Advocacy and Action), and Residential Opportunities Incorporated, serving individuals with autism and developmental disabilities.





This year's Social Justice Award winners are, from left, Brooke Edwards, Jaydon Kelly, Jackson Bergan, Devin Porter, Brittany Wright, Cameron Moore, and Morgan Scott. Pictured on the right is Justine Barnard, who is currently studying abroad in Germany.

Her award was presented by Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority.

Cameron Moore's commitment to volunteerism includes participation in organizations such as Jeter's Leaders, Peace House, and the Kalamazoo Central Special Olympics. Moore has accumulated more than 500 hours of volunteer time with Jeter's Leaders alone.

He was nominated by Dr. Harold T. Swift of Jeter's Leaders, who noted, "Cameron has been able to maintain being a standout athlete in soccer and basketball at Kalamazoo Central High School while still serving the greater Kalamazoo community."

Moore's ability to balance his personal interests and the interests which benefit his entire community demonstrate a maturity beyond his years, Swift said.

His award was presented by Fifth Third.

Justine Barnard, a Kalamazoo Central senior, has worked to increase voter participation by connecting drivers and voters to help them reach the polls on Election Day.

She was a finalist for the Telluride Association Sophomore Seminar in Black and ethnic studies. She applied for and was accepted to the Yiddish Book Center Great Jewish Books program, and this year she is studying abroad in Germany as a Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange Scholar.

Barnard demonstrates a respect for diverse backgrounds in her interactions with others. She seeks out educational opportunities to learn more about diversity, such as researching cash bail's impact on communities of color and participating in a community forum on local bond practices.

In addition to these actions, Barnard has been a Youth Mobility Ambassador participant for the Youth Development Network, a childcare volunteer at the YWCA, and an intern on the Jon Hoadley for Congress campaign.

Her award was presented by Kalamazoo Non-Violent Opponents of War.

(continued on page 23)

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Social Justice Youth Awards Honors KPS Students for Volunteerism, Community Activism *(continued from page 22)*

Brittany Wright, a Kalamazoo Central senior, is involved in the Merze Tate Explorers through which she has organized fundraisers that have provided more than $5,000 in scholarships for girls in Kalamazoo and Tanzania. In partnership with the Wotesawa Domestic Workers Organization, she helped three girls in Tanzania attend trade school, which will provide them with skills to open and run their own tailor and dress shops. As a member of the Merze Tate Explorers, she registered almost 200 children for a community Halloween party at The Crossroads mall.

Wright has learned about the poetry of African Americans and performed one of the works she studied for the State's Poetry Out Loud competition.

Realizing the importance of women of color in the world, she also wrote an article on the life of Western Michigan University graduate Dr. Merze Tate for Girls Can! Magazine. Tate's life has inspired Wright to pursue a degree in nursing.

She was nominated for her award by Merze Tate Explorers Executive Director Sonya Hollins. Her award was presented by Life EMS.

Jackson Bergan is a member of the Loy Norrix High School National Honor Society and volunteers at the Kalamazoo Center for Youth and Community, where he serves those without homes. He created a GoFundMe to help the homeless population, and he volunteers with Inner City Youth for Change, through which he has completed numerous community service projects, including a fun day for students and food drives. He traveled to Sierra Leone with the group to complete several projects to help children in that country.

Jackson is also a student athlete leader at Loy Norrix. He has been the captain of the football team and also plays basketball, golf, and tennis. He is a leader at his church, Mt. Zion Baptist Church.

Jackson has won multiple teacher's choice awards from Loy Norrix High School. He was nominated for the Social Justice Award by Loy Norrix Principal Chris Aguinaga and the Rev. Morris Brooks, director of family ministries at Mt. Zion Baptist Church.

His award was presented by the Lodge–Dennis Family.

Jaydon Kelley is an active community youth ambassador, who documents social justice efforts through his photography. He is known for his poise and inclusivity and his work has championed community events such as the Black Lives Matter protests and marches and dinners honoring Women of Color.

The Loy Norrix junior is a member of the Loy Norrix High School DECA and Student Council as well as the Young Democrats Club. Kelley has worked closely with Stephanie Moore to 'get out the Black vote' in Kalamazoo with activities leading up to the November 2020 election. He has also participated in Planned Parenthood fundraising events.

His award was presented by Schupan & Sons.

Morgan Scott has almost a perfect 4.0 grade point average at Kalamazoo Central High School and has been involved in several community service efforts including:

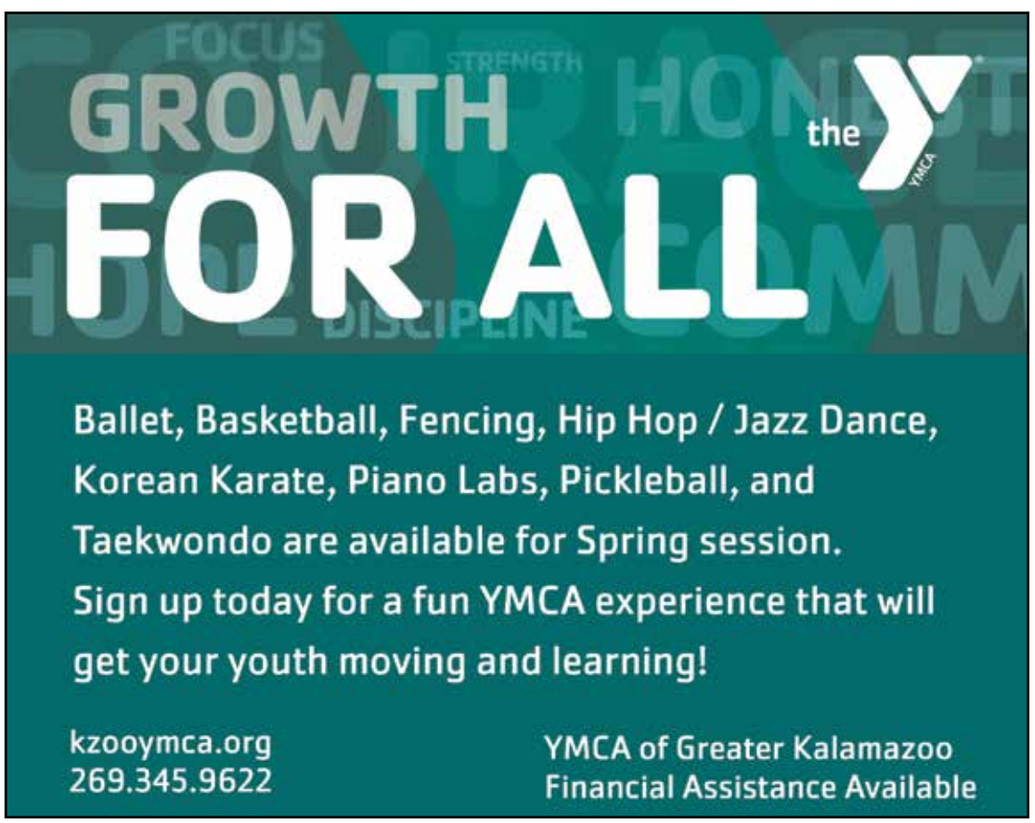
- NAACP Youth Programming
- UGoGirl Program, sponsored by Links, Inc.
- Delta G.E.M.S, Group Homes for Youth
- Galilee Baptist Church youth leadership team and youth choir
- Kalamazoo Central choir for four years
- Women's Ministry Thanksgiving Basket Drive where she helped distribute fruits and vegetables to needy citizens of Kalamazoo's Northside community.

In October 2021, Scott was the recipient of the NAACP Dr. Charles Warfield Youth Community Service Award for her volunteerism with Big Brothers/Big Sisters, the Kalamazoo Gospel Mission, Kalamazoo Black Arts Festival, Black Lives Matter, and other groups.

She was nominated by Sadie Miles. Her award was presented by Dr. Lewis Walker and sponsored by the CSM Group.

A seventh award was presented to Portage Central High School senior **Devin Porter**. His award was presented by Consumers Energy.







WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE Kalamazoo VALLEY Museum



UPCOMING EVENT

MARCH 25 - APRIL 2 | FREE

JOIN US FOR SPRING BREAK!

Special family activities, new hands-on exhibits and a free planetarium mini-show. In the planetarium, experience SpacePark 360. Imagine visiting a virtual amusement park where the rides are based on places in our solar system and universe. There are three "rides"!

UPCOMING SHOWS

MARCH 4 - 26 | FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS | $3

PLANETARIUM EXPERIENCE

Polaris - The Space Submarine | 11 a.m.

Follow the adventures of a penguin and polar bear who meet on the Arctic Sea ice. These two become fast friends who use the scientific method and build a unique spaceship to investigate ice, the seasons and the planets.

Mysteries of the Great Lakes | 2:30 p.m.

It takes a drop of water nearly 400 years to travel from the headwaters of Lake Superior to the edge of Lake Ontario. Along the way, we see occupants of land, air and water that thrive because of these lakes.

VIRTUAL EVENT



STORYTELLING FESTIVAL: A CELEBRATION OF TIME

Easter and Passover Stories!

Don't miss the final two stories in this amazing nine-monthlong, online series.

Visit kvmstorytelling.org/stories

**Online for 3 months*



EXHIBIT JAN. 22 - MAY 1 | FREE

TOYS II: THE INSIDE STORY

Learn how toys work and their history! Enjoy 20 play/learn stations and displays that illustrate the simple mechanisms commonly found in toys.

This exhibition was developed by the Montshire Museum of Science and TEAMS Collaborative, with funding from the National Science Foundation.

UPCOMING EVENT

APRIL 5 - 9 | FREE

FOODWAYS symposium

Central American & Mexican Foodways in Michigan

The annual Kalamazoo Foodways Symposium will be both virtual and at the Bronson Healthy Living Campus of Kalamazoo Valley Community College. The Kalamazoo Foodways Symposium inspires and empowers the greater Kalamazoo community to honor our agricultural history and heritage cuisines, celebrate good food and work together to build a just and healthy future for all.

Register for live virtual sessions and see the complete schedule at www.kalamazoofoodways.org.

PUBLIC HOURS: Tuesday - Saturday | 10 - 11:30 a.m. & 1:30 - 3 p.m.

GENERAL ADMISSION IS FREE

Masks are required for all visitors over two years old regardless of vaccination status. Where possible, social distancing protocols will be 3 feet.

The Kalamazoo Valley Museum is operated by Kalamazoo Valley Community College and is governed by its Board of Trustees.

Kalamazoo VALLEY Museum

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kalamazoomuseum.org
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