

NEWSLETTER

January 2024



FINANCIAL

AID
Training

SAVE THE DATE

2.21.2024

**DON'T
MISS**

HIGHLIGHTS

- Update: PSCCN Partners
- Postsecondary Resources & Opportunities
- January Poem
- College & Career News

BEST WISHES!

We'll miss you!



Adam Kay

We want to express our deepest gratitude for Adam's exceptional leadership. His support for PSCCN and King County Promise (KCP) has left an indelible mark, and we appreciate the impact he has had on the team.

During his time on our team as Interim Director, his influence enabled the accomplishments of the past year. His dedication to KCP has been outstanding, and his heart-centered approach to working with others has left a lasting impression.

We've learned so much from his principled authenticity, compassion, and resolve. We extend appreciation for helping us navigate challenges with grace and humility, for weaving together different strands of work, and for commitment to building authentic relationships.

He made a significant difference with our team and partners and we wish him the best in future endeavors. As he resumes his role as Director of Collaborative Systems Improvement Project, we want to thank him for everything and look forward to continued collaboration.

BEST WISHES!

We'll miss you!



Leila Crist

Congratulations to Leila on this well-deserved opportunity as Early Warning Intervention Specialist with System and School Improvement! Her impact on Puget Sound College and Career Network and Collaborative Improvement Networks will be remembered, and we are confident that she will continue to be a transformational leader in her new position.

Her delightful presence and warm energy have been a joy to her colleagues. Her contributions to the King County Promise and collaborative efforts on both PSCCN and CINRE have been exceptional. We are grateful for her creativity, initiative, and unwavering support in moving our work forward.

We wish her all the best on this exciting journey. We hope her new role brings as much joy and fulfillment as she has brought to our team. We look forward to hearing about her continued success.



FINANCIAL AID 201: NAVIGATING FAFSA SIMPLIFICATION

PSCCN and WSAC are partnering to offer a Financial Aid Training Workshop, where we will provide valuable insights into recent simplification changes, guide you through the FAFSA and WASFA platforms, explore key topics for the upcoming financial aid year, and review follow-up steps after the application. Don't miss this opportunity to stay informed and prepared for the upcoming financial aid season. Your participation will contribute to the success of both your institution and the students you serve.

Topics covered in this training will include:

- An Overview of FAFSA Simplification
- A walkthrough of the FAFSA and WASFA platforms
- An overview of the corrections process
- Student scenarios
- And more!

Date: 2/21/2023

Time: 9 am to 11 am

Location: Green River College Kent Campus - Refreshments will be provided

Click on this [link for more training and registration details.](#)





GRANTS FOR WASHINGTON STATE K-12 PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS!

Applications are now being accepted for the “Ellison Education Grants”. Grants are for K-12 public school teachers in Washington State. Over the past six years, the Ellison foundation has awarded 101 grants and \$501,000 to Washington State teachers.

Grants will range from \$1,000 to \$10,000 and be awarded this spring to be used for the 2024 – 2025 school year. Applications must be submitted by March 30, 2024.

[Click on the link to learn more about the “Ellison Education Grants.”](#)



NEWLY UPDATED COLLEGE & CAREER KNOWLEDGE WORKBOOK

In collaboration with our partners from WSAC, CCER, OSPI, CSF, Highline Public Schools & and Scholar Fund, we are excited to introduce an interactive version of the updated College and Career Knowledge.

Check out the interactive version of the CCK flipbook for both Spanish and English by [clicking this link.](#)

The updated College and Career Knowledge hard copies can be ordered [here](#) via the 12th Year Campaign. The workbooks are currently only available in English and Spanish as we continue to work on getting some additional languages translated.

Note: There is currently a backorder for the English booklets.

College & Career Knowledge

A guide to pursuing education and training after high school

Orientación Sobre la Educación Superior y Profesional

Una guía para continuar los estudios y la formación después de la preparatoria

Free Application for Federal Student Aid

FAFSA

Visit fafsa.gov

Washington Application for State Financial Aid

WASFA

Visit wsac.wa.gov/wasfa

WSAC: Apply now

Simpler, more generous 2024-25 financial aid applications now available.

A family of four making up to \$120,500 may be eligible for aid.

Financial aid applications for this year's graduating seniors are now available, although students and families should expect some technical issues for the time being. And it will take longer than usual for colleges to get and process applications and respond with financial aid awards.

Applications were delayed this year as updates were made to improve the FAFSA and WASFA forms and increase aid eligibility. In

Washington, there are two ways to apply for financial aid. You should only complete one application—the FAFSA or the WASFA:

- FAFSA: Most people should complete a FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid). The FAFSA is used by U.S. citizens and eligible non-citizens to apply for both state and federal financial aid. The new 2024-25 FAFSA has been released in a “soft launch.” Families may experience technical issues with the form over the next few weeks, but there's no need to rush to apply—there is no deadline for state or federal financial aid.

- WASFA: The WASFA (Washington Application for State Financial Aid) is an application for state financial aid. The WASFA is for people who are not eligible to complete the FAFSA due to immigration status, defaulted federal loans, or other issues with federal aid. The new 2024-25 WASFA is now available.

Applying for financial aid is a crucial first step toward college or job training. Many families assume they won't qualify, but there's more help available than ever before. This year, a family of four making up to \$120,500 can qualify for financial aid in Washington. The only way to know for sure if you're eligible is to apply. Learn more, get support, and apply for financial aid on WSAC's Apply page.





Hojoon's story: My first argument.

"For a moment, I felt afraid that I had stepped too far, but the anger and stubbornness boiled up all at once inside me and I stood my ground."

[Click on this link](#) to learn more, about Hojoon's experience with and reflections on college rankings



Izzy & Olivia's story: What type of college is right for you?

Izzy and Olivia, both seniors in Seattle Public Schools and Ready WA Storytellers, want their peers to have a little fun with the college application process! Check out their parody quiz and accompanying questions for reflection, thoughtfully created to help students make this decision. [Click on this link](#) for more information.





2024 Manufacturing Internships

Boeing Commercial Airplanes

APPLICATION FORM for programs in Washington, South Carolina & Montana



CORE PLUS AEROSPACE: SUMMER MANUFACTURING INTERNSHIP APPLICATION OPEN FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS!

High school students interested in advanced manufacturing can start planning their summer today by [applying for the 2024 Core Plus Aerospace summer internship](#) hosted by Boeing. Learn more about the internship [here](#).

Take advantage of this opportunity to explore an exciting industry, take your advanced manufacturing skills to the next level, and build your resume with real-world experience.

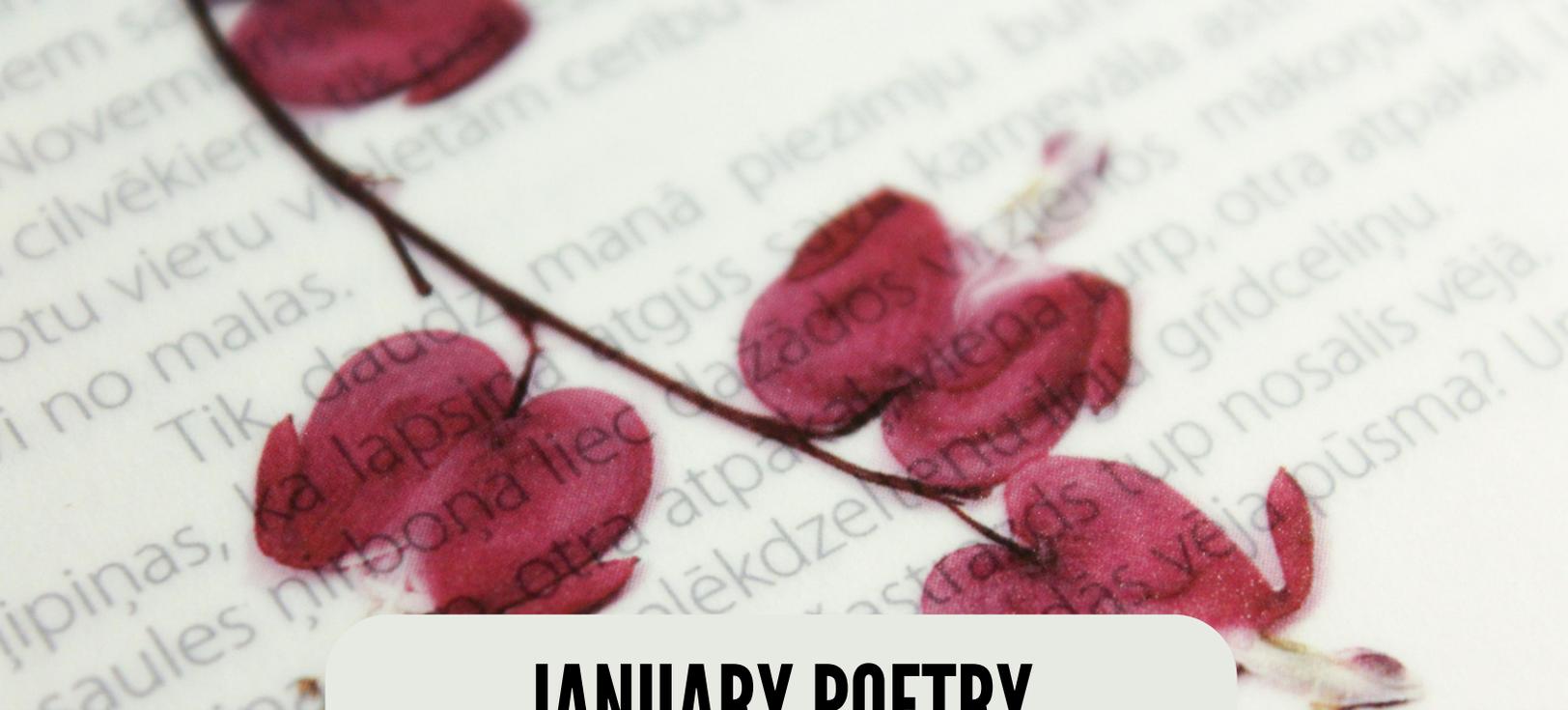
[Watch this video to hear from the 2023 Summer Interns.](#)

SUMMER'S STORY

STANDING UP FOR YOURSELF: THE IMPORTANCE OF SELF-ADVOCACY

One thing I wish I learned earlier in life was advocating for myself. Being able to advocate for yourself is crucial to your success as a student. I learned I needed to stand up for myself like I had stood up for others. I started to think about who I could reach out to. To learn more, [click on this link](#).





JANUARY POETRY

POETRY CONTESTS FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS 2024-2025

Here are some great opportunities for high school students to showcase their talents, win publication opportunities and cash prizes, and become familiar with the creative industry. The themes and formats are varied, so students might find a competition tailored to their personal interests and writing style. Click on the respective links below for more information.

Poetry Contests:

- [Adroit Prize for Poetry and Prose](#)
- [Write the World Series – Poetry](#)
- [YoungArts National Arts Competition](#)
- [Leonard L. Milberg '53 High School Poetry Prize](#)
- [National High School Poetry Contest](#)

College and Career News in Washington State

The Seattle Times:

- [Biden cancels another \\$5 billion in student loan debt](#)
- [Seattle promised free college. Five years later, how's it working out?](#)
- [How to apply for financial aid with confidence](#)
- [Stackable certificates kickstart career opportunities](#)
- [WA Grant helps make college and career training a reality for many](#)
- [Five-seismic-changes-to-education-in-washington-over-the-past-decade](#)
- [Homegrown Seattle educator honored as top WA principal](#)
- [Cellphones in WA schools? Readers deliver a strong verdict](#)
- [Seattle School Board approves plan to reduce \\$105 million deficit](#)
- [New FAFSA launches with hiccups, promises of future fixes](#)
- [Pistols have no place at track meets, Ingraham students say](#)
- [Nonprofit stages huge expansion to send more WA kids to college](#)



Thank you for your continued support.

Contact us at pscnc@psed.org