

Upcoming Events

- **Student Scholarship Reception:** March 30, 5:30 p.m., Beckendorf Conference Center
- **Open House:** March 31, 5-8 p.m., Student Center
- **Employee Awards Luncheon:** April 1, noon, The Woodlands Waterway Marriott Hotel & Convention Center
- **Chancellor's Open Forum:** April 4, 3 p.m., E-100
- **Student Club Awards:** April 12, 6 p.m., Beckendorf Conference Center

To see the most current events, visit LoneStar.edu/Calendars.

Star of the Month



It is not easy to make the All-State Choir. It is even harder to make first soprano. However, **Alexandra Parkin** of Montgomery achieved both. Parkin, 19, recently hit the high notes when she performed in San Antonio with the Texas Two-Year College Choir Directors Association All-State Choir. The talented vocalist is also a seasoned pianist, who began playing at age seven. At LSC-Tomball, Parkin serves as vice president of the Music Club. At home, she volunteers for her church and at local nursing homes.

Parkin will transfer to Sam Houston State University in Huntsville to earn her bachelor's degree in Music Education. She aspires to become a choir

director for a school. Outside of class, Parkin plans to compose various pieces for choirs, orchestra and solos.

What has your college experience been like? *It has been great. Since I was homeschooled, this college was my first experience in a public education setting. So far, it has been fun and interesting.*

What advice do you have for college-bound students? *College requires work. Work is an absolute for success. Get the most out of college by putting in the work and doing your best. In 10 years, it probably will not matter what your GPA is, but it will matter that you did your best in college. If you are determined now to do your best, then you will set that as your standard for the rest of your life. So do your best now as you prepare for the future.*



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Message from the President

If we had no winter, the spring would not be so pleasant: if we did not sometimes taste of adversity, prosperity would not be so welcome. – Anne Bradstreet

Spring is finally here! The bright skies and warm breeze are a welcome departure from the drab and cold of winter. In nature, you must bear the winter before you can enjoy the spring. This law not only applies to nature, but in education.

Midway through the semester, the pace starts to pick up for students, faculty, and staff alike. So much work must be completed in a short amount of time. However, we press forward and stay positive because we know that the discomfort is only temporary and the rewards lie ahead. For students, their greatest satisfaction is to graduate; for faculty and staff, it is to see the students graduate.

Without winter, you cannot appreciate spring. When work begins to overwhelm you, just remember to look forward. You will soon see the fruits of your labor. Seasons are temporary, but you and your work at LSC-Tomball are enduring.

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Mission

Lone Star College System provides comprehensive educational opportunities and programs to enrich lives.

Student Success & Engagement

Nursing Student Receives State Scholarship

Nancy Curnel of Magnolia recently received a \$500 scholarship from the Texas Organization of Associate Nursing Degree Programs (TOADN). Out of 126 applicants, Curnel was one of only 10 scholarship winners in Texas. Scholarships are awarded on the basis of achievement as a nursing student.



After she graduates in May, Curnel plans to work at a school or hospital during the day and take evening classes at a local college to earn her bachelor's degree.

Students Erect Purple Martin Birdhouse

The Eco Club along with Professor Brandon Lowery's Biology class assembled and erected a Purple Martin house by the West Hall entrance on March 10. The birdhouse was funded through a mini-grant from the LSCS Education Foundation.



East of the Rocky Mountains, Purple Martins are the only bird species that depend on humans to supply them with nesting sites. If people stopped supplying Purple Martins with homes, they could disappear in eastern North America.

Partnerships

LSC-T Hosts Merit Badge University

The Orion District of the Boy Scouts of America held its Merit Badge University at LSC-Tomball on February 19. At the event, merit badge counselors helped the Boy Scouts obtain merit badges in over 25 subjects, ranging from Chemistry and Indian Lore to Leatherwork and Photography.



New Faces

Michael Mayfield

Michael Mayfield is the new Graphic Design & Video Production Coordinator at LSC-Tomball. In his role, Mayfield will produce the advertising and promotional materials for the college. Before he became part of the LSC-Tomball team on February 16, Mayfield ran his own creative agency for eight years.



Mayfield earned his bachelor's degree in Radio, Television & Film from Sam Houston State University in Huntsville in 1994.

Applause

LSC-T Sweeps Awards at State Play Festival

The Theater Department at LSC-Tomball received a Superior rating for its production of "Bus Stop" at the 2010-11 State Play Festival held March 2-5 at Texas A&M University-Commerce. The Superior rating is the highest honor a theater group can receive from the Texas Community College Speech & Theater Association.



Twelve cast and crew members also received at least one Superior award for their individual contribution to the play, bringing the total Superior awards for LSC-Tomball to 19. The students were:

- Cheyenne Clarke of Montgomery: Costume Design (Director's Choice)
- Jeanean Dorsey of Tomball: Property Design (Director's Choice)
- Mary Faler of Houston: Acting
- Jake Foster of Spring: Property Design (Director's Choice)
- Ali Garrett of Hockley: Sound Design (Respondent & Director's Choice)
- Ellen Girdwood of Tomball: Make-up Design (Director's Choice)
- Jessica Kelly of Tomball: Lighting Design & Program Design (Director's Choice)
- John Kenward of Houston: Dramaturgy (Director's Choice)
- Greg Overturff of Magnolia: Scene Design (Respondent & Director's Choice)
- Emily Posch of Houston: Acting & Costume Design (Director's Choice)
- John Price of Tomball: Acting
- Michelle See of Spring: Scene Design (Respondent & Director's Choice) & Assistant Director (Director's Choice)

Recent Events

Breakfast Promotes Workforce Programs

LSC-Tomball hosted the "Lone Star Skills for Lone Star Jobs" Breakfast on March 9 in the Beckendorf Conference Center. The purpose of the event was to educate human resource professionals in the area on the workforce programs offered at LSC-Tomball.



To prove the value of the workforce programs, a graduate from the Occupational Therapy Assistant, Solar Photovoltaic Electrician System, and Surgical Technology programs addressed the audience. Though each told a unique story, all three speakers spoke highly of the education they received at LSC-Tomball and how their skills have helped them achieve career success.

Recent Events

Fat Tuesday Puts Students in Festive Mood

The Student Activities Board (SAB) threw Fat Tuesday on March 8 and put students in a colorful, festive mood. In true Mardi Gras tradition, SAB kicked off the event with a campus-wide parade. Members of the zealous parade tossed beads to the people they passed along the hallways.



The parade ended in N-103, where students ate Cajun food and king cake and listened to New Orleans jazz music. At the celebration, students also adorned themselves with bright beads and hats or feathered masks.

Choose 2 Live Event Combats Reckless Driving

The Student Government Association (SGA) sponsored "Choose 2 Live," a reckless driving awareness event, on March 9 in N-103. Held just before Spring Break, the event stressed the consequences of reckless driving, such as driving while texting or driving while under the influence of alcohol.



At the function, videos of actual car wrecks were projected as were the stories of reckless driving victims. Attendees were also able to put on simulation goggles to comprehend the impairing effects of alcohol. Some SGA students even posed as lifeless victims to drive home the "Choose 2 Live" message.

Invisible Children Exposes Child Soldier Tragedy

Members of the human rights group Invisible Children spoke to students on March 21 in N-103 to expose the child soldier tragedy in East Africa. In the mid-1990s, soldiers of the Ugandan militia known as the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) began abducting and indoctrinating children as young as eight years old to become rebel fighters. Those that resisted were killed.



Though the LRA has left Uganda, it has moved to the Democratic Republic of Congo. Invisible Children is working to help the people of the Congo by providing radio communication for villages, rescue networks for children, and rehabilitation for child soldiers. Tony Bazilo of Uganda (pictured) spoke at the event. As a boy, Bazilo had to walk from his village to the city each night to avoid being stolen. He is now attending college in Uganda through an Invisible Children scholarship program.

Recent Events

LSC-UP Hosts Educational Summit

The U.S. Department of Education held its Community College Regional Summit at LSC-University Park on March 9. Only four of these summits are being held in the nation.

Named "Changes, Solutions, and Commitments," the gathering supports the goal of President Obama: *the United States will have the highest college attainment rate in the world by 2020.* The focus for the summit at LSC-University Park was "Exemplary Transfer Practices."

At the summit, Dr. Martha Kanter, undersecretary of the U.S. Department of Education, gave the opening remarks, and LSCS Chancellor Dr. Richard Carpenter was one of the distinguished panel members. President Dr. Susan Karr was also present at the educational caucus.

Approximately 150 people from a 10-state region attended the event to develop strategies that will promote student success on a nationwide level.

