

PARENTS' CORNER



A great deal has happened since the beginning of the semester, and winter 2024 is in full swing with recent holiday celebrations, ceremonies, and immeasurable acts of kindness and giving. We've launched several new initiatives at Centenary University, and we hope that you and your family will enjoy these highlights.



Inauguration

Dr. Dale Caldwell was inaugurated as the 15th President of Centenary University on October 21, 2023. Dale's inauguration day reflected his deep commitment to faith and service, as he joined students to participate in service initiatives at local nonprofits, including Hackettstown Clean, Trinity Church, First Presbyterian Church, Habitat for Humanity ReStore, and the Centenary University food pantry.

Read Dr. Caldwell's speech: centu.org/inauguration

Ballot Bowl

We WON!!! Centenary University placed first in the nation among colleges and universities through its participation in Ballot Bowl, a nonpartisan initiative promoting voter registration and engagement across college campuses. This is the second year in a row that Centenary University has beat hundreds of other colleges in the Ballot Bowl.



Multicultural Feast

On Nov 17, we held our 3rd annual Multicultural Feast celebrating cultures from around the world. We had over 18 dishes from many countries. Performances included Irish dancing, salsa choque, Brazilian Capoeira, salsa, a student singing a song by Mexican singer, Selena, and LSU fraternity and OEN sorority strolling! Students had opportunities to win raffle baskets and played World Trivia to win gift cards. All enjoyed music and dancing with our DJ. We look forward to next year's feast!



The Cyclone Kitchen

This past November, Dr. Dale Caldwell hosted a ribbon-cutting ceremony for Centenary's new Cyclone Kitchen, a food pantry for students in need. The initiative is part of a greater movement to combat hunger and homelessness being spearheaded by the Campus Life team. For more information, visit our webpage "Resources for Cyclones in Need & Support". centu.org/cyclone-kitchen23



PSI CHI Honor Society

On Wed, Dec 6, Centenary University was pleased to induct our outstanding students to the Psi Chi Honor Society including: Desiree Bennett (BA Psychology '24), Nancy Cannon (MA Clinical Counseling '24), Alexandra Fulton (MA Clinical Counseling '24), Maria Almonte (BA Psychology '24), Victoria Abucewicz (MA Clinical Counseling '24), Eliabeth Hunter (MA Clinical Counseling '24), Brianna Janke (BA Psychology '24), Alejandro Mejia Ruiz (BA Psychology '24), Grace Murray (BA Psychology '24), Ashley Romano (BA Psychology '24).



Multicultural Topics in Education Podcast Series

Hosted by Diana Alzate and Lindsay Galasso. Enjoy: *I AM FIRST GEN*
A discussion with Centenary University students on being first generation college students. centu.org/li-am-1st-gen



Centenary University First Generation Students & Alpha Alpha Alpha (Tri-Alpha) Honor Society

The Centenary University First Generation Society (CUFG) aspires to recognize and support First-Generation Students by providing strategies and resources to help navigate their college career. We work with students to ensure that have successful personal, professional, academic, and social

experiences. Named a top performer for social mobility by [US News & World Report in 2023-2024](#), Centenary is committed to creating a campus that empowers and celebrates those students who are working to change not only their future, but the futures of the generations who follow them.

Alpha Alpha Alpha (Tri-Alpha)

[Tri Alpha](#) is a national honor society for First-Generation college students and is a nonprofit (501(c)3) chapter-based membership organization located at colleges and universities within the United States. Centenary inducted its first Tri-Alpha members in November of 2023. To see the inductees, please click the link here: centu.org/first-gen-tri-alpha

Alumni Mentorship Program

Students will be connected with an alumni mentor who has experience in their field of interest. Students can:

- Build a professional network
- Gain knowledge of a specific area or industry
- Receive career guidance and advice from a fellow Centenary University graduate.

For more information:

<i>University Advancement:</i>	<i>Career Development:</i>
Elizabeth Freeman	Nancy Podesta
908-852-1400 x2253	908-852-1400 x2363



Mural Dedication

On Dec. 7, Centenary University formally dedicated its new mural, "Empowering Our People," with a ceremony in the center of campus. In addition to Centenary University President Dale Caldwell, special thanks were extended to Dr. Hasani Carter, executive director of the New Jersey Educational Opportunity Fund, and Dr. Stephanie Shanklin, assistant director of the NJEOF. Attendees included representatives of the Hackettstown Business Improvement District (BID), Manskirt Brewery, Sodexo, and Mural Painter Inc., as well as Centenary University Campus Life and recipients of the University's Grace Y. Bissett and Louise Monez Hill Scholarship, Zaria Moore (below, right) and Litzy Diez (below, left).

Introducing The Cyclone Chronicle

MEET **THE CYCLONE CHRONICLE** CREW! On a recent Tuesday when the University offices closed early for the Thanksgiving holiday, the staff of *The Cyclone Chronicle* said, "Let us in! Deadline approaching and we have work to do!" A call to campus security assured access to the classroom where students continued editing and layout of their soon-to-be published student newspaper.

This is the spirit and dedication of the student journalists in WRI2300-Experiential Writing who are proud to introduce the very first edition of *The Cyclone Chronicle*, a newspaper "For students, by students." Pictured from left, back row, are Thomas Edge, Lucas Perone, Libby Rieger, Kayla Diee, Marsali Endrizzi and Eve Foote. Featured center are Joe Hamway and Troy Sumpter with Will Boothe on the bottom. (Photo by Janet Zatta)

Read *The Cyclone Chronicle*: centu.org/cyclone-chronicle-12-23



The mural embraces the beauty of the University's diverse student population and is designed to help make the campus a welcoming and safe place for Educational Opportunity Program (EOP) students. EOP has been an integral part of Centenary University for four decades. This project was fully funded through a grant from NJ Educational Opportunity Fund as a campus special project.

Wellness as a Way of Life

The Centenary University Wellness Center for Counseling and Health is here for your student. Every full-time undergraduate student is assessed a non-refundable, mandatory Wellness Fee of \$151 per semester (different from the Centenary Insurance Plan, which is optional for students). The Wellness fee provides unlimited health and counseling services for students throughout the semester, Monday-Friday, 9 AM-5 PM including appointments and walk-ins.

Medical care is provided by our full-time Nurse Practitioner, our part-time physician, and our part-time Registered Nurse. Hackettstown Regional Medical Center is located less than two miles from campus for additional care.

Visit the website for a full list of available services: centu.org/health

Reach out to us at (908) 852-1400 x2209. Email the Executive Director of Wellness, Theresa Lord-Stout: Theresa.lord-stout@centenaryuniversity.edu or the Director of Counseling, Mikolaya Nynka: Mikolaya.nynka@centenaryuniversity.edu.

Veteran Services

The Office of Veteran Services (OVS) provides services and resources to student veterans, veteran dependents, active military, and reservists in the Centenary community. Contact 908-852-1400, x2318 or OVS@centenaryuniversity.edu. centu.org/military



Kappa Delta Epsilon (KDE)



Kappa Delta Epsilon Honor Society (KDE) initiated and created the vision for a new clinical classroom, donated the materials, and manages its maintenance and use.

KDE is an honorary educational fraternity which supports the cause of education by fostering a spirit of fellowship, high standards of scholastic attainment, and professional ideals among its members. Shown here are the 2023 Inductees to KDE.



Future Educators Day: Teacher of the Year Recipients + Aspiring Educators

The campus buzzed with excitement on October 27, 2023, at Centenary University as high school students and community college students interested in pursuing careers in education were able to meet and speak with notable Teacher of the Year recipients. 100 students and 16 teachers from New Jersey were in attendance.

2023 Teacher of the Year recipients included a Keynote address by Morris County Teacher of the Year: Robyn Meyh, Health and Physical Education Teacher; Sussex County Teacher of the Year: Tara Scrittore, Kindergarten Teacher; Warren County Teacher of the Year: Colleen Grzywacz, Vocal Music Teacher; and

Hunterdon County Teacher of the Year: Gargi Adhikari, Special Education Teacher. The day also featured New Jersey 2018-19 Teacher of the Year: Jennifer Skomial, Principal at Lincoln Elementary in Rockaway, NJ, and a Centenary University Adjunct Professor.

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centu.org/subscribe-news



NEW!

Centenary Stage Company Young Performer's Workshop

Centenary Stage Company (CSC) is accepting applications for the Spring 2024 Young Performer's Workshop (YPW), running from Feb 24-Jun 2. Apply before Feb 23. New applicants must be interviewed before registering.

YPW is a 15-week program for ages 8-18. This hands-on program is designed to meet the needs of beginner, intermediate, and advanced performers interested in theatre. Students will learn about acting, singing, dancing, stage management, props, and costuming. Each session concludes with a weekend Festival of Shows.

YPW is directed by Broadway, movie, and television alumnus Michael Blevins, whose

previous credits include director and choreographer of the National Tours of *Babes in Toyland*, *Aladdin*, and *Tom Sawyer*, and the NYC revival of *Seesaw*.

For more information, or to schedule an interview, call the CSC box office at (908) 979-0900 or centu.org/yp24

