

February 2023

Nevaeh Copenhaver is a second-year student studying Psychology and working on her certificate in Leadership Studies. Growing up, Nevaeh was involved in many activities within her school and community. Those experiences sparked a passion for leadership and engagement. Nevaeh's favorite class has been Introduction to Leadership Theories because it was thought-provoking and opened her eyes to all the different aspects of leadership. Nevaeh is involved in the marching band color guard, Psychology Club, and Tiger Team. When she is not busy with school, Nevaeh enjoys reading books, fitness, holistic health, the art of letter writing, and experimenting with new recipes in the kitchen. Congratulations, Nevaeh!

March 2023

Ryan Beisner is our March 2023 online student of the month. Ryan is a senior receiving a Bachelor of Science in Technology Leadership with a certificate in Leadership Studies. He is originally from Hays, KS, but currently calls Springfield, MO, home. Ryan's favorite class has been LDRS 310, Field Work in Leadership Studies, because of its unique format where students can put their learned skills to practice. Outside of school, Ryan is involved at his local BPOE Elks Lodge, where he participates in programs supporting US service veterans and homeless aid. His hobbies include hiking, mountain biking, disc golf, and leisurely at the lake. Congratulations, Ryan!

Ryan Patterson is our March 2023 on-campus student of the month. Ryan is a freshman majoring in Business Management with a minor in Leadership Studies. He is from Falcon, Colorado, and just completed his redshirt year in wrestling at Fort Hays State University. His favorite class is Leadership in Group Dynamics because it teaches real-life skills that are helpful when working with teams. Ryan's hobbies include wrestling and playing golf. Congratulations, Ryan!

LeNae Knight is our March 2023 on-campus student of the month. LeNae is a sophomore majoring in Agronomy Business. She is from Jewell, KS, and is a member of the Collegiate Farm Bureau and the LLC community. LeNae's favorite class is Introduction to Leadership Behaviors because she enjoys strategic planning units. After all, it allows her class to practice service in leadership. LeNae enjoys intramural basketball and hanging out with her friends. Congratulations, LeNae!

May 2023

Alyssa Mikkelson is a freshman from Salina, KS and majoring in music education. She got involved in Leadership Programs through her LLC, Help Starts Here, and has really enjoyed LDRS 200: Discovering Leadership because it has introduced her to many different forms of leadership. Alyssa plays trumpet and is involved with the FHSU marching band, wind ensemble, and symphonic winds. When not in school, Alyssa enjoys being a member of Catholic Disciples, watching movies, or going on drives with her friends. Congratulations, Alyssa!

Kegan Fisher is a senior from Eureka, KS, majoring in Organizational Leadership. Kegan spent five years in the United States Marine Corps (USMC) and wanted to expand on the leadership skills he had acquired. In the future, he would like to be involved in local government in either Eureka, KS or Benton, KS. By refining his leadership skills, he also plans to pass them down to his daughters so that they can be the best at whatever they decide to do in life. Kegan's favorite professor has been Dr. Donnette Noble and has enjoyed every single class taken with her. He admires how Dr. Noble encourages critical analyzation of himself and how she has helped him gain a better understanding of his leadership skills. When he is not working on school, Kegan enjoys spending time outdoors with his wife, Brooke, and two daughters, Bryn, and Kam. Kegan is involved in the Wild Kansas Organization and Hunters Safety Courses and currently serves as their secretary. His favorite part about this position is being able to provide scholarships to high school students. Congratulations, Kegan, and keep up the good work!

September 2023

Chris Weber is the Leadership Programs September on-campus Student of the Month. Chris is a Psychology major from Wichita, KS. Chris joined the Leadership Programs because he wanted to better develop his skills and become a better leader in any field he chooses to go into. Chris's favorite class is currently LDRS 310: Fieldwork in Leadership Studies because he can apply knowledge from previous leadership classes while making a meaningful contribution to his community. Chris is participating in the "Can We Just Talk?" team with Breathe Coffeehouse. Outside of school, Chris enjoys disc golf, watching movies, and hanging out with friends. Congratulations, Chris!

Congratulations to Barb Spina, Leadership Program's September Online Student of the Month! Barb is a fourth-year student from Marco Island, FL, working towards a degree in General Studies and a minor in Leadership Studies. She got involved with our programs to gain valuable leadership skills needed for her own professional development. In her free time, Barb enjoys reading, biking, boating, playing with her dog, and volunteering with various medical based non-profits. Barbs' favorite class has been LDRS 670: Leadership and Personal Development. Barb enjoys this class because she can analyze her own leadership strengths and weaknesses and apply it to her current professional life. Congratulations, Barb!

October 2023

Abigail Schlatter is the October On-Campus Student of the Month! Abigail is a sophomore studying Secondary Education- Math. Abigail got involved with Leadership Programs through a requirement for her major, and her favorite course has been LDRS 200: Discovering Leadership with Justin Greenleaf. She has enjoyed being able to learn about the different facets of leadership and how she create positive change in the world around her. Abigail is involved with Christian Challenge and MACS Club. Outside of school, she enjoys model making, watercolors, knitting, and watching movies. Congratulations, Abigail!

Riana Bates is the October Graduate Student of the Month! Riana is in her second year of her master's in Medical Imaging Administration and taking LDRS 650: Principles of Organizational Leadership. LDRS 650: Principles of Organizational Leadership has been Riana's favorite because it has broadened her knowledge about organizational design and has helped her to grow and adapt to her current position at HaysMed. Riana is a mother and enjoys spending time with her family, going to her kids' extracurricular activities, traveling, and going to concerts. Congratulations, Riana!

Kelly Lagree is the October Online Student of the Month! Kelly is in her senior year of her bachelor's in science in Organizational Leadership. Kelly originally started school over 20 years ago but put it on hold to raise her family. Today, Kelly hopes to eventually complete a master's degree and teach at the college level. So far, her favorite class has been LDRS 306: Leadership and Team Dynamics because it has provided her with new prospectives on how to approach leadership in a group setting. Outside of school and work, Kelly enjoys cooking, playing with her dog, Lily, and watching the Kansas City Chiefs. Congratulations, Kelly!

November 2023

Caden Riat is the Leadership Program's November on-campus student of the month. Caden is a junior and Hays native studying Organizational Leadership. Caden chose to get involved in Leadership Programs because of his interest in becoming an effective leader and making a difference in his community. Caden's favorite class has been Introduction to Leadership Behaviors with Justin Greenleaf because he was able to make meaningful connections with his classmates. Caden is involved at the golf course with the men's association and enjoys watching the Kansas City Chiefs. Congratulations, Caden!

Nathan Thammavongsa is one of Leadership Program's November students of the month. Nathan is a senior receiving his bachelor's degree of General Studies concentration in Organizational Leadership. Nathan chose to get involved with Leadership Program's after his experiences with leadership in the military. As he transitions to a civilian career, he hopes to use his education to help his company excel and inspire others to complete common goals. Nathan's favorite class was LDRS 310: Fieldwork in Leadership Studies. He enjoyed this class because it is not a traditional lecture, but a collaborative effort between the students and the professor. Nathan is a volunteer at Lao Buddhist Association of Kansas and has participated in in Spirit AeroSystems-Spirit Employee Reservist and Veterans (SERVE). Along with this, Nathan enjoys hunting, fishing, going on family vacations, and coaching his kids in sports. Congratulations, Nathan!

Congratulations, **Aaron Wright**!

December 2023

Shania Lopez-Cabrera is our December Student of the Month! Shania is a senior from Lawrence, KS, majoring in Organizational Leadership. Shania began her academic journey in 2014. After seven years in the banking industry, she decided to come back to school full time. Shania enjoys the organizational leadership program because of the numerous post-graduation opportunities it will offer. Shania's favorite class has been Leadership and Team Dynamics with Dr. Lori Kniffin because of the real time team experiences provided through the course. When not in school, Shania is involved in several different community organizations including

Lawrence Kansas Pride, Jayhawk Breakfast Rotary Club, Bert Nash Community Mental Health Center, and the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. Along with this, she is the 2023-24 President of LWN, a professional networking organization in Lawrence. In her free time, she enjoys traveling with her wife, hanging out with her cats, reading, and sewing. Congratulations, Shania!

Congratulations, Mackenzie Hagerman!

Congratulations, Jason Groth