



CIVIC LEARNING AND ENGAGEMENT



- *149 volunteers helping to pack meals*

SWIPE Out Hunger

In a remarkable display of global solidarity, the campus community banded together on March 23rd for the Swipe Out Hunger event, packing an astounding 30,888 meals destined for the people of Tanzania.

With the dedicated support of 149 volunteers, the initiative aimed to address food insecurity both locally and internationally.





FHSU Alumna Kelly Nuckolls Sparks Global Engagement with Swipe Out Hunger Initiative

In an inspiring testament to the power of grassroots activism and community engagement, Kelly Nuckolls, a proud FHSU alumna, spearheaded the introduction of Swipe Out Hunger on campus. Nuckolls, who graduated from Fort Hays State University in 2013, organized the inaugural Swipe Out Hunger event, drawing inspiration from a similar initiative in her hometown of El Dorado, KS.

The event, which aimed to address food insecurity both locally and globally, saw enthusiastic participation from students, faculty, and the Hays, KS community.

Nuckolls, fueled by her passion for combating hunger, was motivated to bring this impactful initiative to FHSU, recognizing the potential to inspire others to make a difference.

"I was inspired by the grassroots efforts of my hometown community and saw an opportunity to raise awareness about food insecurity while fostering a spirit of global solidarity," Nuckolls shared.

Her personal experiences, including attending a food packaging event in El Dorado, served as a catalyst for action, highlighting the importance of small-town initiatives in addressing global challenges. Through Swipe Out Hunger, Nuckolls hoped to not only raise awareness but also inspire meaningful engagement and advocacy for those affected by food insecurity.

The goals of the Swipe Out Hunger event were clear: to bring attention to the issue of food insecurity, Inspire action,



and cultivate a culture of compassion and civic responsibility within the FHSU community. While recognizing that one event alone cannot solve global hunger, Nuckolls believed in the ripple effect it could create, spurring individuals to take further action and support initiatives like the Tiger Food Pantry

"I envision Swipe Out Hunger as a catalyst for broader conversations and actions surrounding global issues," Nuckolls remarked.

Looking ahead, Nuckolls is committed to sustaining and growing Swipe Out Hunger on campus, leveraging partnerships with faculty, staff, and student organizations to expand its reach and impact. She envisions the initiative as a model for civic engagement, demonstrating how individuals can effect change on both local and global scales.

For those interested in launching similar initiatives on their own campuses, Nuckolls offers sage advice: "Start small, but dream big. Every action, no matter how small, has the potential to make a difference."

In recognition of her efforts, Nuckolls extends heartfelt gratitude to Brett Whitaker, LeAnn Brown, Curt Brungardt, and John Ross, among others, for their unwavering support in establishing and maintaining Swipe Out Hunger at FHSU.

As Swipe Out Hunger continues to gain momentum, fueled by the dedication and passion of individuals like Kelly Nuckolls, it serves as a beacon of hope and inspiration, reminding us of the transformative power of collective action in addressing pressing social issues.





Swipe Out Hunger Event Receives Valuable Insights from Dr. Fatin Yaro

Fort Hays State University (FHSU) reaffirmed its dedication to addressing global challenges through student engagement and community service in a recent interview with Fatin Yaro, the Global Affairs Academic Partnerships Coordinator. Yaro, hailing from Burkina Faso in West Africa, brought to light FHSU's proactive approach towards the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UNSDGs) and its recent efforts, notably the Swipe Out Hunger event.

Yaro's professional trajectory, transitioning from a high school teacher in Burkina Faso to acquiring advanced degrees in the United States, underscores his commitment to global education and community development.

With a master's degree from the University of Southern Indiana and a doctorate in educational leadership from Western Kentucky University, Yaro brings a wealth of experience to his role at FHSU.

Central to the discussion was FHSU's alignment with UNSDG Goal 2: Zero Hunger. Yaro emphasized the significance of the Swipe Out Hunger initiative, offering FHSU students an opportunity to contribute to combating hunger and poverty. Yaro emphasized that approximately one million people in Tanzania face food insecurity every day, underscoring the urgent need for action to address the hunger crisis affecting over 600 million people worldwide.



● *Fatin Yaro*



The success of the Swipe Out Hunger event, boasting 149 volunteers, prompted Yaro to advocate for expanded outreach and recruitment strategies for future endeavors. He proposed collaborative efforts with student organizations like the Student Government Association and the Muslim Student Association to enhance community involvement and raise awareness of the UNSDGs.

Under Yaro's leadership, the Global Citizen Leader Program at FHSU aims to cultivate students' global competencies, leadership skills, and commitment to community service aligned with the UNSDGs. By forging partnerships with local and international entities, students are empowered to address pressing global issues, ranging from educational accessibility to environmental sustainability.

Yaro reiterated FHSU's steadfast dedication to advancing the UNSDGs and empowering students to effect positive change locally and globally. Through initiatives such as Swipe Out Hunger and the Global Citizen Leader Program, FHSU continues to set a precedent for higher education institutions in promoting sustainable development and fostering a culture of global citizenship.



Goal 2 endeavors to eradicate hunger, achieve food security, improve nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture. It targets various facets of food insecurity, including access to nutritious food, sustainable food production, and support for small-scale farmers. By addressing hunger and malnutrition, Goal 2 contributes to broader efforts aimed at poverty alleviation and sustainable development worldwide.



Fort Hays State University Celebrates Diversity with Vibrant Ramadan and Eid Celebrations

Muslim Student Association (MSA), a student organization at FHSU, hosted a series of vibrant celebrations marking the holy month of Ramadan and the joyous occasion of Eid. On March 18, 2024, the campus came alive with the spirit of Ramadan as over a hundred community members gathered to learn about its virtues and significance.

Led by President Tayyabunnisa Tahera, the event was a testament to FHSU's commitment to fostering inclusivity and celebrating diversity. Oumar, a member of the Muslim Student Association (MSA), delivered an

insightful presentation on Ramadan, enlightening attendees about its spiritual importance and traditions

Ramadan, the ninth month of the Islamic lunar calendar, holds great significance for Muslims worldwide. It is a period of fasting, prayer, reflection, and community bonding. Muslims abstain from food and drink from dawn till sunset, focusing on spiritual growth, self-discipline, and empathy for those less fortunate.



● *Tayyabunnisa Tahera (President MSA)*



The event provided a platform for students and community members to come together, learn, and appreciate the rich cultural heritage of Islam. FHSU's support in welcoming and embracing its diverse population was evident, highlighting the university's commitment to fostering an inclusive campus environment

As Ramadan drew to a close, the festivities continued with an Eid celebration on April 13th. Held off-campus in a community park, Muslim students gathered to mark the end of Ramadan with a joyous barbecue party. The Eid party was a vibrant affair, filled with laughter, delicious food, and cherished moments of togetherness.

MSA extended an invitation to the wider non-Muslim community, emphasizing the importance of unity and understanding across different cultures and backgrounds.

The event served as a delightful retreat for all attendees, showcasing the power of diversity in bringing people together and fostering mutual respect and appreciation.

The Muslim community at FHSU expressed gratitude to the university for its unwavering support and encouragement in embracing cultural diversity. Through events like the Ramadan celebration and Eid party, FHSU continues to play a pivotal role in nurturing an inclusive environment where all individuals feel welcomed and valued, contributing to a richer tapestry of experiences and perspectives on campus.





Fort Hays State University Partners with Imagining America: Igniting Collective Action for Social Change!

We're thrilled to announce that Fort Hays State University (FHSU) has officially joined the prestigious Imagining America (IA) consortium! This collaboration marks a significant step forward in our commitment to fostering collective imagination, knowledge-making, and civic action on pressing public issues.

What is Imagining America?

 Imagining America is a consortium that brings together scholars, artists, designers, humanists, and organizers from across the nation to envision a more just and liberatory America and world.

Through promoting public scholarship, cultural organizing, and campus change, IA inspires collective action and dialogue on critical societal issues.

What Does Membership Mean for FHSU?

As a member of IA, FHSU gains access to a wealth of resources, including regional events, student networks, research initiatives, and learning opportunities. This partnership opens doors for our students, faculty, and staff to engage in meaningful dialogue and collaborative efforts aimed at driving positive change in our communities

Exciting Opportunity for FHSU Undergraduates: Joy of Giving Something (JGS) Fellowships

In celebration of our new membership, FHSU undergraduate students are encouraged to apply for the Joy of Giving Something (JGS) Fellowships. This program, offered in partnership with IA, aims to elevate photography and digital media as pathways for students to pursue their careers while making a difference in their communities.



Key Details about the IA/JGS Fellows Program:

- Each JGS Fellow will receive a \$2,000 tuition scholarship.
- Fellows will benefit from mentorship and financial support for a community project.
- Attendance at Imagining America's Engaged Arts Summit at UC Davis in Fall 2024, with complimentary registration and travel awards included.
- Participation in regular, virtual learning exchanges.
- Connection to IA's national network of scholars, artists, and community organizers.

How to Apply:

Interested FHSU undergraduate students should submit their applications for the IA/JGS Fellows Program by June 5, 2024. This is a fantastic opportunity for students who are passionate about using their creative talents to effect positive change in their communities.

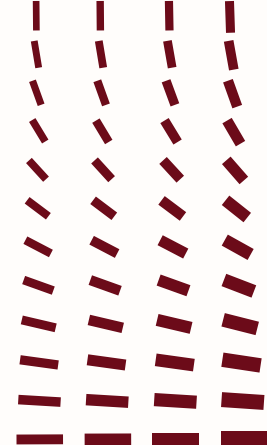
For more information about Imagining America and the IA/JGS Fellows Program, visit [IA's website](#).

Let's join together to imagine a brighter future and make it a reality. Welcome to the Imagining America community, FHSU!





Congratulations to the Graduates of Fort Hays State University!



As the academic year draws to a close, we extend our heartfelt congratulations to the graduates of Fort Hays State University (FHSU)! Your hard work, dedication, and perseverance have culminated in this momentous achievement, and we couldn't be prouder of your accomplishments.

As you embark on the next chapter of your journey, we wish you all the best for the future. May your path be filled with endless opportunities, growth, and success. Remember that the knowledge and experiences gained during your time at FHSU have equipped you to thrive in whatever endeavors you pursue.

While the road ahead may be filled with challenges, we have no doubt that you possess the resilience and determination to overcome them. Stay true to your passions, continue to learn and grow, and never lose sight of the impact you can make on the world around you.

As you celebrate this significant milestone, know that you are not only graduates of Fort Hays State University but also ambassadors of knowledge, integrity, and excellence. We are confident that you will go on to achieve great things and leave a lasting legacy wherever life may take you.



FORT HAYS STATE
UNIVERSITY

CIVIC LEARNING
AND ENGAGEMENT

April/May 2024



Once again, congratulations to the graduates of 2024! Your FHSU family cheers you on as you embark on this exciting new chapter. Go forth and make your mark on the world



CONTACT INFORMATION

For any inquiries, information, or assistance, please feel free to reach out to the Civic Learning & Engagement Administrative Team

Donnette Noble

Director of Civic Learning and Engagement



djnoble@fhsu.edu



(785) 628-4415



[Civic Learning &
Engagement](#)

Newsletter Credits

Tayyabunnisa Tahera

*Graduate Assistant for Civic
Learning and Engagement*



t_tahera.se@fhsu.edu