

Overview: The Early College Programs at Fort Hays State University provide a residential learning experience for exceptional high school juniors and seniors with an interest in mathematics and science. Over the course of the two years, students receive 68 hours of college credit, earn their high school diploma, conduct hands on research, develop leadership and civic engagement skills, and participate in co-curricular and extra-curricular activities.

Points of Pride:

- The KAMS/AMS graduating class of 2024 achieved an average composite ACT score of 31. Students who score a 31 ACT composite score are in the top 95th percentile out of the 1.9 million students that participated in the ACT in 2023-2024.
- The KAMS/AMS graduating class of 2024 received a little over 2.5 million dollars in scholarships even though it was a small class of 21 students.
- Early College Programs graduated the sixth official class of AMS students. AMS students hailed from China and South Korea.
- Academic Excellence: 18 students earned a perfect 4.0 GPA in the fall of 2023. 15 students earned a perfect 4.0 GPA in the spring of 2024.
- Academic Excellence: 31 students earned Dean’s Honor Roll recognition in the fall of 2023. 29 students earned Dean’s Honor Roll recognition in the spring of 2024.
- KAMS senior, Krish Patel was named a “Hansen Scholar” by the Dane G Hansen Foundation.
- KAMS seniors Elijah Beauchamp and Emma Cohn were selected and presented their research at the Undergraduate Research Day at the Capital in Topeka, KS.
- KAMS senior, Audrey Caleb, National Merit Finalist.
- Early College Programs began a FIRST Competition (FRC) with the guidance of AMS student Mufeng Shen.
- Booster Club was established. Parents supported various activities throughout the year such as: Haunted Hotel dinner, tailgate @FHSU game, Winter break snacks dropped off by Santa and his elf, SuperBowl snacks and Awards Night invitations and drinks.
- KAMS senior, Tuley Gilliland, was named “2024 Kansas Governor’s Scholar”.

- **Success in competitions, activities, and campus involvement:**
 - Numerous students provided countless service hours during a variety of volunteer service opportunities on campus and in the Hays community.
 - KAMS and AMS students participated in the annual John Heinrichs Scholarly and Creative Activities Day here at FHSU, in May. 27 students
 - KAMS senior Audrey Caleb and AMS juniors Seoyeon Kim, Yue Fan, and Yiqing Zang took the American Chemical Society ACS U.S. National Chemistry Olympiad Local Section Exam.
 - KAMS senior Audrey Caleb qualified for and took the American Chemical Society ACS U.S. National Chemistry Olympiad National Exam.
 - AMS students, Seungyou Cho, Yue Fan, Seoyeon Kim, and Xiaochuan Cao, took part in the Kansas Regional Science Bowl in Kansas City, KS.

- KAMS and AMS students took part in the British Biology Olympiad with students achieving silver, bronze, highly commended, and commended awards. 13 students
- Electric Vehicle App & Design: Students: Lawson Ricke, Kyle Wasinger, Binyu Yan, and Haiti Schaffers, these students took part in multiple Kansas Electro Rally races across the state.
- KAMS senior Emma Cohn presented her research at the Annual Great Plains-Rocky Mountain Division of the Association of Geographers conference in Sioux Falls, SD.
- KAMS senior, Elijah Beauchamp, placed 2nd in Java Programming in the Kansas Business Professionals of America's competition. Elijah placed 8th for Java Programming and 10th place in Computer Programming Concepts at the National Business Professionals of America competition.
- KAMS seniors Hazel Frans and Elijah Beauchamp, along with AMS junior Seoyeon Kim took part in the Kansas Mathematical Association of America Conference. Elijah and Seoyeon competed at the conference and their team placed 5th.
- KAMS seniors, Hazel Frans and Tuley Gilliland were selected and have successfully participated as FHSU VIP Student Ambassadors for the President's Office.
- KAMS senior, Joshua Gage, received L-2 certification in high-level/advanced rocketry. AMS junior Seungyou Cho and Mufeng Shen, along with KAMS junior Hannah Caycedo achieved L-1 certification in high-level/advanced rocketry with their research with Dr. Paul Adams.
- 16 KAMS/AMS students took part in the fall 2024 KAMS/AMS Colorado Research Trip. The trip was led by Director Sherri Matlock and Dr. Jeanne Sumrall. The trip provided many opportunities for students to experience natural science, geography, mines, etc.
- 3 KAMS seniors were admitted to FHSU Honor's College: Eos Shapland, Hazel Frans, and Emma Cohn.
- AMS junior, Yue "Roger" Fan, was selected as Fort Hays State University 2024-25 VIP Ambassador for the President's Office.
- 3rd place. Other students also received awards and certificates of honors and distinction.
- KAMS seniors Tuley Gilliland and KAMS junior Bryce Steffan were part of the True Sustainable Energy – Business Plan & Project for the Peter Werth Entrepreneurship Challenge. Their team were the champions against UCONN.
- AMS students Yun Lan and Yueun Park, KAMS junior Kiel Harrison took part in the Hays Symphony Orchestra. Senior Yun Lan was selected to perform a flute solo for the Arias & Concertos concert.
- Dean's Honor Roll
 - 11 KAMS and AMS seniors for the 2023 fall semester
 - 20 KAMS and AMS juniors for the 2023 fall semester
 - 11 KAMS and AMS seniors for the 2024 spring semester
 - 18 KAMS and AMS juniors for the 2024 spring semester

- **Provided a variety of programming and events for students to participate in:**
 - Good Vibe Van Friday's (surprise dash to a local café or landmark)

- Weekly Breathe Break
- College Application Work Nights—8 students
- Booster Club Tail Gate—28 students, staff, parents
- Haunted Hotel Night Trip to Ellinwood—32 students
- Oktoberfest BBQ for KAMS/AMS Students
- Custer Hall Halloween Costume Party
- Colorado Natural Resources Research Trip—16 students
- Science Café and Dinner for KAMS/AMS students
- KAMS/AMS Prom—32 students + guests, staff
- Awards Night: Celebration of accomplishments, involvement—54 students, staff, parents, alumni speaker, distinguished guests -former directors, staff and Jerry Magliano
- Spring Break Trip for KAMS/AMS students to St. Louis-KC—16 students
- Custer Hall Council Events
- Mental Health First Aid Training--10 students

➤ Provided a variety of **competitions** for students to participate in:

- American Chemical Society ACS U.S. National Chemistry Olympiad Local Section Exam--3 students
- American Chemical Society ACS U.S. National Chemistry Olympiad National Exam--1 student
- AMC American Mathematics Competition (AMC 12)—11 students
- AIME American Invitation Mathematics Examination--2 students
- British Biology Olympiad (BBO)—13 students
- Canadian Chemistry Competition--4 students
- Canadian Chemistry Contest—3 students
- Canadian Mathematics Competition – Euclid—4 students
- Canadian Mathematics Competition – Hypatia—1 student
- Canadian Mathematics Competition – Team—5 students
- Dane G. Hansen
- Electric Vehicle Electro Rally—5 students
- First Robotics Challenge w-TMP-M—12 students
 - Kansas City, KS Heartland Cresendo
 - Oklahoma City, OK Oklahoma Regional Competition
- ITEECA National Robotics Competition Memphis, TN (4th Place)—7 students
- ITEECA National Manufacturing Competition Memphis, TN (1st Place)—1 student
- Inaugural Werth Entrepreneurship Challenge Championship Team—2 students
- Kansas Mathematical Association of America Conference (KMAA)—3 students
- Kansas Regional Science Bowl—5 students
- KC Scholar 1 recipient \$50,000
- K-State High School Programming Contest—4 students
- KU School of Engineering's High School Design Competition—5 students

- Math Madness—8 students
- National Merit Finalist- 1 student
- VEX Robotics—8 students

Focus Areas for 2023-2024:

- Continue to focus on increasing applications for domestic students. The goal is to grow to capacity of 40 domestic students for the entering class for Fall 2025. Challenges to hurdle include: public high schools increasingly offering STEM curriculum, discounted college credit, and families not aware of the program. Part of our recruitment strategy this year included the Director Sherri Matlock attending information sessions along with our recruiter, Jenner Little. The Assistant Director, Suellyn Stenger, was also active by reaching out to prospective students and maintaining contact with them and their families. Several times throughout the year the Directors met on weekend with students and their families because it worked out best for the families' schedules. We also used social media more to increase visibility. At this time, we have increased our KAMS students by 50% going from 16 students to 24 students.
 - Director Sherri Matlock presented "KAMS" to the following clubs/conferences in 2023-2024:
 - KGTC: Kansas Gifted, Talented & Creative
 - KPA: Kansas Principals Association
 - KSBE: Kansas State Board of Education
 - KASB: Kansas Association of School Boards
 - Great Bend Rotary (student, Bryce Steffan, did this solo due to weather)
 - Hays Rotary Club (student Emma Cohn assisted)
 - Hays Lyons Club (student Emma Cohn assisted)
 - FHSU Alumni Board of Ambassadors
 - Information Sessions: Lenexa, Lawrence, Topeka, Junction City, Dodge City, Hays, Salina
 - Smoky Hills Regional Coop: Hays
 - Smoky Hills Regional Coop: Salina
 - Superintendents: e-mailed 287 school district superintendents asking for KAMS to be listed in their course guide.
 - Phillipsburg High School Signing of 3 students (Suellyn Stenger accompanied)
 - Director Sherri Matlock and Jenner Little presented at Information Sessions in 2023-2024:
 - Lawrence, KS -- Lenexa, KS -- Junction City, KS -- Salina, KS -- Great Bend, KS
 - Wichita, KS -- Hays, KS -- Dodge City, KS -- Shawnee, KS -- Topeka, KS
 - Manhattan, KS
- Continue to focus on increasing applications for international students. The goal is to grow to capacity of 40 international students for the entering class for Fall 2025. We renewed the incentive program for two years with all agents, China, Korea, Georgia and Taiwan. This is a graduated bonus system in which agents receive a one-time bonus for students that they recruit. For Fall 2024, AMS is up 243% going from 7 students to 24 and possibly 27. The Director was able to recruit in China for the first time since the pandemic. This along with the incentive seem to be

key in our growth. The incentive program is in effect for one more year. In-person recruitment will continue.

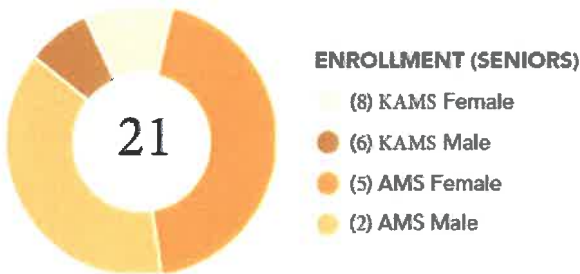
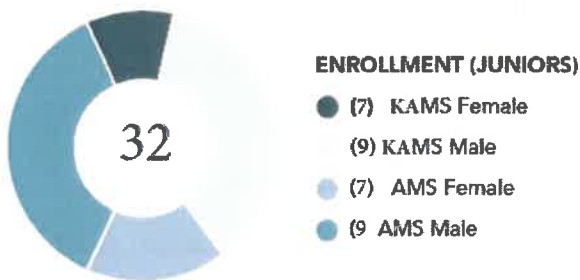
- This AMS recruitment cycle was very productive with China (25 -27 students) We are holding numbers about the same with Korea (10 students). Our partnership in the county of Georgia has not yielded a student yet. Last fall we sponsored a “table” at LEAF’s educational fair but did not attend in person. Our newly created partnership with Lincoln Management Group in Taiwan has not yielded students yet. This will be a goal for next year.
- Agents tell us consistently that they need a summer program to attend. This is in the works for Summer 2025.
- Our total enrollment for the KAMS/AMS programs for the 2023-2024 academic year was 54 students. We started the year at 51 (including a TMP-M boarder) and added 3 students in January. These students will be here for five semesters instead of four.
- Establish additional international partnerships for admission, research, and cultural exchange. A few examples of this include:
 - Last year, we were able to create an incentive program for our international partners. Markham (international agency from China) was the only agency able to capitalize this academic year, but every agency we have spoken to, sees this as a great way to increase overall numbers.
 - This was the second year that Early College Programs housed minor students who do not attend KAMS or AMS. Last year, we created the “TMP Boarding Program” where TMP international students could have a choice of staying in Custer Hall or with a host family connected with TMP. One TMP Boarders lived in Custer Hall for the 23-24 academic year down from 3 the year before. I anticipate that this number will remain small and fluctuate depending on the year. Not only did this provide diversity to our campus and spread goodwill to TMP, it provided FHSU/Res Life with a few additional dollars for housing from these students.
 - In spring of 2024, we provided a cultural, geological, and historical trip that focused on the St. Louis, MO and Kansas City areas. A total of 19 KAMS and AMS students participated. This trip was in conjunction with our FRC (FIRST Robotics Competition) inaugural competition.
- This was our fourth year of our transcript partnership with TMP High School. TMP houses our international students’ transcripts. We feel strongly that this is a valuable partnership and that TMP’s service to our staff and students has once again been phenomenal. Our goal is to strengthen this partnership with TMP and even create a “pipeline” of AMS international students that attend TMP for 9th and 10th grades before coming to FHSU for AMS. Some of this will also be done through our ability to host the “TMP Boarding Program” here in Custer Hall, which is mentioned above.
- Continue to focus on social/emotional/mental health and support for our KAMS/AMS students. This is the fifth year of our “Weekly Wellness Sessions” where staff members from KAMS/AMS create a variety of wellness activities for students to participate in throughout the year. Ten students took the Mental Health First Aid Course which was newly offered.
- This is the fifth year for our evening college application counseling sessions for our seniors. Numerous sessions took place in the fall 2023 semester for our seniors. These consisted of very individualized advising sessions where our Assistant Director (Suellyn Stenger) worked one-on-one with students. Our goal is to continue to provide these evening work sessions. In addition, we hope to increase the number of students attending each of these evening work sessions.

- We hosted two parent zoom meetings summer of 2023 to discuss the newly updated handbook which includes more gender-inclusive language. Dennis King, AVP for Enrollment Management, and Amy Schaffer, Compliance Office, attended. Custer Hall policies were also updated to be more gender inclusive. This was done with the help of university legal counsel and Title IX coordinator. 2023-2024 year went smoothly with these new policies.
- Curriculum changes were stable this year. Added flexibility continues to assist with retention, mental health and assisting students in meeting their future goals. Students have requested that there is more flexibility in the science requirements. Could they take three courses yet have the option to take two in one area and not take one of the disciplines (Biology, Chemistry or Physics). This will be taken into consideration in the future.

By the Numbers:

KAMS-AMS Class of 2024 – Total of 21 graduating/completing seniors this year.

2023-2024 ENROLLMENT



Total Enrollment: 78 students

Countries Represented: **United States, China, South Korea**

Students from U.S. Rural Cities and Towns: 20

Students from U.S. Metropolitan Cities: 34

SAMPLE COURSE PROGRESSION

JUNIOR YEAR

Fall Semester

Pre-Calculus

*Principles of Biology + Lab

OR *Human Biology + Lab

English Composition I

U.S. History Before 1877

Earth, Space, Science

Research & Writing

Research Seminar

17 Credit Hours

Spring Semester

Calculus I

*Chemistry I + Lab

OR *University Chemistry I + Lab

English Composition II

U.S. History After 1877

Departmental Research & Writing

16-18 Credit Hours

SENIOR YEAR

Fall Semester

Calculus II

*Physics I + Lab

OR *Engineering Physics I + Lab

STEM elective

Departmental Research & Writing

14-16 Credit Hours

Spring Semester

American Government

Computer Science Elective

STEM Elective

Social Studies Elective

Elective course of interest

Departmental Research & Writing

14-16 Credit Hours

**FLEXIBLE PATHWAYS: Our course schedule provides students with a choice of an academic pathway that is related to their anticipated academic program and/or career of choice. Students are given the option to complete more rigorous coursework in their desired discipline based on their background, previous knowledge, and academic interest.*



SCAN TO VIEW
SAMPLE CURRICULUM

SAMPLE STEM ELECTIVE OPTIONS

APPLIED TECHNOLOGY

Intro to Computer Aided Drafting
Intro to STEM Applications

BIOLOGY

Botany
Zoology
Microbiology

CHEMISTRY

University Chemistry II + Lab
Organic Chemistry I & II + Lab

COMPUTER SCIENCE

Foundations of Computing
Object-Oriented Programming
Java Programming

GEOSCIENCE

Climatology
Elementary Meteorology
Intro to GIS

MATHEMATICS

Elements of Statistics
Linear Algebra
Differential Equations

PHYSICS

Engineering Physics II + Lab
Analog & Digital Electronics
Modern Physics

Depending on the student's area(s) of interest, they have the option to take other FHSU elective courses, as needed.

Full List of 2024 University Acceptances:

Baker University

Carnegie Mellon University

Diablo Valley College

Fort Hays State University

Fort Hays State University Honors College

Friends University

Illinois Institute of Technology

Iowa State University

Kansas State University

Missouri University of Science and Technology
Northwest Missouri State University
The Ohio State University
Oklahoma State University
Purdue University
Rockhurst University
Stevens Institute of Technology
Texas A&M University
University of California - Davis
University of California - Irvine
University of Canterbury
University of Connecticut
University of Delaware
University of Detroit Mercy
University of Illinois
University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
University of Kansas
University of Marquette
University of Minnesota - Twin Cities
University of Missouri Kansas-City
University of Missouri-Columbia
University of the Pacific
University of Texas - Dallas
University of Wisconsin - Madison
Washington University in St. Louis
Wichita State University

NEWSLETTER



Left to right: KAMS senior ambassadors Tuley Gilliland, Hazel Frans, and Abigail Amend play Giant Jenga with juniors Cadee Haugsness, Hannah Caycedo, Xiaoyi "Bella" Yan, Yiqing "Sylvie" Zang, and Tianhui "Julia" Xie.



Sherri Matlock speaks to new students and their parents during the KAMS-AMS Orientation in the Memorial Union Ballroom.

KAMS/AMS welcomes our Class of 2025 with great excitement! The program allows academically talented and motivated students to start a path in higher education early, and KAMS staff, along with FHSU's faculty, look forward to helping them along the way.



NEW STRIPES

Left to Right: Yue "Roger" Fan, Wyatt McDonnell, Aiden Burton, & Dylan Wagner.

Left to Right: Haiti Schafers & Hannah Caycedo.

For the first TGOF (Tiger Gold on Friday), students walk across Jellison Bridge, through a tunnel made of welcoming FHSU faculty and staff.

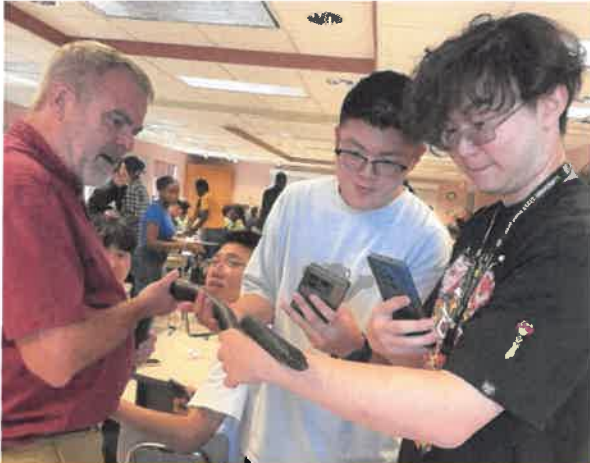


Left to Right:
Back Row: KAMS ambassadors Elijah Beauchamp, Eos Shapland, Tuley Gilliland, Hazel Frans, & Abigail Amend.
2nd from the Back Row: Xiaoyi "Bella" Yan, Yiqing "Sylvie" Zang, Tianhui "Julia" Xie, Dylan Wagner, Daree Wagner, & Seungyou Cho.
3rd from the Back: Alex Redinger, Hannah Caycedo, Cadee Haugsness, Allison Ost, Bryce Steffan, Kiel Harrison, Aiden Burton.
4th from the Back Row: Alan Parker, Xiaotian "Trajann" Gao, Yue "Roger" Fan, Jung Hyuk "Jonathan" Lee, Wyatt McDonnell.
2nd from the Front: Huaqing "Harry" Teng, Xiaochuan "Cade" Cao, Stunghm "Kevin" Park.
Front Row: Assistant Director & Academic Advisor Suellyn Stenger, Administrative Specialist Angela Moore, and Counselor Alisha Otter.



Special thanks to our returning seniors who welcomed the incoming junior class on move-in day!

Left to Right: Abigail Amend, Elijah Beauchamp, Hazel Frans, Tuley Gilliland, & Eos Shapland



Left to Right: AMS juniors Huaqing "Harry" Teng and Xiaotian "Trajann" Gao hold a plain-bellied water snake. During the International Student Orientation, our AMS students were able to take a trip to Sternberg Museum and meet some interesting species of wildlife native to Kansas.

PREPARING FOR TOMORROW

Junior Seminar and Senior Colloquia provide a variety of information to our students. These sessions provide life skills such as building a resume, applying for scholarships, and exploring post-college opportunities with guest research speakers, who consist of Fort Hays State University professors from across different academic departments.

For Seniors

- Be on the lookout for volunteer opportunities to bolster your resume.
- Attend college prep nights: September 14th, 21st, and 28th in the Tiger's Den.
- Keep updating your student profile e-file.
- Stay on-track with grades and extracurricular activities; don't slack off! Colleges look into what you have done your senior year, too!
- Write essays for applications.
- Retake the ACT/SAT at least once, perhaps twice, depending on the score.
- Create a calendar detailing deadlines for admission, financial aid, and scholarships.
- Make and keep deadlines; don't rush!
- Keep healthy in all aspects of life.

For Juniors

- Look into undergraduate research experience opportunities across the FHSU campus and beyond.
- Make use of the tools and skills you receive through Junior Seminar to be successful academically.
- Get involved with campus clubs and activities.
- Make connections with current seniors and professors.
- Create a healthy schedule that balances academics and personal life.
- Look into tutoring early; don't wait until it's too late.
- Take information on self-care and wellness topics to heart, as we want you to succeed!

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **OCTOBER 13:** FHSU INTERIM
- **OCTOBER 20:** HAUNTED HOTEL TRIP TO ELLINWOOD, KS
- **OCTOBER 25:** KU SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING'S HIGH SCHOOL DESIGN COMPETITION
- **NOVEMBER 1:** K-STATE'S HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAMMING COMPETITION
- **NOVEMBER 8:** AMERICAN MATHEMATICS COMPETITION
- **NOVEMBER 20-24:** FALL BREAK (UNIVERSITY CLOSED FROM NOVEMBER 22-26)
- **NOVEMBER 27:** FHSU CLASSES RESUME
- **DECEMBER 9, 11-15:** FINAL EXAMINATIONS
- **DECEMBER 15:** SEMESTER ENDS
- **DECEMBER 25-JANUARY 1:** WINTER BREAK (UNIVERSITY CLOSED)
- **JANUARY 16:** CLASSES BEGIN

Parents: If your child received free/reduced school lunches then their ACT/SAT and/or college application fees may be waived. Contact Suellyn Stenger or Sherri Matlock for more information.



Left to Right: KAMS juniors Haiti Schafers, Hannah Caycedo, Kiel Harrison, KAMS senior Joshua Gage, Community Assistant Director Lucas Johnson, CA Lauryn Gaddis, CA Ethan McPherson, AMS junior Dylan Wagner, & AMS senior Yun "Laurinda" Lan.



Left to Right: KAMS juniors Christina Robison and Dylan Wagner paint their doorstops.

Residential Life and the Custer Hall Community Assistants (CAs) spearheaded the event, "Paint a Prop," in Custer Hall Tiger's Den. At this event, students painted bricks to act as doorstops.

KAMS|AMS STAFF



INNOVATIVE

Left to Right: KAMS|AMS Staff

Back Row: Jenner Little, Ann Noble, Sherri Matlock, and Cody Achter.

Front Row: Damilola Atanda, Alisha Otter, Suellyn Stenger, and Angela Moore.



Weekly Wellness

This year KAMS|AMS added a new event to our usual Weekly Wellness activities. The First GoodVibe Van Run took place on Friday, August 25, with Assistant Director Suelyn Stenger taking students to Sonic. A short trip off-campus offers both a breath of fresh air and a chance to familiarize the students with what Hays, KS has to offer. On Wednesdays, student can participate in Breathe Break which takes place either in Custer Hall, or at the downtown Breathe Coffee House. KAMS|AMS provides these activities for students to focus on their mental, physical, and social health, as well as build an engaging, friendly community between KAMS-AMS pupils.

Left to Right:

Back Row: Darec Wagner, Joshua Gage, Bryce Steffan, Seungyou Cho, Dylan Wagner, Elijah Beauchamp, and Eos Shapland.
Front Row: Hazel Frans, Hannah Caycedo, Haiti Schafers, Seoyeon "Jessica" Kim, and Allison Ost.

Hays Arts Council's Annual Fall Art Walk



Left to Right: Yiqing "Sylvie" Zang and Tianhui "Julia" Xie make a puzzle and chat with their fellow KAMS-AMS students at the Art Walk.



Left to right: Director Sherri Matlock with Seungyou Cho on the railroad tracks that run through downtown Hays, KS.



Left to right: Aiden Burton and Gregory Gladkowski test wits against each other in a game of chess.



Left to right: Cellists Yun "Laurinda" Lan and Kiel Harrison take part in the Fall Art Walk by playing with the Hays Symphony Orchestra.



Left to right: Darec Wagner, Aiden Burton, Josi Maness, Cadee Haugsness, and Dylan Wagner.



Left to right: Abigail Amend, Darec Wagner, Wyatt McDonnell, Dylan Wagner, and Bryce Steffan.



Left to right: Madeline Hamrick, Josi Maness, and Cadee Haugsness.



After spending his summer back home in China, AMS senior Binyu "Lawrence" Yan receives a helping hand from KAMS senior Elijah Beauchamp in moving his things to his room.



Left to Right: Juniors Allison Ost, Aiden Burton, and Seoyeon "Kim" Jessica, test out the typewriter Aiden purchased from Hays' The ARC. Aiden now owns 5 typewriters!



KAMS junior Alex Redinger helps AMS junior Yue "Roger" Fan with his new bicycle and lock.

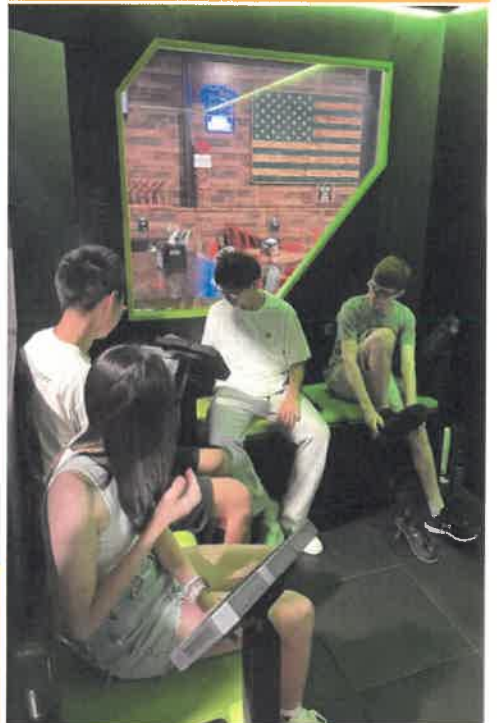
**Finding Your People
&
Sharing Your Passions**



Left to Right: KAMS seniors Kae Dees, Emma Cohn, and Lyric Yost get ready head to marching band practice.



Left to Right: Allison Ost, Seoyeon "Kim" Jessica, and Aiden Burton.



Left to Right: AMS juniors Seoyeon "Jessica" Kim, Xaiochuan "Cade" Cao, Jung Hyuk "Jonalhan" Lee, and KAMS junior Wyatt McDonnell compete in a virtual reality experience at the Fort in downtown Hays. The trip to the Fort was part of a GoodVibe Van run.



Left to Right: KAMS junior Kiel Harrison and AMS junior Seungyou Cho
Right to Left: AMS junior Aidne Burton and AMS junior Xiaotian "Trajann" Gao.

Some juniors take part in the first astronomy club meeting of the semester.

This year, there is a total number of 209 clubs and organizations across campus. No matter what you are interested in, you can find those that love the same thing!

Follow the link below for a full list on TigerLink:

<https://tigerlink.fhsu.edu/organizations>



Left to Right: KAMS/AMS juniors Alex Redinger, Yoon Woo Lee, Huaqing "Harry" Teng, Seungyou Cho, Kiel Harrison, Seoyeon "Jessica" Kim, Allison Ost, Hannah Caycedo, Yiqing "Sylvie" Zang, and Tianhui "Julia" Xie visit a popular hotspot, Cervs, in Hays, KS. Cervs is a local convenience store that has 'snoballs,' slushy drinks that come in a variety of flavors!



Left to Right: Haiti Schafers, Assistant Director Suellyn Stenger, Yiqing "Sylvie" Zang, Huaqing "Harry" Teng, Seungyou Cho, Dylan Wagner, Kiel Harrison, Alex Redinger, and Yoon Woo Lee at Canem, a Mexican restaurant within walking distance of campus.



Left to Right: KAMS Juniors Allison Ost, Alex Redinger, Hannah Caycedo & Kiel Harrison.

KAMS|AMS INAUGURAL TAILGATE



Left to Right: KAMS juniors Bryce Steffan, Alan Parker, Aiden Burton, Kiel Harrison, and Daree Wagner.



Parents barbecue for students, friends, and family in the festive atmosphere before the game.

GROW WHERE YOU'RE PLANTED



Left to Right: KAMS Juniors Hannah Caycedo & Kiel Harrison.

Students were able to pot and take their own succulents to liven up their dorms. Plants were provided by FHSU's Health & Wellness.

This year was the first-ever launch of the KAMS-AMS Booster club. The club hosted a tailgating party at FHSU's Lewis Field Stadium, where parents and guardians cooked for KAMS|AMS students and met with the families of these exceptional high school kids!



Follow Us On Social Media: facebook.com/FHSUKAMS, Instagram, and X: [kams_fhsu](https://twitter.com/kams_fhsu)



NATIONAL RECOGNITION



KAMS is proud to announce that Audrey Caleb, a Washburn Rural High School senior, is a semifinalist in the National Merit Scholarship Corporation's competition! Audrey has continued to shine here at FHSU, taking an active role in FHSU's Creative Arts Society, Ceramic Clay Club, Akido Club, and Chemistry Clubs. The FHSU Dean's Honor Roll is somewhere you can always find Audrey, having accomplished being listed on both the fall 2022 and the spring 2023 semester's list.

We are so proud of you, Audrey!



Custer Hall Community Council

The votes are in! Below is the list of your Custer Hall Community Council members and their positions.

Hazel Frans - President

Elijah Beauchamp - Vice President

Abigail Amend - Secretary

Seoyeon "Jessica" Kim - Treasurer

Sunghun "Kevin" Park -
Programming Chair

Hannah Caycedo - Marketing Chair

Eos Shapland - Second Floor
Representative

Allison Ost - Third Floor
Representative

Roger Fan - RHA Representative

Custer Hall Community Council members are elected by the residents of Custer Hall. CHCC will host events such as prom, pumpkin carving, and others!



Far right: Alan Parker with his fellow graduates of the Motorcycle Rider University class at FHSU.

Alan practicing his driving through the course that had been set up for students.

GAINING UNIQUE LIFE SKILLS

Fort Hays State University hosted a Motorcycle Rider University course, which KAMS junior Alan Parker eagerly took advantage of. During the course, Alan was required to learn motorcycle safety skills, as well as log hours of driving practice, which gave him the confidence to maneuver a two-wheeled, motorized vehicle.



HOCO IN HOLTON

Many of our KAMS students travel home to participate in their sending high school's homecoming activities. However, this homecoming was particularly special for KAMS Senior Tuley Gilliland who was chosen to take part in Holton High School's Homecoming as a member of court royalty!

FHSU Spring 2023

Dean's Honor Roll

KAMS|AMS Seniors

Cosmo Jarboe

Dayne Locke

Gideon Fox

Jiayin "Jennie" Wang

Jiho Hong

Kaijie "Jacky" Wen

Kyron Saunders

Muyang "Hanson" Xu

Ryan Swafford

Sanghoon Lee

Zichun "Amanda" Su

KAMS|AMS Juniors

Abigail Amend

Audrey Caleb

Binyu "Lawrence" Yan

Elijah Beauchamp

Eos Shapland

Gyuri "Sarah" Park

Hazel Frans

Joshua Gage

Letao "Lottie" Chang

Mark Hamrick

Tuley Gilliland

Yun "Laurinda" Lan

2023-2024

KAMS|AMS Ambassadors

Junior Ambassadors:

Aiden Burton - KAMS

Allison Ost - KAMS

Bryce Steffan -KAMS

Cadee Haugsness - KAMS

Hannah Caycedo - KAMS

Scoyeon "Jessica" Kim - AMS

Sunghun "Kevin" Park - AMS

Tianhui "Julia" Xie - AMS

Yiqing "Sylvie" Zang - AMS

Seniors Ambassadors:

Abigail Amend - KAMS

Elijah Beauchamp - KAMS

Eos Shapland - KAMS

Hazel Frans - KAMS

Tuley Gilliland - KAMS

Yun "Laurinda" Lan - AMS

MID-AUTUMN FESTIVAL & MOON VIEWING

AMS senior Yun "Laurinda" Lan coordinated and led a Mid-Autumn and Moon Viewing party for her fellow KAMS|AMS students, an important cultural event in many Asian cultures. Students learned about Chinese and other Asian foods, mythology, and crafts. After, they went to the FHSU observatory to look for the rabbit on the moon through a telescope.



Left to Right: Xiaoyi "Bella" Yan, Letao "Lottie" Chang, Allison Osy, Tianhui "Julia" Xie, Yun "Laurinda" Lan, and Seungyou Cho.

Students making lanterns and Chinese knots.



Sherri Matlock was joined at a KAMS information session in Lawrence, KS by alumn Haley Pfeifer (KAMS Class of 2022) to help spread the news about the program, Haley is majoring in Aerospace Engineering at KU!



Left to Right: Haili Schafers, Josi Maness, Yun "Laurinda" Lan, and Bryce Steffan play a common Chinese string game.



Left to Right: Yun "Laurinda" Lan and Tianhui "Julia" Xie show Josi Maness and Allison Ost how to play the string game.

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Left to Right: AMS senior Yun "Laurinda" Lan and KAMS senior Kae Dees

Stargazing at the Wetlands Education Center, students in the FHSU Astronomy Club viewed Jupiter, Saturn, and the M31 Andromeda Galaxy through telescopes.



KAMS senior Kae Dees



KAMS Senior Lyric Yost

This year, we have several KAMS students that are members of the FHSU marching band. They took part in the 2023 FHSU Homecoming Parade.



KAMS Senior Kae Dees



KAMS Junior Madeline Hamrick



KAMS Senior Emma Cohn



KAMS Junior Gregory Gladkowski

In the Tiger's Den, students study, hang out, hold meetings, watch movies, and make plans for future events.



KAMS juniors Alex Redinger, Aiden Burton, Bryce Steffan, Haiti Schafers, Darec and Dyaln Wagner study in the Tiger's Den.



KAMS senior Emma Cohn in front of Sioux Falls

Research

KAMS senior Emma Cohn traveled to Sioux Falls, South Dakota to take part in the 2023 Great Plains-Rocky Mountain Division of the American Association of Geographers' annual meeting. Emma presented research she conducted with Dr. Todd Moore of FHSU Geosciences, focusing on Northwestern Kansas Well Water Mineralization in Norton, Phillips, Decatur, and Rawlins County.

Congrats!

KAMS|AMS Graduate Assistant Damilola Atanda recently got married in a joyous celebration here at Hays, KS.





Left to Right: Dylan Wagner, Seoyeon "Jessica" Kim, Mark Hamick, Hannah Caycedo, Gregory Gladkowski, and Allison Ost play Jenga in the 2nd floor lounge



Left to Right: Hannah Caycedo, Allison Ost, and Gregory Gladkowski load their plates.

BBQ in the Lounge

Custer Hall Community Council coordinated a luncheon full of food and games that students and staff enjoyed. With midterms around the corner, it served as a great opportunity for students to eat and socialize.

Competition

KAMS|AMS students taking part in Electric Vehicle App & Design research competed at the High Plains Electrally in Hays, KS. Congrats to Lawson Ricke, who placed third at this annual event!



Left to Right: KAMS seniors Lawson Ricke, Kyle Wasinger, KAMS junior Haiti Schafers, and AMS senior Binyu "Lawrence" Yan



Left to Right: senior Lawrence Yan and junior Haiti Schafers



Left to Right: seniors Kyle Wasinger and Lawson Ricke.



Haiti Schafers zooms by.



Lawson Ricke drives his team's car.



Left to Right: KAMS junior Bryce Steffan, KAMS seniors Tuley Gilliland, Elijah Beauchamp, Abigail Amend, and Eos Shapland answer questions in the Student Panel.



2023-2024 KAMS|AMS Ambassadors
 Left to Right
 Back Row: Seoyeon "Jessica" Kim, Aiden Burton, Yiqing "Sylvie" Zang, Bryce Steffan, Tuley Gilliland, Elijah Beauchamp, Abigail Amend, Eos Shapland, and Cadee Haugness
 Front Row: Alison Ost, Hannah Caycedo, and Tianhui "Julia" Xie



Prospective students and their guardians listen to KAMS|AMS Director Sherri Matlock present about the program.

Preview Day

KAMS staff welcomed prospective students and families to campus for KAMS' Preview Day. Seniors Eos Shapland and Hazel Frans presented on their research projects while at KAMS. A student panel made up of current juniors and seniors answered questions about our program.

A special thanks to our KAMS|AMS ambassadors who helped with Preview Day.

Fitness

At FHSU, students can get their exercise at our Tiger Fitness Center, lifting weights, taking fitness classes, or participating in intramural sports. Several of our KAMS juniors have gathered together to make a volleyball team and have 1 win under their belt. Students can also walk the Hays' downtown area and local parks, though some like to go off the beaten path. Alex Redinger and Yue "Roger" Fan have enjoyed biking and will go a short distance outside of town for a more intense ride.



Left to Right Back: Kiel Harrison, Dylan Wagner, Bryce Steffan and Daree Wagner
 Left to Right Front: Allison Ost and Haiti Schafers



Left to Right: Yue "Roger" Fan, Alex Redinger, and Alan Parker drive through Hays, KS.

Community

KAMS junior Aiden Burton took part in the Fall Annual Children's Halloween Concert, Sunday Oct. 29, 2023. Aiden performed with his ukulele and sang for the children and their families. He also assisted in the string-instrument "petting zoo" to introduce kids to different types of instruments.





Left to Right: KAMS seniors Kae Dees, Audrey Caleb, and Lyric Yost put a crumb-coat on the cake.

Living Together, Cooking Together, Thriving Together

Several KAMS seniors got together to bake a cake for senior Eos Shapland's birthday. The cake was shaped into one of Eos' favorite animals, an epaulette shark.

KAMS|AMS juniors often gather together in one of the kitchens inside of Custer Hall. Some of our students have a passion for cooking and share their delicious creations with their fellow students.



KAMS|AMS juniors Darec Wagner, Dylan Wagner, Aiden Burton, Hannah Caycedo, Madeline Hamrick, Tianhui "Julia" Xie, Haiti Schafers, Seoyeon "Jessica" Kim, Kiel Harrison, Alan Parker, Huaiqing "Harry" Teng, Yiqing "Sylvie" Zang, Bryce Steffan, and TMP-M boarder, Hyeongseo "Emmett" Choi



Left to Right: Lyric Yost, Kae Dees, Audrey Caleb, and Madeline Hamrick in the Tiger's Den kitchenette



Assistant Director Suellyn Stenger proctors the KAMS|AMS juniors' PSAT.



Left to Right: Hannah Caycedo, Seoyeon "Jessica" Kim, Bryce Steffan, Kiel Harrison, Yue "Roger" Fan, Darec Wagner, and Alex Redinger



Left to Right: Darec Wagner and Hannah Caycedo hype themselves up by doing push-ups before the PSAT.



Left to Right: Christina Robison, Mufeng "Larry" Shen, Haiti Schafers, Cadee Haugsness, Bryce Steffan, Hannah Caycedo, Aiden Burton, Darec Wagner, Kiel Harrison, and Seoyeon "Jessica" Kim

Upcoming Dates

November 1 - University of Kansas Early Action Deadline

November 1 - K-State High School Programming Competition in Manhattan, KS

November 8-10 - VEX Robotic Competition in Pittsburg, KS

November 11-13 - Colorado Research Trip

November 14 - AMC Competition

November 15 - Fort Hays State University Priority Application Deadline

November 19-27 - Fall break; No Classes

December 1 - K-State University Priority Application Deadline

December 12-16 - Finals Week

January 16 - Spring Semester and Classes Begin

Up to the Test

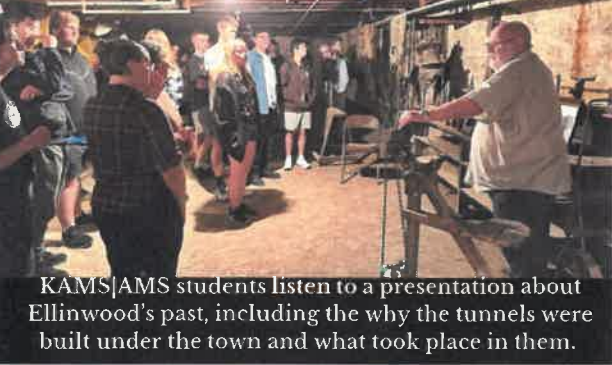
KAMS|AMS juniors recently took the PSAT.



Students board the bus in front of Custer Hall before heading to Ellinwood, KS to visit the historic Wolf Hotel.



KAMS|AMS students listen to a presentation about Ellinwood's past, including the why the tunnels were built under the town and what took place in them.

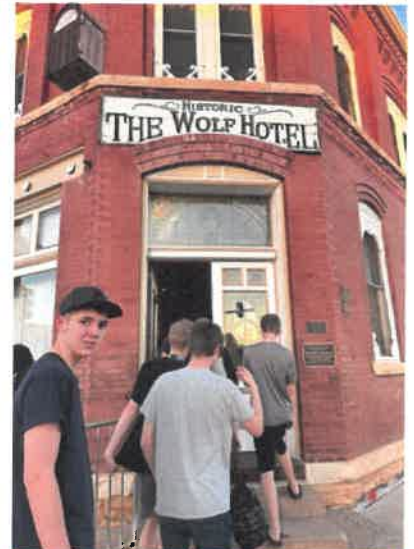


Left to Right: Madeline Hamrick, Huaiqing "Harry" Teng, Yiqing "Sylvie" Yan, and Xiaoyi "Bella" Yan make s'mores in the firepit.

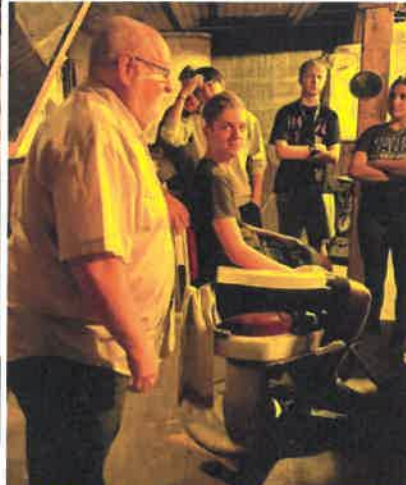
Spooky!

KAMS|AMS students traveled to Ellinwood, KS to visit the historical and, according to the locals, haunted, Wolf Hotel. Students learned the history of the town and its underground tunnels. Learning about the wild west, the settlers from southern Germany, and the building's past was an enriching experience.

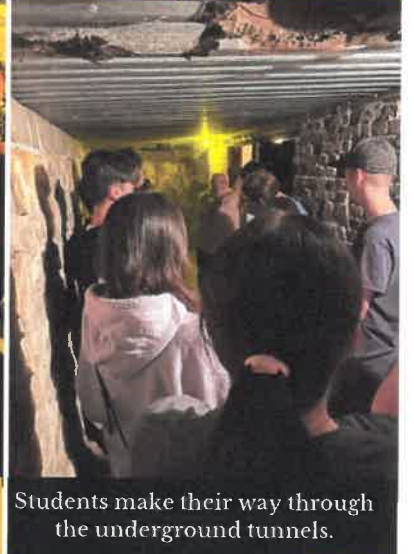
Special thanks to the KAMS|AMS Booster Club, who paid for the meal at the hotel!



KAMS junior Darec Wagner enters the Wolf Hotel with his fellow peers.



KAMS junior Dylan Wagner sits in the barber's chair in the underground barbershop.



Students make their way through the underground tunnels.

Treats!

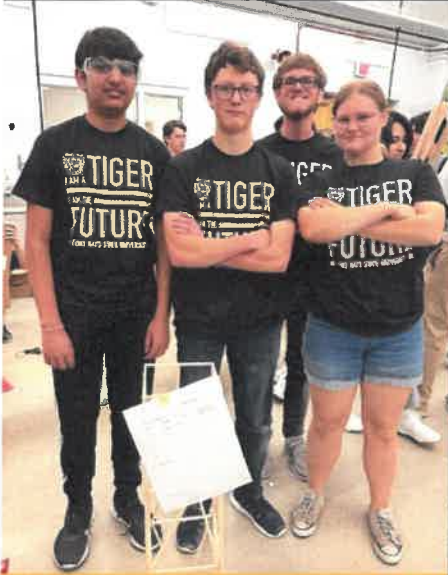
After the tour and dinner at the Wolf Hotel, students walked to KAMS junior Bryce Steffan's house for dessert. There, they played games, chatted, and enjoyed making s'mores in the Steffans' backyard firepit.

Thanks to the Steffans for hosting us!



Engineering

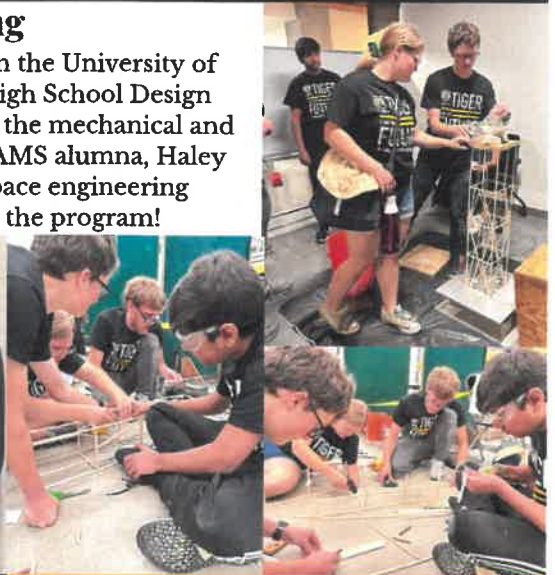
KAMS|AMS students competed in the University of Kansas' School of Engineering High School Design competition. Students took part in the mechanical and civil engineering competitions. KAMS alumna, Haley Pfeifer, who is a current aerospace engineering undergraduate, assisted with the program!



Left to Right: Krish Patel, Alex Redinger, Mark, and Madeline Hamrick



Left to Right: Madeline & Mark Hamrick, Krish Patel, Alex Redinger, Mufeng Shen, Haley Pfeifer, and Suelyn Stenger

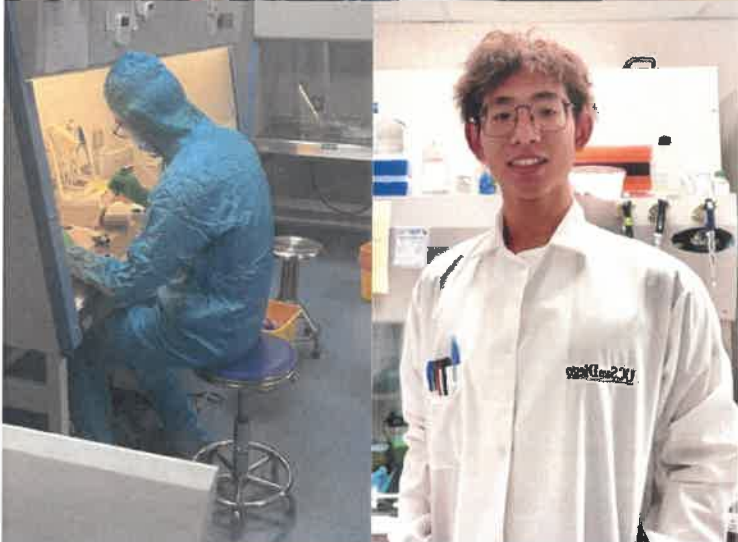


KAMS Civil Engineering team build and test their structure at the competition.



Rocketry

AMS junior Sunghun "Kevin" Park prepares his rocket in FHSU's Maker's Space before the launch. This semester, several KAMS|AMS juniors and seniors take Rocketry with Dr. Paul Adams for their research.



Muyang "Hanson" Xu, AMS Class of 2023, now attends the University of California-San Diego. He has been given the opportunity to work in a hospital laboratory. He is currently a student research assistant at Stanford Consortium for Regenerative Medicine and an undergraduate research assistant at the Kaufman Lab.

Alumni

KAMS|AMS staff were visited by KAMS alumni, Anniston Anderson (Left) and Kadrian Ayarza (Right). Both were part of the KAMS 2023 completing class. Kadrian is now attending Wichita State University, and Anniston is at the University of Arkansas.



November 2023 - Vol. 6, No. 3

KAMS / AMS NEWSLETTER



WHAT'S NEW AT THE EARLY COLLEGE PROGRAMS?

On November 1st, KAMS seniors Eos Shapland (back, left) and Eli Beauchamp (back, right), and juniors Darec Wagner (front, left) and Alex Redinger (front, right), competed in Kansas State University's High School Computer Programming Competition.



For Good Vibe Van Friday, director Sherri Matlock took students to Hays' new Coldstone Creamery, where Eos Shapland (left), Eli Beauchamp (center), and Lyric Yost (right) enjoyed their ice cream.



Senior Yun "Laurinda" Lan (front, center) took part in FHSU's Small Ensembles Concert, playing in the Flute Trio and Flute Ensemble, on November 6th. This event allowed FHSU students to perform with both fellow peers and faculty from the music department.



VEX Robotics participants Mufeng "Larry" Shen (left), Lyric Yost (center), and Darec Wagner (right) adjust their robot at Pittsburg State University's TEECA Four-State Technology Conference, which took place from November 9th through 10th.



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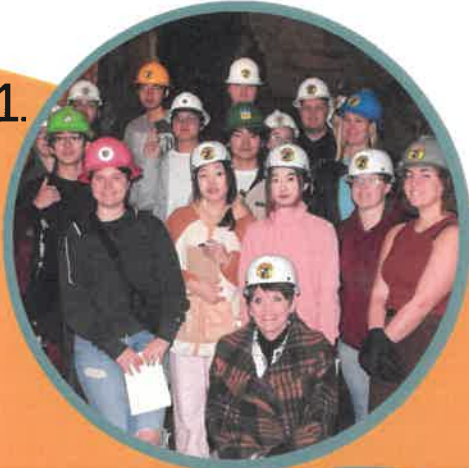
COLORADO RESEARCH TRIP

1. Director Sherri Matlock took a group of KAMS/AMS students to Denver, Colorado on November 11th through 13th as a part of FHSU's Natural Resources of Colorado Field Trip for GSCI 357. Pictured at Edgar Teaching Mine (back to front, left to right): Kyle Wasinger, Xiaochuan "Cade" Cao, Alan Parker, Aiden Burton, Alex Redinger, Huaiquing "Harry" Teng, Seungyou Cho, Christina Robison, Jung Hyuk "Jon" Lee, Cadee Haugsness, Seoyeon "Jessica" Kim, Tianhui "Julia" Xie, Kae Dees, Lyric Yost, and Sherri Matlock.

2. KAMS / AMS students listen attentively to their tour guide in Edgar Teaching Mine, run by Colorado School of Mines.



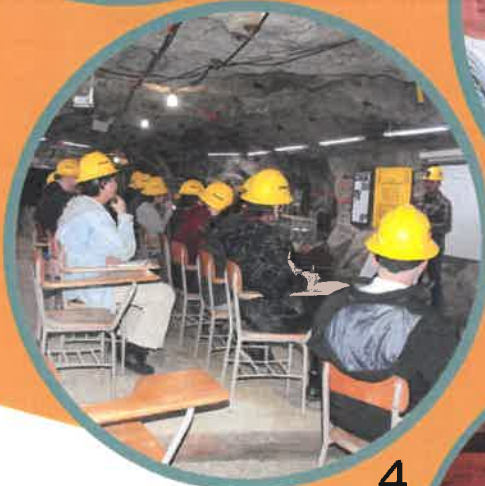
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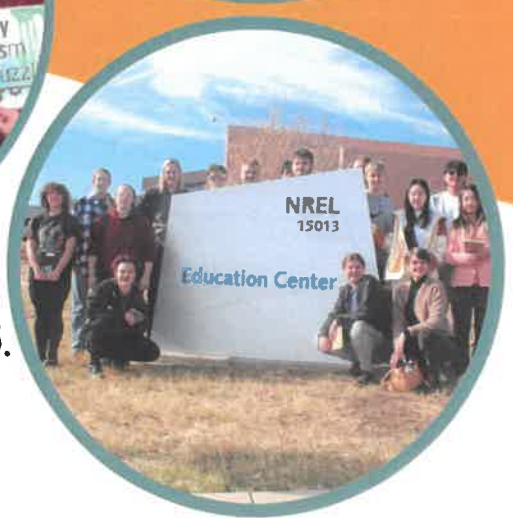
3. While on the research trip, students celebrate Tianhui "Julia" Xie's 16th birthday at Sherpa's restaurant.

4. (Right to left): Cadee Haugsness, Aiden Burton, Kae Dees, and Kiel Harrison hold up signs for a photo-op at Denver's Conundrum Escape Room.

5. Huaiquing "Harry" Teng and Lyric Yost participate in NREL's simulation regarding the amount of energy saved by solar panels.

6. (From right to left, back to front): Lyric Yost, Christina Robison, Kae Dees, Alex Redinger, Aiden Burton, Xiaochuan "Cade" Cao, Kyle Wasinger, Alan Parker, Kiel Harrison, Seoyeon "Jessica" Kim, Huaiquing "Harry" Teng, Tianhui "Julia" Xie, Sherri Matlock, Cadee Haugsness, and Josi Maness stand before the National Renewable Energy Laboratory Education Center's sign.

6.



INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION WEEK



International Education Week occurred November 13th through 17th, and in celebration, AMS students Mianjun "Selina" Shang and Yun "Laurinda" Lan created posters detailing traditional Chinese fashion and the Maori, the indigenous people of New Zealand's mainland.



AMS senior Seung Hyeok "Jin" Jang stands in line, eagerly awaiting food at the International Education Week Food Festival event in Forsyth Library.



(Left to right) Haiti Schafers, Yun "Laurinda" Lan, and Hyeongseo "Emmett" Choi eat the cuisine offered by international students of FHSU and the Hays community.

KAMS/AMS STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



Junior Bryce Steffan and his WATTSPOT teammates placed 2nd at the EPIC Entrepreneurial Competition. He, KAMS alumnus Brody Groves (2022), and the other members received a \$1500 award for their research.



AMS senior Yun "Laurinda" Lan, a member of New Zealand's Royal Astronomical Society, attended their annual conference in Auckland, NZ this summer, where she presented astronomy research. She also designed a logo for the NZRAS, imprinted on her cup.



Yun "Laurinda" Lan has been a New Zealand Royal Astronomical Society member for about four years, now; she previously resided in New Zealand, attending high school there, before joining AMS.

KAMS STAFF TRAVEL



In Phoenix at the NCSST conference, Assistant Director Suellyn Stenger and Marketing Coordinator Jenner Little toured Phoenix Coding Academy. Pictured here is the academy's Computer Programming classroom and instructor.



Marketing and Recruitment Coordinator Jenner Little and KAMS Assistant Director Suellyn Stenger pose before the National Consortium of Secondary STEM Schools sign at the NCSST conference in Phoenix, AZ.



While on the 2023 Markham Recruitment Tour in Suzhou, China, Director Sherri Matlock snaps a selfie with a prospective student, sharing his calligraphy skills.

KAMS / AMS ACCEPTANCES

- Baker University
- Fort Hays State University
- Kansas State University
- Missouri University of Science and Technology
- Northwest Missouri State University
- Rockhurst University
- University of Detroit Mercy
- University of Kansas
- University of Missouri Kansas-City
- University of Missouri-Columbia
- Wichita State University

NOTABLE EVENTS



Juniors Darec Wagner and Alexander Redinger wait for Kansas State University's High School Programming Contest to begin.



Seniors Eos Shapland and Elijah Beauchamp feel out the competitive atmosphere before the KSU High School Programming event.



(Left to right): KAMS alumnus Brody Groves, senior Tuley Gilliland, and junior Bryce Steffan present their WATTSPOT research and business plan at the Peter Werth Entrepreneurship Challenge on November 29th, taking 1st place against UCONN...More info to come next newsletter!



KAMS students compete in the American Mathematics Competition instituted by the Mathematical Association of America on November 14th.



UPCOMING DATES

- **Dec. 1:** K-State University Priority Deadline
- **Dec. 12-16:** Finals Week - **KAMS students must check out 24 hours AFTER their last final!**
- **Jan. 16:** Spring semester begins

VEX ROBOTICS COMPETITION



Darec Wagner sets up his team's robot at Pittsburg State University's TEECA Four-State Regional Technology Conference, which took place on November 9th through 10th.



(Left to right): Alexander Redinger, Seungyou Cho, and Mark Hamrick assemble one last part onto their robot.



(Left to right): Mark Hamrick, Seongyou Cho, Yue "Roger" Fan, Alex Redinger, and Lyric Yost prepare the course for their robot race.

THANKSGIVING



KAMS/AMS Administrative Specialist Angela Moore hosted students for the Thanksgiving holiday, where they ate great food and played games. Pictured (left to right): Hyeongseo "Emmett" Choi, Mufeng "Larry" Shen, Seunghyeok "Jin" Jang, Xiaotian "Trajann" Gao, Huaqing "Harry" Teng, Yiqing "Sylvie" Zang, Yue "Roger" Fan, Seungyou Cho, and Angela Moore.



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Instagram: kams_ams_fhsu

December 2023 - Vol. 6, No. 4

KAMS / AMS NEWSLETTER



WHAT'S NEW AT THE EARLY COLLEGE PROGRAMS?

Junior Joshua Gage proudly shows off the rocket he handmade for his rocketry research. It took him about two weeks to build, and he plans to present it to a 4-H group in August.

KAMS / AMS students hang Christmas lights outside of Custer Hall to ring in the holiday spirit. (See page 3 to see their spectacular lighting!)

(Left to right): The Early College Programs staff, Sherri Matlock, Jenner Little, Ann Noble, Angela Moore, and Suellyn Stenger smile big with Victor E. Tiger at the Student Affairs Holiday Party.

Senior Tuley Gilliland meets with a prospective KAMS student and discusses all the Early College Programs has to offer.



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PETER WERTH ENTREPRENEURSHIP COMPETITION



The inaugural Werth Entrepreneurship Challenge, held on November 29, 2023 and sponsored by Peter Werth, took place at Fort Hays State University's Department of Applied Technology. The challenge engaged participants from FHSU and the University of Connecticut (UCONN) in the task of constructing start-up business plans focused on sustainable energy, specifically in the realm of inventing, designing, and manufacturing portable charging stations.



FHSU's team emerged victorious, defeating UCONN in the contest. Of this experience, KAMS junior Bryce Steffan said, "It was a great feeling to beat UCONN and get to know their team... I think this competition will act as a bond between us from now on." Senior Tuley Gilliland expressed a similar sentiment, saying, "Winning against UCONN really showed that hard work pays off! Our team worked tirelessly throughout the semester. Knowing that our efforts reflected in our presentation made all the work worth it."

The Werth Entrepreneurship Challenge underscores the commitment and ingenuity demonstrated by all participants, serving as an important platform for fostering entrepreneurial talent and advocating for sustainable business solutions.



1. The UCONN and FHSU teams together
2. Junior Bryce Steffan, senior Tuley Gilliland, and KAMS alumnus Brody Groves present their start-up business plan.
3. The FHSU Entrepreneurship team
4. Tuley Gilliland and Bryce Steffan with FHSU President Tisa Mason and her dog.
5. The FHSU Entrepreneurship team poses in front of the Center for Applied Technology welcome sign, where the competition was housed.

KAMS / AMS ACCEPTANCES

- Baker University
- Fort Hays State University
- Kansas State University
- Missouri University of Science and Technology
- Northwest Missouri State University
- Rockhurst University
- University of Detroit Mercy
- University of Kansas
- University of Missouri Kansas-City
- University of Missouri-Columbia
- Wichita State University



UPCOMING DATES

- **Jan. 16:** Spring semester begins
- **Jan 20:** Science Olympiad
- **Jan 29 - Feb 8:** potential dates for the British Biology Olympiad

HOLIDAY CHEER

1. Assistant Director Suellyn Stenger, AKA Santa Claus, readies a box of goody-loaded stockings to deliver to KAMS/AMS residents the weekend before finals.

2. Before students wake, Santa's helper, KAMS Director and elf Sherri Matlock, hangs stockings provided by our KAMS-AMS Parent Booster Club.

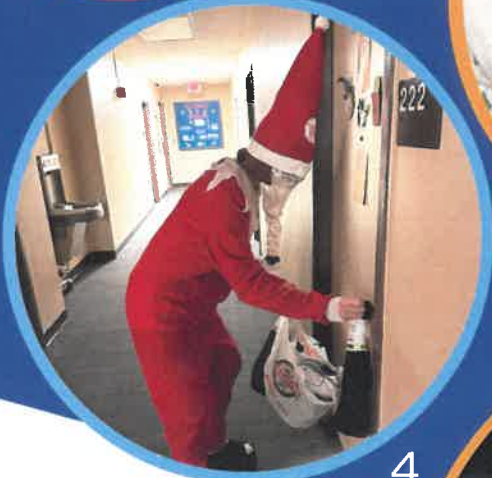
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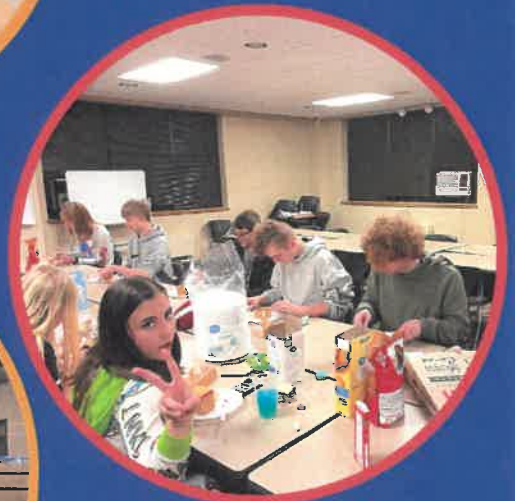
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3. At the Early College Programs' annual Christmas party, Administrative Specialist Angela Moore and KAMS/AMS student workers Lupe Urbina-Montes and Skylar Steinle enjoy the holiday food provided by KAMS/AMS staff and the campus Police Department.

4. The back entryway of Custer Hall shines radiantly in the night, thanks to our students' hard work hanging them!

5. Junior Hannah Caycedo strikes a peace sign for the camera while building gingerbread houses with fellow peers Haiti Schafers, Eos Shapland, Kiel Harrison, Alex Redinger, Darec Wagner, and Elijah Beauchamp.



DECEMBER ART WALK



Senior Lyric Yost adds the finishing touches to her leopard painting during the December art walk at the Matlocks' Studio 809.



From left to right: Lyric Yost, Audrey Caleb, Elijah Beauchamp, and Yun "Laurinda" Lan converse jovially while admiring the art.



AMS senior Yun "Laurinda" Lan smiles proudly before her painting called "Wanting Blue."

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



While on break, senior Abigail Amend snaps a selfie with her former band director, Grant Whitcomb, at Maize South High School's annual winter concert.



Students Yue "Roger" Fan and Wyatt McDonnell document their dapper look before heading to the RHA Winter Ball.



Congratulations to Seoyeon "Jessica" Kim and Xiaochuan "Cade" Cao on qualifying for the American Invitational Mathematics Examination (AIME)

FALL 2023 HONOR ROLL RECIPIENTS



JUNIORS



Gregory Gladkowski
Madeline Hamrick
Cadee Haugsness
Josi Maness
Wyatt McDonnell
Allison Ost
Alexander Redinger
Haiti Schafers
Bryce Steffan
Darec Wagner
Dylan Wagner
Xiaochuan "Cade" Cao
Seungyou Cho
Yue "Roger" Fan
Seoyeon "Jessica" Kim
Junghyuk "Jon" Lee
Yoonwoo Lee
Sunghun "Kevin" Park
Tianhui "Julia" Xie
Yiqing "Sylvie" Yan

SENIORS



Abigail Amend
Elijah Beauchamp
Audrey Caleb
Hazel Frans
Tuley Gilliland
Krish Patel
Lawson Ricke
Yun "Laurinda" Lan
Gyuri "Sarah" Park
Binyu "Lawrence" Yan
Zifei "May" Zhang

WE ARE SO PROUD OF OUR STUDENTS
AND THEIR CONTINUOUS HARD WORK!



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KAMS / AMS NEWSLETTER



WHAT'S NEW AT THE EARLY COLLEGE PROGRAMS?

Hays was hit with a blustery snowfall during the long winter break, and seniors Mianjun "Selina" Shang and Gyuri "Sarah" Park decided to enjoy the snow by building a snowman.



Director Sherri Matlock meets AMS student Siyu "Alice" Pu's mother and friend at the Hays airport, giving them a warm Kansas welcome on a cold winter's day.



Junior Cadee Haugsness displays homemade art she made in honor of her grandmother, who once taught painting classes.



Juniors Christina Robison and Wyatt McDonnell stand before Custer Hall's new hospitality center, where students can enjoy hot beverages and sweet treats provided by directors Sherri Matlock and Suellyn Stenger.



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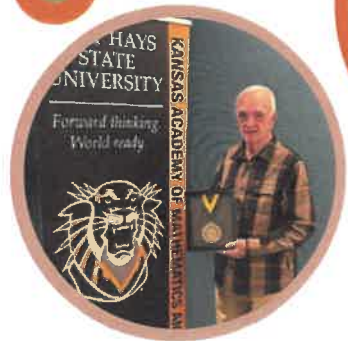
KAMS / AMS ACCEPTANCES



KAMS seniors **Lawson Ricke**, **Elijah Beauchamp**, **Abigail Amend**, and **Hazel Frans** mark the college acceptance list and partake in a moment of festivity by popping celebratory confetti poppers (provided by the wonderful Assistant Director, **Suelyn Stenger**.)

- Baker University
- Fort Hays State University
- Iowa State University
- Kansas State University
- Missouri University of Science and Technology
- Northwest Missouri State University
- Oklahoma State University
- Rockhurst University
- University of Canterbury
- University of Detroit Mercy
- University of Illinois
- University of Kansas
- University of Missouri Kansas-City
- University of Missouri-Columbia
- Washington University at St. Louis
- Wichita State University

SPREAD THE WORD, GET HEARD



Director Sherri Matlock presents information about the Early College Programs to superintendents and educators at the Smoky Hill Education Service Center in Salina, KS, on January 18th.

Continuing KAMS' outreach with the Smoky Hill Education Service Center, Sherri Matlock talks more about the benefits of KAMS for District 5 gifted students at Hays' USD 489 Board of Education building.

KAMS/AMS founding father Jerry Magliano attended a KAMS information session in Lenexa, detailing the program's genesis and history. (Thanks, Jerry, for all you've done and continue to do!)



UPCOMING DATES

- **Feb. 1:** American Invitational Mathematics Exam competition
- **Feb. 5:** Junior headshots in Sheridan Hall, RM 215; 3:30-4:20PM
- **Feb. 14:** Senior headshots in Sheridan Hall, RM 215; 3:30-4:20PM
- **Feb. 24:** SEES High School Summer Intern application due
- **March 6:** KSU Watersheds Poster Contest entries due

NEW TO THE CREW!

1. Xiwen "Elaine" She

2. Siyu "Alice" Pu



3. Yueun "Claire" Park



4. Zifei "May" Zhang

5. Nathan Purdue, Early College Programs' Mental Health Counselor and Success Coach



HELPING HANDS



While prepping for information sessions, AMS students Binyu "Lawrence" Yan, Seung Hyeok "Jin" Jang, Mufeng "Larry" Shen, Yoonwoo "Yoon" Lee, and Yue "Roger" Fan help fold invite letters to send to qualified Kansas sophomores and freshmen.



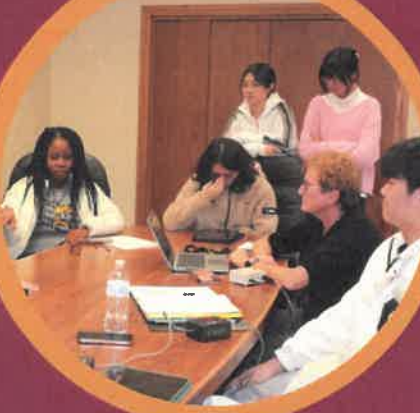
Seniors Kae Dees and Lyric Yost assemble KAMS' hospitality cart, which offers hot beverages and snacks in the main office.



Hannah Caceydo and Seoyeon "Jessica" Kim arrange the bulletin board for February.



WORKING HARD



Graduate Assistant Damilola Atanda and Assistant Director Suellyn Stenger prep their team of scholars for the Kansas Regional Science Bowl competition.



Juniors Wyatt McDonnell and Madeline Hamrick complete homework in KAMS' family room.



Zifei "May" Zhang displays the first draft of a floor plan for her architecture course. (Her dream is to become an architect!)



BIOLOGY RESEARCH



Seniors Hazel Frans and Abigail Amend work intently on their biology research, conducted with the guidance of Dr. Tara Phelps-Durr (pictured below.)



Their research entails studying the protein formation of the AP3 floral gene in Arabidopsis plants by using CRISPR, which allows them to change DNA in small sequences....



By utilizing computer software, Abigail and Hazel will see how the DNA changes they make affect proteins, and then model those proteins using computer software.



ROBOTICS



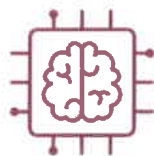
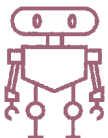
Huaiqing "Harry" Teng and Seungyo Cho listen to peer Mufeng's instructions regarding team duties (but not without posing for the camera, first!)



The robotics team, comprised of KAMS/AMS and Thomas More Prep-Marian high schoolers, smiles big and proud with their robot.



Mufeng "Larry" Shen shows the team a video of the competition in front of the chassis of their robot.



STAYING WARM AND STAYING HAPPY



Tianhui "Julia" Xie, Xiwen "Elaine" She, Xiaoyi "Bella" Yan, Letao "Lottie" Chang, and Yiquing "Sylvie" Zang celebrate Bella's birthday at Cancun.



All bundled up, Xiwen "Elaine" She, Letao "Lottie" Chang, and Tianhui "Julia" Xie smile for a picture.



Junior Bryce Steffan treks his way up the steps of Custer Hall to avoid potential snowballs flung by fellow KAMS/AMS peers.



Yoonwoo "Yoon" Lee and Alison Ost stop by the main office to briefly catch up after winter break.



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February 2024 - Vol. 6, No. 6

KAMS / AMS NEWSLETTER



WHAT'S NEW AT EARLY COLLEGE PROGRAMS?

Juniors Dylan and Darec Wagner pose in their suits before getting their professional headshots taken in Sheridan Hall.



Alison Ost, Hannah Caceydo, Seoyeon "Jessica" Kim, and Madeline Hamrick wait to walk to Breathe Coffee House for Breathe Break, a wellness activity headed by counselor / success coach Nathan Purdue.



Junior Xiaotian "Trajann" Gao works diligently on assembling his automaton for VEX Robotics.



Seoyeon "Jessica" Kim, Aiden Burton, Yueun "Claire" Park, Madeline Hamrick, Haiti Schafers, Alison Ost, Yiqing "Sylvie" Zang, and Xiaochuan "Cade" Cao practice for the Biology Bowl.



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LUNAR NEW YEAR & SUPER BOWL BASH



1.



2.



3.



4.



5.



1. Alison Ost, Tuley Gilliland, and Seoyeon "Jessica" Kim ready Custer's family room for the Lunar New Year & Super Bowl event.
2. Junior Bryce Steffan hangs a paper dragon from Custer Hall's family room ceiling.
3. Hyeongseo "Emmet" Choi and Junghyuk "Jon" Lee pose for the camera, flexing their support for the Chiefs' Super Bowl victory!
4. Senior Mark Hamrick and junior Kiel Harrison hang out during the big game.
5. KAMS and AMS students gather in the family room to celebrate the holidays with great snacks and better conversation!

SPECIAL THANKS TO KAMS / AMS BOOSTER CLUB FOR FUNDING THIS FUN EVENT!

FHSU'S LUNAR NEW YEAR CELEBRATION



February 12th, KAMS juniors Seoyeon "Jessica" Kim, Aliston Ost, Darec Wagner, Dylan Wagner, Hannah Caceydo, and Madeline Hamrick attend FHSU's Lunar New Year Celebration.



Xiaoyi "Bella" Yan, Letao "Lottie" Chang, and Yiqing "Sylvie" Zang display their written Chinese characters.



Letao "Lottie" Chang, Xiaoyi "Bella" Yan, Yiqing "Sylvie" Zang, Xiwen "Elaine" She, Siyu "Alice" Pu, Zifei "May" Zhang, and Tianhui "Julia" Xie fill their plates with Chinese cuisine at the festival.



Madeline Hamrick, Dylan Wagner, and Wyatt McDonnell draw their own characters.

ARIAS AND CONCERTOS



Hays Symphony's Arias and Concertos took place on February 13th, where Early College Programs students Yueun "Claire" Park, Yun "Laurinda" Lan, and Kiel Harrison performed.

Yun "Laurinda" Lan, accompanied by her fellow symphonists, was given the coveted chance to perform a flute solo. She rocked it!



Junior Kiel Harrison focuses intently on the music, hitting each note as he plays his cello.



Celloist Kiel Harrison and his father pose for a picture, once the program was finished. (Kiel's dad never misses a chance to support him!)

Yun "Laurinda" Lan and academic advisor/ fellow virtuoso Suellyn Stenger meet after the concert for a picture.

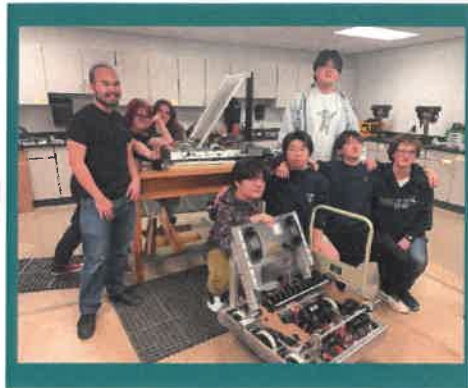


Zifei "May" Zhang supported her friend and fellow AMS peer Yueun "Claire" Park as she played the violin.

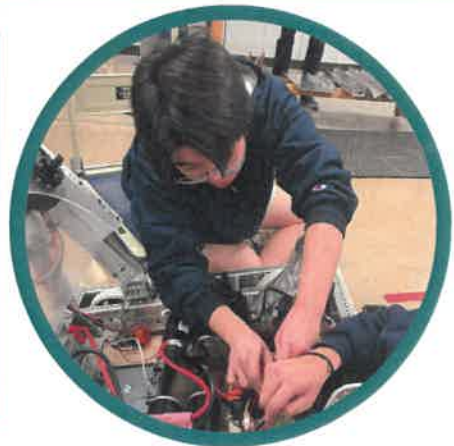
VEX ROBOTICS



AMS students Mufeng "Larry" Shen and Huaqing "Harry" Teng stand before Salina Central High's welded mustang statue while visiting for their robot repair.



Early College Programs and Salina Central's robotics team stand together for a photo. Salina Central, who donated robot parts, also helped build the bumper on ECP's automation.



Mufeng "Larry" Shen works attentively on the automaton. (He's been the spearhead of getting our robotics team on its feet!)

THANK YOU, ANN!



Early College Programs waves a warm farewell to Ann Noble, as she has accepted the SMEI Director of Operations position across campus after 15 years with KAMS/AMS. We wish her the best in this new endeavor and are fortunate for all the work she's done as the program's Financial Advisor. Thank you, Ann, for years of dedicated, enthusiastic leadership in building the program from the ground up. We miss you already!

SPECTACULAR SENIOR HEADSHOTS



Abigail Amend



Elijah Beauchamp



Audrey "Elm" Caleb



Letao "Lottie" Chang



Emma Cohn



Kae Dees



Hazel Frans



Joshua Gage



Tuley Gilliland



Mark Hamrick



Seunghyeok "Jin" Jang



Yun "Laurinda" Lan



Gyuri "Sarah" Park



Krish Patel



Lawson Ricke



Mianjun "Selina" Shang



Eos Shapland



Kyle Wasinger



Binyu "Lawrence" Yan



Lyric Yost



Zifei "May" Zhang



STUDENT ACCEPTANCES



Yun "Laurinda"
Lan



Abigail Amend



Audrey "Elm" Caleb



Mianjun "Selina"
Shang



UPCOMING DATES

- **March 4:** Local Chemistry Olympiad Exam
- **March 5:** VIP Ambassador Program for 2024-25 application due
- **March 6:** KSU Watersheds Poster Contest entries due
- **March 8:** Deadline to submit a Spring Break Housing Form due by 4:30PM; students must leave Custer Hall by 5PM, if leaving for break.
- **March 11-15:** Spring Break
- **March 25:** State Assessments
- **March 29:** Cap and Gown Orders due
- **April 6:** Prom



COLLEGE ACCEPTANCE LIST

- Baker University
- Fort Hays State University
- Friends University
- Iowa State University
- Kansas State University
- Missouri University of Science and Technology
- Northwest Missouri State University
- Oklahoma State University
- Rockhurst University
- University of Canterbury
- University of Delaware
- University of Detroit Mercy
- University of Illinois
- University of Kansas
- University of Marquette
- University of Missouri Kansas-City
- University of Missouri-Columbia
- University of the Pacific
- University of Texas - Dallas
- Washington University in St. Louis
- Wichita State University

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March 2024 - Vol. 6, No. 7

KAMS / AMS NEWSLETTER



WHAT'S NEW AT EARLY COLLEGE PROGRAMS?

May Zhang and Alice Pu pose for a picture outside St. Louis' City Museum during Spring Break, an educational and explorational trip provided by the Academy.



Alexander Redinger assembles a competition ring for the National Robotics Competition in Memphis, which took place March 6th - 9th.



Joshua Gage wins a small prize during a raffle at the ITEECA Conference in Memphis.



During Custer Hall Community Council's Egg Hunt, Cadee Haugsness finds the coveted golden egg with a note inside instructing her to retrieve a chocolate bunny from CHHCC President Hazel Frans.



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MEMPHIS VEX ROBOTICS COMPETITION



From March 6th to 9th, VEX Robotics and TEECA participants travelled to Memphis, TN to take part in ITECA's annual conference.

1. Mark Hamrick, Roger Fan, Darec Wagner, and Alex Redinger work on their bot before team competition begins.
2. Roger Fan and Mark Hamrick eat ramen and edamame at Memphis' *Flame Ramen*.
3. Alex Redinger, Roger Fan, and Darec Wagner make last-minute adjustments to their robot before qualifying rounds.
4. Mark Hamrick and Lyric Yost ride the trolley in downtown Memphis.
5. The crew, once again, makes last-minute tweaks to their bot between rounds against other university teams.
6. Lyric Yost, Mark Hamrick, Darec Wagner, Alex Redinger, Roger Fan, and Joshua Gage set up the ring for the competition.
7. Lawrence Yan, Mark Hamrick, Joshua Gage, Lyric Yost, Larry Shen, and Darec Wagner walk downtown to get famous Tennessee BBQ.
8. The team receives 4th place in the National Robotics Competition.

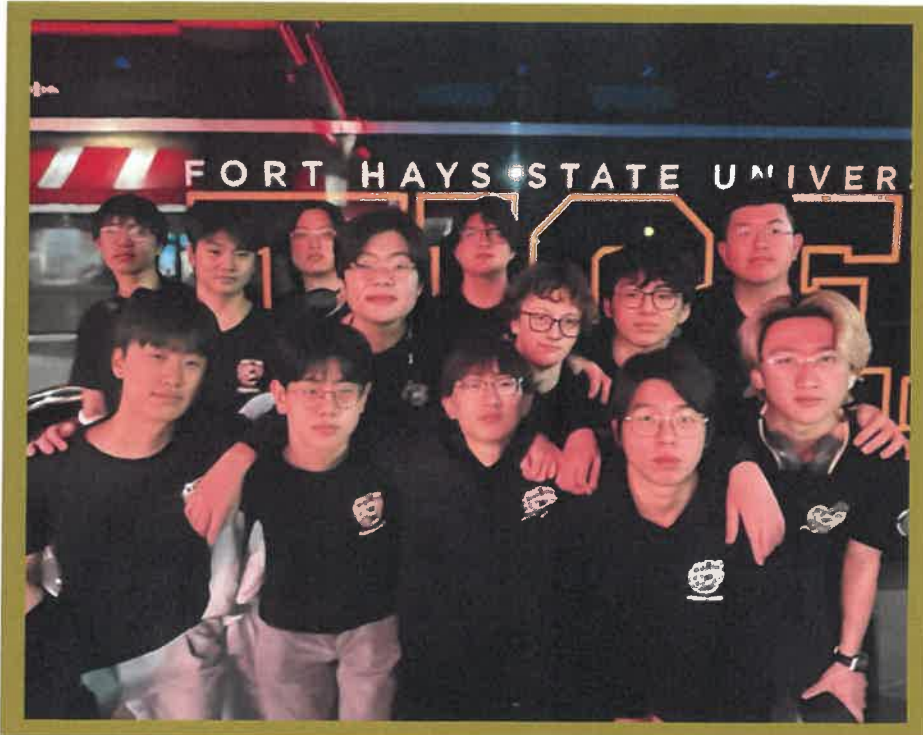
SPRING BREAK IN THE CITY



1. (Front to back, left to right): Mark Hamrick, Trajann Gao, Jon Lee, Larry Shen, Jin Jang, Cade Cao, Kevin Park, Emmett Choi, Lawrence Yan, Harry Teng, Yoon Lee, Alex Redinger, Seungyou Cho, May Zhang, Alice Pu, Madeline Hamrick, and Audrey Caleb at the City Museum at St. Louis
2. The KAMS / AMS crew at Kansas City's Union Station
3. (Left to right): Alice Pu, May Zhang, Sherri Matlock, Audrey Caleb, Madeline Hamrick, Mark Hamrick, and Wyatt McDonnell attend the *Elvis: Aloha from Vegas* show at The New Theatre in Overland Park, KS.
4. Audrey Caleb, Mark Hamrick, Madeline Hamrick, Wyatt McDonnell, Kevin Park, and Harry Teng at St. Louis' Gateway Arch National Park
5. Wyatt McDonnell and Mark Hamrick take a break from bowling at The Main Event in Olathe, KS.
6. Audrey Caleb and her mother Alicia, before Audrey presented to the Executive Board of KSHAA regarding KAMS / AMS students being eligible for sports & activities



FIRST FRC ROBOTICS HEARTLAND CRESCENDO COMPETITION IN KANSAS CITY



Our FIRST Robotics Competition (FRC) Team spent March 13th through 16th competing with 35 other teams in Kansas City's FRC Robotics Heartland Crescendo Competition in Kansas City.

1. FRC Robotics Competition TEAM 9551, comprised of AMS students Cade Cao, Seungyou Cho, Trajann Gao, Emmett Choi, Harry Teng, Alex Redinger, Jin Jang, Jon Lee, Larry Shen, and Lawrence Yan
2. Coach and Early College Programs Assistant Director Suellyn Stenger helps the team repair and adjust the robot between each match.
3. Tiger Team 9551 meets in their hotel lobby to discuss the competition, their preparedness, and any tweaks to be made.
4. KAMS / AMS students visit the event's pit area of the competition.
5. Team 9551 members qualify for playoff matches; Larry Shen, as the team's captain, got to choose the team's alliances.

THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS!



While on their spring break trip in Kansas City, the Early College Programs paid a surprise visit to FHSU graduate / KAMS donor Dick Selensky and his wife, Pat, to thank them personally for their generous contribution and support for the Academy.

Thank you, Dick and Pat!

SMEI LEGO ROBOTICS COMPETITION



On Monday, March 25th, FHSU's SMEI hosted 300 middle schoolers for its annual Lego Robotics Competition, where travelling teams compete in up to five events, earning points in hopes of receiving a grand trophy.

KAMS / AMS students helped judge and set up the competition; Some, like Elijah Beauchamp (pictured above), judged the Sumo Bot event, while others, like Alex Redinger and Roger Fan (bottom right), helped create tracks.



Larry Shen (bottom left) presented FRC Robotics' very own robot to eager students, allowing one lucky visitor to maneuver it.

COLLEGE SIGNING SNAPSHOTS



May Zhang



Selina Shang



Tuley Gilliland



Lottie Chang



UPCOMING DATES

- April 3: FRC Competition in Oklahoma City, OK
- April 3: Canadian Mathematics Contest (Euclid)
- April 4: Canadian Mathematics Contest (Hypatia)
- April 6: Prom
- April 11: Canadian Mathematics Contest - Team Contest
- April 18: KBOR Presentation
- May 1: SACAD
- May 4: Completion Ceremony
- May 10: Final Move-Out Date



COLLEGE ACCEPTANCE LIST

- Baker University
- Carnegie Mellon University
- Diablo Valley College
- Fort Hays State University
- Friends University
- Iowa State University
- Kansas State University
- Missouri University of Science and Technology
- Northwest Missouri State University
- Oklahoma State University
- Rockhurst University
- Stevens Institute of Technology
- University of Canterbury
- University of Delaware
- University of Detroit Mercy
- University of Illinois
- University of Kansas
- University of Marquette
- University of Missouri Kansas-City
- University of Missouri-Columbia
- University of the Pacific
- University of Texas - Dallas
- University of Wisconsin - Madison
- Washington University in St. Louis
- Wichita State University

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

MEDICAL EXPLORERS

SUMMER CAMP 2024

June 10th-14th 9AM-5PM SCAN ME

21906 SW Woods Chapel Rd, Blue Springs, MO 64015
[HTTPS://TINYURL.COM/MEEXSUMMERCAMP](https://tinyurl.com/meexsummercamp)
 913-832-0380

LIMITED SIGN-UPS AVAILABLE!

MADE FOR 7TH-12TH GRADERS WHO ARE WANTING TO JUMPSTART THEIR HEALTHCARE CAREER!

- CPR Training
- Trauma Basics
- Wilderness Medicine

- Sports Medicine
- Medical Mythbusters
- Epi-pen Training

Healthcare Leadership Opportunity
 Top students will be offered a chance to return as student leaders the following year! A great way to set yourself apart!

Former KAMS student **Dr. Morgan (Murray) Dresyvannikov** and her colleagues are doing amazing things for those considering a healthcare career!

Interested KAMS / AMS students, please consider the camp, which takes place this summer!



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April and May 2024 - Vol. 6, No. 8

KAMS / AMS NEWSLETTER



WHAT'S NEW AT EARLY COLLEGE PROGRAMS?

On April 8th, KAMS /AMS scholars experienced the partial solar eclipse. Pictured here are students Aiden Burton, Laurinda Lan, Eos Shapland, Selina Shang, and Audrey Caleb, who all experienced the major astronomical event!



April 6th welcomed our annual Prom. This year's theme? *Casino Night!* Pictured: Dylan Wagner, Julia Xie, Elaine She, and Sylvie Zang.



SACAD took place on May 1st, an event many students participated in. Senior Kae Dees presented research she conducted with Ben Schrag, titled: *A Comparison of Larvicide and Garlic Mineral Salts on Horn Fly Populations.*



KAMS / AMS student students, Laurinda L., Elijah B., Bryce S., and Hazel F., presented their respective research to the Kansas Board of Regents on April 18th. Research is what sets our ECP apart from others!



Scan to watch
Completion Ceremony!



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PROM



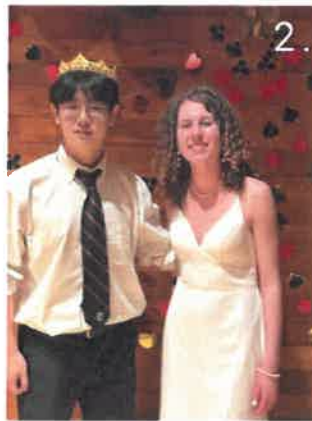
1. Elijah Beauchamp, Eos Shapland, and Lyric Yost
2. May Zhang
3. Laurinda Lan and Selina Shang
4. The KAMS / AMS students take a group photograph with their guests in attendance.
5. Left to right, back to front: Kevin Park, Wyatt McDonnell, Dylan Wagner, Sherri Matlock, Cadee Haugness, Jessica Kim, Yoonwoo Lee, Darec Wagner, and Josi Maness
6. KAMS / AMS students dance to the song "YMCA."
7. Aiden Burton, Haiti Schafers, Mark Hamrick, Laurinda Lan, and Kiel Harrison
8. Josi Maness and Cadee Haugness
9. Yoonwoo Lee, Gregory Gladkowski, and Wyatt McDonnell



PROM



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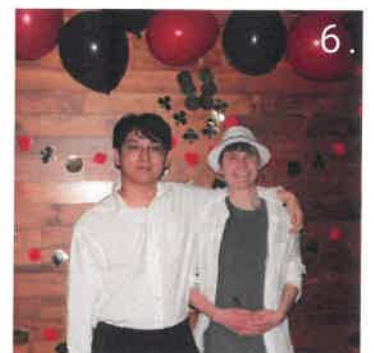
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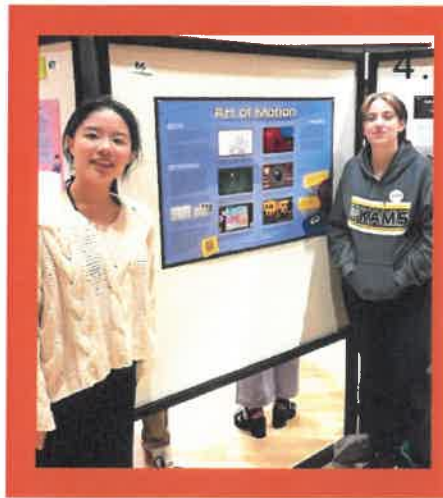
13.



14.

1. Wyatt McDonnell, Dylan Wagner, Cadee Haugsness, and Josi Maness
2. Jin Jang and Hazel Frans
3. Prom royalty Lyric Yost, Hazel Frans, Laurinda Lan, and Selina Shang
4. Dylan Wagner, Bryce Steffan, and Darec Wagner
5. Students play Poker.
6. Kevin Park and Wyatt McDonnell
7. Hannah Caycedo and her sister
8. Elaine She, Alice Pu, May Zhang, Bella Yan, Sylvie Zang, Julia Xie, and Lottie Chang
9. Kiel Harrison and Mark Hamrick
10. Jin Jang, Kevin Park, and Yoonwoo Lee
11. Students dance the night away!
12. Jessica Kim, Julia Xie, and Elaine She
13. Audrey Caleb and Selina Shang
14. Elijah Beauchamp, Lyric Yost, Eos Shapland, and Audrey Caleb

SCHOLARLY AND CREATIVE ACTIVITIES DAY



The 19th annual John Heinrichs Scholarly and Creative Activities Day took place on May 1st, and many of our students had the opportunity to present the semester-long research they conducted alongside their professors. Kudos, KAMS and AMS scholars!

1. [Alan Parker](#) - *Analysis of Body Material for an Electric Car* with Craig Malsam
2. [Hazel Frans](#) - *The Impact of Mutations in the Arabidopsis Apetela (AP3) Gene* with Tara Phelps-Durr
3. [Roger Fan](#) - *Economically Affordable and Ecologically Sustainable Oil Spill Treatments: Review of Recent Literature* with Jeanne Sumrall
4. [Selina Shang and Audrey Caleb](#) - *The Art of Motion: an Exploration of Science Animation* with Thomas Giebler
5. [Kevin Fan](#) - *Revolutionizing Ecosystems: Innovative Planting Machines Combating Desertification* with Jeanne Sumrall
6. [Sarah Park with Dr. Masakatsu Watanabe](#) - *The Effect of School-Based Dental Sealants and Fluoride Varnish on Children's Oral Health*

FIRST INAUGURAL AWARDS CEREMONY

After a few months' planning, directors Sherri Matlock and Suelyn Stenger, along with Success Coach Nathan Purdue, hosted the Early College Programs' first inaugural Awards Ceremony on Friday, May 3rd, 2024, at Hays' The Fox Theatre.

Recognizing students, alumni, and former staff, the event honored the accomplishments upon which the Academy continues to build today. We're very proud of our distinguished scholars!



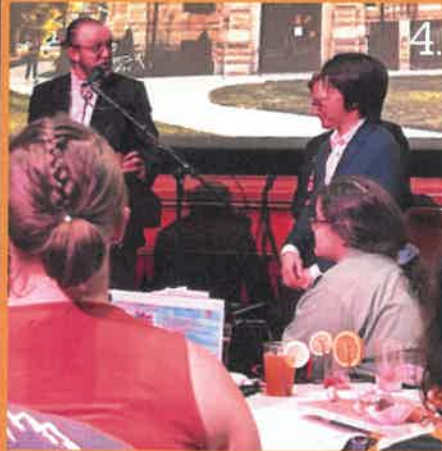
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1- Jerry Magliano stands to be recognized as the co-founder of Early College Programs. We are so grateful to uphold his legacy and continue giving early college education to our students!

2- Junior Alexander Redinger waits for the ceremony to start. Alex was recognized for his work in FRC First Robotics, VEX Robotics, and for achieving Dean's Honor Roll.

3- Former KAMS director Will Burns stands to be recognized for his efforts in sustaining KAMS and AMS through Covid and curriculum changes.

4- Success Coach Nathan Purdue accredits Mufeng Shen for founding First FRC Robotics.

5- Julia Xie, Dylan Wagner, Darec Wagner, Harry Teng, Bryce Steffan, and Mufeng Shen anticipate receiving their awards packets.

6- Former ECP director Ron Keller stands to be recognized for his work from 2009 to 2014.

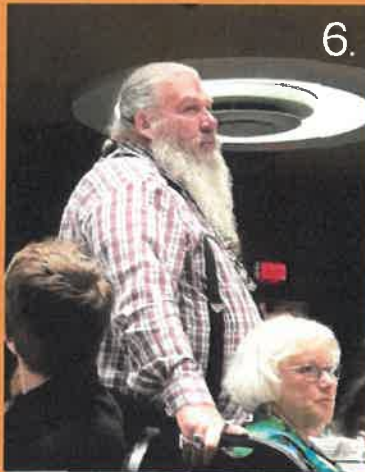
7- Krish Patel is acknowledged for his Dane G. Hansen scholarship award.

8- Director Sherri Matlock catches up with Jerry and Rory Magliano before the Awards Ceremony.

9- Jessica Kim, Josi Maness, Cadee Haugsness, and Kiel Harrison wait for their mocktail order. (Special thanks to the Steffans for providing and serving our drinks! They were delicious!)

10- Director Sherri Matlock presents National Merit Scholar, Audrey Caleb, with her awards packet.

11- Allison Ost, Hannah Caycedo, and Madeline Hamrick hang out while Awards Ceremony attendees file in.



6.



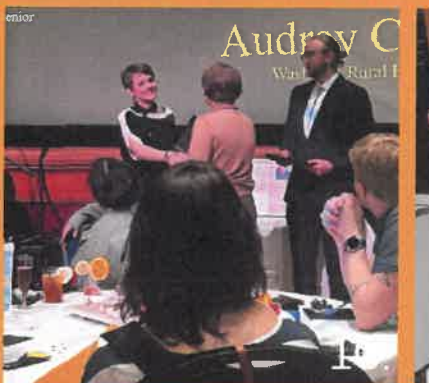
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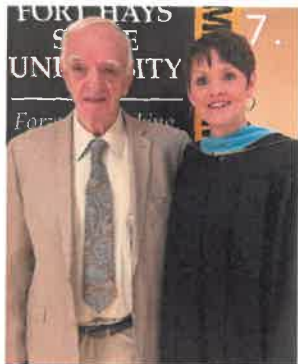


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COMPLETION CEREMONY - BEHIND THE SCENES



1- Back to front, left to right: Kyle Wasinger, Joshua Gage, Emma Cohn, Elijah Beauchamp, Eos Shapland, Krish Patel, Mark Hamrick, Abigail Amend, Sarah Park, Audrey Caleb, Lawson Ricke, Jin Jang, Lyric Yost, Lottie Chang, May Zhang, Lawrence Yan, Kae Dees, Laurinda Lan, Hazel Frans, Tuley Gilliland, and Selina Shang

2- Hazel Frans, Tuley Gilliland, and Abigail Amend

3- Director Sherri Matlock and Class of 2019 alumna Jorja Burch

4- Kyle Wasinger and Lawson Ricke

5- Selina Shang, Audrey Caleb, May Zhang, and Lottie Chang

6- Eos Shapland and Lyric Yost

7- Early College Programs co-founder Jerry Magliano and Director Sherri Matlock

8- Assistant Director Suellyn Stenger and Lawrence Yan

9- Laurinda Lan, Emma Cohn, Audrey Caleb, and Selina Shang

10- Aiden Burton, Roger Fan, Jin Jang, and Allison Ost



COMPLETION CEREMONY - MAY 4, 2024



1. The senior class stands to move their tassels from the left to right.
2. Completion Ceremony attendees sing FHSU's Alma Mater, led by KAMS junior, Aiden Burton.
3. Before the ceremony begins, Aiden Burton leads the crowd in singing *The National Anthem*.
4. Senior Laurinda Lan presents her speech, highlighting the ups and downs of being a student in the Academy.
5. Hazel Frans, another selected student speaker, recalls her dream of attending KAMS as a young child, and how, just years later, she fulfilled it!
6. President Tisa Mason and Director Sherri Matlock present Lawrence Yan with his completion certificate.
7. Eos Shapland and her family smile proudly for the camera after the Completion Ceremony.
8. Lyric Yost walks the procession to take her seat for the ceremony.
9. May Zhang and former Early College Programs director, Will Burns, talk after the event.
10. KAMS 2019 alumna Jorja Elliott Burch speaks of her time in the program, encouraging students to work hard and take time to de-stress.
11. Emma Cohn traipses down the lane.
12. President Tisa Mason and Director Sherri Matlock pose with Elijah Beauchamp, after he receives his program completion certificate.
13. Mark Hamrick grins big with Early College Programs co-founder, Jerry Magliano, and his wife, Rory.
14. Joshua Gage and his parents stand before the Tiger banner after the ceremony.
15. Junior Haiti Schafers and KAMS graduate Kae Dees socialize and receive congratulations.

ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES



On April 4th, Haiti Schafers, Lawson Ricke, and Kyle Wasinger competed in Scott City's Sunflower Electric Car ElectroRally as a part of their electric vehicle app and design research.

On May 7th, Dylan Wagner, Darec Wagner, and Joshua Gage, with the guidance of Dr. Gordon Carlson, exhibited their video game development presentation, displaying the functions of coding and how it pertains to video game development.



National Merit Scholar Audrey Caleb took the National Chemistry Olympiad test at Tabor College on April 17th. Go, Audrey!



The First FRC Robotics Team competed in Oklahoma City's Regional Competition on April 5th. What a great experience! (Pictured, left to right, front to back: Jon Lee, Mufeng Shen, Stanley Fu, Trajann Gao, Harry Teng, Alexander Redinger, Suellyn Stenger, Seungyou Cho, and Roger Fan)



UPCOMING DATES

- June 2nd - 4th: Summer STEM Summit for 8th, 9th, and 10th graders



MESSAGE TO SENIORS:

Thank you for all your hard work and dedication during your time at KAMS! You've been a blessing and will continue to thrive wherever you go. **AIM HIGH & DREAM BIG!** The future is yours!



COLLEGE ACCEPTANCE LIST

- Baker University
- Carnegie Mellon University
- Diablo Valley College
- Fort Hays State University
- Friends University
- Illinois Institute of Technology
- Iowa State University
- Kansas State University
- Missouri University of Science and Technology
- Northwest Missouri State University
- Ohio State University
- Oklahoma State University
- Rockhurst University
- Stevens Institute of Technology
- University of California - Davis
- University of California - Irvine
- University of Canterbury
- University of Delaware
- University of Detroit Mercy
- University of Illinois
- University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
- University of Kansas
- University of Marquette
- University of Minnesota - Twin Cities
- University of Missouri Kansas-City
- University of Missouri-Columbia
- University of the Pacific
- University of Texas - Dallas
- University of Wisconsin - Madison
- Washington University in St. Louis
- Wichita State University

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



Congratulations, Tuley Gilliland, on being selected for the Governor's Scholars Recognition Program!

This program honors the top academic one percent of Kansas high school seniors from accredited public and private schools.

We are extremely proud of this incredible accomplishment! Way to go, Tuley!

AWARDS VIDEO



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