

## Hired Before Graduation

**Nearly 300 graduate students will earn their Master's degrees from UW-Whitewater this month, many of whom have been hired before the May 13th celebration.**

The [School of Graduate Studies](#) is pleased to present graduates from various master's and doctoral programs with their degrees, and share just a few of their experiences from campus and what's next for them.

Kaylee Garland earned her Masters of Science and has been hired as a school counselor for the Verona Area School District. Kaylee shared that the "Counselor Education program supported my growth as a professional school counselor through real-life experiences, reflection, and collaboration with peers." Kaylee credits her year-long internship with helping her move on to the next phase of her career. "I feel prepared to make a difference as a school counselor!"





Hired as a recreational adult day program coordinator for West Allis-West Milwaukee Recreation and Community Services Department, Katie Lindgren credits the professors in the Special Education Department for her success. “They have been able to provide resources and support that have been instrumental to me.” She noted, “They helped provide me with a solid foundation and skill set that I have been able to apply in my daily practice at work.” Katie will earn a Master’s in Special Education with Autism and Transition Specialists Certificates.

Tyler Madro will receive an MS in Counselor Education and will be working as a licensed professional counselor-in training (LPC-IT) at Marriage and Family Focus, LLC. “My graduate degree from UW-Whitewater not only provided me with the knowledge and resources to be successful after graduation,” Tyler shares, “but it also provided me with connections to other professionals in my field.” Tyler also credited outside the classroom support and connections. “I have friendships that will continue to grow and develop as my peers and I head into the field after graduation. It was important to have access to services on campus such as UHCS, Pride Center and many others that were additional sources of support throughout my degree.”



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## Early Childhood Conference a Success

**For 45 years, UW-Whitewater has been providing professional development and continuing education for professionals in early childhood education.**



Last month, nearly 450 educators from around the region gathered online for the [45<sup>th</sup> annual Early Childhood Conference \(ECC\)](#). This virtual conference offered 38 different sessions, most with all new content from previous conferences. New and returning presenters from across the country led mostly asynchronous sessions so participants could access the material at the most convenient times. In addition to the asynchronous sessions, 8 live sessions were held and recorded for those unable to attend. Kristen Linzmeier, conference coordinator, noted that the most popular sessions were on topics related to child development, diversity, literacy and professionalism. Looking ahead to next year's conference, Linzmeier hopes to offer a hybrid conference with both virtual and face-to-face sessions. Visit the [ECC website](#) to check out all of this year's offerings and to stay updated on the 2024 conference.

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## Fostering Success for Under-supported Students

**Grant helps program become more formalized and rebuild post-pandemic.**

Co-founded in 2017 by Sarah Hessenauer (Social Work) and Lori Trimble (Office of Research and Sponsored Programs and Biology), [Fostering Success and Independence \(FSI\)](#) aims to help create a supportive college experience where students, regardless of family support, have an equal opportunity to earn their degree. FSI partners with campus and community resources to promote independence and success for students without traditional familial support, such as those who have been in foster care, experienced homelessness, or otherwise have unavailable family structures for whatever reason. This year, FSI was awarded a grant from UW System that was applied for through the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs to formalize the program at UW-Whitewater.





FSI hosted an event on campus for high school students from Beloit in April, and have another event planned for the summer as part of a state-wide summer campus tour on June 21. To learn more about FSI, including the resources for students and ways you can help, visit their [website](#).

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## Coming this Fall: Mystery, Forgiveness, and Pickleball!

**Informative and fun programs are on the docket starting in September.**

Do you ever feel overwhelmed or angry by pressures, past or present? Do you let those pressures influence you in negative ways? There is another option. Forgiveness. In this 6-week class, [Forgiving in an Unforgiving World](#), you will learn to identify those pressures and practice the skills needed to forgive the people around us and ourselves, in respectful and merciful ways. Classes begin September 20.



Award-winning and best-selling author Rod Vick visits campus on October 3 for a [Whodunit Mystery Challenge](#). In this 7-clue, audience participation puzzle, Rod will tell you why he loves mysteries and reveal his tricks for crafting them. Solve the mystery, win a book! Vick's books will be available for sale after this fun event during Halloween season.

Join UWW champion tennis coach Frank Barnes for a fun, no-pressure [pickleball series](#). Held on three Tuesdays in October, this program is designed to help you feel comfortable and have fun on the pickleball court. Registration opens soon and space is very limited.



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## Time and Space are Limited - Register for Camps and Clinics Soon



Time is running out to book your summer experience! More than 70 camps and clinics are scheduled to be held on the Whitewater and Rock County campuses this summer. [Middle](#) and [high school](#) students have opportunities to work on programming, art and sound assets during game development camps. [Esports camp](#) will be held in our new esports lab, where campers will enjoy a variety of opportunities to improve their level of play. Does your child love popular music? How about the [Rock, Pop & Music Production camp](#)! Got a high school student interested in journalism and media? Check out our [KEMPA camp](#). For a full list of athletic, music, arts, and academic camps and clinics, and to secure your child's spot, visit [camps.uww.edu](https://camps.uww.edu).

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## News and Upcoming Events:

UW-Whitewater is [excited to be hosting](#) the 2023 State Summer Games for Special Olympics Wisconsin! Over 1,800 athletes, coaches and spectators will gather and compete on the Whitewater campus. Many volunteers, from scorekeeping to first aid, are needed to help this event run smoothly. No experience necessary. Volunteers 13 and up can volunteer by themselves, those 12 and under need a chaperone. Sign up to volunteer at one or several events [here](#).



Congrats to [School of Graduate Studies](#) award recipients! **Daniel Szelogowski**, M.S in computer science, received the Fall 2022 Thesis Research Award for the thesis, “Deep Learning for Musical Form: Recognition and Analysis.” **Kimberly Van Wiepz**, M.S. in special education, was awarded the Fall 2022 Capstone Research Award for her project, “Increasing Communication Initiations through Functional Communication Training.” **Deborah Beyer** D.B.A., received the Spring 2023 Dissertation Research Award for her dissertation, “Market Volatility Amidst Political Conflict and Uncertainty.” Congratulations!

In response to the increasing demands for retiring educators in rural school districts, the [School of Graduate Studies](#) recently approved a new certification program making students eligible for a sought-after Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI) license. The School Business Management with DPI 5008 License Certificate will include a 3-credit internship in which they will complete a portfolio, evaluated by a school business manager mentor or superintendent. This fully online program will be housed in the [College of Business and Economics](#) and available for enrollment in fall 2023.

Are you thinking of a career advancement or change? Continuing Education offers [advanced career training programs](#) that lead to professional positions in high demand fields like [Microsoft Office specialist](#), [veterinary assistant](#), and [HVAC/R technician](#). Looking for individual classes? We have those too. Hundreds of flexible, affordable [online classes](#) with start dates each month, with titles like [Project Management Fundamentals](#), [Discover Sign Language](#), and [Genealogy Basics](#) will help you meet your career, educational, and lifelong learning goals.



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