

# Eleven Oklahoma College Students Are Honored As Newman Civic Fellows by Campus Compact

Eleven Oklahoma students were named 2013 Newman Civic Fellows by Campus Compact. The eleven students from Oklahoma are part of a group of 181 students from 36 states in the program, and were nominated by their college or university president as inspiring college student leaders who have demonstrated an investment in finding solutions for challenges facing communities throughout the country. The Newman Civic Fellows Award is named for Dr. Frank Newman, one of the founders of Campus Compact, who dedicated his life to creating opportunities for student civic learning and engagement.

With the Newman Civic Fellows Awards, college and university presidents acknowledge students with the ability and motivation to create lasting change in our communities. Through service, research, and advocacy, these Newman Civic Fellows are making the most of their college experiences to better understand themselves, the root causes of social issues, and effective mechanisms for creating lasting change. The Fellows will be working with Oklahoma Campus Compact to extend service leadership opportunities to other students. For more information about the Newman Civic Fellows, visit [www.compact.org](http://www.compact.org).

## 2013 OKLAHOMA NEWMAN CIVIC FELLOWS

### **Tonya Christian Rogers State University**



Tonya Christian is a committed human service leader. She has served as a volunteer for Rogers County Youth Services for the past two years while actively engaged in research on teen problems and challenges, including, self-care, life skills, unemployment, and problem resolution. Tonya has developed an extensive teen life skills curriculum program for the shelter's rehabilitation group sessions and she provides life skills program training for agency staff. Tonya no doubt will continue to be an innovative service leader as she begins her occupational journey as a community service provider and promotes positive social change.

### **Loren Dunnam East Central University**

Loren Dunnam, a junior at East Central University, majoring in Accounting with a minor in Native American Studies, is deeply involved in improving the quality of life and standard of living for Native Americans. Loren is an enrolled member of the Creek Nation. Her efforts have resulted in clothing being collected and delivered to the Pine Ridge Reservation and the Crow Creek Reservations of South Dakota. She also led efforts to deliver new toys and new clothing to the Kiowa Tribe of Oklahoma. Finally, she put together a day-long street festival which showed children, particularly Native American children, the opportunities that college offers and helped the public to gain an awareness of poverty and the role education plays as a solution to poverty. She has met with officials of the Chickasaw Nation, the Choctaw Nation, the Kiowa Tribe, East Central University and a missionary serving several reservations in South Dakota. Loren is an active member of the East Central University community as an officer and member of several student organizations. She plans to use her accounting degree and her passion for improving the lives of children by being a voice and advocate for them.



## **Kelly Everhart**

### **Oklahoma State University – Oklahoma City**



Kelly Everhart, a sophomore at Oklahoma State University – Oklahoma City majoring in Crime Victims/Survivor Services, is deeply involved in advocacy efforts for victims of violent crimes within Oklahoma County, Oklahoma. Through her degree major service learning projects, Kelly serves as a leader in community-based projects that have included coordinating support groups at the YWCA for children of battered women, providing crime victim advocacy at the Oklahoma City Police Department Victims Unit and working at the YWCA in the economic empowerment program for victims of domestic violence.

Leading advocacy efforts for victims of violent crimes and working with the state's District Attorney, Kelly coordinated the 2012 National Day of Remembrance for Homicide Victims in Oklahoma County. Kelly's passion has positioned her as a leader in advocating for victims of domestic violence both on and off campus. As she prepares for a career in Crime Victims/Survivor Services advocacy, there is no doubt that these experiences will translate into important improvements in services available for victims of violent crimes. As a student, Kelly serves as Vice President of the Student Association for Victim Interests and Empowerment, is a member of Phi Theta Kappa and maintains a 4.0 grade point average.

## **Tami Gorton**

### **Oklahoma State University Institute of Technology**

Tami Gorton is a sophomore at OSU Institute of Technology pursuing a degree in education. Currently, Tami has a 3.8 cumulative GPA. Tami is a patriot, and the nation is grateful for her service. She enlisted in the United States Air Force at the age of seventeen, and saw the country through the terrible events of 9/11. For 13+ years, Tami was an active member of Camp Fire USA, serving on the Board of Directors and as an officer. During this time, she also trained camp counselors, and strived to create a safe environment for children. This desire to protect children led to her conducting antidrug and violence conferences in Tulsa, with the support and leadership of the Tulsa Police Department. Tami was a part of Take Back Tulsa, an organization whose mission is to rejuvenate Tulsa parks and the city. Even during her years of service in the armed forces, Tami volunteered with the Make a Wish Foundation where she utilized her culinary skills to create dishes for fundraisers to benefit charities in San Francisco and Washington, D.C. Tami has also served with St. Jude's and Jerry's Kids (Muscular Dystrophy Association) raising approximately \$50,000 for childhood disease research.



## **Loranda Green**

### **Rose State College**

Loranda Green, a second year student at Rose State College, is pursuing a degree in Sociology with the desire to work with children. As a Leadership student, Loranda has volunteered at Rose State College sponsored events including Family Orientation, Raider Days, Global Oklahoma and the Adopted School Holiday Party. As a member of the Leadership program, she has worked to increase awareness for the need of volunteers within her community. As a result, her Leadership group recruited 114 volunteers from the community for 386 volunteer hours over a 12-week period. Active in her community, Loranda's civic leadership extends beyond Rose State College's efforts. She volunteers at her children's school and within the military community by offering mentorship to new spouses, welcoming soldiers home from deployments, helping put together over 300 care packages for military members deployed overseas during the holidays and assisting with base efforts geared toward children of deployed personnel. Loranda helped raise over \$5,000 for the Children's Miracle Network and assisted local pharmacists promote a free Flu Clinic by organizing attendees



and ensuring proper sanitation standards were met. She has received the honor of being on Rose State College's President's Honor Roll and Vice President's Honor Roll.

## **Bridgette Hamill**

### **Southeastern Oklahoma State University**

Bridgette Hamill is a graduate student completing a Master of Science in Sport Studies and Athletic Administration at Southeastern Oklahoma State University. Bridgette multitasks well, not only is she an outstanding student with a 3.83 cumulative graduate GPA, Bridgette also works fulltime at Southeastern and constantly volunteers her time to serve others. Although Bridgette has provided leadership for numerous local projects, she prefers to work directly with those in need of assistance. Bridgette's commitment and compassion extend well beyond people, as she also works tirelessly to rescue and place homeless animals. Although Bridgette's plans after graduation are not set, she will undoubtedly be found caring for both people and animals that need a helping hand, regardless of where life leads her.



## **Sadaf Irshad**

### **University of Central Oklahoma**



Sadaf Irshad, a graduate student at the University of Central Oklahoma, is studying Bilingual Education and Teaching English as a Second Language. She has been involved in literacy efforts in the local community and has also volunteered extensively with local elementary schools. She is committed to providing as many developmental opportunities for children as possible, both in the United States and also in her native country of Pakistan. Upon her graduation, she intends to return to Pakistan to gain additional teaching experience and to serve as a role model for young women in her country.

## **Dylan LaBeef**

### **Connors State College**

Dylan LaBeef, a Business Administration student at Connors State College, volunteers many hours to the Muskogee Teen Center, while also continuing to balance school work and family time. He dedicates many afternoons to opening the center so local teens have somewhere to come hang out and play basketball. The access to the facility is important to Dylan because he recalls coming to it as a teen and playing basketball with his friends. The game of basketball is not all he teaches, he also provides encouragement and lessons about life to the teens. His initiative to be involved and to become a leader for his community shows the dedication and passion it takes to be successful. Regardless of what career he decides to pursue, his experiences with the Muskogee Teen Center will provide lessons that will last a lifetime.



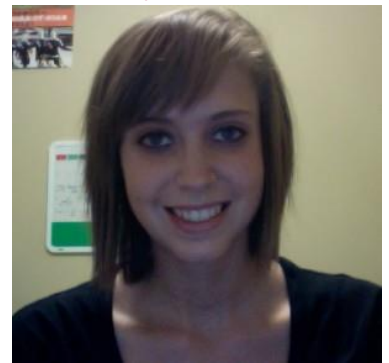
**Kathryn Montes**  
**Northwestern Oklahoma State University**



Kathryn Montes is a senior at Northwestern Oklahoma State University and a leader within the community and on the campus. Since her arrival at Northwestern, Kathryn has been involved in numerous student organizations and community-based activities, which she has utilized to make a lasting impact on campus and in civic functions. She is a member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, is a recipient of academic scholarships, and is recognized on the Dean's List. She reached out to the community youth by teaching running and cheering camps, and regularly volunteers as a teacher's assistant at McKinley Middle School in Enid, Oklahoma. She is committed to public service as evidenced by her commitment and participation with the Baptist Student Union and participation in a mission trip to Denver, Colorado. Kathryn was selected as Northwestern's 2012 Civic Education Fellow. This fellowship gave her the opportunity to serve in an internship for State Senator Bryce Marlatt at the Oklahoma State legislature. During her senior year, Kathryn has been analyzing the barriers to equality

women face in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and math professoriates as part of her capstone experience for her undergraduate degree.

**Hailey Neubauer**  
**University of Oklahoma**



Hailey is a junior at the University of Oklahoma who is dedicated to addressing issues of education inequity through research and community involvement. She tutors local high school students in all subjects through the Norman Public Schools Indian Education Program, and also serves as a tutor at Positive Tomorrows, a school that exclusively serves homeless children in Oklahoma City. She has also mentored students in low-income high schools as a Success Consultant through the Student Success Academy. She strives toward equity on campus as a Sooner Ally and a member of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Questioning/Queer (LGBTQ) Program Advisory Board, where she plans programs and events to increase awareness and acceptance of LGBTQ issues throughout the campus community. Recently, she organized a community charity walk to benefit a local teenager suffering from a genetic liver disease, raising \$1600 toward his medical bills.

**Jarrold Warnock**  
**Oklahoma State University**



Jarrold Warnock, a sophomore at Oklahoma State University, is providing leadership for students to become involved with the community through working with civic and city officials and self-sufficient college students to improve the community aesthetic appeal. In the program, students help elderly and infirm homeowners clean-up and beautify their properties and the larger community. He continually trains new students for sustainability of the new program. To date, over 150 volunteer hours have contributed to the Oklahoma State University Campus Community Cleanup program. Jarrold has also supervised students with community service cleanup events including the Into the Streets event for local citizens. Jarrold's contributions include an increased capacity for service and opened communication lines between the campus and city offices of city manager, the police department, code enforcement, and the marketing department. His experience in helping to design and implement this program for student

populations and the community will help him plan and implement larger events in the future. Jarrod, who is majoring in biochemistry, plans to design sustainable programs and work to improve people's lives at the state and local levels.