



**MURRAY STATE**  
UNIVERSITY

**We are Racers.**





# FIRST-GEN CELEBRATION



FACES OF FIRST-GEN  
FELLOWSHIP | REFRESHMENTS

**NOVEMBER 6, 2024**  
**3:30-4:30 pm**

**First-Gen Thrive Lounge | Lowry | 2nd Floor**

All are welcome! Email [msu.success@murraystate.edu](mailto:msu.success@murraystate.edu) with questions.



**MURRAY STATE**  
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Student Engagement and Success



***In this issue of Parents & Family Connection Racer News:***



**First-Generation Celebration**

**Let's Register Racers!**

**Student Flu Clinic**

**Celebrating Veterans Day**

**& So Much More!**

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# 6th Annual First-Generation Celebration



**Murray State's 6th Annual First-Generation Celebration will be held on Wednesday, November 6 from 3:30-4:30 pm in the First-Gen Thrive Lounge (2C Lowry Center).** November 8 is the annual date for the [National First-Generation College Celebration](#). At the MSU event, we'll unveil the *Faces of First-Gen* meeting space, celebrate first-gen students, faculty and staff, recognize the recipients of the first-gen scholarships and the scholarship donors and enjoy conversations and light refreshments. A first-generation college student is someone whose parents have not completed a 4-year degree at a college or university. Over 40% of MSU's undergraduate population is first-generation. Please contact Peggy Whaley ([pwhaley@murraystate.edu](mailto:pwhaley@murraystate.edu)) or Jennifer Smith ([jsmith143@murraystate.edu](mailto:jsmith143@murraystate.edu)) with questions.

*Murray State is a member of the First-Gen Forward Network.*



The future is FirstGen

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# STUDENTS!

## REGISTRATION IS OPEN

Reach out to your academic advisor today to register for:

### Spring Semester 2025

### Winter Term 2024



Scan QR code for more registration information



**MURRAY STATE**  
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### Let's Register Racers!

*Registration season for spring 2025 and winter term 2025 is OPEN!*

Encourage your student to:

- Connect with their academic advisor about academic and career goals



- Resolve any holds that may prevent registering
- Prepare their schedule now by viewing the spring 2025 course list on [myGate](#).

### Benefits of scheduling now:

- Prepare your “perfect” schedule now and have a few course sections for back-up if a course section is full when you register
- Continue your conversations with your academic advisor about your goals
- Address any academic or personal issues that are preventing you from reaching your full potential
- Reduce stress! Have your schedule set before final exams and the holiday season

Review the [Registrar's Registration website](#) and the [Academic Advising website](#) for details, information and assistance.

***Don't delay - take action today!***



MURRAY STATE UNIVERSITY

# Parent/Family Member Referral



If you are concerned for your student, please consider submitting a [Parent/Family Member Referral](#). Staff from [Student Engagement and Success](#) will outreach to your student based on the information you provide in the referral form.

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## Campus Buzz

**College of Humanities and Fine Arts | Department of History**





History students have plenty of careers to choose from upon graduation. Completing an internship provides opportunities to learn about the application of skills gained in the classroom. Seth Gillespie '25 took this to heart and has had not one but two internships (Summers '23 and '24) at the Smithsonian Museums in Washington, D.C. In summer 2024, he interned with the Secretary for Education (OUSE) focusing on positive youth development and teacher professional development through online and in-person experiences. One project in particular, the Smithsonian National Education Summit, provided Seth with opportunities to work with educators from around the globe!



## Career Services



**MURRAY STATE**  
UNIVERSITY  
Career Services



Nov 7 | 4-5PM | 100 Oakley Applied Science Building



Featuring these employers:



270.809.3735 | [msu.careerservices@murraystate.edu](mailto:msu.careerservices@murraystate.edu)



# Career Services Hosting Money Matters Masterclass on November 6

Have a graduating Racer with questions on finances? The Career Services Office is hosting a panel discussion titled, "Money Matters Masterclass" on Thursday, November 7th from 4:00 - 5:00 PM in 100 Oakley Applied Science Building.

Students will empower themselves with essential financial skills and strategies. Advice will be presented by representatives from The Murray Bank, Edward Jones Investments, and Kentucky Farm Bureau. Student are encouraged to RSVP via [Handshake](#).

## Student Employee of the Month!

Congratulations Haliyah Martin, Murray State University's Student Employee of the Month for October, 2024!

Haliyah is a Junior Public and Community Health major from Paducah, KY. Haliyah works with Kim Newbern in the Office of Greek Life and was nominated for her dedication, leadership skills, and a proactive approach to her responsibilities. Haliyah is also very involved in her campus community and is an inspiration to others. Haliyah plans to continue with her masters degree upon graduation and go into Healthcare Administration. Congratulations Haliyah, and thank you for your service to Murray State!







# I CAME ACROSS A QUOTE THAT SAID:

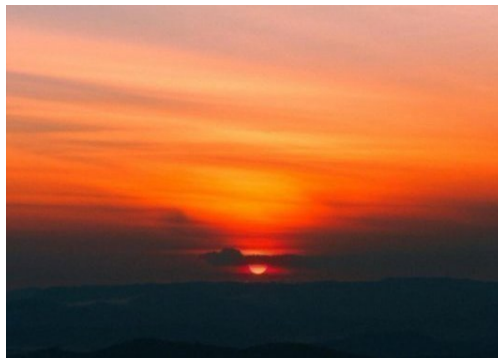
“You are the greatest project you’ll  
ever work on. Restart. Reset. Refocus.  
As many times as you need.  
Just never give up.”

You have the power to shape  
your own destiny. This requires  
dedication, effort, and a willingness  
to start again when necessary.

Value yourself.

Don’t waste time on trivial matters.  
Focus on being the best version of  
yourself

yourself.  
Keep moving forward.



The mental and emotional well-being of our students is important to us. The resources found on the [mental health resources website](#) (hyperlinked text or scan the QR code) provides you and your student with primary resources, both on and off-campus, that can help your student be a successful Racer. Students Matter! We care about them. Email [msu.success@murraystate.edu](mailto:msu.success@murraystate.edu) with questions.





## Racer Parent Perspective



***"It takes courage to grow up and become who you really are." — E.E. Cummings***

Today I share the last two of Dr. Kirby's recommendations from Leading Gen Z. I hope the information shared has been helpful, and maybe given you a different perspective to consider. These last two recommendations really drive home the importance of what we do as parents to help our students. I hope you agree.

1. "Encourage critical thinking: Engage them in discussions that challenge them to think critically about various topics, from current events to personal beliefs. This not only strengthens your bond but also prepares them for independent thought and decision-making." This one has been fun for me. Sometimes tough, but fun. I love seeing my kids (now adults) make decisions on their own, and I'm proud of them for staying true to who they are as individuals! You may not agree with the decisions they make, but teaching them the skills to make those decisions on their own is everything. Taking all perspectives into consideration, questioning information, and weighing the outcomes...that's critical thinking, and a skill that will serve them in their education, their career and life.

2. “Be a source of emotional support: Understand and recognize the pressure and challenges faced by Gen Z. Offer a listening ear and emotional support for their concerns and stresses, reinforcing the idea that home is a safe and supportive space.” This is another opportunity to practice active listening with your student. Listening without judgement. It isn't easy, but it's necessary to help in building those bonds with your adult child. The pandemic did a number on us all, and the challenges our children have today are vastly different than those we experienced. Murray State University has mental health resources the [Counseling Center](#), [the Psychological Center](#), and [TimelyCare](#) if your student needs support from someone who isn't so closely connected.

In the [Center for Student Engagement and Success](#), we're focused on helping students have what they need to be successful, in and out of the classroom. If we can help, point them in our direction. We're here for you too. Drop us a line at [msu.success@murraystate.edu](mailto:msu.success@murraystate.edu). Until next time...

*Written by **Jennifer Smith**, Assistant Director in the Center for Student Engagement and Success, and proud parent of a Murray State University alumna ('22, '24).*

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VETERANS

Day  
November 11



THANK YOU FOR YOUR  
SERVICE AND SACRIFICE

JOIN US IN HONORING OUR  
VETERANS WITH A MEAL AND  
FELLOWSHIP.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2024  
11:00 AM - 1:00 PM  
VETERANS LOUNGE  
444 BLACKBURN



MURRAY STATE UNIVERSITY

OFFICE OF VETERAN AND MILITARY  
STUDENT SUCCESS

Meal sponsored by the Temple Hill Masonic Lodge 276  
Serving Matt B's Pizza





# Veterans Day

11th of November

**We appreciate your service to the country.**

**On Veterans Day, visit these locations for specials.\***

- **Applebee's** - Free meal from a select menu on 11/11/24
- **Casey's General Stores** - Free, any size coffee or fountain drink
- **Chicken Salad Chick**- Free Chick meal and Drink
- **Cracker Barrel** - In-store specials including free slice of double fudge Coca-Cola cake with meal
- **Dunkin'** - Free doughnut, no purchase necessary
- **Einstein Bros. Bagels** - Free medium coffee (hot or iced)
- **Freddy's Frozen Custard & Steakburgers** - Card for a free Freddy's Original Double combo meal, valid through Nov. 30
- **IHOP** - Free Red, White and Blueberry pancakes
- **Little Caesars** - Free Lunch Combo from 11 a.m.-2 p.m.
- **Logan's Roadhouse** - Free meal from American Roadhouse menu 3 to 6 p.m.
- **Olive Garden** - Free entrée from a special menu
- **Outback Steakhouse** - Free bloomin' onion and Coca-Cola
- **Red Lobster** - Free appetizer or dessert
- **Starbucks** - Free 12-ounce (tall) hot-brewed coffee
- **Texas Roadhouse** - Free meal voucher for Veterans 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- **Wendy's** - Free small breakfast combo, no purchase necessary

\*Restrictions may apply. Visit the business for details.



**MURRAY STATE**  
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Veteran and Military  
Student Success

# Murray State Women's Center

November 2024

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**WORLD KINDNESS DAY - NOVEMBER 13TH**



**KINDNESS  
CHANGES  
EVERYTHING**

Learn more about how the campus community can share kindness across campus by visiting the [Women's Center website](#)

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## **IMPORTANT DATES**

**Please Review and Discuss with your Student!**  
**For the complete list of all dates and more details, visit**  
**[murraystate.edu/deadlines](http://murraystate.edu/deadlines)**

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### Weather Alerts and Closures

Alerts will be posted at [murraystate.edu/raceralert](https://murraystate.edu/raceralert) and on Murray State's social media platforms.

--> Families are encouraged to sign up for  
Racer Alert Text Messages  
at [murraystate.edu/raceralert](https://murraystate.edu/raceralert) <--

## Fall 2024 Commencement

**Saturday, December 14 at 10:00 am**

We are excited to recognize the academic achievements of our Fall and Winter 2024 graduating classes at our 2024 Commencement ceremony in December. Commencement activities will be held Saturday, December 14, 2024 at the CFSB Center. The ceremony will begin at 10 a.m.

**Learn More!** | [Commencement](#) | [Graduation Requirements](#)



## Stay Healthy: Student Flu Clinic This Week!

Hi, Racers!

We've got a flu clinic coming up to make sure you're staying healthy. Flu shots are made available by Health Services operated by Murray Medical Associates. Here's the schedule:

Wednesday, 11/6: 8:30 AM – 12:00 PM

Thursday, 11/7: 1:30 PM – 4:00 PM

Location: Health Services, 1st Floor Wells Hall



**Save your spot!** Call Health Services at 270-809-3809 to **book an appointment** for your shots. Please bring your insurance card and ID. The self-pay option is \$30. Stay healthy and take care of yourself—see you there.

If you have questions, please email [msu.healthservices@murraystate.edu](mailto:msu.healthservices@murraystate.edu) or call the above number.



# Stay Healthy! Get a Flu Shot

**Wednesday, 11/6: 8:30 AM – 12:00 PM**

**Thursday, 11/7: 1:30 PM – 4:00 PM**

**Health Services, 1st Floor Wells Hall**

**Please call Health Services at  
270-809-3809 to book an  
appointment!**

**Bring your insurance card  
and ID. Self-pay option  
is \$30.**

**Health Services Operated by  
Murray Medical Associates**



**MURRAY STATE UNIVERSITY**

**Health Services  
Read More**





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Division of Student Affairs at Murray State University 425 Wells Hall | Murray, KY 42071 US

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