



Marion
Technical College



Give to next



MARION TECH
LEADERS
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Mar
Technical

3400+ Enrolled Fall Semester

Marion Tech saw record-breaking enrollment numbers again this year. With more students than ever before in need of financial assistance, your continued generosity will truly make a difference.

End 2024 with a Gift!

Have you achieved your charitable giving goals for the year? With 2025 just around the corner, now is the time to consider an end-of-year gift that can result in tax savings, and the personal satisfaction of maximizing your yearly contributions.

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Marion
Technical College

ANNUAL GIVING
YEAR IN REVIEW

2024




MTC
FOUNDATION
SCHOLARSHIPS
GOLF OUTING
SAVE THE DATE:
MAY 22, 2025

A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends of Marion Tech,

In 2024 our donors and volunteers again demonstrated just how committed and generous they are to the needs of our students and the mission of our local community college. An example of that support occurred at our 3rd Annual Golf Outing Fundraiser which experienced a record number of participants, sponsors and gifts. The event raised over \$43,000 and helped establish eight new scholarship funds. A number of those scholarships were named in memory of loved ones.

As a community member, there are many different ways to make a significant impact in the success of our students. This year's Annual Giving Campaign kicked off in early November with pledges received from Marion Tech's faculty, staff and board members. We now extend the invitation to our many alumni, community partners and friends to help MTC students 'Get to Next!' Please reach out to me to learn more about meaningful giving opportunities.

MTC very much appreciates your kind gifts,



*Mike Stuckey,
Director of MTC Foundation*

2024 Alumni Hall of Fame Inductees

Five outstanding alumni have been inducted into this year's Alumni Hall of Fame:

- **Lisa Bush**, Vice President/Wealth Advisor at Alluvial Private Wealth, Class of 2016
- **John Case**, Director of Technology at Ohio Hi-Point Career Center, Class of 2004
- **Jill Chitwood**, Owner/Travel Consultant at Sights Unseen Travel Agency Class of 1982
- **Keith Stansbery**, Senior Field Service Engineer at Beckman-Coulter, Class of 2006
- **Amber Wertman**, CEO at United Way of North Central Ohio, Class of 2002

Marion Technical College is an equal opportunity educational institution and employer.

OUR TOP STORIES OF 2024



Marion Tech Graduates 415, Including First BSN Program Students

Marion Technical College celebrated 415 graduates during the college's fifty-second annual commencement at the Marion Palace Theatre on May 10. Together, they earned more than 500 degrees and certificates. These included the first two graduates of the new bachelor of science in nursing program.

Graduates ranged in age from 16 to 72 and came from 27 Ohio counties. They included five veterans and 22 high school students who earned associate degrees at no cost to them or their families through the College Credit Plus Program.



The Pursue Your Dream Scholarship

Marion natives Steve and Brenda Johnston have created a scholarship for adult students who find their direction a little later in life. The new Pursue Your Dream Scholarship will support students ages 25 and older

attending Marion Tech. "We have always believed in working hard. Since the Marion community has been good to us, we wanted to support people who want to make their lives and our community a better place to live," said Steve Johnston. "We wanted to create a scholarship for those who need a little extra time to decide what direction in life they want to pursue."

Steve and Brenda Johnston both graduated from Harding High School in 1977 and went straight to work. They reconnected at a high school reunion a decade later, fell in love and married.

Steve's grandfather, Lloyd Johnston, founded Johnston Supply, a plumbing and HVAC supply company. When Steve's father, Peck Johnston, died in 2006, Steve became the CEO of the family business. In 2007, he asked Brenda to work temporarily in payroll. That temporary job lasted for more than 17 years.

"We focused on supporting our employees. The retention and longevity of the staff showed that investment," Steve said. Now that they have retired from that business, they are investing in Marion the way they invested in their employees.

Steve is also continuing his father's tradition in many ways. His father, Peck Johnston, was a founding member of the Marion Tech Foundation Board. Steve also served on the college's Board of Trustees. The Johnstons are also involved with Downtown Marion Inc. and many other community groups. Brenda is former president of the Pleasant Local Schools Parent-Teacher Organization. "Marion's home. We've been fortunate. We really enjoy giving back," Steve said.



The David and Jane Fogle Scholarship

Local farmer, businessman and philanthropist Kit Fogle and his family have established the The David and Jane Fogle Scholarship Fund to support students pursuing their educational aspirations at Marion Technical College. This scholarship will be awarded to graduates of Upper Sandusky High School with financial need and good academic standing.

"I wanted to do this in my parents' honor," said Kit. "Marion Tech is one of the best assets of this community. Every business or neighbor has a connection to Marion Tech."

Fogle knows the value of Marion Tech. He is serving as the Chair of the Marion Tech Board of Trustees. He has been a member of the board for five years.

David and Jane Fogle farmed all of their lives. They raised their four children on the farm located in the tri-county area of Marion, Hardin and Wyandot counties. Kit and his sisters caught the bus to Upper Sandusky schools at 6:40 a.m. The Fogles did not attend college, but they made it a priority for their children.

"They encouraged and supported education all the time. I was thinking

I would farm after graduating from high school, but they insisted I go to college," Kit said.

That decision changed Fogle's life and opened doors for different lines of work. As a first-generation college student, Fogle worked through college and appreciated scholarships. He now serves as Senior Vice President of investments for Stifel Investments and is a Certified Plan Fiduciary Advisor (CPFA).

Fogle and his wife, Lori, also continue to operate the family farm. They ensured that their daughters Abigail and Alexis graduated from college. Abigail's husband, Tyler Spears, is currently attending Marion Tech to study Information Technology and Cybersecurity.

The Fogle family's new scholarship fund will help others pursuing a college education. "I hope it allows people to further their education, get a better-paying job, stay in the community and give back," Fogle said. "It's the American Dream."



The Kristian Jay Moore Scholarship

A new scholarship at Marion Technical College honors Kristian Jay Moore, a man who loved learning. Kris did not let Dandy-Walker Syndrome, a congenital brain malformation, slow him down. He graduated from Worthington Kilbourne High School in 1995. He then worked at ARC Industries in Columbus, where he received several awards for outstanding employee. Kris also won medals for swimming, bowling and track in the Special Olympics.

While Kris was growing up, Al was serving thousands of students at Marion Technical College as Dean and Professor of General Education. After Al retired, the Moore family moved to Utah. Sadly, Kris died in 2020. In his memory, the Moore family and their long-time friends, the Foxes, created the new Kristian Jay Moore Scholarship which will help more women enter engineering.

"Kris loved to see people overcome any obstacles. Kris was the ultimate optimist. Supporting those who are optimistic about their future is something Kris would enjoy," Al said. "Kris made the world a better place and now he will support women striving to make the world a better place through advancements in engineering."

Pat and Mike Fox also wanted to honor Kris. "Mike and I were always inspired by the love, support, and attention Al and JoAnne gave to all their children," Pat Fox says. "The best way I can describe Kris is 'joy.' He found joy in the smallest of things."

Pat Fox taught as a business faculty member for more than 30 years. Her husband, Mike, worked at GTE and Verizon for 40 years as an equipment installer. He also served on the Marion Tech advisory committee when the new telecommunications program was started.

"The decision to set up a scholarship in Kris's memory was an easy one," Fox says. "Marion Tech has services available to help all students succeed. As a faculty member, I saw students succeed against all odds."

National Science Foundation Cybersecurity Grant

Marion Technical College is proud to announce an ambitious initiative to expand cybersecurity education and train more workers in response to the pressing need for cybersecurity expertise in today's digital landscape. This new National Science Foundation grant will help bridge the skills gap and establish a skilled cybersecurity workforce to meet local, regional, and nationwide demands.

Marion Tech was awarded \$533,404 to better align curriculum with the NSA Center of Excellence in Cybersecurity. In addition to upgrading hardware, Marion Tech will offer cybersecurity camps starting in the summer of 2025 to provide free training to teachers, government employees and utility workers as well as students. The college will develop three new cybersecurity courses and certifications that include stackable certificate options where students can tailor learning to their career goals and put their education to use in their careers quickly.

This initiative aims to increase program enrollment among underrepresented students in cybersecurity, including rural students, economically disadvantaged individuals, and women by 25%.

OTHER HIGHLIGHTS OF 2024

- The **Rob Koons & Thomas White Scholarship** was created to help second-year business students from underrepresented populations; December 2023.
- The **Randy Myers Scholarship** was created to help paramedics entering the nursing field; April.
- The **2024 Golf Outing** held at Kings Mill Golf Club raised over \$43,000 for scholarships; May.
- **Dr. James & Ellen Bazzoli Scholarship** was established to help residents of Marion County pursuing a degree in healthcare; August.
- Three donors supported **The Forge Business Classes and Competition: Alluvial Private Wealth, Steve and Brenda Johnston, and Gary Ferriman**, president of Showplace Rent-to-Own. The Forge program supports local entrepreneurs and small businesses by providing startup money to business plan competition winners; October.
- The annual **Marion Tech Big Tent Event**
- The **Anderson Family Scholarship** was developed to assist second-year students who graduate from Ridgedale Local School District; October.
- The **Boden Family Scholarship** was created to support second-year students graduating high school from Wyandot County; October.
- **Jane Galyk Scholarship** was developed to help second-year students ages 25 and older; October.
- Our annual **Alumni Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony** was held in the Health Technologies Center (HTC) building on the Marion Campus. Five new alumni were inducted. The event was held in conjunction with the Marion and Wyandot County Chambers' Business After Hours events; November.

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was held on the Marion Campus. The Marion Public Library, MARCA Industries, United Way, Marion Wildlife Association, Marion Area Humane Society and Marion County Ohio Dog Pound joined us as special guests. YWCA sponsored the Columbus Zoo animals attraction and Pillar Credit Union sponsored the MTC Esports Experience; October.