



MENTORING THIS MONTH

APRIL 2025
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April

Renew. Refresh. Rejuvenate. Relax. Release. It's April! With the advent of the rain showers April is known for, we can only hope that nature isn't playing an April Fools' joke on us and that Spring has finally arrived.

Whether Spring is here or not, there is one thing that is for certain. MCOCP staff members have had an extra "spring" in their steps because they have enjoyed spending time with the MCOCP Scholars, their mentors, and school liaisons and administrators during the pizza parties. More will be held this month, and Patrick, Jenni and Kyra are equally "egg-cited" to see you! Please see page four for remaining dates, and be sure to remind your mentees of the day and time in their building.

Inside This Issue...

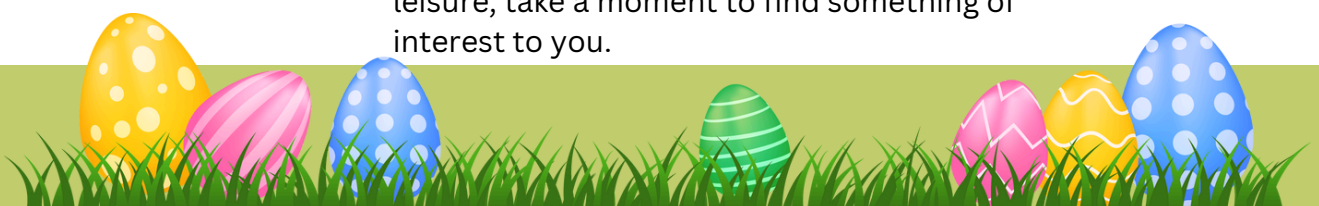


Discussion Topics	2
Mentor Reminders	2
Fun Facts	3
Outside of School	3
News	4
Motivational Moment	4
College Access Corner	4
Pizza Party Schedule	4

In keeping with the Spring theme, MCOCP continues to grow and bloom as it expands its college partnerships for the 2025-2026 academic year. University of Findlay will be joining Bowling Green State University (BGSU), and Ohio Wesleyan University as options beginning with the Class of 2026. Otterbein University was added this school year.

As is always the case, the "Mentor Reminders" segment is full of important information that will help you guide and assist your mentee as the final quarter is underway for the 2024-2025 school year. In the "News You Can Use" section, you'll find the latest updates on current and emerging topics such as Pell Grants, Ohio higher education, student engagement, college value and affordability, scholarship and admissions essays and AI, and more. At your leisure, take a moment to find something of interest to you.

HAPPY
easter



APRIL DISCUSSION TOPICS

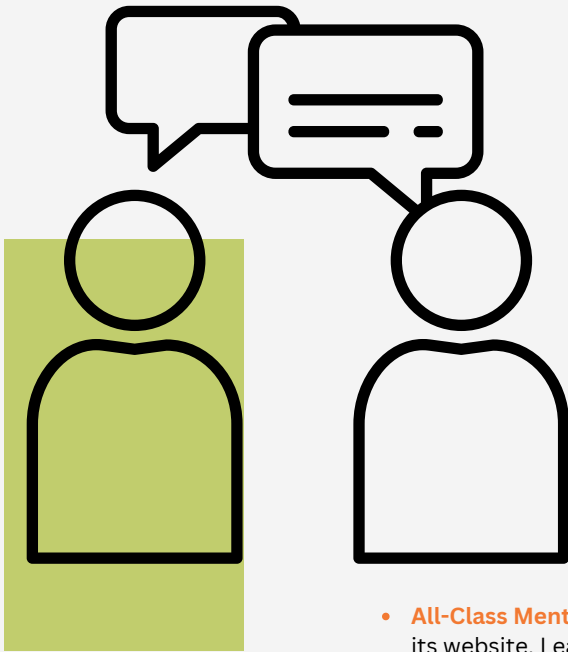
- What do you like most about yourself?
- What new things have you learned or discovered recently?
- What is something that you do that gives you the most personal satisfaction?
- When you were younger, what did you want to be when you grew up?

(Sources for some questions: *Family Talk* game and Dayton Children's On Our Sleeves® conversation starter cards.)

For more information about the On Our Sleeves® initiative and other resources, visit:

- [The Kids Mental Health Foundation](#)
- [The Kids Mental Health Foundation Conversation Starter Resources](#)
- [Dayton Children's On Our Sleeves](#)

- **All-Class Mentors:** The WPAFB Educational Outreach Office has many **offerings** for youth of all ages on its website. Learn more at the link above.
- **All-Class Mentors:** Q4 is underway. Please continue helping your mentees think about how they can reach their goals for the year. This free online **tool** is a great way to assist them with calculating their GPAs.
- **All-Class Mentors:** Sinclair Community College's **free** Built Environment Summer Camp will be held Monday, 6/9/25 - Friday, 6/13/25. Students will explore and be exposed to architecture, construction management, civil engineering, HVAC and more. Interested applicants should register **here**.
- **Freshman, Sophomore and Junior Mentors:** "Science and Technology of Sports," a summer camp sponsored by Sinclair Community College's Women in STEM (WiSTEM), will take place Monday, 6/9/25 - Friday, 6/13/25. The camp is open to **rising** sophomores, juniors and seniors. **Registration** is now open. The \$10 fee covers registration, daily lunch and a T-shirt.
- **Sophomore and Junior Mentors:** The **application** for Miami University's Summer Scholars Program, a selective program providing a glimpse of the college experience, is now open for "high-achieving," **rising** high school juniors and seniors. **The application deadline is 5/1/25**. Interested MCOCP Scholars can contact Jenni for registration and financial assistance.
- **Sophomore and Junior Mentors:** The University of Dayton's Female Aspiring Business Scholars (FABS) is hosting an overnight summer camp from Sunday, 6/22/25 - Wednesday, 6/25/25 for **rising** high school juniors and seniors interested in business. **Registration ends on 5/10/25** and is \$300. Financial assistance is available through UD. Learn more **here**. Also, touch base with Jenni if help is needed.
- **Sophomore and Junior Mentors:** **Come and SEE-UD Summer Engineering Experiences** day-long summer camps will be held for Class of 2026 and Class of 2027 students on 6/16/25, 6/17/25 and 6/18/25. Each day is \$100 and the University of Dayton is offering limited financial assistance. Learn more and register at the link above. Contact Jenni as well to see how MCOCP can help.
- **Junior and Senior Mentors:** **Wright State University's Horizons in Medicine Summer Program** is accepting applications for juniors and seniors who have successfully completed chemistry. See the above link for more details.
- **Sophomore Mentors:** YMCA of Greater Dayton, in partnership with Wright State University, is hosting Junior Leadership Dayton for rising juniors. This leadership development program meets one day each month from August through April. Participants will be exposed to various social and economic issues in the Miami Valley. A letter, brochure and flyer were mailed out to all current sophomore mentors and mentees in March. Current, interested sophomores can apply at this **link**.
- **Junior Mentors:** Your mentees should start researching and exploring colleges of interest to them. Spring and summer months are perfect times for college visits.
- **Senior Mentors:** Seniors and their families should have received a Decision Day Form in the U.S. mail from us. **They will need to return the form to us by or before 5/30/25**.
- **Senior Mentors:** Senior MCOCP participants should be checking their emails and college portals on a regular basis for updates and provide any requested remaining documentation. Additionally, students should be working closely with institutions where they have applied, meeting deadlines at those colleges, and communicating their decision if they have made their selection. **Decision Day at most colleges is 5/1 annually.**



April Fun Facts and Dates to Remember

While we often remember April for April Fool's Day and Tax Day, it is known for so much more! Easter, of course, is in April this year on 4/20 and National Volunteer Week runs from 4/21/25 through 4/25/25. Looking for other ways to celebrate this month? Check out this list below:

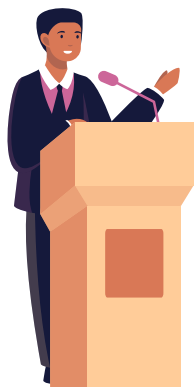


- Bicycle Day, 4/19/25
- Thank You for Libraries Day, 4/21/25
- Earth Day, 4/22/25
- National Pigs in a Blanket Day, 4/24/25
- Arbor Day, 4/25/25
- National Pretzel Day, 4/26/25
- National Superhero Day, 4/28/25
- International Day of Jazz, 4/30/25



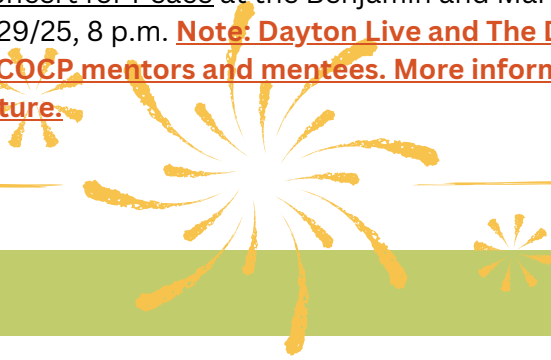
OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL...

Below, please find some suggested ideas for activities to do with your mentee in the coming weeks. The following searchable websites provide a more comprehensive listing:



- [Dayton Local.com](#)
- [Dayton Daily News Dayton.com](#)
- [Downtown Dayton Partnership](#)
- [Destination Dayton](#)
- [Dayton 937](#)
- [Dayton Metro Library](#)
- [Five Rivers MetroParks](#)
- [DO STEM Near Me](#)

- Scene 75 Entertainment Center, Dayton – Ongoing
- Sky Zone Trampoline Park, Dayton – Ongoing
- National Museum of the United States Air Force – Ongoing
- Skateworld of Vandalia or Skateworld of Kettering – Ongoing
- Level Up Pinball Bar (and Arcade) – Ongoing
- Great Escape Game – Ongoing
- Poetry Contest Showcase at the Main Library Branch – 4/24/25, 6-7:30 p.m.
- Bellbrook Sugar Maple Festival – 4/25/27-4/27/25 (5-10 p.m. on 4/25, 12-10 p.m. on 4/26 and 12-5 p.m. on 4/27)
- Earth Day at the Boonshoft Museum of Discovery – 4/26/25, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
- R.I.S.E. (Receive. Intervene. Support. Educate.) Again Suicide Prevention and Gun Safety Rally at Levitt Pavilion – 5/3/25 (Rain Date: 5/4/25), 11 a.m. -2 p.m.
- [Concert for Peace](#) at the Benjamin and Marian Schuster Performing Arts Center - 5/29/25, 8 p.m. **Note: Dayton Live and The Dayton Foundation will be gifting tickets to MCOCP mentors and mentees. More information will be forthcoming in the near future.**



NEWS YOU CAN USE

FAFSA & Financial Assistance

- “Looming \$2.7 billion Pell Grant shortfall poses a new threat for college” (CNBC)

General & Miscellaneous Education

- “As costs increase and enrollment declines, small Ohio colleges adapt to survive” (The Ohio Newsroom)
- “Gov. DeWine’s proposed budget seeks to get more high school students to stay in Ohio for college” (Ohio Capital Journal)
- “University of Findlay calls off merger with Bluffton University” (Higher Ed Dive)

Student Mental Health

- “Students are disengaging to the point of skipping exams. This is how we can help” (University Business)

First-Generation College Students

- “Is college worth it? Students of color don’t shy away from answering this question” (Lumina Foundation)

College Admissions

- “Students try using AI to write scholarship essays – with little luck” (The Hechinger Report)

College Access & Success

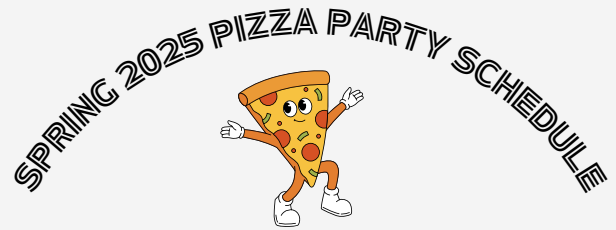
- “Ohio foster-to-college bill aims to bring kids out of system, into higher ed, career tech” (Ohio Capital Journal)

College Value & Affordability

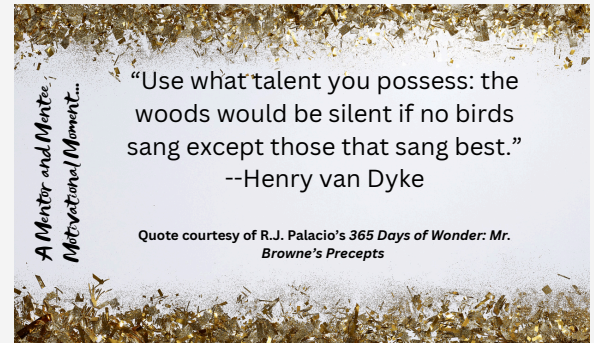
- “The cost vs. value paradox: what Americans really think about college” (Lumina Foundation)

Podcasts & Interviews

- “Getting Started: Plan Your Work, Work Your Plan” (Admissions Beat)
- “Good News/Bad News” (Admissions Beat)



School	Date, Time & Location
Dayton Regional STEM School (DRSS)	Thursday, 4/24/25, 12:35p-1:25p (Conference Room, Cafeteria or Main Office)
East Dayton Christian	Tuesday, 4/22/25, 1:00p-1:30p (The Concession Stand)
Miamisburg High School	Friday, 4/18/25, 10:25a-10:55a (Viking Conference Room)



- Scholarships360
- Packback