

Logsdon, Jeremy

From: Keesey, Susan
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2023 2:19 PM
To: Hulan, Nancy; Stobaugh, Beckie; Day, Martha; Jukes, Pamela; Margarella, Erin; Noel, Christina; Smith, Kandy; Park, Soyong; Casale, Ellen; Wright, John; Tarbett, Leslee; Hines, Lynn; Torelli, Jessica; Paganelli, Andrea; Logsdon, Jeremy; Mittelberg, Julia; Hussung, Jessie; Sheffield, Jennifer; Szymanski, Toni; Roberts, Julia; Huss, Jeanine; Erin Russell; Noffsinger, Debra; Tooley, Sally; Fluhler, Sally; Tassell, Janet; Super, Daniel
Subject: Re: PCAL CES Presents: Willie Carver - Next Week!

Also, we have space for a few education faculty to have dinner with Mr. Carver at Nova Dolce at 7:00 tomorrow night. If you're interested in attending, please let me know.

Thanks,
Sue

Susan Keesey, Ph.D.
Director, School of Teacher Education
Associate Professor, Special Education
Western Kentucky University
1005 Gary Ransdell Hall
270-745-5414
susan.keesey@wku.edu

From: "Keesey, Susan" <susan.keesey@wku.edu>
Date: Monday, March 27, 2023 at 1:58 PM
To: "Hulan, Nancy" <nancy.hulan@wku.edu>, "Stobaugh, Beckie" <rebecca.stobaugh@wku.edu>, "Day, Martha" <martha.day@wku.edu>, "Jukes, Pamela" <pam.jukes@wku.edu>, "Margarella, Erin" <erin.margarella@wku.edu>, "Noel, Christina" <christina.noel@wku.edu>, "Smith, Kandy" <kandy.smith@wku.edu>, "Park, Soyong" <soyoung.park@wku.edu>, "Casale, Ellen" <ellen.casale@wku.edu>, "Wright, John" <john.wright@wku.edu>, "Tarbett, Leslee" <leslee.tarbett@wku.edu>, Lynn Hines <lynn.hines@wku.edu>, "Torelli, Jessica" <jessica.torelli@wku.edu>, "Paganelli, Andrea" <andrea.paganelli@wku.edu>, "Logsdon, Jeremy" <jeremy.logsdon@wku.edu>, "Mittelberg, Julia" <julia.mittelberg@wku.edu>, "Hussung, Jessie" <jessica.hussung@wku.edu>, "Sheffield, Jennifer" <jennifer.sheffield@wku.edu>, "Szymanski, Toni" <antonia.szymanski@wku.edu>, "Roberts, Julia" <julia.roberts@wku.edu>, "Huss, Jeanine" <jeanine.huss@wku.edu>, Erin Russell <erinrussell920@gmail.com>, "Noffsinger, Debra" <debra.noffsinger@wku.edu>, "Tooley, Sally" <sally.tooley@wku.edu>, "Fluhler, Sally" <sally.fluhler@wku.edu>, "Tassell, Janet" <janet.tassell@wku.edu>, "Super, Daniel" <daniel.super@wku.edu>
Subject: Re: PCAL CES Presents: Willie Carver - Next Week!

Greetings, Team,

Just a reminder about Mr. Carver's visit tomorrow. I hope to see you and your students at this event tomorrow. We also have spots available for students to meet with Mr. Carver; however, I have not heard from anyone about student interest. Please let me know asap if you have students wanting to meet Mr. Carver for lunch or dinner or other times during the day. Please don't let this event pass by without STE representation!

Thanks,
Sue

Susan Keeseey, Ph.D.
Director, School of Teacher Education
Associate Professor, Special Education
Western Kentucky University
1005 Gary Ransdell Hall
270-745-5414
susan.keeseey@wku.edu

From: "Keeseey, Susan" <susan.keeseey@wku.edu>
Date: Tuesday, March 21, 2023 at 5:30 PM
To: "Hulan, Nancy" <nancy.hulan@wku.edu>, "Stobaugh, Beckie" <rebecca.stobaugh@wku.edu>, "Day, Martha" <martha.day@wku.edu>, "Jukes, Pamela" <pam.jukes@wku.edu>, "Margarella, Erin" <erin.margarella@wku.edu>, "Noel, Christina" <christina.noel@wku.edu>, "Smith, Kandy" <kandy.smith@wku.edu>, "Park, Soyong" <soyoung.park@wku.edu>, "Casale, Ellen" <ellen.casale@wku.edu>, "Wright, John" <john.wright@wku.edu>, "Tarbett, Leslee" <leslee.tarbett@wku.edu>, Lynn Hines <lynn.hines@wku.edu>, "Torelli, Jessica" <jessica.torelli@wku.edu>, "Paganelli, Andrea" <andrea.paganelli@wku.edu>, "Logsdon, Jeremy" <jeremy.logsdon@wku.edu>, "Mittelberg, Julia" <julia.mittelberg@wku.edu>, "Hussung, Jessie" <jessica.hussung@wku.edu>, "Sheffield, Jennifer" <jennifer.sheffield@wku.edu>, "Szymanski, Toni" <antonia.szymanski@wku.edu>, "Roberts, Julia" <julia.roberts@wku.edu>, "Huss, Jeanine" <jeanine.huss@wku.edu>, Erin Russell <erinrussell920@gmail.com>, "Noffsinger, Debra" <debra.noffsinger@wku.edu>, "Tooley, Sally" <sally.tooley@wku.edu>, "Fluhler, Sally" <sally.fluhler@wku.edu>, "Tassell, Janet" <janet.tassell@wku.edu>, "Super, Daniel" <daniel.super@wku.edu>
Subject: FW: PCAL CES Presents: Willie Carver - Next Week!

What an important event! Hope to see you and our students there next Tuesday. Please promote!! There are also opportunities for our students to have lunch and/or meet individually with Mr. Carver. Please let me know if you have students interested in this awesome opportunity!

Thanks,
Sue

Susan Keeseey, Ph.D.
Director, School of Teacher Education
Associate Professor, Special Education
Western Kentucky University
1005 Gary Ransdell Hall
270-745-5414
susan.keeseey@wku.edu

From: "Luna, Jessica" <jessica.luna@wku.edu>
Date: Tuesday, March 21, 2023 at 4:18 PM
To: Faculty-All <faculty-all@wku.edu>, Staff-All <staff-all@wku.edu>
Subject: PCAL CES Presents: Willie Carver - Next Week!

Join us on Tuesday, March 28th, at 5 PM in the Jody Richards Hall Auditorium as we welcome 2022 Kentucky Teacher of the Year, Willie Carver, to campus! **Admission is free, no tickets are necessary, and seating is on a first-come, first-served basis.**

Using his unique path to advocacy, Mr. Carver will use his voice to speak in support of marginalized students in Kentucky. He will address the challenges and great opportunities for our LGBTQIA+, BIPOC, and Appalachian students.

By critiquing systems in which they must operate, Mr. Carver will reflect on his own upbringing in Eastern Kentucky and use those experiences as a way to create hope, inclusion, and space for students. As the 2022 Kentucky Teacher of the Year, he brought these truths to the United States Congress when testifying about the very real physical and emotional challenges LGBTQIA+ students and teachers face. During this session, Mr. Carver will share not only his experiences, but a vision for future advocacy to protect students so all may thrive.

This event is part of the newly revamped PCAL Cultural Enhancement Series with support from the WKU College of Education & Behavioral Sciences.

We hope to see you there!

POTTER COLLEGE OF ARTS & LETTERS PROUDLY PRESENTS

Willie Carver

Building Hope and Resilience in Advocacy:

Reflections from the 2022 Kentucky Teacher of the Year

MAR 28 | JODY RICHARDS HALL AUDITORIUM | 5 PM

A part of the *Kentucky Unexpected*
CULTURAL ENHANCEMENT SERIES

powered by
WKU College of Education & Behavioral Sciences | WKU | PCAL

Jessica Luna (she/her/hers)

Communications and Events Specialist

(270) 745-3259 | FAC 188

jessica.luna@wku.edu



I am PCAL. You are PCAL. We are PCAL.



‘Advocacy is about all of us’: Kentucky Teacher of the Year presents at PCAL Cultural Enhancement Series



Sean McInnis

Willie Carver, the 2022 Kentucky Teacher of the Year and Ambassador to the Kentucky Department of Education, speaks during a talk as part of the PCAL Cultural Enhancement Series on Tuesday, March 28, 2023 in Jody Richards Hall.

Bailey Reed, News reporter

Students welcomed Willie Carver, Kentucky 2022 Teacher of The Year, on Tuesday, March 28 at 5 p.m. to Jody Richards Hall auditorium with thunderous applause and acclamation.

Carver is a teacher, author, poet and advocate for human rights, focusing on the rights of people of color and members of the LGBTQIA community, and understanding in the classroom.

Carver is a gay man who left his former teaching job, as he faced workplace discrimination. He formerly taught at Montgomery County High School, where people accused him, as well as the student club he sponsored, “Open Light”, a student run LGBTQ group, of grooming young students.

Carver now works at the University of Kentucky as an academic advisor to students in the Gatton College of Business and Academics. He has also published a book called “Gay Poems for Red States.”

Carver explained that poetry was a coping mechanism for the hatred he previously experienced.

“I would die on the spot if I didn’t write,” Carver said.

Additionally, Carver described his process with defining advocacy.

“Advocacy is calling out into the darkness and believing you will be heard,” Carver said. “Advocacy is about all of us.”

Carver encouraged activism by encouraging students, saying “activism is much more possible than we think it is.”

“The universe wants you to succeed,” Carver said, quoting RuPaul, an American drag queen.

He also explained the importance of speaking out in one simple phrase: “silence is death.”

In his closing remarks, Carver reminded people to be strong in themselves.
“I am gay, and I am strong,” Carver said.
News reporter Bailey Reed can be reached at bailey.reed704@topper.wku.edu.