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...a minute and be in the woods. I'm surrounded by wildlife and there's no light or sound pollution, and I feel much more connected
...ents worked, and while at the time I was upset, in retrospect I'm thankful. It really laid the groundwork for our current relationship
...current community, which is diverse with people from all walks of life, is where I get my most support. I think it's important that everyone
...a part of my high school band has grown my relationship with music through understanding it's fundamentals." · "Being in a small town
...d. For some you'll be a role model because they've never had someone like you but for others you'll stand for everything that's 'wrong'
...down and embrace a love of being alive." · "I've never been one to try and set plans in stone; I just start off and go wherever the wind
...ing from a family of cattle, dairy, and tobacco farmers, I'll be a first generation college student." · "I want kids from Kentucky to stay in
...know has always been small. Since I've grown up with the same people my whole life, I'm very comfortable with everyone. Living in such a
...d vast amount of opportunities available in such a big city." · "I've grown up in the small town of Madisonville, and it's comforting for me to know everyone
...er, and it's nice to watch it rise and fall. We live a small town life, so we're all close and we stick up for each other. Growing up was
...I can walk for less than a minute and be in the woods. I'm surrounded by wildlife and there's no light or sound pollution, and I feel much more connected
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EXPLORING OUR HOME, HERE & NOW

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...with people from all walks of life, is where I get my most support. I think it's important that everyone finds their community." · "Being a part of
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Governor's Scholars Program 2021 Academic Report

From the **Executive Director**

Dear supporters and friends of the Governor's Scholars Program,

Each year at our spring planning retreat, I encourage our faculty and staff not to plan too much in advance of the summer Program. Much of what makes the GSP experience special is the magic of coming together from across the Commonwealth, sharing ideas and collaborating on new ones, co-creating in the moment. I believe this a good model for scholars to observe. After all, too much planning can stifle creativity. Some of the best ideas are hatched in the here and now.

More than any other year, the 2021 summer required us to do just that: Create on the fly, adapt to today, and explore the here and now. The ever-changing nature of the social health concerns and circumstances meant that what worked previously (and especially two summers ago!) might not work presently. Community meetings and classroom time operated differently. Scholars had to communicate differently, no longer able to exchange the friendly hugs that were once so commonplace on our campuses.

So, we adapted and exercised even more flexibility and creativity than in the past. For some of us who have been with the GSP for decades, this meant pulling from our previous experience and resurrecting methods from the early days of the Program. For instance, in recent years our scholars frequently took field trips off campus to learn from local leaders, tour historical sites, complete a community service project, or see the inner workings of a thriving Kentucky business. This summer, off-campus trips were not feasible. Those of us who have been with the Program for a long time can recall the summers before 1996 when there were no enrichment community field trips—campus life was an “oasis” that later became an irrigation system to spread the waters of knowledge across the Commonwealth. This year, the idea of the GSP as an “oasis” was rediscovered out of necessity. We gathered and stayed together, we made magic and accomplished the mission of the GSP on each of the three sites together.

And thanks to the inventiveness of our community members, we managed to find other ways to explore the Commonwealth from the safety of our oasis, perhaps to reinvent our past and return home to those first years of the GSP and the essence of its mission to nurture the next generation of civic and economic leaders for Kentucky. For example, on one of the GSP campuses, the Cultural Anthropology and Journalism & Mass Media Focus Area classes set out to interview and photograph each member of the community. Then the classes molded this information into an interactive online map of each person's photo and interview. This project gave all of us the opportunity to explore each other's homes, even if we could not leave campus physically.

Reflecting on this summer overall, I am so grateful that all of our community members embraced the challenge to adapt and think imaginatively in order to complete the Program. We accepted 1,052 scholars, and we graduated 1,048—an extraordinary success for any summer, but especially in a year like 2021. Thank you for trusting our ability to open our three campuses, remain open, and complete five weeks of magic and nurturing the GSP community of learners in person.




Aris Cedeño
Executive Director & Academic Dean

Scholars By County

Counties with up to 3 Governor's Scholars in 2021

Adair	Caldwell	Cumberland	Hancock	Lee	Martin	Pendleton	Trimble
Allen	Carlisle	Elliott	Harlan	Leslie	McCreary	Perry	Union
Ballard	Carroll	Estill*	Harrison	Letcher	McLean	Powell	Washington
Bath	Carter	Fulton	Hart	Lewis	Menifee	Robertson	Wayne
Bell	Casey	Gallatin	Jackson	Lincoln	Monroe	Rockcastle	Webster
Bracken	Clay	Grant	Knott	Livingston	Morgan	Russell	Wolfe
Breathitt	Clinton	Grayson	Knox	Logan	Nicholas	Simpson	
Butler*	Crittenden	Green	Lawrence	Magoffin	Owsley	Trigg	

4 - 6 Scholars

Bourbon	Mason
Clark	Metcalfe
Fleming	Montgomery
Floyd	Ohio
Garrard	Owen
Hickman	Rowan
LaRue	Spencer
Lyon	Todd

10 - 14 Scholars

Barren	Meade
Boyd	Mercer
Graves	Muhlenberg
Greenup	Pike
Hopkins	Scott
Jessamine	Shelby
Marshall	Taylor

26 - 50

Boone
Kenton
Oldham
Warren

100+

Jefferson

51 - 100

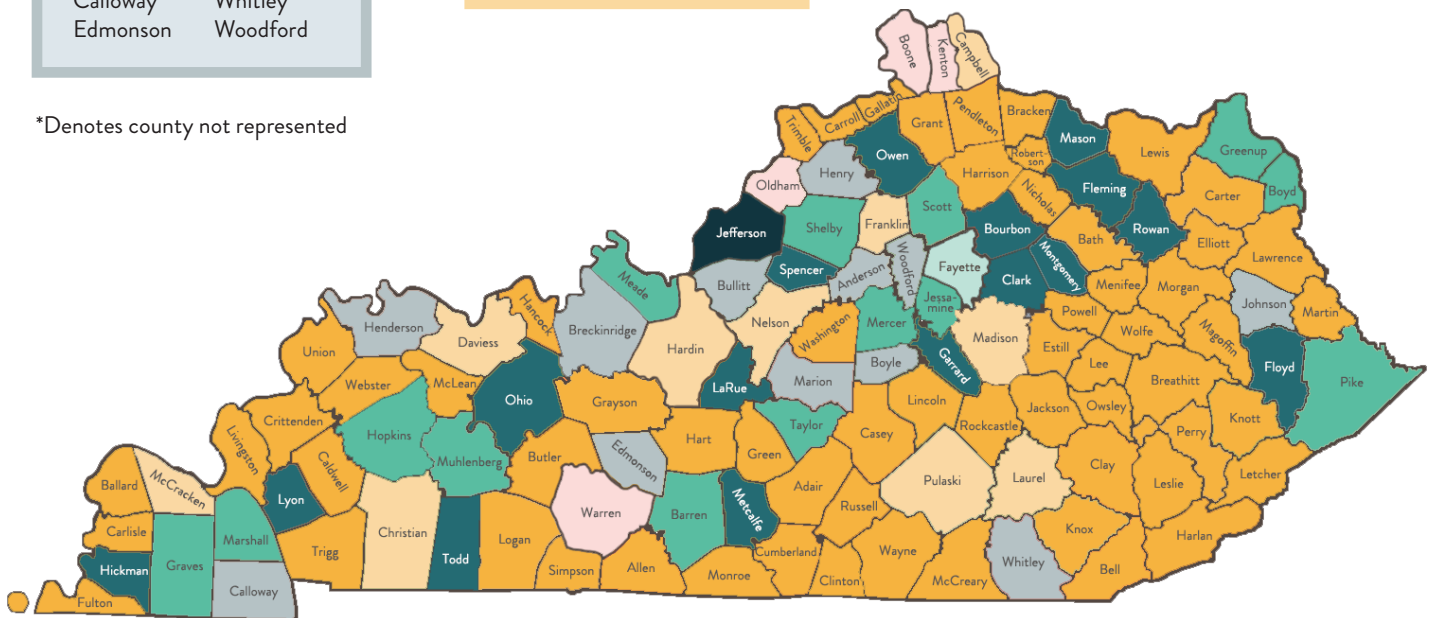
Fayette

7 - 9 Scholars

Anderson	Henderson
Boyle	Henry
Breckinridge	Johnson
Bullitt	Marion
Calloway	Whitley
Edmonson	Woodford

15 - 25 Scholars

Campbell	Laurel
Christian	Madison
Daviess	McCracken
Franklin	Nelson
Hardin	Pulaski



*Denotes county not represented

FOCUS AREAS

Scholars pursue a particular topic in depth as members of small groups, stressing the development of ideas within that topic and its interrelatedness to other content areas. The courses are meant to provide broad, interdisciplinary, intellectual exposure and enrichment rather than narrow, disciplinary training. Scholars are encouraged to try a Focus Area course in which they have little prior experience.

Agribusiness & Biotechnology

Centre College

Thomas Reed's Focus Area scholars researched and debated current biotechnologies and agricultural practices, including genetic engineering and GMOs. The scholars also had the opportunity to hear from a Kentucky farmer who practices land restoration, a practice that focuses on healing the soil instead of adding chemicals or relying on monoculture. With all of this in mind, each scholar investigated current sustainability solutions to develop a project that they could use within their home, school, or community, and they proposed their agribusiness plans to the entire community of scholars.

Architectural Design

Bellarmine University

Dewey Kincaid equipped his scholars to see meaning in the buildings around them. Scholars learned the connections between the form and function of buildings and the social dynamics that influenced their design. Bill Bryson's book *At Home: A Short History of Private Life* helped illustrate how buildings have evolved according to the changing tastes of the people within them. For a hands-on challenge, each scholar designed a house and then gave the design to another scholar to build using cardboard and duct tape.

Centre College

Ian Frank's Focus Area investigated the initial steps of the creative process, specifically defining the "why" behind any project. Scholars explored the Centre College campus to reveal the wealth of architectural diversity within a seemingly uniform design and walked to nearby neighborhoods to see for themselves how people express their identities and beliefs through the homes in which they live.

In addition, the Architectural Design class partnered with scholars from the Physical Science Focus Area to study the intersection of design and engineering. They teamed with the Modes of Mathematical Thinking scholars to investigate the "Golden Ratio," as well as with the Dramatic Expression scholars to curate non-traditional performance spaces on campus. These collaborations gave scholars perspective on how architectural design crosses over with so many other intellectual disciplines.



Above, a GSP-Centre scholar displays her veterinary clinic business plan; below, GSP-Morehead scholars visit a temporary shelter near Morehead's Eagle Lake while surveying hypothetical build-sites.

Morehead State University

Ethan Morris's scholars learned that building a structure—whether a high-rise, school, or hospital—is more complicated than they imagined. Scholars studied the politics of getting a building permit, which could involve making a case before a zoning committee or facing a group of protesters concerned about a building's impact on the social, cultural, or ecological environment. Next, scholars explored the overlooked world of utility lines. They walked around Morehead State University's campus, noting the placement of gas, water, electric, and sewage lines. Additionally, scholars discussed fundraising, the role of contractors at construction sites, and the realities of international economics and trade.

“This class awakened a love and interest for astronomy that I never knew I had.”

Dahirou Dabo Harden

West Jessamine County High School



GSP-Centre scholars work together to build the base of a telescope, which they will use for both daytime and nighttime viewing.

Astronomy

Bellarmino University

Rico Tyler and teaching fellow **Mary Osborne** led their scholars on an exploration of astronomy's tools and methods, culminating in each scholar constructing their own telescope. Evening observation sessions allowed scholars to master celestial navigation, telescope use, and astrophotography. During a visit with astronomer Bob Summerfield, scholars handled rare meteorite specimens and organized a campus-wide star viewing party.

Centre College

Scholars in **Madison Staton's** class explored out-of-this-world questions such as, “What is the Goldilocks zone?”, “How do telescopes work?”, and “Why is Venus called Earth's twin?” Guided by John A. Read's *50 Things to See with a Small Telescope*, scholars used handmade telescopes to observe and photograph various objects in the night sky, including the moon's craters, Saturn's rings, and Jupiter's moons. Looking toward the future, scholars predicted the outcomes of space travel in the not-so-far future as they researched and designed their own Martian bases and speculated how humankind might terraform other worlds.

Morehead State University

Scholars in **Joshua Qualls's** class combined nighttime observations with daytime activities to examine how the universe works. Assisted by teaching fellow **Breanna Epperson**, scholars learned about the observations, mathematics, and physics required for astronomy. After reaching the limits of the human eye, scholars began observing and studying constellations and planets using telescopes they built in class. Scholars identified binary star systems, Jupiter's moons, and the rings of Saturn. These observations culminated in a “Star Party,” where the entire campus community was invited to explore the night sky using borrowed large telescopes.

Biological & Environmental Issues

Morehead State University

John Hooker's scholars methodically researched the evidence and mechanism by which global warming and climate change threaten biodiversity on Earth. They investigated challenges such as air and water pollution, which are especially relevant to Kentucky,



GSP-Morehead scholars examine the contents of a campus recycling bin to determine the level of waste contamination.

and then took this information out into the world by collecting data and building plans for Morehead State University's waste management systems.

Meanwhile at GSP-Morehead, **Greg Jacobelli's** class discussed stress in the environment, in the economy, in humans as a species, and how it all affects society and the larger ecosystem. Scholars discussed how stress can be beneficial if we think of it in that way. Once scholars defined and quantified biological stress, they dissected how humans have applied stress to the environment, purposefully and accidentally, and how that has impacted the natural world. They explored the biodiversity of Bellarmine University's own campus through nature walks that connected classroom discussions to the world around them.

Business, Accounting, & Entrepreneurship

Bellarmino University

Scott Takacs and his scholars discussed topics ranging from entrepreneurship to forensic accounting to stopping or reducing fraud. The class worked together on new product developments and pitched them in

mock business presentations. Scholars learned financial management techniques by picking and discussing stock choices, and they also learned accounting techniques through a new simulation called "Spy Monopoly," where students worked in groups to try to identify an agent working for a rival organization.

Centre College

Using Brene Brown's *Dare to Lead* as a guide, **Michael Spears** and his scholars explored the qualities of a successful leader. Scholars met with Dr. Anthony Margida and Andrea Margida of the Centreworks program at Centre College, who worked with them on the "Human Centered Approach to Entrepreneurship." From there, scholars interviewed their peers on their wants and needs in the GSP-Centre community, then, in teams, developed a product or service from the interviews. Scholars promoted their product or service to the GSP-Centre community during a poster session.

Morehead State University

Led by **Melony Shemberger**, scholars used Simon Sinek's book *Start With Why* to examine how to apply innovative, profitable methods to develop products, start a new venture, improve processes, or minimize issues

or problems. They completed two culminating projects that involved creating business plans. First, the scholars worked in entrepreneurial teams to propose a solution to an identified need or problem. Each team designed their business plans on large-format posters. Second, scholars pursued individual business plans. After proposing ideas, each scholar selected one, researched it, and used mind-mapping to visualize the idea. Each scholar created a business plan using Post-It Notes to communicate the plan's components on a trifold poster. The team and individual business plans were presented on campus.

Communication & Social Theory

Bellarmino University

Led by **Tim Phelps**, scholars investigated how morals evolve from experiences and belief systems, how those morals create and maintain powerful and identity-building social groups, and how members of these groups communicate their moral systems to others.

Using Dan Ariely's book *Predictably Irrational*, the class considered the ways we are all irrational at times. They designed and administered two social experiments: First, they tested if people on campus would join an existing line without knowing where it was headed; and second, they asked how long their fellow scholars would agree to sit in silence as an irrational "payment" for three small pieces of candy.

Centre College

Using a series of documentaries curated in part by the Southern Circuit Tour of Independent Filmmakers, **Jim Grayson's** scholars examined power dynamics and agency in filmmaking. The scholars worked with a representative from the film company Narrative 4 on the "story exchange" method, which is designed to improve deep listening skills and increase empathy between diverse individuals. Together with scholars from the Architectural Design course, the class also examined local buildings to discern implicit messaging in choices of design, construction, and location of a structure, as well as in later choices to purchase a piece of real estate.

Creative Writing & Literary Studies

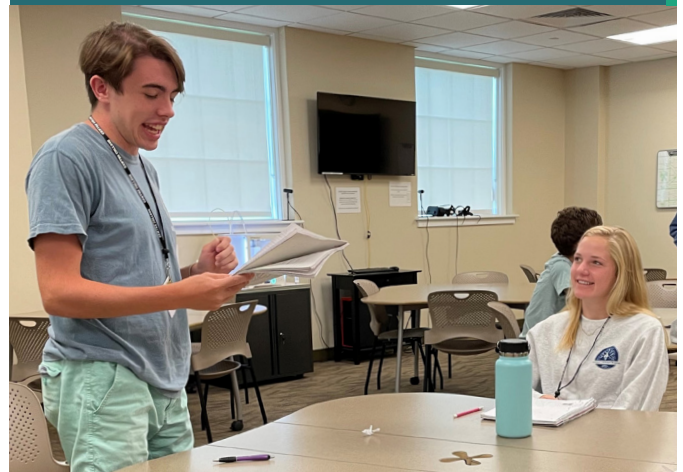
Bellarmino University

Aris Cedeño and **Bryan Orthel's** scholars examined literature through critical reading, creative writing, and discussion with authors about their writing practices. The scholars shared peer critiques each week based on regular writing exercises. They also read and discussed writing examples from the 19th, 20th, and 21st centuries and explored the creativity and writing practices of established authors through readings and interaction with the writers. A variety of guest writers spoke about their process, challenges, and solutions for how they structure their writing.

Centre College

Scholars in **Jay Crocker's** class focused their coursework this summer on natural elements. Each week there was a specific focus with readings that covered the concept of a specific element of nature. For example, scholars explored the concept of earth by reading short stories associated with rocks, dirt, soil, and the earth, which inspired discussions on the concept of burying items

GSP-Centre scholars workshop speeches in small groups.



“This class has developed my weakness of public speaking into one of my greatest assets.”

Lindsay Cox

South Laurel High School

and how humans choose to hide many of the items they cherish or want to protect. In the second week, which covered fire, the scholars focused on stories confronting the power of fire. William Faulkner's "Barn Burning" allowed scholars to confront the raw power of fire and its effects on people, places, and families. In the final week of the program, the scholars studied the element of soul and studied the stories that connect humans to the natural world and to one another.

Morehead State University

Each scholar in **Jacqueline Hamilton's** Focus Area created their own writer's notebook filled with famous literary examples as well as a number of personal writing projects. The scholars focused on writing and revising various forms of poetry, including acrostic, apostrophe, ballad, free verse, renga, haiku, senryu, tanka, and the walk poem. After an extensive college library tour, they personified the library in essays entitled "I, Library." After learning the six traits of writing—voice, organization, ideas, convention, excellent word choice, and sentence fluency—they analyzed various works, including E.B. White's famous essay "Once More to the Lake."

Cultural Anthropology

Bellarmino University

Brenna Sherrill challenged her scholars to better understand Kentucky identity. The class viewed two documentaries and news features about Eastern Kentucky: *Harlan County, USA* and a 20/20 special entitled "Children of the Mountains," both of which present different perspectives on life in that region. The class discussed language, accents, and the associated perceptions and stereotypes; they also studied the International Phonetic Alphabet and considered how this alphabet does not account for accents. In conjunction with the Journalism & Mass Media scholars, the class interviewed and photographed each member of the GSP-Bellarmino community for an interactive map website.

Morehead State University

Shawna Felkins and her scholars studied the history and ethics of anthropological research. They discussed *The Anthropologist*, a documentary about the study of communities impacted by our changing climate, which inspired questions such as, "What

"Our state is home to people of many different backgrounds, beliefs, and values, and we are stronger because of that. We should be proud of our heritage as Kentuckians and not hide it from others."

Jennifer Wilkerson

Russellville High School

happens when seemingly different cultures collide, and what responsibilities do we have as researchers to tell stories accurately and avoid perpetuating harm?" Taking their new understanding of ethics, scholars completed a simulated archaeological dig where they excavated a "site," cataloged artifacts, and used their findings to write a story hypothesizing the cultural makeup of an unknown civilization.

Dramatic Expression

Bellarmino University

Meg Caudill's scholars focused on patient advocacy for organ donation based on profiles they received from the Healthcare Industry Focus Area. Scholars formed teams and researched the process behind organ donation and the specific details of the medical condition of their chosen patient. Each scholar applied their knowledge of character development and ensemble relationships in order to create fully realized characters based off of patient profiles. During the final week of the program, the class shared their interpretations of their patient portrayals with Healthcare Industry scholars and worked together to develop plans to best advocate for each of their assigned patients who were in need of organ donations.

Centre College

At the beginning of the summer, **Melanie Kidwell** gave her Focus Area scholars a single word: "voices."

Scholars then learned that they would be building an original piece of theatre for the community that explored as many different aspects of "voices" as possible. They began the process by collecting compelling source material centered around the theme, including personal responses, news stories, literary pieces, and photographs. Then, scholars adapted the source material into a production for the GSP-Centre community presented in the final week of the program.

Engineering

Bellarmino University

Denise Owens and **Jeremy White** introduced their scholars to the many roles that engineering plays in today's world. The scholars participated in various activities designed to help examine the engineering process, including the design for a hypothetical construction project on Bellarmino's campus that incorporated a walking bridge and a new dorm

Throughout the program, professional engineers working in Kentucky were able to share via Zoom their knowledge and experiences in chemical, civil, electrical, materials, mechanical, and structural engineering. The presentations and discussions led by the guest speakers provided scholars with a valuable forum to ask questions about real-world engineering careers and projects. Then, they held a bridge building competition as a way of implementing the creativity and problem-solving skills they had strengthened throughout the week.

GSP-Bellarmino scholars complete a civil engineering project on campus.



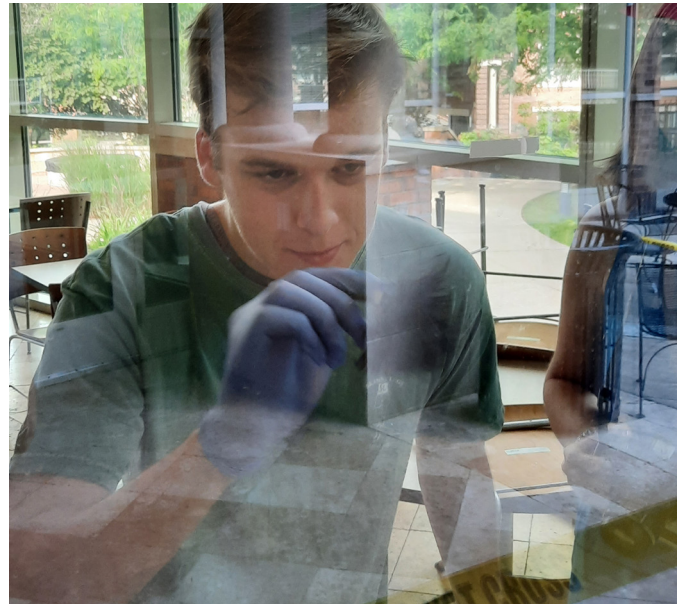
Film Studies

Bellarmino University

Scholars in **Craig Miller's** class considered the art of storytelling in film, television, and live broadcast media. They first explored the basic foundations of storytelling, dissecting what makes for a well-told story. Next, scholars studied visual storytelling and how to utilize cameras and lighting to support the narrative. As a capstone project, scholars executed a live production of a GSP-Morehead community event. Each scholar was able to play a role on the crew, including director, producer, camera operator, and stage manager.

Morehead State University

Scholars in **Jason Meenach's** class spent Weeks One and Two in the classroom before going into film production mode for Weeks Three through Five. During Weeks One and Two, scholars learned about storytelling techniques, Joseph Campbell's hero mythology, the elements of cinematography, framing, and composition. Scholars learned how to use Adobe Premiere Pro as their editing software and how to anticipate unique challenges that arise with filming locations, camera work, audio quality, and post-production. For Weeks Three through Five, scholars created two film projects and were responsible for scripting, storyboarding, filming, and editing in Adobe Premiere Pro.



GSP-Bellarmino scholars dust for fingerprints during a forensic science experiment.

Forensic Science

Bellarmino University

Jim Seaver advised his scholars on how reason and restraint could prevail over assumptions and misconceptions if they should ever be called to serve on a jury. Together they explored the theme of “skepticism and the limits of evidence” as it applies to crime scene investigations and various forms of forensic analysis. In contrast to the oversimplified depictions of this work frequently encountered on television, they examined the shades of gray and the evidentiary limitations that often keep investigative work from being definitive in its conclusions. Their studies culminated in a week-long capstone simulation in which the class worked together to solve an elaborate murder mystery.

Centre College

Through group research, presentations, independent reading, and class discussions, **Lovence Ainembabazi's** scholars journeyed through the history of forensic science. They examined cases in which forensic evidence both exonerated convicted individuals and helped to convict people who were previously found innocent. Scholars also learned the process of crime scene preserving and examining, as well as how to collect evidence and interpret it. Their newfound skills were put to the test with an artificial crime scene, which scholars had to investigate and solve.

“This learning environment opened my eyes to a passion I never would've been exposed to without GSP.”

Luke Hardin

Glasgow High School

“This class emphasized the importance of genuine care and passion for helping every human being.”

Mallory Ford
Scott County High School

Morehead State University

Tracie Morgan's Focus Area explored several aspects of criminology through a true crime lens. Scholars focused on the techniques used by forensic scientists, such as crime scene analysis, evidence collection, and behavioral science. Scholars also investigated case studies where improper analysis lead to wrongful convictions. During lessons on victim identification, scholars learned how skeletal remains are used to locate missing persons. To deepen their ties to the GSP-Morehead community, scholars collaborated with the Film Studies Focus Area to showcase what they had learned about forensic science in a mini crime show and podcast.

Healthcare Industry

Bellarmino University

Stephen Buchholz's scholars dove into the characteristics of the three “P”s of any healthcare system: payer, provider, and patient. First, scholars explored healthcare systems worldwide and debated which is “the best.” Then they pondered the potential obstacles that providers face while caring for patients, such as ethical dilemmas and human bias. To further understand the three “P”s, Buchholz and his scholars spoke with a doctor to learn about the issues that providers typically face.

Centre College

Jamie Hester provided her scholars with a look into the history of medicine and the different degrees obtained through medical school and a Ph.D. program. Physician and author Paul Kalanithi's book *When Breath Becomes Air* inspired conversations about what makes a life worth living, both for medical professionals and the general public.

Emphasizing patient care, the class honed skills in suturing, dissection, intubation, CPR, and first aid. In-class activities and guest speakers highlighted how to lead patients toward a healthy lifestyle, including mental health and telehealth services.

Morehead State University

Cindy Brainard and her scholars looked around the globe at the common medical practices in different cultures. Using Geri-Ann Galanti's book, *Caring for Patients from Different Cultures*, the class collaborated with the Cultural Anthropology Focus Area to design models of community clinics that would best serve an assigned culture group. To create these models, scholars considered unique cultural needs and norms such as religion, gender, language barriers, and traditional medicinal treatments.



A GSP-Centre scholar shows off her suturing skills during a practice session.

Historical Analysis

Bellarmino University

Scholars in **Steve Easley's** class explored how history is presented in our classrooms, in particular the concept of critical race theory. Through articles, class discussions about systemic racism, and listening to a variety of viewpoints, scholars attempted to define the term, even though the definition of critical race theory is something that few people seem to agree upon. Scholars also read pre-filed legislation in the Kentucky House of Representatives dealing with the banning of certain topics believed to be associated with critical race theory and met with State Representative Matt Lockett to discuss the bill. Through all of this, scholars came to their own conclusions about this topic and considered how this topic came to the forefront of discussion.

Centre College

Scholars in **Blossom Brosi's** class examined public memory of history and how historical statues and monuments shape contemporary interpretations of history and our own identities. Ta-Nehisi Coates's book *Between The World and Me* informed scholars' conversations about America's collective past and sense of identity. Scholars researched a local Confederate statue and heard multiple perspectives and opinions concerning the future of the statue. Through a partnership with the Political & Legal Issues class, scholars examined cultural and legal issues surrounding other controversial monuments and statues. Scholars learned about the mission of and research methods used by the Danville Boyle County African American Historical Society. As a capstone project, scholars attempted to shape public memory in their hometowns by researching lesser-known history and writing historical marker and monument proposals.

“This class was so different than a typical history class, but in the best way. I now have a greater appreciation for history and want to learn more about what I still don't know.”

Kara Bane Lockett

Owensboro High School

International Relations

Bellarmino University

Koop Berry offered her scholars three primary ideas for understanding global systems: behaviors and actions are a result of experiences and attitudes, all politics stems from local or state needs, and countries act in much the same way as individuals do. Using these ideas, the class held four United Nations Security Council simulations. Each scholar represented one of the UNSC member countries, researched the country and its position on a variety of issues, and then represented that country by addressing issues in Syria, Ethiopia, Cyprus, and Yemen. The simulations offered scholars an opportunity to practice their conflict resolution skills and see world issues from a perspective other than the United States's.

Centre College

Frank Russell's scholars began the summer by exploring definitions and theoretical frameworks for understanding the nature of nations and states. The scholars read and discussed Tim Marshall's *Prisoners of Geography*, and they applied its insights to particular regional concerns, especially in Africa and the Middle East. The scholars became particularly interested in the ethical dimensions of foreign relations and chose to focus on terrorism and enhanced interrogation. Adapting the framework provided by the Council on Foreign Relations' Model Diplomacy exercises, scholars researched and developed strategies for accommodating the legal, ethical, and practical implications of responses to terrorist threats.

Morehead State University

In **Ogechi Anyanwu's** Focus Area, scholars explored selected themes in international security such as political, economic, societal, and environmental security. They read Christopher S. Browning's *International Security: A Very Short Introduction* and engaged in thoughtful debates and group poster board presentations on the effectiveness of the principles that the United Nations espouses to promote international security. After studying the conflict in the Korean Peninsula, scholars decided to propose a solution that would be acceptable to the key players in the conflict: the United States, North Korea, South Korea, China, and Japan. Together they drafted a creative poster board treaty that outlined the framework designed to resolve the 76-year-old tension in the region.



GSP-Morehead scholars display their proposed treaty for peace in the Korean Peninsula.

Journalism & Mass Media

Bellarmino University

At the start of the summer, **Megan Sampson** challenged her scholars to interview every member of the GSP-Bellarmino community in conjunction with the Cultural Anthropology Focus Area class. The assignment culminated in an interactive map of each scholar in the GSP-Bellarmino community. Alongside this project, the class also created their own newspaper, *The GSPost*, covering events from the summer.

Centre College

Hayley Hoffman's scholars sought to document and tell the story of the GSP-Centre community. The class broke into two groups and built their own online papers, *The GSPaper* and *The Centre Central*. Scholars were assigned various roles, including editors, staff writers, photographers, and videographers, and pitched their story ideas during their paper's weekly editorial meetings. Using Brooke Gladstone's *The Influencing Machine* as a guide, scholars then used photography, videography, and blogging platforms to record campus events and classes for their respective papers throughout the week.

Modes of Mathematical Thinking

Bellarmino University

Scholars in **Brad Elliott's** Focus Area learned about the role that humans play in the development and application of mathematics. They began by debating the very definition of "math" and whether math is invented or discovered. Then they researched the number systems used by ancient cultures and created their own number systems. Through various readings, including Brian Christian and Tom Griffiths's *Algorithms to Live By* and Cathy O'Neil's *Weapons of Math Destruction*, the class realized many of the ways math is applied in their daily lives and discussed the human biases that affect these applications.

Centre College

Scholars in **Will Garcia's** class explored how math intersects with the real world. Together the scholars investigated where math came from and why it is used. Each scholar had the opportunity to discover their own perspective on the philosophical origin of numbers and mathematics. Throughout the summer, the class studied chaos theory, graph theory, game theory, Boolean algebra, probability, and the discovery of zero and infinity.

Morehead State University

In **Jason Dooley's** Focus Area, scholars explored the function of mathematics as an aid in decision-making. Scholars explored unfamiliar problems that forced them to think unconventionally and apply math in ways they never had before, sometimes working smaller problems to attempt to gain insight and eventually construct solutions to more complicated ones. They considered the problem of results-oriented thinking and how to evaluate processes in situations involving incomplete information. They also learned about the history of mathematics, from the discipline's classical beginnings to its modern-day applications, such as super-computing and cryptography.

Music Theory & Performance

Centre College

Scholars in **Chris Wheeler's** class focused on rehearsing to perform and record. Goal-oriented practice sessions helped the class record a full CD and perform over an hour of their own music in a community concert.

“Solving problems will never be the same for me: I have learned of the importance of solving a problem for the process rather than only for the solution.”

David Abel

Daviess County High School

Scholars explored the intricate difference of live sound, recording technologies, and microphone technique. Their new skills also helped them to decide when to abandon projects that weren't suitable and learned how to let go of something that they had already committed a great deal of energy towards. Scholars gained the ability to be as inclusive and fair as possible, given the wide array of talents and instrumentation represented in the class.

Morehead State University

Throughout the summer, **Tana Field's** scholars explored the connection between music and other disciplines. They considered the relationship between music and visual art, interpreting music as visual art. Additionally, scholars pondered the role of music in healthcare and the field of music therapy. Scholars investigated the role of psychology and extra-musical associations in musical works, examining instrumental program music, opera, and film scores. Taking on a creative challenge, scholars then composed the storyline for an original short silent film, cast roles, acted, and produced the film. Finally, they composed and recorded an original musical score to accompany and enhance storytelling within the film.

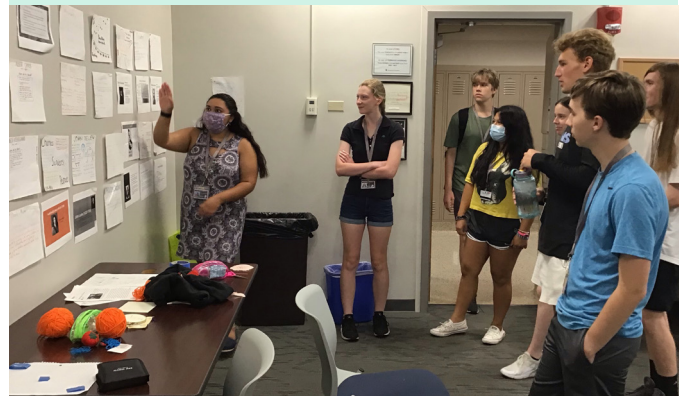
Philosophy

Bellarmino University

Scholars in **Lisa Hicks's** class used the concept of possibility as a lens for examining five different branches of philosophy: metaphysics, epistemology, logic, ethics, and aesthetics. Major class activities included an in-class museum for aesthetics week, where each scholar presented a piece of art that matters to them, and several small research projects that culminated with an in-class poster session. Scholars also attended a session of the Kentucky Philosophical Association annual conference.

Centre College

Hayden Hagerman's scholars examined both the historical movements and figures in philosophy as well as their own philosophical questions. Through scholarly discussions, group research projects, debate, readings, film, and meme-making, scholars challenged themselves and others to see where their own senses of wonder took them, thereby fulfilling Plato's adage, "Philosophy begins in wonder." The course culminated with diverse presentations on emerging issues in bioethics.



Above, GSP-Morehead scholars rehearse original film music compositions; below, GSP-Bellarmino scholars present their poster sessions during a Philosophy Focus Area class.

Morehead State University

John Wilcox and his scholars explored different philosophical answers to questions about the nature of reality, knowledge, and how to live a morally good life. Beginning with the example of Socrates, scholars examined how the practice of asking philosophical questions develops naturally into a more responsible approach to the role of citizenship. The scholars researched the philosophical basis of capitalism, democracy, and socialism, and examined how the choices they make as consumers reflect their underlying values and beliefs. They debated the question of free will versus determinism and read texts from Epictetus and Epicurus on how different moral commitments may either harmonize with or conflict with the pursuit of other goals and goods.

Physical Science

Centre College

James Bland III's Focus Area scholars investigated the physical world through meteorology, geology, chemistry, oceanography, and physics. With a special emphasis on hands-on experimentation and project-based learning, scholars enhanced their knowledge in these scientific fields. They explored and debunked myths as they discussed types of extreme weather conditions and discovered how to stay safe. They also studied the basic units of matter and observed what happens when atoms collide. The final segment of the class gave scholars the opportunity to design, construct, and test Rube Goldberg machines while learning the basics of physics and engineering.

Morehead State University

Brad Bernhard challenged his class to reconsider the way science is communicated to the public. Scholars evaluated material from a variety of sources, including historic lectures and modern television programs, seeking out elements that make science accessible to everyone. They also studied instances of intentionally misleading visual representations of data. To practice their own scientific communication skills, scholars developed investigations about everyday phenomena, such as burning candles and the thermodynamics of melting ice on different surfaces.

Political & Legal Issues

Bellarmino University

Derrick Staton introduced his scholars to life as a practicing attorney and the ambiguities of the modern legal landscape. Scholars learned the various roles people perform in the legal system and the necessity of competency in all elements of law. Each scholar then took on a role in two mock trials and worked through all steps necessary to put on a jury trial from the opening statements to the closing statements. Throughout the summer, the class also met with local and state leaders to learn about roles they could play in their communities to help build a stronger environment for all Kentuckians.

Centre College

John Powell's scholars examined the mythic foundations of American governance, including the concept of American exceptionalism and the resilient promise of the American dream. Scholars considered how their personal and cultural myths intersect with our political and legal system and what this means for individuals and communities. Then they tested their conclusions against contemporary public policy related to policing, immigration, gender equity, racism and treatment of those with disabilities. Scholars developed personal definitions of the American Dream and decided whether or not “the Dream,” in some form, is real or only wishful thinking.

“This class has empowered me to have confidence in my voice and opinions. It has shown me the importance of connections and my ability to make change if I take advantage of the endless opportunities before me.”

Caroline Koenig

Murray High School

“This was a class that engaged me like no other. I wish I'd had this kind of education sooner.”

Chase Myers
Lafayette High School

Morehead State University

Kim Reeder's scholars considered how the ability—or inability—to effectively persuade others impacts politics and our legal system. The class read *Thank You for Arguing* by Jay Heinrichs, examined various persuasion techniques, and discussed how those techniques could be applied in everyday communication. Department of Public Advocacy attorney Ezra Dike coached scholars on effective direct and cross examination techniques, which they applied during a mock criminal trial.

Psychology & Behavioral Studies

Bellarmino University

Jodi Treadway's Focus Area looked at intimate relationships, or any relationship closer than a casual acquaintance. After establishing the definition and components of emotional intimacy, they looked at ways to increase it in both platonic and romantic relationships. This was followed by an examination of how relationships have changed over time both in the U.S. and around the world, including the rates of friendship, dating, marriage, and childbirth—all of which have declined in recent years worldwide. Then they learned about healthy and unhealthy relationships, including how to build good relationship habits and how to avoid building negative ones.

Centre College

Michelle Jones led her scholars toward a more comprehensive understanding of how people perceive and process the world through the five senses. Scholars visited the Kentucky School for the Deaf, interacted with search canines who use their keen sense of smell to help law enforcement officers, and sampled many foods that varied in taste and texture. While reading Lawrence D. Rosenblum's *See What I'm Saying: The Extraordinary Powers of Our Five Senses* and studying articles and documentaries, scholars studied how others have coped with the limitations that come from the loss or deterioration of their senses. Scholars then learned to adjust to simulated losses of various senses and attempted to accomplish everyday tasks.

Morehead State University

Jacki Day's focus area explored psychology through literature. The book *You Are Not So Smart* by David McRaney facilitated scholars' exploration of cognitive biases and psychological constructs that

influence day-to-day decision making, personal preferences, and behaviors. Next, scholars examined the concept of neuroplasticity and the marvelous way the brain adapts and heals. Scholars referenced Norman Doidge's book *The Brain That Changes Itself* along with other multimedia resources to expand their knowledge of brain anatomy and functions. For a hands-on learning experience, the class dissected and labeled cow brains.

In **Raven Mineo's** class, scholars focused their attention on the research of Dr. Daniel Kahneman, who wrote in depth about the two different systems of thinking that the human brain utilizes. In *Thinking, Fast and Slow*, Kahneman explains our "System 1" thinking style as fast, intuitive, instinctual, subconscious, whereas "System 2" is slower, more critical, and more effortful. Scholars were able to utilize this foundation to explore issues such as biases and stereotyping in our society, how unseen forces affect our judgements, and whether or not our own intuition is reliable. Scholars questioned how this research relates to social media and technology use in our society, among other topics that relate directly to their lives.



GSP-Morehead (left) and GSP-Centre (right) scholars learn how to salsa dance.

Spanish Language & Culture

Centre College

Clint Hendrix's Focus Area explored questions of liminality in Latinx identities by studying poetry from Puerto Rican, Cuban-American and Mexican-American authors and by reading Luis Alberto Urrea's memoir, *Nobody's Son: Notes from an American Life*. Chronicling his experiences growing up in the U.S. with an Anglo mother and a Mexican father, Urrea's memoir recreates the difficulties that Urrea faced when his ethnicities and languages clashed. Scholars discussed these texts and viewed documentaries about reimagining the border wall. Finally, they learned about the art, food, and dance of the often-marginalized cultures whose identities are neither here nor there but developed in the threshold of two or more subjectivities.

Morehead State University

Scholars in **Adriane Hardin-Davis's** class began the summer by examining language identity, paying special attention to the ways in which language and culture are intertwined. Scholars used their reflections as a lens for a variety of language activities during the summer. They practiced all four domains of language: speaking, writing, reading, and listening. Scholars also examined current immigration law and policy, including the ways in which these policies have impacted immigrants living in Kentucky, and discussed legislative reform proposals. Additionally, the class played traditional Central American board games and created their own versions of these games.

GENERAL STUDIES

General Studies classes emphasize creative thinking, problem solving, service learning, and civic engagement. Scholars are assigned to a class that takes a different learning approach than their Focus Area. This is based on the philosophy that to be true scholars, scientists should appreciate the humanities and humanists should understand the importance of science and technology. The following is a small sample of the General Studies classes offered in 2021.

“Create Dangerously,” Centre College

Melanie Kidwell’s scholars explored the role of the artist in the world, specifically the role of artist as activist. The work of writers James Baldwin and Adrienne Rich challenged scholars to consider the human impulse to create, the duty of artists to “disturb the peace,” and the strength and vitality of the arts. Scholars then engaged in close analysis of various artworks that addressed a variety of political and social issues, including Picasso’s “Guernica,” Jaune Quick-to-See-Smith’s “State Names,” and the Shakespeare Behind Bars program. Weekly visits to the Art Center of the Bluegrass in Danville allowed scholars to meet and talk with local artists about their art and process. As a culminating project, scholars chose an issue they are passionate about—such as climate change, mental health, the dangers of social media, and addiction—and created an original artwork that spoke to their particular issue.

“The Design of Everyday Things,” Morehead State University

Melony Shemberger and her scholars considered how the needs and psychology of people can guide good design. They considered this idea through the design of objects, technology, schools, media and more. The class read Don Norman’s *The Design of Everyday Things*, which describes three design approaches—industrial, interaction, and experience—all of which inform human-centered design. As part of their culminating project, scholars proposed designs for a new product, process or idea, or a redesign of an existing concept.

“By Divine Right,” Bellarmine University

For millennia kings and queens around the world have ruled, so they claim, “by divine right.” But who ever thought that a monarchy was a good way to run a country in the first place? Why have many nations chosen to overthrow them in recent centuries, and why do some still cling fiercely to them today? What echoes of them do we encounter in our own democracy?

Jim Seaver’s scholars examined these questions in depth as they dissected these often bewildering systems as deliberate social constructs. They took a deep dive into the political philosophies, historical trends, and social norms that have undergirded both past and present monarchies.



Jim Seaver’s scholars participate in a sword training exercise at GSP-Bellarmino.

“Come Rain or Shine,” Centre College

Madison Staton introduced her scholars to the ways in which the study of meteorology has changed and improved over time, from observations to predictions. Andrew Blum’s *The Weather Machine: A Journey Inside the Forecast* offered scholars a better understanding of weather analysis and forecasting and illuminated our relationships with technology, the planet, and our global community. Scholars drafted a timeline of the development of weather machines and learned about some of the pioneers of meteorology. For a hands-on experience, scholars built models of meteorological instruments such as thermometers, barometers, and hygrometers, and they discussed how the development of new technologies advances the study of weather.

“Through a Glass, Darkly,” Morehead State University

Jason Dooley’s scholars explored the history, science, and art of photography, considering the impacts of photographs in shaping the modern world. They considered important historical photos and discussed the ways in which photography changes our experiences. Scholars also discussed the role of social media in photography including its impacts, both positive and negative, on themselves and their peers. Over the course of the five weeks, scholars went on nature walks and other photo shoots, often with a particular goal in mind, such as “Encapsulate the meaning of GSP in one photograph.” Scholars shot and processed digital photographs, including portraits, landscapes and still lifes, and used the photos they made to create a photo exhibit that was displayed for public viewing at the Fuzzy Duck Coffee Shop in Morehead.

“88% Basic,” Bellarmine University

Led by **Tim Phelps**, scholars researched the impact that music has on our lives. They examined genre, looking at the ways musical categorization changes over time, including the ways that fans tend to dictate what is “allowable” in a genre and what is not. They discussed the challenges of artists who attempted to break these genre barriers, facing backlash as they tried to shape a new image of themselves. Along with these conversations, scholars built a working

Madison Staton’s scholars launch a homemade hot air balloon inside the campus center during their study of historical meteorological instruments at GSP-Centre.



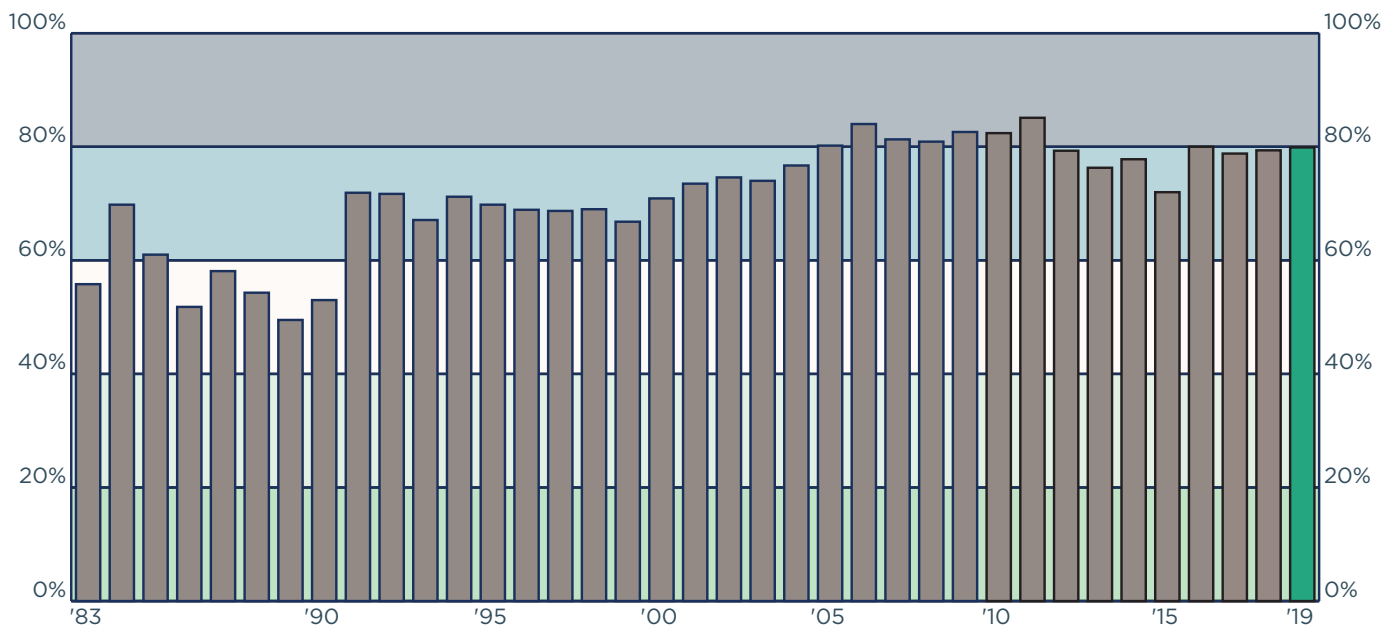
musical vocabulary and lists of sample songs that exemplified the concepts about which they were learning. Scholars ultimately completed a data-intensive research project focusing on the ten bestselling songs of each of the past five years in order to develop an understanding of the elements that made pop music popular. The group then distilled this data into formulas that guided their final projects: to create three pop songs that reflected the most common attributes of the famous songs before them.

Scholar In-State Data

College Enrollment

With the help of the Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority, the Governor's Scholars Program tracks the number of scholars who pursue higher education at a Kentucky college or university. The following graph shows the percentage of scholars, by Program year, who enrolled at an in-state college or university after completing high school.

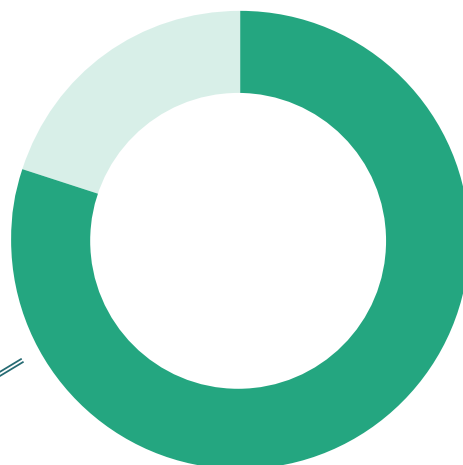
Of the 2019 scholars, the most recent year for which data is available, **79.88% enrolled at a Kentucky college or university** in the fall of 2020.



Permanent Residence

As of September 2021, 33,829 students have completed the Governor's Scholars Program. The Program currently has valid contact information on file for 27,389 living alumni.

Of those, 22,630—**82.6%**—have a permanent address within the commonwealth of Kentucky.



82.6% of alumni

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By partnering with the GSP Foundation, Kentucky businesses and organizations provide not only the funding but also the extraordinary hands-on opportunities that make the Governor's Scholars Program an unparalleled intellectual experience.

Governor's Scholars Program

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