

# Home for the Holiday Festival of Trees



**LAKE AREA**  
TECHNICAL INSTITUTE

It's your world.

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# Alumni AND Friends

FALL/WINTER 2016  
[www.lakeareatech.edu](http://www.lakeareatech.edu)



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## Holiday Festival of Trees Welcomes Guests "Home"

On behalf of the Lake Area Technical Institute Foundation, we would like to extend a sincere thank you to the countless people involved in bringing our 17th Annual Holiday Festival of Trees "Home for the Holidays". We were thrilled to welcome our many alumni and friends "home" to our Campus this year. This opportunity allowed us to showcase the beauty and wonder of our facility while maximizing our fundraising efforts in support of our students through scholarships, program enhancements and campus improvements.

At Lake Area Technical Institute, our faculty and staff work hard to keep our programs cutting-edge to meet the workforce needs. Our distinctive technical education provides



students the tools for successful careers in high-demand fields, whether it be right here in Watertown or across the region!

Thank you to all, who played a role in the 2016 Festival of Trees. We appreciate your partnership in our student's success.

# Invitation to ALL Lake Area Tech Ag Alumni and Friends

It's hard to imagine, but this is already the 4th year inside our new home, the LATI Ag Center!

We realize that not every Ag alumnus has had that opportunity to come back to Campus to see the advancements in curriculum, facilities and equipment.

The Ag staff would like to invite all of Ag alumni and friends to join us at LATI for a Saturday afternoon to mingle with former classmates, talk with instructors (retired and current) and tour the campus.

January

28

*Save the Date*  
**LATI AG ALUMNI & FRIENDS TOUR**

Meet at 2:00pm @  
the LATI Student Center  
1201 Arrow Ave  
Event will conclude by 5:00pm

**For more information:**  
email [latiag@lakeareatech.edu](mailto:latiag@lakeareatech.edu) or call  
605-882-5284; Jim Clendenin (Ext. 458)  
or Justin Hagedorn (Ext. 467)

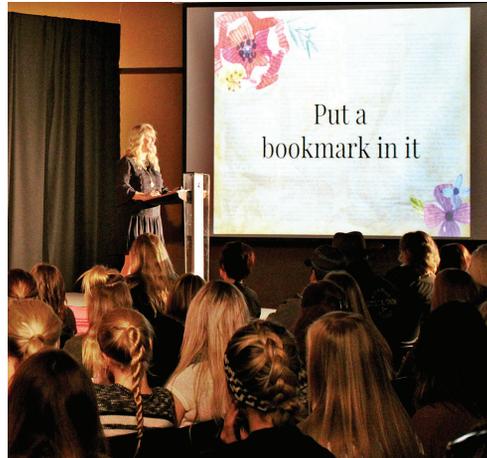
February

28

*Save the Date*  
**STUDENT FOR HALF A DAY**

For more details contact Morgan Johnson at  
[morgan.johnson@lakeareatech.edu](mailto:morgan.johnson@lakeareatech.edu)

# Successful TEDxLATI Held on Campus



Ten speakers captured the attention of a crowd of LATI students, staff, and the public during the second annual TEDxLATI held on campus in September.

Organizers of LATI's second annual TEDxLATI event deemed the event a success! The event was held September 15 in the Student Center and was attended by LATI students, staff, and the public. The independently organized event, licensed by TED, featured local voices and TED Talk videos under the theme "It's Your World."

"TEDxLATI is about inspiring individuals to create a world that is infused with passion, empathy and a commitment to lifelong learning," commented LATI

Entrepreneurship program instructor and TEDxLATI organizer, Melissa Meidinger. "Our TEDxLATI speakers shared unique ideas that brought the listeners beyond the physical walls of the building and showed them that everyone has the power to make a difference."

The TEDxLATI roster of speakers included David Hedt, Walkabout Developments, LLC; Sabrina Kieser, International Agriculture Developer; Shayla Hoheisel, Nomad; Laurie Johnson, Lake Area Tech Ag Instructor; Hugh Weber, Curator of the Institute of Possibility and CEO for OTA; Adam Weber, Lead Pastor at Embrace Church; Scott Shephard, Retired Educator and Scott Shephard Photography; PJ Anderson, Owner of a Commercial Photography/Content Marketing Firm; Heather Kallhoff, Photographer and Executive Director of the Brookings Arts Council; and Emily Paulson, Actress.

Launched in 2009, TEDx is a program of locally organized events that bring the community together to share a TED-like experience. Some of the best talks from TEDx events have gone on to be featured on TED.com and garnered millions of views from audiences across the globe.

# LATI Alumnus Named as Farm Family of the Year

Every year, the Farm Forum sponsors the Farm Family of the Year Award to recognize a family who best represents farming, ranching and the spirit of agriculture in northeastern South Dakota. The 2016 Farm Family of the Year is the LeRoy and Joan Weiszhaar family of Leola. The family was honored as part of the Ag Appreciation Banquet hosted by the Aberdeen Area Chamber of Commerce Ag Committee in Nov.

Wade Lee Weiszhaar, the oldest child of LeRoy and Joan, attended Lake Area Tech.





# Lou Holtz...

**Legendary Football Coach & Analyst, ESPN ('04 – '15) Presents at Lake Area Tech for Feuerstein Seminar Series in September**

Seventeen years ago, Lew Feuerstein, along with family, friends and local business leaders, created the Feuerstein Series along with an annual student scholarship in loving memory of his wife, businesswomen and educator, Dee Feuerstein.

Because of her love for students and business, each year a scholarship is awarded in her memory to a female student enrolled in the Business Division at Lake Area Technical Institute.

And, each year, the Feuerstein Series enables the Lake Area Technical Institute Foundation to bring speakers to campus who invigorate — inspire — and ignite personal achievement and growth.

**PARTNERSHIP IN LEADERSHIP:**

For the first time, this leadership event was jointly hosted by the Lake Area Technical Institute Foundation and the

Prairie Lakes Healthcare Foundation. For many years Holtz has been considered among the greatest speaking legends in America today. He speaks on overcoming seemingly impossible challenges by setting your own goals and working to achieve them. He has built a reputation as a motivator, a demanding disciplinarian and someone who relishes challenges and hard work.

Lou Holtz was chosen to lead the 2016 Feuerstein Series because he embodies the spirit for which it was created. Both the Lake Area Technical Institute Foundation and the Prairie Lakes Healthcare Foundation hold the need for continued development of leadership skills in high esteem. We were excited to work together this year to bring one of the most influential leaders to Lake Area Technical Institute.



## Iowa Speedway

Iowa Speedway hosted the Custom Paint and Fabrication and the High Performance Engine Machining faculty from Lake Area Tech to a wonderful weekend of education, entertainment and engagement with industry professionals!

The faculty members thank Larry Clement of Sheehan Mack Sales and Equipment for assisting LATI in the development of industry partnerships.

Iowa Speedway, often called the “The Fastest Short Track on the Planet”, is a state-of-the-art 7/8-mile asphalt paved tri-oval race track and motorsports facility located in Newton, Iowa.



Lake Area Tech has again been named one of 10 finalists for the 2017 Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence, the nation’s preeminent recognition of high achievement and performance in America’s community colleges! The \$1 million prize fund will be awarded in March 2017 in Washington, D.C. to the winner and up to four finalists with distinction. LATI has earned a place on the ten finalists’ list and been named a finalist with distinction every year the Prize has been awarded (2011, 2013, and 2015).

## Lake Area Tech Entrepreneur Student Finishes Fourth in State Innovation Expo Contest

Hats off to Lake Area Tech Business Associate/Entrepreneur student Sierra Lutz from Eureka, SD, for earning one of six finalist spots at the Innovation Expo, hosted in October by the Enterprise Institute in Sioux Falls. Approximately 170 college students from six South Dakota universities competed for a place in the final round.

Sierra’s innovative idea was to create a smart phone app that could control

a hair straightener or curling iron from anywhere. “If you are at your job, you could shut it off from there,” she said. That idea secured her a fourth place finish and a \$100 cash prize. “I came up with my idea because I always leave my curling iron or hair straightener on and remember when I get to work or school,” she explained. “I either have to run home or ask my roommates to go check and it’s just a pain.”





# LATI HAPPENINGS



1. U.S. Representative Kristi Noem toured campus and visited with students in our Agriculture department. During her time here, students asked great questions about topics including the farm bill, trade regulations, veterans' issues, and taxes.

2. The Student Center was packed with regional business and industries that were on campus to visit with our students about upcoming career opportunities at the Annual Career Business Expo.

3: Hats off to our Diesel Tech Club members for contributing 149 hours of community service during its annual Interstate Cleanup!

4: The first-ever Native Entrepreneur Academy drew a large group of local Native American students who listened to speakers on topics related to business start-up.

5 & 6: We celebrated in style with an LATI staff family night at Joy Ranch and with a free lunch for staff and students in the student center after learning we've made Aspen's Top 10 list again!

7: The LATI Car Club's annual Car Care Event raised more than \$500 for Operation Black Hills Cabin in October. The public was invited to bring in vehicles for a 40-point inspection and car fitting. Programs involved were Auto, Custom Paint & Fab, High Performance Engine Machining, and Occupational Therapy Assistant.

8: An appreciation event was held on campus thanking area First Responders for all of their hard work and dedication to the safety and well-being of our community.

# Legacy of Excellence Society – the Janice Warne Estate

Janice Warne passed away in May, 2016 but will forever be remembered for her generosity to the Lake Area Foundation's Legacy of Excellence Society through a planned gift in her estate.

Janice was born at home in Bryant, SD on the family farm. She moved to the Hayti area and attended Opdahl Country School from first through seventh grades and then after consolidation, finished in Hayti. Janice moved back to the Bryant area where she attended high school. After graduation she moved to Minneapolis, MN, where she attended secretarial school for 4-6 months, the schooling a gift she received from her aunt and uncle.

Janice chose to name Lake Area Technical Institute Foundation in her estate because of the school's reputation, and because she believed education is so important.

When asked about how she was able to provide this fund for students at Lake Area Technical Institute, she replied, "The one thing I did, was to learn as much as I could at each position I held at my jobs and I worked my way up through the system. I was conservative with my earnings and now I can help someone with their education."

The Janice Warne Memorial Scholarship will provide annual scholarships for students enrolled in three programs: Nursing, Financial Services and Agriculture.

Lake Area Technical Institute's Legacy of Excellence Society honors and recognizes the individuals who have chosen to support the Institute through charitable gift planning.

Members of the Legacy of Excellence Society share a strong common bond of generosity that collectively ensures the Institute's continued excellence in technical education for the future.

If you have already included LATI in your estate planning, please let us know so that we can include you on our Donor Wall and also have plans in place to carry through your wishes for your legacy gift.

**For more information about initiating an endowed fund or planned giving options through Lake Area Technical Institute, please contact the Foundation Office at 605-882-5284; Julie Stevenson (Ext. 268) or Morgan Johnson (Ext. 308).**

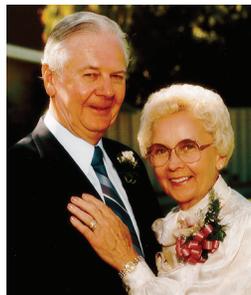
## Endowed Scholarships

**Established through Lake Area Technical Institute Foundation in Support of Students**

### **DR. HOWARD F. AND LORRAINE AARSTAD MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

The Dr. Howard F. and Lorraine Aarstad Memorial Scholarship Fund was recently established. This endowed scholarship is made possible through a contribution from their son and daughter-in-law, Jim and Barb Aarstad of Watertown.

Dr. H.F. Aarstad served on the Watertown School Board and played an instrumental role in the development of technical education in Watertown. In 1965, the state legislature passed legislation to implement the Federal Vocational Education Act. Dwight D. Miller, Superintendent of the Watertown School District, and the local School Board (including Dr. H.F. Aarstad) entered into an agreement with the state to comply with all rules and regulations for the operation of Lake Area Vocational Technical School (LATVS).



## Lake Area Technical Institute Named Gold Award Recipient by Military Friendly®

Lake Area Technical Institute has been named a Gold-level Military Friendly® School Award recipient in the Community College category for 2017. Victory Media, originator of the family of Military Friendly® employment, entrepreneurship and education resources for veterans and their families, published its special awards for 2017 Military Friendly® Schools and Employers at <https://militaryfriendly.com>. For more than a decade, Military Friendly® ratings have set the standard for companies and colleges demonstrating positive employment and education outcomes for veterans and their families.

"Our staff, many of whom are also veterans, excels at serving our student veterans and assisting them as they transition from boots to books and beyond," Lake Area Technical Institute President Mike Cartney said. "The gold-level Military Friendly® School Award is a humbling honor for our institution, and great recognition for our veteran services staff."

New this year, Military Friendly® Awards showcase the most powerful and effective programs of more than 200 companies and 1,200 post-secondary schools that were designated as "Military Friendly®" in November. Of those designated, 154 employers and 541 schools have been recognized for excellence in different categories, highlighting not only "Are you Military Friendly®?" but "How Military Friendly® are you?"

"All of our Military Friendly® award recipients set the standard for excellence," said Daniel Nichols, Chief Product Officer of Victory Media and head of Military Friendly® development. "They offer exceptional examples of what it means not just to build a program that meets federal requirements, but one that serves the military and veteran community from classrooms to careers."



Students competing in the 2016 Midwest Aviation Invitational were (from left): Steve Pofahl, Brookings, SD; Mark Moore, Sisseton, SD; Kyle Riegel, Fairmont, MN; and Broderick Everson, Pipestone, MN.

## Lake Area Tech Aviation Students Earn First Place Honors at Competition

Lake Area Tech took home the gold this semester as two Aviation Maintenance Technology (AVM) students earned first place at the recent 2016 Midwest Aviation Invitational held in Ottumwa, Iowa. The annual event is hosted by Indian Hills Community College at its campus adjacent to the Ottumwa Regional Airport.

Kyle Riegel, a second-year student from Fairmont, MN, won first place in the Electrical Troubleshooting competition, and Broderick Everson, a second-year student from Pipestone, MN, earned first place in the Control Cable Rigging competition. Steve Pofahl, a second-year student from Brookings, SD, and Mark Moore, a second-year student from Sisseton, SD, offered strong competition in the Sheet Metal and Magneto Timing competitions, respectively.



## The Build Dakota Class of 2016-2017 and their Stretch the Million Partners!

**Apply for a possible Full-Ride Scholarship to Lake Area Tech for the 2017-2018 Fall School Year!**

Apply online at [www.lakeareatech.edu](http://www.lakeareatech.edu)

APPLICATION TIMELINE:  
January 1st – March 15th, 2017

# Endowed Scholarships

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

"We are extremely humbled by Jim and Barb's gift to the Foundation in support of students pursuing careers in healthcare," stated Julie Stevenson, Lake Area Tech Foundation Director. "This gift, given in memory of Dr. and Mrs. Aarstad, will provide scholarship support to students enrolled in healthcare programs at Lake Area Tech for years to come and in turn strengthen workforce development in our local community and throughout South Dakota."

## PAM HOHN BRANDRIET MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

The Pam Hohn Brandriet Memorial Scholarship was established this fall. Pam passed away on June 25th after a courageous battle with cancer. Pam spent the majority of her professional life as an instructor at Lake Area Technical Institute. Pam enjoyed her students just as much as they enjoyed her. She was a dedicated and proud educator for 25 years. The memorial scholarship was initiated through contributions from Pam's husband, Marlo Brandriet along with Pam's family, friends and co-workers at Lake Area Tech. This endowed fund will provide an annual scholarship for student candidates from any LATI program who demonstrate the following characteristics that exemplify how Pam lived her life and cared for her students. . .



- Volunteer in his/her local community
- Compassionate about education
- Integrity and driven in all areas of daily life
- Empower others to shine to their fullest potential
- Loyal to friends, family, school and faculty

## RHONDA BRADBERRY DENTAL ASSISTING SCHOLARSHIP

Brookings orthodontist Dr. David M. Meyer of Meyer Orthodontics initiated the Rhonda Bradberry Dental Assisting Scholarship on Rhonda's behalf with a generous \$10,000 gift.

"I wanted to initiate this endowed scholarship in Rhonda's name to thank her for her amazing commitment to the dental profession for over 40 years," stated Dr. Meyer. "Lake Area Technical Institute has always produced great Dental Assisting graduates, which enables all of us as dental professionals to provide quality service to our patients in South Dakota. This Dental Assisting scholarship was developed in Rhonda's name in hopes that other dental professionals will also provide a gift to the endowment to demonstrate their gratitude for Rhonda's 40 years of service to all of us and to the students of LATI."



Each of these newly endowed funds will provide an annual scholarship award for students at Lake Area Tech. Endowed funds are designated accounts, created by contributors to permanently establish scholarships by utilizing only the annual interest earned on the principal of the account, creating support for students in perpetuity.



*The Lake Area Technical Institute Faculty and Staff extend sincere condolences to the family of John DeBerg who passed away on October 28th at the age of 98.*

*John was a strong supporter of technical education in general; and LATI in particular. John and his family developed multiple scholarships to support the students of LATI.*



# Introducing LATI "New Alumni" Giving Club

The Lake Area Technical Institute Foundation in conjunction with the Alumni Association is announcing a new giving opportunity especially designed to partner with our newest grads!

The LATI "New Alumni" Giving Club distinguishes and recognizes annual leadership donations among our newest alumni. Gifts will be utilized for student scholarships, program enhancements and campus improvements.

"We understand that the giving ability may be different for alumni who are in the beginning stage of their careers or starting a family," noted LATI Foundation Board Member, Jay Boomsma of Complete Ag/Agri Partners Inc. Boomsma, a 1997 Ag Business graduate continued, "Many of my fellow alumni have noted that they want to give back. They are so appreciative of their educational experience at Lake Area Tech and the scholarship opportunities they were given. They simply want to make an impact to assist current and future LATI students."

Giving levels for the LATI "New Alumni" Giving Club are based upon the number of years since graduation from LATI. Those who donate to the Giving Club will be recognized annually on a plaque provided through the Alumni Association and in the Alumni and Friends newsletter!

<b>Year(s) Since Graduation</b>	<b>LATI New Alumnus Annual Gift</b>
1 Year	Gifts of \$100 or more
2 Years	Gifts of \$200 or more
3 Years	Gifts of \$300 or more
4 Years	Gifts of \$400 or more
5-9 Years	Gifts of \$500 or more
10 Years	Gifts of \$1,000 or more

Join the LATI "New Alumni" Giving Club, please contact the Foundation Office at 605-882-5284; Development Director Morgan Johnson (Ext. 308) or Foundation Director Julie Stevenson (Ext 268).

**Take advantage of the new interactive employment page on our LATI website!**  
Post jobs or search current openings at [www.lakeareatech.edu](http://www.lakeareatech.edu)



## Auto Program Earns a Top Four Spot in National Competition

Lake Area Tech's Automotive Technology program finished with a top four place in the 2016 School of the Year competition sponsored by WIX Filters and O'Reilly Auto Parts, partners with Tomorrow's Tech magazine. Of the 140 entries for this year's contest, 60 were from different high schools, technical schools and colleges in four geographic regions of the United States.

"This is a great testament to Lake Area Tech's commitment to offer students a top-notch experience in the automotive technology field," Brad Herding LATI Auto Instructor said. "Students choose our program because they gain practical, real-world experience working in an actual auto repair shop every day using the latest training aids. Students encounter the same challenges and opportunities here that they'll eventually experience on the job."

# Giving Form

I want to play a role in "Building A Better Lake Area Technical Institute" with a tax deductible gift to the Lake Area Technical Foundation!

**I/We would like to make a contribution as follows:**

- My/Our gift of \$\_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed.
- My/Our pledge of \$\_\_\_\_\_, will be provided as \$\_\_\_\_\_ per year for \_\_\_\_\_ years.

How often would you like to receive an invoice?

- Annually  Semi-Annually  Other \_\_\_\_\_

- I have made a gift of \$\_\_\_\_\_ online at [www.lakeareatech.edu](http://www.lakeareatech.edu)

- I wish my gift to remain "Anonymous"
- Please direct this gift to where it is most needed.
- Please direct this gift to \_\_\_\_\_

- I am an Alumni of LATI
- Join the "New Alumni" Giving Club

Program: \_\_\_\_\_ Yr: \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE PRINT: Date: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

# Areas OF Study

## AGRICULTURE

Agri-Aviation Option  
Agri-Business Option  
Agri-Production Option  
Commodity Merchandising Option\*  
Dairy Option\*  
Equine Management Option\*  
Large Animal Technician Option\*  
Precision Technology Option  
Ranch Management Option\*  
Swine Management Option\*

## AUTOMOTIVE TECHNOLOGY

### AVIATION MAINTENANCE TECHNOLOGY\*

Flight Training Option\*  
Agri-Aviation Option

## BUILDING TRADES TECHNOLOGY

### BUSINESS ASSOCIATE

Entrepreneurship\*  
Human Resource Associate Option\*  
Marketing & Management Option  
Photography/Media Option\*

### COMPUTER INFORMATION SYSTEMS

Network Specialist Option  
Programming Specialist Option  
Security Specialist Option  
Visual Communications Specialist Option

### COMMUNITY HEALTHCARE WORKING

FALL 2017

### COSMETOLOGY\*

### CUSTOM PAINT & FABRICATION

Auto Body Technician Option  
Diploma Option

### DENTAL ASSISTING\*

### DIESEL TECHNOLOGY

CAT ThinkBIG\*  
CNH Forging the Future\*  
Tractor Option  
Truck Option

### ELECTRONIC SYSTEMS TECHNOLOGY

### ENERGY OPERATIONS\*

### ENERGY TECHNOLOGY\*

### ENVIRONMENTAL TECHNOLOGY\*

### FINANCIAL SERVICES

Agri-Financial Services Option  
Business Accounting Option  
Consumer Financial Services Option

### HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR\*

### HIGH PERFORMANCE ENGINE MACHINING\*

### HUMAN SERVICES TECHNICIAN

Child Development Option  
Developmental Disabilities Option  
Mental Health/Activity Technician Option  
Youth Offender Option

### LAW ENFORCEMENT VIRTUAL ACADEMY

### MED/FIRE RESCUE

Emergency Medical Specialist Option  
Paramedic Diploma

### MEDICAL ASSISTING

### MEDICAL LAB TECHNICIAN

### NURSING

### OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSISTANT\*

### PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT\*

### PRECISION MACHINING\*

### ROBOTICS

### WELDING TECHNOLOGY

\* Indicates these programs are unique to Lake Area Tech in SD.

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Alumni Association  
1201 Arrow Ave. NE  
P.O. Box 730  
Watertown, SD 57201-0730

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FALL/WINTER 2016  
[www.lakeareatech.edu](http://www.lakeareatech.edu)

## E-Degrees

(Online Hybrid Programs)

### AGRICULTURE

Agri-Business Option  
Commodity Merchandising Option  
Ranch Management Option

### BUSINESS ASSOCIATE

Entrepreneurship  
Marketing & Management Option

### COMPUTER INFORMATION SYSTEMS

### DENTAL ASSISTING

### FINANCIAL SERVICES

### LAW ENFORCEMENT VIRTUAL ACADEMY

### MED/FIRE RESCUE

Emergency Medical Technician Certification  
Paramedic

### MEDICAL LAB TECHNICIAN

### NURSING

### PRECISION MACHINING

### ROBOTICS

See [www.lakeareatech.edu](http://www.lakeareatech.edu) for detailed program by program E-Degree information.



LAKE AREA TECH  
IS ON FACEBOOK

"Like" the Lake Area Technical Institute Alumni Association page to receive updates from the Alumni Association and Foundation Office.