

## SPOTLIGHT ON THE STUDENTS

The Rural Arts Collaborative (RAC) Fall Institution took place on September 14th at Intermediate Unit 1 McMurray Campus, celebrating the intersection of art and education. It honored Carmelle Nickens, RAC's Founder and Manager. Michele De La Reza of Attack Theater led the day's activities, supported by sponsors like the Benedum Foundation, Chevron, and others.

The event showcased various art forms from Pennsylvania and West Virginia, offering educators hands-on experiences with mediums like clay sculpting and watercolors. Bricolage PGH shared collaborative projects with IU1 McMurray students, and Calvin Stemley entertained with jazz music on his saxophone. Educators gained insights into integrating art into their curricula, fostering an exchange of innovative ideas.

A delicious lunch by Hog Fathers BBQ promoted networking, and the event left attendees inspired about artist residencies in schools. IU1 expressed gratitude to all participants, sponsors, artists, and educators for making the day memorable.







### **REMINDER ROUNDUP!**

- Upcoming dates for the remainder of 2023
   IU1 Central Office Professional Development days are:
  - o October 12, 2023
  - November 15, 2023
  - o December 13, 2023

All sessions will be held from 9am - 11:30am in the Fayette/Washington Rooms. Topics are TBD.

# CONNECT WITH US ON SOCIAL MEDIA:



### TECH-TIP! TICKETING SYSTEM

Tech Issue? Submit a helpdesk ticket to our Information Services team!

- 1. Go to IU1 website and click Quick Links
- 2. Click IUWeb Portal and Sign in
- 3. Click the "Help Desk" tab at the top of the page
- 4. Click "Submit a help desk ticket" and fill out the page to let us know what problem you are having
- 5. Information Services will be with you shortly to help you!

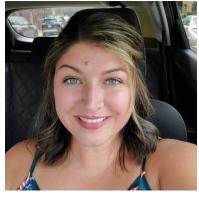






# EXCELLENCE IN ACTION IU1 EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

Kaya Geyer is a Clinically Licensed, Certified School Social Worker with the Southeastern Greene School District. She services Mapletown Jr./Sr. High School. If this was an award, Kara would win for exhibiting kindness habits. Kara has gone above and beyond as a team member to help and support others. She is a creative, thoughtful, and caring person. Her kind deeds are to be admired and appreciated. We thank you, Kara, for always being kind.



IU1 Social Worker Kara Geyer

### FRESH FACES: GET TO KNOW OUR AUGUST NEW HIRES!



- Megan Chopek Hearing Teacher, Washington Park Elementary School
- Daniel Fauth Learning Facilitator, IU1 Educational Campus at McMurray
- Mackenzie Greene Speech Clinician, IU1 Education Campus at McMurray
- Taylor Kodric School Psychologist, Bentworth Elementary School
- Sarah Ondra Speech Clinician, IU1 Education Campus at Redstone
- Alexa Robbins Paraprofessional, IU1 Educational Campus at McMurray
- Katlyn Salaske Speech Clinician, IU1 Educational Campus at Redstone
- Mackenzie Skobel Speech Clinician, IU1 Educational Campus at Redstone
- Allyson Vitez Teacher, IU1 Educational Campus at Waynesburg
- Cheyenne Wasko School Psychologist, Carmichaels Jr. High School



### UPBEAT UPDATE

IU1 is excited to introduce a new addition to our lobby: a fish tank carefully curated by our Science Curriculum Specialist, Alyssa Moore. This charming aquarium is not just for looks; it's here to teach us all about the wonders of aquaponics, a fascinating blend of fish farming and plant cultivation. In this miniature ecosystem, fish provide nutrients to thriving plants, while the plants, in turn, purify the water for their aquatic companions. It's a harmonious cycle that makes science fun and educational – a delightful way to learn about the natural world right here in our lobby.

### POWERFUL PERSPECTIVES

#### DR. DON MARTIN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Greetings to all! I trust each of you has embarked on a fantastic start to the school year, embracing the promise of new knowledge and growth. As we transition into Fall, may you take the time to enjoy the crispness in the air and the kaleidoscope of colors adorning the leaves—a visual testament to the transformations occurring within our classrooms and minds. Whether you're a football fan or not, there's a certain buzz in the air with the season underway—let it remind us of the importance of collaboration and teamwork in our educational endeavors. As we approach the holiday season, may the anticipation of joy and togetherness permeate your days, creating a warmth that parallels the autumnal colors surrounding us. Wishing you all an inspiring and fulfilling season ahead!



Regards, Don