



# Office of Teacher Education

## April 2019 Newsletter

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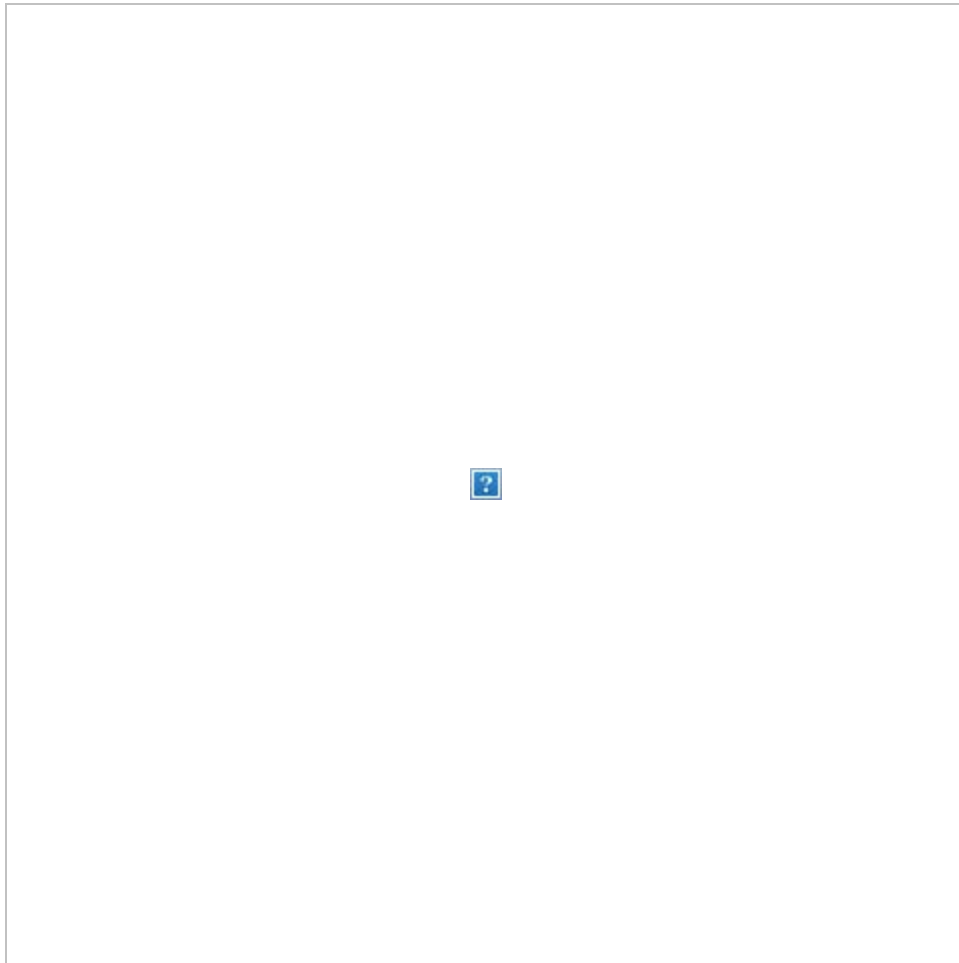
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*\* indicates new content in this issue*

# Student Spotlight

## **Cass Roberts**

Cass Roberts is a senior vocal music education major currently in residency at Cookeville High School. He is the former music director for Mentonation, TTU's all male acapella group, an alumni of the Tennessee Tech Chorale, and now sings with Cookeville Mastersingers and at First United Methodist Church each week.



## *Cass's Song*

While I was in my choral methods class with Dr. Zamer, Director of Choral Activities, one of our assignments was to teach a short rote song to the rest of the class. These songs could serve as a fun way to get a group of students

singing on the first day of school or as a warm up before rehearsal. Well when I sat down to make a plan for this assignment, I realized that, despite having been in choir for almost five years at that point, I didn't know of any such songs. So I did what I thought everyone else would do and created a catchy melody with easy lyrics. I then added a harmony above and below the melody and charted out chords to match.

In class the next day, Dr. Zamer took a liking to the song. He asked me to teach it to the Tech Chorale and if he could use it with concert choir later that day. I then gave him full permission to teach it to whomever he wanted. Dr. Zamer shared it with choirs in Florida and with Dr. Kevin Fenton at Florida State University. From there Dr. Fenton used it as part of AVoice4Peace, a worldwide peace awareness project which encourages unity through singing.

I never thought the song would be sung by anyone other than my choral methods classmates or perhaps my future students, but now it's used regularly by Dr. Zamer and known by many more singers than I ever imagined.

**Want to hear Cass's song? Visit [AVoice4Peace](#) Facebook page to hear his song performed by the Nairobi Chamber Chorus.**

## Upcoming Events

- INTERVIEWS for Admission to the Teacher Education Program will continue throughout the entire month of April! (Check the [Interview Request](#) form for specific dates and times)
- May 1, 2019: Summer Deadlines for Admission to the Teacher Education Program (Click [HERE](#) for more information)
- June 15, 2019: Fall Deadlines for MUSIC Residents and Student Teachers (Click [HERE](#) for more information)
- July 15, 2019: Fall Deadlines for All Residents (excluding Music) (Click [HERE](#) for more information)



## Looking for a Job?

### The Putnam County YMCA is Hiring!

"We are hiring summer camp counselors at the YMCA this summer! If you love working outside and with children this is the job for you! Each week is a different theme and counselors get to help plan the weeks. Training will be the week of May 13th-17th. If you are interested please come to the Y and fill out an application. Please email [mgentry@pcfymca.org](mailto:mgency@pcfymca.org) if you have any questions."

- Madison Gentry, Director

A full listing of job opportunities can be found under Professional Career Opportunities located on the College of Education website or simply by clicking [Here](#).

### Upcoming First Aid/CPR/AED Classes

Candidates entering Residency I and Student Teaching are required to show proof of **valid** First Aid/CPR/ AED certification before entering their clinical placement. Candidates should email, fax, or hand deliver proof of certifications to the Office of Teacher Education.

#### **FIRST AID/CPR/AED CLASSES: TRAINING WITH AMY MAHAN**

The training and certification through the American Heart Association includes, AED-Automatic External Defibrillator, BLS-Basic Life Support (CPR) for the Healthcare Provider, First Aid, HeartSaver-CPR for the Non-Healthcare Professional.

**Upcoming Dates: April 3, 6, 11, 16, 20, 24, and 30/ May 4, 8, 14, 18, 22, 30**

All classes are scheduled from 9:00 AM - 12:30 PM. The doors open at 8:30 AM. For training information and scheduling, please contact Amy Mahan at 931-261-5092 or

[ANMahan16@gmail.com](mailto:ANMahan16@gmail.com).

## **FIRST AID/CPR/AED CLASSES AT THE FITNESS CENTER**

The TTU Fitness Center offers First Aid/CPR/AED classes to TTU students. The cost for this course is \$50. To reserve your spot, please email Connie DeRossette at [CDerossette@tntech.edu](mailto:CDerossette@tntech.edu) and copy Suzann Hensley at [SHensley@tntech.edu](mailto:SHensley@tntech.edu).

### **Upcoming Dates: April 23**

All classes are from 5:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M.

EMAIL: [TeacherEducation@tntech.edu](mailto:TeacherEducation@tntech.edu) FAX: 931-372-6286 DELIVER TO: TJ FARR, ROOM 103

**Note: Online Certification Cannot Be Accepted!!**

## **A Word from our Testing Coordinator**

"In addition to our spring Praxis test dates the College of Education Testing Center will be offering the following exams:

College Level Examination Program (CLEP) sessions will be held on April 25<sup>th</sup> and May 30<sup>th</sup>.

Miller Analogies Test (MAT) will be held on April 24<sup>th</sup> and May 17<sup>th</sup>.

All registrations for the CLEP and MAT exams can be made through our website: <https://www.tntech.edu/education/testing-center>. Questions related to CLEP and MAT testing are welcomed – please contact the Testing Center at 931-372-3125 or [testingcenter@tntech.edu](mailto:testingcenter@tntech.edu) for further information."

-Amanda Yother

## **Senior Exit Exams**

In addition to our spring Praxis test dates the College of Education Testing Center will be offering the following exams:

College Level Examination Program (CLEP) sessions will be held on April 25<sup>th</sup> and May 30<sup>th</sup>.

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All registrations for the CLEP and MAT exams can be made through our website: <https://www.tntech.edu/education/testing-center>. Questions related to CLEP and MAT testing are welcomed – please contact the Testing Center at 931-372-3125 or [testingcenter@tntech.edu](mailto:testingcenter@tntech.edu) for further information.

### **Praxis Tips and Study Materials**

If you have signed up for a Praxis exam, then you know the social security number field is optional in your ETS account. However, the TN Department of Education (TDE) will not load Praxis scores into the state licensure system if the social security number is not on the ETS score report. This means, if you leave your social security number blank or partially blank on your ETS account, then you will have to contact ETS, have your social security number added, and pay to have your scores resent before the TDE will issue a teaching license. You can save yourself some anxiety and money by always entering your correct social security number in your ETS account when signing up for a Praxis exam.

### **Trying to decide whether to take the ACT or Praxis CORE exams for Admissions to the Teacher Education Program?**

Contact [Elizabeth Boucher](#) for information and diagnostic tests to begin your preparation.

### **Are You Preparing for the Elementary Ed Content 5018 Praxis Exam?**

Join Schoology.com with access code: **JBD69-QD4JS**

and go to the “Materials” tab in the left menu on the Schoology homepage which will bring up the blue folders for all licensure areas. The Elementary Ed folder will have

your resources – particularly good is the pdf book (also available in the LRC for check out) and the ETS Study Plan which has test topics' breakouts which help for specific test content.

Get a small group together and take a practice test in a Volpe Library study room! Here are some of the practice tests we have available:

- Math 5161
- Biology 5235
- Chemistry 5235
- Elementary Ed 5018
- Early Childhood 5024
- World & US History 5941
- Art 5135
- Agriculture 5701
- Music 5114
- Middle School Social Studies 5089
- ESL 5362
- PE 5095

You can take the practice test at Volpe library anytime that they are open and you can reserve a study room with screen for several hours. Contact [Elizabeth Boucher](#) with questions/information.

### **Study Tips for Praxis II: Elementary Education Content Knowledge**

Did you know that the Social Studies section of the Elementary Education Content Praxis exam contains questions on geography, government, anthropology, and economics, as well as world and US history? This section of the exam can be very challenging for test takers. Take a look at the Study Guide for this exam to get a complete list of exam topics: <https://www.ets.org/s/praxis/pdf/5018.pdf>

### **ATTENTION TEACHER LICENSURE CANDIDATES!**

Don't just jump in and take a Praxis EXAM before you see what is on it! Come and take a practice test in a small group, review your answers, and make further test prep plans before the actual test date! **Praxis SUPPORT** is available to help you navigate the testing and test prep situation so that you are successful on the first attempt! Join Schoology to find free test prep materials for all Teacher Education program tests and to stay up to date on test prep information! Get a small group together, arrange a time and date, and contact [Elizabeth Boucher](#) to set this up!

## **ACT and Praxis CORE Information sessions**

**Come and learn about each test and available resources!**

**Monday, April 1 from 10 until Noon**

**Or**

**Friday, April 5 from 10 until Noon**

**Matthews Room 158**

**Join our ACT / Praxis CORE Test Prep Community – so you can study for  
either test for Teacher Ed Admission**

**Contact [Elizabeth Boucher](#) for access or with questions.**

