



# wti CONNECT 360°

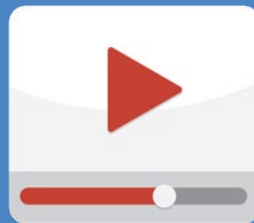
## GIVING BACK TO OUR COMMUNITIES

Nearing the end of 2022, WTI staff, students, and friends took part in collecting and donating toys for Toys 4 Tots to help ensure that every child got a gift for the holiday. Wichita, Joplin and Tulsa campuses were official drop off locations. Once the toys and donations were collected, the United States Marine Corp assisted with pick-up and distribution. We appreciate all who contributed to the cause. It is always a pleasure to see how the communities we are involved with come together during the holidays to bring joy to others.

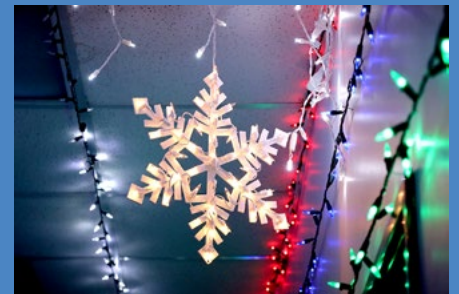


## BRIGHTENING THE HOLIDAY SEASON

Each year, when the holidays are near, a select group of our amazing instructors and students in Wichita put together a light display that will make anyone's holiday season even brighter. Even if you weren't able to walk the hallway in the technology building, you can still admire the display on WTI's YouTube channel. This year, a dash of humor was added with a dancing Santa in the video. Check out the link and see for yourself.



CHECK OUT THE SHOW



### NOTABLE DATES & EVENTS

**2/6** - Classes Start  
**2/14** - Valentine's Day  
**2/20** - President's Day (NO CLASS)

**3/4** - Wichita Graduation Ceremony  
**3/8** - International Women's Day  
**3/17** - Saint Patrick's Day

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# INSIDER INFO



**Abby Trimble** - *Systems Administrator*

## **How long have you worked at WTI and what is your role?**

I started working at WTI as a Lab Assistant two weeks after I graduated the CTNA program in 2012. I have held several positions here and became WTI's Systems Administrator about five years ago.

## **What's your favorite thing about working at WTI?**

I love that everyone I work with is striving to provide excellent educational support for our students – coordinated teamwork makes it happen!

## **What motivates you to wake up and go to work?**

The opportunity to always make WTI better – to solve problems, to implement new ideas, to support group endeavors.

## **What advice would you give to WTI students?**

"The taller the mountain, the better the view." Keep on hiking through the difficult times, because graduation into a new life is totally worth it.

## **What made you choose your field of study/career?**

I wanted to know how electricity turns hunks of metal and plastic into things like spreadsheets and games and the Internet.

## **Who are you outside of WTI and what are some of your hobbies or interests outside of work?**

I enjoy experimenting in the kitchen. I've been a fan(atic) of a particular video game franchise for about 15 years.

## **What is a fun fact about you that many don't know?**

I developed a pet dander allergy in my 30s that will prevent me from becoming a crazy cat lady.

## **Are there any student stories that have inspired you?**

I am inspired by our students who hold full-time jobs and who are also raising children while attending school at WTI.

# GRADUATE SUCCESS



Tai considers himself to be a lucky person. He was supported by both his friends and his instructors. "Without them, I cannot reach my dream. I am aware that I need a lot of self improvement to be an individual that people can rely on and believe in," Tai said.

Tai decided to pursue an education with WTI in Wichita because he knows that life is not easy, but there is always a way to create miracles. He knew that since he was a kid, that he loved programming. But he eventually realized the limitations of software are the hardware. He believes that we need more inventions in order to extend software creativity. After high school, he needed money quickly, so he didn't have the time to spend four years studying at a university. He found WTI and chose to go into the electronics field.

While attending WTI, his instructors taught him everything they could and he enjoyed seeing the projects his friends created. One of the challenges that Tai faced during his education was that since he was a curious student, he had many questions about the lessons.

But he said it was never a problem because his instructor was very knowledgeable and willing to help. "He is more than just an instructor," Tai said.

Tai was able to obtain his CET Associate, CET Industrial, J-Standard and FCC Element certificates and is now working towards obtaining some foreign language certificates.

Career Services went above and beyond and helped him improve his resume, his business attire, and his interview responses. They printed out copies of his resume and called companies to help set up interviews for students. "They created miracles," Tai said.

Prior to graduating, he got an offer in his chosen field to become a Data Analyst. In his position, he accesses databases of any system that his company wants to manage, to analyze, and to visualize data. The software that Tai helped create is designed to assist businesses in learning from the past and predicting the future.

"Money will become meaningless if you don't have good relationships." – Tai Ha



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# GRADUATE SUCCESS CONTINUED...

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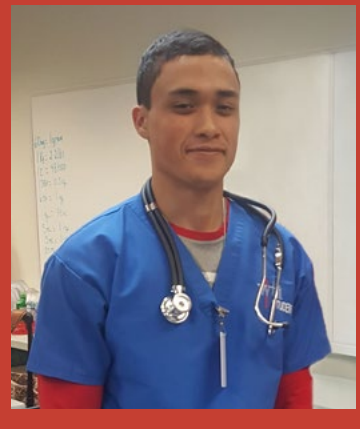
Forrest says he is geeky to perfection. He decided to pursue an education in the Computer Technology and Network Administration program at our WTI Joplin campus because he has always dabbled in working with computers and has always enjoyed it.

During his time attending WTI, he said from beginning to end, the staff was always friendly and inviting to its very core. The teachers were great at teaching and they told the class

stories of their personal experiences. Forrest obtained his A+, Network+ and Security+ certifications. He is now working towards obtaining his Linux certification.

Career services was able to help him refine his resume and he got a job offer. He got an opportunity as a Field Service Technician with an agency that works directly with Integrity Healthcare.

Forrest most admires the Wright brothers, because they followed what seemed to be an impossible dream, and by having confidence in themselves, they passed a historical milestone.



Jesse is a hard worker and a team player. He decided to pursue an education at our WTI Tulsa campus because he wanted to get into the medical field and he figured that this was the best place to start. Jesse most admires his father, because he showed him how to not only be a man, but also taught him to help others. He'd be doing exactly that in the medical field.

"When I started, everyone was very nice to me and was willing to help guide me through everything and answer any questions I had," Jesse said, "They would always check on me and make sure I was okay."

While attending WTI, Jesse was selected to be an Ambassador. As an Ambassador, he would help other students when they needed assistance. At the end of his educational journey at WTI, Jesse received his Registered

Medical Assistant certification. He plans to continue to further his education to become a Registered Nurse or EMT.

Once he graduated, career services gave him advice on what to say during interviews. They wanted to make sure that he was set up for success. His instructor suggested that he went into cardiology and he started his externship at Oklahoma Heart Institute. Jesse got to meet many amazing Medical Assistants, Nurse Practitioners, Physician Assistants, Doctors and Surgeons during his externship. Any of the staff that Jesse worked alongside was pleased with his work ethic, so much that they offered Jesse a job. Jesse has been with them ever since. In May of 2022, Jesse got promoted to become the manager of over 20 medical assistants across 10 clinics.

Jesse's definition of success is having the ability to look back at the road you traveled and see how far you've come.

"Never give up. It may seem like a lot at first, but there's always a way to finish what you started."



Adam considers himself to be a strong-willed and compassionate individual. He most admires an English instructor in high school who allowed him to participate in forensics because he believed in him.

He decided to enroll in the Pharmacy Technician program at WTI in Wichita because he enjoys helping others and he wanted to prove that he could do well for himself. Adam said, "My instructors were patient, while also challenging

me to constantly improve myself." He said that overall, his educational journey at WTI was a great experience because everyone believed in him. He succeeded and received his Pharmacy Technician certification.

Career services was able to assist him in finding employment. He is now working as a Pharmacy Technician at Dandurand Drugs.

Adam's definition of success is being able to live well. "Keep pushing yourself daily to make personal and professional improvements," Adam advises future graduates, "Set obtainable goals and follow through."



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# JOPLIN'S GRADUATES CONTINUE ON THEIR JOURNEY

Students in Joplin not only added a big smile to their face as they walked across the stage on November 18, they also added an accomplishment that will allow them to advance into a new career. Their journey is not yet complete, it's only the beginning. Congratulations to all of our graduates. We can't wait to see what you accomplish going forward.



## WTI TEAM MEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

### JANUARY

Linda Lynch	18 Years	Amanda King	2 Years
Angela Aaron	16 Years	Eva Trujillo	2 Years
Abby Trimble	11 Years	Brandon Beckner	1 Year
Tom McGlasson	9 Years		
Jeff Martinez	5 Years		
Zetta Scholz	4 Years		

### FEBRUARY

Michael Holland	19 Years
Greg Martinez	16 Years
Anita Pillar	8 Years
Kathryn Ly	7 Years
Stephen Gooch	3 Years
Quin Vega	1 Year

### MARCH

Evelyn Franklin	15 Years
Jenna Akpan	7 Years
Michael Burton	5 Years
Kristen Alberts	2 Years
Sunny Brooks	2 Years

## WELCOME TO THE WTI TEAM

Please help us welcome our new staff members; Abbi Crochet, Adam Link, Keith Koss, Nicholas Williams, Brooke Woolery, Miles Chamberlin and Seth Dillman at the Wichita campus; Also welcome James Brown, Liz Hazel, and Patrick Whelpley at the Tulsa campus!



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