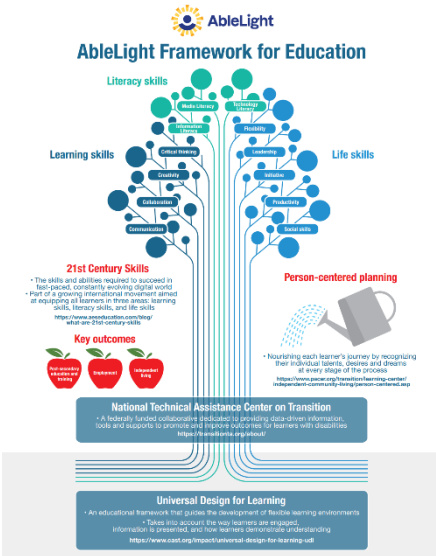




## AbleLight College at CUW and CUAA Welcomes You



## Welcomes You

AbleLight College at Concordia University Wisconsin & Ann Arbor is a two year non credit bearing Certificate of Applied Learning in the inclusive environments of the Wisconsin and Ann Arbor campuses. We also offer a third year *optional* Post-Certificate Applied Learning Fellowship Year.

All segments of the AbleLight College at CUWAA program offer students with intellectual and developmental disabilities the opportunity to receive a full college experience. Through a ‘blended’ model students participate with traditional students at each university, combining instruction that is specific to the program along with many opportunities to audit traditional courses

in the university and experience a wealth of practicum and recreational experiences on and off campus. Group and individual instruction are offered with an emphasis on development of the whole person supported by individual advising, coaching and mentoring all through a Person-Centered Approach to planning. The combination of academics, career preparation, daily living skills and campus/community life experiences ultimately position each graduate with the tools and experiences needed to take their place in the larger community beyond campus as independent adults who are reaching their potential as employed citizens living a purposeful and integrated life and contributing to the welfare of the community. All parts of program are grounded in the [Foundations of CUWAA AbleLight College framework](#).

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## Message from Senior Director and Team

What an incredible year this has been! Time has certainly flown by, and the team and I could not be prouder of the great progress and successes that each student has obtained since August! I am really looking forward to the final IGSP meetings along with portfolio presentations that will occur the first two weeks of May. This is a wonderful opportunity for the students to take an even higher level of leadership in their plans and for the people they choose to invite to both celebrate their triumphs and provide valuable input into the next phase of their goals. For students returning for their second year and those graduates starting their fellowship year in the Fall, the IGSPs will be updated to reflect new goals for the 2023-2024 school year. Speaking of graduates, the remarkable accomplishments of our second-year students will be celebrated formally on May 13th when they participate in the Concordia University Wisconsin undergraduate graduation ceremony and earn their Certificate of Applied Learning through AbleLight College at Concordia University Wisconsin! Please join us in congratulating the following well deserving young adults and wish them all the very best in their future endeavors: **Molly Birmingham, Genevieve Caraulia, Elijah Karle, Griffin McCarley, Deschon Parker and Andre Haller-Wade.**

## Campus/Community/Employment Highlights



Hurrah! Spring is here! And so are the many activities that continue to be held on the CUW campus. For those who like hula dancing and lei's, dust off your old grass skirts and

head on down to the Kawa Luau, which will be held on Wednesday, April 26<sup>th</sup> at 8:00AM and will last all day throughout the CUW campus. Expect food, exciting entertainment and fun memories that you can share with your friends. Head to the Albrecht Lounge on Monday, May 1<sup>st</sup> for a Spa Night! The event starts at 7:00 PM and will provide face and eye masks, nail painting, a DIY scrub and various treats that you can take home. If you love animals, head to the Chapel Courtyard on Wednesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> for a Petting Zoo. You'll simply love hanging out with animals and you can relieve stress by petting them and playing with them. If you enjoy painting or the famed painter, Bob Ross, or both, then the Bob Ross Painting Night on the Bluff would be perfect for you. Taking place on Thursday, May 4<sup>th</sup> from 5:00PM, this event is perfect for those wanting to show their artistic side. Perhaps you can even paint a special picture for a friend, a teacher, or

someone in your family. AbleLight students, don't forget about the special dress up days that we have all throughout the year. Get out your lightsabers and bring out your inner Princess Leia for the intergalactic Star Wars Day on May 3<sup>rd</sup>! To celebrate the school year, be sure to wear your CUW colors on May 10<sup>th</sup>. For employment at CUW, Dechon has an off-campus internship where he will shadow and receive job training at the All Star Health Gym in Thiensville, Lastly, don't you second years at AbleLight forget about graduation, where your friends and family can enjoy a beautiful ceremony on May 13<sup>th</sup> and celebrate your accomplishments. Congratulations to all second year AbleLight students and soon-to-be college graduates!

At CUAA, there will be a Day of Service on April 19<sup>th</sup> on campus where students will complete service projects for off campus organizations. All of our students continue to be engaged in a vocational experience on and off-campus. CUAA's Spring Musical, Bye-Bye Birdie, will take place 4/4 - 4/23. Tickets can be purchased online.

**Written and edited by Emily Walz(ALC CUW student) and Nash Siemers(ALC CUW student)**

## Classroom Excitement

Wisconsin Campus the CUW class, Acting for the Camera, students sent a Christian monologue they've been working on to a Christian acting agency, which is extremely exciting and simply mind-blowing. For Personal Development class, students created a dream vision board, which students created either on a computer or a poster board and included what they wish their life to be like, either right after college or in the far future. In Career Prep, we are filling out a pretend job application online and we can say that we are applying for any job that we want, such as a movie star or a country singer. In Tech and Port, we are making an end of the year power point that shows our goals for the semester and the current classes that we are taking. In the Independent Living Skills 1 class, students learned about motivation and what motivates us. In Independent Living Skills 2, students completed a random act of kindness project by making cards for the CUW faculty and students. They are now going through the process of searching for a home or an apartment. In Courage and Social Leadership, the students are learning about debating and are preparing for their own debate on the topic, "Should cell phones be allowed in class?" In Financial Literacy, now taught by the new member of AbleLight College, Erik, is teaching students about banking, saving, and how to use a credit card. As the end of the year comes, we are getting more and more excited for the pool and the endless sunny days of the season called 'summer', but first, we must stay strong and pave the way by finishing our homework and our classes. We must present ourselves like the model students that we can all be. We must finish the school year with dignity and then quickly run full speed to the pool on the last day of classes and have some summer fun!

Ann Arbor Campus Personal Development students designed individual awards for their classmates, based on something they like about the student and then presented the awards in class. Some examples of the awards given include, "All Night Party Award," "Golden Universe Award," "Smartest Guy Award," and "Everyone's Friend Award." In Courage and Social Leadership, students have been practicing presenting information to their peers, in order to prepare for their presentation of their portfolios, which they will present in May. Students have also been busy reflecting and retelling information using primarily email, as an extension of what is being worked on in Technology and Portfolio.

-Written and edited by Emily Walz and Nash Siemers (ALC CUW student)

## Here's What People Have to Say about AbleLight College...

"Program is amazing and is perfect for our son---we are so grateful!" -Current AbleLight CUW parent

"Very much enjoyed the open house presentation and tour today. Very impressive and I really like how you included AbleLight students in the program and tour" -Prospective students' parent

"I would like to share that out of the schools we toured...I felt the most comfortable with your staff and school."  
-Parent of incoming student for Fall 23-24 at CUW

"I love the fact that we have AbleLight College on our campus, and, am ever thankful for people like YOU."  
-CUW Staff

## Important Dates

- April 17<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>** This is How We Roll Week  
(Disability Awareness Week)
- May 3<sup>d</sup>** CUW Dress Up Day: CUW Colors
- May 12<sup>th</sup>** CUW AbleLight College Graduation  
Rehearsal
- May 13<sup>th</sup>** AbleLight Reception/Graduation Day
- June 21<sup>st</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup>** AbleLight College 101



## Happy Birthday!

- 4/7 Elijah
- 4/18 Griffin
- 4/19 Molly B.
- 4/21 Geneveive
- 4/15 Keaton
- 5/18 Madeline(CUW RA)
- 5/21 Emily W.
- 5/26 Lydia W.
- 5/30 Joe

## Finish the Sentence: *My favorite movie is...*

- Nash: "2001: A Space Odyssey"
- Lydia G: "Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince and Pirates of the Caribbean"
- Keaton: "School of Rock"
- Emily P: "Elf"
- Geneveive-"All movies and TV shows"
- Elijah: "I like a lot of movies but I don't what I consider my favorite"
- Deschon: "Rush Hour 3"
- Nick H: "Fast and Furious 5"
- Lydia W.-"Harry Potter Series"
- Charlie: "Spiderman"
- Molly B. (CUW): "Hairspray or High School Musical 2"
- Emily W. "Crazy Rich Asians"
- Griffin: "Alien End Game"
- Brian(CUAA)-"Terminator 2"
- Joe(CUAA)-"42"
- Molly(CUAA)-"The Lion King"
- Jack(CUAA)-"Anything from the MCU"

## STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



### Meet Deschon Parker!

**Hometown:** Milwaukee  
**High School:** St. Augustine Preparatory Academy  
**Year in school:** 2<sup>nd</sup> year at CUW  
**Favorite Color:** Yellow  
**Favorite Class:** Sports Psychology  
**Fun Facts:** "I'm very active"



### Meet Emily Patzer!

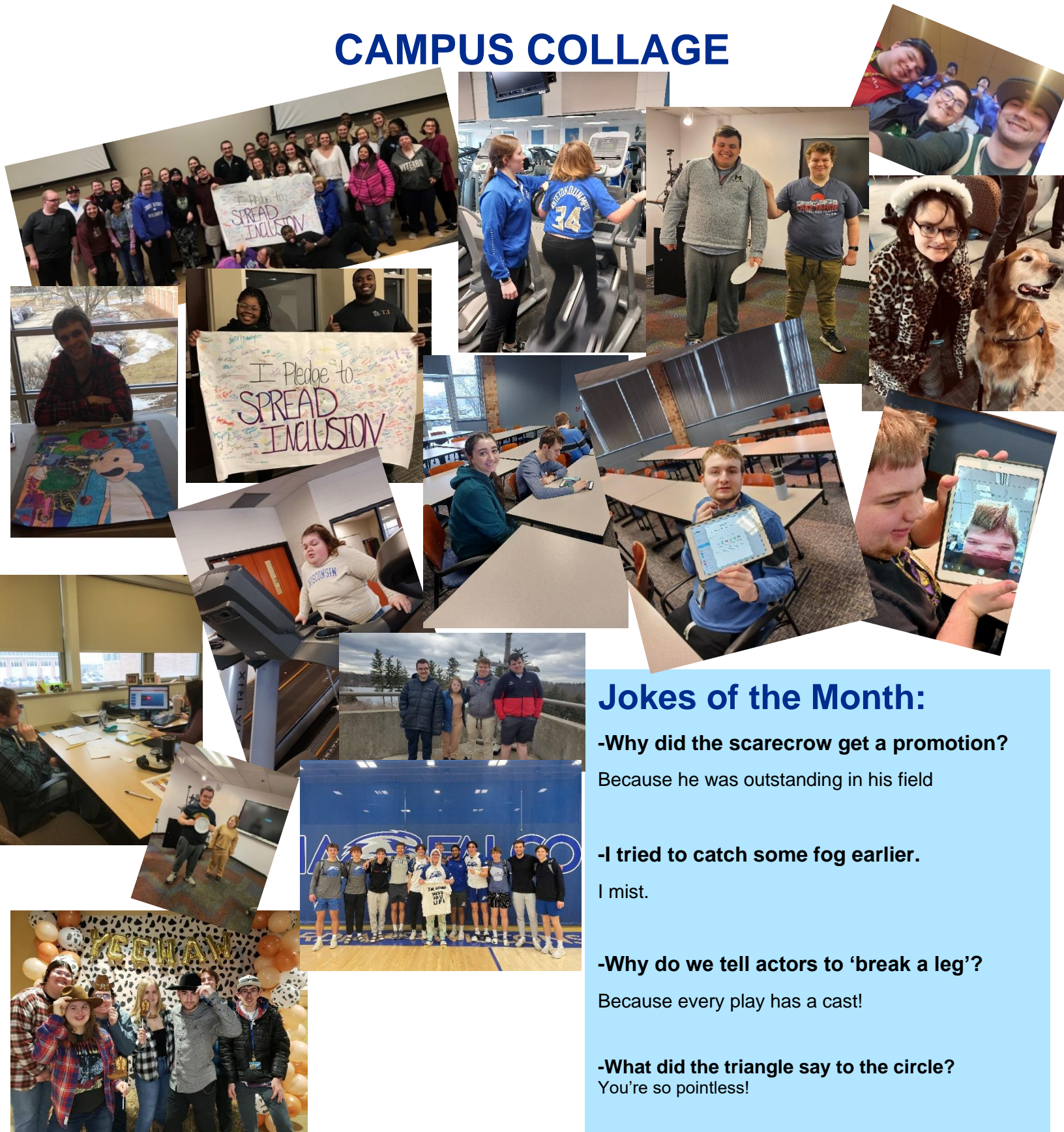
**Hometown:** Shorewood, WI  
**High school:** Shorewood High School  
**Year in school:** 1<sup>st</sup> year at CUW  
**Favorite Color:** Purple  
**Favorite Class:** Christian Faith  
**Fun Facts:** "I really love sports!"



### Meet Jack Potter!

**Hometown:** Grosse Pointe Farms, MI  
**High school:** Grosse Pointe South  
**Year in school:** 1<sup>st</sup> year  
**Favorite color:** Yellow  
**Favorite class:** Living Well  
**Fun facts:** "I'm a funny guy. I like to play video games a lot. And I like to hang out with my friends and family."

## CAMPUS COLLAGE



Photos edited by: Nash Siemers and Emily Walz

### Jokes of the Month:

**-Why did the scarecrow get a promotion?**

Because he was outstanding in his field

**-I tried to catch some fog earlier.**

I mist.

**-Why do we tell actors to 'break a leg'?**

Because every play has a cast!

**-What did the triangle say to the circle?**

You're so pointless!

**-Wanna hear a joke about pizza?**

Nevermind. It was too cheesy!

## STUDENT & STAFF SHOUTOUTS

Shout out to Emily Walz for participating in Wisconsin Miss Amazing in March! She completed an interview, introduction and passion presentation!

Shout out to Deschon Parker for getting 3<sup>rd</sup> place for Mr. Concordia! Way to go!

Shout out to all 2<sup>nd</sup> year AbleLight students graduating in just a few weeks!!

Shout out to CUAA's student staff Morgan Jenkins! Morgan is an RA/SSA who is consistently communicative with students and staff, facilitates meaningful activities for students (e.g. community outings, homework nights, etc.) and always has a smile on her face!



Welcome Erik Halling, AbleLight CUW Coordinator of Admissions!

A few fun facts about Erik:

- I like to run long distances in my free time
- I like to read biographies
- My role model is my grandfather
- My favorite movie is 'Chariots of Fire'

Let your **LIGHT**  
shine bright!

### About the Editors:



*Nash Siemers: Nash is a first year student at AbleLight College and interns with the Ablelight College newsletter this semester. His favorite class is Acting for the Camera.*



*Emily is a first year student at AbleLight College and interns for the Ablelight College newsletter. She enjoys writing articles and taking pictures for the newsletter. Emily is an aspiring actress who loves fashion, books and sparkles! She hopes to shine her light as a movie star one day!*

**Don't forget to like and follow our Facebook and Instagram page!**

[Facebook AbleLight College CUW](#) (AbleLight College-Wisconsin) and [Facebook AbleLight College CUAA](#) (AbleLight College Ann Arbor)

And [Instagram AbleLight College CUW](#) (@ablelightcollege\_cuw) and [Instagram AbleLight College CUAA](#) (@ablelight\_aa)

Newsletters come out bi-monthly. To sign up for newsletters, please contact [Jillian.Seidl@ablelight.org](mailto:Jillian.Seidl@ablelight.org)

## Campus and Community Events and Outreach

AbleLight and Best Buddies Present

### THIS IS HOW WE ROLL

DISABILITY  
AWARENESS WEEK

APRIL 17 - 21

**Monday**

utilize wheelchairs, blindfolds, and earplugs with OT/PTI 11am-1pm by the Library stairs

**Tuesday**

utilize wheelchairs, blindfolds, and earplugs with OT/PTI 11am-1pm by the Library stairs

**Wednesday**

come look at some pictures of devices that people use with OT/PTI 11am-1pm outside the caf

**Thursday**

come learn more about Best Buddies and AbleLight, receive info of upcoming events, and get goodies! 11-1pm outside the caf

**Friday**

join Best Buddies for a game of kickball! 4-6pm frisbee golf field



### THE 2023 CUW Mind, Body, Spirit WELLNESS FAIR

Sunday, April 16th

CUW School of Pharmacy Atrium and surrounding classrooms  
10:00am - 2:00pm

**Get Free Screenings & Information**  
Blood pressure  
Self care  
Mental health  
Mindful living  
Animal therapy  
Substance use disorders  
...and much more!

**Wellness Prizes**  
Air Pods  
Apple Watch  
Spikeball  
Portable Speaker  
Yoga Set  
Spalding Basketball

THIS IS A PASSPORT TO HEALTH EVENT: complete your passport and enter a drawing for health-related items!  
The first 100 guests will receive a complimentary swag bag.  
Open to CUW campus community and general public.  
All participants welcome to attend 10:00am worship service held on campus at the Chapel of Christ Triumphant before this event.

Sponsored by Office of IPE at CUW  
Contact Michael.Oldan@cuw.edu or Aaron.Muchenberger@cuw.edu



**FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN MOBILEPACK™**

### FEED 1,000 CHILDREN

With Concordia University Wisconsin

**GOALS:**

- Raise \$95,000
- Gather 2,000 Volunteers
- Pack 385,000 Meals
- Feed 1,000 Children for 1 Year

**2 HOURS CAN CHANGE A LIFE**

For more information, to donate, or to volunteer:

- 📞 262-352-9244
- 📧 isaiah.mudges@cuw.edu
- 🌐 <https://give.fmsc.org/cuw>
- 📍 12800 N. Lakeshore Drive, Mequon, WI 53097

**Event Times:**  
April 20-22, 2023 at Concordia Wisconsin  
Volunteer Registration Opens 6 weeks prior

### Ozaukee County Resource Fair 2023

Grafton High School Acuity Gymnasium  
(East entrance, door #18)

**Tuesday April 18, 2023**

4:30 PM to 6:30 PM

Ozaukee County has some AMAZING community resources. Discover what's available for children, teens and adults who experience challenges in their lives.

**On Site Childcare Available**

RSVP only if childcare is needed by April 1, 2023. Email [family@graffton.k12.wi.us](mailto:family@graffton.k12.wi.us) with # of children.

**INFORMATION AVAILABLE**

VOCATIONAL	EDUCATIONAL	RECREATIONAL
LEGAL	TRANSITION	RESPIRE
TUTORING	CRAFTS	EXERCISE
SOCIAL	HIGH SCHOOL	COLLEGE
SUPPORT GROUPS	DAY SERVICES	SOCIAL GROUPS
IEPs	CAMPS	GUARDIANSHIP
TRUSTS	SPECIALIZED EQUIPMENT	EVALUATIONS

AND MUCH MORE

BAKED GOODS FOR SALE

ARTWORK FOR SALE

Special thanks to Grafton High School for hosting this event.

Attendance for this event is free, but please consider bringing cash to help support community members with disabilities who will be selling their artwork and baked goods. Also, please bring a camera/phone to gather information, as printed materials may be limited.

**Please join us. We'd love to see you.**

Sponsored by Ozaukee County Community on Transition



## LSU FIESTA-FUN

Join us for **snacks, music**, and an opportunity to write personalized **postcards** for incoming freshmen!

**Create a mother's day card for the women at a shelter**

**When: Thursday, April 13th**

**Where: Albrecht Lounge (4-8pm)**