GRANT CAREER CENTER

Community Connector

TOP WORK PLACES 2026

Cincinnati.com
The Enquirer

Five Consecutive Years!
2022★ 2023★ 2024★ 2025★ 2026

50 YEARS *and counting*

Empowering futures for 50 years - celebrating a legacy of career excellence!

What are the next steps that you are excited to take after graduation?



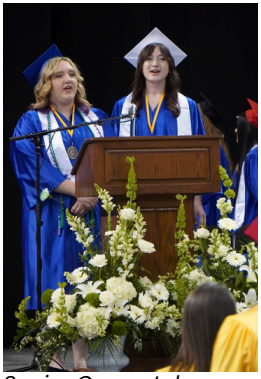
Miah Hurley: *"I'm going to go to college for nursing at NKU, and I'm going to be a registered nurse."*

Greatness

Congratulations to the Grant Career Center Class of 2026!

Grant Career Center proudly celebrated the Class of 2026 during its Completion Ceremony on Wednesday, May 13, at Truist Arena on the campus of Northern Kentucky University. The evening marked an important milestone as more than 200 students, representing 14 career and technical education programs, were recognized for successfully completing their programs and preparing for their next steps.

The ceremony highlighted the hard work, perseverance, and personal growth of this graduating class. Student speakers Mallory Langner and Addyson Baker shared reflections on their journeys, emphasizing how their experiences at Grant Career Center shaped both their skills and their character.

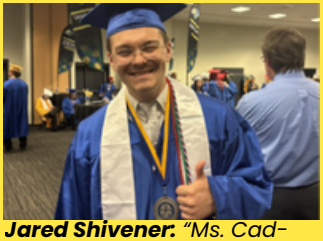


Senior Cosmetology students Ayzlin Payne and Bella Bauer opened the ceremony with the National Anthem.

Langner reflected on the transformation that occurs through hands-on learning and perseverance, noting,

Values: **1.** Students First **2.** Future-Focused **3.** Trust & Openness **4.** Community **5.** Greatness

Which teacher or staff member made the biggest impact on you, and what did they do that mattered?



Jared Shivener: *"Ms. Cadwallader. From the minute I met her my first year at Grant to the minute I'm leaving Grant. She's inspired me to approach every socioeconomic issue with a sense of mind. She's an excellent teacher and educator."*

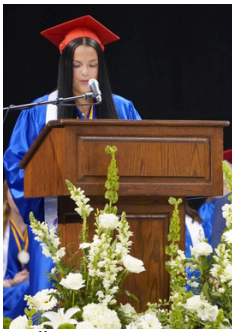


Sheyanne Dollenmeyer: *Mr. Brian Carter because he was always there to listen, and he always knew how to make you rethink your choices...in a good way."*



Joshua Earnest: *"Ms. Kirby. She is the only one who sends me cards at Christmas and during the summers. Six years really have a big influence on you."*

somewhere between all of the practice, the mistakes, and the moments where we had no idea what we were doing, something changed. We did." She also emphasized the sense of belonging cultivated at Grant, describing the school as "a place where we found our passion, built our confidence, and turned our dreams into something real."



Mallory Langner as she delivers her message to the class of 2026.

Principal Barry Daulton reinforced these themes in his message to the senior class, encouraging graduates to reflect on the character they have built and the mindset they carry forward. He reminded students that, "Every successful endeavor begins with a vision—a glimpse of what could be... hold onto that vision. It's the beacon that guides you through challenging times," and emphasized that "true character lies not in how you celebrate success but in how you weather adversity." He concluded by encouraging students to move forward with confidence, knowing "your potential knows no bounds. You are the architects of your future."

Baker echoed similar sentiments, highlighting the courage it takes to grow and step outside one's comfort zone. Reflecting on her own journey, she shared, "Coming to Grant doesn't just mean you're attending another school. It means you are deciding to better your future... you are choosing to be great." She encouraged her classmates to carry that mindset forward, reminding them, "When you choose to be great, you become the absolute best version of yourself."

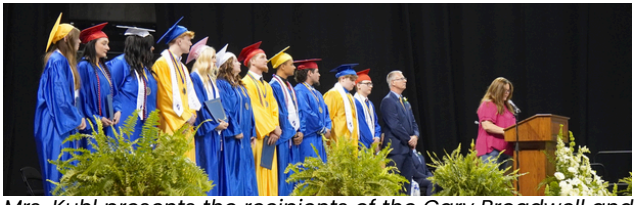
Superintendent Mike Parry also spoke to the significance of the moment, reminding graduates that their success is the result of intentional choices and persistence. Reflecting on their journey, he shared, "Your future was not handed to you. It was built—one decision, one challenge, and one accomplishment at a time." He encouraged the Class of 2026 to continue shaping their path, noting that "the future is not something that simply happens to you… it is something you create."



Addyson Baker as she delivers her message to the class of 2026.

Surrounded by family, friends, staff, and community supporters, graduates celebrated not only the completion of their programs but also the confidence, skills, and direction they gained during their time at Grant Career Center. As Langner shared in closing, "We don't just leave here with skills, we leave with the determination to succeed."

Grant Career Center congratulates the Class of 2026 and wishes each graduate continued success as they take the next step in their journey—whether joining the workforce, entering the military, pursuing higher education, or continuing their training through apprenticeships and industry opportunities.



Mrs. Kuhl presents the recipients of the Gary Broadwell and Chad Graybill Memorial Scholarships.

What advice would you give next year's students starting their programs?



Kolton Jones (left): *"Take it slow. Seriously, enjoy the moment because it goes by so fast. I wish someone had told me that. It really does go by super fast."*
Coen Lilly (right): *"Take time to enjoy the little things."*



Ayzlin Payne: *"You don't have to worry about making friends because no matter where you are, you're always going to make friends at Grant."*

What accomplishments from your time here make you feel the most proud?



Ty Graybill: *"Getting to work with my dream company, Messer Construction, and getting signed on full time with them."*

Community

Building More Than Skills: Grant Career Center Students Serve in Kentucky Communities



Ms. Kirby and Makenna Gray spend quality time with one of the veterans.

Grant Career Center students and staff recently returned from an incredible service-learning trip to Hazard and Isom, Kentucky, where 50 students and 10 staff members spent four days serving others, building relationships, and representing the values of our school community. During the trip, students participated in a variety of outreach and improvement projects, including painting, flooring installation, site beautification, and community engagement activities. The team also hosted a community cookout and donated non-perishable food items to support local residents.

The experience reflected the heart of Grant Career Center's culture — partnership, service, and students. Beyond the projects themselves, students learned the importance of teamwork, hard work, compassion, and servant leadership. We are incredibly proud of the professionalism and character demonstrated by our students and grateful to the staff members who invested their time and energy to make the experience possible. The trip was another powerful example of how service-learning helps students grow not only as future professionals, but as people.



Paeton Smith leaves no spot unpainted.



Clayton Hency and Wagner Horgan put their skills to use.



Tucker Denton digs a drainage trench.



Jaykin Brinson and Dalton Perkins work together.



A Buc-ee's stop is always a highlight of the trip!



Students enjoyed fellowship with the veterans.

Mission: Equip students with skills, capabilities and a sense of purpose to succeed in their lives.

Greatness

Grant CTSOs Compete in State Competitions

Grant Career Center students continue to demonstrate excellence through their outstanding performances in Career and Technical Student Organizations (CTSOs) during the 2025–2026 school year. Across organizations including SkillsUSA, HOSA, FFA, FCCLA, and Educators Rising, GCC students earned an impressive 93 state qualifying recognitions, with 20 students advancing to national-level competition.



Grant was well represented at the HOSA State Leadership Conference

These accomplishments reflect the tremendous talent, hard work, and professionalism of our students, as well as the dedication of the instructors and advisors who support them. CTSOs provide students with opportunities to apply technical and leadership skills through authentic, competitive experiences connected directly to their career pathways.



FCCLA students achieved great results.

Grant Career Center is especially proud of the strong representation across all program areas — from healthcare and skilled trades to education, agriculture, and family and consumer sciences. Student success in CTSOs highlights GCC's commitment to experiential learning and preparing students for both college and careers.

Congratulations to all of our student competitors, advisors, and families for another exceptional year representing Grant Career Center with pride and excellence.



With over 100 students participating, Grant had its highest number of SkillsUSA State competitors this year.

Students First

Featured Program: Large Animal Science

Grant Career Center's Large Animal Science program provides students with hands-on experiences that prepare them for careers in agriculture, animal care, and related industries. Students work directly with a variety of large animals while learning essential skills in animal health, nutrition, livestock management, and agricultural practices. Through real-world learning opportunities, students gain both technical knowledge and confidence in caring for animals and working in agricultural environments.



FFA President Addyson Baker gets the cattle auction started.



FFA members line up at the start of the 2026 cattle auction.

One of the program's highlights each year is the student-run cattle auction, where students gain firsthand experience in livestock marketing, animal preparation, communication, and business operations. From caring for and evaluating the cattle to assisting with the auction process, students experience the many responsibilities involved in the livestock industry while working alongside community members and industry professionals.

The program also connects students with valuable industry experiences beyond the classroom. Students have visited livestock facilities and auctions to observe industry practices and strengthen their livestock evaluation skills. In addition, Large Animal Science students regularly engage with the community by hosting educational activities and demonstrations for younger students, helping promote agricultural awareness while building leadership and communication skills. These authentic experiences help students develop the technical and professional skills needed for successful futures in agriculture and animal science careers.



Large Animal Science students Brooke Birkofer, Addison Johns, Evaleigh Brower, Layah Combs

Mission: Equip students with skills, capabilities and a sense of purpose to succeed in their lives.

Community

Celebrating 50 Years: A Commitment to Career Technical Education

More than 700 community members, families, alumni, business partners, and future students recently joined Grant Career Center to celebrate the school's 50th Anniversary during a special Community Appreciation Dinner and open house event.



Linda Back and Lori Messner take a moment to reflect and catch up.

The evening was filled with energy, connection, and gratitude as guests explored classrooms and labs, participated in program tours and informational sessions, connected with staff and students, and enjoyed a community spaghetti dinner together. Current students proudly showcased their programs and experiences while future students and families had the opportunity to see firsthand the life-changing opportunities available through career technical education.





Incoming students for the 2026-27 school year sign their Commitment to Career Tech.

Throughout the celebration, Grant Career Center recognized the incredible support of the community, associate school districts, families, business and industry partners, alumni, and former staff members who have helped shape the school over the past five decades. The event served as a reminder that Grant's success has always been rooted in strong community partnerships and a shared commitment to creating opportunities for students.

Guests also reflected on the tremendous growth of Grant Career Center, including recently expanded healthcare and advanced manufacturing facilities designed to meet the workforce needs of the region for years to come.

Most importantly, the celebration highlighted what has always made Grant Career Center special — a community that believes in students, supports one another, and continues to invest in the future of the next generation.



Former instructors John Swarthout, Gerry Bierly, and Marty Patrick.

Values: 1. Students First 2. Future-Focused 3. Trust & Openness 4. Community 5. Greatness

Greatness

Grant Staff Celebrated at the CCESC Excellence in Education Awards

Grant Career Center was proud to be part of the Clermont County Celebration of Excellence in Education, an event that recognizes outstanding educators and support staff who make a lasting impact on students and school communities across the county.

We are excited to congratulate this year's GCC honorees: Richelle Baker, Allied Health & Nursing Instructor, and Lori Wood, Treasurer's Assistant. Richelle was recognized for her ability to blend rigorous instruction with real-world clinical experiences, preparing students not only with technical skills, but with the compassion and professionalism required in healthcare. Lori was honored for her 33 years of dedicated service, exceptional attention to detail, and unwavering commitment to excellence in supporting the financial operations of the district.



Richelle Baker accepts her award with Dr. Parry and Mr. Daulton.



Lori Wood accepts her award with Dr. Parry and Mrs. Sininger.

Both individuals exemplify the values that define Grant Career Center—commitment to students, pride in our work, and a deep sense of responsibility to our community. Congratulations to Richelle and Lori on this well-deserved recognition!

Greatness

Students' Lights Shine Brightly at NTHS Ceremony

Grant Career Center proudly recognized student achievement during its National Technical Honor Society (NTHS) Induction Ceremony held on March 12. This year's ceremony marked a milestone for the chapter, with a record 63 students inducted— the largest group to date.

Students earn eligibility for the National Technical Honor Society through a rigorous selection process based on a combination of strong academic performance, excellent attendance, and demonstrated character and leadership. Induction into NTHS recognizes students who consistently model responsibility, professionalism, and commitment to excellence in their career-technical programs.

The ceremony honored these students in front of family members, staff, and school leaders, celebrating both their achievements and their continued dedication to personal and professional growth.

The event was coordinated by Social Studies teacher and NTHS advisor Emily Cadwallader, who oversees the student application process and organized all aspects of the induction ceremony. Her leadership ensured a meaningful and well-organized celebration of student success.

Congratulations to all newly inducted members and their commitment to high standards both inside and outside the classroom.



2026 Inductees (listed alphabetically): *Kaylynn Anderkin, Lillie Anter, Judson Asbury, Louise Bach, Addyson Baker, Bethany Bennett, Sam Bickett, Kyle Bradburn, Aiden Cartwright, Paislee Cherryholmes, Layah Combs, Keira Costello, Callee Deavers, Shelby Ebright, Jack Evans, Sterling Fields, Chayah Florence, Joshua Florence, Robert Foster, Trace Gearig, Michael Giwer, Colten Goodman, Ty Graybill, Sabina Guevara, Olivia Hargett, Clayton Hency, Hallie Hogan, Rylee Hotchkiss, Samantha Johns, Charlie Kain, Korena Kerbo, Jackson Kreimer, Grant Lambert, Coen Lilly, Khloie Martin, Lexy Maupin, Sophie Mays, Wyatt McCarthy, Nolan Mize, Charlotte Moell, Makenna Morris, Landen Osborn, Emilie Packard, Benjamin Parker, Anna Pauley, Ayzlin Payne, Abigail Poe, Isabella Pollitt, Haylee Rector, Lori Schnarrenberg, Chance Simpson, Jayden Sipple, Georgia Stark, Aiden Stewart, AJ Sturwold, Anna Thompson, Korbyn Turner, Leah VanWinkle, Nathan Walker, Riley Ward, Noah Wergers, Savannah Wilkinson, Alexander Wilson*

Future-Focused

Health Science Students Attend Scrubs Camp at Cincinnati State



Grant Career Center students recently attended Cincinnati State's "Scrubs Camp," a hands-on program introducing high school students to healthcare careers. Students practiced clinical skills in Health Professions labs, learned from college faculty, and participated in job-shadowing experiences at local hospitals like UC Health. The experience helped students connect classroom learning to real-world careers and explore future pathways in the healthcare field.

Community

Big Build Brings Hands-On Learning to Local Fourth Graders



Mr. Carter teaches Felicity-Franklin fourth graders a math concept.

Fourth-grade students from Hill Intermediate, Locust Corner Elementary, Monroe Elementary, Felicity-Franklin Elementary, and Williamsburg Elementary visited Grant Career Center for this year's Big Build, a hands-on construction experience led by Grant's Construction Technology students.

During the event, fourth graders teamed up with high-school mentors to practice measuring, using tools safely, and working together to complete small building challenges. The experience gives younger students an exciting introduction to the skilled trades while allowing Grant students to develop leadership and communication skills.

The Big Build is organized each year by math teacher Mr. Brian Carter and Construction Technology instructors Mr. Kenny Carter and Mr. Chris Wheeler, whose planning and guidance make the event a highlight for participating schools.



Construction Technology student Charlie Kain works with HIll Intermediate fourth graders.

Students First

Students Compete in the Purdue University evGrandPrix



The Grant team prepares for the race.

Grant Career Center returned to Purdue University on Monday, May 4, for its second year competing in the evGrandPrix, an annual racing event put on by the university where high school teams build and race electric go-karts. Six students formed two racing teams, showcasing their engineering, teamwork, and race-day skills.

Mission: Equip students with skills, capabilities and a sense of purpose to succeed in their lives.

The teams were supported by teaching assistant Mr. Saunders and Mr. Holtzclaw, the school's Director of Student Services, whose background as a mechanic and competitive motorsports participant added valuable expertise throughout the event.

In addition to participating in the championship race, students worked on and submitted disassembly documentation, an outreach video, and a STEM report—key components that highlight the depth of learning behind the competition.



Brayden Jones competes in the evGrandPrix Championship race.

Students First

Criminal Justice Students Take on 12-Mile Ruck March at East Fork State Park

Grant Career Center's Criminal Justice program demonstrated its commitment to career-focused training during a military-style ruck march on April 10 at East Fork State Park. Students completed a 12-mile course while carrying 30 pounds of gear, building endurance, discipline, and teamwork as they navigated challenging terrain together. Information Technology instructor Mr. Hoeppner and science teacher Mrs. Weis also participated, highlighting the strong sense of community and cross-program support at Grant. The event served as a valuable extension of the Criminal Justice curriculum, helping students develop the resilience and confidence essential for future public-safety careers.


Claire Moore, Lydia Milliner, Jordyn Marois, and Keira Moe get ready for the march.


Noah Bozic completed the march with the fastest time of 2 hours, 15 minutes.


March participants pose for a celebratory photo upon completion.

Future-Focused

Grant Career Center Celebrates Ribbon-Cutting for New Facilities

On Thursday, April 2, Grant Career Center marked an exciting milestone with a ribbon-cutting ceremony celebrating the opening of its new 15,000-square-foot Metal Fabrication and Manufacturing building and the newly renovated Allied Health lab. The projects were made possible through the CTE Facilities Expansion Grant, supporting high-quality, hands-on learning environments for students.



GCC students Brody Duncan, Rylin Collins, and Paeton Smith cut the ribbon.



Superintendent Mike Parry addresses the audience.

The ceremony highlighted student leadership, with first-year Metal Fabrication student Rylin Collins leading the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by student remarks from first-year Metal Fabrication student Brody Duncan and second-year Allied Health student Paeton Smith. Their words reflected the real-world impact these new learning spaces will have on students' futures.

Guests also enjoyed hors d'oeuvres prepared by Grant Career Center's Culinary program and concluded the event with guided tours of the new and renovated facilities, showcasing the advanced equipment and instructional spaces now available to students.

The ribbon cutting celebrated more than new buildings—it spotlighted Grant Career Center's continued commitment to preparing students for high-demand careers through modern facilities, strong programs, and student-centered learning.



Guests of the ribbon-cutting included representatives from Elevar Design Group, Conger Construction, and the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission.

Mission: Equip students with skills, capabilities and a sense of purpose to succeed in their lives.



Greatness

Alumni Spotlight: Brady Feck

Automotive Technology
Class of 2004

From turning wrenches in the Automotive Technology lab to supervising two school bus garages, this Grant Career Center alum has built a career rooted in hard work, leadership, and lifelong learning. He chose the Automotive Technology program because he enjoyed working with his hands, repairing cars, and learning about engines—an interest that became the foundation for his career.

After graduating, he worked full time as an automotive technician at Holman Motors while attending Sinclair Community College to earn an Associate of Applied Science degree through the GM Automotive Program. His career later expanded into motorcoach and school bus maintenance, eventually leading him to his current role as a maintenance supervisor overseeing two bus garages.

One lesson from Grant Career Center has stayed with him throughout his journey: advice from Mr. Akers to "work hard and believe in yourself and you can do anything your heart desires." That mindset continues to guide both his work ethic and leadership style.

One of his favorite memories from Grant was successfully completing a brake job on Culinary teacher Mr. Forsee's car for the first time on his own—and being rewarded with food from the Culinary program afterward.
Today, he prides himself on building strong relationships with the people he works with and leading with respect. One of the biggest lessons in his career has been understanding the responsibility that comes with school bus safety and DOT regulations. "We aren't hauling potatoes—we are hauling children," he says.

Looking back, he is most proud of how far he has progressed while never stopping learning. His advice to current students: "Work hard and know you are your own worst enemy. Only YOU can prevent YOU from reaching your dreams!"

Outside of work, he enjoys hunting, fishing, and spending time outdoors with his wife, Jobi, and their two children, Hunter and Hadli, who continue to motivate him every day.

Trust & Openness

Superintendent's Notes



As we close another remarkable school year at Grant Career Center, I find myself filled with gratitude and pride. The 2025–2026 school year has been especially meaningful as we celebrate the 50th Anniversary of Grant Career Center — fifty years of preparing students for successful futures through hands-on learning, innovation, and strong community partnerships.

This milestone year has also allowed us to celebrate the incredible Class of 2026. Our graduates have demonstrated resilience, creativity, professionalism, and determination. Whether entering the workforce, continuing their education, or serving our communities in new ways, they represent the very best of Grant Career Center and the bright future of our region.



None of this success happens alone. We are deeply grateful to the many business and community partners who continue to invest in our students and our mission. Your mentorship, collaboration, support, and belief in career technical education help create meaningful opportunities for our learners every single day.

I also want to recognize the outstanding faculty and staff of Grant Career Center. Their passion for students, commitment to excellence, and willingness to go above and beyond make this a truly special place. They continue to change lives through their dedication and care.

Finally, thank you to our families, associate school districts, and community members for your continued support of Grant Career Center. We are honored to serve this community and excited for what the next 50 years will bring.

Mission: Equip students with skills, capabilities and a sense of purpose to succeed in their lives.

Trust & Openness

Good News for Grant: Strong Financial Report Released

Grant Career Center recently received a strong overall financial review in the Ohio Auditor of State's 2025 Financial Health Indicators (FHI) report. Of the 15 indicators reviewed, the district earned 14 "Positive Outlook" ratings, and one "Cautionary Outlook". The report notes that the district maintains stable fund balances, positive revenue trends, strong cash reserves, and no audit findings related to budgetary noncompliance or unreconciled financial records. The only Cautionary indicator involved the condition of capital assets, which primarily reflects the age of the district's facilities. The original building was constructed in 1975, with an addition completed in 1997, making it expected that some facilities and equipment will require ongoing maintenance, upgrades, and future replacement planning. Overall, the report reflects continued fiscal stability and responsible financial management by the district. The complete report is available at https://www.my.grantcareer.com/documents/treasurer's-reports/179960.

Future-Focused

Grant and Southern Hills Collaborate on Joint Professional Development Day

On Friday, March 20, Grant Career Center hosted a joint professional development day with Southern Hills Career & Technical Center—marking the first shared PD experience between the schools after years of planning. Teachers and staff from both campuses participated in sessions designed to foster collaboration, innovation, and continuous improvement.



Superintendents Kevin Kratzer and Mike Parry address the staff members of Southern Hills and Grant.

The day featured a keynote from Dr. Wendy Hanasky of AI Learning Solutions, who encouraged participants to rethink teaching and learning in an evolving educational landscape. She also led hands-on training focused on practical applications of artificial intelligence in education.

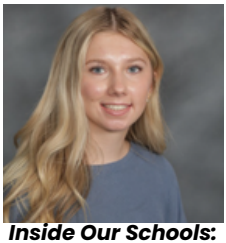
Educators also had time to collaborate within departments and career pathways, strengthening connections and sharing best practices. The day marked a meaningful step forward in partnership, offering valuable opportunities for learning, collaboration, and shared growth.

Greatness
CTSO National Qualifiers

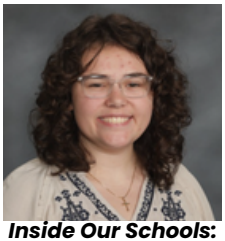
EDUCATORS RISING
Teach with Purpose, Lead with Passion



Inside Our Schools:
Emersyn Carter



Inside Our Schools:
Pyper Huebner



Inside Our Schools:
Isabella Pollitt



Inside Our Schools:
Kenzie Shoemake

hosa future health professionals



Home Health Aide:
Serenity Smith

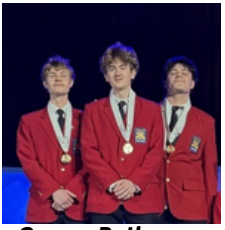


Personal Care:
Chloe Anderson

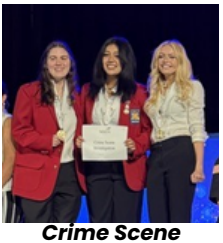


Personal Care:
Carol Foster

SkillsUSA



Career Pathways Showcase:
Judson Asbury
Cole McCarthy
Jackson Tilley



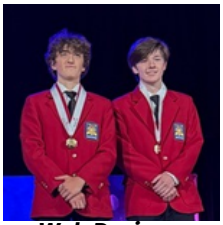
Crime Scene Investigation:
Candace Bailey
Emilia Oakes
Kaylyn Dincler



Motorcycle Technology:
Ryder Reeves



Photography:
Mykenah Lawson



Web Design + Development:
Jaden Baker
Jonah Morris



Welding Sculpture:
Oliver Burns

Family, Career and Community Leaders of America
FCCLA



Sustainability:
Ria Burns



Food Innovations:
Georgia Stark