



Democratic Engagement Action Plan

**Developed by the Office of Civic &
Community Engagement**

CENTRE COLLEGE

2024



Table of Contents

Executive Summary	1
Leadership	3
CentreVotes Committee Members	4
Commitment	8
Landscape	9
National Survey of Learning, Voting, & Engagement	13
Recognitions & Awards	14
Goals	16
Strategy	18
Reporting	24
Evaluation	25



Executive Summary

Centre College's 2024 Democratic Engagement Action Plan is a collaborative effort by the Office of Civic & Community Engagement (OCCE) and CentreVotes Committee, a nonpartisan group of Centre College staff, faculty, students, and community partners interested in the civic pulse of Centre's campus.

In this plan we identify challenge areas, set priorities and goals, and outline pathways for action that will empower Centre students to be full participants in the upcoming election. The purpose of this plan is to increase nonpartisan democratic engagement, student voter registration, education, and turnout in the 2024 presidential election. The main goals for Centre College in the 2024 election are:

Integrate Voter Registration into Existing Campus Programs

Centre students take on rigorous courseloads and are very involved outside of the classroom. Stand-alone voter registration drives can be overlooked by students which is why we will integrate voter registration into several key areas of the Centre student experience.

Streamline Communications

The OCCE shares important information about election law updates, deadlines, voter rights, and on campus opportunities for nonpartisan civic engagement. A team of three Civic Engagement Interns will develop a dynamic social media and communications strategy to ensure the campus community is informed.

Cultivate Civic Identity with Citizen Empowerment

Civic engagement does not start and end with voting, however this incomplete narrative is a dominant one that limits student understanding of what it means to be an active citizen. To increase voter participation and enthusiasm around what have been contentious elections, the OCCE will curate a workshop series titled "Citizen Power Tools" to help students cultivate a civic identity that goes beyond voting. Students can be recognized by the OCCE for completing the workshop series.

Earn a Platinum Seal

Centre will increase voter participation in the 2024 election to earn a Platinum Seal. The college was recognized with a Gold Seal for a 73.3% voter participation rate in 2020.

2024 DEMOCRATIC ENGAGEMENT ACTION PLAN

The window of implementation for this plan will start over the summer break, beginning in late May, and end on Election Day, November 5, 2024. However, evaluation of programs, initiatives, and other systems will take place throughout this period and extend through the year's end.

The 2024 Democratic Engagement Action Plan will be overseen and largely executed by OCCE staff. While OCCE staff are responsible for drafting the plan, the CentreVotes Committee members will play a significant role in setting priorities and implementing plans. Three OCCE Civic Engagement Interns will specifically be tasked with campus programming, streamlining campus communications, and broadly nurturing a culture amongst student groups that values civic engagement.

2024 has been an important year for democratic engagement around the world with over 64 countries (representing roughly 49% of the global population) having held or meant to hold national elections. As we prepare our campus community to fully participate in the U.S. election in November, the Office of Civic & Community Engagement, CentreVotes Committee, and Civic Engagement Interns are well-positioned to address various barriers to voting with this plan and celebrate democracy on campus.



Centre students participate in an Alternative Break Trip to Frankfort, Kentucky.

Leadership

The CentreVotes Committee is the non-partisan leadership coalition responsible for advising the Office of Civic & Community Engagement in writing the 2024 Democratic Engagement Action Plan. Committee members represent the student body, faculty, student affairs, athletics, community organizations, and our local election office. Each of the fourteen members were selected for the 2024-2025 CentreVotes Committee based on their expressed interest and commitment to the civic mission of Centre College, past participation, and/or leadership in an organization that has been represented on the committee in past years.

The CentreVotes Committee is expected to meet twice before Election Day, once in September and once in October. During these meetings, members will receive updates about ongoing and completed initiatives as well as provide feedback to OCCE staff members. After the 2024 election, the CentreVotes Committee members will receive a survey to share their satisfaction regarding participation on the coalition, interest in continuing as a coalition member, and feedback about the implementation of the plan. Members will also receive a report detailing the outcomes of civic engagement programs from the implementation period.



New members will be invited to participate on the 2025-2026 CentreVotes Committee in August 2025 based on the selection criteria above. A third Civic Engagement Intern will be selected through an application process in early September

Staff from the Office of Civic & Community Engagement call CentreVotes Committee meetings, record and share minutes, and write and submit the final Democratic Engagement Action Plan on behalf of Centre College and the members of the CentreVotes Committee.

CentreVotes Committee Members

Staff



Jessica Weasner

Director of Civic & Community Engagement and the Bonner Program



Nathan Whitlock

Assistant Director of Civic & Community Engagement and the Bonner Program



Rachel Gause

Assistant Director of Student Programming in the Office of Diversity & Inclusion



Katie Patton

Director of Student Athlete Success

Faculty



Beau Weston

Van Winkle Professor of Sociology
Pre-Social Work Advisor



Amoz Hor

Assistant Professor of Politics

2024 DEMOCRATIC ENGAGEMENT ACTION PLAN

Students - Civic Engagement Interns



Becca Kaelin '27

Civic Engagement Intern
YMCA Campus Ambassador



Elle Moses '27

Civic Engagement Intern
YMCA Campus Ambassador



TBD

Civic Engagement Intern

Students - Student Organization Representatives



TBD

Centre Republicans Student Representative

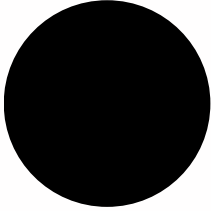


Lilia Smithson '27

Centre Democrats Student Representative

2024 DEMOCRATIC ENGAGEMENT ACTION PLAN

Community Partners & Election Officials



David Roberts

Kentuckians for the Commonwealth Representative



Dan Nolet

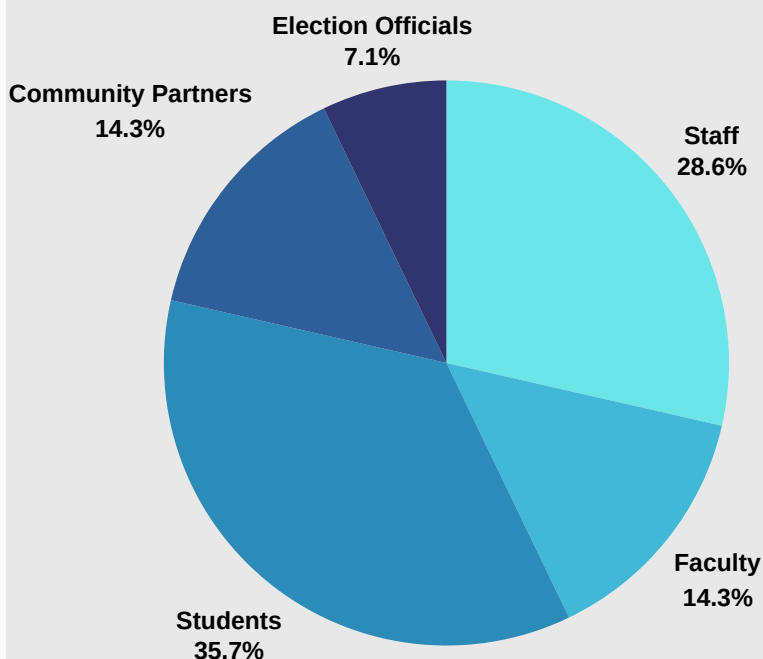
Kentuckians for the Commonwealth Representative



Casey McCoy

Boyle County Clerk

Breakdown by Role or Relation to Centre



2024 DEMOCRATIC ENGAGEMENT ACTION PLAN

Graduating Seniors

Three students from the 2023-2024 CentreVotes Committee will graduate in 2024, but their participation on this committee and contributions to this action plan deserve recognition. In addition to their civic engagement work, through their leadership in other areas across campus, these students have helped improve student life at Centre College in a challenging post-pandemic context. Graduating students are invited to be alumni supporters of the 2024-2025 CentreVotes Committee and be a resource to new student-members. They are not expected to meet the responsibilities of full committee members but have the meaningful opportunity to offer mentorship to new student-leaders.



Aidan Isaac '24

Civic Engagement Intern
Bonner Program Student Representative



Kathleen Beebe '24

Civic Engagement Intern



Carter Floyd '24

Centre Republicans Student Representative

2024 DEMOCRATIC ENGAGEMENT ACTION PLAN

Commitment

Centre's commitment to improving democratic engagement is visible and widely communicated both on and off campus. Since 2020, Centre has been a signatory to the [ALL IN Higher Education Presidents' Commitment to Full Student Voter Participation](#). As a signatory, President Milton Moreland is committed to providing Centre with the leadership and support to fully engage in all elections- and voting-related learning opportunities.

A commitment to improving democratic engagement is woven into Centre's culture and reflected in its mission, learning outcomes, curriculum, and co-curriculum. A long rich tradition of tolerance, freedom of inquiry, and community informs all aspects of college life at Centre. Centre's extraordinary liberal arts and sciences education prepares students for meaningful lives and careers.

Centre's general education helps students to excel in writing and public speaking, learn to communicate effectively, think critically and introspectively, solve problems, and work collaboratively--all important skills for being full participants in democracy.



Landscape

History & Identity

Centre College's mission is to prepare students for lives of learning, leadership, and service. Our graduates go on to have the intellectual knowledge, applied experiences, and professional competencies to excel in their careers, lead lives of meaning and purpose, and positively impact their communities. A core feature of this vision is fusing our core liberal arts education with experiential, beyond-the-classroom opportunities through which students put their learning into action.

Centre College joined the ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge in 2019, three years after its launch in 2016. However, civic learning and democratic engagement have been a deep part of our history since our founding in 1819. Centre students and alumni have made and continue to make an impressive impact at the local, state, national, and international level despite our small size. The college has produced two U.S. vice presidents, one U.S. Supreme Court chief justice, eleven state governors, and three lieutenant governors including incumbent Jacqueline Coleman '04.

A commitment to the liberal arts tradition of discourse that fosters a dynamic exchange of ideas has also put Centre College on the map as a historic institution of civic culture and excellence. In past years the college has hosted vice presidential debates, the first in 2000 (Cheney v. Lieberman) and the last in 2012 (Biden v. Ryan). The 2022 mayoral election in Danville was also a historic occasion as Danville elected its first Black mayor. In the lead up to election day, the college hosted a public forum for the mayoral and city commissioner candidates which Centre's Office of Civic & Community Engagement (OCCE) co-sponsored. Most recently, the OCCE sponsored a Debate Watch Party for the 2023 Kentucky gubernatorial debate in which students from Centre Democrats & Centre Republicans attended.

In the last five years, Centre College's commitment to its civic purpose has been bolstered through the expansion of the Office of Civic & Community Engagement. This expansion has deepened the institution's understanding of its role within Danville-Boyle County, Kentucky, while also enhancing its impact nationally and globally.

Landscape

Current Efforts

The Office of Civic and Community Engagement (OCCE) at Centre College coordinates and oversees the institution's work to increase civic learning and democratic engagement. Located in the Student Life Office, the OCCE consists of two full-time staff, an AmeriCorps member, & four civic engagement student-interns. The Civic Engagement Interns have greatly expanded the capacity of the OCCE to be a hub for nonpartisan civic programming and community engagement.

The OCCE offers various services that support civic culture on campus and enable student-voter participation. Centre students registered to vote in Boyle County have six polling location options for in-person voting, the closest just under two miles from campus. While Centre has not ever been used as a polling location, the OCCE sponsors Rides to the Polls on Election Day for students, faculty, and staff registered to vote in Boyle County. Additionally, Boyle County and neighboring counties have seen an improvement in safe, reliable, and affordable transportation infrastructure because of Bluegrass RIDE, a free public transit service in Danville with low-cost fares for regional travel. Our partnership with Bluegrass RIDE has strengthened our capacity to mobilize student voters.

Other regular services offered by the OCCE include voter registration support, free postage for mail-in absentee ballots, important election information email reminders, non-partisan voter guides on local candidates and issues, and general guidance for in-state and out-of-state voters.

The OCCE also sponsors and coordinates events throughout the year that are both practical and intended to excite students about their personal civic identity. These include voter registration drives, absentee ballot request and mailing hubs, convocations, and workshops. Most recently, the OCCE co-sponsored a campus-wide convocation with Louisville-based cartoonist Marc Murphy titled "The Art of Engagement: How Political Cartoons Stimulate Discourse on Serious Issues". This event and others like it aim to explore what it means to be civically engaged beyond voting.

Centre students are passionate about social change and look for ways to take meaningful action. A new workshop series titled Citizen Power Tools is an

2024 DEMOCRATIC ENGAGEMENT ACTION PLAN

initiative to equip students with the knowledge, understanding, and confidence to be effective changemakers. This workshop will be expanded upon and formalized in 2024-2025,

OCCE staff lead annual Alternative Break Trips to Frankfort to tour the capitol building and meet elected officials. In 2023 student groups travelled to Frankfort to meet Lieutenant Governor Jacqueline Coleman, Secretary of State Michael Adams, & Representative Cassie Chambers-Armstrong to demystify what it means to engage with elected officials.

In March 2024, the OCCE partnered with Kentuckians for the Commonwealth to host a letter writing workshop with the opportunity to write elected representatives about specific bills. This resulted in student participants learning how to write and call their elected representatives about important issues and policies.

In April 2024, the OCCE hosted “Free Speech & the Inclusive Campus: A Deliberative Dialogue” for students, faculty, and staff in Centre’s downtown collaboration space, CentreWorks, using an issue guide from the National Issues Forums Institute. This event amplified Centre’s liberal arts tradition by demonstrating the importance of dialogue in creating a more inclusive campus and society.



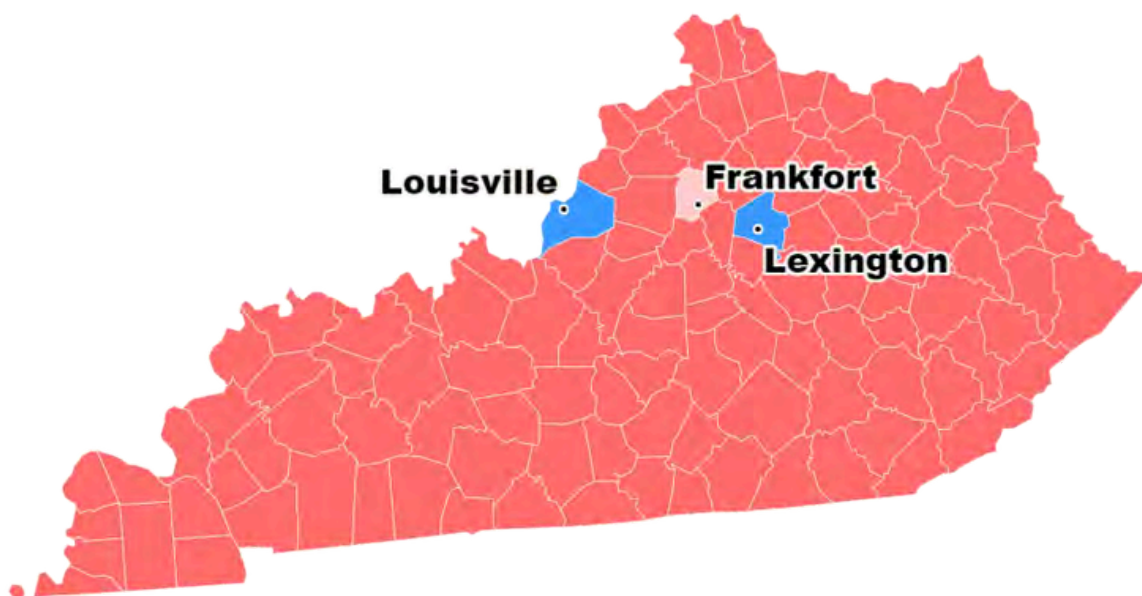
Centre students participate in a Deliberative Dialogue led by the OCCE

Landscape

Kentucky

Kentucky is considered a safely Republican state during federal elections. This is evidenced by the results of the 2020 presidential election where just over 62% of Kentuckians and 61% of Boyle County residents voted for the Republican presidential candidate. However, Kentuckians also elected Andy Beshear (D) to his second term as governor in 2023, making Kentucky a red state with a blue governor.

While the civic pulse of Centre College has a fierce beat, legislation introduced in the Kentucky Senate in January 2024 will inevitably make voting more difficult for college students across the state. The passage of Senate Bill 80 (SB.80) will eliminate student identification issued by a college or university as a valid proof of identification for voters. As distrust for the U.S. political system and skepticism of democracy grows worldwide, Kentucky's representatives have chosen to alienate young people from participation in civic life. If enacted into law, SB.80 will impose new barriers to student-voters at Centre College.



National Study of Learning, Voting, & Engagement

Centre College is a private four-year institution in Central Kentucky with 1,339 students, of which 99% receive financial aid and 98% live on campus. According to the [2023 IPEDS Data Feedback Report](#), the college has a gender distribution of 52% female students and 48% male students. The majority of students identify as white (73%), followed by Hispanic or Latino (7%), Black or African American (6%), and Asian (4%). While racial demographics are not currently reported in the 2022 National Study of Learning, Voting, & Engagement (NSLVE) Campus Report, the inclusion of this information in future reports would better position the Office of Civic & Community Engagement to address race-based voter gaps. Additionally, NSLVE does not track voter registration or participation rates during Kentucky’s off-year elections for governor.

Note: The 2022 NSLVE Campus Report has not been shared with participating schools as of May 31, 2024. Upon receiving it, the strategies and goals may be adjusted and updated in this action plan.

Voter Participation Rates

Year	Election	Voter Registration Rate	Voter Turnout Rate
2022	Midterm Election	TBD	TBD
2020	Presidential Election	91.8	73.3%
2018	Midterm Election	82.8%	31.3%

Recognitions & Awards

ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge

Centre received a Gold Seal recognition from ALL IN for 73.3% voter participation in the 2020 presidential election, an improvement from earning a Silver Seal in the 2016 presidential election.



Voter Friendly Campus Program

The goal of the Voter Friendly Campus program is to help institutions develop democratic engagement action plans that coordinate administrators, faculty, and student organizations in civic and electoral engagement. Centre was designated a Voter Friendly Campus for 2021-2022 and was the only college or university in Kentucky to receive the designation for 2023-2024.



Recognitions & Awards

Ask Every Student Implementation Grant

Ask Every Student is a national joint initiative that facilitates collaboration between campus leaders and nonprofit partners to help campuses ask every student to participate in the democratic process and achieve full student-voter registration.

2023-2024 Civic Engagement Intern Aidan Isaac re-applied for the Ask Every Student (AES) Implementation Grant for 2024-2025. Funding will be used to create stipends for the 2024-2025 Civic Engagement Intern team. The Office of Civic & Community Engagement was awarded \$3,000 by Ask Every Student to support civic engagement work in the leadup to the 2022 midterm election.



Goals

Short Term

Integrate Voter Registration into Existing Campus Programs

Centre students take on rigorous courseloads and are very involved outside of the classroom. Stand-alone voter registration drives can be overlooked by students which is why we will integrate voter registration into several key areas of the Centre student experience. Before Election Day, voter registration will be featured in six existing programs at Centre including: Finding Your Centre, Delve into Danville, Activities Expo, Building Bridges & Community Day, study abroad pre-departure meetings, and required Greek Life meetings for new members. Offering voter registration support through these programs will increase the number of first-years, student-travelers, and Greek-affiliated students who are registered to vote.

Streamline Communications

The OCCE shares important information about election law updates, deadlines, voter rights, and on campus opportunities for nonpartisan civic engagement. A team of three Civic Engagement Interns will develop a dynamic pre-election & post-election social media and communications strategy to ensure the campus community is informed. Social media posts will integrate interactive features like polls, question boxes, and hashtags. A comprehensive communications schedule will be developed by OCCE staff using the [2024 Kentucky Election Calendar](#) and resources from [vote.org](#) for voting information for non-Kentucky voters.

Earn a Platinum Seal

Centre will increase voter participation to 80% (+7%) in the 2024 election to earn a Platinum Seal. The college was recognized with a Gold Seal for a 73.3% voter participation rate in 2020.

Goals

Long Term

Cultivate Civic Identity with Citizen Empowerment

Civic engagement does not start and end with voting, however this incomplete narrative is a dominant one that limits student understanding of what it means to be an active citizen. To increase voter participation and enthusiasm around what have been contentious elections, the OCCE will curate a workshop series titled “Citizen Power Tools” for Fall 2024 to help students cultivate a civic identity that goes beyond voting. Students who participate in the workshop series will be recognized by the OCCE.

In regards to affecting a cultural shift for sustained civic engagement on campus, this is a long term goal that will be realized across the next four years as the OCCE becomes more visible and civic engagement is made more accessible.

Federal Work Study for Civic Engagement Interns

The OCCE was awarded the Ask Every Student Implementation Grant to support civic engagement on Centre’s campus. This funding will be partially used to create stipends for three Civic Engagement Interns for 2024-2025. However, to ensure Civic Engagement Interns are compensated for their nonpartisan democratic engagement work year-to-year, OCCE staff will pursue other funding options like Federal Work Study. By 2025-2026, at least one Civic Engagement Intern will receive Federal Work Study.

Strategy

Goal 1: Integrate Voter Registration into Existing Campus Programs

Identifying Programs & Formalizing Partnerships

OCCE staff have identified programs where voter registration efforts can be easily integrated or made more prominent.

Finding Your Centre is a required first-year course with a choose-your-own-adventure component. Working with the Director of First-Year Academic Programming, Ansley Bredar, OCCE staff will modify the “Community Service & Civic Engagement” option to include voter registration & participation in the “Citizen Power Tools” workshop series.

Delve into Danville is a favorite feature of New Student Orientation, where first-year students explore all that downtown Danville has to offer. Kentuckians for the Commonwealth will be invited to have a table at the Farmers Market to register new voters.

Activities Expo is an annual gathering of student organizations, campus offices, community businesses and organizations, and others that shuts down Walnut St. Students spend their evening learning about what Centre and the surrounding area has to offer. Civic Engagement Interns will staff a table to register voters, help students request absentee ballots, and share tips for creating a voting plan.

By ensuring voter registration is prominent in a student’s first year at Centre, voter registration amongst first-year students is expected to increase. Additionally, efforts to target students who have been historically and institutionally neglected will grow. The OCCE will equip student-leaders with the information to integrate voter registration into their plans for the year.

Civic Engagement Interns will develop a fact sheet and workshop guide for student affinity groups that can be used to help student-leaders achieve 100% voter registration for their organization. Groups that will receive this resource include (but are not limited to) the African & Caribbean Heritage Club, Asian American & Pacific Islander Coalition, Black STEM Coalition, Black Student Organization, Brother to Brother, Centre Christian Fellowship, Centre Pride Alliance, Centre DESI, Disabled Student Alliance, Jewish Student Organization, Latine Club, Muslim Student Association, Newman Club, Sister to Sister, and the Vietnamese Student Association.

2024 DEMOCRATIC ENGAGEMENT ACTION PLAN

Through resource sharing and intentional support of student groups whose members have been historically underrepresented in voter turnout data, Centre will see an increase in the diversity of students who vote in the upcoming election.

The OCCE will also sponsor a Building Bridges & Community Day event that integrates voter registration. Building Bridges & Community Day is a campus-wide event that is focused on creating intentional opportunities for the Centre community to better understand the wonderful variety of voices and perspectives represented by the nearly 2,000 people who make up Centre's lively and energetic campus.

Efforts to support students who are studying abroad during the elections will be expanded in a variety of ways by the OCCE.

Pre-departure Travel Clinics are mandatory to attend for students who are studying abroad. Working with staff in Centre Global, OCCE staff will present on how to register to vote and request an overseas absentee ballot. Civic Engagement Interns will register student voters at the end of the travel clinic. During September & October before the Election Day, OCCE staff will hold virtual office hours to guide student-travelers through the process of requesting an overseas ballot and securely returning it to the U.S.

Lastly, the OCCE will integrate voter registration into required Greek Life programs. New members of sororities and fraternities will be registered to vote during Greek 201, a required meeting about service & philanthropy that takes place during the Spring semester. This will help Centre's Greek chapters think critically about their organization's role in the broader community.



Strategy

Goal 2: Streamline Communications

Developing a Master Calendar

In order to share important voter deadlines accurately and in a timely manner, OCCE staff will develop and share a Master Calendar with the Civic Engagement Interns. The Master Calendar will compile information with important dates and deadlines from all 50 states but focus on Kentucky. Additionally, the Master Calendar will include a social media posting schedule for the CentreVotes Instagram account. Posts will remind followers about:

- voter registration deadlines
- absentee ballot request deadlines
- overseas absentee ballot request deadlines
- early voting options
- Election Day
- election law updates

The Master Calendar will also include a schedule for Civic Engagement Interns to “go live” on Instagram to answer questions from Kentucky followers about participating in the presidential election.

Social Media: Building a Trusted & Recognizable Brand

The CentreVotes Instagram is an underutilized tool of the OCCE & CentreVotes Committee. A Civic Engagement Intern will post regularly to the CentreVotes Instagram, but will need to establish CentreVotes as a trusted and recognizable brand. This person will finalize a brand kit, develop templates for posts, analyze trends, and explore different posting formats (e.g. reels, live, interactive story features). A professional facelift of the CentreVotes Instagram will increase engagement with election information and resources, ultimately affecting voter registration and participation rates.

Tabling in the Campus Center

The majority of students reported in Centre’s 2023 National Assessment of Service and Civic Engagement survey that campuswide emails and face-to-face interactions were the main ways they learned about service opportunities on campus. Based on this survey data, Civic Engagement Interns will also continue to communicate important election information by tabling in the Campus Center throughout the semester.

2024 DEMOCRATIC ENGAGEMENT ACTION PLAN

Partnership with Boyle County Clerk Office

Centre College students may choose to list Centre College (600 W. Walnut St.) as their primary address on their voter registration during their four years as a student. To ensure graduating seniors know how to update their voter registration, the OCCE will email a final reminder to seniors every May.

By working closely with the Boyle County Clerk, the OCCE can ensure election information is accurate and updates to election law that impact student-voters are communicated.



Strategy

Goal 3: Cultivate Civic Identity with Citizen Empowerment

Citizen Power Tools Workshop

Civic engagement does not start and end with voting, however this incomplete narrative is a dominant one that limits students' understanding of what it means to be an active citizen. To increase voter participation and enthusiasm around elections, the OCCE will formally launch a workshop series titled "Citizen Power Tools" to help students cultivate a civic identity that goes beyond voting.

This series will allow students to explore different aspects of civic engagement outside of voting in the lead up to November 5, 2024. Past events sponsored by the OCCE have focused on letter-writing, how to meet with elected officials, political cartoons, and deliberative dialogue. The Citizen Power Tool series for the 2024 Fall semester will tentatively include:

National Free Speech Week Convocation - Legal Advocacy with the ACLU

Alternative Fall Break Trip - Frankfort, Kentucky

Students who stay on campus during Fall Break will have the opportunity to visit Frankfort for a day to meet elected officials and ask questions about their journey into elected office.

Deliberative Dialogue - How Should We Encourage & Safeguard Voting?

Deliberative Dialogues celebrate diversity by helping students, faculty, staff, and community members find common ground and engage in difference. A topic guide from the National Issues Forums Institute will be used by Civic Engagement Interns to facilitate the Deliberative Dialogue.

Lunch with Leaders - Running for Elected Office

Local elected officials as well as former candidates for elected office will be invited to participate in a luncheon panel to discuss what it means to serve as an elected official and launch and run a campaign.

Community Service Projects

On the week of September 11 (National Day of Service), the OCCE will coordinate and highlight opportunities for students to give back to their community through one-time volunteer service projects.

2024 DEMOCRATIC ENGAGEMENT ACTION PLAN

Students, staff, and faculty who attend three to five events in the Citizen Power Tool series will be recognized for their commitment to civic engagement at Centre College and receive a CentreVotes t-shirt, sticker, and certificate of accomplishment.

Goal 4: Earn the Platinum Seal

Centre will increase voter participation in the 2024 election to earn a Platinum Seal. The college was recognized with a Gold Seal in 2020 for 73.3% voter participation and will need to increase voter participation by a minimum of 7% in 2024. While aforementioned strategies are expected to increase voter registration and turnout, the OCCE will continue to offer Rides to the Polls for Boyle County voters, National Voter Registration Day support in the Campus Center, assistance to those needing to use Bluegrass RIDE's transportation services, voter registration and absentee ballot request support, downloadable nonpartisan ballot guides, and more.



Reporting

Sharing the Plan & Data

This 2024 Democratic Engagement Action Plan, the 2024 NSLVE Campus Report, & 2024 Election Report will be shared on ALL IN's website, [Centre's website](#), and across the OCCE's social media pages. Additionally, the Action Plan will be shared directly with campus stakeholders such as the members of the CentreVotes Committee, Civic Engagement Interns, Student Life Office staff, and Senior Staff who have expressed interest in civic engagement at Centre.

Civic Engagement Interns will use these resources to develop future action plans that outline strategies for reaching 100% voter registration and student-voter turnout.



Evaluation

Assessing Strategies & Goals

OCCE staff and CentreVotes Committee members will evaluate the success of this Action Plan's strategies and goals: integrate voter registration into existing programs; streamline communications; improve campus culture of democratic engagement; and increase voter registration & turnout.

In addition to using the 2024 NSLVE data and previous NSLVE reports to assess voter registration and turnout, Civic Engagement Interns will answer the following questions after each event or program:

- How many students registered / attended?
- How many students did you help register to vote?
- How many students did you help request an absentee ballot?

To assess strategies that integrate voter registration into existing programs, OCCE staff will use a survey to assess campus partner satisfaction and interest in future collaboration. Additional data about student participation in existing programs will be collected to understand engagement and general interest. This information will be gathered with the help of campus partners.

To assess the impact of the OCCE's communication strategy, Civic Engagement Interns will share a 5-question survey after Election Day and analyze responses. The survey will be distributed via email but also made accessible through QR codes on paper slips placed in student mailboxes and posted in the Campus Center.

1. Did you vote in the 2024 presidential election? (Y / N / Ineligible)
2. How did you vote? (in-person / absentee)
3. How did you receive information about important election information?
4. How would you rate the helpfulness of the OCCE this election cycle?
5. Were there any particular challenges or concerns you faced during the election where you felt the OCCE could have provided more support?

To assess changes in the campus culture around democratic engagement, Civic Engagement Interns will survey student participants before and after civic engagement events, specifically the Citizen Power Tool event series. The pre-event survey will ask about reason for participating, motivation, and perceptions of the topic being addressed at the event. The post-event survey will ask about learning outcomes, motivation, and general satisfaction.

Evaluation

Leadership

Civic Engagement Interns will complete two comprehensive surveys about their experience implementing the 2024 Democratic Engagement Action Plan. The first will be shared in early October and the second shared after Election Day. The CentreVotes Committee members will also complete a survey following Election Day. This survey will be shared once the 2024 Election Report has been compiled and published. Members will be able to identify gaps in engagement, share their insights from the semester, and provide general feedback.

CentreEngage

In 2023 the Office of Civic & Community Engagement received grant funding to launch CentreEngage, a volunteer management and impact tracking platform by GivePulse. By Fall 2024 all Centre students will be added to CentreEngage, enabling Civic Engagement Interns & OCCE staff to seamlessly track participation in programs and initiatives as well as collect feedback.

Participation in the NSLVE

The OCCE will use future 2024 NSLVE voting data to evaluate effectiveness of this Action Plan and make set appropriate goals for the 2026 midterm election. While this data will not be immediately accessible to the CentreVotes Committee members as part of the 2024 Election Report, it will be made public on the official Centre website under the OCCE page.

Contact the OCCE

Contact the Office of Civic & Community Engagement team at communityengagement@centre.edu with questions or general feedback.

CENTRE COLLEGE

2024