

Washtenaw Technical Middle College

Technical and Industrial Building
4800 East Huron River Drive
Ann Arbor, MI 48105

734-973-3410 • www.themiddlecollege.org



WTMC

Transforming Education
Transforming Lives

Natalie Palms

Musician, Teacher, Volunteer...WTMC Graduate

"I LEARNED AT WTMC THAT IT'S NOT THE DEGREE YOU GET,
BUT WHAT YOU DO WITH YOUR EDUCATION THAT MAKES
YOU A SUCCESS." – Natalie

I felt a WTMC education could take me further than the one at my small town high school. I saw my older sister's friends graduate from WTMC and get into top universities as juniors. I was serious about learning and committed to my WTMC education. I had a two-way, 45-minute commute. It was important for me to support my investment.

The teachers made it clear right from the start that they expected a lot of me and my fellow students. They combined this with a genuine respect for our abilities to meet challenges. They gave us a lot of personal attention and appreciated each of us as individuals. I loved going to school on a big campus and every teacher I had. The diversity of students was unique to me and made a great impression.

We learned that good grades were not enough to make it at WTMC or in the academic or working world. The life management skills part of the curriculum called for regular class attendance, preparation, active and enthusiastic participation and follow-through.

I graduated with my high school diploma and a Certificate in Sound Engineering. I was so thrilled when Loyola University New Orleans, my dream college, accepted me! I earned my Bachelor's of Music in Music Industry Studies.

Today I compose music and perform in New Orleans, teach piano and work and volunteer at Preservation Hall. My parents were totally on board with my decision to go to WTMC and what I've done with my life.

I learned at WTMC that it's not the degree you get, but what you do with your education that makes you a success. I'm happy to count myself among WTMC's successful graduates.

Your education should prepare you for a life of choices and changes, and aid you in finding and building your motivation to succeed on every level. It should ask more of you than going through the motions of learning. Your education must help you define and support your purpose and plan for your future.

WTMC offers you a unique middle college program that rewards your enthusiasm, effort and respect with independence and opportunities that stimulate you and give you a powerful edge for lifelong learning and achievement. Transform your education and transform your life at WTMC.

Washtenaw Technical Middle College

Technical and Industrial Building
4800 East Huron River Drive
Ann Arbor, MI 48105

734-973-3410 • www.themiddlecollege.org



WTMC

Transforming Education
Transforming Lives



Corey F. Curtiss

College Student, Community Volunteer, Nonprofit
Professional...WTMC Graduate

"ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT THINGS I LEARNED WAS HOW TO ADVOCATE FOR MYSELF. I LEARNED THAT I COULDN'T WAIT FOR THE WORLD TO COME TO ME; I HAD TO BE RESOURCEFUL." — Corey

I was near the top of my class in public school, but felt I needed more of a challenge. My parents and I decided that home schooling would be best for me. Soon after I started home schooling, I began actively volunteering at the Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum.

My parents and I heard about WTMC from other home schooling families. We went to a WTMC open house. I learned that I could earn my high school diploma and associate's degree, learn a marketable job skill and enter college early as a WTMC student.

I appreciated how the instructors took the time to talk with me about my classes and projects. Many of them continue to help me now.

One of the most important things I learned was how to advocate for myself. I learned that I couldn't wait for the world to come to me; I had to be resourceful. I needed to know the rules, figure out what I wanted and what to do to get it.

I continued volunteering at the museum. I also worked part-time at Washtenaw Community College's Writing Center and helped write the WTMC Life Skills manual.

I graduated with my high school diploma, a Certificate in Linux and Unix Systems, one Associate in Scientific and Technical Communications and another in Math and Natural Science. U of M Dearborn gave me a full scholarship. I'm now studying biology, geology and geospatial analysis.

I served as the State Program Director of a Michigan Child Identification Program. I'm now employed as a District Executive with the Great Sauk Trail Council, Boy Scouts of America, working with volunteers, fund raising and membership development. I credit the skills I learned and honed at WTMC for where I am today.

Your education should prepare you for a life of choices and changes, and aid you in finding and building your motivation to succeed on every level. It should ask more of you than going through the motions of learning. Your education must help you define and support your purpose and plan for your future.

WTMC offers you a unique middle college program that rewards your enthusiasm, effort and respect with independence and opportunities that stimulate you and give you a powerful edge for lifelong learning and achievement. Transform your education and transform your life at WTMC.

Washtenaw Technical Middle College

Technical and Industrial Building
4800 East Huron River Drive
Ann Arbor, MI 48105

734-973-3410 • www.themiddlecollege.org



WTMC

Transforming Education
Transforming Lives



Alex Milshteyn

Real Estate Professional and Board President...WTMC Graduate

"I APPRECIATED BEING IN A SMALL SCHOOL ON A BIG CAMPUS WHERE I COULD EARN MY HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA AND ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE AT THE SAME TIME." — Alex

I wasn't happy attending a traditional high school despite having good grades. Sports or high school dances didn't appeal to me. I needed independence, to figure things out on my own, in order to excel.

The change at WTMC was radical and welcome. I appreciated being in a small school on a big campus where I could earn my high school diploma and associate's degree at the same time. I liked choosing the program I wanted and being able to change my mind. I had planned to go into computer programming, but found Web design a better fit for me.

I'd started working weekends when I was 15 at a real estate office in Ann Arbor, answering phones and doing other clerical duties. After taking my core classes and completing the life management skills part of my program, I was able to be on campus two days a week and work the other three.

I received my real estate license shortly after graduating with my Associate Degree in Internet Professional. The Web and Internet skills I learned continue to help me as real estate gears more toward an online presence. I had earned my Bachelor's in Business Administration at Eastern Michigan University by the time I was 20.

When I was 18 years old, I was selling 20 houses a year. I'm 26 now and the number five top producer among Washtenaw County realtors. I'm the president-elect of the Ann Arbor Area Board of Realtors Board of Directors, the youngest member elected to the position.

I'm my own boss now with the independence I've always valued. The trust and respect I received at WTMC gave me the opportunity to achieve more at a younger age.

Your education should prepare you for a life of choices and changes, and aid you in finding and building your motivation to succeed on every level. It should ask more of you than going through the motions of learning. Your education must help you define and support your purpose and plan for your future.

WTMC offers you a unique middle college program that rewards your enthusiasm, effort and respect with independence and opportunities that stimulate you and give you a powerful edge for lifelong learning and achievement. Transform your education and transform your life at WTMC.