

SCHOLARS WITH DIVERSE ABILITIES PROGRAM (SDAP)

SDAP

App State

Appalachian State University



SDAP News & Updates

February 2021

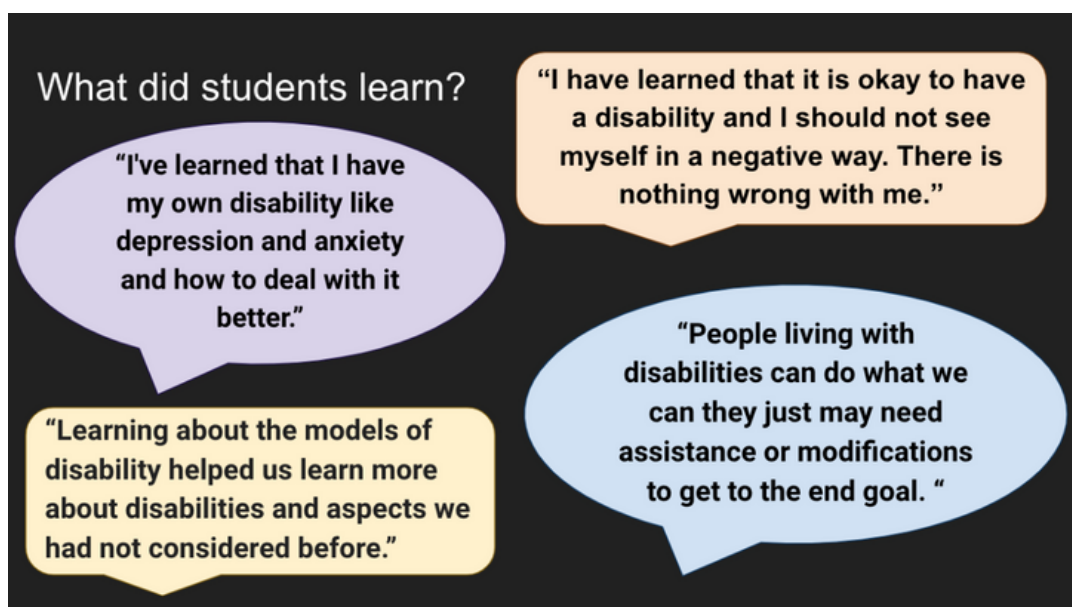
Welcome to our second newsletter of the month! Our staff and scholars have had a busy month so far with various campus activities. Keep reading to learn more!

Photo by Marie Freeman

SDAP Staff and Students Present at the UDL Digicon Conference

Our SDAP staff and students recently presented at the Universal Design for Learning (UDL) Implementation and Research Network's international conference, UDLHE Digicon, which was held virtually in February. The focus of their presentation was on supporting inclusivity in higher education.

Dr. Rebekah Cummings, SDAP Academic and Lifeskills Coordinator and course instructor for "Beyond Normal", and former SDAP director Anna Ward, presented in the Equity and Justice strand. The title of their popular talk was "Going Beyond Normal: Providing equity in an inclusive college classroom through UDL and a strengths-based approach." In addition to Cummings and Ward, current SDAP scholar Tyler Shore, from Boone, North Carolina, and SDAP alumnus Kieron Dyck, from Chapel Hill, North Carolina, participated in the interactive presentation. Thank you to all of them for advocating for inclusivity and promoting SDAP!



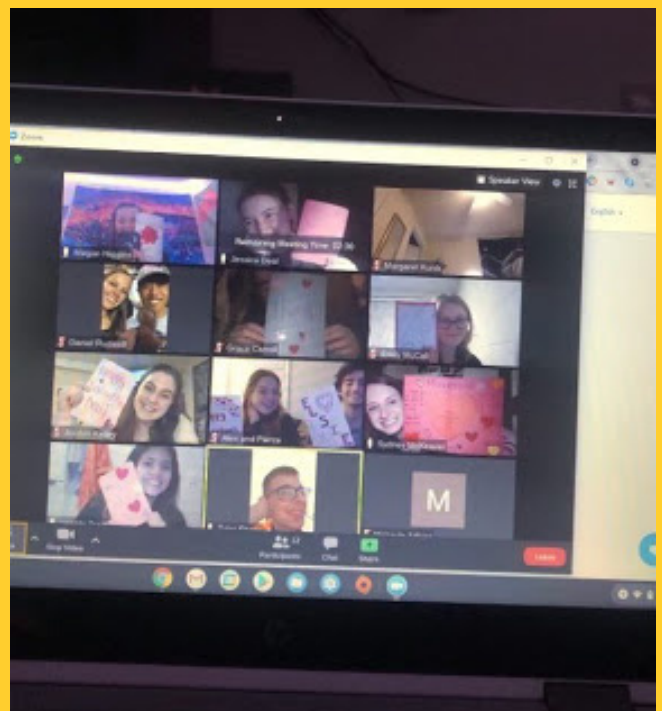
Best Buddies Coffee Talk

Valentine's Day Coffee Talk last week was spectacular! A big thank you to all who joined the event. We were so happy to have former scholar Emma available to talk to about her experience playing the piano and for current scholar Tyler to host a fun game. Attendees also made a Community Art Piece and a Community Poem. Great job everyone for making those pieces! It was great getting to know everyone in a casual setting and we're all looking forward to the next Coffee Talk. Big thank you to Best Buddies for assisting with the creation of this event. Words cannot **espresso** how much your help means to us!



Happy Valentine's Day from Best Buddies

Best Buddies got together over Zoom to make Valentine's Day cards for Ms. Vicki's preschool class at Two Rivers School in Boone. Materials were distributed in advance and club members enjoyed socializing on Zoom as they worked on the cards. It was a fun way to create some excitement around the holiday despite the pandemic! All the cards were quite creative and you can see the **heart** put into them!



SDAP SPOTLIGHT

Each newsletter, we will highlight students and fellows of SDAP and share some updates about what they are enjoying about SDAP, App State, and Boone! This newsletter features our two newest interns, Emily and Catherine!



"Hi! My name is Emily and I am a senior at App! My favorite part about SDAP is seeing the friendships created between the scholars and community, and I can see how each scholar becomes more prepared for adult life as the semesters go on. A fun fact about me is that I can play the flute, and I'm trying to teach myself the guitar. I am also obsessed with my cats, Link and Midna. They're both tabbies and Midna is a Munchkin."

"Hi! My name is Catherine and I am also a senior at App. My favorite part about working at SDAP is meeting the scholars because I get to hangout on Zoom with some really cool folks! Outside of SDAP, I love mountain biking and running around Boone! These hobbies are how I take care of myself and how I have community. I hope to be able to use these outdoor activities as therapeutic interventions for people who struggle with mental health or addiction in my career!"



SDAP 2021 Application

As a reminder, the SDAP Application for Fall 2021 students is live! Visit [our website here](#) for more information about how to apply.

For those who have applied, be sure you have submitted all required documents in your portal. We will be reaching out with more information soon. If you have any questions, feel free to email us at sdap@appstate.edu.

Social Media

For more updates about SDAP, we encourage you to check out our social medias, linked below.



@appalachianstatesdap @appalachianstatesdap <https://sdap.appstate.edu>

Upcoming Events



February 24:

Best Buddies Club Meeting



March 19

Best Buddies Coffee Talk



Ongoing

[SDAP 2021 Student Applications](#)

If you have any questions,
comments, or other feedback, feel
free to email us at
sdap@appstate.edu.
Thanks for reading!