

NKU Technology Student Honored by ConnectKentucky for Database Development



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Bradley Stephens, a technology student from Northern Kentucky University's College of Informatics, found a way to use his technology know-how to help thousands of Kentucky children.

Stephens, 28, developed the Northern Kentucky Early Childhood Database, a web-based application currently used by the cities of Covington and Newport to track child program involvement from birth and kindergarten.

For his work, ConnectKentucky is honoring him with its 2009 Postsecondary Student Technology, which goes to a Kentucky college student who has recognized the benefits of using technology and has promoted its use in creative and inspiring ways.

The award will be presented at the annual Tech Day in Kentucky on Feb. 24 in Frankfort.

"The Northern Kentucky Early Childhood Development site is another tool in the arsenal of Northern Kentucky educators," Stephens said. "The information gathered and analyzed through this site will enable educators to make informed decisions regarding various childhood programs. While my understanding of education is limited, my familiarity with technology allowed me to impact the development of thousands of Kentucky children."

Originally from Demossville in Pendleton County, Stephens built the web-based database that tracks over 1,500 children across 25 regional programs. The database keeps track electronically of the children's documents, helping to eliminate data loss due to errors and making sharing and editing the data more efficient.

"Technology has always been a driving force in society. In my lifetime, it may come to dominate it," Stephens said. "Through technology an individual can affect the world in a broader, more meaningful way. Technology students today solve the problems of tomorrow."

He is the son of Willard and Patricia Stephens.

To learn more about ConnectKentucky and the 2009 Tech Day in Kentucky, visit www.connectkentucky.org or contact Donna C. Drury, ConnectKentucky, ddrury@connectky.org, (502) 875-7501.

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About ConnectKentucky: ConnectKentucky is leading the way into a new economy for Kentuckians. As an independent technology-based economic development organization, ConnectKentucky works to ensure that Kentucky remains the place of choice to live, work and raise a family. ConnectKentucky is an alliance of technology-minded businesses, government entities and universities working together to accelerate technology in the Commonwealth.