



**Tanner O'Dell**  
*Entrepreneur*  
*Tanner O'Dell Productions (TOP)*

*Lincoln, Nebraska*  
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Tanner O'Dell is a 17 year old entrepreneur with a passion for cooking and entertaining. Actually...passion is an understatement. Ever since he was 12 years old he's been living the life of a "wannabe" celebrity chef cooking up amazing food for all kinds of people. He actually started cooking because of his late night obsession with the Food Network. So Tanner has a dream to inspire people in the way he was first inspired to cook. To do this he puts on an inspirational show for you! Currently Tanner is cooking up a storm, speaking to all kinds of audiences, hosting two radio shows, and becoming a future author. His number one goal is to inspire people to be the best they can be...and help them eat good food of course.



**Gregg Christensen**  
*Entrepreneurship Education Specialist*  
*Nebraska Department of Education, Lincoln, Nebraska*

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Mr. Christensen serves as Entrepreneurship and Career Education Specialist for the Nebraska Department of Education. His experience includes serving as a high school business and marketing education teacher, local and state advisor for Nebraska DECA-an association of marketing, management and entrepreneurship students, university senior lecturer and adjunct faculty member, and youth leadership development consultant. He provides curriculum and professional development assistance to educators and entrepreneurship advocates, develops entrepreneurship teaching materials and activity resources, hosts the Nebraska Entrepreneurship Education listserv, and maintains the Nebraska Entrepreneurship Education website. He also acts as the state liaison for National Entrepreneurship Week activities in Nebraska. In 2007, he completed his second non-consecutive term as the President of the Consortium for Entrepreneurship Education. The Consortium is a national organization of state and provincial Departments of Education, secondary schools, postsecondary institutions, and non-profit agencies. The Consortium is the lead sponsor of National Entrepreneurship Week, with Mr. Christensen serving as the state of Nebraska's Entrepreneurship Week State Liaison since the annual celebration was established in 2005. In 2008-2009, he participated in the Consortium's development and design team for the U.S. Department of Labor Entrepreneurship Competency Model. He has also traveled internationally to share best practices for infusing entrepreneurship education at the elementary, middle school, high school, postsecondary education levels, as well as within community-based organization programs.



**Nancy Eberle**  
*ESI Curriculum Coordinator*  
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Nancy Eberle served as ESI Curriculum Coordinator for the University of Nebraska - Lincoln. In this capacity, she has helped pilot and market the ESI materials and Community Connection materials and developed the websites for both. She currently serves as a Special Projects Coordinator for UNL – Extension. Eberle has been involved with entrepreneurial development for many years, serving as Central Area Director for Congressman Tom Osborne and teaching EDGE classes for young entrepreneurs. She and her husband Gary are also entrepreneurs in their farming operation. They have planted woody florals which are sold through the NE Woody Floral Cooperative and also sell specialty corns through local markets.



**Shawn Kaskie PCED, MA**  
 Director, Center for Rural Research and Development  
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Shawn is the Director of the Center for Rural Research and Development at the University of Nebraska at Kearney in the College of Business and Technology. Shawn is a certified Professional Community & Economic Developer-PCED, Business Retention & Expansion consultant, and NxLevel Entrepreneurship Instructor. He has a Masters Degree in Regional Planning and undergraduate majors in Public Administration, Sociology, and Psychology from Hastings College. He has experience providing in community economic development & market research services to over 60 communities in over a dozen rural Midwest counties throughout Nebraska, Illinois, Wisconsin & in Papua New Guinea as a Peace Corps Volunteer. He enjoys spending time with his two small children, wife, and most outdoor activities.



**Janita Pavelka**  
 Entrepreneurship Educator, Holdrege, Nebraska  
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Janita Pavelka, Entrepreneurship Educator believes teens who develop their own businesses master real-life skills that can only be gained by doing, as "Entrepreneurship" is a verb! These real-life skills include business and financial management, customer service, public speaking, problem solving, creativity, confidence and so much more as building entrepreneurs is the backbone of our global economy. Janita believes in a tri-fold approach to education where students work on their own businesses equal to their time spent in academic studies, along with community service. Pavelka has a degree in Social Work/Psychology and Education; being an educator for 22 years teaching students ages 5 to 90! When not working to help grow businesses, Janita can be found spending time with her husband and four entrepreneurial children (who have owned over 30 businesses since the age of six) on their Old MacDonald's farm, leading fitness classes at the YMCA, or teaching Simply Music piano classes.



**Zach Schultze**  
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Zach Shultz is a junior at the University of Nebraska at Kearney majoring in Business Administration with an emphasis in Economics, along with fulfilling the Pre- Medical requirements. While attending UNK, Zach has been involved in a variety of student organizations including: Students in Free Enterprise, Campus Kitchen, Omicron Delta Epsilon, the College of Business and Technology Dean's Student Advisory Board, and several others. Along with this, he is a peer leader for Personal Money Management, a business class focusing on financial literacy offered at UNK. In his free time, he enjoys reading, traveling, and spending time with family and friends.



**Shawna Silvius**  
 BIZ IDEA Summit & Showcase Video Coordinator, on behalf of Center for Rural Affairs  
 eVentures Marketing, Chief Sustainability Office, Events Planner, Consultant & Trainer  
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Shawna Silvius, President of eVentures Marketing, offers conference and event planning, training/facilitation and program development to not-for-profit and trade associations, government agencies, communities, small businesses and entrepreneurs. Silvius possesses more than 15 years of marketing and communications experience with expertise in leadership, community and economic development as well as the printing and publishing industries. Silvius started eVentures in September 2009 after four years in economic development. Silvius holds an Associates degree from McCook Community College, a Bachelors degree in Business Administration with a Marketing emphasis from UNK, and she will finish her Masters degree in Organizational Management focused on Entrepreneurship and Economic Development from Peru State College in May. Silvius is married to Phil, a mechanical engineer for Elster American Meter Co. They have two children, Sheridan (13) and Alison (8) and reside in Nebraska City.