

Staff Employee of the Week

Lisa Martin

NAME: Lisa Martin

JOB TITLE: Senior Program Manager

HOME DEPARTMENT: Reynolds Homestead

COLLEGE OR VP AREA: Vice President for Outreach and International Affairs

NOMINATED FOR: President's Award for Excellence

NOMINATED BY: Julie Walters Steele

SUMMARY

Since August 2006, Lisa has served as Senior Program Manager for Virginia Tech's Reynolds Homestead and Continuing Education Center providing exceptional service to the citizens of Patrick County and surrounding communities. The Reynolds Homestead was donated to the Virginia Tech Foundation with the understanding the property would be used to provide educational, social, and cultural programming for the surrounding rural communities.

Patrons of the Reynolds Homestead are quick to praise Lisa for her exceptional work and attitude. Lisa embodies the university's *Ut Prosim* – That I May Serve motto. Programs she has developed include the College for Older Adults, providing participants (aged 50+) opportunities to participate in lectures, exercise and dance classes, arts workshops, and weekly hikes. Additionally, Lisa directs programs to support the local schools with STEM and SOL education, and provides a monthly program for preschool children in the county.

There are no movie theaters in Patrick County, so Lisa developed a monthly Dinner and a Movie night program. The cultural programs she coordinates range from art shows to gospel concerts. She also assists the region in economic development by serving as a critical member of a local foods group movement developing strategies for local farmers to provide food products to area schools, hospitals and retail businesses.

The quality of life for the citizens of the region is truly enhanced through Lisa's exemplary work. Lisa is a friend, advisor, and beacon of hope for the communities she serves.

