

# EASTERN SPEAKS OUT

“Who is the most influential woman in your life?”



**SWADE BARNED**  
Environmental Health Sciences, Senior  
Bardstown, KY

“My mom, definitely. She was always around when my dad wasn’t around. Because of that bond, we grew very close. I now feel like I can tell her anything because we had to work through our lives together, just the two of us.”



**KAYLEY LETCHER**  
Occupational Sciences, Junior  
Carlise, KY

“My Grandmother. She went through a lot at a very young age, such as losing her husband. It just gives me so much respect for her and what she was able to do with her life, even though it wasn’t easy at times.”



**BRITTANY GONZALES**  
Psychology, Freshman  
Harrodsburg, KY

“Probably my mom....She’s an immigrant, so she’s from Mexico. She’s lived in poverty, she came here to America and wanted my brother and I to have a better life, so she came here for us.”



**NICK KOENIG**  
Biology (Botany), Junior  
Louisville, KY

“My older sister. She has always been someone I looked up to even as a kid. She would help me with homework and she is one of the biggest reasons I came to ECU. She is probably why I came here- which I’m super grateful for the opportunities. She definitely shaped my life.”

