

News • Briefs

YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY

Oct. 18, 2010

Contact: Ron Cole,
director of University
Communications,
330-941-3285

Featured in this week's YSU News Briefs:

- YSU hosts international seminar on 'Islam in Scandinavia'
- Textbook rental program to be expanded in spring
- 'Black Men are Dying' presented this week
- Business workshops scheduled
- Latest CWCS public opinion survey launched
- WCBA announces Outstanding Alumnus Awards
- Safe Zone training set for Wednesday
- YSU journalism program teams with *Vindy, Trib*
- Sir Elton featured in Chorale concert
- Dana Symphony Orchestra performs Oct. 25

Calendar

Tuesday, Oct. 19, noon to 1:30 p.m. YSU Dana Chorale performs in the multi-purpose room of the Jewish Community Center as part of the new YSU-JCC Cultural Arts Series. Cost is \$7 for JCC members and \$10 for non-members. Lunch will be served.

Tuesday, Oct. 19, 6 p.m. The Off-Broadway hit "Our Young Black Men are Dying and Nobody Seems to Care" is performed in the Chestnut Room of Kilcawley Center on the YSU campus. See News Brief below.

Wednesday, Oct. 20, 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. The Ohio Small Business Development Center and the YSU Williamson College of Business Administration sponsors a workshop called "How to Win SBIR (Small Business Innovation Research) Awards." A second workshop, titled "Crafter Federal Cost/Budget Proposals," will be **Thursday, Oct. 21, 8 a.m. to noon.** Both workshops are in the Williamson College of Business Administration. For more information, see News Brief below.



Students, faculty, staff and community members will get the chance to experience wheelchair accessibility issues during the annual "Where There's a Wheel, There's a Way" event this Wednesday, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at various locations on the YSU campus. The event is sponsored by the YSU Department of Physical Therapy.

Wednesday, Oct. 20, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. “Where There's a Wheel, There's a Way” invites the university community to experience accessibility issues by using a wheelchair to negotiate the university. Sites will be set up at: the ramp outside Cushwa Hall near the Physical Therapy Department; Lincoln Avenue across from University Pizzeria; the wheelchair ramp to fourth floor of Ward Beecher; fountain to the east of Kilcawley Center; Kilcawley Center by the candy and coffee shops; entrance to Cushwa Hall from the core of the campus (by the elevators); corner of Lincoln and Wick avenues; crossing Fifth Avenue by Taco Bell.



The YSU Dana School of Music's Jazz Combo performs a free Music at Noon concert in the Butler Institute of Art, 12:15 p.m., this Wednesday.

Wednesday, Oct. 20, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Have a passport? Too busy to look into it? The YSU Center for International Studies and Programs is making it easier than ever. The Passport Outreach program visits the Ohio Room in Kilcawley Center as part of the YSU Study Abroad Fair. Information will be available about travel documents, the requirements for obtaining one, as well as guidance about registration and other requirements when traveling abroad. For more information, call 330-941-2336.

Wednesday, Oct. 20, 12:15 p.m. The Dana School of Music's Jazz Combo performs a free Music at Noon concert in the Butler Institute of American Art.

Through Thursday, Oct. 21. The YSU Center for Working Class Studies is fielding its fourth in a series of online public opinion surveys. The survey is accessible through the CWCS website, <http://cwcs.yosu.edu/survey> until Oct. 21. See News Brief below.

Through Friday, Oct. 22. WYSU 88.5 FM, YSU's public radio service, holds its annual fall fund drive. The drive's goal of \$110,000 is the most ever for a WYSU membership drive. Contributions can be made by phone at 330-941-1481 or online at www.wysu.org. All donors will be entered into a drawing to win a pair of tickets on a 15-day “Grand Tour of Italy” excursion.

Saturday, Oct. 23, 8 p.m. The music of Elton John will be featured as YSU's Dana Chorale performs at the season opener Pops Concert of the Youngstown Symphony Orchestra in Powers Auditorium. See News Brief below.

Sunday, Oct. 24, 3 p.m. Vocal students in Corinne Morini's studio will hold a recital in Bliss Recital Hall. Morini is a vocal instructor in the YSU Dana School of Music. The program is free and open to the public.

YSU hosts international seminar on 'Islam in Scandinavia'

Scholars from across the world will participate in a seminar at Youngstown State University titled "Islam in Scandinavia: Public Islam and the Scandinavian Welfare State," Oct. 26 and 27 in the Presidential Suite of YSU's Kilcawley Center.

The seminar, sponsored by the YSU Center for Islamic Studies, centers on issues of integration, change and intergenerational Muslims in Scandinavian Islam.

The event is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served.

The schedule:

Tuesday, Oct. 26

- 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. "'Public Islam' and the Scandinavian Welfare State: Methodological Challenges," Ulrika Martensson, Norwegian University of Science and Technology.
- 11 a.m. to noon. "Muslims in Norway: Value Discourse and Interreligious Dialogue," Oddbjorn Leirvik, University of Oslo.
- 1 to 2 p.m. "Muslim Society Trondheim: A Local History," Eli Anne Vongraven-Eriksen and Ulrika Martensson, Norwegian University of Science and Technology.
- 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. "Building Mosques in Denmark," Brian Jacobsen, University of Copenhagen.
- 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. "Muslim Immigrants, Public Religion and Developments Towards a Post-Secular Finnish Welfare State?" Tuomas Martikainen, University of Helsinki.



Oddbjorn Leirvik

Wednesday, Oct. 27

- 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. "Multiculturalism in Sweden and Norway: Individual and Collective Rights," Anne Sofie Roald, Malmoe University, Sweden.
- 10 to 11 a.m. "Muslims in Swedish Prisons," Göran Larsson, University of Gothenburg, Sweden
- 11 a.m. to noon. "Islamic Religious Education in Swedish Schools: A Public or Private Affair?" Jenny Berglund, Södertörn University College, Sweden.
- 1 to 2 p.m. "Muslim Identity Among Swedish Young Adults," Jonas Otterbeck, Lund University, Sweden.
- 2 to 3 p.m. Commentary on papers given by Rhys Williams, Loyola University.
- 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Concluding remarks by Jorgen Nielsen, University of Copenhagen.



Göran Larsson

YSU's Center for Islamic Studies, directed by Mustansir Mir of the

Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies, is dedicated to scholarly study and community education of Islam. It was developed through an agreement between the Youngstown Muslim community and YSU and is housed in the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences.

For more information, call 330-941-4675, or e-mail IslamicStudies@ysu.edu.

Textbook rental program to be expanded in spring

More than 660 Youngstown State University students rented in excess of 700 books under a pilot textbook rental program launched this semester, and the YSU Bookstore plans to expand the program significantly in the spring.

Bookstore Director Chuck Sabatino said the pilot was a success, with upfront student savings amounting to \$37,000.

Nineteen titles were available to rent, and nearly 50 students rented multiple books. In the spring semester, the bookstore plans to offer more than

100 titles as rentals.



The YSU Bookstore's successful textbook rental program will be expanded next semester.

The pilot program

is, in part, a response to a growing awareness nationwide of the increasing cost of college textbooks and pressure from Congress to rein in those costs. In just two years, the number of campus bookstores offering rentals has jumped from a few dozen to 1,500, according to the National Association of College Stores.

Congress recently approved legislation sponsored by U.S. Reps. Tim Ryan and Jason Altmire that will provide \$9.9 million in grants from the U.S. Department of Education to help 10 universities fund textbook rental programs. YSU is among 64 universities from 29 states and Guam that have applied for the grant money.

Under the rental plan, a new textbook costing \$100, for example, can be rented for \$55, while a used textbook can be rented at \$40. Students sign an agreement and must return the rented book no later than the Monday after finals week. If students miss the date, they pay the difference between the “new” price and the rental price they paid for the book.

Sabatino said a student could purchase a used copy of the same \$100 textbook for \$75. If the book gets readopted at the end of the semester with the buyback option, students receive 50 percent of the new price, or \$50 in this example. Sabatino said he recognizes the value in buying used books, but he said the rental program gives students another option.

“We have a very strong used book program, and we encourage students that the best savings are going to come from it,” he said. “We’re moving forward, though, and we want to offer students different options and make them comfortable in choosing.”



'Black Men are Dying' presented this week

Flow Theater for a New Era, a nationally acclaimed Columbus theatrical group, presents "Our Young Black Men are Dying and Nobody Seems to Care" at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 19, as part of Youngstown State University's 2010-11 Community Diversity Program Series.

The Off-Broadway hit celebrates the history and exposes the passion, drama, despair and hopes of African-American males.

The event is in the Chestnut Room of YSU's Kilcawley Center. Tickets are free and available at the Information Desk of Kilcawley Center. Individuals can reserve up to four tickets.

Co-sponsors of the event are the YSU Office of Student Diversity Programs, Upward Bound, Eastern Gateway Community College, 100 Black Men of Greater Youngstown/Warren, City of Youngstown, Youngstown City Schools, Youngstown Metropolitan Housing Authority, Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Planning Committee and the Buckeye Review.

For more information, contact the Office of Equal Opportunity and Diversity at 330-941-3370.

Business workshops scheduled

The Ohio Small Business Development Center and the Williamson College of Business Administration at Youngstown State University are pleased to sponsor the following workshops for the business community:

- "How to Win SBIR (Small Business Innovation Research) Awards," presented by John Davis, general manager of the SBIR Resource Center, **Wednesday, Oct. 20, 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.** in the Williamson College of Business Administration at YSU. Cost is \$180.
- "Crafter Federal Cost/Budget Proposals," presented by John Davis, general manager of the SBIR Resource Center, **Thursday, Oct. 21, 8 a.m. to noon** in the Williamson College of Business Administration. Cost is \$195.

For more information or to register, visit <http://sbir.us/> and click on the SBIR Events link. Call 410-315-8101 or email the SBIR Center at SBIR@sbir.us. You also may visit www.sbir.us/course/different.html or contact the SBDC at 330-941-2140 or rsulik@ysu.edu.

Latest CWCS public opinion survey launched

John Russo, co-director of the Center for Working Class Studies at Youngstown State University, has announced that the Center is fielding its fourth in a series of online public opinion surveys.

The poll will measure respondents' attitudes regarding a number of topics critical to the upcoming

general election, including President Obama's performance in office, the Tea Party movement and the economy. The survey for the first time also asks respondents to define the "American Dream" and whether they believe they have or will achieve it.

The three previous surveys conducted by the CWCS measured opinion about the Obama administration's first 100 days, health care reform, and the state of the economy. Results may be viewed at <http://cwcs.yosu.edu/resources/survey/archive>.

"Speculation about how—and in some instances whether—working class Americans will vote in this election has been a primary topic of discussion among pundits in the run-up to Nov. 2," Russo said. "The survey provides those Americans with an opportunity to speak for themselves. I'm sure that candidates and consultants from both political parties as well as the media will be extremely interested in what they have to say."

The survey is accessible through the CWCS website, <http://cwcs.yosu.edu/survey>, until Thursday, Oct. 21. Results and analysis will be available on Monday, Oct. 25.

For more information about the survey research project or the Center for Working Class Studies, contact Russo at 330-941-2976, jbrusso@yosu.edu or visit the CWCS website, <http://cwcs.yosu.edu>.

WCBA announces Outstanding Alumnus Awards

The Warren P. Williamson Jr. College of Business Administration at Youngstown State University honors four individuals with 2010 WCBA Outstanding Alumnus Awards at the 15th annual WCBA Alumni Banquet 5:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 29, in the new Williamson Hall on campus.

Honorees are Youngstown Mayor Jay Williams, 94, Outstanding Business Alumnus; John Angelilli, BSBA '84, MBA '99, Outstanding MBA Alumnus; Ryan Smith, '00, Outstanding Recent Alumnus; and Michael McBride, '75, Outstanding Service Award.

To make reservations for the banquet or to receive additional information, contact Christine Shelton, WCBA coordinator of external relations, at 330-941-3068 or cgshelton@yosu.edu.

- Jay Williams, now in his second term as Youngstown's 47th mayor, will receive the Outstanding Business Alumnus Award. He is the city's first African-American mayor. Elected at the age of 33, he also was the city's youngest mayor. Under William's leadership, the city was cited in the August 2009 issue of *Entrepreneur Magazine* as one of the 10 best cities in the nation to start a business. The city's Youngstown 2010 planning initiative has been recognized by a number of notable organizations, including *The Wall Street Journal*, *U.S. News and World Report*, the American Planning Association, and *Governing Magazine*. In 2009 Williams was recognized as one of *Governing Magazine's* Public Officials of the Year. He was also the recipient of the 2007 John F. Kennedy New Frontier Award. Before becoming a public administrator, Williams spent 10 years in the banking business. Williams then spent five years as the director of the Youngstown's Community Development Agency before resigning to announce his independent candidacy for mayor.



Mayor Jay Williams

- John Angelilli, chief financial and operating officer for the Youngstown-based John Zidian Group, will be recognized as the Outstanding MBA Alumnus. He started with the company as a controller in 1999. The John Zidian Group is an integrated business group specializing in food manufacturing, sales and marketing, distribution, and brand building that includes Summer Garden Food Manufacturing and Gia Russa Italian Foods. Angelilli began his professional career in San Diego as a staff accountant for the regional accounting firm of Moody, Nation, and Smith, and he was later employed as the chief financial officer for the Chesapeake Fish Co. Inc. After returning to the area, Angelilli was employed with the State Fish Co., Youngstown Region, and later with the Century Group in New Waterford, Ohio. He served in the Air Force from 1977 to 1981.



John Angelilli



Ryan Smith

Ryan Smith, manager of learning and performance development at the Cleveland Clinic, will be named the WCBA Outstanding Recent Alumnus. Prior to the Cleveland Clinic, he was the organizational development manager for the NAT Talent Management Team at the

Goodyear Tire and Rubber Co. in Akron. Smith was also employed as a senior financial analyst for the J.M. Smucker Co. in Orville. Upon graduation from YSU he spent five years with FirstEnergy

Corporation in Akron. In addition to completing a finance development program while at FirstEnergy, he worked two years in Enterprise Risk Management.

- Michael McBride, executive director for Goodwill Industries, will be honored with the Outstanding Service Award. At the start of his 32 years of dedicated service to Goodwill Industries, McBride served as finance director and was then promoted to chief executive before becoming executive director. He began his professional career as the internal auditor for a local trucking company. McBride is a member of the Ohio Association of Goodwills, the Youngstown Mahoning United Way Directors Association, and the Mahoning County Continuum of Care.



Michael McBride

Sponsorships from area businesses toward the banquet support scholarships for business students. Sponsorship companies as of Oct. 5 include Falcon Transport Company/Comprehensive Logistics, Inc.; Gia Russa Italian Foods; John Perdue Inc. DBA McDonald's; WRP Investments, Inc.; The DeBartolo Corporation; Hill, Barth & King, LLC; PNC Bank; Anness, Gerlach & Williams, CPAs; Cohen & Company; First National Bank; Home Savings; Humility of Mary Health Partners; Packer Thomas; Payroll Pros, LLC; SA Roth Consulting & Management, LLC; SenSource, Inc.; Youngstown Business Incubator; Cope Farm Equipment, Inc.; Donald Graham; Judge Scott Hunter; Komar Plumbing Company, Inc.; Sherman Creative Promotions, Inc.; and Youngstown Warren Regional Chamber.

Safe Zone training set for Wednesday

Youngstown State University offers Safe Zone training for faculty, staff, administrators, student employees and student leaders 1 to 5 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 20, in the Jones Room of Kilcawley Center.

The Safe Zone project is an ongoing effort by YSUnity and the Safe Zone Advisory Council to make the YSU campus a safer place for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, questioning, intersex, and ally students. Participants sign the Ally Pledge upon completing a Safe Zone training session and are given a small sign to display in their workspace. The Safe Zone sign on a door or window indicates the person inside has volunteered for the training and can be expected to have a level of awareness of issues related to LGBTQIA individuals.

Reservations for the training must be made by Monday, Oct. 18. Contact Brian Wells in the Dean's Office of the Bitonte College of Health and Human Services in Cushwa Hall.

YSU journalism program teams with *Vindy, Trib*

The Vindicator in Youngstown and *The Tribune Chronicle* in Warren will begin a project that could result in publishing the best stories produced by area high school journalism students.

The two newspapers have joined with Youngstown State University's journalism program and the Tri-County Journalism Association in a project designed to possibly give high school journalists recognition and a broader audience for the reporting and writing that they do.

This new venture was announced at last week's Press Day at YSU, an annual gathering of area high school journalists and their advisers.

Area high school journalism teachers will submit their students' best work four times a year to YSU Journalism Director Alyssa Lenhoff. Lenhoff will assemble her journalism faculty and media professional colleagues and judge the work. The top stories, produced for print or video, will then be shared with *The Tribune Chronicle* and *The Vindicator* for publication consideration.

"We believe that high school journalism students are doing some great and important work that is not often seen by people outside of their school community," said Lenhoff. "We want to help share those stories with people throughout the Mahoning Valley."

Todd Franko, editor of *The Vindicator*, and Guy Coviello, managing editor of *The Tribune Chronicle*, said they are pleased to work together in this venture. The editors said that they both view the missions of their newspapers to inform and enlighten residents of the Mahoning Valley, and they said they are always eager to support projects that will help their readers and viewers become better informed while supporting the development of high school journalism.

Sir Elton featured in Chorale concert

The music of Elton John will be featured as Youngstown State University's Dana Chorale, under the direction of Dr. Hae-Jong Lee, performs at the season opener Pops Concert of the Youngstown Symphony Orchestra at 8 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 23, in Powers Auditorium.

The concert, *Madman Across the Water*, is a salute to Elton John.

The Chorale is a select ensemble consisting primarily of music majors and minors. The ensemble has toured Europe and performs regularly at YSU and throughout the region. The 25-voice chamber choir enjoys a reputation of performing important choral repertoire of all eras consistently at the highest level. As part of the larger Dana School of Music Symphonic Choir, the Chorale regularly performs with the Dana Symphony Orchestra, Wind Ensemble and other professional orchestras. Most recently the Chorale performed selections from Monteverdi's Vespers 1610 in the St. Columba Cathedral in early October.

More information and tickets are available by calling the DeYor Box Office at 330-744-0264.

Dana Symphony Orchestra performs Oct. 25

Youngstown State University's Dana School of Music presents a concert by the Dana Symphony Orchestra, directed by John Wilcox, 8 p.m. Monday, Oct. 25, in the Ford Family Recital Hall, Eleanor Beecher Flad Pavilion in the DeYor Performing Arts Center in downtown Youngstown.

Highlights of the program will include Dvorak's Symphony No. 9 in E minor, "From the New World," Op. 95 and Rimsky-Korsakov's "Capriccio Espagnol, Op. 34."

Tickets are \$5, \$4, and free for anyone showing a valid YSU ID. Tickets are available at the DeYor Box Office, 330-744-0264.