



SUMMER  
COMMENCEMENT

YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY

SATURDAY, AUGUST FIFTEENTH  
TWO THOUSAND AND NINE  
TEN O'CLOCK, BEEGHLY CENTER

# THE UNIVERSITY CEREMONIAL MACE



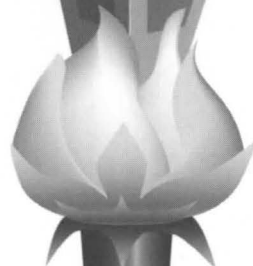
Silver Ceremonial Disk of Trust

Silver Casting of University Seal (side 1)  
Polished golden highlights.  
Cast in Art Department foundry.

Silver Casting of State Seal (side 2)  
Polished golden highlights.  
Cast in Art Department foundry.

Silver Inverted Pyramid  
Represents the chalice of achievement, service  
and self sacrifice.

Illustrations of the four University Core Values  
Etched in silver-plated copper.  
Each side of the pyramid has different illustrated core-values  
illustrations created by graduate of Art Department.



Bronze Flames of Knowledge  
that heat the Forge of Learning  
Forging the learning environments of the future,  
forging learning communities.  
Designed and cast by area K-12 art educator.

## THE UNIVERSITY CEREMONIAL MACE

The ceremonial mace has its roots in ancient Rome. During the Middle Ages, the two types of maces—one a scepter and symbol of royal authority, the other a weapon—gradually evolved into a symbol of lawful power and regal authority. Beginning in fourteenth-century Europe, the academic mace became part of the pomp and ceremony of university commencements, denoting the authority of the University to confer academic degrees.

The new Youngstown State University mace being carried today was designed and crafted by a collaborative team that included YSU faculty, students, alumni, and area K-12 art educators under the leadership of YSU professor Greg Moring.

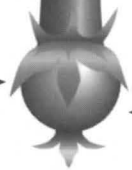
Polished Rosewood Upper Grip

Cast Silver Globus  
Represents the President's role as protector of the Core Values  
and leadership of the University community.  
Designed and cast by area K-12 art educator.

Polished Rosewood Lower Grip

Cast Silver Floral Forms  
Represents petals of the scarlet carnation,  
the state flower of Ohio.  
The carnation has the meaning of 'admiration,' 'love,'  
and 'gratitude.'

Cast Bronze Finial  
Symbolizes the collective philosophical  
values of the University.  
Designed and cast by area K-12 art educator.



# PROGRAM

- PRELUDE**..... "National Emblem" by E.E. Bagley  
"Stars and Stripes Forever" by John Philip Sousa  
YSU Wind Ensemble  
Dr. Stephen L. Gage, *Director of Bands/Professor of Music*  
*Dana School of Music, College of Fine and Performing Arts*
- ACADEMIC PROCESSIONAL**..... "Suite #1 in E $\flat$  Major: III March" by Gustav Holst  
"Pomp and Circumstance" from March No. 1 by Sir Edward Elgar  
"March Processional" by Clare Grundman
- WELCOME**..... David C. Sweet  
*President*
- COLOR GUARD**..... The Youngstown State University Army Reserve Officers' Training Corps
- NATIONAL ANTHEM**..... Carrie Minenok, Soprano  
*Senior, Dana School of Music, College of Fine and Performing Arts*
- STUDENT REFLECTION**..... Petra Knapp  
*Graduate Candidate, College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences*
- PRESIDENT'S REMARKS** ..... President Sweet
- INTRODUCTION OF TRUSTEES** ..... President Sweet
- GREETINGS AND REMARKS**..... Scott R. Schulick  
*Chair of the Board of Trustees*
- INTRODUCTION OF SPEAKER**..... Ikram Khawaja  
*Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs*
- COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS**..... Joyce E. Brooks, M.S.
- MUSICAL SELECTION** ..... "Malaguena Eduardo Lecuona" arr. Nestico
- REMARKS AND PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES** ..... Provost and Vice President Khawaja
- CONFERRING OF DEGREES** ..... President Sweet
- PRESENTATION OF JOYCE E. BROOKS TO RECEIVE THE HONORARY DOCTOR OF HUMANE LETTERS** ..... President Sweet
- PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES**..... Peter Kasvinsky, *Associate Provost for Research and Dean of the School of Graduate Studies and Research*  
Philip Ginnetti, *Dean of the Beeghly College of Education*  
Bryan DePoy, *Dean of the College of Fine and Performing Arts*  
Joseph Mosca, *Dean of The Dominic A. and Helen M. Bitonte College of Health and Human Services*  
Shearle Furnish, *Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences*  
Stephen Rodabaugh, *Interim Associate Dean of the College of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics*  
Betty Jo Licata, *Dean of the Williamson College of Business Administration*
- WELCOME FROM YSU ALUMNI SOCIETY**..... Germaine Bennett  
*President, YSU Alumni Society*
- CLOSING REMARKS** ..... President Sweet
- ALMA MATER**..... From Symphony No. 1, by Johannes Brahms/arr. Willis  
Ms. Minenok, Soprano
- RECESSIONAL** ..... "The Liberty Bell" by John Philip Sousa  
"Fairest of the Fair" by John Philip Sousa
- RECEPTION**..... In the Chestnut Room of Kilcawley immediately following the ceremony

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*The audience is asked to be seated after the singing of the Alma Mater and to remain seated during the Recessional.  
During this special ceremony, please be respectful of others and maintain a quiet atmosphere.*

## Commencement Speaker and Recipient of the Degree Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters



*Joyce E. Brooks, M.S.*

Today's commencement speaker is Joyce Brooks, an education consultant who is an elected member of the Mahoning County Educational Service Center governing board and an appointed member of the Mahoning County Career and Technical Center Board of

Education. She has served as an officer on both boards.

Ms. Brooks is a founding member of the governing board of the Mahoning Valley Opportunity Center and from 2002 to 2005 was a coordinator of the Mahoning Valley Vision for Education. From 1994 to 2005, she served as an educational consultant in the Ohio Department of Education, and prior to that, was coordinator of Mahoning Area Consortium Tech Prep. Brooks has also served as coordinator of the Right-to-Read grant in the Canfield, Ohio, schools, curriculum supervisor and personnel director in the Mahoning County Office of Education and the Youngstown City Schools. From 1993 to 1995, she served as assistant to the dean in YSU's Beeghly College of Education. Brooks began her journey in education as a reading specialist in the Canfield Local School District.

A graduate of Canfield High School, Ms. Brooks earned her Bachelor of Science in Education magna cum laude at Youngstown University and a Master of Science in Education at Youngstown State in 1970. She has pursued post-master's education and doctoral study at YSU, Ohio State University, the University of Dayton, Kent State University, and the University of Akron.

Among the many honors Ms. Brooks has received during her career was having the conference center at the Mahoning County Career and Technical Center named for her in 2008. She has also been named a Master Board Member by the Ohio School Boards Association and an Outstanding Leader by the Ohio Education Service Center Association. In 1997, she received the YSU Alumni Association's Alumni Involvement Award and was the first recipient of the Beeghly College of Education's Outstanding Alumni Award.

Ms. Brooks is married to YSU engineering alumnus Loran W. Brooks. They have three adult children, Loran D. Brooks, Cheryl Montag, and Cindy Corll, and nine grandchildren.



## Commencement Student Speaker



*Petra C. Knapp*

Today, Petra Knapp will receive her MA in History, with a Certificate in Historic Preservation. Petra graduated from Central-Hower High School in Akron, Ohio, in 1996, and within a week of graduation, was in Basic Training for the Army National Guard. After completing her training, Petra returned home

and, knowing she was not ready for college, explored many different career paths before deciding to enroll at YSU as an undergraduate in 2001. Six years later, having twice taken a year off to have children, Petra graduated cum laude with her BA in history in 2007.

Some of Petra's accomplishments include raising three children, seven-year old Alicyn and five-year old twins Morgan and Brianna, with her husband of ten years, Brian. She is a member of Phi Kappa Phi, National Organization for Women, National Trust for Historic Preservation, and the Ladies Oriental Shrine of North America, which raises funds and supplies for the Shriners Hospitals. Petra was active in student organizations at YSU, and served as president of Phi Alpha Theta and the Student Society for Applied History for two years, and vice president of History Club for one year. She served as archives intern for the Sisters of the Humility of Mary in Villa Maria, PA, and for the Aurora Historical Society, for which she researched and completed an exhibit on two of Aurora's neighborhoods and designed a driving tour by which residents of Aurora could explore these neighborhoods. Petra has received many awards in her time at YSU, including the Mary Ann Gable Award for the best essay at the undergraduate level; the Phi Alpha Theta Award, for outstanding service to the organization; and the April Caruso Award, for service to all of the History Department student organizations. Petra was also a member of an Ad-Hoc Graduate Student Committee that helped plan the 2009 annual conference for the National Council on Public History.

## CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES

Because the list of candidates had to be prepared in advance, it is tentative. The diploma, together with a certified transcript, is the proof of graduation.

### SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES AND RESEARCH

#### Doctor of Education

Carol Louise Staten, B.S.Ed., M.S.Ed.  
Youngstown State University  
Educational Leadership  
Thesis: *An Analysis of an Urban Middle School's Strategies to Comply with the Accountability Provisions of No Child Left Behind*

#### Master of Arts

Alysia Leigh D'Amico, B.A.  
Youngstown State University  
Economics  
Thesis: *Determinants of War: Can Political and Economic Freedom Determine Military Effectiveness?*

Terri L. Daniluk, B.A.  
Youngstown State University  
English

Doreen Grace Duganne, B.S.Ed.  
Youngstown State University  
English

Kazuyoshi Ishida, B.S.C.B.A.  
The University of Alabama  
Economics

Petra C. Knapp, B.A.  
Youngstown State University  
History  
Thesis: *The Architecture of Education: Public Schools in Akron 1890-1920*

Nichole Marie Lucas, B.S.Ed.  
Youngstown State University  
English

Theresa Ruth Mottle, B.S.Ed.  
Youngstown State University  
English

Joseph Nicholas Paloski, B.A.  
Youngstown State University  
History

Howard Richard Reese, B.A.  
Youngstown State University  
English  
Thesis: *A Call to Arms: The Propagandistic Rhetoric of Presidential Petitions for War*

Michael A. Shepherd, B.S.  
Youngstown State University  
History  
Thesis: *Heck No, They Won't Go! Opposition to United States Policy in Vietnam by Two State Legislatures*

Donald Lee Wolford, B.A., M.Div., M.P.A.  
Notre Dame University, University of Texas at Austin  
English  
Thesis: *Calvin Cohn—Confidence Man: Melville's Influence on Malamud's "God's Grace"*

Pamela Sue Zembower, B.A.  
Youngstown State University  
American Studies

#### Master of Business Administration

Mary Armstrong, B.S.B.A.  
Youngstown State University  
General

Oludare O. Banwo, B.S.  
University of Lagos, Nigeria  
Management

Anthony Michael Chapman, B.B.A.  
Kent State University  
General

Craig Jeter Coggins, B.E.  
Youngstown State University  
General

Megan E. Collins, B.A.  
Mount Union College  
General

Kyle R. Countryman, B.S.B.A.  
Youngstown State University  
Management

Michael Charles Fabrizio, B.E.  
Youngstown State University  
General

Anthony M. Ghioldi, B.E.  
Youngstown State University  
Management

Brian James Godsen, B.S.  
Youngstown State University  
Management

Kyle David Hillman, B.A.  
Mount Union College  
General

## SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES AND RESEARCH *(continued)*

Adrian Rhodes Huber, B.A.  
The Pennsylvania State  
University  
General

Jaime Renne Kudary, B.S.B.A.  
Youngstown State University  
General

Michael John Maiorano, B.S.  
Hiram College  
General

Allison Beth Mohr, B.S.B.A.  
Robert Morris University  
General

Ralph Conti Morrone, B.E.  
Youngstown State University  
General

Nicholas David O'Bruba,  
B.S.B.A.  
The Ohio State University  
General

Patricia Mae Phipps, B.A.  
Westminster College  
Management

Andrew Baird Place, B.A.  
Mount Union College  
General

John H. J. Russell, B.M.  
Youngstown State University  
General

Erin James Satterlee, B.S.  
Union College  
Management

Justin M. Simerlink, B.S.B.A.  
Youngstown State University  
Management

Ellen M. Stafford, B.S.B.A.  
Youngstown State University  
General

Somer Tahincioglu, B.E.  
Yeditepe University, Turkey  
General

Joshua Jon Zarlenga, B.S.B.A.  
Youngstown State University  
General

### **Master of Computing & Information Systems**

Baha Mohammed Ateereh, B.S.  
An-Najah National University,  
Palestine  
Computing and Information  
Systems

Willie G. McKinney III, B.S.A.S.  
Youngstown State University  
Computing and Information  
Systems

Purushottam Panta, B.S., M.S.  
Tribhuvan University, Nepal;  
Youngstown State University  
Computing and Information  
Systems

### **Master of Music**

Brendan R. Considine, B.M.  
Youngstown State University  
Performance

Derrick Owen Kittle, B.M.  
Youngstown State University  
Music Education

Nevin Brian Rosen, B.S., B.M.  
Duquesne University, Clarion  
University  
Theory and Composition  
Thesis: *Part I: The Seven Days of  
Creation For Narrator and String  
Orchestra; Part II: Shostakovich's  
Symphony No. 5, Movement 4: A  
Parametric Analysis*

Terry Lynn Soroka, B.M.  
Youngstown State University  
Performance

Dana Elaine Veneskey, B.M.  
University of Akron  
Music Education

### **Master of Public Health**

Rebecca Alleyne Buchenic, B.S.B.A.  
Bowling Green State University  
Public Health

Kimberly D. Fuzer, A.A.S.,  
B.S.A.S.  
Youngstown State University  
Public Health

### **Master of Science**

Joseph Dzidefo Kwadwo  
Mensah Asempapa Agbeko,  
B.Ed.

University of Cape Coast,  
Ghana

Mathematics

Thesis: *Evaluation and  
Application of Bloom Filters in  
Computer Network Security*

Sasha Nana Afua Annan, B.S.  
University of Cape Coast,  
Ghana  
Mathematics

Dawn Ann Cox, B.S.A.S.  
Youngstown State University  
Criminal Justice  
Thesis: *Factors for Success in  
Community Corrections*

Justin Nicholas Crawl, B.A.  
Walsh University  
Criminal Justice  
Thesis: *An Analysis of Music  
and its Influence on Adult  
Lifestyle Choices and Behavioral  
Tendencies*

Matthew David Gacura, B.S.  
Youngstown State University  
Biology  
Thesis: *The Impact of Nitrogen  
and Cylodextrin on the  
Bioremediation of Mahoning  
River Sediment by Pleurotus  
Ostreatus*

Michael T. Hamilton, B.A.  
University of Pittsburgh  
Environmental Studies  
Thesis: *Determining Spawning  
Occurrence and Reproductive  
Potential of the Shenango River  
Lake Walleye Population*

## SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES AND RESEARCH *(continued)*

Ronald L. Houser, Jr., B.S.  
Youngstown State University  
Environmental Studies  
Thesis: *Cranberry Run:  
Establishing Water Quality  
Parameters of a Palustrine  
Wetland*

Klotilda Lazaj, B.A.  
Thiel College  
Mathematics  
Thesis: *Metric Preserving  
Functions—Integer Valued  
Functions*

Gideon MacCarthy, B.S., M.S.  
Kwame Nkrumah University  
of Science and Technology,  
Ghana; University of  
Kaiserslautern, Germany  
Mathematics

Srinivasa Babu Manam, B.E.  
Nagarjuna University, India  
Mathematics

Kelly Marie Melvin, B.S.  
Hiram College  
Criminal Justice  
Thesis: *Attention-Deficit  
Hyperactivity Disorder and  
Juvenile Delinquency*

Eric Mensah, B.S.  
University of Cape Coast,  
Ghana  
Chemistry  
Thesis: *Creation of a Site-Directed  
Mutant of Hen Egg White  
Lysozyme Working Toward Site-  
Specific Oxidation as it Relates  
to Protein Structure*

Britta Sue Nelson, B.S.  
University of Pittsburgh  
Biology  
Thesis: *Effects of Social  
Isolation and Environmental  
Supplementation on Neuropathic  
Nociception*

Bismark Oduro, B.S.  
University of Cape Coast,  
Ghana  
Mathematics

Mohammad Osama, B.S.  
Aligarh Muslim University, India  
Environmental Studies  
Thesis: *Polycyclic Aromatic  
Hydrocarbons (PAHs):  
Degradation Fungal Biomass  
(Ergosterol) in Sediment with Added  
Nitrogen*

Phillip Jermaine Page, B.S.A.S.  
Youngstown State University  
Criminal Justice  
Thesis: *The Monster I Have  
Become: An Analysis of Media  
Representations of Torture  
Allegations Against U.S. Army  
Soldiers in Iraq from April 2004 to  
October 2005*

Naveed Shoaib, B.E.  
Bahria University, Pakistan  
Mathematics  
Thesis: *A Portable and Improved  
Implementation of the Piffie-Hellman  
Protocol for Wireless Sensor  
Networks*

Stephen Russell Steh, B.S.A.S.  
Youngstown State University  
Criminal Justice  
Thesis: *Public Perceptions of  
Computer Crime*

Shahidur Rashid Talukdar, B.S.  
Aligarh Muslim University, India  
Mathematics  
Thesis: *Social, Political and  
Institutional Determinants of  
Economic Growth: A Cross-Country  
Study*

Teri M. Thomas, B.A.  
Youngstown State University  
Mathematics  
Thesis: *A Generalization of Sylow's  
Theorem*

Wesley J. Vins, B.S.  
Edinboro University of  
Pennsylvania  
Environmental Studies  
Thesis: *Residential Septic Tank  
Effluent Treatment by Disturbed  
Darren Soil*

Russell Lawrence Waller, B.A.  
Grinnell College  
Mathematics  
Thesis: *Strong Continuity on  
Product Spaces*

### **Master of Science in Education**

Matthew Adams, B.A.  
Baldwin-Wallace College  
Educational Administration

Matthew J. Beard, B.S.Ed.  
Youngstown State University  
Educational Administration

Lynne A. Beck, B.S.  
The Pennsylvania State  
University  
Counseling

Allison Paula Bonhard, B.S.Ed.  
Ohio University  
Educational Administration

Nathan Charles Boyd, B.S.Ed.  
The University of Akron  
Educational Administration

Katie Lynn Butcher, B.S.Ed.  
Youngstown State University  
Master Teacher, Elementary  
Reading Specialist

Ashley Noel Byrne, B.A.  
Mount Union College  
Special Education Licensure

Donald Neil Cheffo, B.S.A.S.  
Youngstown State University  
Counseling

Melanie Laura Clark, B.S.Ed.  
Youngstown State University  
Special Education Licensure

Patricia Marie Clark, B.S.Ed.  
Youngstown State University  
Special Education, Autism and  
Related Disabilities

Katherine Elizabeth Clay, B.M.  
Youngstown State University  
Special Education, Early  
Childhood

## SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES AND RESEARCH *(continued)*

Catherine L. Curtis, B.S.Ed.  
Kent State University  
Master Teacher, Elementary  
Reading Specialist

Jill Ann De Ramo, B.S.  
Youngstown State University  
Counseling

Kelly Lynn Donnan, B.S.Ed.  
Youngstown State University  
Counseling

Marie Johanna Downs, B.S.Ed.  
Youngstown State University  
Special Education, Autism and  
Related Disabilities

Elsie Ann English, B.A.  
Roberts Wesleyan College  
Counseling

Maura Rebecca Evans, B.S.Ed.,  
M.S.Ed.  
John Carroll University,  
Youngstown State University  
Educational Administration

Sarah Danielle Finch, B.S.Ed.  
Youngstown State University  
Teacher Education, Curriculum  
and Instruction

Antonique Elizabeth Flood, B.S.Ed.  
University of Cincinnati  
Counseling

Jacqueline Juliette Flowers, B.S.A.S.  
Youngstown State University  
Counseling

Robért Paul Flukas, Jr., B.A.  
Thiel College  
Counseling

Robert Anthony Fromm, B.A.  
Bethany College  
Educational Administration

Marie Antoinette Giles, B.A.  
Kent State University  
Counseling

Danielle Anne Hanrahan, B.S.  
Bradley University  
Counseling

Tracy Marie Hinkle, B.A., B.S.Ed.  
Youngstown State University  
Teacher Education, Curriculum and  
Instruction

Jennifer Rose Hudak, B.S.Ed.  
Youngstown State University  
Teacher Education, Literacy

Molly Ann James, B.S.Ed.  
Youngstown State University  
Master Teacher, Elementary  
Early Childhood Education

Jason Robert Jugenheimer, B.S.Ed.  
Youngstown State University  
Master Teacher, Adolescent/Young  
Adult, Social Studies

Denise J. Kasula, B.S.Ed.  
Youngstown State University  
Master Teacher, Elementary  
Reading Specialist

Tyler Mitchell Kimbel, B.A.  
Geneva College  
Counseling

Jessica L. Knopp, B.S.  
Slippery Rock University  
Counseling

Amanda Ann Krygowski, B.S.,  
B.S.Ed.  
Miami University, Youngstown  
State University  
Counseling

Ronald A. Lesko, B.S.Ed.  
Youngstown State University  
Master Teacher, Secondary  
Educational Technology

Danny D. Libert, B.S.Ed.  
Youngstown State University  
Educational Administration

Jessica Lei Logan, B.S.Ed.  
Youngstown State University  
Special Education, Early Childhood

Kimberly J. Mayer, B.A., M.S.Ed.  
Mount Union College, Youngstown  
State University  
Educational Administration

Meghan E. McComas, B.S.Ed.  
Bowling Green State University  
Special Education Licensure

Elizabeth Ann McCracken,  
B.S.Ed.  
Youngstown State University  
Master Teacher, Elementary  
Curriculum

Morgan Lee McGarry, B.S.Ed.  
Youngstown State University  
Special Education, Autism and  
Related Disabilities

Susan Marie Miklos-Moss, B.S.Ed.  
Youngstown State University  
Teacher Education, Literacy

Sara Michelle Miller, B.S.Ed.  
Youngstown State University  
Special Education, Autism and  
Related Disabilities

Denise M. Monus, B.A.  
Thiel College  
Counseling

David L. Munn, Jr., B.G.S., M.Ed.  
Kent State University  
Counseling

Tina Lynn Muscari, B.A., B.S.Ed.  
Kent State University,  
Youngstown State University  
Master Teacher, Elementary  
Reading Specialist

Emily Jane Myers, B.S.Ed.  
Youngstown State University  
Counseling

January A. Nelson, B.S.Ed.  
Youngstown State University  
Teacher Education, Curriculum  
and Instruction

Susan C. Noday, B.A., M.B.A.  
Hiram College, Kent State  
University  
Counseling

Joselyn L. Parker, B.A.  
Westminster College  
Counseling



## SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES AND RESEARCH *(continued)*

William Elbridge Parker IV, B.S.Ed.  
Youngstown State University  
Educational Administration

Karen S. Pavlov, B.A.  
Grove City College  
Teacher Education, Literacy

Daniele M. Phillips, B.A.  
The Ohio State University  
Special Education, Autism and  
Related Disabilities

Amber Lea Pratt, B.A.  
Allegheny College  
Counseling

Alaina L. Rauber, B.S.Ed.  
Youngstown State University  
Special Education, Autism and  
Related Disabilities

Robert R. Rivello, Jr., B.S.B.A., B.A.  
Youngstown State University  
Counseling

Sarah Marie Root, B.S.Ed.  
Youngstown State University  
Counseling

Jessica Rachel Rullo, B.A.  
Kent State University  
Counseling

Katie Marie Russo, B.A.  
The Ohio State University  
Counseling

Zena Esmail Saleh, B.S.Ed.  
Youngstown State University  
Master Teacher, Literacy

Megan Jayne Samora, B.S.Ed.  
Youngstown State University  
Special Education, Gifted and  
Talented

Lisa Marie Sipes, B.M.  
Youngstown State University  
Counseling

Irene J. Skleres, B.A.  
Ohio University  
Counseling

Jonathon Peter Smith, B.S.  
Youngstown State University  
Teacher Education, Curriculum and  
Instruction

Samantha Jean Steele, B.S.  
Bethany College  
Counseling

Shelley Stenglein, B.S.Ed.  
Youngstown State University  
Master Teacher, Elementary  
Reading Specialist

Jana Beth Stewart, B.S.Ed., M.S.Ed.  
Youngstown State University  
Counseling

Jennifer Lynn Unger, B.S.Ed.  
Youngstown State University  
Master Teacher, Elementary  
Early Childhood

Mark Monroe Vollmer, B.M.  
Youngstown State University  
Educational Administration

Nicole Marie Wayt, B.S.Ed.  
Youngstown State University  
Teacher Education, Curriculum and  
Instruction

Nicole Marie Weber, B.S.Ed.  
Youngstown State University  
Educational Administration

Anita TraLynn Williams, B.A.  
Youngstown State University  
Counseling

### **Master of Science in Engineering**

Jacob Andrew Guidosh, B.E.  
Youngstown State University  
Industrial and Systems Engineering  
Thesis: *The Use of Life Cycle  
Assessment Through an Objective  
Framework Created by Simulation*

Bijan Hosseininejad, B.E.  
Youngstown State University  
Electrical Engineering  
Thesis: *Design and Implementation of  
a Versatile Wireless Communication  
System via Software Defined Radio*

Michael David McNinch, B.E.  
Youngstown State University  
Civil and Environmental  
Engineering  
Thesis: *Geographic Information  
System Application for Water  
Distribution Asset Management*

### **Master of Science in Nursing**

Kristen Joanne Melaragno,  
B.S.N.  
Youngstown State University  
Nursing

Melissa A. Novits, B.S.N.  
Youngstown State University  
Nursing

### **Master of Social Work**

Rosie A. Deslandes, B.S.W.  
Youngstown State University  
Social Work

Elissa B. Douglass, B.S.W.  
Capital University  
Social Work

Bobbie Ann Dunn, B.A., B.S.W.  
Youngstown State University  
Social Work

Debra Ann Foster, B.S.W.  
Youngstown State University  
Social Work

Melissa N. Hawkins, B.S.W.  
Youngstown State University  
Social Work

Michelle L. Kissinger, B.S.W.  
Youngstown State University  
Social Work

Susan Marie Moore, B.S.W.  
Youngstown State University  
Social Work

Nicolle Marie Pascarella, B.S.W.  
Youngstown State University  
Social Work

Caley Ann Perry, B.S.W.  
Youngstown State University  
Social Work

**SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES AND RESEARCH** *(continued)*

Pamela Dawn Ramsey, B.S.W.  
Youngstown State University  
Social Work

Kelly Lynn Singleton, B.S.W.  
Youngstown State University  
Social Work

Alicia Lynn Stoner, B.S.W.  
Youngstown State University  
Social Work

Samantha Lynn Rotz, B.S.W.  
Youngstown State University  
Social Work

Diane Therese Smith, B.S.W.  
Youngstown State University  
Social Work

Reyna M. Thomae, B.S.W.  
Youngstown State University  
Social Work

**SUMMER 2009**  
**BACCALAUREATE DEGREE HONORS**

*Because the list of candidates for graduation honors had to be prepared in advance, it is tentative. The diploma, together with a certified transcript, is the proof of graduation with honors.*

**Summa Cum Laude**

Sarah Anne Bates  
Richard Louis Boccia  
Donald Vincent Cavanaugh  
Kelly Meredith Chichak  
Kolton Ross Codner  
Michael Patrick Cooper  
Jamie C. Cutshaw  
Justin David Dickman  
Tyler William Drombosky

Jason A. Green  
Megan Lynn Gregory  
Karthik S. Iyer  
Logan Ardana Kilpatrick-Matthews  
Michael Lindeman  
Brian S. Mellott  
Amanda Rae Mesmer  
Kathy L. Ritzler  
Noelle Christine Roth

Mahsa Shayesteh  
Roza Shayesteh  
Brittany Leigh Sirak  
Brittany Natasha Smith  
Brie A. Sudzina  
Mary M. Toomey  
Mary Sara Vondra  
Heather L. Williams

**Magna Cum Laude**

Matthew C. Adkins  
Melissa R. Best  
Mario J. Butera  
Kyle Joseph Conway  
Stacy L. Doecker

Hilliary Sarah Hill  
Amie M. Holko  
Michael Matthew Luzar  
Stephen Charles Matasic II  
Joseph R. Nocht

Katie Lynn Panagis  
Nina Stanette Pannoni  
Brittany Nicole Sodomora  
Angela Marie Speed  
Brent William Woolf

**Cum Laude**

Joshua Paul Babbey  
Loralyn June Burkey  
John Franklin Clay II  
Devon Marie Cleland  
Steven L. Cunningham  
Elyse Marie DiMartino  
June Annette Douglas  
Andrew James Emig  
Lindsey Marie Faith

Jenna Leigh Fink  
Joel Michael Follmeyer  
Earl Douglas Foster  
Vikki L. Greene  
Jacob Michael Higgins  
Mark Daniel Lipinsky  
James Randolph McKay  
Courtney Elizabeth Palma  
David Robert Passarelli

Michael Anthony Pilolli III  
William Joseph Reed  
James Alvin Richburg  
Kelly S. Ryan  
Tiara Monai Scott  
Corey Alan Sees  
Scott M. Wadlow  
Elsie M. Ward  
Michael Paul Yatsco

**ASSOCIATE DEGREE HONORS**

**With High Honors**

Bonnie L. Oliver

**With Honors**

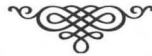
Paul Bolder II  
Chauncey George Hilson  
Rebecca Mae Kennedy  
Michael Martin Miller

**SUMMER 2009**  
**HONORS PROGRAM GRADUATES**

Richard L. Boccia  
Professional Writing and Editing  
*Editing, Designing and Writing for  
the Yo' Magazine*

Tyler William Drombosky  
Mathematics  
*Methods for Pattern Recognition with a  
Specific Focus on Neural Networks*

Andrew J. Emig  
Electrical Engineering  
*Spinal Thixotropy During Spinal  
Manipulation*



## BEEGHLY COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

*Because the list of candidates had to be prepared in advance, it is tentative. The diploma, together with a certified transcript, is the proof of graduation.*

### *Bachelor of Science in Education*

Loralyn June Burkey  
Andrew Brian Burnett  
Kelly Meredith Chichak  
Earl Douglas Foster

Nicholas Stephen Haught  
Kathryn Louise Haynes  
LaTasha Lynn Johnson  
Anthony L. Martin, Jr.  
Michael Robert Pesce

Matt E. Rothbauer  
Alecia Marie Starkey-Hickman  
Sheena Marie Vincent

## COLLEGE OF FINE & PERFORMING ARTS

### *Bachelor of Arts*

Nada Ahmad Al-Nobani  
Shatha Ahmad Al-Nobani  
Ivica John Brkic  
Justin David Dickman  
Stacy L. Doepker  
James R. Fabian  
Tiara Monai Scott  
Corey Alan Sees  
Joel Nathan Stigliano  
Tina M. Watson  
Robert Earl Wolff

### *Bachelor of Fine Arts*

Dana B. Bachinger  
Renee Danielle Bradbeer  
William George Coughlin  
Christopher J. Durkos  
Jason Lee Faust  
Thomas William Hartwig  
Anthony Michael Huggins  
Alexander Albert Meranto  
Michael Robert Ress  
Jennifer M. Stanko

### *Bachelor of Music*

Sarah Anne Bates  
Mario J. Butera  
Amanda Marie Gregg  
Noél Mone't King  
Eric Todd Shields  
Melissa Anne St. Thomas

## BITONTE COLLEGE OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

### *Associate of Applied Science*

Julia Christine Applegate  
Michael Anthony Battaglia  
Sara Lyn Bender  
Alexis Joy Bogan  
Rachel Marie Boris  
Beth Marjorie Downie  
Michelle Haddle  
Rebecca Mae Kennedy  
Tiffany Rose McElroy  
Melissa A. Miller  
Bonnie L. Oliver  
Earl Price  
Lia Michelle Proctor  
Jennifer L. Scacchetti  
Kristin T. Scott  
Justin Kyle Vallia  
James L. Walker

### *Bachelor of Science in Applied Science*

### *Bachelor of Science in Applied Science*

Lauren Ann Bako  
Kathryn A. Barash

Ebony Nicole Barbosa  
Denise Marie Booth  
Michelle Marie Borovitcky  
Victor M. Bozis  
Christopher James Brown  
Frederick Phillip Bulik IV  
Julianne Kathleen Bush  
James R. Campana II  
Samuel J. Carbon  
Alexandra Anne Casi  
Donald Vincent Cavanaugh  
Christine Nicole Cearfoss  
Stanislav Cherney  
Anthony Joseph Ciccotelli  
Michelle Lee Cika  
Michael Joseph Clemente  
Zachary Wynn Denzler  
Teresa Marie DiCesare  
Elyse Marie DiMartino  
Jason Philip Dyer  
Latoria Cheneé Eason  
Lindsey Marie Faith  
Nicolas J. Farrant

### *Bachelor of Science in Applied Science*

Amber Lynn Furlong  
Jeanne R. Gallagher  
Monique C. Godfrey  
Amie M. Holko  
Autumn Rose Izzo  
Olivia D. Jennings  
Melissa A. Johnson  
Robert Preston Johnson, Jr.  
Thomas Joseph Klopta II  
Mary Felicia Kopper  
Samantha Jo Lenhart  
Shan-Miao Lin  
Brenton Robert Linton  
Sarah Ann Luffred  
Timothy Kyle Lynch  
Elaine Maro  
Matthew M. Martin  
Alison Faith Matthews  
Jeanine E. McClellan  
James Randolph McKay  
Mark Stephen Mehalco  
Amanda Rae Mesmer  
Elizabeth Suzanne Orsillo

## BITONTE COLLEGE OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES *(continued)*

Nina Stanette Pannoni  
Ashley Cherie Ann Pendleton  
Racheal Erin Pesta  
Lauren Elizabeth Plant  
Chad E. Pringle  
Jessica Jeanine Quinn  
James André Rogers  
Noelle Christine Roth  
Kelly S. Ryan  
Natasha Nicole Saunders  
Joseph Lawrence Seifert  
Courtney Elizabeth Shaw  
Jamie Lynn Siman  
Brittany Leigh Sirak

Kelly Lynn Skrinyer  
Brittany Natasha Smith  
Brittany Nicole Sodomora  
Jennifer Lynne Spencer  
Alexander C. Taipale  
Kimberly Joy Tamargo  
Travis Ryan Taylor  
Scott M. Wadlow  
Kevin Karl Weiser  
Marijo Yablonkai  
Shayne York

*Bachelor of Science in Nursing*  
Jennifer Louise McClellan

*Bachelor of Social Work*  
Justine Marie Banks  
Kristen Leigh Clemente  
Eva Victoria Cowden  
June Annette Douglas  
Diane Elizabeth Fellabaum  
Jenna Leigh Fink  
Michael Paul Jesko  
Brandalyn E. Kemp  
Nina Talia Mendez  
Courtney Elizabeth Palma  
Katina Yvette Quarles  
Brie A. Sudzina  
Elsie M. Ward

## COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS & SOCIAL SCIENCES

*Associate of Arts*  
Erik Christian Blohm

*Bachelor of Arts*  
Mohammad S. Awad  
James E. Baluck  
Molly J. Barns  
Richard Louis Boccia  
Jesi Lynn Burkhart  
Tara Marie Buxton  
Rebecca Ann Campbell  
John Franklin Clay II  
Kelli Sherice Cole  
Michael Patrick Cooper  
Steven L. Cunningham  
Nathan Edward Duitch  
Christopher Ericson Etter  
Meaghan Galloway  
Bergen Lynn Giordani  
Brian A. Grebenz

Rachel Irene Hanni  
Brandon H. Judeh  
James E. Juergensen, Jr.  
Logan Ardara Kilpatrick-Matthews  
Roneice Nikita LaFleur  
Ashley Maria Oliver  
Katie Lynn Panagis  
Michael Anthony Pilolli III  
James Alvin Richburg  
David Francis Shaffer  
Athena F. Sheppard  
Angela Marie Speed  
Matthew Scott Stoffer  
Matthew Gene Swerdan  
Bernadette Lorraine Treece  
Fredrick Joseph Veauthier  
John Andrew Velk  
Christian David Walters  
Lindsay J. Wilson  
Dennis A. Yommer, Jr.

*Bachelor of General Studies*  
John Giakoumis Aslanis  
Melissa R. Best  
Adam Thomas Boyarko  
Lisa M. Braden  
Kevin Dwight Brown  
Timi Erin Danks  
Kimberly Jane Hamilton  
Jaime Leigh Hibbits  
Joseph Iesue  
Benjamin George Kalaman  
Mikko Otto Petteri Niemi  
Joseph R. Nochta  
Melissa A.P. Papini  
Amanda Jean Rooper  
Rynette D. Taylor  
Christie Marie Vogel

## COLLEGE OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, & MATHEMATICS

*Associate of Applied Science*  
Lee A. Candela-Nutt  
David Matthew Fackety  
Michael William Johnson  
Samuel James Shaffo

*Associate of Technical Studies*  
Amy Nicole Bilyeu

Abram Stephen McComb  
Michael Martin Miller  
Dallas David Pugh  
David George Vicker  
Zachary Dale Wallace

*Bachelor of Arts*  
Munib Ali Althary

Melissa Louise Rencewicz  
John Patrick Wise

*Bachelor of Engineering*  
Joshua Paul Babbey  
Leonard Dyrone Cain  
Marc Vincent Capuano  
Michael Patrick Duffy

## COLLEGE OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, & MATHEMATICS *(continued)*

Shannon N. Hannis  
Hamza Rahman  
Bhaskar Reddy  
Kyle W. Riffle  
Geoffrey P. Trees  
Christopher L. Tyrrell  
Michael Paul Yatsco

### *Bachelor of Science*

Nadia Badar  
Craig Michael Candle  
John Franklin Clay II  
Albert James Cook III  
Renato Conley dela Cruz  
Tyler William Drombosky  
Panagiotis E. Elenis

Sarah Beth Eskay  
Joel Michael Follmeyer  
Jacquelynn Marie Guerino  
Hilliary Sarah Hill  
Andrew Harrison Holmes  
Karthik S. Iyer  
Jonathan Dean Johnson  
Scott Franklin Kathary  
Caitlin Eileen Merrin  
William Joseph Reed  
Jacob Anthony Saborse  
Mahsa Shayesteh  
Roza Shayesteh  
James Shuster  
Matthew Scott Stoffer  
Alyssa Rae Underwood

Mary Sara Vondra  
Ashley Nichole Whitfield  
Heather L. Williams  
Elizabeth Theresa Zell

### *Bachelor of Science in Applied Science*

Jacob Michael Higgins  
Robert Joseph Kanos  
Michael Lindeman  
James Lee O'Rell  
Todd Alan Orr  
Brandon Leigh Ostrode  
Kathy L. Ritzler  
Seth T. Stigliano  
Eric Andrew Ziegler

## WILLIAMSON COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

### *Associate of Arts*

Felicia Colette Fuller  
Chauncey George Hilson  
James Brian Johnson

### *Associate of Technical Studies*

Paul Bolder II

### *Bachelor of Science in Business Administration*

Matthew C. Adkins  
Rachel Marie Carson  
Erika Christine Carter  
Devon Marie Cleland  
Kolton Ross Codner  
Kyle Joseph Conway  
Jamie C. Cutshaw  
Dominic Anthony Diorio  
Nicole Beth Domino  
Jason A. Green  
Vikki L. Greene

Megan Lynn Gregory  
Jesse Aaron Halko  
Benjamin Joseph Haug  
Megan Beth Houpp  
Ian Paul Jobes  
Lauren Adele Kovach  
Jennifer Jo Kusmierk  
Mark Daniel Lipinsky  
Jennifer Christine Lonsway  
Matthew Thomas Mackall  
Candace Ann Madden  
Megan Leigh Malone  
Stephen Charles Matasic II  
Amy Renee Mauerman  
Jerome James McConnell  
Stephanie Lynn McElfresh  
Gemini Rae McLaughlin  
Brian S. Mellott  
Richard Anthony Mosco  
Charles William Olenych  
Steven M. Osborn

David Robert Passarelli  
Jignesh P. Patel  
Christopher William Patrick  
Kurtis Albert Presnar  
Scott James Raschilla  
Timothy Robert Richards  
Edward Eugene Robertson  
Marc Ryan Russell  
Ashraf Isam Salman  
Stephanie Marie Sams  
Alison Rae Samuels  
Jennifer Nicole Sterling  
Alison Elizabeth Straub  
Brad Joseph Susany  
Mary M. Toomey  
Rachel Lyn Voithofer  
Ryan Allen Wackerman  
JeriLyn Walsh  
Jada L. Whipple  
Brent William Woolf

# YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY

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**Joseph Mosca, Ph.D.,** *Dean of The Dominic A. and Helen M. Bitonte College of Health and Human Services*



## **MACE BEARER**

**Nathan Ritchey, Ph.D.**

*Professor and Chair of the Department of Mathematics and Statistics*

Dr. Nathan Ritchey earned his Ph.D. in Mathematics at Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh PA and is currently Professor and Chair of the Department of Mathematics and Statistics. Over the last twenty years, Nate Ritchey has served YSU in a variety of ways. During the 1990s, he was the founding director of University Scholars program and was instrumental in achieving significant growth and student participation in the Honors Program. Since 2000, (except for 1.5 years as Interim Associate Provost) Dr. Ritchey has served as Chair of the Department of Mathematics and Statistics, a department that has received much regional and national attention for student and faculty successes.

Dr. Ritchey is a coauthor of several textbooks, two of which have become quite popular. His area of expertise is mathematical decision making and optimization. Using mathematical modeling and probability theory, professor Ritchey has written research articles on topics that range from medical research and breast cancer to economics and predicting oil reserves.

In his spare time, he is an avid women's fastpitch softball enthusiast and coach.

## **READER**

**Gary Sexton, M.M.**

*Director of WYSU-FM*

**Youngstown**  
STATE UNIVERSITY

## MARSHALS

**Robert J. Beebe, Ed.D.,** *Professor of Educational Foundations, Research, Technology, and Leadership*

**Guang-Hwa (Andy) Chang, Ph.D.,** *Professor of Mathematics*

**Huaiyu (Peter) Chen, Ph.D.,** *Assistant Professor of Accounting and Finance*

**Maria E. Delost, Ph.D.,** *Professor of Health Professions*

**Patrick R. Durrell, Ph.D.,** *Assistant Professor of Physics and Astronomy*

**Adam C. Earnhardt, Ph.D.,** *Assistant Professor of Communication*

**Sylvia J. Imler, Ph.D.,** *Assistant Professor of Counseling and Special Education*

**Deborah L. Jackson, Ph.D.,** *Assistant Professor of Counseling and Special Education*

**Rammohan Kasuganti, D.B.A.,** *Chair and Professor of Management*

**Robert W. Kramer, Ph.D.,** *Associate Professor of Computer Science and Information Systems*

**Keith J. Lepak, Ph.D.,** *Associate Professor of Political Science*

**Suzanne M. Leson, M.S.,** *Instructor of Human Ecology*

**Jeanine L. Mincher, M.S.D.,** *Instructor of Human Ecology*

**Mustansir Mir, Ph.D.,** *Professor of Philosophy and Religious Studies*

**Dennis P. Morawski, Ph.D.,** *Chair and Associate Professor of Social Work*

**Faramarz Mossayebi, Ph.D.,** *Associate Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering*

**Alfred W. Owens, Ph.D.,** *Professor of Communication*

**Jennifer A. Pintar, Ph.D.,** *Associate Professor of Human Performance and Exercise Science*

**Thomas W. Pittman, M.A.,** *Instructor of English*

**Peter A. Reday, Ph.D.,** *Assistant Professor of Marketing*

**Patricia B. Wagner, J.D.,** *Chair and Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice and Forensic Sciences*

**Gary R. Walker, Ph.D.,** *Acting Chair and Professor of Biology*

**Anne York, Ph.D.,** *Associate Professor of History*

## Academic Regalia and Ceremony

The gowns, hoods, and caps worn in academic ceremonies today are relics of those worn in medieval times by students and professors. Probably the gowns and hoods were worn for warmth in the unheated halls where lectures were delivered. From the sixteenth century on, somber black garb became the norm, and it is primarily in the hoods worn in academic processions today that the medieval academic pageantry is retained.

The hoods representing graduate degrees granted by various colleges and universities have linings (turned to exhibit their hues to the fullest advantage) in the colors of the granting institutions. In addition, the facing of the hood represents by its color the discipline in which the degree has been granted: white for arts, letters or humanities; golden yellow for science; purple for law; green for medicine; lemon yellow for library science; orange for engineering; olive for commerce or business; light blue for education; pink for music; brown for fine arts; apricot for nursing; dark blue for philosophy; scarlet for theology; citron for social work; sage green for physical education.

There are different opinions about the origin of the caps worn in academic ceremonies. One view is that the "mortar board" is in actuality adapted from the wooden square used by masons. Another is that it stems from the ecclesiastical or clerical head covering of the medieval period.

There is something of the same adherence to tradition in commencement processions that exists in academic garb, although each institution has



the right to adapt the ceremony to its own requirement. The faculty leads the line of march followed by the candidates for degrees. Then follow the chief marshals, the president, speaker, trustees, deans, and other members of the party to be seated on the platform.

Recipients of University Honors receive golden honor cords placed around the shoulders. University Scholars wear a specially minted medallion on a red ribbon to denote their academic achievement.

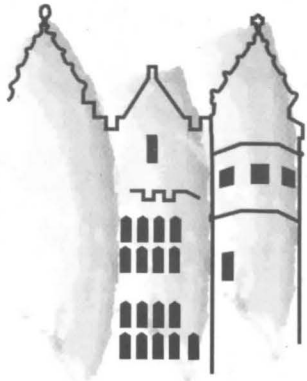
### The Presidential Medallion

President Sweet wears a one-of-a-kind medallion that bears an embossment of the Youngstown State University seal on each of the small elements and on the large central piece. On the back of the central medallion are engraved the names of the University's five past presidents and Dr. Sweet.

The presidential medallion was designed and created out of sterling and bronze by Wendell August Forge of Grove City, Pennsylvania. Dr. Sweet is the first president to wear this medallion.

### The Youngstown State University Seal

The University's official seal was adopted in 1936. Designed by a student, the seal includes a torch, quills, wings, a globe, and the Latin words *animus liberatus*. In simple terms, those words summarize the transformation—or liberation—that occurs on this campus countless times each day. In English, they are translated *The Mind Freed*, or *The Spirit Freed*.



## Youngstown State University— An Innovative Educational Leader

*F*ounded in 1908, Youngstown State University originally served 160 students with about a dozen faculty members and provided expanded educational opportunity for all people—store clerks and factory managers, steel industry workers, newly arrived immigrants, women and men, and both part-time and full-time learners.


This progressive spirit guided the development of the institution as it evolved from a YMCA technical institute, later as Youngstown College (1928), then as Youngstown University (1955) and, in 1967, as Youngstown State University, a member of the Ohio public higher education system.

Today, Youngstown State University is a leading comprehensive university, serving more than 13,500 full- and part-time students with 120 undergraduate programs, 40 master's degree programs and two doctoral degree programs.

There are more than 440 full-time faculty and 775 professional and support staff members in seven colleges, schools and administrative departments.

In partnership with schools and the corporate and non-profit communities, Youngstown State University promotes diversity and excellence in teaching, research, and service to increase the educational attainment and economic and environmental vitality of the region.

Throughout its 100-year history, Youngstown State University has been cited as an innovative educational leader. It has also been recognized through numerous awards—both in academics and athletics—as one of the best urban, public, comprehensive universities in the United States.

Each graduate we celebrate today is a YSU Success Story. They join more than 88,000 outstanding alumni members across the nation and around the world. 

## *Alma Mater*

All hail to thee, O Youngstown,  
Our Alma Mater fair;  
In sunlight and starshine  
We see thee in all thy glory.  
The Red and the White, thy glorious colors,  
Ever we praise and hold them  
High to the breeze as the symbol of our  
Most loyal allegiance.  
This anthem, O Youngstown,  
Our pledge of trust shall be  
That thy sons and daughters  
Shall keep faith with thee forever.