

SCHOOL OF
GRADUATE STUDIES
AND RESEARCH
COMMENCEMENT
YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY



SATURDAY, MAY SEVENTEENTH
TWO THOUSAND AND EIGHT
TWO THIRTY O'CLOCK, STAMBAUGH AUDITORIUM

THE CENTENNIAL 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.

THE CENTENNIAL 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 under the leadership of YSU professor Greg Moring, was designed and crafted by a collaborative team that included YSU faculty, students, alumni, and area K-12 art educators.

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.

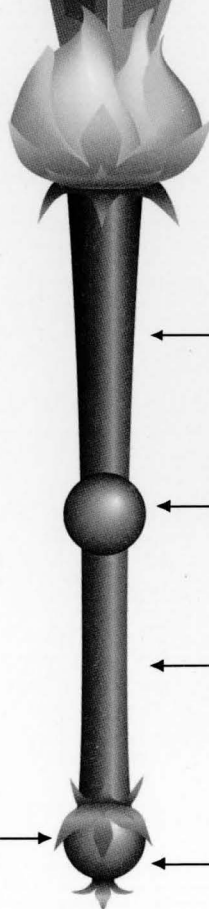
Polished Rosewood Upper Grip

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.....	Sean Baran <i>Freshman, Dana School of Music, College of Fine and Performing Arts</i>
ACADEMIC PROCESSIONAL	"Suite No. 2 in F: I. March" by Gustav Holst "Quintet No 1: Mvt. III" by Victor Ewald Trinity Brass Quintet Sean Baran, Dennis Hawkins & Amanda Fischer, trumpet; Shannon McFadden, horn; Gregory Moose, trombone <i>Freshmen, Dana School of Music, College of Fine and Performing Arts</i>
WELCOME.....	David C. Sweet <i>President</i>
NATIONAL ANTHEM.....	Carrie Minenok <i>Junior, Dana School of Music, College of Fine and Performing Arts</i>
STUDENT REFLECTION.....	Michael Evans <i>Graduate Candidate, College of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics</i>
INTRODUCTION OF TRUSTEES.....	President Sweet
GREETINGS AND REMARKS.....	John Pogue <i>Chairperson of the Board of Trustees</i>
INTRODUCTION OF THE SPEAKER.....	Ikram Khawaja <i>Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs</i>
ADDRESS.....	Anu Shukla <i>Founder and CEO, Offerpal Media, Inc.</i>
MUSICAL SELECTION.....	Ms. Minenok "The Impossible Dream" from Man of La Mancha (1972), music by Mitch Leigh Ms. Minenok, vocalist; Mr. Baran, pianist
RECOGNITION OF GRADUATES.....	Interim Provost Khawaja
CONFERRING OF DEGREES.....	President Sweet
PRESENTATION OF ANU SHUKLA TO RECEIVE THE HONORARY DEGREE DOCTOR OF HUMANE LETTERS.....	President Sweet
PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES.....	Peter J. Kasvinsky <i>Associate Provost for Research and Dean of the School of Graduate Studies and Research</i>
CLOSING REMARKS.....	President Sweet
ALMA MATER.....	Ms. Minenok From Symphony No. 1 by Johannes Brahms
RECESSIONAL.....	Quintet No. 1: Mvt. I by Victor Ewald "Dance" by Wilke Renwick
RECEPTION.....	Second Floor Lobby, Stambaugh Auditorium

Attorney John Pogue, chairperson of the Board of Trustees and Interim Provost Khawaja will invest Ms. Shukla with the hood.

The audience is asked to be seated after the singing of the Alma Mater and to remain seated during the recessional.

RECIPIENT OF THE DEGREE HONORARY DOCTOR OF HUMANE LETTERS

Anu Shukla is a serial entrepreneur. She is the founder and CEO of Offerpal Media, a social advertising network. Prior to founding Offerpal Media, she was the founder and CEO of Mybuys Inc. where she currently serves on the Board of Directors. Mybuys is a venture-backed company in the eCommerce personalization market. Prior to Mybuys, Ms. Shukla pioneered the concept of internet marketing automation as founder and CEO of Rubric, Inc., which was acquired in 2000 for \$366 million.

Prior to her founding of Rubric, Ms. Shukla held a variety of executive roles including the vice president of marketing and product strategy at Versata (VATA), and vice president of worldwide marketing and product management at Compuware/Uniface Corporation (CPWR).



Anu Shukla

Ms. Shukla serves on the board of directors of FWE&E (Forum for Women Entrepreneurs and Executives), the International Museum of Women, and the advisory board for the Leavey School of Business, Santa Clara University. She was named to the computer industry "Dream Team" by *Business 2.0* magazine in 2004 and named a YSU Distinguished Alumni in 2005 and 2005 Entrepreneur of the Year by the Washington D.C.-based Dialogue on Diversity organization.

Ms. Shukla earned a Master of Business Administration with a marketing emphasis from Youngstown State University in 1984. She also received a Bachelor of Arts in history from YSU in 1982 and a bachelor's degree in history with honors from St. Stephen's College in New Delhi, India, in 1979.

COMMENCEMENT STUDENT SPEAKER

Today's graduate student speaker, Michael Evans, graduated from Mineral Ridge High School in 2000 and entered Youngstown State University as a biology major. A class in organic chemistry so interested him that he changed his major to chemistry. His undergraduate research with Dr. Peter Norris was funded by YSU's School of Graduate Studies and Research. He also tutored organic chemistry in the Center for Student Progress on campus.



Michael Evans

Mr. Evans received his Bachelor of Science in chemistry in 2005 and, after a year's

hiatus, began his master's degree work at YSU. He calls this "the most academically challenging program" he had ever attempted, and he gained valuable experience from coursework, teaching, research, and publication in *Polyhedron*, a refereed professional journal. He is interviewing currently with two large pharmaceutical corporations and, in the longer term, is considering a career in government.

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

Master of Arts

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <p>Olive Adu-Bah, B. Comm
University of Cape Coast,
Ghana
Financial Economics</p> | <p>Elaine Autumn Habeger, B.A.
Youngstown State University
English</p> | <p>Thesis: <i>Sojourners Spies and Citizens: The Interned Latin American Japanese Civilians During WWII</i></p> |
| <p>Michael R. Brenner, B.S. in
Ed., M.A.
Youngstown State University
American Studies</p> | <p>Phillip M. Hamrick, B.A.
Youngstown State University
English
Thesis: <i>The Pedagogical Effectiveness of Cognitive Grammar and Traditional Grammar: An Empirical Study</i></p> | <p>Lynn A. Nickels, B.A.
Youngstown State University
English</p> |
| <p>Paul C. Brenner, B.A., M.S.
Youngstown State University
History</p> | <p>Lae'l Imahav Hughes Watkins,
A.A., B.A.
Youngstown State University
English
Thesis: <i>The Resurrection of Fay Jackson: The Life and Works of an African American Female Journalist</i></p> | <p>Viriya Phokaisawan, B.E.,
M.B.A.
Thammasat University,
Thailand;
Youngstown State University
Financial Economics</p> |
| <p>Laura Cuppone, B.A.
Universita Degli Studi Di
Roma, Italy
History
Thesis: <i>Silent Presences: Italian-American Women's Experiences in the Mahoning Valley, 1880-1930</i></p> | <p>Laura Joan Markovitch, B.A.,
B.S. in Ed.
Youngstown State University
English</p> | <p>Melodie Anne Provencher, B.A.
Northern Illinois University
English</p> |
| <p>Attilio D'Agresti, B.A.
University of Bergamo, Italy
English
Thesis: <i>Silvio Berlusconi and the Americanization of Italian Politics: A Political Analysis Through the Commentaries of Il Corriere Della Sera</i></p> | <p>Samantha Anne Maziarz, B.A.
State University of New York
at Buffalo
English
Thesis: <i>Sentiment & Squalor: Picking Through the Wreckage to Find Meaning in Carolyn Chute's Egypt, Maine Novels</i></p> | <p>Catharine W. M. Rudnicki, B.A.
Syracuse University
History
Thesis: <i>In Her Words: The Historically Edited Diary of Elizabeth Tucker Coalter Bryan, in the Context of the History of Southern Antebellum Women</i></p> |
| <p>James Andrew Dudash, B.A.
Youngstown State University
English</p> | <p>Jennifer Marie Mitchell, B.A.
Youngstown State University
American Studies</p> | <p>James J. Sacco, B.A.
Youngstown State University
English</p> |
| <p>Zetta Marie Dumkrieger, B.A.
Youngstown State University
History</p> | <p>Kelly Ann Murphy, B.A.
Youngstown State University
English</p> | <p>David P. Shelton, B.S. in B.A.
Youngstown State University
Financial Economics</p> |
| <p>Joshua Lennard Foster, B.A.,
B.F.A.
Youngstown State University
History</p> | <p>Esther S. Newman, B.S.
Oregon State University
History</p> | <p>Melanie Elaine Sherman, B.S.
in B.A.
Youngstown State University
Economics</p> |
| <p>Amy Jo Giovannone, B.A.
Youngstown State University
English</p> | | <p>Rebecca Lynn Smith, B.A.
Kent State University
History</p> |

SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES AND RESEARCH *(continued)*

Tammy L. Troup, B.F.A.
The University of Akron
History
Thesis: *Building East Akron:
The Local Vision of F.A.
Seiberling and City of Akron*

Christa M. Welch, B.S. in Ed.
Slippery Rock University
English

Ashley Marie Zampogna,
B.A.
University of Pittsburgh
History
Thesis: *America May Not
Perish!: The Italian American
Fight Against the Ku Klux
Klan in Niles, Ohio*

Master of Business Administration

Matthew A. Cooke, B.S. in B.A.
Youngstown State University
General

Emilova Dimova, B.S. in B.A.
Youngstown State University
Management

Jonathan Joseph Duran,
B.S.A.S.
Youngstown State University
Management

James Patrick Elenz, B.S. in
B.A.
Youngstown State University
General

Kelly Ann Flaschberger, B.A.
Kent State University
General

Jiacheng Guo, B.S.
Indiana University of
Pennsylvania
Management

Dustin Vincent Kudler, B.S.
in B.A.
Youngstown State University
Management

Courtney J. Means, B.A.
Kent State University
Management

Ariggle Aaron Moore, B.S.
Gannon University
Management

Mark Gustav Nemenz, B.S.
Ohio Northern University
Management

Natalya A. Schenck, B.S., M.A.
Saint Petersburg State
University, Russia;
Youngstown State University
General

Scott K. Seeley, B.A.
Youngstown State University
General

Daniel Taormina, B.E.
Geneva College
General

Joshua Michael Vitale, B.E.
Youngstown State University
General

Donna Marie Walsh, B.S. in
B.A.
The University of Akron
General

Rosanna V. Zarzycki, B.S. in
B.A.
Youngstown State University
General

Master of Computing & Information Systems

Shawn Joseph Canavan, B.S.
Youngstown State University
Computing & Information
Systems
Thesis: *Face Recognition by
Multi-Frame Fusion of
Rotating Heads in Video*

Cameron Antoine Hughes,
B.S.
Youngstown State University
Computing and Information
Systems
Thesis: *Epistemic Structures
Over Interrogative Domain
Models*

Tracey Diane Hughes, B.S.
Youngstown State University
Computing and Information
Systems
Thesis: *Visualization of
Epistemic Structures Over an
Interrogative Domain Model*

Keith L. Logan Jr., B.A.
Youngstown State University
Computing & Information
Systems

Master of Fine Arts

Allison Joyce Graf, B.A.
Mount Union College
Creative Writing
Thesis: *"Dig a Little Deeper"*

Aaron M. Smith, B.A.
Kent State University
Creative Writing
Thesis: *Boneyard Shifts and
Shadow Work*

Master of Health & Human Services

Leslie C. Brazel, B.S.
Clarion University of
Pennsylvania
Health & Human Services

Ryan Ashley McNicholas,
B.S.A.S.
Youngstown State University
Health & Human Services

Master of Music

Heather Louise Criazzo, B.M.
Youngstown State University
Music Education

SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES AND RESEARCH *(continued)*

Anjanette D. DePoy, B.M.
Youngstown State University
Music Education

Lisa Ann Eisenbraun, B.M.
Youngstown State University
Music Education

Andrew Sheehan Erb, B.M.
Westminster College
Performance

Bryan Earle Kennard, B.M.
Mercyhurst College
Performance

Sara Anne Kind, B.M.
Lawrence University
Performance

Sarah Michal Korb, B.M.
Concordia College
Performance

Robert K. Matchett III B.M.
Youngstown State University
Music Education

Alison Marie Morris, B.A.
Baldwin-Wallace College
Performance

Brian Patrick Quinn, B.M.
Youngstown State University
Performance

Gregory Alan Rezabek, B.M.
Youngstown State University
Music Education

Natalie Jean Sahyoun, B.M.
Youngstown State University
Performance

Brian Scott Sweigart, B.M.
Cleveland Institute of Music
Performance

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

Timothy John Webb, B.M.
The Ohio State University
Theory and Composition
Thesis: *"The Provocative
Prokofiev" Composition
"Samson at the Temple
Gates"*

Master of Physical Therapy

Sam Vang Doan, B.S.
Kent State University
Physical Therapy

Adam Douglas Kamm, B.S.
Miami University of Ohio
Physical Therapy

Kristen Nicole Moffatt,
B.S.A.S.
Youngstown State University
Physical Therapy

Master of Science

Lok Acharya, B. Pharm
Rajiv Gandhi University of
Health Sciences, India
Chemistry
Thesis: *Chemical and Physical
Characteristics of Mahoning
River Sediment Before and
After Fungal Bioremediation*

Nicole Lynn Cornell, B.S.
Youngstown State University
Biology

Jordan Lawrence Dananay,
B.S.A.S.
Youngstown State University
Criminal Justice

Rachel Ellen Detec, B.S.A.S.
Youngstown State University
Criminal Justice

Michael Ryan Evans, B.A.
Youngstown State University
Chemistry
Thesis: *Toward Mimics of
N-Acetyl-D-Fucosamine*

LaTisha Denise Foster, B.S.
Youngstown State University
Biology
Thesis: *The Effect of a High
Sodium Diet on the Ultra
Structure of the Ventricle of
Male and Female Borderline
Hypertensive Rats*

Linda D. Glover, B.S.A.S.
Youngstown State University
Criminal Justice

Daniel Joseph Kuzma, B.S.
Youngstown State University
Environmental Studies
Thesis: *Impact of Recycled
Paper Fiber on Total Carbon
Dioxide Output During
Linerboard Production*

Vincent Kyle Ragozine, B.S.
The Ohio State University
Biology
Thesis: *Analyses of Ribosomal
DNA Internal Transcribed
Spacer Sequences From
Juglans Nigra and Leaf-
Associated Fungi in Zoar
Valley, NY*

Steven Jude Robbins, B.S.
Youngstown State University
Biology
Thesis: *mTor and cdc
2+ Expression During
Myogenesis*

Sarala Kumari Sajja,
B. Pharm.
Rajiv Gandhi University of
Health Science, India
Chemistry
Thesis: *Microbial Community
Structure by Fatty Acid
Analysis and Polycyclic
Aromatic Hydrocarbon
Degradation in River
Sediment Augmented with
Pleurotus Ostreatus*

SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES AND RESEARCH *(continued)*

Gregory W. Shook Jr., B.S.
Youngstown State University
Biology

Thesis: *Eavesdropping in
Plants: A Cure for the
Biochemical Recognition
Hypothesis*

Mathew Thomas Smith,
B.S.A.S.
Youngstown State University
Criminal Justice

Karen E. Stangl, B.S.
Wells College
Biology
Thesis: *Proteomic Analysis
of Phase-switch Studies
on Penicillium Marneffeii
Reveals Proteins Involved
in Temperature-dependent
Dimorphism*

Roxanne Michelle Swogger,
B.S.A.S.
Youngstown State University
Criminal Justice
Thesis: *Evaluation
Study of Institutional
Batterer's Intervention
Program Within the
Ohio Department of
Rehabilitation and
Correction*

Master of Science in Education

Misty Danielle Berry, B.S. in Ed.
Youngstown State University
Master Teacher—Special
Education, Gifted &
Talented
Education Specialist

Dani June Burns, B.S. in Ed.
Youngstown State University
Educational Administration

Sh'Annon J. Caldwell, B.S.
in Ed., M.S. in Ed.
Youngstown State University
Master Teacher—Special
Education, Gifted &
Talented
Education Specialist

Erica J. Clason, B.S. in Ed.
Edinboro University of
Pennsylvania
Special Education

Scott Gordon Collins, B.S. in
Ed.
Youngstown State University
Educational Administration

Meledy June Dawson,
B.S. in Ed.
The Ohio State University
Master Teacher—Special
Education,
Early Childhood

Lisa Marie Devlin, B.A.
Westminster College
Master Teacher—Secondary
Curriculum

Heather L. DiGregorio, B.S.
Youngstown State University
Counseling

Andrea Marie Ferenac, B.S.
Youngstown State University
Educational Administration

Brenda Ann Hilbert, B.S.
Youngstown State University
Educational Administration

Marybeth Keeler, B.A.
Kent State University
Counseling

George Phillip Kennedy Jr.,
B.S.W.
Youngstown State University
Counseling

Melissa Rae Kirby, B.A.
University of Washington
Counseling

Jessica Lynn Krumpak, B.S.
in Ed.
Youngstown State University
Special Education

Sarah Rae Long, B.S. in Ed.
Youngstown State University
Special Education, Autism

Carolyn E. Lorenzi, B.S. in
Ed.
Youngstown State University
Special Education

Jennifer Lyn Mackovick,
B.S.A.S., B.A.
Youngstown State University
Counseling

Shawn Vincent Marcello,
B.S. in Ed.
Youngstown State University
Educational Administration

Megan T. Marino, B.A., M.A.
University of Arkansas
Educational Administration

Bradlee Meehan,
M.S. in Ed.
Slippery Rock University
Educational Administration

Dominic Rocco Mileto,
B.S. in Ed.
Youngstown State University
Educational Administration

Melvin L. North, B.A.
Kent State University
Counseling

Dana J. Patterson, B.S. in Ed.
Youngstown State University
Master Teacher—Special
Education, Gifted &
Talented Education
Specialist

Ashley Snyder, B.A.
Thiel College
Special Education, Autism

Gwen E. Spitz, B.A.
Syracuse University
Master Teacher—
Elementary, Reading
Specialist

SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES AND RESEARCH *(continued)*

Timothy M. Styranec, B.S.,
B.E., B.S. in Ed.
Youngstown State University
Master Teacher—
Adolescent/Young Adult,
Chemistry

Dominic Silvio Venetti II
B.S. in Ed.
Youngstown State University
Counseling

Rochelle Lynette Wysinger,
B.A.
Youngstown State University
Counseling

Master of Science in Engineering

Scott Bradley Anderson, B.S.
University of Pittsburgh
Mechanical Engineering
Thesis: *Modeling of a Drum
Boiler Using MATLAB/
Simulink*

Hadi G. El-Chammas, B.E.
Youngstown State University
Civil Engineering

Varun K. Kasaraneni, B.S.
Acharya Nagarjuna
University, India
Civil Engineering

Marouane Tabbouche, B.S.
E'cole Nationale
D'Agriculture de Meknes,
Morocco
Civil Engineering

Jonathan James Unger, B.E.
Youngstown State University
Industrial Engineering

Master of Science in Nursing
Wanda L. Cassavettes, B.S.N.
Kent State University
Nursing

Mary Kay DelliQuadri, B.S.N.
The Pennsylvania State
University
Nursing

Jill Ellen Rankin, B.S.N.
Youngstown State University
Nursing

Erica C. Smith-Brown,
B.S.N.
The Pennsylvania State
University
Nursing

Master of Social Work

Ashleigh Joy Davis, B.S.
Kent State University
Social Work

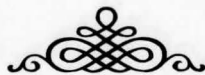
Laura Evans, B.A.
The Pennsylvania State
University
Social Work

Jonai Raechele Phifer, B.A.
Youngstown State University
Social Work

Freda Marie Pritchett, B.A.
The Ohio State University
Social Work

Karissa Rodriguez, B.S.
Kent State University
Social Work

Joseph D. Simons, B.A.
Youngstown State University
Social Work



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Physical Chemistry*





YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY

MARSHALS

Priscilla N. Gitimu, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of Human Ecology

Sherry L. Linkon, Ph.D.

Professor of English and American Studies

Faramarz Mossayebi, Ph.D.

Associate Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering

Daniel J. O'Neill, Ph.D.

Professor of Communication

J. Rajendran Pandian, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of Management

Michael Theall, Ph.D.

Associate Professor of Teacher Education

READER

Gary Sexton, M.M.

Director of WYSU-FM



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 institu-



tion 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 shoul-

ders. 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 12,800 full- and part-time students with 120 undergraduate programs, 40 master's degree programs and a doctorate in education. There

are more than 420 full-time faculty and 750 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 85,000 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.