

FOR RELEASE IMMEDIATE

Contact: Bob McGill

Mailed April 21, 1986

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the fourth in a series of seven releases on a total of \$692,000 awarded YSU by the Ohio Board of Regents in "academic challenge" funds to develop key areas of academic endeavor to meet demands of the future.

YOUNGSTOWN, Ohio - With the \$90,000 that it received from the Ohio Board of Regents' "academic challenge" program, Youngstown State University's Elementary Education and Reading Department is planning to develop a new program to improve middle school education.

YSU received a total of \$692,000 in "challenge" funds for seven academic programs to provide incentive to advance the quality of undergraduate programs which are related to the University's goals and will also benefit the local community and state.

The new "challenge" program in the Elementary Education and Reading Department in YSU's School of Education will have the greatest impact on undergraduate students preparing to teach in middle schools, according to Dr. Gloria Tribble of Youngstown, chairwoman of the department. It will also have an impact on the schools where these students will be assigned, she added.

The "challenge" funds will be used to develop an "exemplary teachers education program," Dr. Tribble commented.

Dr. Janet Beary of Shippenville, Pa., an assistant professor of elementary education and reading, said objectives to be met include a leadership training program, a curriculum development phase, and the on-site implementation of curriculums and programs developed through the efforts of the YSU department and area middle schools.

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In the leadership training program, Dr. Beary explained, the department will plan and hold workshops for area teachers and students interested in working in a middle school (grades 5 through 8). It is expected that these workshops will concentrate on the problems and issues of the middle school system and will offer teachers ways in which they might improve programs within their schools.

The second phase will involve selection of some area middle school teachers to help the department develop the "middle school philosophy." Dr. Beary said this should include nurturing all of the pupils' talents.

The third phase of the program will involve planning and development of a middle school curriculum by the Department of Elementary Education and Reading.

Dr. Beary said information and research gained from developing and implementing the program will be used to generate a data base that will benefit the University, area school systems, and the community.

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YOUNGSTOWN, Ohio - Youngstown State University's Office of Continuing Education has scheduled two art programs for young people.

"Cartoon Art: Grades 2-6" and "Cartoon Art: Grades 7-12" will both be held on Saturdays, April 26-June 14.

The courses will focus on the fundamentals of the art of cartooning, with special attention on drawing comic strips. If your child likes to draw, or even doodle, this course can teach them to put their funny ideas into pictures.

David Schwartz of Youngstown, art director for WKBN-TV, will teach the courses.

"Cartoon Art: Grades 2-6" will be held from 9-10 a.m. Saturdays and "Cartoon Art: Grades 7-12" will meet from 10:30-11:30 a.m. on Saturdays.

The cost of each course is \$70.

To register, or to receive additional information, call the YSU Office of Continuing Education at (216) 742-3358.

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