



Excellence at Work

An e-newsletter for faculty and staff scholarly achievements

Aug. 25, 2020



FEATURED

Dana Sperry, associate professor of Digital Media, has released a self-guided audio walk titled, *The Why Here: 1877 Railroad Strike*. The walk examines the physical and intellectual connections between the largely forgotten 1877 railroad strike in Pittsburgh and technology advancements currently taking place just blocks away by big tech corporations such as Uber. "I'm not a historian, but I like to think of how history dovetails into technology and how it affects us at different intersections of life," Sperry said. Sperry earned a bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Painting/Sculpture, a bachelor's degree in Philosophy from Southern Methodist University and a master of Fine Arts degree in Sculpture/Digital Media from Indiana University. **Listen.**

(Pictured is the burning of the Pennsylvania Railroad and Union Depot in Pittsburgh, from *Harper's Weekly*.)

PUBLICATIONS



ACRONYM, a baroque string band founded by **Kivie Cahn-Lipman**, assistant professor in the Dana School of Music, has released its 10th CD, titled **Cantica Obsoleta**. "For this recording, we searched this treasure trove of 17th-century music for the most beautiful and fascinating works available," said Cahn-Lipman, who holds degrees from the Oberlin Conservatory of Music, The Juilliard School and the University of Cincinnati. "It is likely the first time any of these 'forgotten songs' have been heard in

Amy Laurel Fluker, assistant professor of History, has published two articles related to the Civil War: "**The Recuperative Powers of Missouri: The Civil War and Reconciliation in a Border State**," in *Missouri Historical Review*, and "**Union, Loyalty, and Patriotic Sacrifice in the Civil War North**" in *The New England Quarterly*. The first article explores the challenges faced by Missouri's veterans as they struggled to reconcile in the aftermath of the Civil War, and the second is an essay about how politics, gender, race and ethnicity shaped the experiences of Northerners in the conflict. Fluker earned a bachelor's degree from Westminster College in Missouri and master's and PhD degrees from the University of Mississippi, all in American History. She joined the YSU faculty in 2018.



Mollie Hartup, instructor and coordinator of Student Development and Retention in the YSU Honors College, published "**Life Interrupted—Finding the Good, Despite the Challenges, in the Pandemic as a Professional**" in the *Western ABC Bulletin*, a publication of the Western Region Association for Business Communication.



hundreds of years.” The disc includes music from the Düben Collection, consisting of 2,300 manuscripts assembled by composers who served as Kapellmeister (“chapel master” or director of music) to the Royal Swedish Court in Stockholm. Cahn-Lipman, a cellist, appears on more than 40 recordings and has performed frequently in Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center and other major venues on four continents. He joined the YSU faculty in 2017. [Listen.](#)

Hartup, former editor of the *YSU Magazine*, is currently pursuing a PhD in Communication and Information at Kent State University. Her research explores communicative practices in organizations that foster and inhibit knowledge exchange. The article discusses the work the Honors College did to help support students early on in the pandemic.

Paul Louth, associate professor of Music and coordinator of Music Education in the Dana School of Music, published “Emphasis and Suggestion versus Musical Taxidermy: Neoliberal Contradictions, Music Education and the Knowledge Economy” in *Philosophy of Music Education Review*. The article analyzes the creeping influence of standardization in music education. Louth holds bachelor’s degrees in Music Performance and Education from the University of Toronto and a master’s and PhD in Music Education from the University of Western Ontario.



Robert J. Korenic, associate professor and program coordinator of Civil and Construction Engineering Technology, published "Case Study: Urban Revival and Appropriate Storm Water Management" in the *Journal of Sustainability Education Water and Climate Issue* (March 2020).



FEATURED

Abdu Arslanyilmaz, associate professor, Computer Science, Information and Engineering Technology, received a \$286,526 research and development grant from National Science Foundation to design, develop and test an accessible computing curriculum for students with autism spectrum disorders. **Margaret Briley**, assistant professor of Teacher Education, is the co-principal

investigator, with Potential Development and the Rich Center for Autism as collaborators. The project is for two years, with a potential of an additional three-year second phase of a larger scale project within the same NSF program. The ultimate purpose is to provide a publicly accessible computing curriculum repository to teach computational thinking to students with ASD.

PRESENTATIONS

Sarah Jenyk, instructor of Economics, presented “Economics (In)Action: Revamping a Survey of Economics Course” at EconEd in New Orleans. Jenyk, who earned bachelor’s and master’s degrees in Economics from YSU, was a research assistant at the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland and an economic assistant for the Bureau of Labor Statistics before joining the YSU faculty in 2011. **Watch.**



Caroline Oltmanns, professor of Piano in the YSU Dana School of Music, was among 13 international performers who took part in UNICEF’s virtual benefit **Concert for Children**. Other performers included YSU alums **Sophie van der Westhuizen**, MM Music Performance, 2003, South Africa, and **Pierre van der Westhuizen**, MM Music Performance, 2003, South Africa, director of the Gilmore Festival.

Michelle Nelson, professor of Graphic Design, and **Ryan Geilhard**, director of IT Infrastructure Services, participated in a webinar series hosted by the Mahoning County Educational Service Center Career Counselors. More than 550 students logged into the **Virtual Career Exploration** webinars.

Carla Mattiussi, Career Development coordinator in the YSU Office of Career and Academic Advising, presented "Remote Work and Evolving Trends: A guide to looking for remote work, working remotely and employer trends in telecommuting" as part of the virtual Alumni Lecture Series.

IN THE MEDIA



Business Journal

"Oh Wow manufacturing camp focuses on COVID-19"

Tim Styraneec, health and safety specialist, YSU Office of Environmental and Occupational Health and Safety.

New York Post

"To win in 2020, Trump needs to quell America’s disruptions"



Paul Sracic, professor, Political Science

WalletHub

"Credit cards for People with No Credit"

Sarah Jenyk, senior lecturer, Economics

Denver Post

"Coronavirus and sports: What Colorado fans can expect from their new 'normal'"

Adam Earnhardt, professor and chair, Communication

The Daily Mississipian

Confederate headstones dishonor history and John Neff, the man who protected it

Amy Laurel Fluker, assistant professor, History



WFMJ Today

"Mission to the Stars"

Kurt Spivey, Ward Beecher Planetarium engineer

Mahoning Matters

"YSU professor serves as advocate for international students"

Alicia Prieto Langarica, associate professor, Mathematics and Statistics

Mahoning Matters

"YSU professor creates audio walk for historic Pittsburgh sites"

Dana Sperry, associate professor, Digital Media



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Excellence at Work, published by the YSU Office of Marketing and Communications, recognizes and celebrates the scholarly work and honors of the faculty and staff of Youngstown State University. To submit items for inclusion, complete the **online form**.

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