

# THE JAMBAR

The student voice of Youngstown State University since 1931

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Thursday, April 14, 2022



#MAKEITHAPPEN



Photo courtesy of Niko Mastorides

(Left to right) Maguire Franko and Niko Mastorides will serve as SGA 2022-23 executive vice president and president.

## SGA's election results announced

By Jessica Stamp  
The Jambar

Niko Mastorides and Maguire Franko were announced to serve as president and executive vice president April 8. The newly elected leaders will be sworn in at 4 p.m. April 25 in the Kilcawley Center's Chestnut Room.

Mastorides, a senior political science and communications major, described seeing the results as "sur-real."

"I don't think anyone really knew who was going to

win until that email was sent out," Mastorides said.

Franko, a junior finance major, is eager to serve students alongside Mastorides in their new roles.

"[The thing] I'm most looking forward to is being able to serve. Niko and I have both served in different ways on campus, but I think this is probably the focal point of service to the students," Franko said. "Niko and I are really excited to use this platform to be able to create change on campus."

SGA, Page 3

## In-person HackYSU returns

By Christopher Gillett  
The Jambar

The Youngstown State University Computer Club hosted HackYSU in the DeBartolo Stadium Room in Stambaugh Stadium April 8-10. The event was sponsored by the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics college and Student Government Association.

At the first in-person HackYSU since the beginning of the pandemic, YSU and high school students worked on their computers to create an app, game or anything of the sort, as long as they used their computers.

Samuel Hofmann, a senior information technology major and president of the Computer Club, spoke about the students who participated in the event and his past participation in HackYSU, which started back in high school for him.

"I've done music programs, music production [and] stuff like that. I've done robotics in the past. I made a tank robot for one of the days because I was bored. We get a good mix of everything just because we have people in the organization that aren't just IT majors. We get psychology students, biotech students. So you get a pretty good mix of different programs," he said.

HackYSU, Page 8

News	1-7	Opinion	12
Student Life	8-10	Classifieds	13
Entertainment	11	Sports	14-16

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**7-DAY WEATHER FORECAST****Thurs.**

Rain

High: 62°F

Low: 42°F

Chance of precipitation:  
25% rain**Fri.**

Rain

High: 68°F

Low: 50°F

Chance of precipitation:  
25% cloudy**Sat.**

Rain

High: 58°F

Low: 33°F

Chance of precipitation:  
45% rain**Sun.**

Mostly Cloudy

High: 48°F

Low: 34°F

Chance of precipitation:  
2% mostly cloudy**Mon.**

Rain

High: 50°F

Low: 35°F

Chance of precipitation:  
62% rain**Tues.**

Mostly Cloudy

High: 44°F

Low: 34°F

Chance of precipitation:  
25% cloudy**Wed.**

Fair

High: 53°F

Low: 37°F

Chance of precipitation:  
0%

Information courtesy of accuweather.com

**COVID-19 cases**April 3-9  
1 total case

0 employees



0 on-campus students



1 off-campus student

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**SGA**

Page 1

Franko said the voter turnout and engagement was the highest in nine years.

Three pairs of candidates ran in the SGA 2022-23 election and displayed signs asking students to vote for them throughout Youngstown State University's campus.

If any YSU community member believed one of the candidates violated a policy in the election, they could've filed a grievance form within 18 hours after the elections closed.

Samantha Shaffer, coordinator of community standards and student conduct, receives and looks over any grievances submitted.

"Anybody can submit them," Shaffer said. "They're submitted through an online form on the SGA website. They come to my office and get reviewed by the Elec-

tions Board to see if they want to hear it."

She also oversees the SGA Elections Board as its adviser. The election board consists of five YSU student members who already take part in the Student Conduct Board or the Academic Integrity Oversight Board.

Shaffer raises student awareness of the Code of Conduct by working with the Elections Board.

Some SGA policies a candidate can potentially violate is using campus organizations to campaign on their behalf or putting up posters larger than the standard size 8.5-by-11-inch sheet of paper. "Mudslinging" — attacking candidates personally — is another common election violation.

Grievances become public information when they go through a hearing process. SGA will post the information about the grievance but not the private information of the individual on its website. From there, the Elections Board decides whether or not the person charged with a potential violation was an actual SGA rule viola-

tion.

"It's not made public because when anybody calls and has a concern, we address that concern but it doesn't necessarily mean that ... warrants going further," Shaffer said. "If it goes to a hearing process on the information minus the privacy information ... it will be posted on the YSU SGA website."

If a candidate has a grievance filed against them and it does not go through a hearing process, then there is no impact on them. When there is a violation of SGA rules, the Elections Board can issue sanctions which can include prohibiting the individual from running for office or not being a member of SGA for that year.

Shaffer said grievances do not usually happen because students who want to run in SGA have to attend a meeting discussing the Student Code of Conduct.



Photo by Jessica Stamp / The Jambar

The SGA office, located in Kilcawley Center by The Cove, where Niko Mastorides and Maguire Franko will serve as president and executive vice president.



## 'DON'T SAY GAY'



Photo by Christopher Gillett and Samantha Smith / The Jambar

YSUnity holds a discussion about the Ohio House Bill 616, which bans both instruction and materials about sexual orientation and gender identity for students in elementary grades.

# YSUnity opposes HB 616

By Samantha Smith and Christopher Gillett  
The Jambar

Youngstown State University's YSUnity club hosted a meeting Tuesday, April 12 to discuss the reformation of the club and the recently proposed Ohio House Bill 616.

Once the panel went through the organization's information, discussion started on the bill being introduced to the Ohio legislature. Rose McClurkin, vice president of YSUnity and sophomore political science major, explained what the bill is.

"It's kind of an expansion of a bill that already existed. There was a critical race theory bill that got introduced, and it was to ban that curriculum," she said. "This bill expands the intersectionality part of it ... to not discussing gender identity or sexual orientation."

The bill is not only for public schools in Ohio, but any

non-academic Ohio school that receives government funding. McClurkin said if a school violates the measures in the bill, it will lose funding, and teachers who violate the bill can have their teaching license revoked.

Jasper Sharpless, secretary of YSUnity and junior anthropology major, expressed concern for students if the state legislature passes the bill. Sharpless said secondary students should have sexual education and knowledge of LGBTQ student issues. If they do not, college can present a dangerous environment for those students because they do not know how to protect themselves, according to Sharpless.

McClurkin shared advice on how students can express their thoughts on the bill.

"Calling people is always a good idea. Call your personal representatives," she said. "We also have a petition that Michael [Jurus] made for us and you can sign

that, and I am pretty sure we are going to present that to the House."

When asked about the future of LGBTQ rights in the United States, Nathaniel Hunter, treasurer for YSUnity and junior nursing major, explained how he is optimistic for the future.

"Personally, I'm a very optimistic person. I believe deep down every person's good, but something made them not good," he said.

For more information on YSUnity, its Instagram and Twitter are ysunity\_sogie and its Facebook is YSUnity. To contact the organization, its email is ysunitysogie@gmail.com

**\*\*Editor's Note: Michael Jurus is employed by The Jambar as a general reporter. He is not a participant in the editorial process.**

# The YESPY's return after 2-year hiatus

By Mikayla Mustard  
Jambar contributor

Available to all student-athletes April 20, the Youngstown State University Excellence in Sports Performance Yearly Awards, otherwise known as the YESPY's, have made a comeback.

The student-athlete awards event was put on pause for the past couple years because of COVID-19 restrictions, but now it is making a comeback.

The YESPY's ceremony recognizes every team with awards, a social hour dedicated for games and photo opportunities on the red carpet, food and much more.

This fifth-annual event will take place in Beeghly Center, hosting over 400 student-athletes in attendance.

Jordan Evans, a senior on the women's soccer team, said she's excited the YESPY's have returned for her last year. Evans is a member of YSU Student-Athlete Advisory Committee and helped plan the banquet.

"It is a chance for all of us to get together and celebrate our success from the season and all the hard work

we put into our sport," Evans said.

Hosted by the YSU SAAC, this event is structured similarly to the ESPN Excellence in Sports Performance Yearly Awards ceremony. It's a chance for student-athletes to dress up and enjoy a night at the end of the semester celebrating their seasons coming to an end and their hard work.

Past awards given out include Best Leader, Rookie of the Year, Best Performer, Best Sportsmanship and Standout Athlete of the Year.

The student-athletes plan, organize and set up the entire event. The staff only assists by providing a location and catering.

When COVID-19 closed down campus in spring 2020, the YESPY's hadn't yet taken place. Current sophomore and junior student-athletes have never experienced the event.

Mackenzie Scott, senior on the track & field and cross country teams, said the YESPY's were the highlight of her freshman year. Now, in her last year, she's excited they're back.

"It is so fun to dress up really fancy and take pictures with our teammates and laugh and just relax during a stressful time of the year," Scott said. "It is a nice bonding experience for not only our sport, but all of our sports as a whole."

On the other side of the spectrum, freshman soccer player Rachel Austin said she has no idea what to expect from the YESPY's.

"As someone who has never attended the YESPY's, I am really excited that for the first time since COVID, all of the student-athletes are able to come together to celebrate all of the successes on and off the field we've all had," Austin said. "Without knowing what to expect, I am most excited for the environment of it all."

All student-athletes were sent an email from IC senior associate athletic director Rebecca Fink on how to sign up. Attendance is mandatory for student-athletes unless there are class conflicts.

The event takes place at 5:30 p.m. April 20 in Beeghly Center.

# Walk A Mile reaches new heights in heels

By Victoria Olayiwola  
The Jambar

The Walk A Mile in Her Shoes event is a national movement across high schools and colleges and serves as a wake-up call to stand against the uprising of sexual assaults and offer protection to the victims.

This can be achieved by raising awareness for the causes, effects and remedies for sexual assault and gender violence, and to also raise funds to support victims of domestic violence and sexual assault.

The men who participate walk one mile in women's high-heeled shoes to actively confront gender stereotypes and societal expectations. Even though it is not easy

to walk around in these shoes, this action allows for self-reflections and self-examinations of actions and decisions.

YSU's Interfraternity Council, which is a local governing body for National Interfraternity Conference fraternity chapters, helps to provide educational programs on a variety of topics to fraternity chapters while also giving administrative guidance for policy, procedure and recruitment.

In addition to all the responsibilities of the IFC, they take part in the Walk A Mile in Her Shoes event annually to carry out both aims of fundraising and awareness. The officers of the IFC help to formulate the specifics for each year.

Ian Ward, the vice president of recruit-

ment for IFC, stated this year's goal.

"We plan to raise money from local businesses and donate all proceeds to the Young Women's Christian Association," he said.

The YWCA is an organization that helps to empower women, develop youth and eliminate racism in society.

Ian Ward also spoke about the participants every year at YSU.

"Regardless of the title of the event, not only men are allowed to participate nationally. However, at YSU, the participants are solely men so that they can truly 'walk a mile in her shoes,' so to speak," he said.

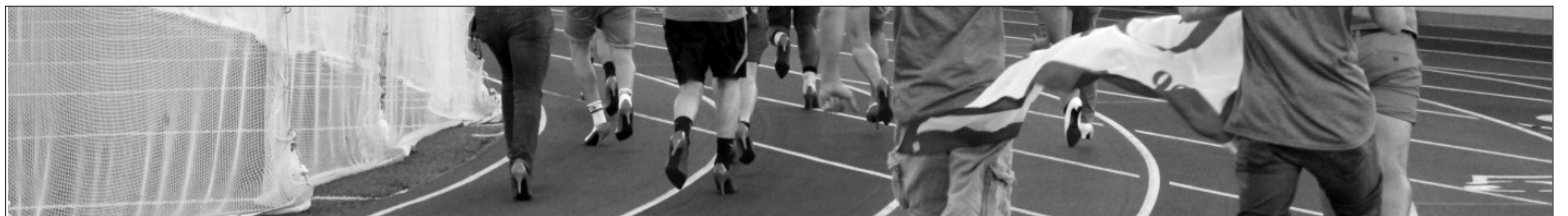
Jeremy DeMarco, president of Alpha

Phi Delta, gave an estimate of the number of people involved in this year's event.

"I would say over 200 participants would be present for the event this year," he said.

Those interested in participating should contact the IFC via email or Instagram for the link to register. Participants get a free ticket for admission, a red high-heel rental, a T-shirt and basket raffle tickets. Tickets are limited.

This event takes place every year in April for Sexual Assault Awareness Month, and this year, the Walk A Mile in Her Shoes event is going to take place from 4-7 p.m. April 22 at Watson and Tressel Training Site.



Men participate by walking a mile in heels. The event is meant to bring attention to sexual assault awareness month.

Photo courtesy of Jambar Archives





Photo by McCartney Walsh / Jambar contributor

Many religions celebrate holidays in April.

# Different faiths celebrate together

By McCartney Walsh  
Jambar contributor

On a diverse campus like Youngstown State University, it is important in the month of April — when many holidays overlap — that students are given equal opportunities to practice and share their faith. Those of the Islamic, Christian and Jewish faiths will celebrate holidays this month.

Ramadan is a religious holiday celebrated by Muslims which lasts the whole month of April. Layali Kusuni, a sophomore biology pre-med major and the president and founder of the Muslim Student Association, spoke on the organization's plans for the holiday.

"April 2 to May 2 is the Islamic holy month Ramadan," Kusuni said. "We are planning all of these fun events to get students on campus involved and also spread awareness by educating non-Muslims on our holy month and holiday."

According to Kusuni, there will be different booths set up on campus each day in which students can participate to spread awareness and understanding about the Islamic community. A big part of Ramadan is fasting.

"The goal of our Fast-A-Thon is to not only raise money for charity, but also to allow non-Muslims to experience a day of fasting and seeing all of the different things we do during the month of Ramadan," Kusuni said. "It will be a great experience to learn something and join in on all of the fun, all while raising money for

a good cause."

To participate in the Fast-A-Thon, nonmembers are asked to contribute between \$10-20.

Christians celebrate Holy Week, culminating in Easter on April 17. Allyson Conner, Coalition for Christian Outreach president and senior primary intervention specialist education major, said the Easter season has great meaning to those of the Christian faith.

"Good Friday is a day that churches gather together and remember Jesus being put to death on the cross. Three days later comes Easter, which is the day Jesus rose from the grave and beat sin and death," Conner said. "We celebrate that as believers because he beat sin and death and that means that we have a savior who is alive and loves us."

The YSU CCO chapter is part of a national organization which allows college students to connect and grow in their faith, as well as accept and teach their faith to others.

"You don't have to sign up — you just show up and you are welcomed and you are loved regardless of what religion you are," Conner said. "We have students from many different religious backgrounds who come and worship and are not turned away."

CCO strives to provide opportunities for students to convene, learn and share their own experiences at weekly meetings on Mondays, along with small groups on campus throughout April.

The Jewish holiday of Passover begins at sundown April 15, associate professor of political science Adam Fuller said.

"Passover is a seven-day Jewish holiday every spring that commemorates the ancient exodus of the Israelites out of Egypt. The Israelites were slaves under the domination of the Egyptian pharaoh," Fuller said. "We Jews believe that God performed many great miracles to help Moses lead our ancestors out of slavery in Egypt, such as the 10 plagues."

There are many opportunities near campus for Jewish students to celebrate Passover at local synagogues.

"We have many Passover traditions, including a special dinner on the first night called a Seder," Fuller said. "All local synagogues are holding Seders. Jewish families have them in their homes and invite guests over for them."

With such a diverse group of people on YSU's campus, it is important to encourage and let those differences flourish here, according to Fuller, giving everyone an equal and safe opportunity to express and teach their religions.

"Freedom of religion is one of the most important rights we have as Americans," Fuller said. "It is also important as a college campus that all religions have their customs and traditions supported because as an educational institution, we have an obligation to help each other learn about other cultures and ideas."

# Autism Society of Mahoning Valley shares information at YSU

By **Samantha Smith**  
The Jambar

The Youngstown Association of Student School Psychologists hosted a presentation involving guest speakers from the Autism Society of the Mahoning Valley to discuss how they support parents of children with autism, the characteristics of autism in people and more.

Morgan Davidson, a graduate assistant for Accessibility Services and professional development chair for YASSP, explained what the organization is.

“Our student group for YASSP is specifically for students that are enrolled in the school psychology program,” she said. “We do charity work, we go to professional conferences at the state and national level.”

The three guest speakers — Robin Su-

zelis, Jodi Glass and Stephanie Gilchrist — are from the Autism Society of the Mahoning Valley, a group that is, for the most part, run by parents of people with autism. They tailored their presentation for professionals and people who may be working with people with autism.

Suzelis, director of the Autism Society of the Mahoning Valley, started off the presentation by explaining that autism is a lifelong developmental disability usually presenting itself in childhood. Suzelis then presented statistics about autism.

“Forty percent of people with autism are considered nonverbal. Those are individuals that either have no speech or [are] not able to communicate compared to their neurotypical peers. Seventeen percent of young adults [with autism] ages 21-25 have never lived independently,” she said.

The organization was first founded by families within counties Mahoning, Trumbull and Columbiana in 1989. Their overall mission, Suzelis said, is to make relevant and meaningful change in support of the autism community.

After the presentation, the audience was able to ask questions about the presentation or autism in general. Each speaker was able to talk about their own experiences of having a child with autism to help those in the future. Glass, board member for the Autism Society, gave some insight about her son’s autism.

“My son is 12. Super social kid, but really struggles with those social cues from typical peers. He was 6 when we came to our first Autism Society [meeting]. We lived in Philadelphia and he was diagnosed at Children’s Hospital Philadelphia,” she said.

Gilchrist, board member for the Autism Society, also discussed her son’s autism and his diagnosis at the age of 3. She explained the support she had from the Youngstown area throughout the beginning of his life.

“From there, we went on. So when I said we had a great team of support through his journey at Youngstown, but when he got to high school, I felt like that support still was not there. That’s why I decided to transition him out. But there are some great support systems,” she said.

For more information on YASSP, visit its Facebook page. For more information on the Autism Society of the Mahoning Valley, visit its website at [autismmv.org](http://autismmv.org)

# Analog art meets animation in McDonough

By **Elizabeth Coss**  
The Jambar

The Beecher Art and Technology Lecture Series returned April 12 for the first in-person lecture since 2020, featuring Scott Turri, guest artist and University of Pittsburgh faculty member.

Held in the McDonough Museum of Art, Turri showcased his art via slideshow to help convey the variety of art he has composed to students, faculty and visitors.

Using a variety of mediums, Turri uses real-life inspiration to create his paintings. From utilizing shapes found on laundry hampers to accenting nature, inspiration is endless, according to Turri.

“Most of the material comes from things like photographs that I’ve taken. I have an archive of a lot of photographs and drawings,” Turri said. “I work digitally, and almost — like in some ways — like a collage artist, I make digital images that become models for my paintings.”

Alongside acrylic paintings, Turri also crafts anima-

tions — which are often analogous to his photography and paintings — by pairing them with instrumental music to help create nonlinear narratives.

“[The] animations are often connected to the imagery as well and often, in some cases, connected to the painting. So, there gives this exchange of ideas and imagery from the paintings to the animations and vice versa,” Turri said.

He explained that, despite being a more expressive and figurative painter in his early career, he became more analytical and connected to digital imagery as a source for his art.

“I’m really interested in abstraction and painting,” Turri said. “In terms of the look, [an artist’s] hand is usually not seen in the work. It becomes less about me as an artist, and hopefully more about what the world looks like as a kind of manifestation of the images,” Turri said.

Dana Sperry, a Youngstown State University art professor and the area coordinator for digital media and photography, organized the lecture series and helped

bring Turri to the university.

“He has some work that is paintings, but he has some animation as well, so his work goes back and forth between digital and analog,” Sperry said. “That’s part of the reason we were interested in having him come to The Beecher Art and Technology Lecture Series.”

Sperry described Turri’s work as highlighting digital and visual art while contributing to both visual and cultural languages.

“His work is a digital aesthetic. It’s clearly informed by the way in which digital things look, which to me is very interesting,” Sperry said. “At some point, that visual language became a sort of broader cultural visual. It sort of crept into a larger visual cultural language, and then I started noticing that a lot of painters were painting in a way that looked like digital stuff.”

This was the final lecture series offered for this semester, but The Beecher Art and Technology Lecture Series will return in the fall semester.



**HackYSU**

Page 1

Ryan Lalchand, a senior computer science major, is the vice president of the Computer Club. He joined in spring 2020 just as the pandemic began. The club needed a fourth officer at the time to continue operating, and he joined. This year will mark Lalchand's first in-person HackYSU and his last before graduation. He detailed his favorite part of HackYSU.

"It's just seeing how satisfied a lot of the students are with the progress that they've made on their projects, what they've learned, being able to put that on their resume and — especially for the winners — to be able to have that confidence moving forward is a great thing,

too," he said.

Tyler Byler, a freshman computer science and electrical engineering major, is the gaming director of the Computer Club. He joined the club after the Frost Penguins eSports Club disbanded. During the pandemic, the former esports club could not survive. The Computer Club absorbed the remaining elements of the former esports club.

Byler has hosted Super Smash Bros. and Mario Kart tournaments, and is leading a Rocket League team within the club. He hosted gaming tournaments at HackYSU for participants to play. He hopes to relaunch esports on campus in the fall.

"One of my favorite things that happened in high school for me was

when I was on a Rocket League team and we went to play in person at this big high school event," he said. "I got to sit in front of everybody — this whole crowd — and play, and we got people to have people cheer us on. It just felt great, and I would love more of that [at YSU] for me and for as many other people I can get that for."

The winning project for HackYSU was a typing game developed by several YSU students and a high school student. A full tally of the winners can be seen below.

For students interested in joining the YSU Computer Club, go to [ysucomputerclub.com](http://ysucomputerclub.com). To learn more about future YSU esports, contact Byler at [tjbyler@student.ysu.edu](mailto:tjbyler@student.ysu.edu)

**1st Place**

Project: Typing Game

Team Member(s): Zachary Richards, Konstantin Sumanov, Ivan Ladutska, Gloriana Maendel, Nathan Gallagher

**2nd Place**

Project: Card Game

Team Member(s): Joe Jarvis, Sam Macchione

**3rd Place**

Project: The YSU App: A Bus Tracker Addition & General UX/UI Facelift

Team Member(s): Jenna DeLuca

**Honorable Mention 1**

Project: D&amp;D Visual Novel (Birdfish Bundle)

Team Member(s): Mackenzie Martin, Gillian Lattea

**Honorable Mention 2**

Project: Control Access (Stonefruit Bundle)

Team Member(s): Gaven Rudiak, Jacob Blasiman, Mohammad Alshoubaki

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For additional information, contact:

Martin Milush – OHSAA Instructor at: [mmilush@aol.com](mailto:mmilush@aol.com)



# Steranko paints way into The Butler history

By Henry Shorr  
The Jambar

The Butler Institute of American Art is currently showcasing artwork by Jim Steranko through the end of May. This is the first time Steranko has curated an exhibit of his painted works in a museum of fine art as well as the first time The Butler has displayed an exhibition of graphic art.

Steranko, who is from Reading, Pennsylvania, has significantly influenced comic books, movies, music and even stage magic. The characters he designed still pervade popular culture — he had a hand in creating Marvel's Nick Fury, Luke Skywalker and Han Solo, Indiana Jones and many more.

Director of The Butler Louis Zona feels that, while Steranko's work may not be the genre of art the museum typically displays, it is still important to showcase his work as it has pervaded the world of graphic and popular art.

"I know that there's fine art, and frankly, what Steranko does is not fine art," Zona said. "It's graphic art, and, to a degree, we might even consider pop art. I mean, he helped to make our popular culture. Frankly, he is as important to that aspect of the visual arts as Jasper Jones is to the fine arts."

Zona talked about how a radio show featuring Steranko's character "The Shadow" introduced him to the

artist's work. He remembered listening to the show as a kid, fondly mimicking the introduction.

"Who knows what evil lurks in the heart of men? The Shadow.' I remember hearing that on the radio and getting chills," he said.

Kyle Gleeson, who started working at a comic book shop last year, drove in from Cleveland for the exhibit with some of his co-workers. He explained how prevalent Steranko's influence is, even in today's graphic art.

"[Comic fans] know his art immediately — just by sight — which is something that I've even easily been able to tap into just because it's so prominent — it's very singular," Gleeson said. "It has been, definitely, an easy way to understand some of the finer appreciations of his [art], and so far, he's one of the most respected [artists] that I've seen."

Gleeson, who is relatively new to the world of comic books, already feels adept at recognizing not only Steranko's art but also his influence on other artists in the world of comics.

Wendy Swick, the public relations coordinator for The Butler, is excited about the exhibit and hopes it brings more people — mainly students — to the museum.

"We always tried to throw in something to bring other audiences into the museum so that they're comfortable. You know, because some people think, 'Oh, you know, fine art ... I don't belong in there.' But this museum is for

everybody," she said.

Swick also spoke about how the idea for the exhibit started with a conversation on Twitter. Steranko tweeted about his desire to put together an exhibition of his painted works, and someone responded that he should get in touch with Zona. Now, a couple of years later, his work is being showcased at The Butler before he takes it on tour to different museums.

Swick drew attention to a quote from Steranko that is placed prominently on the wall in the exhibit. The quote reads, "This may justify my existence on the planet. Seriously, if it inspires just one individual to a creative life, it may be worth the effort we all put into it."

Steranko visited The Butler on April 7 for a signing and to speak about the exhibit. He commanded the room dressed in an all-white suit and large sunglasses.

When Swick approached Steranko, surrounded by fans and telling a story of the inspiration behind one of the women in a painting of "The Shadow," she asked him, "Did you realize you are sharing a wall with Picasso?"

Steranko, without missing a beat, looked at her and replied, "Picasso ... What comic did he do?"

The exhibit is located on the second floor of The Butler and will be displayed until May 29.



The Jim Steranko exhibit will be displayed until May 29 at The Butler.

Photos by Henry Shorr / The Jambar

# Poets share passions at McDonough reading

By C. Aileen Blaine  
The Jambar

In the echoey depths of the first-floor gallery, poets and lovers of poetry alike gathered at the McDonough Museum of Art in celebration of National Poetry Month last Thursday. In an intimate gathering, writers had a space to share their thoughts, emotions and observations without fear of judgment.

The student artworks from the department of visual and dramatic arts added to the creative ambience. Museum director Claudia Berlinski said the McDonough has a history of merging both visual and literary arts.

“I believe it’s a great idea to celebrate all of the arts when given the chance,” Berlinski said in a press statement. “National Poetry Month is the perfect opportunity to showcase some of our student poets in a campus setting devoted to the arts.”

The reading featured works from nine students who registered for the event.

Each read three to five poems:

- Anastasios Mihalopoulos
- Trinity Hobbs
- Hannah Misko
- Riss Raley
- Emilio Santiago
- Samantha Sloan
- Gyaneshwar Agrahari
- Sara Khan
- Anahni Harris

Riss Raley, a first-year communications major, said poetry and powerful words can be incredibly impactful, and it’s important that more people acknowledge this.

“To walk through the world and be able to be kind, passionate and well-spoken, well-thought — that saves lives in a way that a vet would or a doctor would, just with words as scalpels,” Raley said.

Anahni Harris, a first-year linguistics major, said even though she was very nervous to read, in the end she felt very happy and excited to share her poems with the other creative minds.

“It goes without saying that there’s

a lot of creativity in this city,” she said. “This took a lot of courage, and I hope that anyone else that wants to share their story builds up the courage to do that.”

Freshman biology major Sara Khan has been writing poetry from a young age, with one of her first works being about a wrecking ball. As a STEM major, she doesn’t get as much time to express herself creatively, so readings like the McDonough’s offer her an outlet for her words.

“Usually, with poetry, [my inspiration] comes in moments of high emotion, in times of sadness and happiness,” Khan said.

Her culture and religion is also an important component to the themes she explores in her works. She said aspiring writers shouldn’t be afraid to call back to what inspires them on a personal level.

“If you’re ever willing to pursue poetry, make sure to also draw from the things that make you different — the things that make you special,” Khan said.

Emilio Santiago, a senior vocal per-

formance major, said he’s been writing poetry since middle school. Now, he likes to explore new themes and motifs in his writings. His passion for sharing creative endeavors brought him to the McDonough reading.

“I’ve always wanted to be able to do something like this,” he said. “I love making art to share the things that I make.”

Emily Vero, president of the YSU Poetry Club and integrated language arts sophomore, said she was impressed by the words shared with such passion and by the range of topics and themes.

“There’s so many artistic minds out there. I was just blown away by such a wide variety of poetry,” Vero said. “There’s these incredible poets — artists — around that are just living among you, and you don’t even know it.”

Those who may be interested in sharing their poetry will have a chance with upcoming open mic events and sessions through the poetry club. The poetry club’s next meeting takes place at 6 p.m. April 26 in Kilcawley Center room 2016.



Sara Khan writes poetry as a way to express herself.

Photo by Henry Shorr / The Jambar

# Getting crafty in The Cove

By Elizabeth Coss  
The Jambar

Kilcawley Center is known for hosting events, but this year marks the first it’s offered Craft Nights.

Craft Nights in The Cove act as a creative outlet for students to take a break from academics by creating various types of arts and crafts.

Ashlee Cook, business operations and reservations specialist in Kilcawley Center, said students are free to make art as they desire.

“Crafts Nights at The Cove are a way for students to come together and let their creativity run free,” Cook

said. “Feel free to change anything and customize it to be exactly how you like it.”

According to Cook, every craft night is different and allows students to always try something new and different. From painting penguins to making bracelets, students can expect the variety of crafts to expand by fall semester.

“Our students have made coasters, paintings, wall hangings and more. In the fall, you can expect to see more fall or even holiday-themed crafts,” she said.

According to Cook, supplies such as paints, brushes and markers are provided free of charge.

Kenya Gilbert, a junior sociology major, said she sees

a lot of students come in while working the front desk as a crew member for The Cove.

“A lot of people do come,” Gilbert said. “I’d say maybe 20-25 people by the end of the two hours.”

The event is a great way for students to meet each other, according to Gilbert.

“If you stay for a little while, you’ll see most [students] start talking and showing each other their art and comparing,” Gilbert said. “It’s a good way to make friends and get you warmed up to be more open.”

Craft Nights at The Cove take place 3-5 p.m. every Monday in Kilcawley Center.





## THE JAMBAR POLICY

Since being founded by Burke Lyden in 1931, The Jambar has won nine Associated Press Collegiate Press honors. The Jambar is published weekly in the spring and fall semesters. The Jambar is free for YSU students and faculty.

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The editorial board consists of the editor-in-chief, managing editor, news editor, sports editor, arts and entertainment editor and head copy editor. These opinion pieces are written separately from news articles and do not reflect the opinions of any individual staff member. The Jambar's business manager, multimedia journalists and non-writing staff do not contribute to editorials, and the adviser does not have final approval.

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The Jambar encourages letters to the editor. Submissions are welcome at thejambar@gmail.com. Letters should concern a campus issue, must be typed and must not exceed 400 words. Submissions must include the writer's name and telephone number for verification, along with the writer's city of residence for publication. The Jambar does not withhold the names of guest commentators. Letters are subject to editing for spelling, grammar and clarity. Letters will not be rejected based on the views expressed in them. The editorial board reserves the right to reject commentaries and letters if they are not relevant to our readers, seek free publicity, fail to defend opinion with facts from reliable sources or if the editorial staff has decided that the subject has been sufficiently aired. The editorial board will request a rewrite from the submitted writer based on these requirements. The Jambar will not print letters that are libelous, threatening, obscene or indecent. The views and opinions expressed in letters and commentaries on the opinion page do not necessarily reflect those of The Jambar staff. Editorials do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the faculty, staff or administration of YSU.

# The Jambar Editorial

## Painting a canvas

For certain people, landscaping is a creative outlet. Some may even think it's a craft. Just as painters have a canvas to bring their imagination to life, the outdoors is a playground for landscapers.

The initial thing people notice when going somewhere for the first time is the landscape. That includes all the visible features of an area of countryside or land, often considered in terms of their aesthetic appeal.

At Youngstown State University, landscaping is one aspect that would benefit from some improvement.

With spring right around the corner and April showers leading to May flowers, it marks the beginning of a new season for landscapers in the area. These outside workers begin in the spring months before concluding in the months of autumn.

Around April, landscapers start mulching their properties, and that is no different for those at YSU. With some parts of

campus already mulched, it's safe to say that a better job can be done.

Landscapers edged the mulch beds around campus this spring, but those edges were quickly filled up by the excess wood chips left in those beds. The mulch bed's edge creates a border around a tree or garden to keep mulch from migrating off the treescape or flower beds and into your yard. It also provides a barrier for grass, weeds and other nuisance plants.

When students walk by areas that have received fresh mulch this year, they can see all the lumps left behind after the job is finished. When rain washes through the area, all the extra mulch can potentially wash away and create a mess on the sidewalks.

Besides the laying of new mulch, lawn mowers are fired up for the first time this year. Although the grass stays consistently cut, staying consistently edged is a different story.

The lawns at YSU encroach upon rock walls, light poles and buildings weeks at a time. Until the stragglers get cut after a couple of weeks, they continue to be eyesores.

Another eyesore on the campus of YSU — and one that will make mowing difficult — is the fallen tree that has been laying outside of Maag Library for most of the academic year.

Day after day, week after week, month after month that tree has rested in the yard. With it laying there all through the winter months, it is time to get rid of the lumber. With the winter months being a slower time of year for tree removal services, prices can be a little cheaper than normal during the busier months.

Although the landscape seems like a minor detail to some people, the presentation of the university can set the first impression for those looking to attend.

# The Jambar Column

## Amateur detective Kyle Wills: The case of the plundered purse

It was a peaceful, rainy day at The Jambar office. Samantha Smith had just finished photographing the Tiger mascot, Terrance, who was in for the big game before it was canceled due to stormy weather.

"How'd the shoot go?" Aileen Blaine, arts and entertainment editor, inquired.

"Easy peasy," Smith replied. "He was in and out within two minutes."

She had just finished drying off the chair Terrance had been sitting in when suddenly the door burst open and Penny rushed in.

"I need your help!" Penny exclaimed. "Someone stole my purse!"



Laurel Stone

Kyle Wills, amateur detective, was on the case.

"Calm down, Penny, and tell me everything that happened," Wills said, ushering her into a seat and offering

her a box of tissues.

"Well, I was out in the Dunkin' lounge enjoying a doughnut and left my bag for, oh, about 10 minutes or so to go over and say hi to my friend Ellen Tressel. When I went back to my table, my purse was gone!" Penny said, dabbing at

her eyes and blowing her beak with a tissue.

"Hm. Did you happen to notice anyone suspicious before or after your purse went missing?" Wills inquired.

"Pete stopped over for a bit to confirm our dinner plans for later, but there's no reason for him to have taken it. Oh, and John Ostapowicz stopped over to ask how I liked his story last week, but he's such a sweet boy, he wouldn't do something like that," Penny said.

"No one else came over to the table?" Wills pressed.

"It's hard to say for sure. There were so many people in there hiding from the rain since the big game against

the Tigers was canceled — all of their fans were huddled in staying dry since the bus wouldn't pick them up until 4 o'clock. Everyone was starting to move around and get their stuff together, so it was hard to keep track — anyone could've been over there."

Wills looked up at the clock: 3:55.

"I know who has your purse. Hold that bus!" Wills exclaimed.

**Who has Penny's purse and how did Wills figure it out? See page 15 to find out.**



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Photo courtesy of Robert Hayes

Sean Peterson finishes event at Horizon League Indoor Track & Field Championships on Feb. 27.

# Track & field laps up multiple victories

By John Ostapowicz  
The Jambar

The Youngstown State University track & field team traveled in split squads to compete at Mount Union University's John Homon Open and Tennessee's Tennessee Relays on April 7-9.

Over the three-day stretch, the Penguins posted a total of six event victories, with four of those victories occurring on opening day.

The first day of the competition ended with junior Dominic Perry, senior Lauren Dolak, senior Maggie Sebest and junior Alexis Prater earning event victories with their performances at Mount Union Stadium.

In the men's shot put, Perry went to work, posting a 16.71-meter throw to earn his second event victory of the outdoor season. Freshman Coleson Kertesz finished sixth with a 14.20-meter throw.

Dolak and junior Julia Magliocca clocked personal-best times in the women's 1500-meter run. Dolak finished with a time of 4:46.27 as she finished the event with the fastest time to earn her first event victory of the outdoor season. Magliocca finished fourth with a time of 4:51.93.

Sebest finished the women's 3000 meter at the top as she completed the day with a time of 11:46.61. With her performance, she logged her second-straight top-two finish since April 2 at the Slippery Rock Dave La-

bor Invitational.

In the women's long jump, Prater was the only Youngstown State competitor. She posted the furthest mark with a personal-best 5.6-meter leap to record the event victory. In the men's long jump, freshman Andrew Frank recorded a third-place finish with a 6.60-meter jump.

April 8 was a big day for Youngstown State, highlighted by senior Sean Peterson and junior Tye Hunt tabbing individual event victories at Tennessee Relays.

In the men's 800, Peterson clocked the quickest time of the day with 1:51.06. With the win, he defeated 30 competitors during the three-heat race. Peterson was one second shy of breaking his school record time of 1:49.57, set Feb. 5.

In his only legal jump of the day, Hunt posted a 7.08-meter mark to take the victory in the men's long jump on his third attempt. In third place, senior Daiquain Watson logged a 7.04-meter mark on his third attempt.

Freshman Molly Radcliffe tossed 14.39 meters in the women's shot put on her sixth and final attempt for the second-best throw of the day. Radcliffe out-threw 14 competitors to earn her a second place nod.

"I can't be upset with my performance — especially with the weather — since every time I stepped in the ring it snowed," Radcliffe said.

The final day of the Tennessee Relays concluded

with senior Zach Gehm setting a new program record in the men's discus throw with a 58.02-meter mark.

"I honestly didn't have a great evening in shot put the day before, and all I could think about was having fun and doing the thing that God made me to do since he gave me the strength to do so," Gehm said.

The Harmony, Pennsylvania native has had an impressive career at Youngstown State as he had previously broken the school record at the Northeast Ohio Quad during the 2021 outdoor season with a mark of 55.54 meters.

In Gehm's freshman year, he competed in discus for Team USA at the 2019 Pan American U20 Championships. He also won the discus title at the USA Track & Field U20 Championships with a personal-best throw of 60.3 meters.

Gehm is currently coming off a suspension which was placed on him in his freshman year for illegal use of pre-work out before the pre-qualifier for Team USA. He feels great and is excited to finally be back.

"I had complications with the NCAA and had to sit out a couple of meets, but I'm finally back," Gehm said. "The suspensions are all lifted and it feels great."

Gehm and the Penguins are back in action April 15-16 for the two-day Bison Outdoor Classic hosted by Bucknell University.





Photo courtesy of Robert Hayes

Conchetta Rinaldi runs out of dugout during lineup introductions March 15 versus University of Akron.

## Softball takes step back during road trip

By Cameron Stubbs  
The Jambar

The Youngstown State University softball team hit the road for its latest batch of games starting off with a weather-altered single game versus Cleveland State University.

The Sunday matinee against the Vikings saw the Penguins drop the game 3-1.

Fifth-year pitcher Elle Buffenbarger was handed her fifth loss of the season after giving up three earned runs on seven hits.

The offense stagnated as the Penguins' single hit came from junior catcher Conchetta Rinaldi's solo home run in the top of the first inning.

Rinaldi is the battery for the Penguins and with the loss on Buffenbarger's hands, Rinaldi commented on what happens during those situations.

"[Buffenbarger] knows what we can do," Rinaldi said. "Obviously, with everything that we accomplished last year, it's about putting the pieces together at the right time."

Next up was a doubleheader versus Niagara University, resulting in a pair of losses.

Buffenbarger pitched the first game and received her second-straight loss as the Penguins fell 7-6. Junior Megan Turner led the offense as she went 4-for-5 with two doubles and two RBIs.

In game two of the doubleheader, the Penguins only produced two hits, both by fifth-year Yazmine Romero. Sophomore Sophie Howell pitched well in the 2-0 loss, allowing just five hits.

The doubleheader on Wednesday against St. Bonaventure University has all of its stats posted on [ysusports.com](http://ysusports.com)

## Lacrosse 'zips' up season vs. Akron

By Cameron Stubbs  
The Jambar

The Youngstown State University lacrosse team ended its four-game losing streak as it beat the University of Akron for the second time to complete the series sweep.

Freshman Natalie Calandra-Ryan led the 17-14 victory, scoring seven goals for the win. Calandra-Ryan has scored multiple goals in all 13 games this season.

Graduate student midfielder Ali Korin stayed hot as

she scored five goals to contribute to the effort. Consistency has been key for Korin this season, as this is her fifth-straight game with four or more goals.

Sophomore Jordan Miller scored two goals and fellow sophomores Erin Clark, Shannyn Cullen and Tristen Chang all contributed a goal each.

Graduate student Savannah Clarke had a team-high five saves while protecting the net against the Zips offense.

Korin has been a leader on and off the field this season

and spoke on how the team feels about getting back on track after recent losses.

"We dug ourselves a hole in those couple games and it was great to get out of it," Korin said. "We played the way we've been playing everyday in practice and it was great to put that on the field."

The Penguins are back in action as they head to Michigan to face off against the University of Detroit Mercy this Saturday, April 16.

Catch a recap of the upcoming game on [ysusports.com](http://ysusports.com)

## Who stole Penny's purse?

Wills knew the Tiger mascot Terrance stole Penny's purse because his fur was damp, meaning he must have rushed out in the rain to stash the purse on the bus before coming back in for his photo shoot.



Photo by Cameron Stubbs / The Jambar

Lane Rhodes pitched 4.1 innings and gave up two runs while striking out six batters April 12 versus Niagara University.

# Norse pillage Penguins at Eastwood

By Kyle Wills  
The Jambar

The Youngstown State University baseball team continued its ice-cold start to its opening homestand at Eastwood Field this past week after being swept in a three-game series by Northern Kentucky University.

Following the 9-1 loss to the University of Pittsburgh on April 6, the men looked to get back on track April 8-10 against the Norse. However, they struggled offensively and were outscored 33-10 in the series.

In game one Youngstown State only mustered three hits in the 9-0 defeat. Seniors Pdraig O'Shaughnessy and Lucas Nasonti, and junior Andre Good provided the only hits for the club.

The team's woes carried over to pitching with Penguin arms allowing 11 hits and nine walks combined.

Northern Kentucky used two four-run innings in the seventh and ninth to power past the Penguins.

The next day, Northern Kentucky provided another offensive outburst, scoring six more runs than the previous night in the 15-3 loss.

After the Norse scored three in the top of the second inning, senior Dylan Swarmer came up with an RBI base hit to put the team on the board. The Penguins eventually tied the game after an RBI walk from Pdraig O'Shaughnessy and an RBI fielder's choice by Nasonti.

The Norse scored 12-straight runs to seal the second game of the series.

The men tried to salvage the series as they scored seven runs in game three, but ultimately were defeated 9-7.

The Penguins had an answer for almost every score, but the hot Norse offense was again too much to overcome.

Northern Kentucky scored a run in the top of the opening frame, but an RBI by junior infielder Braeden

O'Shaughnessy and a steal of home by Nasonti in the bottom half gave Youngstown State its first lead of the series at 2-1.

The Norse reclaimed the lead with four in the fourth, but a three-run fifth inning tied the game at 5-5. In the bottom of the fifth, Swarmer and Braeden O'Shaughnessy both drove in runs with a double and an infield hit while a wild pitch helped plate a third run.

Throughout the final four frames, Northern Kentucky outscored Youngstown State 4-2 to complete the sweep.

Nasonti, Good and Braeden O'Shaughnessy all finished with multi-hit performances while Steven D'Eusanio, Swarmer and redshirt freshman Chase Franken each recorded a hit as well.

With 15 strikeouts offensively as a team, Nasonti said they knew their approach had to differ from the previous day.

"We knew we had to cut it down [the strikeouts]. We had to find ways to put the ball in play and that probably was the success you saw in today's game," Nasonti said. "It was a little better today, still not satisfied. Obviously we didn't win today, but we're moving in the right direction."

Head coach Dan Bertolini said the first two games of the season didn't feature the performances he wanted from the team, but he liked the way the team scratched and clawed.

"Friday and Saturday wasn't really how we wanted to play the game. I liked the way we came back today and battled. I give a lot of credit to Northern Kentucky," Bertolini said. "They played a good series this weekend. They pitched, they got hits when they needed to and they played the game really hard. I'm just happy with the way we battled today. It's a sign of positivity moving into next week."

With starting pitching only able to provide five innings

of work through the first two games, junior Matt Brosky was able to give the team needed relief as he pitched his way into the sixth, going 5.1 innings. The Strongsville, Ohio, native was charged with five earned runs off nine hits with four strikeouts and two walks.

In need for a quality start from his starting pitcher, Bertolini said it was crucial to get that pitching performance from Brosky.

"It was big. Jon Snyder's been battling a little bit with an arm issue and we wanted to get him out early. He wasn't feeling great. Yesterday, [Northern Kentucky] had some good barrels off Travis [Perry]. Today was a quality start for Matt," Bertolini said.

The baseball team looked to earn its first win of the season at Eastwood Field on April 12 against Niagara University. However, despite out-hitting the Purple Eagles, the Penguins came out on the wrong end of the 5-3 decision.

Braeden O'Shaughnessy and Nasonti provided eight of the team's nine hits. O'Shaughnessy finished 4-for-5 at the dish including a two-run home run and RBI double while Nasonti finished a perfect 4-for-4 with a double and two runs scored.

However, three home runs from Niagara helped the Purple Eagles fly away with the victory.

Braeden O'Shaughnessy said he hasn't seen the high heat he's been looking for recently, but didn't waste a swing when those pitches came against Niagara.

"High, in fastballs. I got a lot more today than I have in the past, so I took advantage of it and it worked well," Braeden O'Shaughnessy said.

The baseball team continues its 10-game opening homestand when the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee comes to town for a three-game Horizon League series April 14-16. Listen to the game on ysnlive.com