

News • Briefs

YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY

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Featured in this week's YSU News Briefs:

- **Students place second nationally in Green Energy Challenge**
- **Dana student, professor celebrate Zappa**
- **“New Harmonies” opens this week**
- **Board of Trustees schedule meetings**
- **Concert Band/Wind Ensemble in concert**



YSU graduate student John Anthony, right, and Dana School of Music Associate Professor David Morgan lead the new Frank Zappa Ensemble. They are pictured in this photo illustration with Zappa as he appeared on the cover of his “Apostraphe(’)” album. The Zappa Ensemble performs 8 p.m. Nov. 28 in Kilcawley Center. Read more in this week’s YSU News Briefs.

Calendar

Monday, Nov. 21, 7:05 p.m.

YSU’s Women’s Basketball takes on American at home at Beeghly Center.

Monday, Nov. 21, 8 p.m. Dana School of Music presents a concert, “*and the mountains rising nowhere,*” in Stambaugh Auditorium. See News Brief below for more information.

Tuesday, Nov. 22, 5:30 p.m. “New Harmonies: Celebrating American Roots Music” opens at the Youngstown Historical Center of Industry and Labor. See News Brief below for more information.

Wednesday, Nov. 23, 12:15 p.m. Music at Noon performance at the Butler Institute of American Art, featuring Brass Chamber Music. Free and open to the public.

Thursday and Friday, Nov. 24 and 24. YSU closed for the Thanksgiving holiday.

YSU team places second nationally in Green Energy Challenge

Six Youngstown State University students placed second nationally in this year’s Green Energy Challenge in both their team project presentation and the poster competition, winning a total of \$2,800 for their accomplishments.

For the national competition, the team traveled to San Diego this fall as one of three finalist teams to present their project, which involved a full-scale energy audit and upgrade to YSU’s Cafaro House residence hall.

The team beat out several others from Purdue, Texas A&M, Oregon State, Southern Polytechnic University and more in the initial round of judging in May. It's the second year in a row that a team from YSU placed in the top three teams in the nation.

This year's team, from left, includes:

David Wright, sophomore electrical engineering technology student of Youngstown.

Ethan Parks, freshman electrical engineering technology student of Greenford, Ohio.

Justin Hosseininejad, graduate engineering student of Austintown.

Jason Nutt, junior electrical engineering technology student of Cortland.

Jarrett Scacchetti, third year student of Canfield in electrical engineering and applied mathematics.

Michael Sammartino, senior electrical engineering student of Austintown.



For additional information and links on this story, check out the Green Energy Challenge team featured on YSU's [Student Success Stories](#) page.

Dana student, professor celebrate Zappa

Ten years ago, ask David Morgan about Frank Zappa, and you may get a shrug of the shoulders.

Then, the associate professor in Youngstown State University's Dana School of Music was commissioned by the Tri-C Jazz Fest in Cleveland to transcribe and arrange several of Zappa's pieces for a concert entitled "The Grand Wazoo."

"I hadn't realized how deep and complex his music was until I spent six months trying to write it out note for note from the recordings," Morgan said. "I've since come to the realization that Zappa was one of the important composers and musical thinkers of the 20th century."

This semester, Morgan, along with YSU graduate student and fellow Zappa-enthusiast John Anthony, are bringing the appreciation of all things Zappa to students in the Dana School of Music.

The Frank Zappa Ensemble, an 11-piece group of Dana students, will present its first performance of music spanning Zappa's career at 8 p.m. Monday, Nov. 28, in the Chestnut Room of Kilcawley Center. Selections performed at the concert were transcribed by Morgan and Anthony from Zappa recordings.

Zappa, who died in 1993 at the age of 52, was a composer, singer-songwriter, electric guitarist and film director who produced more than 60 albums of rock, jazz, classical, avant-garde music. He was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1995.

Anthony, a rock and jazz guitarist whose master's thesis focuses on Zappa, said the purpose of the Dana Frank Zappa Ensemble is to expose more people, especially students, to Zappa's music.

"For the performers, this music requires a high level of technical virtuosity, improvisations and understanding of odd meter," he said. "Not only is putting together ones individual part difficult, but then putting all eleven member's pieces together forms a new challenge in itself."

The ensemble will continue into the spring semester with at least two additional performances on campus, one of them being Anthony's master's recital in which Zappa's entire "Apostrophe(')" album will be performed.

Morgan said the ensemble is part of Dana's efforts to expand its engagement with American popular music based on the interests and talents of the students.

"It is simply untenable for an American music school in the 21st century to continue to ignore the music of our own culture," he said. "I would ultimately like to see us create a Center for American Popular Music at YSU that teaches the history of our music and provides aspiring musicians with real-life skills to participate in the music industry of tomorrow.

The concert is free and open to the public. Parking is available in the Wick Avenue deck for a nominal fee. For more information, call 330-941-3636.

"New Harmonies" opens this week at Historical Center

The travelling exhibition, "New Harmonies: Celebrating American Roots Music," opens 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 22, at the Youngstown Historical Center of Industry and Labor, and runs through Dec. 31.

At the opening, Zach Miller, a student in Youngstown State University's Dana School of Music, will perform the music he wrote to accompany poetry written by Michael McGovern, the "Puddler Poet" and author of "Labor Lyrics and Other Poems."

"New Harmonies" is an exhibit produced by the Smithsonian Institution and is touring Ohio in partnership with the Ohio Humanities Council. According to the exhibit's curator, Robert Santelli, "New Harmonies" is about "the ongoing cultural process that has made America the birthplace of more music than any place on earth." The exhibit examines the evolution of American genres such as folk, country, bluegrass, jazz, ethnic and religious music.

Other programming scheduled to accompany the exhibit includes: a bluegrass performance at the Youngstown Historical Center at 2 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 26; the YSU Zappa Ensemble at 8 p.m. Monday, Nov., 28 at 8:00 pm in Kilcawley Center; the Malyuk Sisters: Celtic and Old Time Tunes at 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 3 at the Lemon Grove in downtown Youngstown; Dave Morgan and Friends at the Lemon Grove at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 6; and performances by a steel drum band during First Night festivities. The performances are partially funded by a grant from the Ohio Humanities Council.

The Youngstown Historical Center of Industry and Labor, a site of the Ohio Historical Society and operated by YSU's Department of History, is located at 151 W. Wood St., across from St. Columba Cathedral. All events are free and open to the public. "New Harmonies" runs through December 31, 2011. For more information, please contact 330-941-1314 or 330-941-3452.



Board of Trustees meetings scheduled for December

The Youngstown State University Board of Trustees meets in December for its final quarterly meeting of the calendar year. The schedule is as follows:

- **Thursday, Dec. 1**, Board of Trustees meeting room, first floor of Tod Hall – noon, Board luncheon; 1 p.m., Academic Quality and Student Success Committee; 2 p.m., University Affairs Committee; 3 p.m., Collective Bargaining and Negotiations Subcommittee; 3:30 p.m., Intercollegiate Athletics Subcommittee; 4 p.m., Institutional Engagement Committee; 4:30 p.m., Trusteeship Committee.
- **Tuesday, Dec. 6**, Board of Trustees meeting room, first floor of Tod Hall – noon, Board luncheon; 1 p.m., Investment Subcommittee; 2 p.m., Audit Subcommittee; 3 p.m., Finance and Facilities Committee; 4 p.m., Executive Committee.
- **Wednesday, Dec. 14**, 3 p.m., Board of Trustees meeting room, first floor of Tod Hall, Board meeting.

Concert Band and Wind Ensemble featured in concert

The Dana School of Music present a concert titled, "*and the mountains rising nowhere*," at 8 p.m., Monday, Nov. 21, in Stambaugh Auditorium.

The performance features the YSU Concert Band and YSU Wind Ensemble. Special soloist for the concert is Sean Baran, a senior piano major in the Dana School of Music.

The Concert Band opens the program with "Commando March" by American composer Samuel Barber, followed by "Divertimento for Band," "Canterbury Chorale" and "Give Us This Day: A Short Symphony for Band." The second half of the concert features the YSU Wind Ensemble, with "Mother Earth Fanfare," "Australian Up-Country Tune" and "Handel in the Strand."

Pulitzer-prize winning composer, Joseph Schwantner's "*. . . and the mountains raising nowhere*" is the feature piece of the second half of the concert. The last YSU performance of the masterpiece in April 2003 was given in the Butler Institute of American Art with the composer in attendance.

The Wind Ensemble and the Concert Band brass section will close the program with Alfred Reed's popular "Russian Christmas Music."

Tickets are only available at the door; \$5 for adults and \$4 for students and senior citizens. Admission is free with a YSU ID.