

News • Briefs

YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY

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Featured in this week's YSU News Briefs:

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- **Dance Ensemble performs this week on campus**



[Dancing, music and food will again be featured in this year's The Battle of Puebla Cinco de Mayo celebration 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Thursday, May 5, in the DeBartolo Stadium Club on campus. Read more in this week's edition of YSU News Briefs.](#)

Calendar

Tuesday, May 3, noon. An oak tree will be planted in memory of YSU student Jamail Johnson during a ceremony on the campus core. See News Brief below.

Tuesday, May 3, 6 p.m. Penguins' baseball takes on Allegheny at Eastwood Field in Niles. The team also plays Milwaukee **Friday, May 6 at 3 p.m.** and a doubleheader on **Saturday, May 7, starting at noon,** also at Eastwood Field.

Thursday, May 5, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The YSU Latino Student Organization presents "The Battle of Puebla Cinco de Mayo Celebration" in the DeBartolo Stadium Club. See News Brief below.

Friday, May 6. YSU's 30th Annual Faculty and Staff Awards Dinner will be in Kilcawley Center. Reception at **5:30 p.m.** in the Ohio Room; dinner at **6:30 p.m.** in the Chestnut Room. Heritage Award presented to Mary J. Beaubien and J. Douglas Faures.

Saturday, May 7, 1 p.m. Penguins' softball plays Green Bay in a doubleheader. The team finishes out the regular season at **noon, Sunday, May 8,** also against Green Bay.

Tree planted this week in memory of Jamail Johnson

An oak tree will be planted in memory of Youngstown State University student Jamail Johnson during a ceremony at noon, Tuesday, May 3, on the campus core.

The event will take place near the “Rock” on the south side of Kilcawley Center.

Johnson, 25, died Feb. 6 during a shooting at a house located off campus. His funeral service was held in YSU’s Beeghly Center. He was a member of Omega Psi Phi fraternity and was to graduate from YSU this month.

“This tree will be a lasting reminder for generations to come of an exceptional student who positively influenced so many in such a short time,” YSU President Cynthia E. Anderson said.

“It is also a reminder that all of us – in every city, every college and university campus across the nation – must rededicate ourselves to do what we can to ensure that such senseless violence does not happen again.”

Omega Psi Phi, Woodrow Wilson Middle School and the YSU Student Government Association will dedicate a plaque in Johnson’s memory. The plaque will be placed adjacent to the tree. The tree has been donated by the Campus Beautification Initiative in partnership with members of Omega Psi Phi.

After the tree planting, the YSU Office of University Development, Office of Student Diversity and the YSU Student Government Association will sponsor a Peace Rally and reception adjacent to the tree dedication site. Student groups will have display tables regarding non-violence and peaceful solutions.

Johnson’s mother, Shirlene Hill, and father, Earl Johnson, are expected to attend the ceremony.

Education professor wins Faculty Innovator Award

With the rising cost of textbooks, one Youngstown State University faculty member is helping to offset the costs by substituting textbooks for the latest technologies and strategies in learning.

Lauren Cummins, associate professor of Teacher Education, is among only 10 faculty members statewide to



Lauren Cummings

receive the 2011 Ohio Faculty Innovator Award from the Ohio Board of Regents. The award is given to faculty members who creatively reduced the cost of class materials for students while improving the educational content of the course.

“Ohio’s economic competitiveness is built on the strength of its higher education system and keeping access to that system within reach of Ohio families,” said Eric Fingerhut, former chancellor of the Ohio Board of Regents. “The faculty we honor have, with their dedication and hard work, helped make it easier for

students to succeed in ways that will make them, and Ohio, more successful in today's knowledge economy."

In two distance-learning courses she teaches, Cummins uses VoiceThread and PBWorks Wiki, 2.0 technologies that provide critical analysis and interaction opportunities to students. VoiceThread applies multimedia resources while the wiki program lets a group set up and contribute to pages in a collaborative effort.

Cummins uses photo images on VoiceThread to complement concepts from the course. Students view the images that relate to a concept and respond to questions for each by either typing an answer or posting a recorded voice message via computer microphone or telephone. In addition, the wiki tracks student posts throughout the semester on a given topic. Students not only post their own research to the wiki but also comment on and expand their classmates' findings and add videos, podcasts and other links to better communicate their ideas.

The digital material employed in Cummins' Methods and Theories in Early Childhood Education course saves each graduate student \$121 in textbook costs.

Cummins acknowledges another advantage in using the technologies.

"Both are effective ways to engage students in the process of inquiry-based learning, taking them several steps beyond just covering the material and asking them to be responsible researchers," she said. "Textbooks shouldn't be the focus for all learning, but the springboard where learning begins. Information in and of itself is not learning."

Cummins received positive feedback from students of the distance-learning courses and plans to continue using the digital teaching methods in future classes. This semester, she added another 2.0 technology to the class, Webspiration, which challenges distance learners to work collaboratively to create a mind map of concepts taught.

Counseling students earn honor society induction

Thirty-three graduate students in Youngstown State University's counseling program were inducted into the Eta Chapter of Chi Sigma Iota, the National Honor Society for Professional Counselors.

The induction ceremony took place in the Debartolo Stadium Club on the YSU campus. Chi Sigma Iota, with chapters at more than 275 universities, is the world's largest counseling honor society. The society's mission is to promote scholarship, research, professionalism, leadership and excellence in the profession of counseling. Membership is by invitation only to graduate students in counseling who have distinguished themselves through professional excellence and aspire to work as professional counselors.

This year's inductees included Cara Riffe of Greenville, Pa.; Bridget Asempapa of Youngstown; Angie Cameron of Mineral Ridge; Evelyn Clark of Youngstown; Daniela Barletta of Hubbard; Victoria Aikens of Girard; Allison Darby of Niles; Nancy Reali of Poland; James Hyland of Youngstown; Nicole Hyland of Youngstown; Melanie East of Sharpsville, Pa.; Andrea Matyi of Youngstown; Julie Sarnowski of Youngstown; Brittney Wireman of Vienna; Kristin Skelley of Greenville, PA; Kristen Sterm of Lowellville; Meridel Walls of Warren; and Shanna Sallmen of New Castle, Pa.; Shawn Burton of Youngstown; Michael Cerbus of Youngstown; Daniel Dawson of Girard; Ronald Delesky of McDonald; Stephanie Fellenger of Warren; Sara Filicky of Hubbard; Lisa Halko of Orlando, Fla.; Shantel Jackson of Youngstown; Juleen Keefer of Boardman; Melissa Krepps of Masury; Lori Marshall of Niles; Maura Picciano of Poland; Jeff Richter of Columbiana; Dominique Ross of Austintown; and Diane Stahl of Canfield.

The event featured keynote presentations by Bethany Garr, a 2006 graduate of the YSU counseling program, president of the Eastern Ohio Counselors Association and an in-home therapist at Homes for Kids in Niles; and Kerry Sebera, assistant professor of counselor education at the University of Cincinnati

For more information, visit the counseling program website at <http://web.yсу.edu/counseling> or contact Jake J. Protivnak, faculty adviser of the YSU Eta Chapter of Chi Sigma Iota.



Chi Sigma Iota inductees in attendance at the ceremony were, from the left, Cara Riffe of Greenville, Pa.; Bridget Asempapa of Youngstown; Angie Cameron of Mineral Ridge; Evelyn Clark of Youngstown; Daniela Barletta of Hubbard; Victoria Aikens of Girard; Allison Darby of Niles; Nancy Reali of Poland; James Hyland of Youngstown; Nicole Hyland of Youngstown; Melanie East of Sharpsville, Pa.; Andrea Matyi of Youngstown; Julie Sarnowski of Youngstown; Brittney Wireman of Vienna; Kristin Skelley of Greenville, Pa.; Kristen Sterm of Lowellville; Meridel Walls of Warren; and Shanna Sallmen of New Castle, Pa.

Armed Forces Student Association holds car show

The Youngstown State University Armed Forces Student Association hosts a Car Show Fundraiser 1 to 5 p.m. Saturday, May 14, in the M-26 parking lot at Lincoln and Fifth avenues on campus.

The event will feature awards, t-shirt sales, raffles and an appearance by YSU's own Pete and Penny.

For more information or to sign up to show your car, email afsa@student.yсу.edu, call 330-941-2523, or "like" the AFSA Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Armed-Forces-Student-Association/181630651859157>.

To view a flyer for the car show, click cfweb.cc.yсу.edu/ta/download.cfm.

To view a registration form for the car show, click cfweb.cc.yсу.edu/ta/download.cfm.

AFSA is a YSU organization through the Office of Veterans Affairs. AFSA consists of veterans who come together with the common interest of helping other local veterans. Some examples of sponsored and planned events are Valentines for Veterans, nursing home and hospital visits, Relay for Life and donations from "Fill

the Humvee” for local food banks. All proceeds sponsor an AFSA scholarship for YSU veterans and supporting the Veterans Center at YSU.

Earlier this year, AFSA was accepted into national membership by the Student Veterans of America. Only two other Northeast Ohio universities hold membership.

YSU has been designated a Military Friendly School two years in a row by *G.I. Jobs* magazine.

Cinco de Mayo events set for this week

The Youngstown State University Latino Student Organization presents “The Battle of Puebla Cinco de Mayo Celebration” 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Thursday, May 5, in the DeBartolo Stadium Club.

The event will feature food, music and student performances.

The event is organized by the YSU Latino Student Organization, Los Buenos Vecinos, Sociedad Mutualista Mexicana, and the Office of Student Diversity Programs, and co-sponsored by the James Dale Ethics Center.

The event is free and open to the public. To RSVP and for more information call 330-941-2087.



From the left, Jessica Schmidt, Brittney Symone Grant, Daniel Temelkoff.

‘Cinderella’ presented Saturday at Spotlight Theater in Bliss Hall

Alpha Psi Omega, Youngstown State University’s Student Theater fraternity, will stage “Cinderella,” Saturday, May 7 at 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. in Bliss Hall’s Spotlight Theater.

Tickets are \$1 and only available at the door. No advance tickets are being sold.

The show is directed by YSU student Nathan Beagle. Cast members include:

Cinderella	Jessica Schmidt
Prince	Dan Temelkoff
Fairy Godmother	Brittney Symone Grant
Step Mother	Rebecca Anderson
Thelma	Kelly Sullivan
Gertrude	Kaliegh Locketti
Baron Peabody	John Cruz

Parking is available in the M1 Wick Avenue Deck for a nominal fee.

Dance Ensemble concert features modern, hip-hop, tap

The Youngstown State University Dance Ensemble presents its annual spring concert 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Friday and Saturday, May 5, 6 and 7 at 7:30 p.m. in Bliss Hall's Ford Theater.

Under the artistic direction of Christine Cobb, faculty member in the department of Theater and Dance, the concert will showcase 13 dance pieces of modern, hip-hop and tap genres.

Tickets are \$3 for YSU faculty, staff, students and senior citizens; \$8 for general public. Tickets may only be purchased at the door.

The YSU Dance Ensemble, a sanctioned student organization sponsored in part by Student Government, accepts members via an audition process in the fall semester.

"The students who audition and are accepted into the YSU Dance Ensemble put countless hours into practicing their discipline," Cobb said. "They also learn the basics of running a student organization since they must elect officers and participate in activities. The spring concert is the culmination of their year-long efforts."

One of the featured pieces of the concert is "Dance and the Spoken Word" of Wallace Stephens' poem "Sunday Morning." Conceived by Associate Staff Designer W. Rick Schilling, and choreographed by Katie Torba, this dance performance of a poem shows the persona of the narrator in Stephen's poem as a woman who, caught between a dreamy- sleeplessness and breakfast-time consciousness of a Sunday morning, questions the nature of supernatural religions. Biblical imagery mixes with pagan imagery.

Guest artist Melinda Planey is currently on staff at DANCE Cleveland as administrative coordinator and is a recent graduate of The College at Brockport, in Brockport, N.Y., where she earned master of Fine Arts degree in Dance Performance and Choreography as well as a Graduate Certificate in Nonprofit Management.