

# News • Briefs

YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY

Dec. 5, 2011

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## *Featured in this week's YSU News Briefs:*

- **YSU's NewsOutlet wins national grant**
- **Steelers, Browns pros team up on encyclopedia project**
- **Student/Practitioners day is this Friday**
- **'New Jim Crow' author speaks this week**
- **Jabali celebrates African culture**
- **BFA students exhibit artwork**
- **MBA info session this Monday**



## This Week

### **Monday, Dec. 5, 5:45 p.m.**

YSU's Williamson College of Business Administration hosts an MBA Information Session in Williamson Hall. See the News Brief below for more information.

**Tuesday, Dec. 6.** YSU's Board of Trustees meet in the meeting room on the first floor of Tod Hall on the following schedule: **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.

**Tuesday, Dec. 6.** A women-men basketball doubleheader at Beeghly Center. At **5:15 p.m.**, the women take on Bowling Green, followed at **7:45 p.m.** with the men's game against Fredonia State.

**Tuesday, Dec. 6, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.** The YSU Students Motivated by the Arts – SMARTS hosts its Holiday Open House with refreshments, the SMARTS Store and hands-on art activities for children of all ages, at the SMARTS Center in downtown Youngstown. Reservations must be made for groups of 10 or more.

*Who said Steelers and Browns fans can't get along? Steelers fan Adam Earnhardt, left, and Browns diehard Jeff Tyus, both members of the Communications faculty at YSU, put aside their differences long enough to collaborate on two articles for the new *Encyclopedia of Sports Management and Marketing*. In all, nine articles written by Earnhardt, Tyus and YSU students appear in the four-volume encyclopedia set. Read more in this edition of the YSU News Briefs. (Oh, by the way, the Steelers and Browns resume their 61-year rivalry this Thursday night at Heinz Field in Pittsburgh.)*

**Tuesday, Dec. 6, 6:30 p.m.** Michelle Alexander, author of *The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness*, will speak at the New Bethel Baptist Church, 1505 Hillman St., Youngstown, as part of YSU's Community Diversity Program Series. See the News Brief below for more information.



YSU's Clarinet studio presidents a free Music at Noon concert on Wednesday, Dec. 7 in the Butler Institute of American Art.

**Wednesday, Dec. 7, 12:15 to 1:15 p.m.** The Dana School of Music presents "Music at Noon" at the Butler Institute of American Art, featuring the Clarinet Studio.

**Wednesday, Dec. 7, 7 p.m.** YSU's Dana School of Music presents its annual holiday music extravaganza, Carols & Cocoa and the Dana Holiday Concert in Stambaugh Auditorium. The event features music, a sing-along, "A Musicology Journey through the Twelve Days of Christmas" and the choral orchestral performance of "Gloria."

**Friday, Dec. 9, 7:40 a.m. to 3 p.m.** The 15<sup>th</sup> annual Accounting and Finance Student/Practitioner Day will be hosted by the Williamson College of Business Administration in Williamson Hall. See News Brief below for details.

**Friday, Dec. 9, 6:30 p.m.** The 12<sup>th</sup> annual "Jabali" African Cultural Celebration will take place in the Chestnut Room of Kilcawley Center on the YSU campus. See the News Brief below for more details.

## YSU's NewsOutlet wins national grant

The NewsOutlet at Youngstown State University has won a \$62,000 Community Information Challenge grant from the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation.

It is the second consecutive year that the NewsOutlet has won a grant from the prestigious Knight Foundation.

The NewsOutlet, a partnership between YSU, WYSU-FM, *The Vindicator*, Kent State University, *The Akron Beacon Journal*, the University of Akron and Rubber City Radio (Akron), links student reporters with media professionals and journalism faculty to provide critical information to Ohio citizens through investigative and enterprise journalism.

The Knight Foundation grant matches a \$30,000 grant from The Raymond John Wean Foundation, and a \$15,000 grant from The Youngstown Foundation, while Kent State University and University of Akron have contributed an additional \$12,000 for the project. YSU has provided ongoing support for the project.

# THE NEWS OUTLET

"The Wean and Youngstown foundations and others like it are part of a growing number of community and place-based foundations working to ensure that residents have the information they need to make informed and important decisions about their communities," said Traban Shorters, Knight Foundation's vice president for engaging communities. "Ultimately, our democracy will only thrive if we have informed and engaged communities."

Co-directed by YSU journalism faculty Tim Francisco and Alyssa Lenhoff, The NewsOutlet has produced dozens of investigative and enterprise stories that have raised awareness about key issues in the community. Recent stories have included an investigation of the Mahoning River and its likelihood of ever being cleaned from years of dumping by former steel companies and an examination of food deserts in the region.

Jeffrey Glebocki, president of the Raymond John Wean Foundation, said The NewsOutlet is an important project for the Mahoning Valley and that the board of the Warren-based foundation recognizes how important vibrant media is to the health of the Mahoning Valley.

"We were pleased to offer initial and ongoing support for this exciting project and believe that it has already made an important difference in the type of news and information available to citizens of the Mahoning Valley," Glebocki said.

For more information, contact Jeff Glebocki at the Raymond John Wean Foundation at 330-394-5600 or [jglebocki@rjweanfdn.org](mailto:jglebocki@rjweanfdn.org).

## Steelers, Browns pros team up on encyclopedia project

Born in Texas, Adam Earnhardt moved to the Steel City at the age of three.

"I wasn't in Pittsburgh for more than five minutes before I had on a Steelers jersey," remembers Earnhardt, associate professor of Communications at Youngstown State University.

So it's not surprising that, over the years, Earnhardt worked up quite a dislike for the rival Cleveland Browns. "And, for my part, there was never any real interest to learn anything about them," he said.

That all changed when Earnhardt and Jeff Tyus, YSU assistant professor of Communications, collaborated earlier this year to research and write articles on the Cleveland Browns and the Cleveland Indians for the *Encyclopedia of Sports Management and Marketing*, a four-volume set released this fall by Sage Publications in Thousand Oaks, Calif.

"We learned a lot together," said Tyus, who describes himself as "a diehard Cleveland sports fan." "I think Adam now at least understands and respects the great history and tradition of the Browns, even though the last few years haven't been the greatest for us."

*(Editor's note: The latest chapter in the 61-year Steelers-Browns rivalry continues Thursday night in Heinz Field in Pittsburgh. The teams meet again on New Year's Day in Cleveland.)*



In all, Earnhardt authored or co-authored nine articles for the 1,960-page encyclopedia, which focuses on the economics, governance, ethics, sociology, media, marketing and promotion of sports. For all of the work, the publisher provided a four-volume set to Earnhardt, who donated it to YSU's Maag Library.

Over the span of nine months starting in late 2010, Earnhardt worked with Tyus and students Chelsea Pflugh and Meg Villers to write the articles. Pflugh and Villers have since graduated – Pflugh is now a producer for CSPAN's BookTV and Villers is an admissions representative for Penn State University.

"This is really the idea of teaching, scholarship and service all coming together under one project," Earnhardt said.

"When the opportunity came along to write these entries, Chelsea and Megan jumped at it. What they didn't realize is how much research and fact checking went in to writing an encyclopedia entry. You really need to get it right – down to every date, name and statistic. And now, to see their work in print and in libraries around the world, is very rewarding."

In addition to his collaboration with Tyus on the Indians and Browns, Earnhardt co-authored articles on the Pittsburgh Penguins and the National Hockey League with Pflugh and an article on the New England Patriots with Villers. He also wrote four articles on his own on the Baltimore Ravens, media audience, motive and typologies of the sports fan and the Super Bowl.

Earnhardt, who joined the YSU faculty in 2005, is executive director of the Ohio Communications Association. His forthcoming book entitled *Sports Fans, Identity, and Socialization: Exploring the Fandemonium* focuses on athlete and fan identities. Tyus, who came to YSU in 2007, is a past president of the Ohio Communications Association. His research agenda involves the study of underrepresented groups in American society and public relations efforts in grassroots political campaigns.

## Student/Practitioner day is this Friday

The Williamson College of Business Administration will be hosting the 15<sup>th</sup> annual Accounting and Finance Student/Practitioner Day on Friday, Dec. 9, 7:40 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Conference Center of Williamson Hall.

YSU business students, as well accounting students from small nearby colleges, will have the opportunity to attend panel sessions on topics such as employment opportunities in public, corporate, and governmental accounting; employment opportunities in banking and finance; accounting entrepreneurship; forensic accounting; communication and networking skills; professional exams; new accounting courses; finding the most valuable members in networking; and speed networking. Human resource representatives will also be available.

At midday, three experienced professionals, one each from finance, corporate accounting, and public accounting, will be interviewed in a panel session for all participants entitled "Beyond a Paycheck: What Practitioners Find Meaningful."



This presentation is designed to give students insight and information about the deeper, more personal motivations of accounting and finance professionals.

The WCBA is holding the event in conjunction with Beta Alpha Psi, the Institute of Management Accountants and the Ohio Society of Certified Public Accountants' Student Ambassador.

Participating firms include Ernst & Young; Cohen & Company; Hill, Barth & King; Packer Thomas; State Auditor's Office; Schroedel, Scullin, & Bestic; Carbis Walker; Apex Paper Box; Progressive Insurance; Bodine Perry Flauto; DFAS; FBI; Astroshapes; Azork; Cortland Bank; HD Davis; Hack, Steer and Company; City of Hubbard; Home Savings and Loan; Brennan Financial Group; Huntington Bank; Key Bank; Chase Bank; Fluent and Associates; Becker Professional Education; Accountemps; OSCPA; and the John Zidian Group.

Companies and organizations interested in learning more about Accounting Student/Practitioner Day should contact Dave Law at 330-941-1881 or [dblaw@ysu.edu](mailto:dblaw@ysu.edu)

## 'New Jim Crow' author speaks this week

Michelle Alexander, author of *The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness*, speaks 6:30 p.m., Tuesday, Dec. 6, in New Bethel Baptist Church, 1505 Hillman St., Youngstown.

The event is co-sponsored by Youngstown State University's Office of Equal Opportunity and Diversity, Center for Working Class Studies, and Criminal Justice Department; Eastern Gateway Community College; Mahoning Valley Organizing Collaborative; New Bethel Baptist Church; Rev. Dr. Martin Luther Planning Committee; Barnes & Noble; and Buckeye Review.

In the book, Alexander discusses how, in an era of colorblindness, it is no longer socially

permissible to use race, explicitly, as justification for discrimination and social contempt. Yet, she argues, it is perfectly legal to discriminate against convicted criminals in nearly all of the ways that it was once legal to discriminate against African Americans. Alexander says that once you are labeled a felon, the old forms of discrimination – employment and housing discrimination, denial of the right to vote, denial of educational opportunity – are suddenly legal.

The presentation, which is part of the Community Diversity Program Series, is free and open to the public.



Michelle Alexander

## Jabali event celebrates African culture

The 12<sup>th</sup> annual "Jabali" African Cultural Celebration event will be held Friday, Dec. 9, at 6:30 p.m. in the Chestnut Room of Kilcawley Center on the YSU campus.

The event is co-sponsored by YSU's Office of Equal Opportunity and Diversity Initiatives as part of its Community Series, YSU's Africana Studies Program and the Buckeye Review.

The event includes a dinner and entertainment provided by the Harambee Youth Group and the African Students Union.

Judge Benita Y. Pearson of the United States District Court for the Northern District of Ohio will speak. She is the first black female federal judge in Ohio.

Dinner is \$25 per person, \$10 for students and \$175 for a table of eight. To make a reservation or for more information, contact the Africana Studies Program at 330-941-3097.

## Graduating BFA students exhibit artwork

The artwork of 14 Youngstown State University students is featured in the Fall Graduating BFA Show at the McDonough Museum of Art on campus.

The exhibit features the work of students graduating this fall from the Department of Art at YSU and will be open through Dec. 16. Museum hours are Tuesday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is free.

For more information, call 330-941-1400.



Students participating in the show are Francesca Baldarelli, Dani Brant, Rachel Campoli, Richard Courtney, Karen L. Fisher, Brandi Kail, Lauren Lenio, Michele Manna, Ross Mazzupappa, Molly Pamela McKay, Alex Merdich, Maryssa Moczan, David Raghanti and Jessie Shanks.

## **MBA Information Session this Monday**

Youngstown State University's Williamson College of Business Administration hosts an MBA Information Session 5:45 p.m., Monday, Dec. 5, in Room 3418 of Williamson Hall.

The Flexible MBA enables students to pursue degrees either part-time or full-time. Classes are offered one night a week and on Saturdays. Some MBA courses are offered in 8-week blocks. Students may start any term fall, spring or summer. The MBA program is accredited by AACSB International, which represents the highest standard of achievement for business schools worldwide.

To obtain application information, contact Monique Bradford at 330-941-3069 or email [mrbradford@ysu.edu](mailto:mrbradford@ysu.edu).