



**YOUNGSTOWN  
STATE  
UNIVERSITY**

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
INSTITUTIONAL ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE  
Molly S. Seals, Chair  
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**BACKGROUND MATERIALS  
December 4, 2019**

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|--|--------------|
| <b>1. Alumni and Events Calendar</b>                   | <b>Tab 1</b> |
| <b>2. Marketing Communications Campus News of Note</b> | <b>Tab 2</b> |

**TO:** YSU Board of Trustees  
**FROM:** The Office of Alumni Engagement and University Events  
**DATE:** November 2019  
**SUBJECT:** **Alumni Engagement and University Events 2019/2020 Events**

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*The calendar below lists all scheduled events that involve local alumni, alumni in chapters across the country, Pete's Pride volunteers and campus and community events that are produced or assisted by Alumni Engagement or University Events. For questions or more information on any of these events, please call 330-941-2136.*

**Saturday, November 2**  
Purpose: CSRA-Columbia Alumni Chapter Football Watch Party  
Place: Social gathering/Athletics support  
Time: Woodside Plantation Country Club  
Contact: 5:00 pm  
Heather Belgin – 330-941-1591 or [habelgin@ysu.edu](mailto:habelgin@ysu.edu)

**Saturday, November 2**  
Purpose: Phoenix Alumni Chapter Mixer  
Place: Social gathering  
Time: Quart Haus  
Contact: 1:00 pm  
Heather Belgin – 330-941-1591 or [habelgin@ysu.edu](mailto:habelgin@ysu.edu)

**Saturday, November 2**  
Purpose: Young Alumni Chapter Pre-Game Gathering  
Place: Social gathering, support YSU Athletics  
Time: Republic Pizza  
Contact: 4:00 pm  
Brittany Defibaugh- 330-941-7170 or [bldefibaugh@ysu.edu](mailto:bldefibaugh@ysu.edu)

**Tuesday, November 12**  
Purpose: Centofanti Symposium presents Boom Boom Mancini  
Place: Presentation from hometown hero  
Time: Kilcawley Center  
5:30 pm Reception in Presidents' Suites  
7:00 pm Lecture in Chestnut Room  
Contact: Jackie LeViseur --330-941-2136 or [jmlevisieur@ysu.edu](mailto:jmlevisieur@ysu.edu)

**Sunday, November 17**  
Purpose: Washington D.C. Alumni Chapter Luncheon  
Place: Social gathering and explore a chapter scholarship  
Time: Texas Jack's BBQ  
Contact: 12:00 pm  
Heather Belgin – 330-941-1591 or [habelgin@ysu.edu](mailto:habelgin@ysu.edu)

**Thursday, November 21**  
Purpose: Akron/Canton Alumni Chapter at Men's Basketball  
Place: Support Athletics and social gathering  
Time: Brubaker's Pub; James A. Rhodes Arena  
Contact: 5:30 pm pre-game; 7:00 pm YSU at Akron  
Heather Belgin – 330-941-1591 or [habelgin@ysu.edu](mailto:habelgin@ysu.edu)

**Saturday, November 23**

Purpose:

Place:

Time:

Contact:

**Wilmington Alumni Chapter Football Watch Party**

Social gathering/Athletics support

Buffalo Wild Wings

12:00 p.m.

Heather Belgin – 330-941-1591 or [habelgin@ysu.edu](mailto:habelgin@ysu.edu)

**Saturday, November 23**

Purpose:

Place:

Time:

Contact:

**Dallas Alumni Chapter Gathering**

Social gathering and reinvigorate chapter

Manhattan Project Beer Company

3:00-5:00 pm

Heather Belgin – 330-941-1591 or [habelgin@ysu.edu](mailto:habelgin@ysu.edu)

**Saturday, November 23**

Purpose:

Place:

Time:

Contact:

**Savannah/Hilton Head Alumni Chapter Gathering**

Social gathering

Street Meet American Tavern

6:00-8:00 pm

Heather Belgin – 330-941-1591 or [habelgin@ysu.edu](mailto:habelgin@ysu.edu)

**Sunday, December 15**

Place:

Time:

Contact:

**Commencement**

Beeghly Center

2:00 pm

Jackie LeViseur --330-941-2136 or [jmlevisueur@ysu.edu](mailto:jmlevisueur@ysu.edu)

**Saturday, January 11**

Purpose:

Place:

Time:

Contact:

**Washington D.C. Alumni Chapter Gathering**

Support of and meeting with YSU Professor Dr. James Umble when he performs in the area

George Mason University

TBD

Heather Belgin – 330-941-1591 or [habelgin@ysu.edu](mailto:habelgin@ysu.edu)

**Sunday, January 12**

Purpose:

Place:

Time:

Contact:

**Atlanta Alumni Chapter Mixer**

Social gathering

Urban Tree Cidery

2:00 pm

Heather Belgin – 330-941-1591 or [habelgin@ysu.edu](mailto:habelgin@ysu.edu)

**Wednesday, January 29**

Place:

Time:

Contact:

**Skeggs Lecture Series presents Bryan Terrell Clark**

Bliss Hall

1:00 pm Master Class

3:00 pm Lecture with Q&A

Jackie LeViseur --330-941-2136 or [jmlevisueur@ysu.edu](mailto:jmlevisueur@ysu.edu)

**Saturday, February 1**

Purpose:

Place:

Time:

Contact:

**Charleston/Myrtle Beach Alumni Chapters Dinner**

Social gathering, connection between chapters

Rutledge Cab Co.

5:00 pm

Heather Belgin – 330-941-1591 or [habelgin@ysu.edu](mailto:habelgin@ysu.edu)

**Wednesday, March 18**

Place:

Time:

Contact:

**Skeggs Lecture Series presents Bill Nye**

Stambaugh Auditorium

6:30 pm private meet and greet

7:00 pm presentation

Jackie LeViseur --330-941-2136 or [jmlevisueur@ysu.edu](mailto:jmlevisueur@ysu.edu)

**Thursday, April 23**

Place:

Time:

Contact:

**Faculty and Staff Showcase**

Mr. Anthony's

6:00 pm

Jackie LeViseur --330-941-2136 or [jmlevisueur@ysu.edu](mailto:jmlevisueur@ysu.edu)

**Saturday, May 9**

Place:

Time:

Contact:

**Commencement**

Stambaugh Stadium

10:00 am

Jackie LeViseur --330-941-2136 or [jmlevisueur@ysu.edu](mailto:jmlevisueur@ysu.edu)

**Wednesday, September 16**

Place:

Time:

Contact:

**Skeggs Lecture Series presents Michael Symon**

Stambaugh Auditorium

5:00 pm cooking demo and private meet and greet

7:00 pm presentation

8:00 pm book signing

Jackie LeViseur --330-941-2136 or [jmlevisueur@ysu.edu](mailto:jmlevisueur@ysu.edu)

## College2Careers

YSU is boosting services to help students with disabilities complete their degrees and get jobs. The new Ohio College2Careers program provides funding for YSU and 14 other universities to hire full-time vocational rehabilitation counselors dedicated to assisting students with disabilities. YSU's counselor is Bill Koch, whose office is in the Disability Services Office in Kilcawley Center. More than 500 YSU students receive accommodations through the DS Office. "Having an office right here at YSU allows me to have more immediate contact with students and hopefully will help us provide more efficient services," Koch said.



## China survey

One-third of companies in Northeast Ohio have experienced decreases in foreign sales, some as high as 80 percent, as the result of the US-China trade war. Those are among the results of a recent survey of 52 companies in 10 northeast Ohio counties conducted by the Export Assistance Network at YSU's Williamson College of Business Administration. Mousa Kassis, EAN director, said the survey was launched after EAN noticed a growing concern among business owners and leaders about the ongoing trade dispute.

## Students of the Week

The YSU Honors College has launched a new initiative to recognize academic excellence, community engagement and student success. Each week, the college names an "Honors Student of the Week" as a way to share stories about student achievements. "As the college grows, we need to find new ways to celebrate all the wonderful work our students do," said Amy Cossentino, dean of the Honors College, which has 1,266 students. Read about past Honors College students of the week at <https://ysu.edu/academics/honors-college>. To nominate an honors student, email the student's name and accomplishment to [honorsstudents@ysu.edu](mailto:honorsstudents@ysu.edu).



YSU student Brooke Schaefer, who spent four weeks in Tanzania, Africa, this past summer teaching English, was recognized earlier this semester as "Honors Student of the Week".

## Asia Minor

YSU is introducing a new interdisciplinary minor in Asian Studies, based out of the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies. "In the globalized world of the 21st century, the study of Asia is a pressing need for all undergraduates around the world," said Michael Jerryson, YSU associate professor of Philosophy and Religious Studies. "Not only does the study of Asia allow students to familiarize themselves with 60 percent of the world's population, but also allows students to engage with cultures and histories behind the most powerful emerging markets and influential political influences of this century."



## Diversity and Inclusion

Carol Lynnett Bennett, left, former assistant dean and director of diversity and inclusion at Truman State University in Missouri, is the new assistant provost for Diversity and Inclusion at YSU. Bennett was selected after a national search and started her new role Oct. 16. She oversees YSU's inclusion mission and goals, facilitates a campus culture that embraces and respects human differences across all aspects of diversity, and cultivates a climate of mutual respect and acceptance.

## Golden anniversary

WYSU-FM 88.5 celebrated its golden anniversary with a party at Mill Creek MetroParks Davis Center Auditorium. WYSU radio went on the air at 10 a.m. Oct. 23, 1969, from studios in a room of the former Valley Park Motel on Wick Avenue in Youngstown. The station, a charter member of National Public Radio, moved to newly-built studios in Cushwa Hall on the YSU campus in 1976 and then in 2016 to new studios on the second floor of Melnick Hall, back on Wick Avenue.





### Growing Up Great!

The Beeghly College of Education at YSU was awarded a two-year, \$150,000 grant from the PNC Foundation to develop the YSU Early Learning Academy powered by PNC Grow Up Great for early educators in Mahoning Valley. PNC made the grant in support of PNC Grow Up Great, its bilingual \$500 million, multi-year initiative to help prepare children from birth to age 5 for success in school and life. The YSU Early Learning Academy will conduct a dozen professional development and

educational workshops on Saturdays for more than 100 area preschool instructors, specifically those working with the low- to moderate-income population.

### Freedom Award

The YSU English Festival has received the 2019 Intellectual Freedom Award from the National Council of Teachers of English. The Festival also won the award in 2004. "For the past 41 years, the clear goals of the YSU English Festival have included quality literature for students and consistency in the selection of materials which have enabled Festival sponsors to stand up to censorship challenges and to further intellectual freedom and the students' right to read," reads the nomination for the award submitted by the Ohio Council of Teachers of English Language Arts.



### We're #1!

YSU's Twitter account ranks 17<sup>th</sup> in the nation and first in the state of Ohio, in the recently-released Higher Ed Social Media Engagement Report. "We work very hard to make sure our audiences are engaged with the content we put out across all of our social media platforms," said Kati Hartwig, social media and digital marketing coordinator at YSU. "We focus on being transparent, thinking critically about how our content fits our mission and also making sure that we share the students' perspectives so that we can give our audiences a better view of what life is like at YSU." The engagement report, developed by social media analysis software

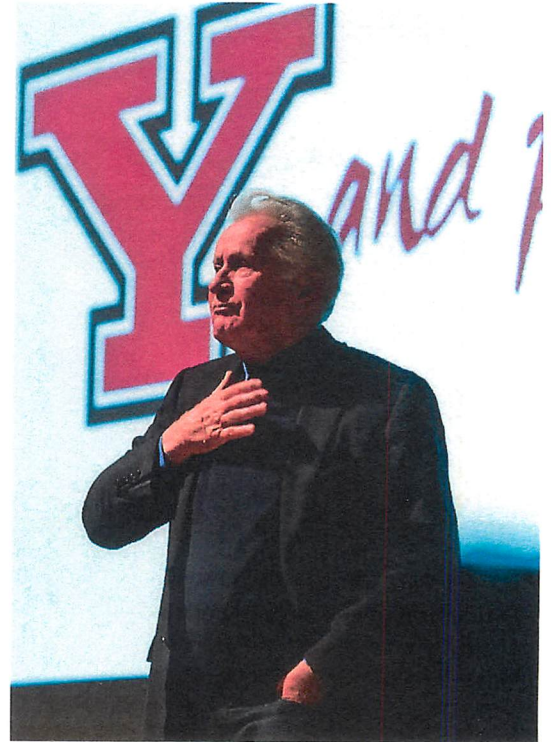
Rival IQ and higher education marketing agency Up&Up, examined 338 NCAA Division I schools nationwide.



### Just visiting

Alyssa Falcone, left, an award-winning teacher and researcher of the Italian language, literature and culture, is the inaugural Ives Visiting Professor in the Humanities at YSU. It is the first endowed visiting professor position in YSU's 111-year history. "We are thrilled to welcome Dr. Falcone to YSU and to have her

share with us, our students and our community her distinguished knowledge of Italy, its people and its amazing history," said John Sarkissian, chair of the Department of World Languages and Cultures.



### Skeggs

Actor Martin Sheen, right, whose iconic performances range from Army Capt. Benjamin Willard in the landmark film *Apocalypse Now* to President Josiah Bartlett on the hit TV drama "The West Wing," wowed a packed Stambaugh Auditorium as he presented the YSU Skeggs Lecture in October.

### Staying positive

Penguin Positivity, a new mental health support initiative at YSU, kicked off this fall



with the unveiling of four large boards across campus. "The purpose of the initiative is to reduce the stigma surrounding mental illness and to encourage the campus community to seek mental health support, when necessary," said Hannah Haynie, a senior Biology major in the YSU Honors College who developed the program with Ashley Amendol.

### Working hard

"The Way We Worked," left, a traveling exhibit from the Smithsonian, runs through Jan. 12 at the Youngstown Historical Center of Industry and Labor on Wood Street in Youngstown. Created by the National Archives and adapted for travel by the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service, the exhibit celebrates the history of work in America, telling the stories of hard-working Americans of every ethnicity, class, gender and age and how they powered the nation.