

For and about FSU people

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Dr. Joseph Yungen in Faculty Artist Series Concert

FSU's Department of Music will present **Dr. Joseph Yungen** in a Faculty Artist Series concert on **Tuesday, May 14**, at 7:30 p.m. in the Pealer Recital Hall of FSU's Woodward D. Pealer Performing Arts Center. This event is free and open to the public. The concert will also be livestreamed; the link will be posted at www.frostburg.edu/concerts.

Yungen will perform "Prelude and Fugue in D Major, BWV 874" and "Prelude and Fugue in G Minor, BWV 885" from "The Well-Tempered Clavier, Book 2" by Johann Sebastian Bach; "Six Dances in Bulgarian Rhythm (Nos. 148-153)" from "Mikrokosmos, Book 6" by Béla Bartók; "Six moments musicaux, Op. 16" by Sergei Rachmaninoff; the three movements, "Das Lebewohl (Les Adieux – The Farewell)," "Abwesenheit (L'Absence – The Absence)" and "Wiedersehen (Le Retour – The Return)," of "Piano Sonata No. 26 in E-flat Major, Op. 81a," known as "Les Adieux" ("The Farewell") by Ludwig van Beethoven; and the seven movements of "Fantasies, Op. 116" by Johannes Brahms. The following text is from Yungen's program notes.

The "Clavier" is part of Bach's 48 preludes and fugues that explore the 12 major and minor keys. Bach had been coming from meantone temperament, which allowed for a handful of keys to sound beautifully in tune, but with the tradeoff being that other keys would sound particularly harsh and discordant. Well temperaments make more keys accessible by redistributing and minimizing the imperfect intervals. The result is that each key has its own color and character, which Bach exploits in WTC. So, rather than demonstrating that "all keys are equal," as is a common misconception, Bach is demonstrating how all keys may now be used on the keyboard, and they are all wonderfully different.

Originally written as a collection of pedagogical studies for his son, and still used for beginning piano instruction to this day, Bartók's "Mikrokosmos" spans six volumes, beginning with simple unison melodies and culminating in complex virtuoso concert works. The "Six Dances in Bulgarian Rhythm" at the end of the final volume showcase Bartók's work in collecting folk music from the Balkans and integrating it into his modern musical language.

Drawing upon traditional forms such as the nocturne, virtuoso etude, song without words, barcarolle, and theme and variations, Rachmaninoff's "Opus 16" was inspired by Franz Schubert's "Six Moments musicaux." Although Rachmaninoff composed these pieces to dig himself out of a financial hole after being robbed on a train, they are of the highest quality and demonstrate the maturation of his compositional technique for the piano.

Beethoven's "Les Adieux sonata" marks the end of the master's middle period and the start of his late period. The piece paints a picture musically and pianistically of a departure and heartfelt goodbye. The sonata opens with a descending horn motif. As the music unfolds, one can hear the rhythm of horses galloping away into the distance while the pianist's hands move farther and farther apart, with the Lebewohl motif recurring throughout. The second movement, "The Absence," evokes the emptiness of the friend's absence, with harsh dissonances and moments of false hope. However, the despairing mood is alleviated at the end of the movement, changing from suspense to anticipation as it leads into a joyful reunion in the final movement.

Written in his final years, Brahms' "Fantasies, Op. 116" are highly concentrated compositional gems. These bittersweet, mostly melancholy pieces are full of interesting contrapuntal ideas, independent voice leading and pianistic effects. Most likely written with his beloved friend Clara Schumann in mind, with whom Brahms had a rather complicated relationship, these short piano works span the range of expression from vehement passion to intimate nostalgia.

For info, contact FSU's Department of Music at 301-687-4109.

Help for Students

PAWS Pantry

The PAWS Pantry at FSU provides food and basic necessities to FSU students at no cost. The pantry is open and available to all students. Students will complete a brief survey and paperwork to register as a pantry member during their first visit. During regular hours, students may come to the pantry and shop from the selection of non-perishable foods and hygiene products (when available).

The pantry is located at Braddock House at 20 Braddock Road. Walk-up hours are noon to 6 p.m. on **Mondays**, 3 to 8 p.m. on **Wednesdays** and 1 to 7 p.m. on **Thursdays**. Other weekdays are by appointment. To schedule an appointment, email pawspantry@frostburg.edu. For info, visit <https://www.frostburg.edu/student-engagement/student-life/service/paws-pantry/PAWS-Pantry.php>.

PAWS Pantry Community Garden Open for Registration

Request your garden bed at <https://shorturl.at/zW018>. Paws Pantry will provide everything you need to garden, including seeds, plants and tools. Your group of three or more just has to register and pay a \$45 fee to access the garden **through Thursday, Oct. 31**.

Space is limited and is on a first-come, first-served basis, so register soon!

Bobcat Career Closet



The Bobcat Career Closet provides professional clothing to FSU students. Available items include suits, blazers, shirts, trousers, skirts, dresses and ties. Students can choose from a variety of professional clothing for career events such as career fairs, job interviews, internships, first day on the job and conferences. The Career Closet is located in Pullen 110. Students should contact the Career and Professional Development Center to schedule an appointment at careerservices@frostburg.edu or CPDC Calendar at <https://shorturl.at/fALPW>.

Follow CPDC on Instagram [@frostburg_cpdcc](https://www.instagram.com/frostburg_cpdcc) for career events and job postings.

All clothing items have been donated by FSU faculty, staff, alumni and community members. These are new and gently used workplace-appropriate items.

For info, contact the Career and Professional Development Center team at 301-687-4403 or careerservices@frostburg.edu.

Music

Unless otherwise noted, events will take place in Pealer Recital Hall and are free and open to the public. Concerts will also be livestreamed; the link will be posted at www.frostburg.edu/concerts. For info, contact FSU's Department of Music at 301-687-4109.

Dr. Mackenzie Jacob LaMont Presents Faculty Artist Series Concert, "DRUMS (mostly)"

FSU's Department of Music will present percussionist *Dr. Mackenzie Jacob LaMont* in his Faculty Artist Series concert, "DRUMS (mostly)," on **Wednesday, May 8**, at 7:30 p.m.

The program will feature LaMont on drums ... mostly. Listeners are invited to sink into the layers of mathematics found in pounding hand drums and timpani, to become immersed in a surround-sound bass drum experience and to listen as one of the oldest recorded drum rhythms in existence winds its way through the evening, slowly degrading until it is unrecognizable. There are sure to be a few surprises along the way.

Percussion Ensemble to Present Spring Recital

FSU's Department of Music will present its Percussion Ensemble, directed by *Dr. Mackenzie Jacob LaMont*, in its spring performance on **Friday, May 10**, at 7:30 p.m.

Percussion Ensemble students include *Benjamin Alvey, Gavin Baker, Leah Boggs, Bryce Campbell, Jacob Deaver, Grace Giles, Jacob Hunt, Jacob Hutzell, Joseph Louie, Eileen Martin, Bella McConnell, Joe Rubens* and *Julia Seddon*. They will be joined by guest performers *Dr. Joseph Yungen, Peter Lewis* and *Riess Mikula*.

The concert will include "Crown of Thorns" by David Maslanka, "Living Room Music" by John Cage, "Percussion Music" by Michael Colgrass and much more.

The title "Crown of Thorns" is an obvious reference to Christ's crown of thorns, but the name first came to Maslanka as a possible title for a piece after seeing a plant called the Crown of Thorns at the New York Botanical Gardens. Crown of Thorns is a thorny desert plant from the Middle East. The rambling, interweaving, vine-like stems suggested music to him. As he meditated on the words crown of thorns and the plant, and on the idea of a work for keyboard percussion ensemble, one image that arose was a seven-starred halo. The seven-starred halo is a transcended image of the crown of thorns, the crown of highest spiritual power arrived at through the greatest depth of suffering. The imagery is Christian, but the experience transcends religion, and is universal. The music is at times sober and reflective, but more often filled with a liberated energy and joy.

One of the most influential 20th century composers, Cage pioneered a body of music that he described as "the contemporary transition from keyboard-influenced music to the all-sound music of the future." "Living Room Music" is a piece Cage composed in 1940. It is a quartet for unspecified instruments, all of which may be found in a living room of a typical house, hence the title. The work consists of

four movements: “To Begin,” “Story,” “Melody” and “End.” Cage instructs the performers to use any household objects or architectural elements as instruments and gives examples: magazines, cardboard, “largish books,” floor, the wooden frame of a window, etc. The first and last movements are percussion music for said instruments. In the second movement, the performers transform into a speech quartet; the music consists entirely of pieces of Gertrude Stein’s short poem “The World Is Round” (1938) spoken or sung. The third movement is optional. It includes a melody played by one of the performers on “any suitable instrument.”

“Percussion Music” (1952) was written while Colgrass was a sophomore at the University of Illinois. After using up all his jazz drum solo ideas in “Three Brothers,” he knew he needed to look outside of jazz for inspiration and decided to experiment with a Bach-like counterpoint on drums without specific pitches. He created a “keyboard” of 16 sounds from low drums to high temple blocks that were divided among four players. Since Bach’s music was non-percussive, Colgrass intended the work to be a gentle and melodic form of drumming, providing percussionists with a feeling of musical equality and respectability with classical musicians. The toy drum part was written for cardboard-shelled toy drums. These toy drums or “timp-toms” had a very clear pitch and a long decay and inspired Colgrass to write other works for drums with specific pitches. The part is often played on roto-toms.

Admission is \$10 for adults; \$5 for seniors, members of the military and FSU faculty and staff; and free for students and children. Tickets are available at the University box office in the Lane Center **Mondays through Fridays** from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., by phone at 301-687-3137 or online at <https://frostburgtix.universitytickets.com/w/event.aspx?id=2043>. Tickets will also be available at the door on the evening of the concert.

Spring Choral Concert – ‘Peace, Love and Happiness’

FSU’s Department of Music will present its Spring Choral Concert, titled “Peace, Love and Happiness,” on **Saturday, May 11**, at 7:30 p.m.

Conducted by **Dr. Scott Rieker**, the FSU Chorale and Troubadours Tenor-Bass Choir will be joined by singers from Allegany College of Maryland and Mountain Ridge, Allegany and Fort Hill high schools for a springtime celebration of choral singing, featuring works by Pharrell Williams, The Beatles, Samuel Barber, Ivo Antognini, René Clausen and more.

Tickets are \$10 for adults; \$5 for members of the military, seniors, and FSU faculty and staff; and free for students and children. Tickets are available at the University box office in the Lane Center **Mondays through Fridays** from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., by phone at 301-687-3137 or online at <https://frostburgtix.universitytickets.com/w/event.aspx?id=2044>. Tickets will also be available at the door on the evening of the concert.

Chamber Singers Will Perform in Regional Premiere of ‘A Cappella Mass’

FSU’s Department of Music will present its Chamber Singers, conducted by **Dr. Scott Rieker**, in the regional premiere of David Heck’s mesmerizing “A Cappella Mass” on **Sunday, May 12**, at 3 p.m. at the Rose Hill Cemetery Mausoleum, 535 Fayette St. in Cumberland. This event is free and open to the public.

This Mother’s Day, join the FSU Chamber Singers in a magically unconventional setting for “Beauty, Ever-Ancient, Ever-New,” the East Coast premiere of Heck’s “A Cappella Mass.” In the dimly candle-lit interior of the Rose Hill Cemetery Mausoleum, these superb singers will explore the haunting harmonies and flowing melodies of this newly composed masterwork, with the composer himself in the audience. This concert is dedicated to Wilton Jenkins Young, the mother of George Young, whose substantial financial gifts made performance in this beautiful venue possible.

Wind Studios to Perform Recital

FSU’s Department of Music will present its Wind Studios Recital on **Monday, May 13**, at 7:30 p.m.

The concert will feature music majors from the Clarinet Studio of **Dr. Mark Gallagher**, the Saxophone Studio of **Dr. Brent Weber** and the Trumpet Studio of **Dr. Donald Albrecht**. **Dr. Joseph Yungen** will be the collaborative pianist, with guest artists **Peter Lewis** on bass, **Chassady Redhead** on violin and **Evie Shanholtz** on viola.

The program will include “Andante – Allegro” and “Allegretto” from “Fourth Trio for Clarinets” by Jacques Bouffil; “Two Jazz Duets” by John LaPorta; “Tuxedo” by Nick Holmes; the first movement of “Sonata for Trumpet and Piano” by Kent Kennan; “Moon River” by Henry Mancini, arranged by Max Partlow; the three movements, “Lebhaft,” “Mässig Langsam” and “Lebhaft,” of “Konzertstück für Zwei Altsaxophone” by Paul Hindemith; and “Salamander” by Wayne Siegel.

Bouffil was a prominent 19th-century French clarinetist and composer. His compositions for clarinet duet and trio are some of the most worthwhile written for the medium. They are full-scale works of considerable substance and were doubtless intended for performance by professionals.

LaPorta was a jazz clarinetist and composer. At one point it looked as if he would be one of the leading clarinetists in modern jazz, but he chose the educator’s chair instead. He was a fixture at Berklee College of Music for many decades and played a pivotal role in the earliest stage of formalized American jazz education, shaping the unique Berklee curriculum. He wrote 15 books on music education and more than two hundred compositions.

Holmes is a musician, saxophonist, educator and musical mentor. “Tuxedo” is a musical score for two alto saxophones. It contains musical notation across three staves for each saxophone, including notes, rhythms, dynamics and other performance instructions. The score consists of multiple pages of music for the two instruments to play together.

Kennan was an American composer, author, educator and professor. His compositions include works for orchestra, chamber ensemble and solo instrument as well as songs and choral music. His “Sonata for Trumpet and Piano” is part of the standard repertoire for many collegiate trumpet studios.

“Moon River” is a song composed by Mancini with lyrics by Johnny Mercer. It was originally performed by Audrey Hepburn in the 1961 film “Breakfast at Tiffany’s,” winning an Academy Award for Best Original Song. Mercer wrote three sets of lyrics, his favorite version inspired by the full moon over a river near his childhood home in Savannah, Ga.

Hindemith was a German and American composer, music theorist, teacher, violist and conductor. As a composer, he became a major advocate of the Neue Sachlichkeit (New Objectivity) style of music in the 1920s. Hindemith composed “Concert Piece for Two Alto Saxophones” in 1933. Sigurd Raschèr, one of the best-known classical saxophonists of the 20th century, commissioned the work from Hindemith.

“Salamander” (2019) is a sequel to “Jackdaw,” a piece that Siegel wrote 24 years earlier. The piece starts with a slow, dreamy section that is interrupted by a quick and lively section and that finally returns to a palindrome version of the first slow section.

Irish Traditional Music Group, The Consequences, Will Perform at MCTA



FSU’s Mountain City Traditional Arts will present the new Irish traditional music group, The Consequences, on **Tuesday, May 14**, at 7 pm. at 25 E. Main St. in Frostburg. The concert is free and open to the public. No tickets are required, though donations are greatly appreciated.

Driven by a passion for exploring the colors and complexities of Irish music, The Consequences are a band founded by Lexie Boatright (concertina and harp), Jake James (fiddle), Cara Wildman (bodhrán and dance) and Ryan Ward (piano and piano accordion). Award-winning soloists in their own right, the quartet comes together to create a dynamic and enthralling sound with a combination of traditional and original tunes.

Boatright is a multiple All-Ireland award-winning harpist and concertina player. She is the executive director of the Baltimore-Washington Academy of Irish Culture. Boatright also regularly teaches across the Irish music summer school and festival circuit.

James is a two-time All-Ireland fiddle champion from Queens, New York City. The Irish Echo called his 2018 album “Firewood” an “outstanding debut solo recording.” Since then, he’s released “In Reel Time” with fellow NYC flute player Brenda Dowling and toured throughout the United States, Canada and Japan with several esteemed groups.

Wildman is a highly sought-after bodhrán player at the cutting edge of the instrument’s modern development. She credits a large part of her musicality to growing up playing western swing in Dorchester, Texas. She has toured with Joanie Madden, Oisín Mac Diarmada’s Irish Christmas in America, Máiréad Nesbitt and more. Wildman was the 2021 All-Ireland Fleadhfest champion.

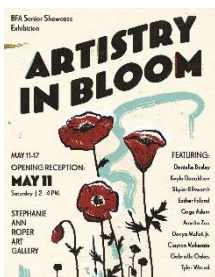
Known for his driving, yet sensitive, and dynamic accompaniment style, Ward is an award-winning pianist and accordion player hailing from New York City. He is a Senior All-Ireland Accompaniment Champion, has performed extensively across the Feis circuit and is a highly sought-after accompanist in the New York area.

MCTA is a program of FSU and a founding member of Maryland’s Folklife Network. It receives support from the Maryland Traditions Program of the State Arts Council.

For info, call 301-687-8040.

Exhibitions

Department of Visual Arts Presents Senior Show, ‘Artistry in Bloom’



FSU’s Department of Visual Arts will host its Spring 2024 Senior Exhibition, “Artistry in Bloom,” which will open with a reception on **Saturday, May 11**, from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Stephanie Ann Roper Gallery in FSU’s Fine Arts Building. This exhibition, which is free and open to the public, will be on display **through Friday, May 17**.

The student artists are as follows:

Gage Adam will graduate with a bachelor’s in art and design, with a focus in painting. He expresses his emotions in visual form, and his goal in art is to create a realm of being of emotional reactions strung together. He plans to pursue a career in tattooing.

Danielle Bosley will graduate with a bachelor’s in illustration and a minor in business administration. Her goal is to freelance, writing comics, and eventually open her own restaurant.

Kayla Donaldson will graduate with a bachelor’s in art and design, with a concentration in painting, a minor in art history and a minor in critical gender studies. After graduation, she plans to continue to share her feminism and African diaspora with the public through her work and to inspire Black female artists to follow their dreams.

Skylar Ellsworth will graduate with a bachelor’s in art and design, with a focus in graphic design and illustration. After graduation, she plans to work as a junior graphic designer for an advertising agency.

Esther Foland will graduate with a bachelor’s in art and design, with focus areas in illustration and photography. After graduation, she plans to work in illustration while still doing photography on the side.

Donya McFail Jr. will graduate with a bachelor’s in art and design, a dual concentration in graphic design and photography and a minor in graphic design. After graduation, McFail plans to pursue a master’s in teaching at FSU and continue pursuing freelance graphic design and photography work.

Clayton McKenzie will graduate with a bachelor's in art and design, with a focus in Illustration and a minor in graphic design and art history. After graduation, he plans to work on comics and webtoons.

Gabrielle Oakes is graduating with a bachelor's in art and design and concentrations in illustration and painting. After graduation, she plans to have her own studio and find a job as a courtroom sketch artist.

Tyler Wetzel will graduate with a bachelor's in art and design and a minor in graphic design. Following graduation, he plans to utilize his skills within Adobe Suite to join a company's design team. Eventually, he would like to work independently on a contractual basis.

Amelia Zou will graduate with a bachelor's in art and design, with a focus in Illustration. Her plan after graduation is to continue working on her shop MilaPinDesigns on Etsy and sell her creations at anime conventions.

For this show, the Roper Gallery is open **Mondays through Fridays** from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. For info, contact Jackie Brown at jbrown@frostburg.edu.

Workshops

HR Training – ‘Progressive Discipline (Disciplinary Actions)’

The Office of Human Resources will offer the training session “Progressive Discipline (Disciplinary Actions)” on **Friday, May 10**, from 2 to 3:30 p.m. in EHSC 209.

Supervisors will be able to demonstrate how to document and follow the Progressive Discipline Process from a counseling review to the termination process for exempt and nonexempt staff employees.

The training will inform supervisors on working through the discipline process in conjunction with USM policies, FSU policies and the AFSCME MOU(s). It will include hands-on learning on how to complete a Corrective Action Report, documentation and the follow through for the process.

To register, go to Etrieve at <https://fsucentral.etrieve.cloud/Index#/form/139> and complete the registration form(s) for each training session you would like to attend. For info, contact Danielle Dabrowski at dldabrowski@frostburg.edu.

Upcoming Workshops at Summit Station



“Remote Working 101”

Summit Station at Innovation Park will present “Remote Working 101” on **Tuesday, May 7 (change in date)**, from 9 a.m. to noon. at 1 Technology Drive in Frostburg.

The agenda will include an introduction/description of remote work, the benefits/challenges of remote work, remote work best practices and hands-on learning.

Registration is required. Register at <https://forms.gle/vKunRwkHCZTiG5De6>. For info, contact Stacy Wassell, director, at swassell@frostburg.edu or 240-727-5287, or Eugene Ebb Jr., general assistant, at efebbjr@frostburg.edu or 301-687-3342.

Panel Discussions

Panel Discussion on ‘Mental Skills Training for Athletes’



Ever wonder how coaches work to improve the mental skills of their athletes? Are you an athlete who is interested in the mental side of your performance? Or are you someone who is interested in psychology and how this is applied in different professional settings?

If you answered yes to any of the questions above, then you will likely enjoy the panel discussion on “Mental Skills Training for Athletes,” which is to be held on **Tuesday, May 7**, from 2 to 3 p.m. Hall of Fame Room in the Cordts PE Center. The panel includes *Chance Burchick*, student development specialist; *Josh Hutchens*, head men's wrestling coach; *Catherine Hunter*, assistant volleyball coach; *Eric Wagoner*, head football coach; and *Christopher Lyon*, staff social worker. The panel discussion will be facilitated by *Dr. Martin Barrett*, an assistant professor in the Department of Recreation and Parks Management.

Member of the campus community are encouraged to attend and ask questions of the panelists. For info, contact Barrett at mbarrett@frostburg.edu.

Points of Pride

Dr. Artie Lee Travis/CLC Receive Inaugural Positive People Awards



Dr. Artie Lee Travis, vice president for Student Affairs at FSU, and FSU's Children's Literature Centre (CLC) are among the list of recipients for Allegany County's inaugural Positive People award. Both were recognized in the Education Support category.

Travis, who was nominated by Adam Strott, Allegany County Economic Development specialist, was selected for his unwavering dedication to the community and the positive impact he has made on the lives of many students. Members of the Allegany County Board of Commissioners echoed those sentiments.

Director of CLC, **Dr. Sarah O’Neal**, accepted the award on behalf of the centre. O’Neal noted the 40 plus-year legacy that **Dr. William Bingman**, **Dr. Thomas Palardy** and **Dr. Barbara Ornstein** have laid the groundwork for over this period.

Travis and O’Neal joined the other 2024 Positive People award recipients at a luncheon held on April 30 where they were recognized and celebrated for their achievements in education.

In Recognition of Administrative Professionals Day



In recognition of Administrative Professionals Day, Robert Flanigan, Frostburg’s mayor, presented a proclamation to a group of administrative professionals from FSU who are current participants or graduates of ADAPT (Administrative Development and Professional Training).

The mayor and several support personnel participated in a Q&A with the group, focusing on topics ranging from AI in the office to priority management to communication and trust.

Also in attendance was Al Delia, FSU’s acting president and vice president for Regional Development and Engagement and Donnell VanSkiver, executive administrative assistant and ADAPT coordinator.

FSU’s Red Rocket League Team Gets Revenge in Divisional Grand Final



Pictured, from left, are Thomas Rafferty, RJ Trotman and John Lutz of FSU’s Red Rocket League eSports team.

FSU’s Red Rocket League eSports team recently competed in, and won, the Divisional Grand Final Championship, defeating the University of Texas Dallas (UTD) Orange team.

When the season began for the Red Rocket League team, consisting of John Lutz (JLutz), Thomas Rafferty (MiilynX) and RJ Trotman (Crittlers), the trio was confident in their ability to take their division by storm. However, their first league match didn’t go as planned, and they were upset 1-3 by the UTD Orange team.

Following the loss, the team regrouped and found their footing for the rest of the season, ending with a 6-1 series record in the group stage, only losing three of their next 21 individual games. The team made the playoffs, finishing directly behind the UTD Orange team.

FSU Red’s momentum continued into the playoffs where they defeated the Pistols from New Mexico State University in the quarterfinals 4-0. The team went on to beat a strong Colorado State University Green team 4-1 in the semifinals to advance to the Divisional Grand Final to face off once again against an undefeated UTD Orange.

In this grudge match, FSU Red was able to overtake their rival opponent 4-2 and bring a Rocket League Divisional Championship to Frostburg.

FSU’s eSports club has competitive and leisure teams for individuals interested in being part of the action. Participants have access to 10 state-of-the-art gaming rigs.

FSU Student Mariah Pritts Wins Award for Research

Congratulations to **Mariah Pritts**, a graduate student of the Applied Ecology and Conservation Biology program, on her second-place award for research at the joint meeting of The Helminthological Society of Washington and the Southeastern Society of Parasitologists at the Virginia Military Institute April 18-20. Pritts’ presentation was titled “The Use of Lectins and Fluorescence Microscopy to Reveal Carbohydrate Arrangements on ‘Brugia malayi’ Anatomy.” Her mentor is **Dr. Rebekah Taylor**, an associate professor in the Department of Biology.

Sonja Barber, a graduate student in the same program, also gave an oral presentation at the meeting. Undergraduate students **Andrew Held** and **Cory Rowden** presented posters. Each student is mentored by **Dr. Kate Sheehan**, an assistant professor in the Biology Department.

Funding for travel to the meeting was supported by the David Morton Memorial fund for Undergraduate Research (FSU Foundation).

FSU’s SHRM Wins First Place for Presentation



Pictured, from left, are Christina Hansen (VA SHRM) student liaison, Eric Denham, Shannon Casey, Teresa Wolf and Nakya Pack.

FSU’s Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM) competed at the Virginia Society for Human Resource Management Conference held April 21 through 24 in Richmond and won first place for their presentation “Hidden Disabilities in the Workplace.”

FSU’s team won \$500. Team members included **Eric Denham**, **Shannon Casey**, **Nakya Pack** and **Teresa Wolf**.

Students involved in FSU’s chapter of SHRM are eligible for scholarships and internships and have unique networking, training and job opportunities. SHRM is under the direction of **Dr. Ken Levitt**, an associate professor in the Department of Management.

Work by Andy Duncan on Spring Syllabus at Yale-NUS College in Singapore

Work by **Andy Duncan**, a professor in the Department of English and Foreign Languages, was on the spring syllabus of WHU3394, Writing Speculative Fiction, at Yale-NUS College in Singapore. Duncan's 2001 Tolkien pastiche "Senator Bilbo" was included in a unit on intertextual writing and fan fiction, alongside stories by Zen Cho, Vida Cruz, Neil Gaiman, A.W. Prihandita and Paula Smith. Instructor Ng Yi-Sheng, who met Duncan at a summer 2024 workshop at the University of California San Diego, reports the seven-student class was Singapore's first-ever college course in writing speculative fiction. A collaboration between Yale University and the National University of Singapore, Yale-NUS is that nation's first liberal arts college. For info, visit <https://www.yale-nus.edu.sg>.

Geography Department and Western Maryland Scenic Railroad Present Immersive Experience at Cumberland Bone Cave



In the spirit of community outreach and engagement, FSU's Department of Geography collaborated with the Western Maryland Scenic Railroad to present an immersive on-site experience at the renowned Cumberland Bone Cave.

During this year's "Spring Fling" train journey, passengers were treated to an additional stop at the Bone Cave, a site whose gates have been closed to the public for more than two decades. Across six sessions held during the weekend of April 27-28, more than 1,000 train passengers and trail users explored the mouth of the cave and engaged in instructor Adam Lewis' comprehensive

discussion on its scientific and historical significance. Visitors came from a wide range of geographies and backgrounds, all enjoying the heritage of Western Allegany County together.

Dr. Bill Wetherholt, an associate professor in FSU's Department of Geography, and Jason Litten, Western Maryland Regional GIS Center co-director, also shared their insights on the cave's exploration, delving into innovative technological methods used to study the cave system further.

Weather permitting, attendees were treated to drone demonstrations, showcasing how this technology can be applied to studying the cave system. Larry Brock, president of Mountain Maryland Trails, was instrumental in facilitating the weekend's activities.

Geography Students Compete in World Geography Bowl



Three FSU students, **Colton Swauger**, **Katlyn Barbee** and **Alexander Donley**, traveled to the annual meeting of the American Association of Geographers in Honolulu to compete in the World Geography Bowl on April 18 as part of the Mid-Atlantic Division (MAD) team. Though they didn't bring home the trophy, they had an amazing opportunity to participate in conference presentations and local field trips. **Tracy Edwards** was the faculty sponsor for the MAD team.

Geography Dept. Regional Engagement and Outreach Activities

FSU's Department of Geography faculty and staff have recently conducted regional engagement and outreach activities with several partners:

LaVale Lions Club – **Dr. Tianna Bogart** gave a presentation (March 19) on the complexities associated with predicting weather in Allegany County.

Cumberland Garden Club – **Adam Lewis** gave a presentation (April 8) on the Cumberland Bone Cave.

Savage River Farm – Five FSU students in **Tracy Edward's** Sustainability Studies course engaged in hands-on cultivation of shiitake mushrooms (April 8). They'll be going back to tour the farm and plant strawberries in May.

Maryland Department of the Environment – On April 12, approximately 20 FSU students participated in an Arbor Day tree-planting event at an abandoned mine site near Lonaconing. Student participation was organized by **Adam Lewis**.

FOCUS Frostburg – **Dr. Phillip Allen** gave a presentation (April 17) titled "Scaling New Heights: How Rock Climbing Sparks Economic Renewal in Rural Communities."

Office of Sponsored Programs Successes/News

On April 17, project director **Dr. Matthew Crawford**, associate professor and chair, Department of Chemistry and Physics, was awarded a \$5,000 College Equipment Grant from the Spectroscopy Society of Pittsburgh for the project, College Equipment Program.

For info, visit OSP's Successes/News webpage at <https://www.frostburg.edu/osp/Successes%20News.php>.

Take Note

Thank a Teacher Week!

Be sure to send a Thank-a-Gram during Thank a Teacher Week, **Monday, May 6, through Friday, May 10.**

The Center for Teaching Excellence invites FSU students and the campus community to celebrate Thank a Teacher Week by sending Thank-a-Grams to your favorite teachers, mentors or teaching/learning assistants who have helped you learn and made a difference to you.

Handwritten postcards will be available to submit at locations across campus, including the library, Lane Center and Help Desk.

To submit one online, fill out the form at <https://forms.office.com/r/kpgZ1juQaj?origin=lprLink>.

Thanked teachers will receive their Thank-a-Gram with your message after exams and the grading period have ended.

For info, contact the FSU Center for Teaching Excellence at cte@frostburg.edu.

Nominations Open for President's Distinguished Faculty and Staff Awards

Nominations are being sought once again for the annual President's Distinguished Faculty and Staff awards. The faculty award recognizes faculty members who advance the University in ways consistent with its mission and the goals outlined in the Strategic Plan. Nominations are also being sought for the staff award. Similar to the faculty award, this award is intended to recognize and encourage FSU staff members who provide exceptional service to the University and who have helped to advance its mission, goals and priorities. The awards will be presented during the State of the University Address and each award includes a \$2,500 monetary prize.

Faculty Award

Examples of qualifying activities for the faculty award include focusing learning on the acquisition and application of knowledge, providing engaging experiences that challenge students to excel, expanding regional outreach and engagement and aligning University resources – human, fiscal and physical – with strategic priorities.

Applications must be made through a letter of nomination by FSU colleagues. Self-nominations will not be accepted. Activities outlined in the nomination letter should have occurred in the fall 2023 and/or spring 2024 semester(s). The letter should consist of a narrative of no more than two pages in the form of an executive summary, plus any supporting documentation.

Staff Award

Staff and faculty are invited to nominate staff colleagues who they know have a recent record of significant contributions to the success of the University. Examples of qualifying activities could include, but are not limited to, suggesting new methods to help increase enrollment or student retention; involvement with innovative student activities to promote safety and well-being; providing leadership for a project or initiative making a favorable impact on the campus community; efficiency and effectiveness efforts leading to significant savings of cost, time, labor or other resources; community relations to help strengthen ties between FSU and local residents or businesses; assisting in FSU's contribution to economic development in Western Maryland, the region and the state; and other contributions deemed to be far above and beyond the staff member's regular job duties.

Regular exempt and nonexempt staff employees with at least three consecutive years of service to FSU are eligible to be nominated. Colleagues may nominate an eligible staff member with the knowledge and consent of the nominee. Contractual staff employees, faculty members and student workers are not eligible. Vice presidents, deans and other senior leadership are excluded.

Nomination for the staff award is to be made through a letter from FSU staff and/or faculty colleague(s). Multiple nominations for the same staff member are acceptable. Self-nominations and anonymous submissions will not be accepted.

Addressed to the president, a nomination letter should identify an eligible staff member and clearly document why their service is worthy of this award. Activities outlined in the nomination should have occurred during the 2023-2024 academic year. A nomination must be concise, summarizing the staff member's outstanding accomplishments and positive impact in one or two pages, plus any supporting materials not to exceed three additional pages.

Submit nominations to Donnell VanSkiver in the Office of President at dhvanskiver@frostburg.edu, send in campus mail or deliver to Hitchins 218 by **Friday, May 31**.

Summer Music Academy



The FSU Summer Music Academy welcomes musicians to FSU **Sunday, July 21, through Sunday, July 28**, for a week of intensive study and music making that will enrich their knowledge, technique and musicality. Register today at <https://forms.frostburg.edu/150>.

Activities will include the Alexander Technique; private lesson; chamber music coaching; ensembles; evening faculty performances; exposure to internationally renowned musicians, soloists and teachers; masterclasses from FSU faculty and guest artists; outdoor activities in the Allegany mountains; the Telford International Competition; and the SMA Gala Concert.

SMA participants between the ages of 10 and 22 are eligible and encouraged to participate in the Telford International Competition, which offers more than \$1,000 in prizes.

SMA aims to promote classical music education all over the world. SMA's mission is to deepen the younger generation's appreciation of culture through musical experiences. The academy brings leading artists from around the world to the Western Maryland region to inspire students and local residents and help to grow interest in music programs of all types of educational systems.

For info, contact Dr. Karen Lau, director of SMA and strings instructor at FSU, at 301-687-7458 or sma@frostburg.edu.

Jobs

OCE Is Hiring Civic Engagement Student Employees

FSU's Office of Civic Engagement (OCE) is hiring enthusiastic and committed student staff members who are passionate about promoting active citizenship, community engagement, voter participation and fostering inclusive dialogues and discussions. This position offers a unique opportunity to contribute to and shape civic engagement activities on campus and in the broader community. As a member of the OCE Student Staff Team, you and others will help plan and implement a variety of programs aimed at enhancing community engagement, dialogue and voter participation among students.

Key Responsibilities

Voter Engagement: Plan and implement initiatives to increase voter registration and turnout among students. This includes voter education, registration drives and providing resources on voting procedures.

Dialogue and Discussion: Plan and market forums, workshops and discussions, such as Times Talks, that encourage open, respectful and constructive dialogue on a range of societal and campus-related issues.

Community Engagement: Coordinate community projects that allow students to engage with and contribute to the local community. This involves partnering with community organizations, planning events and mobilizing student participation.

Program Implementation: Assist in the development, execution and assessment of civic engagement programs. This includes event planning, marketing and outreach efforts, and evaluating program effectiveness.

Collaboration: Work closely with University departments, student organizations and community partners to promote civic engagement activities and initiatives.

If you would like to be considered for one of these positions, complete the application at <https://shorturl.at/auIR0>.

For info about these staff positions or the hiring process, contact Patrick O'Brien at civicengagement@frostburg.edu or 301-687-7599.

Study Abroad

Plan Your Study Abroad Experience for Summer and Fall 2024!



Cara Allen in Ireland – January 2024

Join the Center for International Education for a Study Abroad Information Session to learn more about study abroad, including types of study abroad programs, when students should study abroad, study abroad scholarships, using financial aid (Pell grants and student loans) for study abroad and transferring classes back to FSU.

The last virtual session will take place at 3 p.m. on **Friday, May 10**. Email Victoria Gearhart at vmgearhart@frostburg.edu to sign up.

Community

Food Access Summit



A Food Access Summit will be held on **Thursday, May 16**, at Canal Place in Cumberland and **Friday, May 17**, at City Place in Frostburg, both summits to take place from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

There will be discussions, food samples, a producer's trade fair, guest speakers, presentations, a farmers market and more.

For info, contact Tranell Clanton at tyclanton0@frostburg.edu.

Health and Safety Messages

May Is National Water Safety Awareness Month



Formal swim lessons between the ages of 1 and 4 help reduce the risk of drowning by 80 percent.

Caregivers should know how to swim and should know CPR.

Supervision without distraction is one key to help prevent drowning. Assign an adult to be "on guard" when around or near water.

Wear a life jacket around open water, even if you know how to swim.

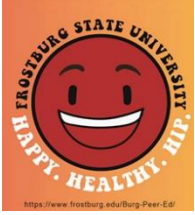
Never swim alone. Swimming should only happen when a lifeguard is on duty.

Don't jump in the water to save a friend. Your first instinct may be to jump in to help. However, doing so could lead to both people drowning. Use the "reach, throw, don't go" technique, which involves using a long object to pull a struggling swimmer to safety.

Enter the water feet first. Severe injuries can occur when jumping or diving headfirst into shallow water.

Whether you're swimming in a pool, ocean or lake, staying within the designated swim areas is vital to staying safe.

Happy, Healthy, Hip Tips From the BURG Peer Education Network



Mental Health Monday Tip:

<https://www.bphope.com/bipolar-buzz/what-you-need-to-know-about-summer-mania>

Tell Yourself Tuesday Tip:

<https://www.psychiatry.org/news-room/apa-blogs/schools-out-tips-to-destress>

Wacky Wednesday Tip:

<https://wellnessmama.com/travel/summer-bucket-list>

Thankful Thursday Tip:

<https://care-clinics.com/self-reflection-and-goal-setting-as-summer-ends>

Fun Friday Tip:

<https://www.hercampus.com/school/susqu/what-to-put-on-your-summer-bucket-list>

Social Saturday Tip:

<https://thecentraltrend.com/151099/opinion/here-are-three-ideas-for-staying-in-touch-with-friends-as-summer-approaches>

Self-Love Sunday Tip:

<https://www.thedailystar.net/lifestyle/reader%E2%80%99s-chit/news/the-importance-self-love-1684162>

VALUES AND VISION: FROSTBURG STATE UNIVERSITY IN 2023

CORE VALUES

Frostburg State University is a place where every student can experience a myriad of opportunities both in and out of the classroom, fostered by a sense of inclusion and close mentoring relationships with faculty and staff.

Frostburg State University is committed to developing cultural competence and cultivating understanding of and respect for a diversity of experiences and world views that encourage each person's ability to "take the perspective of the other."

Frostburg State University is committed to a system of shared governance that allows faculty, staff and students to learn about the issues the University confronts and that provides a structure for meaningful input into University decisions.

OUR VISION FOR FROSTBURG STATE UNIVERSITY IN 2023

Frostburg State University is a regionally acclaimed and nationally recognized academic institution that provides distinctive programs to support state and regional workforce needs. Faculty, staff and students foster collaboration in a welcoming and inclusive campus culture.

Students value the opportunities open for them at FSU and form close mentoring relationships with faculty and staff, who are committed to their success and well-being. Students apply knowledge and skills learned in the classroom to internship, civic engagement, study abroad and research experiences to meet the challenges of a complex and changing global society.

The University is integrated into the fabric of the community as a valued and respected regional asset. We are committed to making changes that secure our future while celebrating the values that reflect our history.

STRATEGIC GOALS

Focus learning on the acquisition and application of knowledge.

Provide engaging experiences that challenge our students to excel.

Expand regional outreach and engagement.

Align University resources – human, fiscal and physical – with strategic priorities.

To view FSU's Strategic Plan 2018-2023 online, visit www.frostburg.edu/strategicplan.