

ENCOMPASS

Fall 2018

KENT STATE UNIVERSITY AT STARK MAGAZINE

EDUCATE. CREATE. EMPOWER.

WITH A **\$381 MILLION IMPACT** ON THE COMMUNITY, STARK COUNTY'S PUBLIC UNIVERSITY DELIVERS VALUE IN MORE WAYS THAN ONE > **12 - 15**

INSIDE THE **\$9.7 MILLION FINE ARTS EXPANSION AND RENOVATION** > **16 - 19**



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A PLACE FOR DREAMERS & DOERS

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Photo by J. Albert Studios



MESSAGE from the DEAN

Before I was old enough to attend school, I knew the value of an education.

As a young girl, I watched my mother, a widow, serve as the sole provider for our family.

Her collegiate education enabled her to earn a wage that sustained us at a time when single, working mothers were not commonplace. A teacher, she not only prepared lessons for her students, she taught my brother and me invaluable life lessons.

My mother humbly demonstrated that an education could never be taken from you – no matter what life throws your way. As you delve into this edition of *Encompass*, I trust you, too, will clearly see the value of a university education that is easily accessible – right here in your own backyard.

In this magazine's previous issue, we talked about the power of Kent State University and what it means to be a part of an integrated university system. In this edition, you will discover the value of having a public university in your community.

Besides Kent State University at Stark's \$381 million economic impact, the value we bring is not simply a monetary figure.

We bring expertise. Turn the pages to read about the community impact created by professors Robert Hamilton, Kim Garchar and Angela Guercio.



A young Denise Seachrist with her mother, Eloise, and brother, Daniel, in this undated family photo.

We educate. Our world-class faculty and Academic Services bring value in the ability to create pathways for all students – from the highest achievers to those who need academic support.

We empower. During my time as dean of this campus, I have watched education change the course of lives. We make a way for the dreamers and the doers – students like Deborah Belintani Rosa, a theater production major from Brazil, or Lainey Ward of the Dayton area, who has always wanted to teach, just like my mother did.

So, I welcome you to read and reflect on the following stories of our students, faculty and staff who, together, demonstrate the value an education provides to build and sustain lives that persevere, inspire and carry on a legacy for generations to come.

Denise A. Seachrist, Ph.D.

“Besides Kent State University at Stark’s \$381 million economic impact, the value we bring is not simply a monetary figure.”

Encompass

Fall 2018 Vol. 11 Issue 1

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CREATING COMMUNITY

partnerships

KENT STATE UNIVERSITY AT STARK, GOODWILL INDUSTRIES & BELDEN VILLAGE MALL JOIN TOGETHER IN FLASH'S PROFESSIONAL CLOSET DONATION STATION

Much like the students who frequent Flash's Professional Closet on their way from classrooms to first day at the office, the secondhand clothing site in Campus Center is making its mark in a new way. Now a storefront in Belden Village Mall, Flash's Professional Closet has expanded its reach, thanks to a new community partnership.

Flash's Professional Closet has a visible presence at the mall through the creation of Flash's Professional Closet Donation Station. The drop-off donation site serves as an encouragement for mall shoppers to donate gently used, or new, professional clothing to students in need of career-oriented apparel.

Kent State University at Stark is dedicated to providing access to an excellent education, as well as the tools necessary to propel students forward into the working world.

"Our students come from different backgrounds and Flash's Professional Closet provides them with the clothing necessary to enter the workforce with confidence," said Tina Biasella, director of External Affairs. "We are filling a critical gap by providing professional clothing that puts the focus on a student's skill set, instead of being judged on appearance."

Kent State Stark's professional closet, which held its grand opening on campus this spring, follows suit with similar endeavors at universities across the state.

COMMUNITY COLLABORATION

Kent State Stark's community partnership, initiated by Biasella, includes the Belden Village Mall and Goodwill Industries of Greater Cleveland and East Central Ohio, Inc. Collected clothing not distributed by Flash's Professional Closet is donated to Goodwill.

"It takes creative thinking to forge a new partnership," said Biasella. "We already have a great partnership with the Belden Village Mall, and it only made sense to expand that to help students and others who are in need in our community."

"It is such a unique partnership," added Jennifer Grisez, marketing director at Belden Village Mall. "We take pride in our community, and sharing this great space with Kent State University at Stark is what our Live 360 initiative is all about. Not only are we open for business, we have open doors to all in our community. We are at the forefront of fashion and Flash's Professional Closet Donation Station is one way of centering that around community and giving back."

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON WHAT FLASH'S PROFESSIONAL CLOSET NEEDS AND HOW YOU CAN DONATE, PLEASE VISIT:

WWW.KENT.EDU/STARK/FLASHS-PROFESSIONAL-CLOSET



Dean Denise Seachrist, Ph.D. and Kent State Stark representatives celebrate the opening of Flash's Professional Closet Donation Station at Belden Village Mall.



CREATING
DREAMERS
AND DOERS

We make pathways to opportunities. We pave the way as students prepare to make their mark on the world. Around every corner, students discover encouragement. Time to find their voice and make it heard. Time to excel personally and academically because they have found a home at their hometown university. Here, students develop purpose and claim their future.

We are Kent State University at Stark.

***A place for the dreamers
and the doers.***





KENT WEAVER

BIG CITY DREAMS

Growing up Mennonite at his family's Sugarcreek-area farm, Kent Weaver considered Canton a big city. Now this self-described country boy is headed to the state capital.

A graduate of Kent State University at Stark, Weaver said the campus served as a conduit, channeling his sense of purpose that began when he was a child. Caring for the animals on his parents' farm, he first harnessed his calling. Kentlyn M. Weaver, doctor of veterinary medicine.

Now, he's making that dream come true. This fall, Weaver will attend The Ohio State University's College of Veterinary Medicine, one of the top veterinary schools in the country.

Armed with his biology degree, completed entirely at Kent State Stark, Weaver says he is more than ready.

"I chose biology because I knew it would help prepare me for my desired career as a veterinarian," Weaver explained. "I like how biology helps us understand how life functions and exists in the world."

The possibilities are endless. "Even for a small-town kid," he said, with a laugh.

Home-schooled, Weaver excelled at molecular biology and physiology. He embraced new discoveries as part of Dr. Matthew Lehnert's team studying the way insects ingest fluids. The groundbreaking work could help people by serving as a model for targeted delivery of disease-fighting drugs.

At Kent State Stark, Weaver discovered the small class sizes helped him form relationships with his professors, who cheered him on. "The Stark Campus has the people and the resources – the high quality labs and equipment."

The gifted student also served as a tutor in the Academic Success Center. "That helped me further my communication skills," he added.

"I definitely had a purpose going into my college career, and Kent State Stark helped me achieve it. The professors and staff, everyone helped in giving me more information about the world, and the many different options that are out there."

Weaver plans to open up his own veterinary practice one day. With a specialty in large animals, the soon-to-be big city resident will eventually go back to the farm, make his home, and put down the roots that grew right along with his collegiate pursuit.





RODNEY HUBBARD

IMAGE OF DETERMINATION

Rodney Hubbard considered study at a university, but instead found himself behind a piano.

Drawn to the ivories, he unwrapped his musical gift on the black and white keys. First, at his father's church in inner city Cleveland, then traveling with renowned gospel groups and touring the world as principal pianist for the 1990s R&B group Jodeci.

His journey led him to serve as minister of music at several churches in Northeast Ohio, including The Word Church in Cleveland. But shortly after his decade of service at the growing gospel giant, he decided to go to college.

The Streetsboro resident's dreams came true when he graduated at age 45 with a bachelor's degree from Kent State University at Stark's fastest-growing program, music technology.

He joined the 40 percent identifying as first-generation college graduates in Kent State Stark's spring commencement class of 239 students.

"I wanted to be an example for my children," said Hubbard, father of three – Racquel, Rodney and Ryenne. "Of course, I wanted to get an education for myself, but I wanted to show them that a college education is a minimum goal of what you must achieve in life."

'WORK HARD'

On a spring afternoon the week before graduation, Hubbard was preparing to take final exams in three courses requiring advanced math skills.

The road hasn't been easy, acknowledged Hubbard, who worked diligently in CABLE math classes and sought tutoring at the Academic Success Center.

"It all has helped me get through to graduation day," he said.

Family members, especially his wife, Stacey, were a constant source of strength and support. His experience as a professional musician also fueled a desire to push forward, comforting Hubbard during challenging times in his collegiate pursuit.

While traveling with Jodeci in his early 20s, Hubbard said he experienced the highlight of his young career following a concert in Japan, where he met the "godfather of soul" James Brown.

A youthful Hubbard asked the funk music icon for his best advice. Brown responded with two words: "Work hard."

Hubbard let those words sink in deep, planting a seed for future growth.

Now an ordained Elder in the church with plans to study theology in graduate school, his journey continues. He'll keep writing and producing music, armed with the tools he received in Kent State Stark's music technology program, building his business – RodHubb Music Publishing.

"This," he said, "is only the beginning."





DEMI EDWARDS

READY FOR ADVENTURE

Looking out over the Grand Canyon into the vast, wide-open space, Demi Edwards felt at peace. The gorge that could humble any soul with its breathtaking expanse, wrapped her in comfort, making big problems seem small and solutions within reach.

During a time of transition for her family, Edwards visited the national park. The 18-year-old found herself facing huge decisions.

Growing up in a military family, she was used to relocating. She was born in Hawaii, but a move from Wisconsin to Canton just before her senior year in high school took some adjusting.

"I knew it was time to let go and see where life would take me," explained Edwards.

Purpose was waiting in her own backyard. Up the road from her grandmother's longtime Jackson Township home, Kent State University at Stark was her option until she figured out what was next.

"I'm not going to lie. I fell in love with Kent State Stark the minute I stepped onto campus. This university became 'my next,'" said the history major and Honors Program scholar.

She graduated magna cum laude in the spring commencement class of nearly 240 students.

EMBRACING OPPORTUNITY

A constant source of support, Edwards' mother, Barb, encouraged her daughter to get involved. And, she did. Edwards became known as the student "who is everywhere" – leading campus tours as a Student Ambassador, helping peers as a Peer Advocate and rallying fellow academic minds as president of the History Club.

"There's so much to take advantage of at Kent State Stark," she said.

Edwards was among a group of students who traveled over spring break to Xi'an, China, with Leslie Heaphy, Ph.D., associate professor of history and Honors Program coordinator. The trip opened doors for the graduating senior.

Today, the girl who once was unsure of her next step has lined up her future. It begins with a newly acquired full-time position teaching English at Xi'an International Studies University in China, one of Kent State Stark's partner schools in its growing English Immersion program.

The 22-year-old expects the metamorphosis to continue as she plans to attend law school after her year abroad in China, armed with international experience and her Kent State University degree.

The future is wide open, and Edwards is ready for her next adventure.





ASHTON BLAKE

COMMUNICATING HOPE

Ashton Blake briefly peered into the crowd gathered at the E.J. Thomas Performing Arts Hall.

The stage was his.

Saxophone in hand, Blake began to play the solo he knew so well. Practicing for this day was an honor and privilege for the 20-something who was a skilled musician before he had reached middle school.

Gospel Meets Symphony was one of the highlights of Blake's budding career. The music technology program at Kent State University at Stark afforded Blake opportunities like this one, performing with the Akron Symphony Orchestra.

"At Kent State Stark, I learned the production side of the business while also continuing to perform," said Blake, who dreams of becoming a professional musician.

An Akron native, Blake didn't mind the commute to Canton. "I have friends who are graduating (elsewhere) with \$70,000 in debt. That's not me."

He credits his brother Will, also a Kent State Stark music technology graduate, with steering him toward the affordable, quality program.

During his time at the Stark Campus, Blake sought to give back as a member of Undergraduate Student Government. He helped found Flash's Food Pantry, the campus foodbank that provides for students in need.

For Blake, the desire to help came from a place of experience. Once standing in a food pantry line, he understands firsthand the need is great. "Food insecurity doesn't go away because you are a commuter campus," he said, "especially for college students, who are paying the bills and for the books."

Learning to be resourceful can often come from a place of disparity. And this 22-year-old experienced growth in his valley of uncertainty. "You can stay there in that place, or keep pushing forward.

"My family pushed forward."

Blake carries that with him. As he pours himself into his music, the often-quiet Blake finds his voice while playing saxophone, as the notes rise and fall, fall and rise. From melancholy to optimistic. Communicating hope without saying a word.

Taking the stage to perform, "that's when I feel it. I stay locked in until the end. Then, I look up only when I hear it."

The sound of applause.



LAINNEY WARD

HEART OF GOLD

Life was just beginning for Lainney Ward when doctors worked on her heart to keep it beating.

A 4-month-old baby, Ward was in the fight of her life before she knew what living really meant. Her whole world was mom and dad and the mobile dancing over her crib.

Open-heart surgery and operations to fix three birth defects kept Ward pushing forward, overcoming diagnosis after diagnosis.

First, the girl who would not live, did.

Then, the girl who could not walk, walked.

Later, the girl who found it difficult to learn would teach.

Today, Ward finds herself observing classrooms in preparation for leading lessons. A processing disorder and ADHD meant learning how to learn differently. Her goals for tomorrow are intervening when children often need it most – in middle childhood.

“As a teacher, you can really make an impact during this transitional phase in a child’s education,” she said. “I’m specializing in math because I hated it. I realized I could do it, but I just had to work a little harder.

“I knew then it was going to be OK.”

That’s what Ward wants to impart as an intervention specialist and special education teacher, “to let these children know that we’re going to get through it together. Being their advocate is what drives me.”

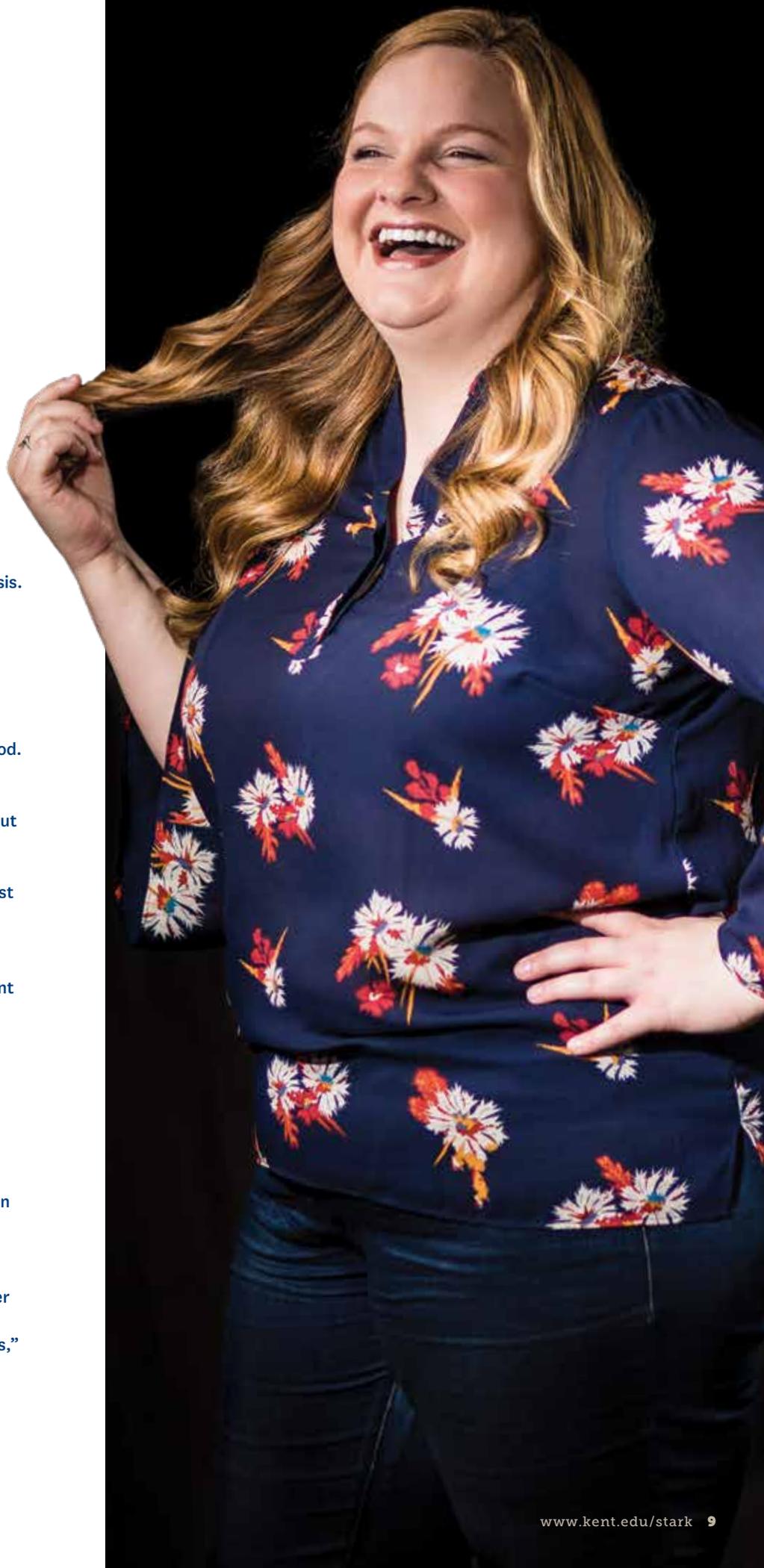
Still, the Work Ethic Matters Scholarship recipient and student employee in the Office of Student Involvement almost didn’t make it to Kent State Stark. Pursuing a college education in her hometown of Springfield, near Dayton, Ward found herself in a dead-end program when she reached out to Curtis Tinlin, outreach program coordinator.

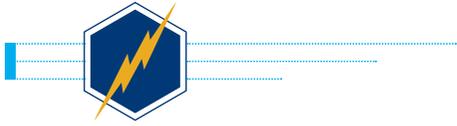
“I figured middle childhood education was a long shot,” said Ward, who knew Tinlin as a summer counselor at Camp Berean Way. “But (Tinlin) told me that’s a Stark Campus specialty. I thought it was a dream that I could find the program I wanted on a small campus at an affordable price.”

The first in her family to go away to college, Ward also was freed of the diagnosis she carried with her since infancy. Just before moving to Canton, Ward’s heart specialist discharged her after a perfect echocardiogram. At 20, the world was hers.

“Seeing God’s hand in all of it, there are just so many miracles,” said Ward, who has found a home at Kent State Stark. “I get to wake up every day and come here, and I just love it so much.”

Through tragedy and triumph, Ward says she is right where she’s meant to be.





JENNIFER PETERSON

SURVIVOR

Acres away from the farmer's home, Jennifer Peterson stared hard at the bright blue sky. Then, darkness. In and out of consciousness, she tried to move. Only pain.

She tried to scream. Her cries for help were mere whispers.

The tractor came from a distance. Had the farmer not remembered his dream during the night, Peterson is sure she would have died that day. A praying man, he later told her that God came to him in a dream, instructing him to plow the withered cornfield.

The summer of 1988 marked the North American drought and remains the hottest and driest on record. "There wasn't much to plow that day, but dust and dirt," Peterson said. "He was going out on faith."

Obedience led him to discover then 16-year-old Peterson, bleeding and alone. Dumped in his field along a desolate Tuscarawas County road, Peterson had been riding her bicycle when a drunken driver hit her.

"There is a reason I am still here," she said.

These days, she finds purpose inside Dr. Brian Chopko's classroom. She met Chopko nine years ago, when she was a student in his victimology class. As she told Chopko her story, fate played its cards. Since then, she visits Kent State Stark each semester to tell future law enforcers and attorneys her personal account of what it is like to live through a crime.

"For a victim, it will always feel like yesterday," she said.

"We can go back to each feeling. We can replay it vividly. We relive it over and over again."

She also tells Chopko's criminal justice students what it is like to take control of those feelings, to heal, to transition from victim to survivor.

Today, the Minerva woman owns a jewelry business and credits her Kent State University degrees in accounting and business management as contributors to her success. She plans to attend KSU once again to pursue a degree in criminal justice. "I'd love to help crime victims. Help them see there is life after this."

Her "life after this" took years to arrive. First, Peterson had to heal physically. The accident severed her right arm. Her other arm was broken, as well as her leg and pelvis. Plates and pins still hold her bones together. Her broken neck remains fused in two places.

I'd love to help crime victims. Help them see there is life after this."



She relearned how to live left-handed. She learned how to stand and walk again. She also learned how to forgive the man who was convicted of her attempted murder.

"I was angry, really angry for a long time," said Peterson. "As a crime victim, you go through the stages of grief. The Jennifer that I was, that Jennifer died. A new Jennifer had to be born."

Thirty years since the accident, there is purpose behind the pain. When Peterson speaks to victims, she speaks with authority because she has overcome.

Although left for dead in the night, barren farmland all around, there was a new day for Jennifer Peterson.

"There is better on the other side."



DEBORAH BELINTANI ROSA

THE WORLD IS HER STAGE

Deborah Belintani Rosa plopped down in front of the Pantheon and started to draw. The former Roman temple served as a backdrop for Rosa's sketch as she documented the moment over spring break.

It was her first visit to Rome and the opportunity came thanks to Dr. Marie Gasper-Hulvat's class abroad to study Baroque art. Growing up in Sao Paulo, Brazil, Rosa always dreamed of traveling to Italy's capital.

Now, she was there, capturing the ancient city through her contemporary lens.

A theater production major at Kent State University at Stark, Rosa's studies brought her to the United States, where she lives with her father, Sergio, a Goodyear employee. "It is a great opportunity to study in America," the 18-year-old said.

A recipient of the 2018 Run the World Scholarship and student worker in the Office of Global Education Initiatives, she came to the United States "to know about the culture and, consequently, have more knowledge.

"The situation in Brazil is hard," Rosa explained. "Money that should be helping the poor, or going toward schools, is not."

Her hometown's streets often served as a harsh divide. "There was a very fancy side and a very poor side," said Rosa, who, even as a young girl, saw the inequity that spanned her neighborhood. "I wanted to make a difference."

She naturally gravitated toward the stage. There, everyday problems are solved.

"We can see the positive change that takes place when people are transformed by what is happening," said Rosa, who witnessed that firsthand during Kent State Stark's spring production of "26 Pebbles", a docudrama recounting the 2012 Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting.

As she directed the stage lights toward the actors, illumination resonated in more ways than one. "Director Brian Newberg shared with us how one audience member changed his mind about guns after seeing this play," Rosa said. "That's the thing that I love about the theater."

This sophomore is determined to make her mark on the world, be it in Canton, Sao Paulo or Rome, through the transformative power of the stage.

THE ECONOMIC VALUE OF KENT STATE STARK:

**\$381
MILLION**

Every day, Kent State University at Stark and its graduates are improving the quality of life for this region, and in the process, they are churning millions annually into the economy.

Nearly half of nurses in Northeast Ohio who tirelessly work to keep our communities healthy are graduates of Kent State. More than 700 licensed teachers who dedicate their lives to educating our youth are proud KSU alumni. Thousands of pilots, podiatrists, journalists, architects, business leaders, researchers, artists, marketers and many other professionals are investing their skills and talents – earned through a Kent State degree – to improve lives and better our region.

Those are the findings of a newly released report by EY (formerly known as Ernst & Young), outlining results of a comprehensive, independent study of Kent State University’s economic and fiscal contributions to local communities, the Northeast Ohio region and the state of Ohio.

The study examined five components of the university’s fiscal and economic contributions for fiscal year 2017: operations, capital investments, visitor spending, student spending and alumni earnings.

» continued on page 14

WHAT WE BRING

KSU Stark’s economic impact strengthens Stark County

\$55,300,000

» Kent State University at Stark’s total economic impact in Northeast Ohio is **\$381.7 MILLION**; our total economic output in Stark County is **\$55.3 MILLION**.

\$25,000,000

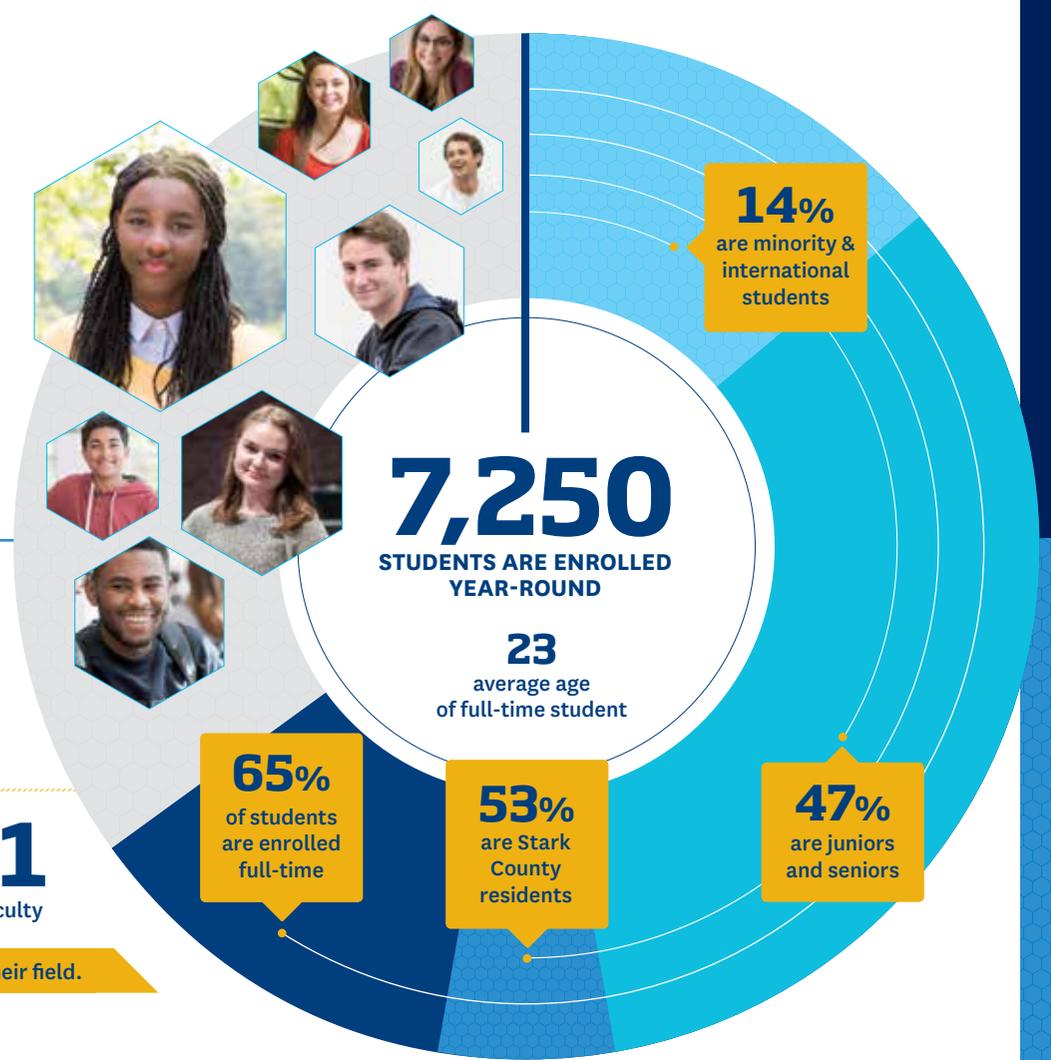
» We are a major employer. Nearly 600 Kent State employees live in Stark County, earning nearly **\$25 MILLION** in wages and benefits.

\$3,200,000

» We contribute millions to the county’s tax base. University employees, supplier and induced activity in FY17 supported **\$3.2 MILLION** in estimated state and local taxes.

WHO WE ARE

Nestled on 200 scenic acres in Jackson Township, Kent State University at Stark is Kent State's largest regional campus, serving Stark County and the surrounding area for more than 70 years. As Stark County's only public university, Kent State Stark plays a vital role in generating a more educated workforce, attracting and retaining qualified individuals to the area and contributing to the positive economic development of the region.



STUDENTS & FACULTY

275 students attending Kent State Stark are from outside Northeast Ohio, or pursuing degrees through online enrollment.

17:1 student-faculty ratio | **112** full-time faculty | **171** adjunct faculty

90% of full-time faculty hold a Ph.D. or the highest degree in their field.

TUITION & SCHOLARSHIPS

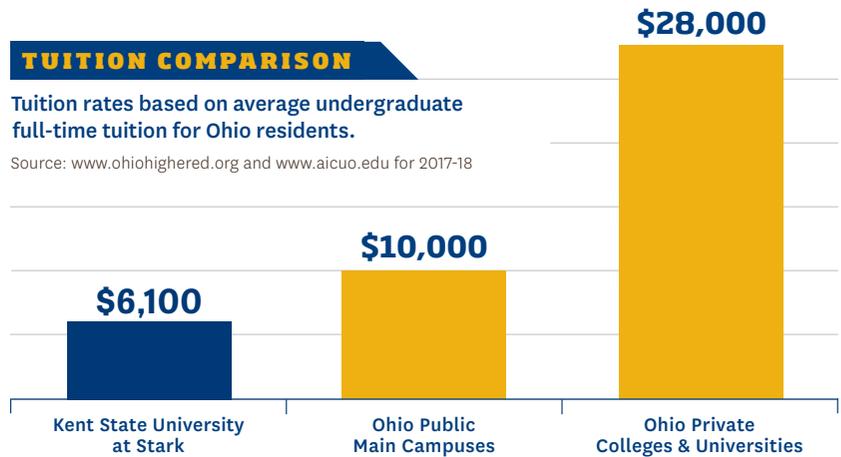
\$1 MILLION
IN SCHOLARSHIPS OFFERED

\$300,000
OFFERED FOR NEW FRESHMEN SCHOLARSHIPS

TUITION COMPARISON

Tuition rates based on average undergraduate full-time tuition for Ohio residents.

Source: www.ohiohighered.org and www.aicuo.edu for 2017-18



THE PROGRAM

282 Kent State undergraduate programs can be started at the Stark Campus.

20 bachelor's degrees can be earned entirely on the Stark Campus.

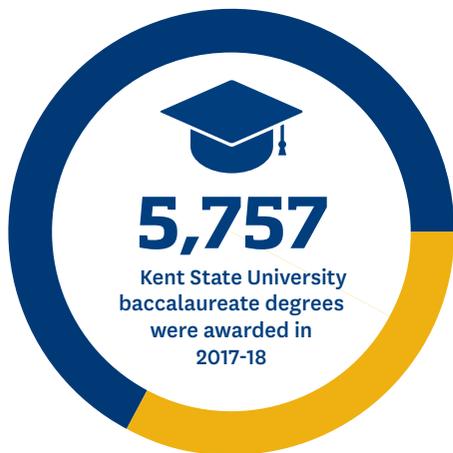


33% of graduates completed courses at Kent State Stark



1 new degree, Environmental Studies, was launched in 2017 in collaboration with the Kent Campus.

13 students graduated in 2017-18 with a bachelor's degree in music technology, a program unique to the Stark Campus.



200 ACRES / 7 BUILDINGS

2ND LARGEST REGIONAL CAMPUS IN OHIO – RIGHT BEHIND UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI'S BLUE ASH CAMPUS.

2.25 ACRE

outdoor classroom, including a Pond and Wetlands Research Area, wind turbine and community garden.

» continued from page 12

“The results of this independent report show that Kent State University not only transforms the lives of our students, but also elevates the quality of life across the entire Northeast Ohio region,” said Kent State University President Beverly J. Warren. “We know that Kent State has been a thought leader for the region since its founding in 1910, and now this study clearly shows that our economic impact is equally profound.”

The study shows that Kent State is a powerful economic engine, directly contributing more than \$1 billion annually to the Northeast Ohio region’s prosperity, but also statewide as the university has working alumni in all 88 Ohio counties.

“We wanted to demonstrate the overall value of higher education, generally, and Kent State University specifically,” said Nick Gattozzi, executive director of government and community relations. “It’s important that we establish what that value is.

“It is clear that the presence of Kent State University at the county level is a powerful economic driver.”

In Stark County, the university’s economic impact, including additional alumni earnings, is \$381.7 million.

“This report shows the importance of what this campus means to our community,” said Denise Seachrist, Ph.D., Kent State Stark’s dean and chief administrative officer. “We have to look at the data and the numbers, and couple that with the story of who we are and who we serve, and that is how we positively change and strengthen Stark County.”

WHAT WE BRING

KSU Stark’s economic impact strengthens Stark County

\$6,700,000

» We support the local economy. Approximately **\$6.7 MILLION** in labor income and an estimated 180 induced jobs resulted from Kent State employees spending money at businesses located in Stark County.

\$290,500,000

» We educate Stark County’s workforce. The estimated working 11,433 Kent State alumni in Stark County have estimated earnings of **\$290.5 MILLION**.

The transformational power of Kent State has its most significant impact on the future earnings of Kent State graduates living in Stark County. The nearly 12,000 working Kent State alumni residing in Stark County have estimated earnings of \$290.5 million.

“We know that Kent State alumni are primed for successful careers when they graduate,” President Warren said. “The fact that so many decide to remain in the region to pursue their passions only elevates the importance of Kent State as an educational and economic anchor for Northeast Ohio.”

We are the 'Power of Kent State' at an affordable rate....

Our students get a world-class education on a beautiful campus with a private college feel. We have research-driven faculty, but their biggest passion is to teach, to educate the dreamers and doers of the future.



From our Honors Program to study abroad opportunities, we mirror a broad-based university experience without the cost. We have a vibrant student life presence on campus, with more than 20 active student organizations and many events and service opportunities in which students can become involved.



A Kent State Stark education can be the starting point for further education or a career anywhere—as demonstrated by recent graduate, Kent Weaver, who has been accepted to The Ohio State University veterinary medicine program. (Read Kent's story, page 5)

We are Stark County's public university

Our open enrollment means we offer every student – from the high-achiever to the at-risk student who needs a safety net – the opportunity of a quality, baccalaureate education. We help define academic success for the individual student, and we have the supports in place to get them there.

Because we have developed such an organic approach, working with students on an individual level – from the financial aid office to academic advising to the classroom – we know we change lives.

And, sometimes, we save starfish. We meet students where they are and help provide them with the direct services they need to move forward, submersing them in resources and programs where they can thrive.

Our academic support services are second to none. Our award-winning tutoring program is open to all students, not only those who meet certain grant criteria, and it benefits both students who use the service and the 50+ students who serve as tutors each semester.



Students' degrees are from a prestigious research institution, Kent State University, at close to community college costs, just \$6,100 a year.

We are the educators of the next generation

Our world-class faculty is diverse in thought and color. We bring the world to Stark County, and we make our students global citizens. Many of our faculty are internationally recognized – in fields such as economics, biological sciences and music technology – and students have the opportunity to learn from degreed faculty from Day One. Often, at larger universities, only juniors and seniors have this kind of access. Not at Kent State Stark.



We practice what we advocate: Our undergraduate students participate in published research.

Students learn in smaller classes with an average ratio of 17:1 from our first-rate faculty who are committed to teaching.

STAGE

FUELING CULTURAL & ECONOMIC IMPACT:

SOUND

\$9.7 MILLION CAPITAL PROJECT

STUDIO



NEW FINE ARTS EXPANSION & RENOVATION CREATES INNOVATIVE VENUE

WHILE MOST STUDENTS SPENT SPRING BREAK ON THE BEACH,

Brandon Salewsky composed an original piece of music for a feature film and helped complete post-production sound editing.

At work in Kent State University at Stark's state-of-the-art music technology studio in the newly expanded Fine Arts Building, Salewsky was happy to spend his days at computers and mixing boards.

"This was the perfect opportunity for a senior music technology student," said Salewsky, who graduated in May. "I used all of the skills I've learned over the past four years to complete the sound work on this film."

In the studio or on the stage, Kent State Stark students have nothing but opportunities. With the completion of the Fine Arts expansion and renovation project this fall, all students will benefit from the 15,000 square feet of new space and renovation of another 17,000 square feet of the building.

"This project provides the space where imaginations and talents will be stretched, and where community members will explore a variety of cultural offerings and interactions," said Denise Seachrist, Ph.D., dean and chief administrative officer.

The \$9.7 million capital project transforms the facility to meet the needs of a growing student population and expands opportunities to hundreds of community members who visit the campus annually for arts programs.



▶ Kent State Stark students, Brandon Salewsky (back left), Mat Morgan (left) and Shauna Contumelio (right), work with Ian Anderson, MFA, assistant professor of music, to finalize the sound production for student film, "Fly By Night".

STAGE. SOUND. STUDIO.

AUDIO CENTER

In one of the two new mixing studios, Salewsky, along with Stark Campus students, Shauna Contumelio and Mat Morgan, worked with Kent Campus students to finalize the sound for the student film project this spring.

Produced by Kent State University Independent Films, “Fly By Night” premiered in April. The crime drama follows two detectives who lead very different personal lives.

“The collaboration between the two campuses is a manifestation of the ‘one university’ idea. We are putting students first and working to ensure joint educational experiences are happening,” said Scott Hallgren, M.Mus., assistant professor in the School of Journalism and Mass Communication at Kent.

Hallgren worked with Ian Anderson, MFA, assistant professor of music at Kent State Stark, to bring the sound editing in house. Previously, editing for the bi-annual student feature film was completed in Chicago.

“It is all about cross-campus collaboration and building relationships,” Anderson said. “With the Fine Arts expansion, the Stark Campus is positioned to become the audio center for the Kent State University system.”

Brian Gardner, senior facilities manager, agrees. He said the building needed two studios due to the popularity of the music technology program, which is the fastest-growing degree program on campus.

Kent State Stark is one of only a handful of universities in the country to offer a bachelor’s degree in music technology. Students from outside Northeast Ohio, including Puerto Rico, China, Oregon, New York and Pennsylvania, come to Stark County to earn this degree.

‘HUB OF ARTS ACTIVITY’

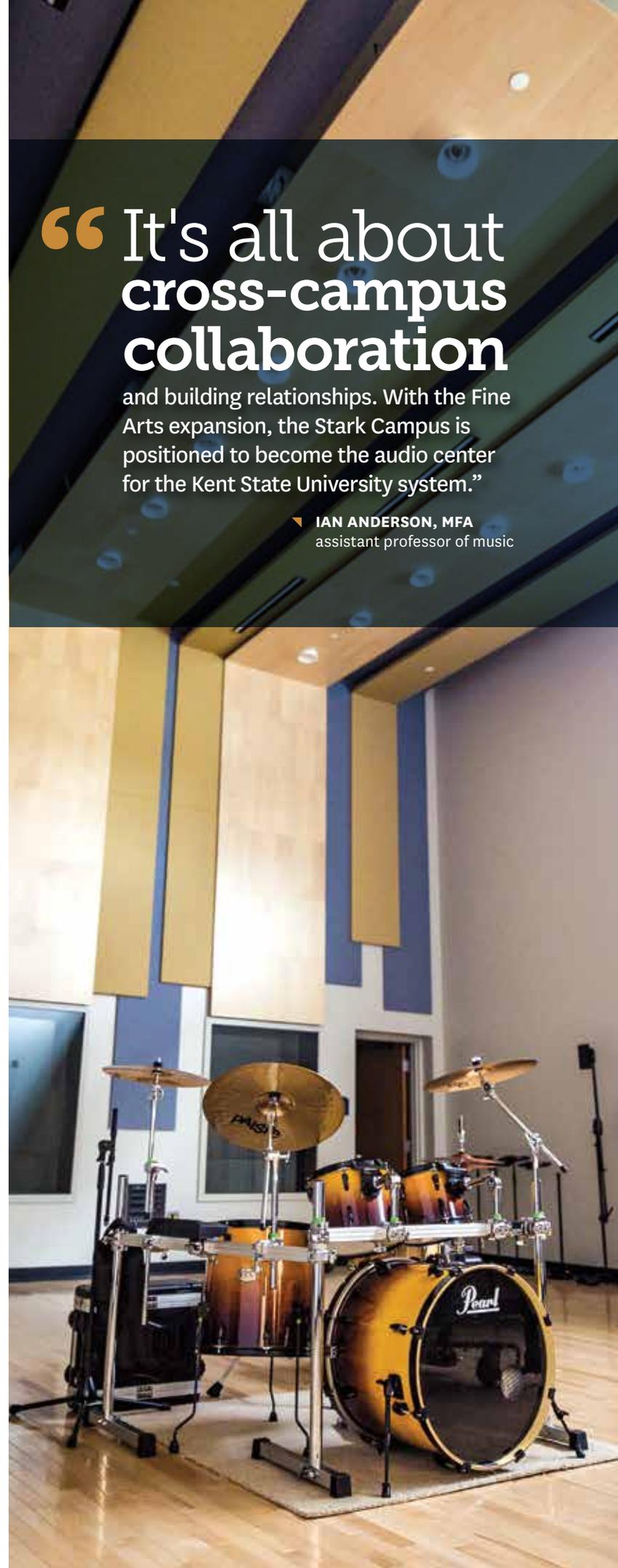
The Fine Arts Building has been expanded twice since it was originally constructed in 1972. The building was 65,000 square feet, accommodating 1,800 students. When enrollment reached 2,500 students in 2004, the university added 20,000 square feet. Today, each of the campus’ 5,000 students takes at least one class in the building, prompting the 32,000-square-foot expansion and renovation project.

Funding for the expansion and renovation project includes a \$1.5 million appropriation from the state; \$1.5 million remaining from construction of the university’s Science and Nursing building, completed in 2015; and \$3.7 million from Kent State Stark’s reserves, with the remainder given by private donors.

“It's all about cross-campus collaboration

and building relationships. With the Fine Arts expansion, the Stark Campus is positioned to become the audio center for the Kent State University system.”

▶ IAN ANDERSON, MFA
assistant professor of music



THANK YOU TO THE DONORS

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Lisa and Gregory Beaufait

Robb and Claudette Hankins

Lynne Dragomier

Scott and Natasha Pollock



HOW YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

We can help you match your passion to your support and make it work for you. There are creative and tax effective ways to support the Fine Arts Building or other campus initiatives. Let us guide you through your options and help you choose what works best for you.

CONTACT

*Karen Romas, director of advancement,
at 330-244-3225 or kromas@kent.edu.*

Groundbreaking for the expansion phase of the project took place in 2017; the renovation phase began in spring 2018.

The 17,000-square-foot renovation project provides the theater department with:

- An updated costume design area
- An innovative new sound and lighting classroom
- A new multi-use stage rigging system
- A black box theater allowing students and the community to conduct smaller-scale productions

In the art department, the renovations include:

- A new ceramics studio
- A shop area dust-collection system in the sculpture studio
- An exterior sculpture production area
- The addition of two interior art gallery spaces

“The expanded and renovated Fine Arts Building will better reflect the values of the campus’ vision for student achievement and will be a hub of arts activity for students and the public alike,” said Jack McWhorter, MFA, professor and coordinator of the Art Department.

'OFF AND RUNNING'

Seachrist said she envisions new community partnerships, thanks to the new space.

Some of those partnerships include:

- Bringing children associated with the local YMCAs to campus for art projects
- Collaborating with the Canton Museum of Art to bring exhibitions to the new visiting artist gallery
- Working with the Canton Symphony, Voices of Canton and the Pro Football Hall of Fame

The campus will continue to open auditions to the public for theater and concert band performances.

Retired Stark County Family Court Judge Michael Howard plays clarinet in the Kent State Stark concert band, one of the few “intergenerational opportunities to mix with people of all ages as part of a community concert band.” Of performing in the new concert band room, he said, “It is a lovely facility. The acoustics are of high quality, as if you are performing on stage. I think it generates great opportunities for students and community members alike. This facility is the cherry on top of the cake.”

For students, like Salewsky, who grew up in the drumline at Massillon’s Washington High School, syncing his music skills with today’s technology-driven world is the boost the Fine Arts Building provides.

“I’m better at playing music. I’m better at writing music,” he said. “I’m better prepared for the real world outside of the classroom because this facility now simulates that. When we graduate, we are really off and running.”



CULTURAL FLASH

2018-2019 EVENTS

THEATRE PRODUCTIONS

Unnecessary Farce

By Paul Slade Smith

MARY J. TIMKEN THEATRE (LOCATED IN FINE ARTS BUILDING)
NOV. 9, 10, 16 & 17 AT 7:30 P.M.
NOV. 11 & 18 (ASL) AT 2 P.M.



Two cops. Three crooks. Eight doors. Go. In a cheap motel room, an embezzling mayor is supposed to meet with his female accountant. While in the room next door, two undercover cops wait to catch the meeting on videotape. But, there's some confusion as to who's in which room, who's being videotaped, who's taken the money, who's hired a hit man, and why the accountant keeps removing her clothes.

The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee

By William Finn

MARY J. TIMKEN THEATRE (LOCATED IN FINE ARTS BUILDING)
MARCH 1, 2, 8 & 9 AT 7:30 P.M.
MARCH 3 & 10 (ASL) AT 2 P.M.



An eclectic group of six tweens vies for the spelling championship of a lifetime. While candidly disclosing hilarious and touching stories from their home lives, the students spell their way through a series of (potentially made-up) words, hoping never to hear the soul-crushing, pout-inducing, life un-affirming "ding" of the bell that signals a spelling mistake. Six spellers enter; one speller leaves! At least the losers get a juice box.

Of Mice and Men

By John Steinbeck

BLACK BOX THEATRE (LOCATED IN FINE ARTS BUILDING)
APRIL 12, 13, 19 & 20 AT 7:30 P.M.
APRIL 14 & 21 (ASL) AT 2 P.M.



Two drifters, George and his friend Lennie, have just arrived at a ranch to work for enough money to buy their own place. Lennie is a man-child, a little boy in the body of a dangerously powerful man. When the ranch boss' wife is found dead, it is obvious that Lennie accidentally killed her. George wrestles with moral questions as he sets off to find Lennie before the ranchers.

Tickets may be purchased online at www.kent.edu/stark/theatre or by calling the Box Office at 330-244-3348. Prices are: \$10 adults; \$7 students under 17 and senior citizens; Kent State students free with current ID

MUSIC PERFORMANCES

Guitar Weekend

Concerts, workshops and master classes in classical and popular styles. For a schedule of performances, visit www.kent.edu/stark/guitar-weekend
NOVEMBER 1 - 3



JAY Trio Presents Music for Dancing:

Tangos, Waltzes and Ragtimes
SEPT. 25, 7 P.M.
MAIN HALL AUDITORIUM

Student Showcase Concert

NOV. 26, 7 P.M.
MAIN HALL AUDITORIUM

Kent State Stark Concert Band

DEC. 4, 7:30 P.M.
MARY J. TIMKEN THEATRE

For the Longest Time

University Chorus and Chorale Concert
DEC. 5, 7 P.M.
MAIN HALL AUDITORIUM

Faculty Artist Recital

Melissa Davis, soprano and Jerry Wong, piano
FEB. 27, 7 P.M.
MAIN HALL AUDITORIUM

Oblivion Project

The Tangos of Argentinian Composer Astor Piazzolla
MARCH 5, 7 P.M.
MAIN HALL AUDITORIUM

Joy and Tragedy: An Evening of Piano Music

Donna Lee, piano
MARCH 14, 7 P.M.
MAIN HALL AUDITORIUM

Glenn Schaft and friends Percussion Performance

MARCH 20, 7 P.M.
MAIN HALL AUDITORIUM

Mark Nowakowski and Sebastian Birch Composition Recital

APRIL 15, 7 P.M.
MAIN HALL AUDITORIUM

Student Showcase Concert

APRIL 22, 7 P.M.
MAIN HALL AUDITORIUM



Music Technology Showcase

Student rock bands perform classic and contemporary songs
» NOV. 27, 28 & 29, 7 P.M.
» APRIL 23, 24 & 25, 7 P.M.
MAIN HALL AUDITORIUM

Kent State Stark Concert Band

APRIL 30, 7:30 P.M.
MARY J. TIMKEN THEATRE

One Call Away

University Chorus and Chorale Concert
MAY 1, 7 P.M.
MAIN HALL AUDITORIUM



Vance Powell

Q & A with internationally acclaimed recording producer and engineer
MARCH 7, 7 P.M.
MAIN HALL AUDITORIUM

All music performances are free, tickets not required. For a complete list of music events please visit www.kent.edu/stark/music-events

28TH ANNUAL FEATURED SPEAKERS SERIES

CONFERENCE CENTER ★ 7:30 P.M.



Sarah Thomas

OCT.
16

Sarah Thomas changed the game in the world's most quintessential male-dominated sport – football – when she became the first female NFL referee. Now, she's inspiring others to dream big and believe anything is possible.

Since her addition to the NFL's roster of referees, Thomas has become a pioneering inspiration to people everywhere, embodying the notion that with a belief in self, inner drive, hard work, preparation, and a mindset of being the best you can be, no barrier or ceiling is impenetrable.

Thomas provides key insights on overcoming adversity – and the odds – finding your passion while maintaining work-life balance, decision-making, and not only succeeding as a female in a male-dominated industry, but achieving breakthrough success for men and women alike.

TICKETS AVAILABLE SEPT. 10



Mira Sorvino

NOV.
14

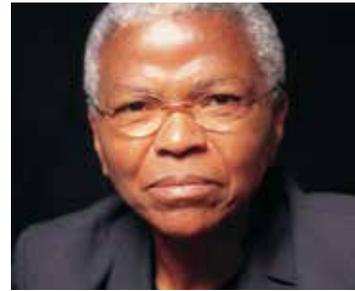
Mira Sorvino is an Academy Award-winning actress, documentary filmmaker, United Nations Goodwill Ambassador, silence breaker and passionate voice of the #MeToo movement and lifelong champion of victims of social injustice.

After graduating from Harvard University with a degree in East Asian studies, Sorvino's breakout acting role was in Woody Allen's 1995 film, "Mighty Aphrodite", which won her an Academy Award, Golden Globe Award and Critics Choice for best supporting actress.

Raised in a family of activists, her social conscience was ignited by her mother's participation in the March on Washington with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. It served as a catalyst for her own social activism and a lifetime of serving others.

A long-time advocate for human rights, Sorvino promotes empowerment of women everywhere as a cause worth fighting for.

TICKETS AVAILABLE OCT. 22



Mary Frances Berry

FEB.
26

For more than four decades, Mary Frances Berry, Ph.D., has been one of the most visible and respected activists in the cause of civil rights, gender equality and social justice.

Serving as chairperson of the U.S. Civil Rights Commission, Berry led the charge for equal rights and liberties for all Americans over the course of four presidential administrations. She made history as one of the founders of the monumental Free South Africa Movement (FSAM), for which she received the Nelson Mandela award.

In her most recent book, "History Teaches Us to Resist: How Progressive Movements Have Succeeded in Challenging Times", Berry chronicles more than 50 years of progressive victories and the winning tactics behind them. She reveals what works, what doesn't – and how to achieve positive change in our world.

TICKETS AVAILABLE JAN. 28



Nicholas Sparks

APRIL
17

Before he was a world-famous novelist, Nicholas Sparks worked a variety of jobs, including real estate appraisal, waiting tables, selling dental products by phone and starting his own small manufacturing business, which struggled from the beginning.

In 1994, at the age of 28, he wrote "The Notebook" over a period of six months, and in October 1995, Warner Books bought the rights. Now, with more than 105 million copies of his books sold worldwide, literary sensation Sparks is the author of 19 New York Times No. 1 bestselling books and is a cultural phenomenon in his own right.

Sparks takes audiences deeper into the sleepy towns and poignant relationships that ignite the lines of his romantic page-turners, weaving in his own personal story of hard work, rejection and triumph.

TICKETS AVAILABLE MARCH 18

All Featured Speakers Series programs are free and open to the public; however, tickets are required. Tickets will be available at the Main Hall information desk at 7:30 a.m. on the specified date listed with each speaker. For more information, please visit www.kent.edu/stark/featured-speakers-series

ART EXHIBITIONS

**THE WILLIAM J.
AND PEARL F. LEMMON
VISITING ARTIST GALLERY**

**FINE ARTS BUILDING
MONDAY - THURSDAY:
11 A.M. - 6 P.M.
FRIDAY: 11 A.M. - 5 P.M.**

**Threshold:
Selected Works
AUG. 27 - SEPT. 21**

By Carol Diamond

**Mutual Aid
OCT. 1-26**

Paintings by Tom Berding, Alannah Farrell, Robin Feld, Barbara Marks, Ophir Agassi, Barbara Laube, Gerri Ranchins, Katharine Dufault, Perri Neri, Andrea Kantrowitz, Tony Cuneo, Robert Solomon, Susan Lichtenstein, Randi Reiss-McCormack, Kathy Cantwell, Claire McConaughy, Patty Spergel, Molly Herman and Alix Bailey

Elegy

NOV. 1 - DEC. 7

By Sue Collier & Sarah Schuster

Queuing

FEB. 7 - MARCH 2

By Molly Burke

**65th Scholastic Art Awards
JAN. 14 - 30**

» CAMPUS CENTER
» THE WILLIAM J. AND PEARL F. LEMMON
VISITING ARTIST GALLERY
» MJ AND PAT ALBACETE
STUDENT ART GALLERY

MONDAY - THURSDAY: 11 A.M. - 6 P.M.
FRIDAY: 11 A.M. - 5 P.M.



All art exhibits are free, tickets not required

**Painters Prints
MARCH 7 - APRIL 6**

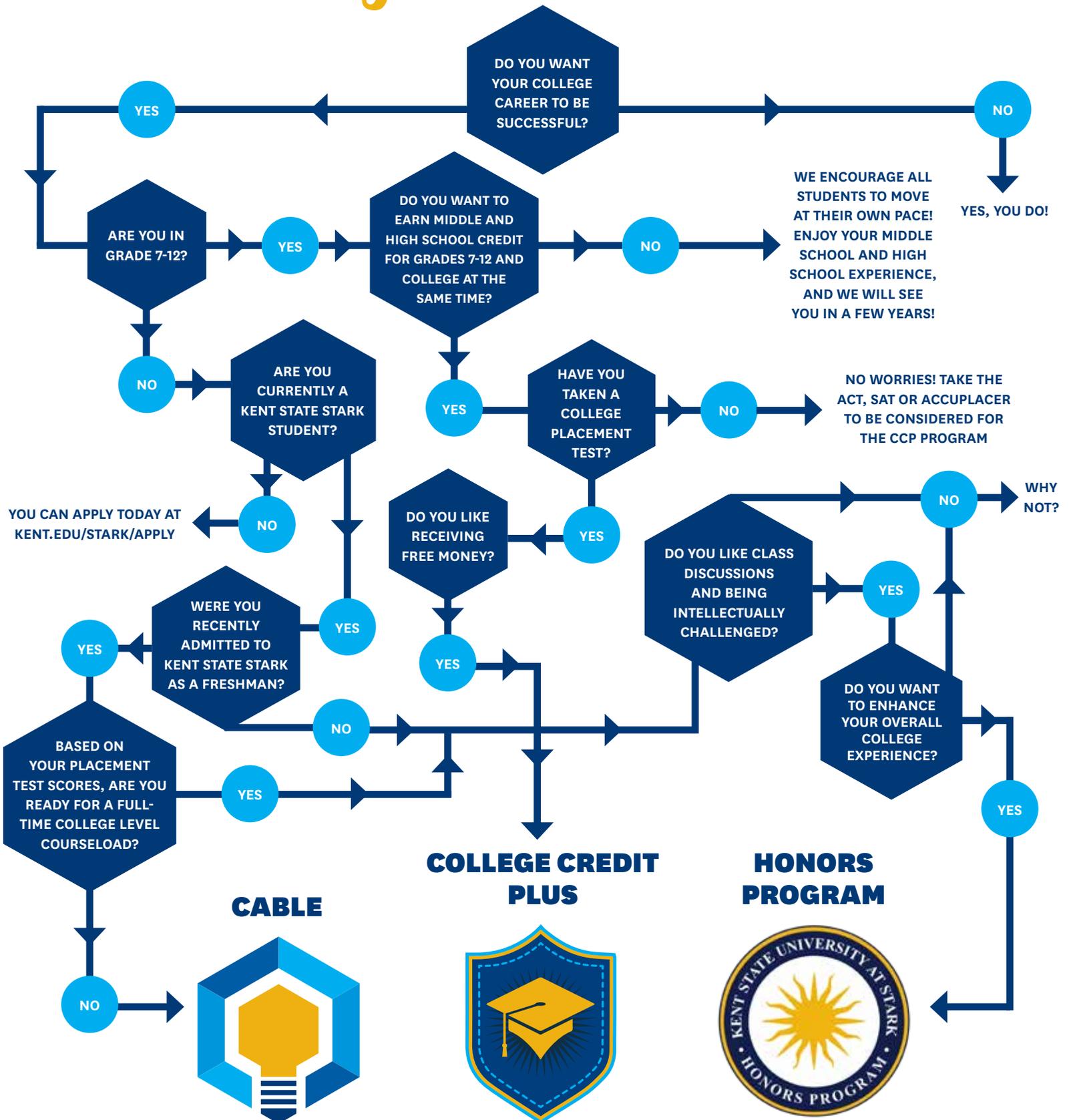
VanDeb Editions - Featuring work by Andrea Belag, Deborah Freedman, Joanne Freeman, Joseph Haske, Mark Saltz and Marjorie Van Dyke

Practice

APRIL 11 - MAY 4

By Stacia Yeapanis

CHOOSE YOUR OWN *college* ADVENTURE



Kent State University at Stark's open enrollment means we offer every student the kind of opportunity that opens doors.

From the Honors Program to CABLE to College Credit Plus, we have the supports in place to help every student define what academic success means to them. As Stark County's public university, we provide the pathway to a quality, baccalaureate education that is both accessible and affordable. You choose the adventure.

CABLE



Dyllan Fox began his Kent State Stark journey as a biology major, but he soon realized his preferred field of study required a lot of math. Fox needed help.

"I didn't have a good understanding of what the higher algebras were like," he said. "I was home-schooled and did not like math. So, I completed just the bare minimum to get by. When I got to college, I realized I had forgotten everything past multiplying fractions. I felt kind of in over my head in a degree program that required advanced math."

Fox received help at CABLE, a free program offering Kent State Stark students intensive preparation in mathematics, reading and writing. CABLE enrolls students who have been admitted but are not ready for a full-time, college-level course load, or for those students who need a refresher class.

Lisa Hart, director of Academic Services, said CABLE is designed to help students boost their skills before taking college courses, potentially saving them from retaking a course because they weren't ready. "CABLE truly sets students up for success," she said.

CABLE courses are taught in a supportive, face-to-face learning environment and designed to prepare students to begin their studies with confidence.

"CABLE math classes helped me tremendously," said Fox, now a sophomore. "I'm doing great, and I'm right where I should be. I tell students that there is no reason to get discouraged. You can pretty much achieve anything because the right helps are right here."

» **Find out more about CABLE and tutoring services at www.kent.edu/stark/tutoring-services**

COLLEGE CREDIT PLUS



Although 18-year-old Maelynn Norton just graduated in May from Northwest High School, she enters Kent State Stark this fall with 46 credit hours – thanks to the College Credit Plus (CCP) program.

The CCP program is designed to allow college-ready students, grades 7-12 who qualify for college admission, the opportunity to earn high school and college credit. CCP can include courses offered at the Stark Campus, online or at the high school for which credit is awarded from the college.

"It's definitely an amazing program that speaks to the inclusivity of Kent State Stark," Norton said. "When you are a high school student, to be treated as an adult and get the education you want, that is a unique opportunity. This also gives students who may not know what college is all about the chance to try a college course. It can be hard to go to a university far from home, but Kent State Stark gave me an opportunity close to home and really made me love to learn."

For Norton, who plans to double major in psychology and criminology & justice studies, the CCP program, especially her courses with Deirdre Warren, Ph.D., associate professor of sociology, confirmed her intended fields of study.

"I've always known I wanted to do something in psychology, but these last few years taking classes at Kent State Stark, I've learned I also have a desire to serve society," said Norton, who one day wants to spur prison reform. "I would like to help offenders reintegrate into society."

» **Find out more about CCP at www.kent.edu/stark/college-credit-plus**

HONORS PROGRAM



For graduating senior Haley Walker, the Honors Program at Kent State Stark provided intellectual challenges, new learning experiences and academic freedom.

Program Director Leslie Heaphy, Ph.D., associate professor of history, encourages students like Walker to get involved and make a difference in the Stark County community.

"One of the goals of the Honors Program at Kent State Stark is to help students become engaged citizens and move beyond the classroom," Heaphy explained.

Walker, a Perry High School graduate, helped lead an effort to provide positive messaging to school districts, such as Jackson Local, which wrestled with tragedy during the 2017-18 academic year. "I really felt we made a difference, letting those students know we are there for them and we understand what they are going through," she said.

The 200 academically talented students in the Honors Program enjoy smaller class sizes that focus on discussion and interaction, rather than lecture-style teaching. Students can tailor their studies to meet their personal interests and professional goals and are encouraged to help professors determine the content and direction of their courses.

"The program allowed me to meet new people with similar interests and goals, connect with regional and local communities and take classes that have challenged my thinking," Walker said. "Overall, the Honors Program has pushed me to become a better student, all while studying a topic of personal choice and conducting my own service-learning projects in pursuit of finding my passion."

» **Find out more about the Honors Program at www.kent.edu/stark/honors-program**



ANTHONY PIZZINO
OHIO STATEHOUSE



DYLANNI SMITH
THE WHITE HOUSE



JACOB HUFFMAN
DIEBOLD NIXDORF



GOING PLACES

INTERNSHIPS PROVIDE STUDENTS WITH REAL-WORLD EXPERIENCE

In her role as Kent State University at Stark's assistant director for employer relations and internships, Shaanette Fowler works with employers to identify internships, as well as part-time and full-time jobs for students. Fowler, the campus' 2018 Staff Excellence Award winner, says she takes pride in discovering new opportunities.

"It is extremely important for students to have the chance to garner real-world experience with the safety net and support of the university behind

them," said Fowler. "An internship or part-time job can reconfirm the choice of a major or spur consideration of 'Plan B', and that's OK."

Identifying opportunities that fit programs unique to Kent State Stark, Fowler has placed music technology students at recording studios in Nashville, criminology and justice studies students at the courthouse, and a marketing major at the White House.



ANTHONY PIZZINO is no stranger to politics. For as long as he can remember, his father, John, has been a Jackson Township trustee. Last fall, the Kent State Stark

senior had an opportunity to experience lawmaking firsthand from a seat in the Statehouse.

"We met with think tanks, law firms, even the commander of the Ohio National Guard," said Pizzino, who served as an intern to State Rep. Theresa Gavarone (R-Bowling Green). "They talked to us about what they felt was best for the state. We attended briefings and special events. Basically, we learned what it is like to be a state lawmaker."

Pizzino, who will graduate from Kent State Stark in December with a bachelor's degree in business management, said he has discovered a passion for making a positive difference in people's lives through enacting policy changes that have an impact.

"Kent State has helped me make connections and network in ways I never thought possible," said the 22-year-old. "And, who knows, maybe I'll run for office one day."



DYLANNI SMITH has been fascinated by the White House since she was a child. A history buff, she wrote a paper about the nation's capital when she was in the eighth grade. Naturally, the North Canton

resident jumped at the chance to complete an internship in Washington, D.C., this spring.

She credits Fowler and Lisa Waite, communication studies senior lecturer, with getting her there. "I was so grateful they took the time to help me incorporate my classes with an internship at the White House," said Smith, a marketing major.

As an intern in the Office of Presidential Correspondence, Smith responded to emails, phone calls and mail on behalf of President Donald J. Trump and the First Family. The office also reviews requests for presidential proclamations and more.

"The office does its best to understand constituents' views and concerns," Smith said. "It was an honor to have the position and to hear the American people's views directly. Regardless of political party, everyone is very committed to public service and put their own interests aside to focus on the public good."

The 20-year-old said the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity has transformed her interest in politics into a true calling.



JACOB HUFFMAN, a Tuslaw High School graduate, said he dreamed he would work at a Fortune 500 company. Little did he know, he would land an internship at one

within five years time.

The 23-year-old began his work this spring at internationally known Diebold Nixdorf, a financial self-service, security and services corporation headquartered in North Canton.

Huffman, who is working on bachelor's degrees in applied communication and business management, assists salespeople in the field. "It has been great working at Diebold," he said. "It has helped improve my confidence, and it is invaluable to have real-life experience to share with my classmates."

A soon-to-be graduating senior, Huffman said he'll enter the workforce in 2019 with corporate experience and newfound purpose. "I can't wait to see what's next."

INTERESTED IN PROVIDING AN INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITY? CONTACT:

Shaan Fowler, assistant director for employer relations and internships, at sfowler13@kent.edu or 330-244-3253.

ABOUT: THE OFFICE OF INTERNSHIP & CAREER SERVICES

The Office of Internship and Career Services purposefully targets employers that align with Kent State University at Stark's various academic majors. The following businesses and organizations are part of a growing list of employers that offer diverse work experiences and provide students with meaningful opportunities in collaboration with the Stark Campus:

AKRON/CLEVELAND *City of Cleveland Emergency Management, Fastenal, Lava Room Recording, Oriana House, Twin Sisters LLC, U.S. Marshals Service, Victim Assistance Program of Summit County*

CANTON *Access Health Stark County, Canton Municipal Court, Diebold Nixdorf, Kenan Advantage Group,*

CANTON (CONT.) *Stark County Family Court, Stark County Probate Court, Stark County Prosecutor's Office, Voices of Canton*

LOUISVILLE *H-P Products Inc.*

MASSILLON *Massillon Municipal Court*

NASHVILLE, TENN. *Blackbird Recording Studio, OmniSound Studios*

ORLANDO, FLA. *Phat Planet Recording Studios*

ORRVILLE *Jarrett Logistics Systems Inc.*

RICHFIELD *Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation*

UNIONTOWN *FedEx Custom Critical Inc.*



NO IVORY TOWER

World-class experts bring valued research to Stark County

Kent State University at Stark's faculty are a force in the community, working to better the region by offering their academic expertise in a tangible way. Kent State Stark brings immeasurable value to community organizations, the health care industry, environmental groups and more.

Faculty tackle the kind of real-world issues that touch Stark County, making our home a better place to live. These campus leaders guard the region against some of the country's most pressing concerns – from water quality to end-of-life care choices to navigating an online presence on the “anything goes” information highway. They are on the frontlines researching, addressing, educating.

Professors Angela Guercio, Kim Garchar and Robert Hamilton are part of the knowledge base at Stark County's hometown university.

“We are not meant to be the ivory tower,” said Garchar. “We are meant to share the talents that are housed in our university.

“Contributing to the good of the community does not just happen in the four walls of our classrooms, it is the impact we have outside of those walls.”



ANGELA GUERCIO, PH.D.

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF COMPUTER SCIENCE

Angela Guercio's passion for computer science extends beyond the classroom. Her students help develop websites for organizations located throughout Northeast Ohio. But the longtime Kent State Stark faculty member does much more than create webpages for area nonprofits; she fosters purpose in computer science students who see the impact of an online presence.

“Creating a website requires more than simple I.T. knowledge,” said Guercio, who has been teaching at Kent State Stark since 2005. “When nonprofits request help, we do it because it is not only an I.T. learning experience; it is a community experience where students learn to translate the needs of an organization.”

The nonprofit may harness the power of a website to educate the public, solicit financial donations, promote upcoming events and more.

Guercio's class has made prototypes for the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) and the Magnolia Historical Society. Students also designed websites for the Navarre-Bethlehem Township Historical Society and the Italian-American organization, Il Cenacolo Italiano di Cleveland.

Guercio expects the addition of web-programming courses during the 2018-19 academic year to expand service-learning opportunities.

During her time at Kent State Stark, one of her primary goals has been to grow the computer science discipline on campus. And she has. Enrollment has increased from 42 students in fall 2010 to 103 students last fall.

A native of Italy, Guercio is active in the Ohio Celebration of Women in Computing (OCWiC), which encourages and supports both minorities and women, who are currently a minority in the discipline, to engage in computer science studies. Guercio's students also have designed websites for the organization's annual conference.

“Students have to prepare for the world out there since technology is always in a state of transition and evolution,” said Guercio. “What is better than practicing and learning by offering a service to the community?”

KIM GARCHAR, PH.D.

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Kim Garchar talks about death and dying a lot. She forgets the conversation is not a normal one.

But, it is her primary area of research. As a member of Summa Health System's ethics committee, Garchar often deals with end-of-life issues.

"This is, to me, the second most important part of my job, with the first being teaching students," she said. "Assisting health care providers and servicing the community, both of those things are supported by my research and scholarship."

Garchar's field of research in ethics, which is about a good life, and health care, which is about providing a good life, go hand in hand.

Garchar first began working at Summa's Akron Campus 10 years ago, when she became a faculty member at Kent State Stark. The ethics team handles requests for ethics consults, education within the hospital and organizational communication.

Anyone can request an ethics consult – patient, family member, nurse, doctor and so on. "We try to analyze situations where there are values conflicts," she explained. "The care team could feel something is inappropriate that the family is requesting. We try to understand and name the different values represented and offer suggestions and recommendations, not answers."

Garchar's work as a bioethicist also includes analyzing hospital policies where there are values conflicts, such as futile treatment, which is defined as care that is non-beneficial to the patient. "We need a policy for those instances."

Originally from Colorado, Garchar said she couldn't be happier to invest in Northeast Ohio.

"I am motivated by the problems we encounter in health care," she said. "Honestly, I am able to teach better because of the work I get to do out in the community. I bring all of those real-life experiences back to the classroom."

"I AM ABLE TO TEACH BETTER BECAUSE OF THE WORK I GET TO DO OUT IN THE COMMUNITY. I BRING ALL OF THOSE REAL-LIFE EXPERIENCES BACK TO THE CLASSROOM."



ROBERT HAMILTON IV, PH.D.

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

As a child growing up in the city of Canton, Robert Hamilton played in Nimishillen Creek. Today, he's working to save it.

A collaborator with Stark Parks for the past 10 years, Hamilton and his students began a new phase in the Cottonwood Wetland Restoration Project.

"All waters affect one another; they are all connected," explained Hamilton. "So, when you better one, another also benefits."

Sippo Lake's 4.3-acre Cottonwood Wetland recently was restored by Nick Morris, former education department manager at Stark County Park District and now an adjunct professor at Kent State Stark.

"It is a team effort," said Hamilton, who worked with Morris on the restoration project. "We all work together to protect the environment."

This summer, Hamilton and his students examined the restoration's progress, paying special attention to sediment and water flow, bacteria and fungi in the water, as well as water chemistry. "Any environmental project that you restore, you have to ask – is it functioning?" he said. "Wetlands are supposed to provide habitat, filter sediment and more."

"This wetland acts as a buffer zone between the surrounding land and water, enhancing conservation," said Hamilton, adding that the Cottonwood restoration contributes to the larger regional water system, the Muskingum River Watershed.

For this 13-year faculty member at Kent State Stark, giving back is part of his DNA. An Eagle Scout, his love of the outdoors began early. The graduate of McKinley High School found a natural fit at the Stark Campus.

"We are the resident experts. We live in these communities, so we have a vested interest," he said. "Not only do I have a desire to improve the water quality, but I have fond memories of good times in the Nimishillen."

**“ THE CONFERENCE CENTER
PROVIDES AN ENVIRONMENT
THAT IS CONDUCTIVE TO LEARNING,
GIVING GUESTS WHAT THEY NEED
TO BE MORE PRODUCTIVE AND
HAVE AN ENGAGED MEETING.”**

- Faith Sheaffer-Polen,
Corporate University director



WINNING COMBINATION

Conference Center and Corporate University build relationships, support educational needs of regional employers

Faith Sheaffer-Polen has conducted workforce training amid construction, in buildings with sanitation issues and in crowded hotel rooms while sitting on the edge of a bathtub. That's one reason why the director of Kent State University at Stark's Corporate University urges employers to undertake professional education in a setting that is conducive to learning.

Enter the Conference Center. The International Association of Conference Centers (IACC)-certified venue provides businesses and organizations preparing for their next session a professional environment to train their workforce, tackle strategic planning or enhance team building.

"Trainers know the best sessions take place outside of the everyday distractions of the office," said Sheaffer-Polen. "The Conference Center provides an environment that is conducive to learning, giving guests what they need to be more productive and have an engaged meeting."

Stephanie Monastra, director of the Conference Center, said her team's goal is to exceed guests' needs. "We see it as our responsibility, as part of an institution of higher learning, to provide the right environment where learning can take place," she said. "There's no better place than being on a college campus, where there's already so much innovation happening."

MCTV, Massillon, Canton and Wooster's one-stop source for residential internet, TV, and phone service, sought customized training from the Corporate University



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- Stephanie Monastra,
Conference Center director

last year. Employees traveled to the Conference Center for one-day sessions over the course of nine months for the series, which included management and supervisory training, communication strategies and DiSC. The MCTV team held a graduation ceremony for employees and their families at the Conference Center after the training concluded.

"The Corporate University training was amazing and just what we needed. The sessions were interactive and the instructors were engaging," said Katherine Gessner Duplay, MCTV's director of strategic planning and policy. "There is an atmosphere of making training feel special when it is off site. And, the Conference Center is so good, from its location to the fact it encompasses everything you need: food, meeting rooms and the technology."

As Sheaffer-Polen and Monastra embark upon the upcoming academic year, the duo plans to increase penetration rate in Stark County. "It is about getting the message out there," said Sheaffer-Polen. "Kent State University is in your backyard and we can help you in a variety of ways, from workforce training to hosting community events and more."

Said Monastra, "We are getting out there together and working as a team to offer workforce training in a facility that provides the proper learning environment. No other team can do what we do."

"We have the power of Kent State behind us. This is our sole business - meeting the needs of the workforce and community groups and supporting our region's success."

RENOWNED TRAINING MEETS CERTIFIED EXPERIENCE

CORPORATE UNIVERSITY

The Corporate University provides highly experienced and credentialed subject matter experts, competitive pricing and quality workforce training. Along with customized professional education for businesses, the Corporate University holds open-enrollment sessions, which include supervisory and management certificate series, social media, Excel training and more. Free surveys also are available to assess training needs.

» Find out more www.kent.edu/stark/cucc/corporate-university



CONFERENCE CENTER

The IACC-certified Conference Center is the perfect venue for a meeting, trade show or business event. Take advantage of a distraction-free environment, state-of-the-art technology and expert support and service. The Conference Center's new healthy meeting initiative offers guests healthy food options and strategic breaks that positively affect attention and productivity, contributing to a successful session.

» Find out more www.kent.edu/stark/cucc/conference-center

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE IACC-CERTIFIED?

The Kent State University at Stark Conference Center is one of just five IACC-certified conference centers in Ohio. The International Association of Conference Centers (IACC) is a global community delivering innovative and exceptional meeting experiences. The IACC certification is considered "a global badge of honor" that is trusted by meeting planners worldwide. All members conform to a comprehensive global set of criteria and standards in physical meeting room design, food and beverage and service-related standards. - www.iacconline.org

LOOKING BACK

New nurses ready to join medical profession

CLASS MARKS 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF NURSING PROGRAM AT KENT STATE STARK

Leaving her premature daughter in the NICU was devastating for Stephanie Hann.

Worse than the emergency C-section at midnight was the thought of leaving her new baby alone in a hospital. "As I was holding her in the NICU that day, I realized that I had to go home, but she had to stay... How do I leave her?"

Hann will always remember the name of nurse Dolly, who told the heart-broken mother: "I've got this. You can go home, because I've got this for you."

Hann relayed her story to a class of 30 nursing graduates during Kent State University at Stark's Spring 2018 Nursing Convocation on May 10. Hann challenged her fellow graduates to be the type of nurse who is remembered.

Nurse Dolly prompted Hann to study nursing, an intensive bachelor's degree program.

But there's reward in the hard work. Said Eldora Lazaroff, senior lecturer of nursing, "(You will) change the world one patient experience at a time."

That's exactly the hope of Austin Eisenbrei, who was inspired to become a nurse when he was just 14. "There has to be a reason that draws you to caring for others," he said.

Tragedy drew him to the profession. When his sister's baby died from cancer at 7 months old, Eisenbrei said, "Those nurses took care of my whole family. It showed me what nurses really do. It is truly all-encompassing care."

The recent pinning ceremony also marked the 10th anniversary of the Kent State Stark nursing program.

College of Nursing Professor Chrissy Kauth thanked alumni for paving the way. Five nurses from the first graduating class – Lindsay Grace, Amanda Jones, Lauren Mackie, Tori Oyer and Megan Traynor – attended the spring convocation. They agreed the rigorous academic program at Kent State Stark fully prepared them for their careers.

Grace, who works at a local hospital, said she often sees Kent State Stark nursing faculty in the field. "I still see them and look up to them," she said. "They are mentors and role models still to this day."



Gift to the community

FEATURED SPEAKERS SERIES WRAPS UP 27TH YEAR

The Featured Speakers Series finished a successful 27th season, concluding with a four-time Olympic swimming medalist and two distinct voices on the American political scene.

Cal Thomas and Juan Williams openly discussed issues driving America's future and political leadership during their forum April 12 at the Kent State University at Stark Conference Center.

With more than 60 years on the frontlines of American politics, Thomas, a syndicated newspaper columnist, and Williams, a political analyst who launched his journalistic career at The Washington Post, shared their commitment to studying political issues.

On Feb. 27, Olympian Anthony Ervin addressed a crowd of swimming enthusiasts and community members alike. Ervin, who claimed gold and the title of fastest person on the planet in 2000 in the 50m freestyle, won in the same race 16 years later at age 35.

"The world is never just sunshine... eventually something is going to come that will push you," said Ervin. "Get yourself up and get yourself moving forward."

Considered Kent State Stark's gift to the community, the Featured Speakers Series is free and open to the public.

For more information on the 28th season, see page 21 or visit www.kent.edu/stark/featured-speakers-series





▶ Elena Frye (left) and Mason Shuman (middle) receive teaching awards from Dean Denise Seachrist, Ph.D. (right)

Foreign language instructors, Mason Shuman and Elena Frye, receive teaching awards

MOVING COMMUNITY FORWARD BY INTRODUCING STUDENTS TO THE WORLD

Success for foreign language instructors Mason Shuman and Elena Frye may not always be an “A” on a student’s transcript. The real win is when students begin to understand how learning a foreign language can broaden their worldview.

Shuman, an associate lecturer of Spanish, was awarded the 2017-18 Distinguished Teaching Award. Frye, who teaches German, received the Award of Distinction, presented to adjunct faculty.

A native of Ohio, Shuman learned to speak Spanish in the classroom, and he made it his No. 1 goal to become better at teaching. He is currently working on his master’s degree in educational psychology with an objective of understanding how to teach all types of learners.

While learning Spanish came easy for Shuman, who has bachelor’s and master’s degrees in Spanish literature, he recognizes mastering a foreign language is not easy for everyone.

Hailing from the Republic of Macedonia, Frye speaks seven languages, but felt a special call to German.

“I would always dream of going there and speaking German with my grandmother and her friends,” said Frye, who carries that sense of wonder into the classroom.

Teaching a foreign language is about more than sentence structure, she added. “It is promoting to students the awareness of the language, the culture and customs in the world.”

10th annual Earth Day Celebration draws large crowd

GOAL TO INSPIRE ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY

Kent State University at Stark commemorated Earth Day with its 10th annual community celebration geared to inspire environmental responsibility and to foster appreciation for our planet’s natural resources.

The Earth Day Celebration drew a large crowd throughout the sunny April afternoon filled with free educational activities, entertainment, demonstrations and discussions for all ages. Family favorites included a nature walk led by Biology Professor Robert Hamilton, Ph.D., a children’s area with face painting, mock fossil digs, crafts and more.

Newly established as a low-waste event, the campus encouraged exhibitors to lessen the amount of waste generated during the annual observance.



'Ever-present resource'

PLAY BASED ON SANDY HOOK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SHOOTING, PANEL DISCUSSIONS FACILITATE CONVERSATION ABOUT GUN VIOLENCE

Kent State University at Stark Theatre held in April its final production of the academic year, “26 Pebbles”. The docudrama by Playwright Eric Ulloa incorporated verbatim interview excerpts from Newtown, Connecticut, residents recounting the 2012 Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting.

As his final play before retirement, Associate Professor of Theatre and Theatre Director Brian Newberg said “26 Pebbles” was among his most important works. The theatre department teamed up with Counseling Services to provide mental health resources and facilitate panel discussions in conjunction with the theatrical production.

“As Stark County’s public university, we take seriously our responsibility to not only educate the community, but to be an ever-present resource,” said Denise Seachrist, Ph.D., dean and chief administrative officer. “As community leaders, we are here to provide support wherever – and whenever – we can.”



GRANTS EARNED THROUGH JUNE 15, 2018

GRANT SPOTLIGHT

100,000 Strong in the Americas Innovation Fund Grant to support new study abroad and training opportunities

\$25,000

Harnessing the power of education to prompt peacebuilding efforts.

That's the goal of a new, \$25,000 Innovation Fund Grant between Kent State University at Stark and Universidad del Rosario in Colombia. The funding will enable students to engage in experiential learning in peace-education abroad.

Kent State Stark students will have the opportunity to take a semester-long, three credit-hour course to learn about the peace process and ongoing challenges in Colombia. Then, they will travel to Colombia to work directly with Universidad del Rosario students on fieldwork and other activities to facilitate dialogue about peacebuilding.



Schmidt

Sarah Schmidt, outreach program coordinator of Global Education Initiatives, said the grant gets at the heart of global education.

"Education is a powerful force for peace in our world and global education has incredible potential to increase cross-cultural understanding," she said. "This is at the foundation of what we strive to do in the Office of Global Education Initiatives.

"With this award, we are now presented with a fabulous opportunity to develop a collaborative student program on peacebuilding with our partner school in Colombia."

The Peacebuilding in Colombia Collaborative includes the Stark Campus, the Department of Peace and Conflicts Studies, the Kent State University Office of Global Education and Universidad del Rosario, all working together to create a meaningful opportunity to spread peace and understanding across campuses, departments and borders.

Learn more about the Innovation Network at www.100kstrongamericas.org



Greenspace Initiative: Plants through the Ages

\$10,000

Plants are often overlooked, yet each tell an undeniable story

about how the Earth's surface has changed and how it will continue to change, said Carrie Schweitzer, Ph.D., professor of geology. That is one reason why Schweitzer is working to create a garden that shows plants' evolution through the years.

"The idea is to show how plants have changed over time," said Schweitzer, who has received a \$10,000 Dominion Energy Charitable Foundation Environmental Education and Stewardship Grant for the garden.

"It is easier to understand a concept when you are actually looking at it," she explained. "We are going to arrange the garden by time, so students will very easily be able to see how plants have evolved. Everyone knows the dinosaurs, but they don't always think about plants."

Jenna Shinsky, a geology major from Perry Township, will complete signage for the project. Sustainability always has interested her, but it wasn't until she took

one of Schweitzer's courses that she considered delving into the subject. Now, an undergraduate research assistant, Shinsky said she's discovering purpose in plants.

"It's great to be a part of a project like this one, which shows the human impact on the environment, and those changes are really important," said Shinsky.

Schweitzer said the garden, with donated plants from Tennessee-based TN Nursery, fits nicely in the growing outdoor classroom on campus, including the Pond and Wetlands Research Area, the community garden project, planned greenhouse and more.

The developing outdoor space supports community education, as well as outreach to local elementary, middle and high schools, which visit the public campus grounds and benefit from data collected there. Student research at the collegiate level is accessible to school-age children, faculty and staff and community members. The "Plants through the Ages" garden project will be a highlight of longstanding community events on campus, including Earth Day 2019.

GRANTS BY THE NUMBERS

<< 2013-14 >>

\$1,210,160

<< 2014-15 >>

\$724,109

THE VALUE OF FINANCIAL PARTNERSHIPS

Kent State University at Stark has received \$1.5 million in grants over the past two years alone. For Theresa Ford, senior grants administrator, her work is about the “power of partnership and the innovation we bring to the Stark County community. The campus and the community are why I do what I do. Whether we receive the grant or not, the projects are all important,” she said. Some notable grants breaking new ground include:

\$260,928 from the National Institutes of Health, National Institute of Mental Health. Anthony Sterns, Ph.D., and Joel Hughes, Ph.D., “Improving Outcomes with a Novel Tardive Dyskinesia Detection System”.



Cunningham

\$10,000 from the National Council of Teachers of English, Conference on College Composition and Communication. Jennifer Cunningham, Ph.D., received the

Emergent Researcher Award for “Cross-Institutional Study of Communities of Inquiry (CoI) in Blended and Online Composition Courses,” in collaboration with the University of Maryland, Indiana University of Pennsylvania and the University of Utah.

\$2,000 from the Portage Foundation. Claudia Gomez, Ph.D., Deepraj Mukherjee, Ph.D., and Lucas Engelhardt, Ph.D., “The role of agglomeration economies and social capital in economic development through entrepreneurial activity: The case of the small downtown redevelopment”.



Zourrig

\$9,000 from the Kent State University Teaching Council. Haithem Zourrig, Ph.D., and Deepraj Mukherjee, Ph.D., for a Summer Teaching Development Grant, “Simulation for Entrepreneurship and Business Students”.



Mukherjee



\$1,000 from the Kent State University Teaching Council. Chris Post, Ph.D., for his course, “Campus and Community Garden”.

\$1,000 from the John Paul II Foundation for the Sacred Arts. Mark Nowakowski, DMA, for performance and recording of a new choral work, “Tu Autem, Domine”.

\$500 from Arts Midwest Touring Fund. Adam Larison, DMA, to support Isaac Bustos’ participation in this year’s Kent State Stark Guitar Weekend.

The following professors received \$10,000 grants from the Research Council of Kent State University for 2018 summer research appointments:



Amy Damrow, Ph.D., “Dialogue Among Pre-Service Teachers Across Distance and Difference”. (Damrow also

received a Seed Award of \$4,663 from the College of Education, Health and Human Services.)



Patrick Dillon, Ph.D., “African Americans and End-of-Life Care: Assessing Young Adults’ Perceptions

of Advance Care Planning and Hospice”.



Marie Gasper-Hulvat, Ph.D., “Constructing Myths of Malevich: Artistic Identity during Stalin’s Cultural Revolution”.

“As a community we will lift you” mural project for Summit County Jobs and Family Services building

\$11,000

Jennifer Jones, a MFA graduate student, hopes her new project will instill confidence and a sense of personal pride in at-risk populations.

“It’s all about the inclusion of individuals who do not often get a chance to speak and share, but be heard,” said the Akron resident.

Jones, along with Jack McWhorter, MFA, professor of art, have received a Knight Foundation Arts Challenge Grant of \$11,000 to create a mural, “As a community we will lift you.” The goal of the project is to change the



Jones

institutional space of the former Firestone building in Akron into a sanctuary housing Summit County Jobs and Family Services’ offices.

Jones plans to infuse the mural with personal stories of community members’ experiences, knowledge and oral heritage.

“It could be a family’s story or that of an individual triumphing over an addiction,” she said. “I want it to be a personal story that reflects overcoming.”

Collaborating with McWhorter, Jones intends for the project to give students an opportunity to witness how art can transform a community.

“It was really important to me to make sure the Stark Campus got the opportunity to work on this,” said Jones, who first met McWhorter in a painting class during her undergraduate work at Kent State Stark.

Still, help is needed to raise matching funds for the Knight Foundation Arts Challenge Grant.

To give today, go to: flashes.givetokent.org/campaign/knight-arts-challenge-mural-project/c170706

<< 2015-16 >>

\$979,291

<< 2016-17 >>

\$1,111,294

<< 2017-18 >>

\$419,881*

<< **TOTAL** >>

\$4.4 MILLION
AND COUNTING

Loretta Aller, associate lecturer of nursing, presented a plenary session “Utilizing Simulation to Enhance Critical Thinking and Situational Awareness in BSN” at the 2018 National League for Nursing (NLN)/Boise State University Biennial Simulation Conference in Boise, Idaho, May 17-20, 2018.

P. Bagavandoss, associate professor of biology, presented “Effect of Cannabidiol and Koningic Acid on Ovarian Cancer Cell Proliferation” by student Samantha Brown and presented “G protein-coupled receptor-independent cannabinoid inhibition of ovarian carcinoma cell proliferation is mediated via oxidative stress” by student Bert Crawford at the International Student Congress Of (bio)Medical Sciences (ISCOMS) in Groningen, Netherlands, June 4-8, 2018.

Melissa Bauer, assistant professor of online learning, presented “Synchronous Sessions: Applying Active Learning in an Online Environment” at the 18th Distance Library Services Conference in San Antonio, April 10-13, 2018.

Victor Berardi, associate professor of management and information systems, along with **Donald Thacker**, senior lecturer of marketing, and **Greg Blundell**, associate professor of management and information systems, published “An Evidence-Informed Guided Problem-Based Learning Approach to Teaching Operations Management”; *International Journal of Higher Education Management* (IJHEM), 5(1), August 2018.

Sebastian Birch, associate professor of music, composed “Suite for Flute Quartet” that was selected and performed by the Greater Cleveland Flute Society at Judson Manor, University Circle, Cleveland, April 22, 2018.

Katrina Bloch, associate professor of sociology, presented along with ***Quintin W.O. Myers** and ****Tiffany Taylor**, “Navigating Contradictions of Victim/Hero Virtual Selves: Nativist Groups and Donald Trump” at the Southern Sociological Society’s annual meeting: Racial Theory, Analysis, and Politics in Trump America in New Orleans, April 4-8, 2018.
 (* indicates graduate student)
 (**indicates Kent State University associate professor)

Daniel Castañeda, associate professor of Spanish, presented “The Use of Task-Based Activities to Develop Cultural Awareness and Speaking Skills in Spanish” at the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese in Salamanca, Spain, June 25-28, 2018.
 » Presented “CALL Journal Reviewers’ panel” at the XIX International CALL Research Conference in Bruges, Belgium, July 3-9, 2018.

Jen Cunningham, associate professor of English, presented “Research on Language, Learning and Pedagogy” at the Conference on College Composition and Communication (CCCC) in Kansas City, Missouri, March 16-18, 2018.

Clarke Earley, associate professor of chemistry, presented “HAPPEE - Rapid estimation of atomic charges for the first 96 elements” at the 255th American Chemical Society’s national meeting in New Orleans, March 17-22, 2018.

Kim Finer, professor of biological sciences, presented “Informational Chat: Committee on the Status of Women in Microbiology” at ASM Microbe 2018 in Atlanta, June 7-11, 2018.

Erin Hollenbaugh, associate professor of communication studies, published “A uses and gratifications approach to exploring antecedents to Facebook dependency”; *Journal of Broadcasting & Electronic Media*, 2018.

G. Hovhannisyan, professor of mathematics, along with **Oliver Ruff**, associate professor of mathematics, published “Higher dimensional Darboux transformations”; *Journal of Mathematical Analysis and Applications*, 464, 776-805, 2018.

» Published “Schwarzian derivative and Ermakov equation on a time scale”; *Journal of Mathematical Physics*, 2018.

Marie Gasper-Hulvat, assistant professor of art, presented “Guerrilla Girls in Our Midst: 1984-1987” at the Reacting to the Past Annual Institute Conference in New York City, June 13-17, 2018.

» Presented “Headscarves and the New Soviet Woman” at the Space Between Society Conference in Greeley, Colorado, June 6-9, 2018.

Jessica Jones, professor of English, presented “Montana Indian Education” at the Worlds Apart but Not Strangers: Holocaust Education and Indian Education for All Conference in Billings, Crow Agency & the Crow Indian Reservation, Montana, June 6-24, 2018.

» Presented “Bright Bones: Contemporary Montana Writing” at the Bright Bones Book Publication reception in Bozeman, Montana & Butte, Montana, June 6-24, 2018.

» Published two poems: “Ghosts” and “New Girl”, in the book *Bright Bones: An Anthology of Montana Poetry*, Open Country Press, 2018.

A. Bathi Kasturiarachi, associate professor of mathematics, presented “Ensuring the Success of College Credit Plus using Technology” at the 30th International Conference on Technology in Collegiate Mathematics (ICTCM), Washington, D.C., March 15-18, 2018.

Eldora Lazaroff, lecturer of nursing, presented “Implications of Postnatal Depression Screening” at the Midwest Nursing Research Society 42nd annual conference in Cleveland, April 14, 2018.

Ran Li, associate professor of physics, presented “Using Tikhonov Regularization Method to Solve the Hamiltonian in an Inverse Problem for a Quantum Spin System” at the American Physical Society in Los Angeles, March 4-8, 2018.

Keith Lloyd, associate professor of English, presented “Border - Bridging Rhetoric based in Ancient Indian Practices” at The International Association for Intercultural Communication Studies (IAICS) in Chicago, July 4-9, 2018.

Robert Miltner, professor of English, presented “The Moth and the Cork in Raymond Carver’s Errand” at the French Association of American Studies Conference at the University of Nice in Nice, France, May 21 -June 2, 2018.

» Published the poems “Quebec Express”, “Stand of Snakes” and “What We Were” in *Full Bleed 2*, 2018.

» Published the poem “Studio Session [Sound Check]” in *Pacific Review: A West Coast Arts Review Annual: Errant Mythologies Issue*, 169, 2018.

» Published the poem “Narcissus: The Day I Drowned” and was a finalist for the Locked Horn Publication Prize in *Read Water Anthology*, Locked Horn Press, 49, 2018.

» Published a work of creative nonfiction, “Narrow Roads North: Nine Haibun” in *Eastern Iowa Review 6*, 2018.

» Published a book review of *Solitary Spin* by Barbara Sabol in *Glass: A Journal of Poetry*, May 2018.

Ann Martinez, assistant professor of English, presented “The Outlaw King: A Hero for the Age in King Arthur, Legend of the Sword” at the ICMS (International Congress on Medieval Studies) Conference in Kalamazoo, Michigan, May 10-13, 2018.

Jack McWhorter, professor of art, invited to Group Painting Exhibition, “All Art+”, Van Der Plas Gallery, New York City, curated by Adrian Van Der Plas, June 18-July 23, 2018.

» Invited Group Painting Exhibition, “Annual Great Lakes Regional Exhibition” Wayne State University, Art Department Gallery, curated by Avanti Herczeg, Detroit, June 29 -July 20, 2018.

» National Juried Exhibition, “Color 2018” Brooklyn Water Front Gallery, curated by Marcela Guerrero, Brooklyn, New York, July 28 – Aug. 19, 2018.

» Curated Painting Exhibition, “Chain Reactions: Artists Select Artists”, The Painting Center, curated by Jack McWhorter, Patty Spergel & Shazzi Thomas, New York City, July 19 – Aug. 9, 2018.

Deepraj Mukherjee, associate professor of economics, presented “One Belt One Road: The Purpose, Goals, and Challenges” at the Seventh International Conference on Business and Economic Development (ICBED) in New York City, April 9-10, 2018.

» Presented “The Role Of Agglomeration And Social Capital In Local Economic Development – The Small Town As The Solution To The Duality Of Global Competitiveness And Urbanization” at the Academy of International Business (AIB) in Chicago, April 18-20.

Andrea Myers, assistant professor of art, presented “My Hands are (Un)Tied: Craft in an Anxiety Age” at the College Art Association Conference in Los Angeles, Feb. 21–24, 2018.

Stephen Neaderhiser, assistant professor of English, presented “Peer Review as an Exercise in Invention” at the Conference on College Composition & Communication in Kansas City, Missouri, March 14-17, 2018.

Mark Nowakowski, assistant professor of music, performed the world premiere of “Tu Autem, Domine” and the regional premiere of “O Piekności Niestworzona” at West Pomeranian University of Technology in Szczecin, Poland, March 22-27, 2018.

Chris Post, associate professor of geography, presented “Memory Work and the Dispossession of American Indians in Kansas” at the American Association of Geographers’ annual meeting in New Orleans, April 9-14, 2018.

» Published along with Mark Rhodes, Kent State University Ph.D. candidate, “Lyrical Geographies and the Topography of Social Resistance in Popular Music in the United States.” in *The Changing World Language Map*, S. Brunn (ed.), New York: Springer, 2018.

» Published “Making Place through the Memorial Landscape.” Chapter 5 in *Explorations in Place Attachment*, ed. Jeffrey S. Smith. p. 83-96. Routledge, 2018.

» Presented “How We Remember May 4, 1970” at the Kent State University Alumni Association Faculty Lecture Series in Kent, March 10, 2018.

» Presented “North Canton Turns 100: How New Berlin Changed its Name and Globalized its Identity” at the North Canton Heritage Society’s annual meeting, March 20, 2018.

Emily Ribnik, clinical mental health counselor, presented “Supervision after Major Unusual Incidents at College Campuses” at the American College Counseling Association National Conference in Charlotte, North Carolina, Feb. 22-25, 2018.

» Presented “Getting the Most Out of Supervision” at the Youngstown State University’s Student Affairs Summit in Youngstown, April 6, 2018.

» Presented “The Ethics of Burnout” at the Kent State University’s Supervision Symposium in Kent, April 13, 2018.

Mary Rooks, assistant professor of English, presented “Unnatural, Ungodly, Unmanly: On Raillery and Ridicule in the Eighteenth Century” at South-Central Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies in Oxford, Mississippi, Feb. 23-24, 2018.

Oliver Ruff, assistant professor of mathematics, presented “Young Diagrams And Solitons On A Time Scale” at the American Mathematical Society Spring Western Sectional Meeting in Portland, Oregon, April 14-15, 2018.

Paula Sato, assistant professor of French, published “Wifredo Lam’s Trans-Cultural Imagination”; *Writings on Caribbean History, Literature, Art and Culture: One Love*, ed. Irlene François, Cambridge Scholars Publishing, January 2018.

» Presented paper “Wifredo Lam’s Trans-Cultural Imagination” at the Caribbean Studies Association in Havana, Cuba, June 2018.

Carrie Schweitzer, professor of geology, selected as a fellow of the Paleontological Society, June 2018.

Jim Seelye, associate professor of history, presented “Constructing the Savage” at the Prejudice and Expertise Conference at the University of Warwick in Coventry, United Kingdom, March 20-27, 2018.

Donald Thacker, associate lecturer of marketing, advised individual selling competitors at the National Collegiate Sales Competition in Kennesaw, Georgia, April 3-6, 2018.

Eric Vaughn, lecturer of music, presented “From the Garage to the Classroom: Guitar Pedagogy in the Real World” at the Ohio Music Education Association Professional Development Conference in Columbus, Feb. 9-10, 2018.

Relja Vulcanovic, professor of mathematics, published “Optimal uniform-convergence results for convection-diffusion problems in one dimension using preconditioning”; *Journal of Computational and Applied Mathematics*, Volume 338, Elsevier, 227-238, August 2018.

» Presented “Grammar Efficiency and the One-Meaning–One-Form Principle” at QUALICO 2018 in Wroclaw, Poland, July 5-8, 2018.

Paul Wells, enrollment management & student services advisor, presented “Cultivating Relationships with Community College Feeder Institutions” at the Ohio Transfer Conference at Ohio Wesleyan University in Delaware, Ohio, June 8, 2018.

» Graduate of the Kent State University Institute for Excellence on May 23, 2018.

Haithem Zourrig, assistant professor of marketing, published “The effect of cultural tightness-looseness on fraud perception in insurance services”; *International Journal of Quality and Service Sciences*, 2018.

» Presented “A value-based pricing simulation game for entrepreneurship and business students” and received the Teaching Innovation Award at the Association of Collegiate Marketing Educators (ACME) conference, in Albuquerque, New Mexico, March 7-10, 2018. Also, presented at the ACME conference “Changes in Refugees’ Consumption Patterns and Well-Being: A Theoretical Framework and Implications for Service Providers” and received a Best Paper Award in the “Global and Cross-Cultural Marketing” track.

» Presented “Consumer Susceptibility to Fake Online Reviews: Information Manipulation Theory Perspective” at the American Society of Business and Behavioral Sciences (ASBBS) conference in Las Vegas, March 15-18, 2018.

» Presented “An exploratory study into the occurrence of emotional contagion after a service failure among Twitter users who are unfamiliar with each other” at the SERVSIG 2018 Opportunities for Services in a Challenging World in Paris, France, June 14-16, 2018.

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North Canton, OH 44720



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