

Statement THE MAGAZINE FOR FREDONIA ALUMNI AND FRIENDS



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SUNY-wide award...Partnering with

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Fredonia alumni

BACK COVER













Admissions News

SUNY Fredonia will continue to offer in-person individual and group visits this fall, adhering to all the recommended safety protocols according to SUNY. Any visitor unable to attend an in-person visit has the opportunity to schedule a one-on-one virtual appointment to receive the personal attention our Admissions office specializes in. Please visit fredonia.edu/visit for the most up-to-date information.



Alumni and Campus Events Calendar

Please note: It is anticipated that virtual events and eventually, in-person events, will be added as the year progresses. In-person events scheduled are subject to change pending health and safety regulations. Please check events.fredonia.edu/alumni for updates.

OCTOBER

Freedonia Marxonia

Annual Marx Brothers Festival "There's Nothing Like Liberty: The Marx Brothers and America" Friday, Oct. 1

Author and performer Noah Diamond will present his lecture as a free online event (see story on page 29).

Robert W. Kasling Memorial Lecture

by Dr. Natasha Farny

"Stepping off the Pedestal: The Metamorphosis from Feminine Muse to Woman Composer" Tuesday, Oct. 5, 2 p.m.

Also to be recognized will be William T. and Charlotte Hagan Young Scholar/Artist Award recipients Drs. Jill Reese and Nick Weiser. Rosch Recital Hall Reception following

President's Award Luncheon

Wednesday, Oct. 13 Campus

Classes of 1970 and 1971 Fifty Year Reunion

Thursday – Sunday, Oct. 14-17 In conjunction with Homecoming Weekend

Homecoming Weekend

Thursday – Sunday, Oct. 14–17 See page 14 for details.

Family Weekend

Friday – Sunday, Oct. 22–24 Campus

NOVEMBER

Annual Alumni Board of Directors Meeting

Thursday, Nov. 11, 4 p.m. Alumni House

Thanksgiving Break

Monday, Nov. 22, through Sunday, Nov. 28

DECEMBER

President's Award for Excellence

presentation by Dr. Ann Siegle Drege Wednesday, Dec. 1, 2 p.m. Rosch Recital Hall, Mason Hall Reception following

Final Exams

Exams will be completed by Friday, Dec. 17



Dear Alumni and Friends,

I am starting my second year as President of this incredible university filled with hope and optimism as we return the State University of New York at Fredonia to the exciting, vibrant setting you remember, while continuing to keep up our guard against a pandemic that is not yet over.

The pandemic has changed our world, and we must adapt accordingly. Fredonia has created new programs to reflect growing professional demands while exploring other opportunities to keep the academic array relevant and ensure continued academic success for our students. We highlight one such program, the Advanced Certificate in Educational Leadership, in this issue of the *Statement*.

Fredonia's academic success was on display this spring when the Class of 2021 and the Class of 2020 took part in a hybrid-type Commencement ceremony. Congratulations to our graduates! I am so proud of them for persevering through a pandemic to complete their college degree. You can read how the university honored the Class of 2021 inside this publication.

This issue also includes the story of a Fredonia student who is staying and investing in the community through a new business, and the story of a School of Music alumnus who has entertained the world each night on his Facebook page.

We are also very excited to share the tentative Homecoming schedule. It will be so inspiring to see Fredonia alumni back on campus Oct. 14–17. Please mark your calendars and make your plans to join us!

Very truly yours,

Dr. K. Stephen H. Kolison Jr., Ph.D. President

Statement

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Commencement stage walks endure

By Roger Coda



2021 graduates savor in-person experience

It was staged in a different venue without packed crowds that the coronavirus eliminated from in-person events everywhere, but that didn't deter Fredonia from creating a memorable in-person Commencement experience to celebrate the achievements of members of the Class of 2021.

Students completing undergraduate and graduate degree programs were given the opportunity to experience the "walk"— in this case crossing the stage in the more intimate King Concert Hall decorated with balloons and flowers—much like they would have done on a raised platform in the cavernous Steele Hall Fieldhouse, site of Commencement for decades. The ceremonial walks were held over nearly 20 hours across four days.

Key principals of Fredonia Commencements recognized these soon-to-be-minted graduates. President Stephen H. Kolison Jr., in his first year at Fredonia, acknowledged each graduate and engaged in the ubiquitous elbow bump that's supplanted traditional handshakes.

Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Kevin Kearns, Vice President for Enrollment and Student Services Cedric Howard, Interim Vice President for University Advancement Betty Gossett and Vice President for Finance and Administration Michael Metzger placed diploma covers into the hands of students on alternating days. Distinguished Service Professor Jack Croxton and Associate Provost Judith Horowitz shared name reader duties.

"I think it went well; the feedback that we received was very positive. The student excitement was a reflection of how well it was received," reported Commencement Committee Co-chair Denise Szalkowski.

Kolison congratulates his first set of Fredonia grads

Ms. Szalkowski, who has served on the Commencement Committee since being appointed assistant to the president 19 years ago, applauded Kolison for arranging to be a part of nearly 450 individual stage walks. "He was there for over 19 hours total, recognizing every student who participated in a stage walk; he bumped elbows, congratulated each one of them and was photographed with them," Szalkowski said.

"Being his first Commencement, it was a real honor for him to be able to personally congratulate every student who walked the stage in King," said Szalkowski, who co-chaired the committee with Raleigh Hawk.

A grand total of 443 students—410 undergraduates and 33 graduate students attired in the traditional cap and gown—were welcomed by greeters who outlined the Commencement protocol, while "Pomp and Circumstance" played softly in the background.

What's noteworthy with this year's program, compared to ceremonies of the past, was the amount of time a graduate is the center of attention, according to Szalkowski. "Each student had more time to walk across the stage, to be formally recognized and photographed," she said. "It was more personal, a little bit more intimate."

Message boards containing photographs and greetings or congratulations from family members were placed along the first two rows of balcony seats, so they could be viewed by students as they walked to the stage.

All ceremonial walks were recorded by the Department of Marketing and Communications, led by Jeff Woodard. James Gibbons, the department's videographer/editor, employed his talent to ensure professionally recorded walks of the highest quality that became part of a Commencement video released on the Fredonia website on May 15.

Island Photography was on duty to photograph each graduate with Kolison on stage and take individual formal portraits.

"The goal of the Commencement Committee was to honor this year's class and to try to find a way to get some sort of in-person recognition while still following COVID safety guidelines," said Mr. Hawk, the acting ticketing and customer service manager at Rockefeller Arts Center. "We didn't know what 2021 was going to bring, but the thought of doing an in-person stage walk really started in November [2020], when [COVID infection rates] were starting to spike."

Coordinating all stage walk elements was definitely challenging, Hawk acknowledged, "but I'm so happy to see the enthusiastic responses from those who participated. I had quite a few students that told me how excited they were to have some sort of in-person recognition, and I'm so glad that it was received positively."

In fact, numerous students reached out to Hawk to personally thank him and

(continued)

his staff for providing the experience of walking across the stage, he said.

Szalkowski attributes the success of the event to the good work of the Commencement Committee, several volunteers and Eric Hadley, operations manager and technical director of Rockefeller Arts Center. Many of the 15 volunteers who assisted were drawn from Enrollment and Student Services. Academic Affairs and Alumni Affairs.

"It was the Commencement Committee members and volunteers who made the walks extra special for Fredonia graduates. Even an emeritus member



returned to campus to volunteer her time. From what I could tell, the volunteers and committee members enjoyed their time at those walks as much as the graduates," Szalkowski said.

'Everyone was so upbeat'

"I've had students tell me they felt energy from the volunteers that really elevated their experience, and that everyone was so upbeat and excited about sharing the day with the students," Hawk remarked. Students arriving in small groups gathered in the first few rows to cheer their friends during their stage walks.

"Nobody was sitting at any time when someone was walking across the stage; they were cheering as loudly as they could because this was the student's special moment," Hawk explained. "Even if we did not have a full hall of spectators we wanted the students to know that the committee really applauds their accomplishments!"

"Personally, for me, it was great to see students that I have worked with in the ticket office walk across that stage," Hawk reflected.

The Commencement Committee began serious discussions to develop ideas for some kind of ceremony near the end of 2020, but a subsequent uptick in positive COVID-19 cases forced the committee to pull back on those plans, Szalkowski recalled, severely diminishing hopes for a traditional commencement. The arrival of coronavirus vaccines and lower positivity rates ultimately made it feasible to develop a stage walk proposal, with a limited number of students at any given time and other safety guidelines in place.

To participate, resident students had to undergo weekly surveillance pool testing, while those attending classes remotely had to submit a negative PCR test result. The number of students

and Nicole Cullen, are introduced.

Submitted photographs of students who did not participate in the Commencement walk have been placed within the stage walk segment in the video.

The message boards, created by Marketing and Communications staff, featured congratulatory wishes from family members and photographs of the graduate taken in happy times or at family events.

During the design/layout process, communications designer Erin Ehman said she was overwhelmed by the



gathering at one time was limited, and, of course, everyone wore facial masks.

Video preserves the graduation experience

Graduates and their family members can relive these special moments in the Commencement video, created by Mr. Gibbons, that includes many traditional elements of a Fredonia graduation that were largely recorded at various campus locations during the spring semester.

In the nearly 2:50 video, Kolison offers his first remarks to a Fredonia graduating class. Dr. Thomas Quatroche, president and CEO of Erie County Medical Center and a Fredonia alumnus, delivers the keynote address. Dr. Kearns is the emcee.

Senior Class President Lylens Lubin delivers a speech to his fellow classmates. Opening reflections are offered by Bradley Brown and Thomas Sheffield, while closing reflections are given by Benjamin Farley and Braelin Scott.

"The Star-Spangled Banner" is sung by Grace Mingoea, accompanied by pianist William Rich. Faculty Marshals Christine Givner, Ted Schwalbe and Melinda Wendell, along with mace bearer SUNY Distinguished Service Professor H. Joseph Straight and student marshals Carol Loja

sentiment behind the content that family members submitted for the messages. "Inside jokes, words of wisdom, sincere congratulations and best wishes for the future had me teary-eyed while reading them," Ms. Ehman shared. "Creating the message boards to help parents be a part of Commencement, and the graduates feeling the presence of their loved ones, brought me great joy."

A print copy of the official Commencement program was mailed to every araduate.

"We missed the families, the School of Music, having everybody in one space, but considering the challenges that we were facing at the time, for the safety of our students and staff, this was the best alternative that we could offer," Szalkowski noted, "but we look forward to holding a traditional ceremony going forward for future classes."

Members of the Class of 2020 were offered the opportunity for a stage walk in early June 2021, with a number of students participating and being congratulated by President Kolison. These graduates also received a Commencement 2020 gift box earlier in the year which was specifically created for them by the university (see related story on page 22).















Marketing student takes fast track to open Fredonia bike shop



Fredonia President Stephen H. Kolison Jr. checks out an electric bike with Fredonia Cycling owner Lucas Natali.

Nobody can suggest bicycle enthusiast Lucas Natali was "coasting" in the final lap in his educational journey at Fredonia.

Instead, the Buffalo native picked up the pace in the spring, opening a muchneeded bicycle shop in Fredonia and helping to organize the inaugural Central Connection Bicycle Ride that was a rousing success, while staying on track to complete coursework for a B.S. in Business Administration: Marketing.

"SUNY Fredonia planted the foundation for me to turn my passion for cycling into a business opportunity for [the village of] Fredonia," said Mr. Natali, who brought seven years of bicycle technician experience in Buffalo to his shop. He planned to open Fredonia Cycling after graduation, but was motivated and prepared to advance the date.

A Business capstone course, taught by Associate Professor Susan McNamara, was a major influence in launching Fredonia Cycling. In the hands-on course, students on mock teams create businesses and deal with real-world challenges. His team, not coincidentally, focused on opening Healthy Pedals, a bike shop that also sold healthy smoothies.

"I wanted to open a bike shop, so I said, 'why not do this.' Everyone liked the idea, so we stuck with it and branched off from there," Natali recalled. In fact, the designated location for Healthy Pedals was around the corner from 8 Park Place, where Fredonia Cycling opened its doors.

"We took on situations in the class that would mimic the real world," Natali explained, addressing operations and supply chains, among other matters. His team earned the most points in the class, so it's no surprise Natali says he would also carry healthy smoothies if his shop had enough room.

Natali also took an upper-level accounting course, taught by Associate Professor Lei Huang, that provides the opportunity for students to correspond with businesses and apply the strategic marketing process to practical business situations and not-for-profit organizations.

It didn't take long for Fredonia

President Stephen H. Kolison Jr., who remembers bicycles as the primary means of student transportation when he was in graduate school, to meet Natali, initially at an Ultimate Frisbee event last spring.

"When he told me that he had opened a store in the area, that piqued my interest," President Kolison explained. He was impressed with Natali's entrepreneurial experience and decision to locate a new business in Fredonia, where it can provide a valuable service and have an economic impact, instead of elsewhere.

Kolison checked out Natali's shop, learning about hybrid bikes, which are either pedal- or battery-powered, and fully electric bikes, and other services. "I said I liked that one," Kolison said, pointing to an electric Biria bike, "and asked if he maybe could get that in the Fredonia colors of blue and white," he said.

"It is quite impressive for all of us to see the impact that he is having on the community, setting up a business, benefitting the village," Kolison added.

Fredonia Cycling specializes in vintage

bikes and restoration work and carries new bikes such as Biria bikes, commuters and road bikes.

"I could tell, talking to the local cycling community, that Fredonia needed a bike shop," Natali explained. "The closest bike shop is 45 to 50 miles away, in Buffalo or in Jamestown."

Fredonia Cycling's primary demographic is 25-to-45-year-olds, though that could change when Fredonia's fall semester opens. Business—particularly labor-intensive repair work—has been very good.

Natali employs two technicians who do "the grunt work, cleaning and running cables," as Natali once did, while Natali does fine tuning and touches every bike that comes into the shop. "I'm looking forward to them growing with the shop, becoming great bike technicians."

Natali said he wouldn't have been in the position to open a business without core subjects and related School of Businesses courses. "And I think because I had to take classes outside of my major in marketing—accounting and economics—those courses gave me more of an understanding of how other parts of businesses work."



Collingwood endowment supports and celebrates campus diversity



With SUNY Fredonia's bicentennial (1826–2026) ground the corner, there will be plenty to celebrate, including a robust and diversified faculty and student body. Fredonia's students bring their own uniqueness to campus from their homes in Chautauqua County, New York state and beyond.

Through the establishment of the Collingwood Diversity Endowment fund, perpetual support is now provided to enhance and elevate awareness, and create sustainability of programs that seek to promote education, advocacy and outreach for underrepresented individuals. In consultation with the Diversity, Equity, and the Inclusion Advisory Council, Fredonia's Chief Diversity Officer is responsible for the selection and distribution of allocations from the Collingwood Diversity Endowment.

Diversity outreach projects such as the Cultural Competency Institute and Diversity Dialogues aim to create a campus community that displays respect towards individuals and groups with diverse identities in ways that enhance a connection with one another. Panel discussions occurred this past year with students and the campus community to discuss recent national incidents of racial and social injustices, and the impact on our campus, as well as celebrate the diversity present at Fredonia.

Although the Collingwood Diversity Endowment has touched and impacted the lives of so many students, faculty, and staff, the alumnus benefactor to the fund continued to grow his vision for acceptance and understanding.

The Collingwood Distinguished Lecture for Diversity was established as an annual lecture series sponsored by the Fredonia Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Council. The donor developed the Collingwood Distinguished Lecture for Diversity in an effort to promote leadership, education, advocacy and outreach for underrepresented groups or issues in society. The fund will also be instrumental in creating a sustainable

revenue stream that will assist in supporting a holistic integration of diversity, as a whole, into the academic culture.

In September 2020, the inaugural lecture was delivered and accessed by hundreds of viewers via Zoom, and live streamed on Panopto. "The Future of Inclusion: Innovating in a Post-COVID World," was presented by Tiq Milan, an advocate in the LGBT community for over 10 years. Milan shared stories of his journey of becoming a man and what he's learned about the masculine experience and binary gender. The lecture had a far reach and was offered for free viewing throughout the SUNY system within the state of New York.

The lecture fund hosted a second lecture in April, by Crystal Williams, a writer, advocate and advisor, "Charting Your Path and Deploying Your Talents in Service to Others.'

Professor Williams is vice president and associate provost for Community Inclusion and professor of English at Boston University. She has additional roles in the university's Arts Initiative, Organizational Development and Learning, and Living and Learning

"Unfortunately, it seems that more and more frequently we are being faced with events that challenge our sense of self and community," said Interim Chief Diversity Officer Saundra Liggins. "Williams' background—as both a poet and a diversity leader within higher education—makes her a unique voice to address the Fredonia and wider community, especially at this time in our country."

In addition to the lectures, both guests held discussions with students and faculty members.

The Collingwood Diversity Endowment fund and the Collingwood Distinguished Lecture for Diversity Endowment were established through the Fredonia College Foundation.



Fredonia graduate elevates worldwide audience with daily Facebook piano concerts

Amid the ongoing coronavirus pandemic, Gershon Wachtel—whose music career spans six decades—is still connecting with music lovers everywhere. The 1972 Fredonia graduate is no longer on the road, but he's bonding with audiences from his home in Israel through daily Facebook Live concerts.

As a lark, Mr. Wachtel decided to put "something" up on Facebook in March 2020, when his live performances—and those of musicians everywhere—were shelved by COVID-19. Wachtel had moved to Israel a few years earlier with his wife, Chaya, with aspirations to become the leading pianist in the country, which landed him a two-year gig as the nightly pianist at the acclaimed Waldorf Astoria in Jerusalem.

His Facebook concerts were an immediate success, so Wachtel decided to give hour-long concerts on his Steinway concert grand five nights a week and Friday afternoons, usually attired in a suit or tuxedo. What began as a modest audience of 40 to 50 peaked around 650 viewers during the height of the pandemic, when music was sorely needed. With more people returning to work, average viewership stands around 150. When the *Statement* magazine is distributed in September, Wachtel is expected to have given over 400 concerts in a row.

"I really can't explain it," Wachtel says of the concerts' increasing popularity, "except to tell you that I play everything with all my heart and people's hearts hear it and we are connected. I have said that I feel like I am entering an elevator and going higher and higher. When I am 'up there,' it is a wonderful world that I am in, and the audience joins me there. I don't want to leave that special place."

Despite the wide span of time zones, a core of 50 are onboard for every concert. "They set their alarm clocks to wake them in the middle of the night to hear my music and feel the vibes I send them," Wachtel reports. They proudly refer to themselves as "Gershonites," and hail from around the world—from the United States, Singapore, Japan, Finland, Brazil and Germany, among many countries.

"Piano has been my life, my entire life," said Wachtel, who went by the first name Gary at Fredonia. He's played professionally for over 60 years, in virtually every possible type of venue or event, so he's "pretty sure that people will like what I do."

Many musicians are totally into the music they play and the audience sees that, Wachtel explains. "However, is the audience into it as well or are they just into watching someone who is into it? My goal when I play is that the audience should feel exactly how I feel and feel that they are riding on the elevator with me."

One viewer praised Wachtel for his "boundless energy and joy when he plays, which is contagious." Another review celebrated his "brilliant style and marvelous performances coupled with great showmanship." Others described him as an amazing pianist and absolutely breathtaking.

"I really can't explain it except to tell you that I play everything with all my heart and people's hearts hear it and we are connected."

- Gershon Wachtel, '72

"This work has become the pinnacle, of my musical career, without a doubt," Wachtel said.

Transitioning to Facebook performances is the latest pivot that Wachtel has made in a distinguished music career. He initially taught music two years in Cheektowaga, N.Y., before transitioning to composing and recording music for women's gymnastics teams. Wachtel was tabbed the accompanist for the U.S. gymnastics team for the 1976 Olympics.

For almost the next three decades, Wachtel was an accomplished pop/jazz pianist in Toronto. He also opened his own insurance agency and managed, along with his wife, to raise 12 children, while also creating a one-man show about his life that was interspersed with music. Wachtel ultimately took it on the road to every continent except Asia and Antarctica.

Wachtel, who has a Mus.B. in Music Education, views himself in the centuries-old tradition of musicians whose great fortune is to bring people out of the mundane and out of what is sometimes a bleak world and into a world that is all good, safe and wonderful.

"In fact, it is more than that. It is a sacred duty to use the unique talents God has given me to change and inspire others, especially those who are indeed in pain and loneliness, and give them hope, which they find at the top of the elevator."

There's probably not a genre of music that Wachtel hasn't featured. At the same time, he's developed his own style of playing: pop music in a style similar to something Russian composer Sergey Rachmaninoff wrote. "As a matter of fact, someone commented on YouTube that he detects a flavor of Rachmaninoff in my music," he recalled.

SUNY Distinguished Professor Claudette Sorel had a profound impact on Wachtel at Fredonia. "I was a raw talent when I started with her and she had faith in me. I practiced very hard and made great progress," he said. She was a genius who had extensive experience on the concert stage, Wachtel said, so whatever she suggested was deemed the "official way" to do things.

Ms. Sorel taught at Fredonia for 13 years and made more than 2,000 concert, recital and festival appearances and appeared as a soloist with 200 orchestras.

Wachtel concerts often have a theme, such as "Songs by Barbra Streisand" or "Hits of the '60s." He improvises on pop tunes, but is mindful to never stray too far from the melody. There are also occasions when he'll start a concert with a blank slate and "the first thoughts of what to play are the first notes that I start playing and everything evolves from those first thoughts!"

Concerts are given Sunday through Thursday at 2 p.m., and Friday at 9 a.m., both Eastern Standard Time. The Friday concert changes with the arrival of Eastern Daylight Time.



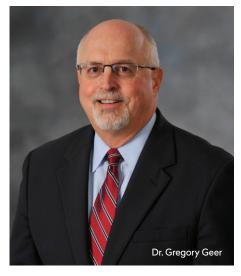
Educational Leadership program director lauds the 'Fredonia way' to student-centered learning

Teachers enrolled in Fredonia's new Advanced Certificate in Educational Leadership program are already realizing benefits from the unique online program that consolidates the former advanced certificates in School Building Leadership and School District Leadership programs.

That's an early finding from surveys of the full-time educators who aspire to become administrative leaders, according to Gregory Geer, Ph.D., who joined the College of Education a year ago to lead Fredonia's newly implemented Advanced Certificate program that provides a single path to become a school building and school district leader.

"One of the things that I'm picking up from the surveys is they feel that this program is challenging, that they feel that it is developing habits of mind that good educational leaders need," Dr. Geer explained. "They've commented several times how it's already affecting the way that they view their day-to-day work as teachers and understanding the system they work within."

As a fully online program, Geer



internships is provided.

The online teaching modality also allows Geer to give individual attention to the students.

Graduates of the program, which can be completed in 1-1/2 years, will meet educational requirements for certification as a school building principal and school district superintendent and they will be New York. He has served as a social studies teacher, middle school principal, house principal, assistant principal and district superintendent.

What attracted Geer to Fredonia was an opportunity to build a program that reflected the needs of contemporary and future educators. Returning to his Western New York roots was a dividend.

"I understand the strengths that Fredonia brings to higher education, a sense of there is a 'Fredonia way' to do things that's very student-oriented. I see how that is something that's attractive to people, and I often hear that, especially among graduates of Fredonia and of other institutions," Geer explained.

Educational Leadership, which welcomed its first students in the summer of 2020 and another cohort in the Spring 2021 semester, is aligned with all current professional benchmarks, including National Educational Leadership Preparation standards and Professional Standards for Educational Leaders.

It was developed over a 30-month period in collaboration with school





believes Educational Leadership has potential to grow because it allows working professionals to progress through coursework in a manner that fits their lifestyle and allows them to meet professional obligations. It consists of 30 credit hours of coursework and two semester-long internships in the candidate's home school district. Mentor training for school administrators who will advise candidates during their district-based

prepared to take the New York State Education Department-Content Specialty Test (CST) in School District Leadership.

A Rochester, N.Y., area native, Geer has an extensive educational background, having coordinated a similar program at Coastal Carolina University in Conway, S.C., so he brings day-to-day programming expertise to Fredonia. Key components of Geer's resume are three decades in PK-12 education in western and central

partners in K-12 leadership in the region. Input was received from superintendents in Chautauqua County and administrators in Erie 2: Chautauqua-Cattaraugus Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES).

It was logical for the College of Education to combine its two former advanced certificates (School Building Leadership and School District Leadership), since students often completed both programs. Currently, enrollees work in a range of school districts, including rural and suburban areas, outer suburban rings and fringe areas of major cities. So far, they're exclusively from New York state and include Fredonia graduates, but that could change. An employee of a federal Department of Defense school in Germany attended a virtual open house

held in March.

"I think we're starting to get the word out globally, and I think we'll have more of that type of inquiries," Geer suggested.

"My vision for the program is to develop a responsive and agile program that will address the needs within schools for visionary leaders and skilled managers," Geer said. "What we're seeing is an environment in which our education systems are operating is full of change and lots of environmental stress. A good example of that is COVID," he said.

"Beyond that is addressing the needs of learning in a world that is constantly changing at a faster and faster pace."



Nathan Bourke, '01, '05

Teachers embrace program's online format

For Abigail (Wesley) Fetterick and Nathan Bourke, the Advanced Certificate program in Educational Leadership's online format allows them advance their careers while teaching full-time. They are Fredonia graduates with a combined 25 years in the classroom.

"Being able to complete my work at home was crucial to me," said Ms. Fetterick, a special education teacher at Lake Shore Senior High School. "I knew Fredonia used to have a program and had looked at the website many times to see if it was back, and luckily it returned over the summer [2020] and I knew that was the program for me."

Added duties of being a boys and girls varsity swimming and diving coach at Kenmore East High School made enrolling in Advanced Certificate in school administration programs difficult for Mr. Bourke, who teaches social studies to English language learners.

Fetterick, who earned a B.A. in Communication: TV/Film Production in 2006 and a M.A. in Curriculum and Instruction in Inclusive Education in 2013 from SUNY Fredonia, and English education certification from SUNY Buffalo State, gives the program high marks.

"The program is absolutely meeting my expectations," Fetterick said. "Each course is well-developed and structured to build on previous courses and add to our overall understanding of educational leadership. I really enjoy learning from Dr. [Gregory] Geer and my classmates about a field that I am very passionate about."

Speakers from school districts led discussions in synchronous meetings in the fall. "Those were very powerful in connecting with current leaders in the education field, especially during the pandemic, to hear their stories, advice, and give feedback," Fetterick said.

According to Fetterick, forming professional connections and learning from peers has been an incredible bonus. "I really look forward to our meetings on

Zoom," she said. Geer also shares stories, sparks ideas and offers great knowledge during virtual office hours.

"I had also been a member of the first TESOL cohort [at Fredonia] as well in 2002, so I felt as though I made the right choice," Bourke said of the new program. He earned a B.A. in Secondary Social Studies Education in 2001 and a M.S. in Education: TESOL in 2005 from Fredonia, and pursued professional development opportunities that have led to new leadership roles within his district.

During the summer [2020], Bourke immersed himself in online learning, interacting with innovative educators in weekly Zoom meetings and online discussion boards.

"As much as I craved the in-person traditional interaction, we were in a global pandemic, and this was the next best opportunity," Bourke said. "Each online module is full of relevant material that will help foster my growth as a stronger educational leader, and ultimately, a better teacher."

Bourke says the program has already opened his eyes to new leadership opportunities within his school and district.

"When the time and the position is right, I may step out of the classroom, roll up my sleeves, and explore other ways I may be able to positively impact student learning within the district. My undergraduate and graduate level experiences at Fredonia helped to prepare me for my career as a teacher in the Kenmore-Tonawanda School district," Bourke said. "I am very fortunate to be able to return to Fredonia to prepare for a potential career as a school administrator."

Fetterick's long-range plans include becoming a school principal or district administrator. "This program directly supports these goals as I am learning about both the building level and district level issues, expectations, scenarios and best practices."

Homecoming 2021 Schedule



Please note: The following schedule may be subject to change. Continue to check the Alumni website for updates at: www.fredonia.edu/alumni

Tickets will be mailed for reservations received prior to Friday, Oct. 8. After this date, tickets may be picked up on Thursday, Oct. 14 at the Alumni House, 286 Central Ave., from 9 a.m. until 3:30 p.m.; on Friday, Oct. 15, from 1 until 5 p.m., at the Alumni House, and on Saturday, Oct. 16, from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m., in the Williams Center.

THURSDAY, OCT. 14

Classes of 1970 and 1971 Early Arrival Reception/"Beer Blast" 7 – 9 p.m.

An informal opportunity to mingle, listen to some great music by the alumni group "Sleepy Hollow Syndrome," share a beverage both alcoholic and non. Nominal charge for refreshments. Tim Hortons, main floor of the Williams Center (formerly known as Campus Center).

FRIDAY, OCT. 15

Bookstore Open

9 a.m. – 5 p.m. University Commons (formerly Cranston Hall)

Art Gallery Exhibit

Noon - 6 p.m. John Buck: Prints and Sculptures from the Collection of Jordan D. Schnitzer and His Family Foundation The Cathy and Jesse Marion Art Gallery, Rockefeller Arts Center

Golden Alumni Served Luncheon

Noon

Main Floor, Williams Center For all graduates of the Class of 1971 and before. Reservations recommended \$20/person

Registration and Ticket Pick Up

1-5 p.m. Alumni House, 286 Central Ave.

Tour of the 1891 Fredonia **Opera House Performing Arts Center**

(formerly known as the Wintergarden) 2:30 p.m. Transportation on your own. Village Hall, Fredonia

Biology Guest Speaker

To Be Announced Kelly Family Auditorium, Science Center

Men's Soccer Game

Fredonia vs. SUNY New Paltz University Stadium

Homecoming Dinner

Celebrating the Classes of 1955, 1956, 1960, 1961, 1965, 1966, 1970, and 1971, recognition of Alumni Outstanding Achievement Award recipients. Main Floor, Williams Center Reservations recommended, seating is limited. \$30/person

1970s Reunion Jazz Concert

8 p.m. Rosch Recital Hall, Mason Hall

SATURDAY. OCT. 16

Registration and Ticket Pick Up

8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Williams Center Information Booth. Coffee may be purchased at Starbucks at University Commons

Ruterbusch Run

9 a.m. Registration in Steele Hall Fieldhouse. For more information, email Coach Tom Wilson at Thomas.Wilson@fredonia.edu

Biology Department Breakfast

9 - 10:30 a.m. Atrium and Costello Reading Room, First Floor, Science Center

Study Abroad Alumni **Gallery Walk**

9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Study Abroad Student Poster Display. Sponsored by the Office of International Education. Main Floor, Williams Center

Men's Alumni Soccer Game

10 a m University Stadium

Honors Program Alumni Continental Breakfast

11 a.m. – noon For all graduates of the Honors Program. Location TBA

Campus Walking Tour

Meet at Information Booth, Williams Center

Department of Communication 40th **Anniversary Celebration**

11 a.m.–1 p.m. Free tours of Williams Center Leader office, Fredonia Radio Systems in McEwen Hall, WNYF-TV studio in Hendrix Hall and Room G9 McEwen Hall studio

Biology Alumni Health Panel

11 a.m. Kelly Family Auditorium, Science Center Free

Bookstore Open

11 a.m.- 5 p.m. University Commons (formerly known as Cranston Hall).

Art Gallery Exhibit

Noon – 3 p.m. John Buck: Prints and Sculptures from the Collection of Jordan D. Schnitzer and His Family Foundation The Cathy and Jesse Marion Art Gallery, Rockefeller Arts Center

Classes of 1970 and 1971 Served Luncheon

12:30 p.m. Main Floor, Williams Center Reservations recommended \$20/person

Men's Soccer Game

Fredonia vs. SUNY Oneonta University Stadium

Men's Hockey Scrimmage

Fredonia vs. Mercyhurst Steele Hall Ice Rink

"Thinking About Teaching"

Book signing by Dr. Casey

Jakubowski, '98 Bookstore, University Commons

Alumni Get Together

2 - 4 p.m. Tent/DJ. Nominal charge for beer. Please bring ID Dods Grove

Tour of newly renovated Houghton Hall

3 p.m. Meet at front door facing Jewett Hall.

Antwerp, Belgium Junior Semester Study Abroad Reunion

3 – 5 p.m.

For anyone who had the opportunity to travel in the 1960s and 1970s. Tim Hortons, Main Floor, Williams Nominal charge for refreshments

School of Business Wine and **Beer Reception**

3:30 – 6:30 p.m. Admission of \$15 at the door includes wine from 21 Brix Winery and beer from Ellicottville Brewing Company, along with light snacks. Admission includes a School of Business wine or beer glass. Main Street Studios, 50 W. Main St., Fredonia Sponsorships available; email business.school@fredonia.edu or call (716) 673-3505.

Sweetheart Soiree

4 - 6 p.m.

Champagne and cake for all who met their spouse or significant other on campus. Costello Room, Atrium Lobby of Marvel Theatre Rockefeller Arts Center Free, please register in advance

Athletic Hall of Fame Induction Dinner

5:30 p.m. Cocktail Reception at 5:30 p.m., Dinner at 6 p.m., Program at 7 p.m. Main Floor, Williams Center. For tickets, go to: www.tinyurl.com/4w54p5fb \$40/person

Class of 1990 and 1991 Meet and Greet

6 p.m. Old Main Inn, 24 Water St., Fredonia

Classes of 1995 and 1996 Meet and Greet

6 p.m. Muldoon's, 26 Water St., Fredonia

Classes of 2000 and 2001 Meet and Greet

6 p.m. Heenan's Irish Pub, 39 E. Main St., Fredonia

Wind Ensemble Concert

8 p.m. King Concert Hall, Rockefeller Arts Center Free

Classes of 2010 and 2011 Meet and Greet

9 p.m. Old Main Inn, 24 Water St., Fredonia

Downtown Meetings

9 p.m.

Look for location assignments at Homecoming Registration Booth. All honored classes will have opportunities to convene at designated establishments downtown.

SUNDAY, OCT. 17

Art Gallery Exhibit

Noon – 4 p.m. John Buck: Prints and Sculptures from the Collection of Jordan D. Schnitzer and His Family Foundation The Cathy and Jesse Marion Art Gallery, Rockefeller Arts Center Free

Fredonia Chamber Choir, Fredonia College Choir, and Fredonia Camerata (formerly Women's Choir)

6 p.m. Rosch Recital Hall, Mason Hall Free

Homecoming 2021 Highlights

Homecoming 2021 presents both opportunities and challenges. Hopefully, the COVID-19 crisis is just about over. However, the in-person events that are currently being planned may be subject to change. The Office of Alumni Affairs respectfully requests that all participants arrive on campus with masks. As much as you might want to reach out and hug or shake hands with those folks you have not seen in awhile, please be respectful of each person's personal space.

Two alumni will be honored this year with Outstanding Achievement Awards — William Finn, '83, (Business Administration), currently president of both Hospice of the Western Reserve and Western Reserve Care Solutions, and the Honorable William Kemsey Taylor, '97, (Political Science and English), former Class President, Lanford Presidential Prize winner, and currently a New York State Supreme Court Judge. The honorees will be recognized at the annual Homecoming dinner, scheduled for 5 p.m. Friday in the Williams Center.

In addition, on Friday, there will be a special Golden Alumni Luncheon for all alumni from 1971 and before. At 2:30 p.m., there will be a free tour of the beautiful 1891 Fredonia Opera House Performing Arts Center. The annual free 1970s Reunion Jazz Concert is scheduled for Friday evening in Rosch Recital Hall. Other events for the weekend include the combined Classes of 1970 and 1971's 50 (and 51st!)-year reunion, Ruterbusch 5K Run, recognition of other honored classes, the Communication department's 40th anniversary, academic

programs, departmental get-togethers and athletic contests. The Marion Art Gallery is offering a special free exhibit, John Buck: Prints and Sculptures from the Collection of Jordan D. Schnitzer and His Family Foundation, Friday through Sunday.

On Saturday evening, the Fredonia State Athletics Hall of Fame Class of 2020 will be inducted. The Hall of Fame is celebrating its 25th anniversary. This year's class includes: Greg Prechtl ('69), the former men's basketball coach and director of athletics, who will be enshrined along with one of his former players, Walt Hubbard ('93). The 1992-93 men's basketball team, which Mr. Prechtl coached and Mr. Hubbard was a part of, will also be entered as a Team of Distinction. Jordan Basile ('09) from baseball, Matt Borchard ('06) from men's soccer, and Sarah Hite-Moore ('05) from women's track and field, will also be inducted individually.

A few new events are happening on Saturday, Oct. 16. Check out newly renovated state-of-the-art Houghton Hall at 3 p.m. In addition to the annual outdoor Alumni Get Together, there will be a wonderful International Study Abroad poster display in the Williams Center, a book signing by Casey Jakubowski, '98; and an Antwerp, Belgium Junior Year Reunion. Because it's Sweetest Day, plan to attend our first annual Sweetheart Soiree. If you met your spouse or significant other at Fredonia, join us for some anniversary cake and champagne. Finally, take your BFF (Best Fredonia Friend) and round out our Saturday events by enjoying the free Wind Ensemble Concert in King Concert Hall at 8 p.m.

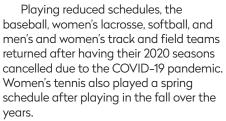


William Finn, '83



The Honorable William Kemsey Taylor, '97

Fredonia State resumes intercollegiate competition in Spring 2021 in six sports



When women's lacrosse played host to Allegheny College on March 20, it marked the end of 374 days without an official game by a Fredonia State team. The spring season ended two months later when a handful of track and field athletes took part in the All-Atlantic Regional Track Conference (SUNYAC) meet on May 19.

Among the team sports, women's tennis qualified for State University of New York Athletic Conference tournament by finishing second in the re-drawn West Division. Guided by Interim Head Coach Dave Kinkela, who is also chair of the Department of History, the Blue Devils posted a 3-4 record, 2-2 in the conference. Jane Chiacchia (Hamburg, N.Y.), a May graduate, finished among Fredonia State career leaders in singles wins, doubles wins, and singles and doubles winning percentage. She earned a Bachelor of Science degree as a dual major (Applied Mathematics, Exercise Science) and received SUNYAC Elite 20 and the SUNYAC Women's Tennis Scholar-Athlete of the Year awards.

The Blue Devil softball team came next-closest to a playoff berth. Tony Ciccarello's squad was 9-7 in SUNYAC's West Division (9-11 overall), yet failed to make the four-team bracket—reduced from six teams in 2021. Two Blue Devils earned All-SUNYAC honors. Fifth-year player Katie Yudin (Liverpool, N.Y.), a 2020 graduate, was selected First Team as a utility player. Nicole Kumro (Cheektowaga), a junior, made Second Team as a first baseman.

Yudin earned two other post-season honors. She was selected Third Team

Northeast Region by the National Fastpitch Coaches Association. She was also selected Outstanding Female Athlete during The FREDDYS, Fredonia State's annual year-ending awards and recognition show held virtually for the second straight year.

Other winners at The FREDDYS were sophomore Toby Onuoha (Suffern) of men's track and field as Outstanding Male Athlete, freshman Sydney Buchko (Walworth) of women's lacrosse as Outstanding Female Rookie, freshman Korey Canton (Rochester, N.Y.) of baseball as Outstanding Male Rookie, senior Erin Pratt (Schenectady) as Female Scholar-Athlete of the Year, and seniors Matthew Erman (East Meadow) of men's track and field and Sam Wagner (Williamsville) of men's soccer as Male Scholar-Athletes of the Year.

Women's cross country won the Team Academic Award while Head Athletic Trainer Erik Barkley (Michael Kozlowski Service Award), Director of Student Health Services Debbie Dibble (Athletic Director's Award) and 2021 graduate Alexis Tofil (Sandra Haight Award) were also recognized.

In addition to the two softball players, SUNYAC all-conference awards were bestowed upon six members of the track and field program. First Team honors went to sophomore Collin Barmore (Gerry) after winning the men's 800 meters at the outdoor meet. Among the other men, Onuoha, sophomore Topher Elkins (Springville), freshman TyeRyan Burke (Hamburg, N.Y.) made Second Team and freshman Tyler Miller (Holley) made Third Team. Barmore later added the SUNYAC Outdoor Men's Track and Field Scholar-Athlete of the Year Award for his combined athletic and academic success.

The lone Blue Devil female track and field athlete to make all-conference was junior Eleanor Clarke (Hamburg, N.Y.) for finishing second in the javelin. She later broke the school record in the event held



by Meredith Schichtel since 2006.

The resumption of games and meets in the spring followed cancellation of fall and winter sports by the SUNYAC and all its members. Each of those teams held organized team workouts throughout the school year, often in socially distanced pods while following pandemic protocol. Men's soccer, women's soccer, and women's volleyball also played intercollegiate scrimmages in April as part of their non-traditional seasons. Planning has already begun for the return of fall and winter seasons, contingent on revised pandemic guidelines.

UPCOMING FALL EVENTS:

Blue Devil Classic – Eight teams are entered, including both Fredonia State sides, for two days of collegiate soccer Fri., Sept. 10, and Sat., Sept. 11.

Fred Ruterbusch 5k – The annual road race in honor of Fredonia State's All-American in track and field will be held on campus Saturday, Oct. 16. Open to the public, the field will include members of the Blue Devil cross country teams.

Hall of Fame induction – The 2020 induction ceremony, put off for one year, will be held Saturday, Oct. 16, as part of Homecoming Weekend. The inductees are Greg Prechtl ('69), Walt Hubbard ('93), Sarah Hite-Moore ('05), Matt Borchard ('06), and Jordan Basile ('09), plus four Teams of Distinction: 1981 men's cross country, 1985 and 1986 men's soccer and 1992-93 men's basketball.

Tanner Kahlau Memorial Game – Men's hockey will pay homage to rising senior, the late Tanner Kahlau, when it takes on Trine University on Saturday, Nov. 6. Kahlau was killed in a skiing accident earlier this year. He has been named captain posthumously for the 2021–2022 season.

Damore, 90, was Fredonia State and SUNYAC legend

Dr. Patrick Damore, a longtime Fredonia State athletics coach, administrator, and former conference commissioner, passed away May 23, at the age of 90.

Dr. Damore was a member of the college's coaching staff, teaching faculty, and athletic administration for 29 years. He served as commissioner of the State University of New York Athletic Conference for 33 years.

"Pat was a great guy...and then some!," said Greg Prechtl, the former Fredonia State men's basketball coach and Dr. Damore's successor as Fredonia State director of athletics. "The face of Fredonia State Athletics and the State University of New York Athletic Conference for nearly four decades, Pat strengthened both organizations. helping them achieve national prominence. Appreciated in athletic circles for his wisdom, sound guidance, and soft touch, he was warmly welcomed by colleagues at all levels across the country.

"On a personal level, I considered The Commissioner my mentor, best friend, and role model for how someone should approach life. An icon in athletics, he was committed to his family, to his community, and to all those with whom he interacted. I cared deeply for Pat. We have all lost a great man."

Current SUNYAC Commissioner Tom DiCamillo lauded Dr. Damore as an administrator and person.

"Pat Damore was a pioneer and a leader among not just the SUNYAC athletic administrators, but among the [NCAA] Division III commissioners," Mr. DiCamillo said. "Any time I would go to Fredonia, I would meet Pat and Grea Prechtl at the Bob Evans for breakfast, and I would ask him to share stories about the history of the conference. He was a genuine human being and just a really nice person, and every time we met he would say that the conference was in great hands and I was doing a great job—that meant more to me than he would every know."

A 1952 graduate of Brockport State, Dr. Damore's long and distinguished career in athletics began at Hammond Central High School where he served as a coach and athletic director. He moved to the collegiate ranks in 1956 when he hired as an assistant professor and coach at Fredonia State. He coached Blue Devil men's soccer, men's basketball, and men's tennis and served as athletic director from 1968 until 1985 before becoming the first Commissioner of the SUNYAC, part-time beginning in 1979 and full-time starting in 1985. When he retired on June 30, 2012, he was the longestserving NCAA conference commissioner in the nation.

Dr. Damore also served as president of the Intercollegiate Soccer Association of America, president of the College Division Commissioner's Association, and founded the National Intercollegiate Soccer Rating System in 1968. He received the NCAA Division III Commissioner's Association Meritorious Service Award in 2003, the

By Jerry Reilly, Sports Information Director

ECAC James Lynah Award for Distinguished Achievement in 2003, the SUNYAC Distinguished Service Award in 1983 (which has been renamed The Patrick R. Damore Distinguished Service Award) and The Bill Jeffrey Award in 1979 for contributions to national collegiate soccer.

On active duty with the United States Navy during the Korean conflict, he was a member of the U.S. Naval Reserve from 1947 through 1983 and was a recipient of the Naval Commendation Medal.

Dr. Damore is a member of the Fredonia State Athletics Hall of Fame, the Chautauqua County Sports Hall of Fame, the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics Hall of Fame and the Brockport State Athletic Hall of Fame. He served on the Fredonia State Hall of Fame committee from its founding in 1986 through 2018, serving as chairman for several years. He was inducted as a coach and administrator in 1990 and his 1959 men's soccer team—the inaugural season of the sport—was honored as a Team of Distinction in 2018.

In addition to a bachelor's degree in Health and Physical Education from Brockport, he earned a master's degree in Secondary School Education from St. Lawrence University in 1956, and a doctoral degree in Higher Education and Administration from the University of Oklahoma in 1971.



Surrounded by dignitaries and men's soccer players, then-SUNYAC Commissioner Patrick Damore (center) readies the scissors to cut the ceremonial ribbon during the dedication ceremony of Phase II of University Stadium on Sept. 11, 2009.



Current SUNYAC Commissioner Tom DiCamillo (far left) with former Director of Athletics Greg Prechtl and former SUNYAC Commissioner Damore.

Instagram

Photographic memories...

Coach Patrick Damore in action over the years.









Athletic Hall of Fame Class of 1990

Social media snaps

Stay connected with fellow alumni using any of our social media platforms:

@fredoniaalumni **FACEBOOK TWITTER INSTAGRAM**

LINKEDIN





Fredonia

May 15, 2021 • @FredoniaU

It is time for the 2021 Commencement Ceremony! This web page has the entire ceremony from start to finish (also broken down into segments), plus messages from loved ones, a photo gallery from the in-person stage walks, and a message from the Chancellor. https://bit.ly/33JAUwB





28 shares



Join President Kolison in showing your #BigBlue-Family pride with a gift to #FREDlanthropy Day! www.fredonia.edu/fredlanthropy



¥ 464



Events and Performances

ROCKEFELLER ARTS CENTER/THEATRE AND **DANCE EVENTS**

"HERE COMES THE SUN: A **CELEBRATION OF THE SONGS** AND SOUNDS OF THE BEATLES"

Thursday, Sept. 16, 7:30 p.m. King Concert Hall Tickets: \$35, \$30, \$25, \$20 (Students \$17, \$15, \$12, \$10)



"NEW WORKS NOW -A SHOWCASE OF STUDENT **CREATIVITY**

Oct. 1 and 2, 7:30 p.m.; Oct. 3, 2 p.m. **Bartlett Theatre** Tickets: \$10 (Students \$5) The showcase will feature works created by the talented Fredonia students.

"THE WILD PARTY"

Oct. 22, 23, 28, 29 and 30, 7:30 p.m.; Oct. 24, 2 p.m. Marvel Theatre Tickets: \$30 (Students \$15) Directed by Dr. Jessica Hillman-McCord, "The Wild Party" is a mystery tale set in the prohibition era.

HALLOWEEN SPOOKTACULAR POPS WITH THE WESTERN NEW YORK CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

Friday, Oct. 29, 7:30 p.m. King Concert Hall Tickets \$35, \$30, \$25, \$20 Don your favorite costume, grab your trick-or-treat bucket and join us for a seasonal-themed concert. Works range from classics like Mussorgsky's "Night on Bald Mountain" to pop favorites like Michael Jackson's "Thriller."

THE 2021 MERRINS CHAMBER CONCERT

Nov. 5, 6, 12 and 13, 7:30 p.m.; Nov. 6 and 13, 2 p.m. Merrins Dance Theatre Tickets: \$15 (Students \$7) Directed by Anthony Alterio and featuring a variety of dance styles performed by Fredonia's talented Dance majors.

"IL MATRIMONIA SEGRETO" (THE SECRET MARRIAGE)

The Hillman Opera Nov. 12 and 13, 7:30 p.m.; Nov. 14, 2 p.m. Marvel Theatre Tickets: \$25 (Students \$12) An 18th century dramma giocoso by composer Domenico Cimarosa

and librettist Giovanni Bertati based on the 1766 play "The Clandestine Marriage" by George Colman the Elder and David Garrick.

"THE NORMAL HEART"

Dec. 2, 3, 4 and 5, 7:30 p.m.; Dec. 4 and 5, 2 p.m. Bartlett Theatre Tickets: \$25 (Students \$12) Directed by Paul W. Mockovak and set in New York in the early 1980s, "The Normal Heart" is Larry Kramer's "powerful, passionate and controversial play" that was the first work to tackle the subject of AIDS in a serious and poignant manner.

"THE FIVE BROWNS"

Saturday, Dec. 11, 7:30 p.m. King Concert Hall Tickets: \$35, \$30, \$25, \$20 (Students \$17, \$15, \$12, \$10) The 5 Browns are delivering on their dream to wake up classical music by introducing it to the widest, largest and most excited audience they can find. Come get in the holiday spirit with The 5 Browns!



ART EXHIBITS

CATHY AND JESSE MARION ART GALLERY

Hours: Tuesday-Thursday noon to 4 p.m., Friday and Saturday noon to 6 p.m., Sunday noon to 4 p.m.

JOHN BUCK: PRINTS AND **SCULPTURES FROM THE COLLECTION OF JORDAN D. SCHNITZER AND HIS FAMILY FOUNDATION**

Aug. 31 to Nov. 19 Reception: Sept. 10, 6 p.m. John Buck is a nationally recognized Montana artist who has created a large and powerful body of woodblock prints and wood sculptures over the past four decades.



SENIOR SHOW

Dec. 3 to 9 Opening reception: Dec. 3, 6 p.m. The exhibition features works in a variety of mediums by graduating students from the Department of Visual Arts and New Media.

SCHOOL OF MUSIC

(LS) indicates live streaming of event (subject to change) through the link found at www.fredonia.edu/music All events are free unless otherwise noted

ENSEMBLE PERFORMANCES/ FACULTY/GUEST RECITALS Open to the public and all at 8 p.m.

unless otherwise noted.

KING CONCERT HALL

THURSDAY, SEPT. 23 AND TUESDAY, NOV. 16

Fredonia Wind Symphony (LS)

AND WEDNESDAY, NOV. 10 Concert Band (LS)

THURSDAY, SEPT. 30 All-College Band (LS)

SATURDAY, OCT. 16 AND WEDNESDAY, NOV. 17

Fredonia Wind Ensemble (LS)

SATURDAY, OCT. 30

Fredonia College Symphony (LS)

MONDAY, NOV. 29

University Chorus (LS)

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 1, 6:30 P.M.

New Horizons Band

SATURDAY, DEC. 4

Fredonia Choirs (Chamber, College, Camerata) (LS)

ROSCH RECITAL HALL

MONDAY, SEPT. 13

Fredonia Faculty Showcase

TUESDAY, SEPT. 14

Extringavaganza VIII (LS)

SATURDAY, SEPT. 25, 4 P.M.

Faculty Recital: Aurora Deeds, soprano

MONDAY, SEPT. 27

Faculty Recital: Nick Weiser, jazz piano (LS)

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 29

Faculty Recital: Jessica Tong and Isabel Ong, violins (LS)

THURSDAY, SEPT. 30, TUESDAY, OCT. 26 AND MONDAY, NOV. 29

Fredonia Student Keyboard Association (LS)

MONDAY, OCT. 4 AND SUNDAY, **OCT. 31**

Fredonia Student Composers (LS)

THURSDAY, OCT. 14 AND MONDAY, NOV. 8

Fredonia Jazz Orchestra (LS)

FRIDAY, OCT. 15

Fredonia 1970s Alumni Jazz (LS)

SUNDAY, OCT. 17, 6 P.M.

Fredonia Choirs (Chamber, College, Camerata) (LS) Guest conductor Dr. Melvin Unger

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 20

Fredonia Faculty Composers (LS)

THURSDAY, OCT. 21

Brass Chamber Ensembles (LS)

MONDAY, OCT. 25

Woodwind Chamber Ensembles (LS)

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 27

Fredonia Trombone Choir (LS)

MONDAY, NOV. 1

Fredonia Percussion Ensemble (LS)

TUESDAY, NOV. 2

Fredonia Bassoon Ensemble

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 3

Fredonia Clarinet Ensemble (LS)

FRIDAY, NOV. 5

String Chamber Ensembles

SUNDAY, NOV. 7

Fredonia Saxophone Ensemble and Quartets (LS)

TUESDAY, NOV. 9

Fredonia Guitar Ensemble and Quartets (LS)

THURSDAY, NOV. 11

World Music Festival: Buffalo Gamelan Sari Raras Irama

FRIDAY, NOV. 12

World Music Festival: El Batey

SUNDAY, NOV. 14

World Mallets (LS)

MONDAY, NOV. 15

Chamber Made Guitar

THURSDAY, NOV. 18

Fredonia New Jazz Ensemble (LS)

TUESDAY, NOV. 30

Flute Ensemble (LS)

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 1

Chamber Orchestra (LS)

THURSDAY, DEC. 2

African Drumming (LS)

FRIDAY, DEC. 3

Faculty Recital: Ekstasis Duo (Natasha Farny, cello, and Eliran Avni, piano) (LŚ)

TUESDAY, DEC. 7

Improv Collective (LS)

SPECIAL EVENTS

FREDONIA OBOE DAY SUNDAY, OCT. 24

PROGRAM

FREDONIA DAY OF PERCUSSION SUNDAY, OCT. 31

CLAUDETTE SOREL PIANO COMPETITION AND FELLOWS

COMPETITION LIVE FINAL ROUND: SUNDAY, NOV. 7, NOON

PIANO FELLOWS PROGRAM: NOV. 6-7

FREDONIA DAY OF JAZZ SATURDAY, NOV. 13

FREDONIA SCHOOL OF MUSIC HOSTS THE NEW YORK STATE SCHOOL MUSIC ASSOCIATION (NYSSMA) AREA ALL-STATE **NOV. 19 AND 20**

GRAMMY Awards go to SUNY Fredonia faculty member, alumni

A Fredonia School of Music faculty member and several alumni were among the winners of the 2021 GRAMMY Awards presented March 14.

The Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra, under the direction of JoAnn Falletta, and the Buffalo Philharmonic Chorus, prepared by the chorus' Music Director and School of Music faculty member Dr. Adam Luebke, received the GRAMMY for Best Choral Performance for the recording

Dr. Adam Luebke with his GRAMMY.

of Richard Danielpour's "The Passion of Yeshua." Dr. Bernd Gottinger, head of Fredonia's Sound Recording Technology program, was engineer.

Also featured on the album were School of Music faculty instrumentalists including trumpet professor Alex Jokpii, who is BPO principal trumpet, and BPO principal trombone Jonathan Lombardo. Gottinger was nominated for a GRAMMY in the category of Best Engineered Album, Classical for his work on the "The Passion of Yeshua."

Interim School of Music Director
Daniel Ihasz noted, "I am so thrilled
that such a great number of our Music
faculty and alumni were recognized for
their outstanding work by the GRAMMY
Foundation. I am surrounded by amazing
faculty artists/teachers. What a wonderful

gift that they can share with our students and the entire region. Congratulations to the Buffalo Philharmonic and Buffalo Philharmonic Chorus, and our music faculty and alumni!"

The recording also featured the UCLA Chamber Singers, and additional nominees included James K. Bass of the Herb Alpert School of Music at UCLA. The five featured vocalists included Dr. Bass, J'Nai Bridges, Timothy Fallon, Kenneth Overton, Hila Plitmann and Matthew Worth.

In addition, the recording was nominated in the category of Best Contemporary Classical Composition.

Another big GRAMMY winner was Fredonia Sound Recording Technology program alumnus Randy Merrill, '97, of Sterling Sound, who was Senior Mastering Engineer on Taylor Swift's



(Photo by Nancy Parisi)

Dr. Luebke and Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra Music Director JoAnn Falletta with a copy of the score to Richard Danielpour's "The Passion of Yeshua."

(Photo by Patrick Herron)



"Folklore," named Album of the Year, and "Hyperspace," which was named Best Engineered Album, Non Classical.

Alumnus Charlie Post, '98, who holds Fredonia degrees in Sound Recording Technology and Music-Applied, received a GRAMMY with engineer David Frost in the category of Best Engineered Album, Classical, for "Shostakovich: Symphony No. 13, 'Babi Yar'" with Silas Brown as mastering engineer, conductor Riccardo Muti and the Chicago Symphony Orchestra.

John Kerswell, '88, another Sound Recording Technology alumnus, received a GRAMMY with Mr. Frost as engineers in the category of Best Opera Recording for "Gershwin: Porgy and Bess" a Metropolitan Opera production featuring conductor David Robertson, with Frederick Ballentine, Angel Blue, Denyce Graves, Latonia Moore, Eric Owens, the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra and the Metropolitan Opera Chorus.

In the contributing artists realm,
Department of Communication Professor
Emeritus Dan Berggren reported that
School of Music alumna Lisa Brigantino,
'86, a Music Theory major, played djembe
on the track, "Lioness," and guitar on the
track, "Mother Earth," on "All the Ladies"
by Joanie Leeds, which received the
GRAMMY for Best Childrens' Album.

School of Music Music Education alumna Lynn (Bona) Ruda, who teaches at Lancaster (N.Y.) Central School, was one of 10 finalists nationally for the 2021 Music Educator award presented by the Recording Academy and GRAMMY Museum. This is the second consecutive year she was a finalist for the prestigious award. Mrs. Ruda earned bachelor's and master's degrees from Fredonia in 2007 and 2009, both in Music Education, and as a cellist earned the coveted Performer's Certificate from the School of Music. Bringing more recognition to Fredonia, School of Music faculty, Drs. Nick Weiser

and Vernon Huff were named Quarterfinalists for the 2021 educator award.

Additional Fredonia alumni Quarter-finalists from schools in New York State include Lawrence Dubill, '90, who teaches at Hamburg (N.Y.) High School, and Matt Pendrak, '01, who teaches at Amherst (N.Y.) Central High School. Legacy applicants for the 2021 award include Elisabeth "Betsy" Stambach-Fuller, '07, who teaches at South Glens Falls High School, and Ryan Mack, who teaches at P.S. 52K Sheepshead Bay.

The Fredonia School of Music's Music Education program currently has a 100 percent placement of its graduates.

Fredonia attendee and current Sound Recording Technology faculty member Dave Fridmann's work on the band Haim's album "Women In Music Pt. III," including the song "The Steps," was nominated for a GRAMMY in the category of Best Rock Performance. The album was also nominated for Best Album of the Year.



Noah Huard (left) and Mike Austin, who own and operate Stag Pack, developed a unique commemorative gift pack that was sent to all 2020 Fredonia graduates.

Alumni create Commencement gift packs to honor Class of 2020 graduates

Fredonia's Class of 2020 missed out on a traditional Commencement due to the coronavirus, but two alumni—both former baseball players from over a dozen years ago—stepped up to the plate to help the university honor the graduates with unique gift packages.

More than 1,300 Commencement gift boxes, developed and assembled by Stag Pack LLC, a Buffalo, N.Y. - based packaging firm founded by Mike Austin and Noah Huard, were shipped to every '20 graduate.

The SUNY Fredonia Cabinet wanted to recognize the graduates with special gift packs since not all of them would be able to attend a ceremonial stage walk held in King Concert Hall in June, explained Commencement Committee Co-chair Denise Szalkowski. "We thought the next best thing would be to send out letters of congratulations from dignitaries along with gifts," Ms. Szalkowski added.

How to accomplish this, though, loomed as a potent challenge that had to be met.

That's where Messrs. Austin and Huard, 2007 graduates, and their company that specializes in personalized gift packs for businesses, non-profits and special events, collaborated with Commencement Committee Co-chair Raleigh Hawk and Ms. Szalkowski to create the keepsakes.

Austin, who has a B.S. in Communication: Public Relations, and Huard, a B.S. in Business Administration: Management, started Stag Pack as a side gig six years ago, as both had full-time jobs elsewhere. Austin was a trainer with ComDoc, now part of Xerox, and Huard was a project manager for John W. Danforth Company, a Buffalo-based construction firm.

"They proposed a package, saying they had done memento packs like this in the past," Mr. Hawk recalled, and a few conference calls later, "we came up with something that would work."

Each pack contained four letters of congratulations—from Fredonia President Stephen H. Kolison Jr., New York State Senator (57th District) George M. Borrello, Fredonia Alumni Association President Greg Gibbs and SUNY Chancellor Jim Malatras.

The traditional Fredonia diploma cover, a padfolio (a leather-bound notebook imprinted with the Fredonia logo), a Fredonia pen and magnet, and a Commencement program that lists every graduate were also included.

"What's special about the program that year is a QR code imprinted in the program," Szalkowski added. When the student scans this code, it takes them to the Commencement address by Dr. Thomas J. Quatroche Jr., president and CEO of Erie County Medical Center and a '92 Fredonia graduate, who would have given last year's Commencement address in Steele Hall.

Stag Pack provided the padfolios and pens, embossed with the Fredonia name and logo, and crafted custom boxes—white and blazoned with a blue "Fredonia Class of 2020" sticker—and took care of very challenging shipping logistics. The Fredonia logo also appears inside the box.

"Live your life with passion, purpose, and have fun!"—a quote from Dr. Quatroche's address—is hidden on the inside front lid or flap when it's tucked in, giving a nice surprise to the student upon opening the box.

Both alums indicate they were honored to be involved in the Commencement project.

"We're so excited and just proud to be part of the process," Austin said. "We know how important it is for the students who just graduated to feel like they were part of something bigger, while being denied [of a traditional commencement] due to the pandemic. Being able to provide them with something to really honor their graduation and all the hard work they did really meant a lot to us."

Huard described the opportunity to do business with their alma mater as definitely a privilege, while doing something for a senior class that had gone through a very challenging year was especially rewarding.

"It turned out we had a very good relationship with Denise, and worked with her on ideas," Huard explained, collaborating on assorted details, such as what the box should look like and what items it could contain.

Stag Pack had been in preliminary talks with the campus bookstore for gift pack options that it could furnish before

the pandemic struck in March 2020, so when the decision was made to seek an alternative gift for the Class of 2020 due to the Commencement cancellation, SUNY Fredonia reached out to Stag Pack.

In fact, putting together such a Commencement pack was described to Huard and Austin by a Fredonia staff member as being something "right up your wheelhouse," Huard recalled.

That observation was on the mark. Stag Pack had already carved out a market niche by designing and creating gift packs for weddings, bachelor parties and other celebrations, and Austin and Huard had already left their full-time jobs to grow their company. When the wedding business plunged last year due to the pandemic, the firm successfully pivoted to making custom gift packs for businesses, non-profit organizations and fundraisers.

"The opportunity to work with Fredonia really helped us out with tough times that our business was going through at that time during the pandemic," Austin said.

Stag Pack collaborated with Fredonia's Marketing and Communication's staff, which designed the Fredonia stickers and furnished brand logo files for the other items.

"We were so happy that these guys were available for the job, and they did a great job with it," Hawk said. "We couldn't be prouder of our Fredonia alumni."

"They were very accommodating to our needs and changes, very responsive," Szalkowski added. "They continued to keep us well-informed, when the packages went out. It was inspiring to know that they are Fredonia alums with a business that is growing and proud that we could be a part of it and to help them."

Already, the gift packs are a winner with alumni, President Kolison reported. "We have received a lot of good feedback. Dr. Kolison has received emails from students who were very excited to receive them," Szalkowski reported.

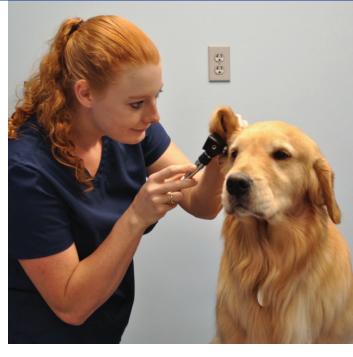
In one email, Kailynn Janaski, who earned a B.S. in Exercise Science, described the package as "absolutely wonderful" and indicated receiving the diploma cover made it feel so much more special.

Austin and Huard graduated together from City Honors School in Buffalo and went on to play baseball for Coach Matt Palisin in 2004, then in his first year with the team. Huard became the ace of the staff, leading the team in wins and strikeouts as a junior and senior, and signed a professional contract to play baseball in Utica, N.Y. Austin, a walk on, started at third base in his sophomore year and became a team captain in his junior and senior years.



Yochym biology scholarship benefits future veterinarians





Megan performs an ophthalmic exam using an ophthalmoscope on Lyric, her golden retriever (above), at Lakeside Veterinary Medicine, where she serves as an assistant.

The dream that the father of Barbara and Cynthia Yochym had—to become a veterinarian—lives on through Fredonia alumni such as Megan MacIntyre, a 2019 graduate and recipient of two Michael Yochym Biology Scholarships attending The Ohio State University College of Veterinary Medicine.

Their donor/recipient relationship continues to flourish long after their initial meeting at a Scholars Breakfast and Ms. MacIntyre receiving a B.S. in Biochemistry. They remain connected, and MacIntyre lets them know how she's doing in veterinary school.

"Upon receiving the scholarship, I wrote them a detailed thank you note with photographs of all the things I did prior to and during undergrad so they could get to know me better," MacIntyre recalled. "At the scholarship banquet we had a great conversation and I have since tried to keep in touch with them so they know how their monies helped and what their generosity is allowing students to do."

The \$500 Yochym scholarship, established through the Fredonia College Foundation and awarded to a junior majoring in Biochemistry or Biology, is intended for students who plan to study veterinary science. As an Ohio resident paying out-of-state tuition, MacIntyre indicated that scholarships, such as the one provided by the Yochyms, helped her to better manage living costs and tuition charges, and reduce her student loans.

MacIntyre has conveyed to the Yochym sisters how their assistance has helped her to realize her dreams, while also providing updates into her veterinarian school experience through pictures and activities. Photos show MacIntyre performing her first surgery, participating in the Midwestern Veterinary Conference, trimming hooves on alpacas and training other students how to trim hooves on sheep at a local farm.

Scholarship honors father's legacy

Cynthia, a reference librarian in Reed Library, and Barbara, who retired as a secretary in the Educational Development Program, created the scholarship in honor of their father, who grew up on a farm and worked with animals.

"As children, we heard that, had he had the opportunity to go to college, he would have wanted to become a veterinarian. We felt that this would be a way to provide a legacy for him and to help SUNY Fredonia students achieve a dream that he had," Cynthia Yochym said.

Hope Catanese and Marina Kessler are recent recipients of the scholarship that has been awarded eight times since 2014.

MacIntyre was clearly destined to become a veterinarian. She grew up in Northeast Ohio on a small hobby farm, which had dogs, cats, chickens, ducks, horses, sheep, goats, rabbits, a ferret and small household birds and actively showed the dogs in 4-H events and the sheep in breed and wool shows.

"I always took a strong interest in the day-to-day care of the animals, but I had an even greater interest in their medical needs," MacIntyre recalled. "We oftentimes had to have the vet out to our farm for medical needs ranging from routine medical care, sport injuries, lambing assistance, etc. I found the challenge of diagnosing what was wrong and attempting a treatment plan to be very interesting and decided I wanted to assist animals in the same way the veterinarians who helped my pets did."





As an undergraduate student,
MacIntyre acquired a wealth of relevant
experience. She learned about shelter
medicine and trained rescue animals
to become more adoptable at the
Northern Chautauqua Canine Rescue,
gained hands-on experience at Arkwright
Veterinary Services and insight into
working in a veterinary team and practiced skills she'll need as a veterinarian at
Westfield Veterinary Hospital.

She also cared for horses and trained them for show or sale and breed at UVM Morgan Horse Farm in Vermont, and worked as a paid summer employee at veterinary practices.

MacIntyre is a longtime member of 4-H, working on numerous projects, serving as an advisor for the dog program and becoming a judge at 4-H shows in Ohio.

"We are proud of all the students who have been awarded the Michael Yochym Biology Scholarship," Yochym said. "Megan personifies all we could have hoped for in creating the scholarship—her hard work, dedication, and methodical pursuit of her veterinary degree. She has vast experience with animals from a young age.

"She has kept in contact with us about her progress, which is wonderful to hear," Yochym added. The Yochym sisters have also met MacIntyre's family.

Professors give valuable counsel

Two professors in Fredonia's
Department of Chemistry and
Biochemistry had a significant impact
on MacIntyre, taking a strong interest in
her success as a biochemistry student,
a veterinary student and as a future
professional. Drs. Matthew Fountain
and Mark Janik welcomed MacIntyre in
their labs to perform research, answered
questions about coursework, gave
excellent advice about veterinary school
and, MacIntyre added, "provided a
professional camaraderie I never expected
to have with a professor."

MacIntyre rates the veterinary program as challenging and praises its hands-on lab experiences and extracurricular activities related to veterinary medicine that allow students to expand in areas of particular interest. She's a member of a large-animal difficult birth team that

gets calls at all hours of the night to help deliver goat kids, lambs, piglets and calves that otherwise would not survive without intervention.

"I have a strong passion for small and large animals since I grew up with both. I would be interested in working with pretty much any animal that walks in the door or that I could see on a farm call, save some reptiles and spiders. I am most passionate about dogs and sheep," MacIntyre said.

MacIntyre plans to practice in Chautauqua County when she completes her degree in 2023.

A long-term goal of MacIntyre, after working in an established clinic for many years, is to own a veterinary clinic that treats large and small animals as well as exotics and provide a "whole lifestyle approach to animal care" that includes medical and behavioral services, dog day care, small-animal grooming and boardina.

"We couldn't be more proud of Megan, and we know our father wouldn't have been more proud either," Yochym said.

1950s

George Whittier, '55, (music ed.) from East Amherst, N.Y., noted he was a first-year inductee into the Batavia (N.Y.) High School Music Hall of Fame and the Athletic Hall of Fame, and the SUNY Fredonia Athletic Hall of Fame. He served with the 7th Division Band in South Korea from 1955–57, and was a member of the 7th Division All-Star basketball team, champions of the 8th Army Far East tournament in 1957.

John Aceti, '58, (elem. ed.) has published his eighth book, "Women Warriors—They Too Have Served," available on Amazon. Nineteen women shared their military experience.

1970s

Lance Durban, '70, (econ.) has moderated a Fredonia—1970 online group for several years.

Dr. Michael P. Wilson, '71, '74, (earth sci./sec. ed., geology) was elected by the commissioners of the Ohio River Valley Water Sanitation Commission (ORSANCO) as Chairman at its June meeting.

Lawrence A. Dos Santos, '72, (social stds. sec. ed.) served in Vietnam as a U.S. Marine Corps Infantry Fire Team Leader, after which he attended Fredonia, noting, "It was tough being at Fredonia during the Days of Rage to end the War in Vietnam." He retired after six years as a Deputy Director for the New York State Division of Veterans Affairs.

pathologist. Since the start of the pandemic in March 2020, she has sewn and donated over 1,500 masks to fire departments, rescue squads, physicians' offices, churches, a local food pantry, and more. She also co-coordinated a project to provide masks to students, faculty, staff and families in the Oneida Central School District, which, as of January, has provided another 1,500 masks.

Paul Thomas, '73, (pol. sci.) has been elected to the College Foundation Board of Directors for SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry (ESF) in Syracuse, N.Y. He also serves on the foundation board for the Oneida (N.Y.) Public Library.

Patricia Lee Appelt, '74, (elem. ed.) retired from teaching in 2019. A motivational writer, she is the author of the self-published books, "Clouds of Life" and "Nourishing Thoughts."

Mother Came Back," directed by **Josie Di Vincenzo**, '81, (theatre).

Elizabeth Meier Eng, '79, (English) recently published her first picture book for preschoolers, "Flynn at Home." Her mystery for middle grade readers, "The Secret of the Tower," was published in 2013.

1980s

Jackie (Pike) Green, '80, (sound rec. technology) who is Director at Nexonic Design, was recognized as an Audio Engineering Society (AES) Fellow.

Linda (Ritchie) Unger, '80, (English) is now working as a writer for French Fluency. For more information on the organization, see www.frenchfluency.net.



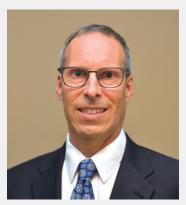
Jackie (Pike) Green, '80



Dr. Susan O. Schall, '81



Mark J. Simshauser, '85



Steve Lovejoy, '87

1960s

Dr. Eugene Alexander, '64, (elem. ed.) is working on his third book, and has been married to Sandy for 53 years

Deborah (Grant) Rodrigues, '69, (biology) reports she is "proudly taking friends and family to the Dr. [Willard] Stanley field bio sites he took us to in the '60s," including Presque Isle and Pymatuning State Park in Pennsylvania. She is also an advocate for a Syrian refugee family of nine.

John Caligiuri, '73, (bus. admin.) just released the fourth (and concluding) novel in his Cocytus Science Fiction Series, "Face One's Demons."

Tom Rasely, '73, (music ed.) recently surpassed the 1,000 mark in his composition catalog. It includes a symphony, a guitar concerto, two string quartets, multiple works for guitar ensembles and many church anthems. Much of the music is recorded on over 50 albums, all of which are available for downloads by most major internet vendors. He added, "Virtually every piece of music that I write is based on the information, training and encouragement that I received during my time at Fredonia." For more information, go to www.rasely.com.

Jill Emmett Thomas, '73, (speech and hear.) retired from the Oneida (N.Y.) City School District in 2007 as a licensed speech language As an educator, she also compiled a personal journal (not published), "Foundations of Life."

Mary McDonnell, '74, (theatre) was a quest star on the ABC series, "Rebel."

After 36 years as Professor of Saxophone in the School of Music, **Dr. Lawrence Gwozdz**, '**75**, (music ed./Performer's Certificate) has retired from the University of Southern Mississippi.

Larry Kapust, '77, (visual arts) lives in Rome, Italy. Through his Fredonia connections he became manager of "Mummenscanz," and from 1978 to 1990 brought the group all over the world. He later moved to Italy and continued working in theatre, television and cinema as an actor and voice artist.

Tina Rausa, '77, (theatre) co-starred in a world premiere staged reading of Alice Eve Cohen's "The Year My

Dr. Susan O. Schall, '81, (coop. engineer., math.) was named a 2020 Fellow of the Institute of Industrial & Systems Engineers. The Fellow award recognizes outstanding leaders of the profession who have made significant, nationally recognized contributions to industrial and systems engineering. A Fellow is the highest classification of IISE membership.

Bruce Farrell, '82, (soc. stds. sec. ed.) retired after 37 years with fire and ambulance services, most recently as deputy chief of Summit (county, Colo.) Fire & EMS.

Cathleen (Creenan) King, '82, (bus. admin.) was named City Clerk in North Adams, Mass.

Julie Newell, '82, (music perf.) was named Interim Managing Director of Syracuse Opera. Philip Halladay, '83, (music ed.) reports he is retiring after a 36-year teaching career in Broward County, Fla. He taught at the elementary, middle and high school levels during his career, and for 14 years taught at Parkway Middle School of the Arts in Ft. Lauderdale where he worked with pop star Jason Derulo and opera star Nadine Sierra.

Michael Knott, '83, (psychology) was promoted to Vice President-Corporate Safety at UtiliCon Solutions, LLC an Asplundh Tree Expert, LLC Company. In this role, he supports the safety effort for over a dozen companies under the UtiliCon Solutions umbrella which serve the needs of the utility industry nationwide.

Dianne (Carson) Craig, '85, (math.) was named president of Ford's International Markets Group.

John Gluszak, '86, (music theory) has retired after 32 years at ESPN. His career covered the expansion and growth of the fledging network into one of the most recognized "brands" ever created. His work, starting in studio operations and then expanding into studio technology, was also the recipient of nine various Emmy Awards during that time. He is now starting to work "part-time" consulting, but mostly getting ready to spend time at the lake!

Karl Schrantz, '86, (math.) was appointed Oneida (N.Y.) County Commissioner of the Department of Water Quality Control and Water Pollution.

Bruce Steo, '86, (psychology) earned his M.A. in Theology from Newburgh Theological Seminary 2021. He also earned a B.S. EET (Engineering) from Daniel Rebeor, '89, (commun.) has been named Chief Operating Officer at CivicSource®. He has 20 years of leadership experience in real estate, legal and technology services, and will be responsible for day-to-day operations, process optimization and strategic growth.

Maggie Wilson, '89, (bus. admin.) was named to the board of the Hospice and Palliative Care Buffalo Foundation. She is Vice President of Human Resources at Linde, Inc.

1990s

Heather J. Bennett, '90, (English) has published two novels, "Letting Go" and "Expecting to Fly."

Susan Herbst Soto, '90, (elem. ed.) a staff attorney at Lone Star Legal Aid in Texas, was named a Super Lawyers Rising Star for 2021.



David Smith, '93, (music ed.) was named Junior/Senior High School Principal at Mattituck (N.Y.)-Cutchogue Union Free School District.

Dave Wedekindt, '94, (bus. admin.) was promoted to Vice President of Concerts & Marketing for Artpark



Dave Wedekindt, '94



Daniel Rebeor, '89



Heather J. Bennett, '90



Samuel Haynes, '91, '94



Margaret "Peggy" Riley, '95

in Lewiston, N.Y. He had served as Director of Marketing & Sales for the organization since 2018. He was also recently elected vice president of the board of directors for the Arts Services Initiative of WNY, and chairs its Marketing Committee. In addition, he is on the board of directors for MusicalFare Theatre and also chairs its Marketing Committee.

Margaret "Peggy" Riley, '95, (commun.) has been promoted to Vice President of Employee Communications and Engagement at Wegmans Food Markets. In this role Peggy will lead all internal

Continued ▶

She has been with Ford since 1986, and was most recently CEO of FordDirect.

Mark J. Simshauser, '85, (commun.) was hired by Axiom Bank as Senior Vice President of Allied Affiliated Funding, responsible for expanding Allied and Axiom's existing commercial portfolios.

Nancy R. Steves, '85, (commun.) was named Marketing and Communications Coordinator for the Brooks-TLC Hospital System in Dunkirk. She earned her Master of Arts degree in Integrated Marketing Communications from St. Bonaventure University.

Dr. David Townson, '85, (special studies/environ. sci.) is Vice President of Immuno-oncology and Precision Medicine at Bayer AG where he leads the development of novel cancer treatments.

ITT in 1998 and a Certificate: Personal Computer specialist from Penn-Foster Career School in 1991. He married Amber Fossler 2001 and has three children.

Steve Lovejoy, '87, (bus. admin.) has joined OptumServe in Falls Church, Va., a UnitedHealth Group company, as Associate Director of Financial Planning & Analysis.

Jacob "Jake" Schrantz, '87, (account.) recently received the Paul Harris Fellow Award from the Rotary Club of Jamestown.

Maria Gentile-Feay, '88, (commun.) moved to Quantum Health as its Director of Learning and Quality Coaching in Dublin, Ohio.

Laurie (Sheppard) Kreh, '89, (English sec. ed.) received accreditation in February as a Senior Certified Professional from the Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM-SCP).

Dr. Kevin Courtright, '91, (pol. sci.) of the Criminal Justice, Anthropology and Forensic Studies Department, was named the 2021 Edinboro University of Pennsylvania Faculty Member of the Year. The award recognizes a faculty member who consistently exhibits exemplary teaching skills, presents a welldeveloped personal philosophy of teaching, and demonstrates mastery of their discipline.

Samuel Haynes, '91, '94, (English) who has been Vice President for Student Life and Dean of Students at Bethel College in North Newton, Kan., since January 2018, has been appointed to the board of Health Ministries Clinic (HMC) in Newton.

Dr. Cynthia (Miller) Hoover, '91, (chem.) is Vice President of Linde Engineering Americas.

Joy (Rubino) St. John, '91, (account.) was promoted to Business Manager at L&B Worldwide of Rochester, N.Y.

Andre Chambers, '97, (bus. admin.) was named Chief People Officer for the Washington Football Team. He was previously Vice President of People Operations for the Oakland (Calif.) Athletics.

Tiffany Hamilton, '98, (bus. admin.) who is Chief Diversity Officer and

2000s

Justin Azzarella, 2000, (pol. sci.) has been promoted to Chief Strategy Officer at Evergreen Health in Buffalo, N.Y. He leads the development and implementation of organizational goals and strategy planning while cultivating innovation opportunities to support Evergreen's continued growth.

William C. Conrad III, 2000, (soc. stds./history) was elected to the New York State Assembly in November 2020 for the 140th District representing Black Rock, Riverside, Town of Tonawanda, City of Tonawanda and City of North Tonawanda. He previously served Mark Taurisani, '03, (sociology) has taken a position at the University of Illinois as Assistant Athletics Director/Chief of Staff for the Fighting Illini football program. He was formerly Director of Operations for the University of Michigan's football program.

Sarah Offenbach, '07, (English) of Boston, Mass., works in Alumni Relations at the University of Massachusetts Amherst as a Director of Alumni Career Services.

2010s

Dr. Amanda (Ambrose) Demmer, '10, (history) is an Assistant Professor

Jillian Hanesworth, '14, '15, (criminal justice, pol. sci.) is Director of Leadership Development at Open Buffalo. She was named to the Buffalo Business First's 30-Under-30 recognition program.

Pilar Nelson, '14, (interdis. stds.)
lives in Boston, Mass., and recently
received the Outstanding New
Professional Award from the
American College Personnel
Association. She is the Community
Director at the University of
Massachusetts in Boston. She also
gave the presentation, "Moving from
Symbols to Institutional Change,"
at the March conference of the
National Association of Student
Personnel Administrators.



Tiffany Hamilton, '98



Justin Azzarella, 2000



William C. Conrad III, 2000



Maxwell C. Radley, '13

Director of the Arthur O. Eve HEOP at Daemen College, received the Inclusion Diversity Equity Awareness (IDEA) award presented by Buffalo Business First in March.

Jeff Hamelinck, '98, (elem. ed.), who is Principal at Norman R. Kelley Intermediate School in Newark, N.Y., was the recipient of the School Administrators Association of New York State Region 11 George Vito Elementary Administrator of the Award.

Michael P. Kelly, '98, (elem. ed.) was named CFO and Vice President of Finance for New View Alliance, Inc., a human services nonprofit operating throughout Western New York.

Scott Swimley, '98, (commun.) was named Branch Manager for Howard Hanna Real Estate Services in Corning, N.Y.

Dr. George Harper, '98, (biology) was named Director of Development and Communications for the Roger Tory Peterson Institute in Jamestown. as a councilman for the Town of Tonawanda and taught social studies at Kenmore (N.Y.) West High School.

Jacob Dietzel, 2000, (criminal justice) received the Dan Feather Memorial Scholarship from the Chautauqua County Sheriff's Academy.

Sara Baker Michalak's, 2000, (interdis. stds.) exhibition "Metaphysical" was featured at the Crary Art Gallery in Warren, Pa., in June and July.

Adam Powley, '01, (soc. stds. sec. ed.) was named the 2020-2021
Teacher of the Year at Horry County (S.C.) Schools, where he is the Early College High School American
History teacher.

Beth Starks, '02, '07, (elem. ed., curr. & instr.) was named Director of Jamestown Community College's Career Advantage program and its North County Extension Center in Dunkirk.

in the history department at Virginia Tech. Her first book, "After Saigon's Fall: Refugees and US-Vietnamese Relations, 1975-2000," was published in April by Cambridge University Press.

Dr. John Patrick Murphy, '10, (music perf., music ed.) was appointed Assistant Professor of Piano and Piano Pedagogy at the University of Oklahoma. Last summer, he presented at the National Conference on Keyboard Pedagogy (NCKP) biennial meeting.

Margaret (Lynch) van Wassenaer, '10, (molecular genetics) is a Food Security and Resilience Advisor at the NGO, CARE, in Washington, D.C.

Maxwell C. Radley, '13, (pol. sci.) has joined the firm of Lipsitz Green Scime Cambria LLP Attorneys at Law as an Associate.

David Sanna, '13, (bus. admin./ marketing) is now working in the CBD/Hemp Industry at Bison Botanics in Kenmore. N.Y. Danielle Beckvermit, '15, (music perf.) was the 2021 Orpheus Grand Prize Winner in the Young Artist Category, receiving the Thomas and Robbie Harper Award. She was also a finalist in the 2021 Jensen Foundation Vocal Competition's People's Choice category and in the Annapolis Opera Vocal Competition. In addition, Danielle was named a 2021 Tomita Young Artist by Finger Lakes Opera. In June, she earned an Honorable Mention in the Kyrenia Opera Vocal Competition.

Samantha (Gaudio) Didrichsen, '15, (early child. ed.) has accepted a new teaching job as a Special Education Itinerant Teacher (SEIT) at the Buffalo Hearing and Speech Center. She is excited to provide special education services for the birth to 5 age population in both the Buffalo, N.Y., and Fredonia areas.

Dan Magee, '15, (music ed.) was named Relocation Manager at Vargas Associates, Inc. Assistant Engineer Chris Perepezko, '17, (sound rec. technology) is working for LIME Studios Santa Monica in its launch of a New York City remote studio. Chris formerly worked for Sound Lounge.

Victoria Hendrix, '18, (interdis. stds.) received her Master of Christian Studies degree in May from Union University School of Theology and Missions in Jackson, Tenn. She added, "Shout Out to all the Blue Devil professors who 100 percent believed in me and motivated me to keep going even in the rough valleys...you know who you are, THANK YOU!!!"

A copy of the Fredonia College Foundation's most recently filed financial report is available from the Charities Registry of the New York State Office of the Attorney General at www.charitiesnys.com, (212) 416–8401, or by contacting the New York State Attorney General, Charities Bureau, 28 Liberty Street, New York, NY 10005, or us at 272 Central Avenue, Fredonia, NY, 14063

FREEDONIA MARXONIA





Pilar Nelson, '14

Victoria Hendrix, '18

Michael W. Earle's, '19, (sound rec. technology) paper, created in conjunction with his master's thesis project at Houghton College, is being published and was presented through the Audio Engineering Society in its 150th convention in May.

2020s

Quinn Bankoski, '20, (sport mgmt.) was hired as the first full-time female worker in the city of Dunkirk Department of Public Works.

Submit Class Notes at fredonia.edu/my-story or send to the Alumni Affairs Office. Alumni House.

Help future generations of Fredonians today, by sending your Annual Gift in the attached envelope, or giving online at www.fredonia.edu/give.
Thank you for supporting your alma mater and being a proud Fredonian!

Freedonia Marxonia 2021's 'There's Nothing Like Liberty: The Marx Brothers and America' will broaden its geographic scope following last year's 'Home Again: The Marx Brothers and New York City'

This year's event will again be virtual, created by author and performer Noah Diamond. It will be streamed live, free to all, on Friday, Oct. 1.

"There's Nothing Like Liberty: The Marx Brothers and America" will look at the brothers' experience across the nation, including their years spent in Chicago and Hollywood. The illustrated lecture promises to be an informative and entertaining continuation in the history of the Marx Brothers. (The title, "There's Nothing Like Liberty," is a quote from their 1929 movie "The Cocoanuts.")

Mr. Diamond was one of the organizers of New York City's 2014 Marxfest; the creative force behind bringing the Marx Brothers' 1924 musical "I'll Say She Is" to the off-Broadway stage in 2016; and writer and performer of "400 Years in Manhattan," an award-winning show at the 2019 United Solo Theatre Festival in New York City. In 2020, he and Amanda Sisk wrote and produced "Quarantigone," an online adaption of Sophocles' "Antigone." He is currently a co-host of the Marx Brothers Council Podcast. Diamond presented his "The Marx Brothers on Broadway: 1924–1929" at the 1891 Fredonia Opera House for Freedonia Marxonia 2017 and created "Home Again" for Freedonia Marxonia 2020, which continues to be enjoyed on YouTube.

Freedonia Marxonia is an annual festival created in 1987 by a SUNY Fredonia student commemorating Fredonia's connection to the Marx Brothers, whose 1933 movie, "Duck Soup," is set in the fictional country of "Freedonia."

Please watch for details about the time and specifics on how to access this event. Email Cindy Yochym at *Cynthia.Yochym@fredonia.edu* with questions.

Diamond's presentation is supported by a grant from the Carnahan Jackson Fund for the Humanities of the Fredonia College Foundation. The event is also supported by the foundation's Hahn Family Freedonia Marxonia Fund.

Take Note:

We love it when the Fredonia family grows! We are always looking for announcements of marriages and children—and photos! We look forward to hearing from you at

Births

A son, John, to **Kathleen** and **August J. Bloomquist, '06** (commun./video prod.).

Quinn Margaret Mitaritonna, to U.S. Army TSgt. **Hillary Grobe**, '**12**, (music ed., music perf.) and **James Mitaritonna**, '**13** (music ed.).



Deaths*

ALUMNI

Ruth H. (Wilson) Myer, Class of 1946

Alice M. (Sprague) Sweet, Class of 1947

Elsie (Fagan) Baldwin,

Class of 1949 **Lee (Schmitt) Lambert**,

Class of 1950

Valentine C. Anzalone, Class of 1952

Helen (Petitt) Snyder, Class of 1952

Richard Albert Stephan, Class of 1952

Robert E. Stoll,

Class of 1952

Sandy M. (Guercio) Gerace,

Sandy M. (Guercio) Gerace, Class of 1953

Marilyn (Chaffee) Ostrander, Class of 1953

Jean (Barrett) Sample, Class of 1953

Nancy (Robertson) Hennessey, Class of 1957

Doris (Davis) LaSpada, Class of 1957

Sandra Jean (Zollweg) Wright, Class of 1957 John R. Valone,

Class of 1958

Sally (Grosser) Merwin, Class of 1959

Alvin McGrath "Mac" Crowe, Class of 1961

Beatrice Price, Class of 1961

Leon Price, Class of 1961

Rosalie "Rosie" (Marsala) Davies, Class of 1962

Carol K. (Hull) Hakes, Class of 1962

Charles Vara Jr., Class of 1963

Chester E. Bates, Class of 1964

Arlene B. (Waite) Josephson, Class of 1964

Thomas A. Michos, Class of 1964

Rose Marie Vallet, Class of 1964

B. Anthony "Brownie" Gary, Class of 1965

John J. Banach, Class of 1966

Charles A. Cowen, Class of 1966

Eileen (Levy) Star Batrouny, Class of 1967

Gary B. Berndt, Class of 1968

Jessica Liebowitz Biondi, Class of 1968

Jack R. Engdahl, Classes of 1968, '79, '80

John L. "Jack" Wade, Class of 1968

Vera J. (Baker) Zimowski, Class of 1968

Lynda (Brass) Fray, Class of 1969

Joyce (Fisher) Walsh, Class of 1969

Rita D. (Cashimere) Levay, Class of 1970

Richard A. Petrus, Classes of 1970, '72

Barbara M. (Pecora) Pedersen, Class of 1971

John H. Stormer Jr., Class of 1971

Brian J. Woods, Class of 1971

Carol A. (Webber) Gage, Class of 1972 Daniel J. Ohlrich,

Class of 1972

Loyd J. Chilson, Class of 1973

Nancy Jane (Downey) Dulniak, Class of 1973

Mary (Hough) Rendall Blair, Class of 1974

Jeanne M. (Cunningham) Keefe, Class of 1974

James P. Nairn, Class of 1974

Virginia T. (Taylor) Saden, Class of 1974

Sara (Robinson) Black, Class of 1975

Richard S. Karnath, Class of 1976

Pamela Marie (Wolf) Rogalski, Class of 1976

Susan Katherine Simovich, Class of 1976

Gregory T. Stewart, Class of 1976

Dr. David P. Przybyla, Class of 1977

Robin Schoener, Class of 1977

Kirk Jeffrey Krull,

Class of 1978; Member, Fredonia College Foundation Board of Directors

Kevin R. Petherick Sr., Class of 1978

Joan M. (Albano) Reickart, Class of 1978

Randy P. Zwolak, Class of 1978

James "Jimmy" Goodman, Class of 1979

Peter Anthony Pennesi, Class of 1981

John Lloyd Walters, Class of 1984

Jane L. (Fleming) Wright, Class of 1984

Laurie (Koepke) Smith, Class of 1988

Samuel Alan Skurk,

Class of 1988

Tammy Rae Newhouse Buck, Class of 1992

Mark Richard Chase, Class of 1994

Michael J. Onderko, Class of 1996

Shawn R. "Quinny" Quinn, Class of 2001 Pamela (Gabalac) Westman,

Class of 2005

Dr. Cassidy Hahn Shaw, Class of 2009

Jason Ronald Gould, Class of 2013

FACULTY/EMERITI

Dr. David C. Bryant, Department of Philosophy, 1970–1989

Dr. Patrick R. Damore, Assistant/ Associate/Professor; Department of Health and Physical Education; Head Soccer Coach, Assistant/ Head Basketball Coach, Head Tennis Coach, Director of Athletics; 1956–1985; SUNYAC Commissioner, 1979–2012

Dr. David Evans III, Assistant/ Associate/Professor, School of Music. 1976–1999

Dr. Gil Gaudia, Assistant/Associate/ Professor; Department of Education, 1967–1985

Dr. J. Carter Rowland, Acting President, SUNY Fredonia/Acting Vice President for Academic Affairs/ Vice President for Academic Affairs/Chairperson and Professor, Department of English, 1967–1995; Acting Associate Provost for Undergraduate Studies, SUNY System Administration, 1989–90

Dr. Douglas H. Shepard, Assistant/ Associate/Professor; Department of English, 1962–1985

STAFF/FORMER STAFF/ RETIRED STAFF

Vera J. Buck, Clerk-Typist, Keyboard Specialist, Health Center, 1964–1988

Kathleen A. "Kathy" Hayes, Faculty Student Association food services

Ann M. (O'Rourke) Kaminski, Administrative Coordinator, Office of Alumni Affairs, 1978–1992

Rosemary "Tudy" Lockett, Custodial Services, 1980–2010

Daniel O'Rourke, Affirmative Action Officer, Assistant Vice President for Human Resources, 1974–1996

Cynthia Ann Sysol, Faculty Student Association food services

STUDENTS

Andrew L. Ernst

*Memorials may be directed to a scholarship established with the Fredonia College Foundation. See fredonia.edu/foundation.

CAREER CORNER

by TRACY COLLINGWOOD, '94

Director, Engagement and Career Development

Career Development staff receives SUNY-wide award... Partnering with Fredonia alumni

Fredonia's Career Development Office (CDO) shared the spotlight at the 2021 SUNY Career Development Organization's annual conference, receiving an Award for Excellence in Programming.

The award, presented in the Excellence in Employer/Community Collaboration category at the organization's 45th annual conference in June, acknowledges the campus' CDO staff for excellence achieved through partnerships that it's created with employers and other members of the community in the past year that have culminated in new programming or services that benefit students.

Fredonia received the award on the success of its first Virtual Employer Showcase that attracted nearly 400 students and featured more than 30 employers hosting remote presentations for students, classes and student clubs.

Fredonia alumni making a difference

Fredonia's traditional Job & Internship Expo had to be reimagined due to the pandemic and resulted in an innovative Virtual Employer Showcase held primarily throughout March 2021. It was a win-win

program. Student participation reached historically high numbers and employer feedback was quite positive, allowing the campus to connect students to opportunities while maintaining and strengthening important employer relationships.

Thank you to the following alumni who participated in the Virtual Employer Showcase:

- M&T: Sean Quinn, Anna Chiacchia, and Julia Santone
- **GEICO: Latrell Tyson**
- Jamestown Central School District: John Panebianco
- Lancaster Central School District: Stephanie Lackie, Karen Marchioli and Amy Moeller
- J-Class Solutions: Thomas Garben
- Calpine: Kevin McMahon
- National Comedy Center: Rebecca **Beatty**

SUNYCDO every year recognizes office innovation and good programming or services for students. This is the fourth time Fredonia's CDO has won an

award that encompasses employer and community engagement; prior awards were received in 2019, 2017 and 2010.

Employers interested in hosting interns or hiring for jobs

If you are a Fredonia alumni, and would like to recruit students for your company or organization, you can create an employer account in FREDNetwork powered by Handshake. Login today at https://fredonia.joinhandshake.com/ register to create your employer account and get started.

Remember the Career Development Office (CDO) is here to assist you as long as you need. Whether you are starting or negotiating career challenges and opportunities, the CDO can help you plan your next move. If you would like to make an appointment to discuss strategies to advance your career, contact the CDO at (716) 673-3327 or email careers@fredonia. edu. You can also visit the CDO's website at www.fredonia.edu/cdo to schedule an appointment.



FREDNetwork - powered by Handshake

Search for job opportunities in the CDO's FREDNetwork powered by Handshake. The career management system intuitively connects you to relevant job opportunities based on your profile, interests and search activity.

Login today at https://fredonia.joinhandshake.com/register to create your account and complete your profile so that you can put your best self forward to employers.

Call (716) 673-3327 Email careers@fredonia.edu Web fredonia.edu/cdo



Share your Fredonia Story!

What's happening in your life and career? We are proud of Fredonia alumni and want to share their accomplishments. Tell us your success story at the link below so that we can share it with prospective Fredonia students and other alumni.

Visit www.fredonia.edu/my-story to share your story.

Class Notes:

If you want Fredonia to publish your update as a Class Note in the *Statement* alumni magazine, please check the **Include as a Class Note** box on the web form.

