

The Magazine for Fredonia Alumni and Friends

# Statement

FALL 2017



## Making big waves in radio

Fredonia Radio Systems crowned  
top collegiate station in U.S.

### Insight into Islam

Maytum Convocation Lecturer to bridge  
information gap

### Fredonia means business!

School of Business receives  
AACSB accreditation

### Commencement

Class of 2017 encouraged to  
'lead an authentic life'



**AACSB**  
ACCREDITED

 **FREDONIA**

STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

### SAVE THE DATES

Homecoming Weekend, Oct. 19-22

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## Admissions Events

### Open House Dates

Saturday, Sept. 23

Saturday, Nov. 11 – Veterans Day

### Saturday Visit Dates

Saturday, Oct. 14

Saturday, Oct. 21 – Homecoming

Students and families can also visit any day during the academic year. Just contact Admissions to arrange an appointment.

To learn more, visit: [fredonia.edu/visit](http://fredonia.edu/visit) or call 1-800-252-1212.

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## Alumni and Campus Events Calendar

For alumni event registration and payment, go to <http://alumni.fredonia.edu/Events.aspx> or contact the Alumni Affairs office at (716) 673-3553.

### SEPTEMBER

**President's Award for Excellence in Teaching and Learning Lecture by Dr. Scott Ferguson**  
Thursday, Sept. 7, 3:30 p.m. (time tentative)  
Kelly Family Auditorium, Science Center Room 105

**Maytum Convocation Lecture/Williams Visiting Professor Dr. Amer Ahmed**  
"Islam: Beyond the Myths, Breaking Down the Barriers"  
Tuesday, Sept. 12, 3 p.m.  
King Concert Hall  
Tickets are free, but required, and available at the Fredonia Ticket Office in the Williams Center.

**Rochester, N.Y. Alumni Reunion**  
Thursday, Sept. 21, 6 p.m.  
Three Heads Brewing  
186 Atlantic Ave.,  
Rochester, N.Y. 14607

**SUNY Alumni Night at Yankee Stadium**  
Wednesday, Sept. 27



**Fredonia Marxonia**  
Annual Marx Brothers Festival  
Thursday-Friday, Sept. 28 and 29  
Reed Library Exhibit: Sept. 28-Oct. 22  
Fredonia Marxonia activity on Friday, Sept. 29, with Noah Diamond; noon, Reed Library  
See page 31 for information on additional activities.

**Washington, D.C. Alumni Reunion**  
Wednesday, Sept. 27, 6 p.m.  
1789 Restaurant  
1226 36th St. NW,  
Washington, DC 20007

### OCTOBER

**#FREDIanthropy Day**  
Tuesday, Oct. 3, campus

**Robert W. Kasling Memorial Lecture by Professor Timothy Frerichs**  
"Sounding Lines"  
Tuesday, Oct. 3, 2 p.m.  
Rosch Recital Hall

**Homecoming Weekend and Class of 1967 50th Reunion**  
Thursday-Sunday, Oct. 19-22  
2nd Fredonia Mini Maker Faire on Saturday, Oct. 21  
See full schedule on page 12.

**SUNY Alumni and Congressional Reception at SUNY Day**  
Tuesday, Oct. 24  
Washington, D.C.  
Location and time TBA

**Family Weekend**  
Friday-Sunday, Oct. 27-29  
Campus

**Scholars Breakfast**  
(by invitation only)  
Saturday, Oct. 28  
Steele Hall

### NOVEMBER

**Fredonia Alumni /Admissions Reception/Men's Basketball Game vs. Fordham University**  
Pre-game reception  
Friday, Nov. 3, 4:30 p.m.  
Michael Angelo's Little Italy Restaurant  
2477 Arthur Ave.  
Bronx, N.Y. 10458  
Game at Rose Hill Gymnasium, 7 p.m.  
4431 E. Fordham Road  
Bronx, N.Y. 10458

**Alumni Board of Directors**  
Annual Meeting  
Thursday, Nov. 9, 4 p.m.  
Alumni House

**Veterans Day Ceremony**  
Friday, Nov. 10, 3 p.m.  
Williams Center



## Dear Alumni and Friends,

This is an exciting time to be associated with Fredonia! Current students and alumni are achieving milestones and recognition that make us so proud. Examples abound from students past and present that show Fredonia continues to develop “skilled, connected, creative, and responsible global citizens and professionals,” some of whom are proudly highlighted in this edition of the *Statement*.

The cover story showcases a student group that embodies all those attributes, Fredonia Radio Systems, which has long been a part of the rich student experience on campus. Because it is open to all students—regardless of major—chances are you knew someone who enjoyed being a part of this creative team. That creativity and professionalism have finally received national recognition, for the radio station as a whole, and for several talented students individually. These awards reinforce the importance of learning through involvement in clubs on campus, an important component of student development and success at Fredonia.

We hope you'll participate in our second annual day of giving campaign, which we have creatively called “#FREDlanthropy.” It is a chance to support Fredonia programs and help current and future students achieve academic success. All donations—large and modest—will make a difference on Oct. 3. Because one of the ways institutions are ranked depends on the percentage of alumni giving, we see #FREDlanthropy as a fun, easy way for many to give even a few dollars and raise our alumni giving profile. Please watch Fredonia's social media channels for information as the date approaches.

If you've been thinking of attending Homecoming at Fredonia, this is a great year to be on campus. Many special tributes are planned, including a salute to the Hillman Opera, and other surprises for alumni and their families. Please make plans to visit Fredonia this October and connect with others in the Fredonia family.

Of course, you don't need to wait for Homecoming! Please join us on campus anytime. You will see that while some physical structures have been added or changed, the spirit and warm feelings that made you fall in love with Fredonia remain strong today.

Sincerely,

Dr. Virginia S. Horvath  
President, Fredonia

Dr. Greg Gibbs  
President, Fredonia Alumni Association

# Statement

THE MAGAZINE FOR FREDONIA ALUMNI AND FRIENDS

VOLUME 46, NO. 1, FALL 2017

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*Published biannually by the Marketing and Communications Office at the State University of New York at Fredonia, 272 Central Ave., Fredonia, NY 14063. (716) 673-3323. Periodical postage paid at Fredonia, NY and at additional mailing offices. The Statement is mailed to alumni, parents, graduate students, faculty and staff, and friends of the university. Articles may be reprinted without permission.*



# Insight into Islam

Maytum Convocation Lecturer to bridge information gap

Dr. Amer Ahmed, an acclaimed scholar who studies Islamic culture and has earned praise for his ability to facilitate honest, authentic dialogue that replaces fear and stereotypes with facts and understanding, will deliver the Maytum Convocation Lecture, “Islam: Beyond the Myths, Breaking Down the Barriers,” on Tuesday, Sept. 12, 3 p.m., in King Concert Hall.

“Since 9-11, American questions and fears about Islam, its teachings and its followers, have grown,” said Jennifer Hildebrand, Convocation Committee chair. “As the United States ponders how best to keep our citizens safe, the Convocation Committee believes that education must play a central role. If we have concerns about the teachings of Islam, an important step is to learn more about it.”

The goal of Dr. Ahmed's talk, framed within the 2017-2018 Convocation theme, “Transformations,” is to increase knowledge of Islam and provide needed context to bridge divides, Dr. Hildebrand explained. “As we continue to discuss and debate American policies, a fuller understanding of Muslim beliefs will help us to make informed decisions.”

Tickets are required for the event, which is free and open to the public, and can be obtained at the Fredonia Ticket Office in the Williams Center.

Ahmed, also a Williams Visiting Professor, will participate in the campus' Professional Development Day sessions with faculty and students.

Islam's ascent to the forefront of the American consciousness was accompanied by fear and lack of understanding of one of the world's major religions, leading to confusion and conflict, Hildebrand explained. She points to a violent, hate-motivated attack on a Sikh temple near Milwaukee, Wis., to demonstrate that such misunderstandings create tragic problems not just for Muslim-Americans, but many others as well.

Ahmed is Director of Intercultural Teaching and Faculty Development at University of Massachusetts – Amherst, the flagship of the University of

Massachusetts system, with nearly 24,000 undergraduates and over 6,500 graduate students.

A Springfield, Ohio, native born to Indian Muslim immigrants, Ahmed has an eclectic personal and professional background. He has dedicated his life to engaging and facilitating diversity across human difference. He has a doctoral degree in Education from the University of South Dakota and has served as an intercultural diversity consultant, college administrator, facilitator, poet and hip hop activist. He has a M.A. and B.A., in Anthropology and Black Studies.

Ahmed is a nationally known speaker who addresses his diverse areas of expertise at colleges, conferences and institutes. He has appeared on MSNBC's “Melissa Harris-Perry” show and in “Cracking the Codes,” a documentary film on racism.

According to a Pew Research Center estimate, Muslims are the fastest-growing religious group in the world, with 1.6 billion followers in 2010. Growth and regional migration of Muslims, along with the ongoing impact of the Islamic State (also known as ISIS or ISIL) and other extremist groups that represent a tiny minority of Muslims and commit acts of violence in the name of Islam, have placed Muslims and the Islamic faith at the forefront of political debate in the United States and other countries.

“Learning more about Islam should allow us to seek out connections and partnerships worldwide with those Muslims who also condemn terrorist acts, and it helps us to develop effective and creative solutions that protect the American people. A policy built on myths and falsehoods is unlikely to succeed,” Hildebrand said.



Dr. Amer Ahmed

# Making big waves in radio

Fredonia Radio Systems crowned top collegiate station in U.S.

- 1948 — A radio club that evolved into WCVF-AM 600 begins producing programs in Old Main that were aired on WDOE-AM, Dunkirk.
- 1965 — Radio station relocated to Fenton Hall.
- 1966 — Program Director Gregg Pazdersky elected Regional Director of Intercollegiate Broadcasting System.
- 1969 — Station relocated to Jewett Hall basement.
- 1970 — Round-the-clock coverage of reaction to U.S. military invasion of Cambodia and student shootings at Kent State University.
- 1971 — Sigma Chi Zeta chapter of the national Iota Beta Sigma Collegiate Broadcasting Fraternity formed.
- 1972 — Open house held for “new broadcast center” in Gregory Hall.
- 1973 — Ed Edelman and Norm Nicholas filed reports from Washington, D.C., on inauguration of President Richard Nixon.
- 1976 — Live broadcast of Presidential debate between Gerald Ford and Jimmy Carter.
- 1978 — WCVF-FM 88.9 granted Federal Communications Commission (FCC) broadcast license.
- 1986 — Remote live broadcast of the Arbor Day planting of the WCVF Radio Tree (a flowering crabapple) outside Gregory Hall during the “High Noon Friday” program.



## Best On-Air Personality

Noah Maciejewski, a junior Audio/Radio Production and Video Production major, is razor-focused on a radio career as an on-air personality or in management. He won the Best On-Air Personality trophy for his weekly WDWL show, which features Top 40 music sprinkled with news about artists, celebrity gossip, concert announcements and campus news.

An internship at Entercom Radio in Buffalo led to an offer to join the on-air staff of Kiss 98.5 in a part-time/fill-in capacity on weekends. Maciejewski has also helped out at station events, handled board operations and even filled in at the front reception desk. He had the opportunity to work with former FRS personality Jud Heussler, '12, at Kiss 98.5. “He has been my mentor and has greatly helped me in many ways.”

Maciejewski also won first place for Best Use of Twitter. He uses a separate Twitter account, “@Noah\_OnAir,” to post content that’s similar to what he features on his show. “I use it to promote events, share stories, funny things I find online. It’s really a great tool for interacting with my audience.”

Come this fall, Maciejewski, who joined FRS as a first-year student, will become General Manager. He previously served as an assistant before becoming WDWL Program Director. “It’s a very exciting industry and I definitely want to continue being a part of it.”

In the vast college radio universe, Fredonia Radio Systems is a relatively small player, a low-power outlet run entirely by students. But that doesn’t mean SUNY’s oldest radio station can’t compete at the national level with larger, well-heeled collegiate broadcasters.

And be recognized, no less, as the “Best College Station in the Nation” in 2017.

Fredonia Radio Systems (FRS) won the coveted Abraham & Borst Award at the Intercollegiate Broadcasting System’s (IBS) 77th annual conference this past spring in New York City. Comprised of WDWL 89.5 and WCVF 88.9 FM, FRS went head-to-head with over 700 college and university radio stations of all sizes and came out on top based on quality of programming, service to the community, overall sound of the station, station management and operation and other criteria.

“The atmosphere in the station has pride written all over it. It’s a great feeling to finally be recognized for all of the hard work we put into this station and we can’t help but to take that in,” beamed General Manager Rebecca “Becca” D’Hilly near the end of the spring semester. “I don’t think anyone’s stopped smiling since we got back from New York City.”

WDVL, “Fredonia’s Hit Radio Station,” plays Top 40 music exclusively through the Internet, while sister station WCVF, “The Campus and Community Voice of Fredonia,” offers varied programming heard throughout much of Chautauqua County. Both stations can be accessed on the Internet and iTunes Radio.

Just moments before winning the overall award, FRS was recognized as the “Best College Radio Station (Under 10,000 Students).” Guess there’s no better warm-up to the ultimate prize.

Ms. D’Hilly was guardedly optimistic that FRS—already flush with a stable of individual trophy winners and the under 10,000 enrollment prize—was well-positioned to be given the very highest honor among stations likewise stocked with multiple student winners.

“I experienced everything from disbelief to unbelievable joy, and it wasn’t until I called Dr. Laura Johnson, our faculty adviser, that the tears started streaming down my eyes,” the graduating senior Communication/Public Relations major from West Seneca recalled.

There was a lot of hardware to cart back to McEwen Hall. Noah Maciejewski won a pair of awards: Best On-Air Personality for his weekly program, “Noah On-Air,” and Best Use of Twitter for “@Noah\_onAir.” Dan Salazar won Best Promotion Poster for his “80s Euphoria” poster. Alex Behrens won Best Use of Graphics in a Video for “Rockin’ the Commons.” The trio of Matt Pantano, Jaret Belschwinder and Jay Wilkie shared Best Hockey Play-by-Play honors.

Like the classic David vs. Goliath story, FRS was up

against radio stations endowed with large staffs and deep pockets. “When you have a small, low-power station at a smaller school, you don’t think of yourself as possibly competing with major universities,” admitted Dr. Johnson, a faculty member of the Department of Communication.

But FRS did just that, and Johnson was, without a doubt, “utterly amazed and unbelievably proud of them.”

These staffers, described by Johnson as “a very hardworking cooperative,” submitted more than 100 entries in various contest categories. “At last count it was 104 entries, and they sent more in after the deadline, and I think the judges were impressed,” Johnson exclaimed. “I have to give credit to Becky D’Hilly; she is a natural leader and a wonderful team builder. Her sister, Sarah, was GM a few years ago, so there is sort of that family thing going on.”

Also named finalists were: Mr. Maciejewski, Best Celebrity Interviewer, for “Damn Daniel Interview;” Kris Harris, Best Radio Drama, “Mousepolcalypse;” Aidan Licker and Lexi Reyngoudt, Best Show Promotion, “Local Lo-down Static Promo;” Maddy Eberhardt and Maciejewski, Best Public Service, “Back to School Safety;” and Harper Fischer, Best Logo, “Fredonia Radio Systems Logo.”

What sets FRS apart from most college stations is the operational model Communication Professor Emeritus Dan Berggren developed early in his long station adviser tenure. “The ‘Fredonia’ model for a ‘college radio station’ gives freedom and responsibility to the students, allowing them to learn from decisions that are based in the ‘real world’

of broadcasting. It is a model that is not allowed at most colleges and universities,” Johnson explained.

In fact, it was Mr. Berggren’s unique model that attracted Johnson to Fredonia. “WCVF and WDWL are a living laboratory where students learn about the business of running radio stations and how to work creatively and productively in a professional environment,” Johnson said. College administrations typically place paid personnel at some level above students.

The model has thrived at Fredonia because students are respectful of the responsibility that the administration has allowed them and they work very hard at their positions, Johnson added. They’re guided by their heritage, their adviser, other faculty and staff, and very supportive alumni.

Longtime Communication Professor Ted Schwalbe commends Berggren for creating an atmosphere and culture of professionalism which students have maintained and passed on to others. “It wasn’t just a college station to them; it was an FCC-licensed broadcast station with responsibilities to the community and the students always took that very seriously,” Dr. Schwalbe said.

“The atmosphere in the station has pride written all over it.” — “Becca” D’Hilly

WDVL 89.5 and WCVF 88.9 FM  
General Manager

1970s



Key WCVF team members in the early 1970s included (from left): Ed Edelman, program director; Ben Homel, chief engineer; and Al Kenyon, general manager.

1981



Fredonia alumnus Dr. John Malcolm, longtime chair of the Department of Communication, in the McEwen Hall radio studio in 1981.

1982



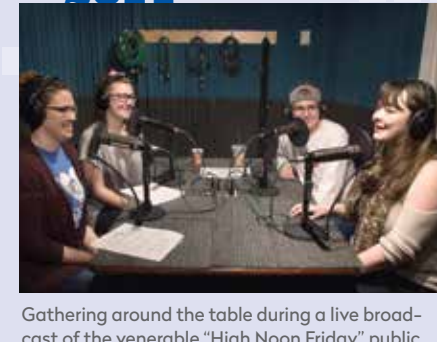
English Professor Steve Warner (left) and Dan Berggren, Communication professor and Fredonia Radio Systems adviser, in Control Room B in McEwen Hall in 1982.

2001



Alumni Mark Krurnowski, '95, and Todd Broady, '96, (right) returned to campus in 2001 to speak with students in Dan Berggren's class.

2014



Gathering around the table during a live broadcast of the venerable "High Noon Friday" public affairs program are (from left): "Becca" D'Hilly, general manager; Maddy Eberhardt, staff member; Cheyenne Bruyere, engineer assistant; and 2014 graduate Abbey Hunt, a Music Industry major now working at Sony Music in New York City.

2017



Proudly displaying their IBS first place trophies are (front row, from left): Dan Salazar, "Becca" D'Hilly and Alex Behrens; (back row, from left): Matt Pantano, Jaret Belschwinder and Noah Maciejewski. (Missing from photo: Jay Wilkie.)



Music Director Lexi Reyngoudt spends a free moment in the station's archives, sorting through vinyl and compact discs, which still have a role—albeit a smaller one today—at the station.

Berggren picked up the baton from Dr. John Malcolm, the Department of Communication's founding father. He had worked at WCVF as a student in the 1950s, joined the faculty in 1963 and was instrumental in nurturing the radio station's growth in its "carrier current" era.

D'Hilly says Johnson watches over the operation and gives advice from her experiences that the staff is "unbelievably grateful" to receive. "She is the reason we have been able to grow and thrive as a station. Without the opportunities she has given us, we would have not been able to push ourselves this far to be the best we can be, which is apparently the Best Station in the Nation," D'Hilly said.

There's a strong connection between FRS and the Department of Communication, and a majority of its members are majors in the communication field, but nearly all academic concentrations are represented in the 174-student staff. Membership is open to all.

FRS also serves as a broadcast outlet for students enrolled in COMM 451, Audio Documentaries/Soundscapes, a senior capstone class for Audio/Radio Production majors. Each student has had his/her work broadcast on "High Noon Friday," WCVF's hour-long public affairs program.

The IBS conference, attended annually by FRS, delivers a comprehensive examination of the industry, with breakout sessions focused on programming, on-air content, budgeting, equipment and engineering, fundraising, management and public relations. Takeaways from this year's event also included branding, ways to expand awareness of the station on campus and surrounding areas, and increasing student involvement. Students also toured several New York stations and explored the city.

"Overall, I think we took home inspiration to try new things and the motivation to do so," D'Hilly said.

"I've been to the conference twice in my time at Fredonia Radio Systems and to this day my favorite session was 'Women in Media.' It was very empowering and different than any other session they had that weekend," D'Hilly noted.

### Humble beginnings in Old Main

FRS traces its roots to 1948 as a radio club that met on the third floor of Old Main, the Fredonia Normal School academic building on Temple Street, and produced programs that were broadcast on WDOE-AM, Dunkirk. The group moved to the new campus and WCVF-AM was formed. A transmitter located in the basement of each residence hall made it possible for the electrical system to carry the station's signal to any radio that was plugged into an electrical outlet. Once an extension of the Department of English and Drama, WCVF-AM became entirely student-run in 1966.

As Fredonia's modern campus grew, the station was shuttled among buildings, including the second-floor of Fenton Hall, basement of Jewett Hall, the press box in the Dods Hall gymnasium and in Gregory Hall, before the second floor of McEwen Hall became its permanent home.

WCVF-FM 88.9 was born Sept. 25, 1978, initially with 10 watts of broadcast power. Now at 150 watts, it has a potential audience of 40,000 people in Northern Chautauqua County. WCVF-600 AM switched to WDVL Cable 89.5, and the two stations became Fredonia Radio Systems.

### Low power doesn't mean you're off the radar

Back in 2011, Fredonia Radio Systems had top billing over stations at several highly regarded universities in a lengthy *New York Times* article, "College Radio Heads: Off the Dial," that examined how college stations around the country were transforming themselves into multimedia platforms to remain relevant to tech-savvy students. The reporter wound up spending an entire day at FRS, Johnson recalled, and Jud Heussler, FRS's general manager at the time, was quoted early, often and quite extensively.

In fact, the story began by conveying what takes place inside a FRS broadcast booth, as Mr. Heussler presides over the hour-long comedy show "The Morning Inferno" and gives a heads-up to listeners for what he'd soon be throwing up on the show's Facebook page. Input from program directors Izzy Jay (WCVF)

and Rob Neves (WDVL) also ran in the story.

Johnson attributes Fredonia's dominant presence in the *Times*' dissertation, in part, to Heussler's engaging personality. "I remember that the reporter found herself laughing at Jud's jokes while he was on the air and she told him that he was truly funny. I think his leadership led to an outstanding result for the station. We were fortunate to be mentioned in that article, as a small, low-power station."

Radio stations at Yale, Vanderbilt, Brown, Cornell, DePaul, Drexel and Princeton were also represented in the article.

### The best yet to be heard

So will FRS staffers start to relax on their laurels?

Not a chance, D'Hilly insists.

"I think our standards for everything are a little bit higher now, which is a good thing! We want to continue this growth and success of the station so we are all taking on our projects with a little more creativity and innovation. People are thinking outside the box and taking the risks that you should be taking at a college radio station, when it's fun and experimental."

Groundwork for today's accolades was set by generations of students who nurtured FRS. Many former staffers have pursued successful careers in the industry and more than 50 IBS trophies have been awarded to students over the years.

"It's all the little details that laid the foundation for something like this to happen—for FRS to be recognized as best college station," Berggren said. "It took years and years of dedicated students creating, revising and implementing unglamorous but necessary documents like station constitution, policies and standard operating procedures. This provides the system in which members can be creative, and the reminder to always serve listeners. The challenge is accomplishing this with forward momentum as each year new staff members join and others graduate and leave."

What can college radio do best?

"It can be part of the liberal arts concept where learning never stops, where diversity is celebrated, and where your education doesn't teach you all the answers, or make you think you have all the answers, but teaches you to ask the right questions," Berggren said.

FRS staffers are also working on a documentary to commemorate the approaching 40th anniversary of WCVF-FM.

"That will be a big day," Johnson promised.

### 'Best Hockey Play-by-Play'

Three's definitely not a crowd in a live Blue Devils hockey broadcast.

"It's a real team effort," says Jay Wilkie, one-third of the team honored for delivering the Best Hockey Play by Play. Jared Belschwinder and Mr. Wilkie, a mid-season recruit, rotate between delivering play-by-play and commentary during each period of play, while Matt Pantano handles board operator duties.

"We all work together to make the game go as smooth as possible," said Wilkie, a senior Childhood Inclusive Education/English major.

"If somehow this award led me to be able to do play-by-play for the Buffalo Sabres one day, then I would do that in a heartbeat," Wilkie joked. "However, I have a passion for education and plan to pursue a career in the field post-graduation."

Mr. Belschwinder got involved in FRS as an assistant to the News Director in his first year at Fredonia and rose to Sports Director in 2016-2017.

### 'Best Promotional Poster'

Dan Salazar, a sophomore Animation and Illustration major, won "Best Promotional Poster" for art work that helped launch the revival of "80s Euphoria," a celebration of 1980s music that FRS carried into the early 2000s.

"The hosts of '80s Euphoria' gave me an inspiration sheet with references for the hairstyles and outfits they wanted on the poster, as well as a general idea of the aesthetic. I had a lot of fun capturing the '80s illustration look," Mr. Salazar explained. "The little grainy overlay were my favorite elements to play with."

Salazar, who joined FRS in 2016, has also learned a lot about handling and recording sound, which he hopes will provide valuable experience in voice acting for his own animation work. "Overall, it's been a fabulous blend of all sorts of media, which I won't forget soon."





## Class of 2017 encouraged to 'lead an authentic life'

Graduates received congratulations from President Virginia S. Horvath as degrees were conferred at two nearly identical ceremonies. Senior Class President Eduvijez Sanchez presented the class gift of an outdoor musical ensemble of percussion instruments to create a Harmony Park. College Council Chair Frank Pagano and Marc Cohen, a member of the SUNY Board of Trustees, gave greetings.



The keynote speaker was Donato J. Tramuto, CEO of Tivity Health, Inc., president and founder of Health eVillages, and chairman and founder of the Tramuto Foundation. Mr. Tramuto shared stories of childhood struggle, and the lessons he learned from them. "Your happiness will rise and fall on how successfully you lead an authentic life," Tramuto said. "Not the life your parents or professors necessarily want you to lead, but your life on your terms."



The Lanford Presidential Prize was presented to Sarah Chamberlain of Grand Island, N.Y. The Fredonia Women's Choir presented "The Graduate Leaving College," with music composed by faculty member Dr. Rob Deemer, and Dr. Paula Holcomb conducted the Fredonia Concert Band and Wind Ensemble. Reflections were offered by Ms. Chamberlain, Bridget Doyle and Katherine Szejbka, and the national anthem was performed by Julianna R. Grabowski.

# Homecoming 2017 schedule

Unless otherwise noted, reservations for events may be made at: <http://alumni.fredonia.edu/Events.aspx>.

Tickets will be mailed for reservations received prior to Oct. 18. After this date, tickets may be picked up at the Alumni House, 286 Central Ave., Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. until 3:30 p.m.; on Friday, Oct. 20 from 1 until 8 p.m. at the Alumni House, and on Saturday from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. in the Williams Center.

Tickets for the Homecoming Excellence Gala Dinner, Hillman Opera Concert and performances of "Peter and the Starcatcher" are available in person at the Fredonia Ticket Office in the Williams Center, by calling (716) 673-3501 or online at [www.fredonia.edu/tickets](http://www.fredonia.edu/tickets).

For more information about Homecoming, contact the Office of Alumni Affairs at (716) 673-3553.

For lodging information, go to [alumni.fredonia.edu/AboutUs/Wheretostay.aspx](http://alumni.fredonia.edu/AboutUs/Wheretostay.aspx)

## Thursday, Oct. 19

**Celebration of the Life of Associate Professor Ann (Reynolds) Carden**  
6 p.m.  
Memorial service sponsored by the Department of Communication College Lodge, 8067 Rte. 380, Brocton, N.Y. All are welcome.

## Friday, Oct. 20

A free shuttle bus will continuously circulate the parking lots and campus for your convenience.

**Fredonia Marxonia Exhibit, "Broadway and the Marx Brothers"**  
7:30 a.m.-8 p.m.  
Reed Library. Free.

**Golden Alumni Breakfast**  
8:30 a.m.  
Horizon Room, lower level of Williams Center (formerly known as the Campus Center).  
For all graduates of 1967 and before.  
Reservations recommended. \$10/person

**Bookstore Open**  
9 a.m.-5 p.m.  
University Commons (formerly Cranston Dining Center)

**Library Concert**  
Noon-2 p.m.  
Performance by Fredonia students. Reception in honor of Helen (Tinch) Williams, '60, immediately following concert.  
Free.

**Harvey Breverman: A Decade of Drawing, 2005-2015 (Idiosyncratic Amalgams and Disparate Composites) Exhibit**  
Noon-9 p.m.  
The Cathy and Jesse Marion Art Gallery, Rockefeller Arts Center.  
Free.

**Registration and Ticket Pick Up**  
1-8 p.m.  
Alumni House, 286 Central Ave.

**Biology Department Keynote Speaker**  
2 p.m.  
Dr. Michael Marletta, '73  
"Being a Scientist (or Thinking of Becoming One) in a Time of 'Alternative Facts'"  
Kelly Family Auditorium, Science Center  
Free.

**Fredonia 1891 Opera House Tour**  
2:30 p.m.  
Village Hall, Fredonia  
Free.

**Biology Reception**  
3-4 p.m.  
Science Center Atrium.

**Men's Soccer**  
3 p.m.  
University Stadium  
Fredonia vs. SUNY New Paltz

**Homecoming Excellence Gala Dinner**  
5 p.m.  
Williams Center.  
Celebrating the classes of 1957, 1962 and 1967; recognition of the Alumni Outstanding Achievement Award recipient, and Hillman Opera 60th Anniversary.  
Reservations recommended, seating is limited.  
\$50/person

**Harvey Breverman: A Decade of Drawing, 2005-2015 Artist Reception**  
7 p.m.  
The Cathy and Jesse Marion Art Gallery, Rockefeller Arts Center.  
Free.

**Recreational Public Ice Skating**  
7-9 p.m.  
Ice Arena, Steele Hall.  
Nominal rental charge for skates.

**Hillman Opera 60th Anniversary Alumni Concert**  
8 p.m.  
King Concert Hall  
Tickets: start at \$20.

**"Peter and the Starcatcher"**  
8 p.m.  
Marvel Theatre  
Tickets: \$20/\$25

**1970s Reunion Jazz Ensemble Concert**  
8 p.m.  
Rosch Recital Hall. Free.

**"Fredonia's Got Talent"**  
8 p.m.  
Student Talent Show  
Indoor Track, Steele Hall.  
Crowning of Homecoming King and Queen.  
Free.

## Saturday, Oct. 21

A free shuttle bus will continuously circulate the parking lots and campus for your convenience.

**Registration and Ticket Pick Up**  
8 a.m.-5 p.m.  
Williams Center Information Booth  
Coffee may be purchased at Starbucks and Tim Hortons.

**Percussion Concert Rehearsal**  
8 a.m.  
Rosch Recital Hall, Mason Hall.

**Biology Alumni Breakfast**  
9-10:30 a.m.  
Major Alice Conference Room, Science Center Room 321.  
Free.

**Ruterbusch 5K Run**  
9 a.m.  
Meet at indoor track, Steele Hall.  
For more information, please contact Track and Cross Country Coach Tom Wilson at [Thomas.Wilson@fredonia.edu](mailto:Thomas.Wilson@fredonia.edu)

**Men's Alumni Soccer Game**  
10 a.m.  
University Stadium

**2nd Fredonia Mini Maker Faire**  
10 a.m.-4 p.m.  
Williams Center and Science Center  
Co-sponsored by Erie 2 -Chautauqua-Cattaraugus BOCES.  
For more information: [www.makerfairefredonia.com](http://www.makerfairefredonia.com)

**Reception Honoring, Greg, '69, and Linda (Ferry) Prechtl, '71**  
11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.  
Steele Hall Lobby. Formal program at 12:15 p.m. in Dods Hall Lobby.  
Free.

**Campus Tour**  
11 a.m.  
Meet at Information Booth, Williams Center.

**Bookstore Open**  
11 a.m.-5 p.m.  
University Commons

**Fredonia Radio Systems Reception**  
11 a.m.  
McEwen Hall.  
Free.

**Harvey Breverman: A Decade of Drawing, 2005-2015 (Idiosyncratic Amalgams and Disparate Composites) Exhibit**  
Noon-6 p.m.  
The Cathy and Jesse Marion Art Gallery, Rockefeller Arts Center.  
Free.

**Fredonia Marxonia Exhibit, "Broadway and the Marx Brothers"**  
Noon-8 p.m.  
Reed Library  
Free.

**Class of 1967 Luncheon**  
12:30 p.m.  
Cranston Marché (second floor, University Commons)  
Reservations recommended. \$20/person

**Men's Hockey Scrimmage**  
12:30-4:30 p.m.  
Fredonia vs. SUNY Buffalo State

**Men's Soccer Game**  
1 p.m.  
University Stadium  
Fredonia vs SUNY Oneonta

**Fredonia Radio Systems Panel Discussion**  
1 p.m.  
McEwen Hall Rooms G24/G26

**Alumni Picnic**  
2-4 p.m.  
Dods Grove/Tent/DJ  
Nominal charge for food, beverages and beer. Please bring ID.

**Fredonia Leadership Program Reunion Reception**  
3-5 p.m.  
For former students of Jim Sturm, Bob Mead-Colegrove and Mark Suida  
Leadership Classrooms (Williams Center Rooms S221-222)  
Complimentary refreshments.  
Cash wine/beer bar. Please make reservations.

**Graduate Degree Alumni Reception**  
3-4 p.m.  
Global Student Lounge, Williams Center Room S226  
Networking reception for all alumni from all Fredonia graduate degree programs. Complimentary light refreshments. Free.

**Fredonia Percussion Celebration**  
4 p.m.  
Rosch Recital Hall, Mason Hall.  
Free. (Good Will Offering)

**Honored Class Multi-Receptions**  
4 p.m.  
Honoring all members of the classes of 1972, 1977, 1982, 1987, 1992, 1997, 2002, 2007 and 2012.  
Tim Hortons in the Williams Center.  
Includes light refreshments. Cash wine/beer bar. \$5/person

**Class of 2007 10-Year Reunion Happy Hour**  
7 p.m.  
Old Main Inn, Water Street.  
Complimentary munchies.  
Cash bar.

**Recreational Public Ice Skating**  
7-9 p.m.  
Ice Arena, Steele Hall.  
Nominal rental charge for skates.

**"Peter and the Starcatcher"**  
7:30 p.m.  
Marvel Theatre  
Tickets: \$20/\$25

**Downtown Meetings**  
9 p.m.  
Look for location assignments at Homecoming Registration Booth. All honored classes (1972, 1977, 1982, 1987, 1992, 1997, 2002, 2007 and 2012) will have opportunities to convene at designated establishments downtown.

A shuttle bus will be circulating between Fredonia village hall, local hotels and the Williams Center.

## Sunday, Oct. 22

**Harvey Breverman: A Decade of Drawing, 2005-2015 (Idiosyncratic Amalgams and Disparate Composites) Exhibit**  
Noon-4 p.m.  
The Cathy and Jesse Marion Art Gallery, Rockefeller Arts Center.  
Free.

**Fredonia Marxonia Exhibit, "Broadway and the Marx Brothers"**  
Noon-1 a.m. (Monday)  
Reed Library  
Free

**"Peter and the Starcatcher"**  
2 p.m.  
Marvel Theatre  
Tickets: \$20/\$25

Locations and times may be subject to change. Changes will be posted at the Alumni House and the Williams Center throughout the weekend, and at [www.fredonia.edu/alumni](http://www.fredonia.edu/alumni)



# Homecoming '17 highlights

Homecoming 2017 marks the 60th anniversary of the Hillman Opera, the second Mini Maker Faire ([www.makerfairefredonia.com](http://www.makerfairefredonia.com)), recognition of all of the honored classes—especially the classes of 1957, 1962, and 1967, a celebration of former faculty member, Ann (Reynolds) Carden's life, the Ruterbusch 5K Run (in memory of Fred Ruterbusch, '77), spectacular concerts, great athletic contests, and a host of other special events. Helen (Tinch) Williams, '60 (Music Ed.) will be recognized for her outstanding achievement at the Homecoming Excellence Gala Dinner, on Friday, Oct. 20 (see story on page 14).

Also on Friday, there will be a special Golden Alumni Breakfast for all alumni from 1967 and before. At noon there will be a free concert in Reed Library—with a special reception immediately following honoring Mrs. Williams. Later, after the Gala Dinner, plan to attend the special Hillman 60th Anniversary Alumni Concert in King Concert Hall, or the student

performance of "Peter and the Starcatcher" in Marvel Theater. Tickets may be purchased by contacting the Fredonia Ticket Office in the Williams Center online at [fredonia.edu/tickets](http://fredonia.edu/tickets) or by calling (716) 673-3501. The annual free 1970s Reunion Jazz Concert is scheduled in Rosch Recital Hall at 8 p.m.

The Mini Maker Faire, to be held in both the Williams Center and the Science Center on Saturday, will celebrate creativity, invention, and the do-it-yourself (DIY) spirit. There will be a diverse mix of makers, ranging from tech enthusiasts to crafters, homesteaders to scientists, and garage tinkerers to kids who design and build interesting items. Admission is free.

Plan also to attend the many wonderful athletic contests and events scheduled this year. On Saturday, the Ruterbusch 5K will commence at 9 a.m. at the Steele Hall Indoor Track. The traditional Men's Alumni Soccer game will be held at 10 a.m. At 11 a.m.,

there will be a special reception and ceremony honoring retired Athletic Director Greg Prechtl, '69, and his wife, Linda (Ferry) Prechtl, '71, in the Steele Hall Lobby. The Men's Hockey Team will play a scrimmage match against SUNY Buffalo State at 12:30 p.m., and at 1 p.m., the Men's Soccer Team plays SUNY Oneonta.

Additional special events include a wonderful Fredonia Marxonia exhibit in Reed Library, the not-to-be-missed Harvey Breverman: A Decade of Drawing Exhibit in the Marion Art Gallery, and a Leadership Program Reunion, along with a Fredonia Graduate Degree Alumni Reception. Fredonia Radio Systems received special recognition this past year (see cover feature), so be sure to stop in at the panel discussion on Saturday at 1 p.m.

In addition to the Reunion Jazz Concert, there will be a Fredonia Percussion Celebration at 4 p.m. on Saturday in Rosch Recital Hall. Additional theater

performances are slated for Saturday and Sunday.

The classes of 1967 and 2007 will celebrate anniversaries with other specially designated events. For all of the other honored classes—the classes of 1972, 1977, 1982, 1987, 1992, 1997 and 2002, there will be an Honored Class Multi-Reception held in Tim Hortons in the Williams Center from 4 to 6 p.m. Saturday. There will be a nominal charge for light refreshments and a cash beer/wine bar will be available. Look for your respective area. Specific downtown establishments will be designated for further opportunities in which to gather later that evening. Look for the location assignments at the Homecoming Registration Table.

Plan now to celebrate the memories at Homecoming '17 in Fredonia!



Jessie Hillman

## Homecoming Excellence Gala puts the spotlight on opera

The Homecoming Excellence Gala dinner will be held in the Williams Center on Friday, Oct. 20. The 60th Anniversary Hillman Opera Celebration will be highlighted with an operatic theme throughout the dinner including a performance by Fredonia alumni Kateri Gormely Sackett, '12, and Kyle Sackett, '12.

Alumna Helen (Tinch) Williams, Class of 1960, will receive the Outstanding Achievement Award from the Fredonia Alumni Association at the event. She will also serve as Mistress of Ceremonies for the Hillman Opera celebration concert at 8 p.m. in King Concert Hall that evening. The gala begins with cocktails at 5 p.m., with dinner served at 5:45 p.m.

### Hillman 60th Anniversary Alumni Concert

Featured alumni guests slated to perform include sopranos Barbara Kilduff, '81, and Danielle Beckvermit, '15; mezzo sopranos Amanda Bottoms, '14, and Victoria Vargas, '08; tenors John Tiranno, '99, and Craig Sirianni, '85; baritones Stephen Lusmann, '73, and James Wright, '09, '12, and countertenor Ray Chenez, '06. Also featured on the program will be alumni Marion Pratinicki, '78; Mr. and Ms. Sackett, as well as members of the Fredonia voice faculty who are alumni including Laurie (Lasher) Tramuta, '82; Dr. Robert Strauss, '92, and Dr. Kimberly Upcraft, '92.

Distinguished Teaching Professor Julie Newell, '82, is producer of the concert and director of the Opera program at Fredonia. She will also be honored with the Jessie Hillman Award for Excellence during the event. The concert and Fredonia Opera Orchestra will be conducted by Dr. David Rudge, and the Fredonia Masterworks Choir of 120 students, under the direction of Dr. Gerald Gray, will perform.

All alumni of the Hillman Opera are invited to participate on stage in the concert to join in the singing of "Libiamo" from "La Traviata." A short rehearsal will be held at 4 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 20. Alumni interested in participating should contact Ms. Newell no later than Sept. 15 via email at [julie.newell@fredonia.edu](mailto:julie.newell@fredonia.edu).

Operatic favorites to be featured include choral blockbusters: "Va Pensiero" from Verdi's "Nabucco;" "Make Our Garden Grow" from

Tickets and ticket packages may be reserved by contacting the Fredonia Ticket Office at (716) 673-3501. A VIP Opera Ticket Package is available that includes the Homecoming Excellence Gala dinner, a premier seating ticket for the opera concert in King Concert Hall and a post-concert reception to meet the special alumni guest performers. Patrons may also choose to purchase tickets separately for the dinner and concert as a mix and match option. Dinner reservations must be made by Oct. 6. Concert tickets will be available until Oct. 20 or sold out.



Bernstein's "Candide;" and "The Promise of Living" from Copland's "The Tender Land." Scenes will be performed from "La Boheme," "Rigoletto," "Die Fledermaus," and featuring current Fredonia students, "Cosi Fan Tutte" and "Carmen."

Guest alumni artists will perform arias and special narratives will be shared. Arias to be performed include, "Marten aller Arten" from Mozart's "The Abduction from the Seraglio," by Ms. Kilduff; "Parto, ma tu ben mio" from Mozart's "La Clemenza di Tito," by Mr. Chenez; "Mon coeur s'ouvra ta voix" from Saint-Saëns' "Samson and Delilah," by Ms. Vargas; "Les tringles des sistres tintaient" from Bizet's "Carmen," by Ms. Bottoms; and "Largo al factotum" from Rossini's "The Barber of Seville," by Mr. Wright. A select sextet of current students will perform including Lucia Helgren, Abbey Kracker, Mariami Bekauri, Steven Maynard, Brandon Mecklenberg and David Waterland.

It promises to be a magical night and a wonderful tribute to opera at Fredonia.

## Williams receiving Outstanding Achievement Award

Helen (Tinch) Williams, '60, retired after 37 years in the Ossining, N.Y., public schools as a vocal music educator and as an adjunct professor at Manhattanville College School of Education in Purchase, N.Y. She received her Music Education degree from Fredonia and a master's degree from Manhattanville College, with additional studies at New York University.

She is a charter member of The Links Incorporated Greater Hudson Valley Chapter, African American Advisory Board of Historic Hudson Valley, Hope's Door Advisory Board, American Women of African Heritage and a former consultant to Today's Students Tomorrow's Teachers. She is also recognized for her commitment as a mentor for college students, a caretaker of seniors and an advocate for an inmate at the Bedford Women's Correctional Facility.

Among her awards are the 2001 March of Dimes Mother of the Year, 2006 Rotary Foundation Paul Harris Fellow, 2010 Hillman

Memorial Music Association Jessie Hillman Award for Excellence, 2011 Dorothy Height Distinguished Black Family Award from the National Council of Negro Women, 2012 Dress for Success Toast to Our Mothers and the True Reflection Award from Family Services of Westchester.

In keeping with her dedication to education, Mrs. Williams has initiated the Dr. Richard Sheil Memorial Music Scholarship fund with the Fredonia College Foundation. She and her late husband and Fredonia alumnus Milton A. Williams Jr., are the parents of two children, Vanessa and Christopher, and four grandchildren. Originally from Buffalo, N.Y., Mrs. Williams resides in Westchester County. A memoir co-authored with Vanessa, "You Have No Idea: A Famous Daughter, Her No-nonsense Mother, and How They Survived Pageants, Hollywood, Love, Loss (and each Other)," became a *New York Times* bestselling book.



Helen (Tinch) Williams



Opera Theatre Exec. Board



## Writing herself a bright future

Keah Brown's fate was sealed as a teenager when she got lost; in words, in characters and in stories.

"I first knew I wanted to be a writer in high school," Keah Brown said. "I always loved reading about people and things I could identify with or love to hate."

It was that passion for stories, along with a naturally inquisitive personality, that led her from Fredonia to her career as an entertainment writer. Ms. Brown, a 2013 graduate with a major in Journalism and a minor in Creative Writing, is currently a Senior Entertainment Writer at *Cliché Magazine*, where she writes TV and movie reviews and interviews celebrities about their shows and lives, including notables such as Tia Mowry, Justin Baldoni and Keith Powers. "I've been very fortunate to have people open up to me about their character, and what they're like off-camera," Brown said.

But her writing doesn't stop there. "I get to write articles about shows I love and interview those actors during the day, and then at night I write essays," Brown said. "I'm doing two things I love and thought I would not get to do, and I'm speaking to literary agents who want me to sign with them."

Brown has had her essays published in ESPNW, Lenny Letter, *Essence*, Catapult, and Literary Hub, to name a few. She just finished a piece for *Essence* magazine. "They (literary agents) want to eventually publish a book of mine. I'm doing things that far surpass anything I thought I could do. It feels magical, really, because I get to share pieces of myself, and pieces of other people."

Her talents for sharing those stories were nurtured at Fredonia, and Brown credits her professors with supplying her two valuable things; feedback and encouragement. "The professors at Fredonia really get to know you. You're not just another face in the crowd. They want to know about you and what you love, and what you want to do with your life."

Brown's development as a writer also took shape outside traditional journalism classes. "I took a Greek myth class and a creative writing class, and they helped me in ways I couldn't have imagined," she said. "They were instrumental in helping me become the writer I am today."

Ironically, Brown's professors say she is the one who inspires. "When other people may have given up on their dreams, I've seen her persevere and keep going

through major obstacles," said Associate Professor Elmer Ploetz of the Department of Communication.

The obstacles were not trivial, but Brown made sure they were not a barrier to her dreams. Brown was born with what she describes as a mild case of cerebral palsy. "It took me awhile to get to a place where I was okay with it," she recalled.

She credits the inclusionary spirit at Fredonia for helping her. "I spent a lot of my high school years embarrassed about it, and then I got to Fredonia and nobody cared. So I realized this is the body I was given and I'm just going to roll with the punches."

Brown did more than just accept her situation. She embraced it and, in the process, inspired others across social media. She started a hashtag on Twitter—*#disabledandcute*—that went viral this past spring. "I started it with a bunch of pictures and had people with disabilities

share pictures of themselves and talk about why they love themselves," Brown said. She was interviewed about the social media push in almost a dozen countries around the world.

"I wish I could bottle that drive and give it to other students, but it's something that's pure Keah," Mr. Ploetz said.

Brown brought that drive and spirit back to her alma mater last April, when she was a guest speaker as part of Fredonia's "Writers@Work" series. She told current students to have faith in their future. "I told them that sometimes success or a job doesn't happen overnight. But if you keep working hard and believe in what you're doing, it will happen when it's time."

So by working hard, Brown has proven that getting lost really can help you find your way.

To read some of Brown's work, go to: [keahbrown.weebly.com/selected-work.html](http://keahbrown.weebly.com/selected-work.html).



## Science graduate helps to conquer a global problem



Fredonia alumni Nick Catanzaro, '13, with Dr. Deborah Good, '87, at Virginia Tech, having fun celebrating last fall's #FREDlanthropy Day.

A Fredonia alumnus, now a graduate student at Virginia Tech, has been awarded a fellowship to investigate a virus responsible for significant economic losses in the swine industry.

Nicholas Catanzaro, of Lewiston, N.Y., completed a bachelor's degree in Molecular Genetics at Fredonia in 2013. He first visited Virginia Tech during the summer of 2012 to participate in Research Experiences for Undergraduates, a 10-week summer program that introduced him to microbiology research at the university.

Mr. Catanzaro credited his undergraduate professors at Fredonia with preparing him for the next step in his studies. "Through integrative and engaging experiences in both the classroom and lab, I learned valuable skills and techniques that allowed me to hit the ground running upon starting my dissertation research," Catanzaro said. "However, it was the environment and culture at Fredonia, especially within the Biology department, that prepared me the most. The people

around me, both my peers and professors, made science exciting and motivated me to learn."

Catanzaro, a Ph.D. student in the Virginia Tech Department of Biomedical Sciences and Pathobiology, hopes his research on porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome virus (PRRSV) will eventually help scientists develop safer, better vaccines. He was recently awarded a two-year, \$95,000 fellowship from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Institute of Food and Agriculture for his research.

"This is one of the most economically devastating global swine pathogens and causes more than \$600 million in economic losses in the United States alone each year," Catanzaro said. "My fellowship looks at how the virus causes disease in pigs. That's important because scientists are trying to make safer, more-effective vaccines for pigs against the virus."

First discovered in 1987, PRRSV causes reproductive failures in pregnant

sows and respiratory disease in young piglets. Although it has similarities to the Coronaviridae family of viruses, which include the deadly severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS), it cannot spread from animals to humans and poses no food safety threat.

Catanzaro's interest in research peaked during his time at Fredonia, he said. "During my junior and senior years at Fredonia, I worked on an undergraduate research project with Dr. Theodore Lee," Catanzaro said. "We were interested in microbial communities involved in a unique geological process along the banks of Canadaway Creek. This research experience allowed me to apply the skills and techniques discussed in the classroom to a real world problem. In working with Dr. Lee, I realized research was something I enjoyed and would like to pursue as a career."

Thanks to his Fredonia undergraduate degree, Catanzaro is able to do just that.

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## Fredonia means business!

School of Business receives AACSB International accreditation

The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) International has announced that the Fredonia School of Business has earned accreditation for its degree programs in Accounting, Public Accountancy, Finance, Management and Marketing.

"AACSB congratulates the State University of New York at Fredonia, and Officer in Charge Mojtaba Seyedian on earning accreditation," said Robert D. Reid, executive vice president and chief accreditation officer of AACSB International. "AACSB Accreditation represents the highest achievement for an educational institution that awards business degrees. The entire Fredonia team—including the administration, faculty, directors, staff, and students—are to be commended for their roles in earning accreditation."

"It is indeed an honor for the State University of New York at Fredonia to receive this prestigious recognition. It serves to validate the high-quality business education that our faculty has been offering to students," said Dr. Seyedian. "I join AACSB in congratulating all who worked so diligently over the years to bring this accreditation to fruition! It is a standard that Fredonia will continue to uphold well into the future."

"This accreditation is the result of years of hard work and dedication among so many people at Fredonia," said Fredonia President Virginia Horvath. "This accreditation supports what we have known on our campus all along; that Fredonia business students are among the brightest and most talented, and are well prepared for the world that awaits them after graduation."

With this accreditation, Fredonia is now ranked among the top 5 percent of Business Schools (777 out of about 19,000) in the world, and among the top 25 percent of Business Schools (517 out of 2,000) in the United States.

AACSB-accredited schools have successfully undergone a rigorous review process conducted by their peers in

the business education community, ensuring that they have the resources, credentials, and commitment needed to provide students with a first-rate, future-focused business education. During the multi-year process the school focuses on developing and implementing a plan



# AACSB ACCREDITED

to align with AACSB's Accreditation standards. The standards require excellence in areas relating to: strategic management and innovation; student, faculty, and staff as active participants; learning and teaching; and academic and professional engagement.

"This accreditation is a great accomplishment. The administration worked for this recognition, but the driving force has always been the hard-working faculty in all departments," said Dr. Russell Boisjoly, School of Business faculty member and Dean of the School of Business from 2009 to 2017. "The business commitment with our community has also been vital to reaching this goal."

Fredonia's commitment starts with engagement. Students take their studies out of the classroom and work with outside businesses and clients to work and problem-solve on all facets of the business world, from marketing, to operations, to finance. All business students are required to take an internship in their field.

During the 2015-2016 academic year, Fredonia business students participated in 213 internships for local and regional organizations. Faculty and students conducted 470 projects with individuals, companies and organizations. Faculty also contributed over 90 different volunteer

or uncompensated activities to their academic and community affiliations. The benefits of the activities are captured not only by the recipients of the pro bono project work or internship, but also by the students and faculty who get the opportunity to apply classroom knowledge

to a "live" business problem (students) or witness the "best way" to carry out project work within a course with multiple teams for a company (faculty).

Fredonia is constantly examining its course load strategically to ensure classes are aligned with what industries are looking for in future employees. The business student organization, Enactus, is among the top campus groups in the country. Fredonia graduates have entered into highly-competitive positions in companies like Geico, Frito-Lay, ADP, and Wal-Mart, to name just a few.

"Quality business education is critical to developing the next generation of leaders, and I commend Fredonia for its dedication, as well as its leadership in the community," said Reid. "Through accreditation, the Fredonia School of Business has not only met rigorous standards of excellence, but has also made an external commitment to ongoing improvement to ensure that they will continue to innovate and deliver the value promised to their students."



FOR TICKETS, CONTACT THE TICKET OFFICE AT (716) 673-3501 (1-866-441-4928), [www.fredonia.edu/tickets](http://www.fredonia.edu/tickets), OR IN PERSON. FOR A FULL LIST OF CAMPUS EVENTS, VISIT DEPARTMENT WEBSITES AT [www.fredonia.edu](http://www.fredonia.edu).

### ROCKEFELLER ARTS CENTER/THEATRE AND DANCE EVENTS

#### WESTERN NEW YORK CHAMBER ORCHESTRA "MUSICAL PORTRAITS"

Sunday, Sept. 17, 4 p.m.  
King Concert Hall, General Admission  
Tickets: \$20 (students free with ID)  
Father Sean Duggan will be the featured guest soloist on Mozart's piano concerto in E flat, the "Jeunehomme."

#### "YOU'VE GOT A FRIEND" – THE MUSIC OF CAROLE KING AND JAMES TAYLOR

Thursday, Sept. 21, 7:30 p.m.  
King Concert Hall, Reserved Seating  
Tickets: \$37, \$32, \$27, \$22  
Kirsti Manna and Jonathan Birchfield are joined by the Western New York Chamber Orchestra.  
A DFT Communications Pops Series event.

#### "THE PRESIDENT'S OWN" UNITED STATES MARINE BAND

Friday, Oct. 6, 7:30 p.m.  
King Concert Hall  
Tickets: Free, but required.  
Repertoire ranges from John Phillips Sousa favorites to Warren Benson's "The Leaves are Falling."  
Sponsored by *The Observer* and *The Post-Journal*.

#### "PETER AND THE STARCATCHER"

Oct. 20, 8 p.m.; Oct. 22, 26, 27 and 28, 7:30 p.m.; Oct. 22, 2 p.m.  
Marvel Theatre, Reserved Seating  
Tickets: \$25, \$20 (other student/child: \$15; SUNY student: \$12)  
Learn how a lonely orphan became Peter Pan, the iconic Lost Boy that millions know and love.  
A Walter Gloor Mainstage Series event.

#### "SECOND CITY'S CURE FOR THE COMMON COMEDY"

Friday, Oct. 27, 7:30 p.m.  
King Concert Hall  
Tickets: \$35, \$30, \$25, \$20  
The Chicago-based troupe got its start back in 1959 and has turned out a steady stream of comedy stars.  
*May contain adult subject matter.*

#### "MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING"

Nov. 30 and Dec. 1, 2 and 3, 7:30 p.m.; Dec. 2 and 3, 2 p.m.  
Bartlett Theatre, General Admission  
Tickets: \$20 (other student/Child: \$15; SUNY students: \$12)  
Shakespeare's comedy is a large commotion over a simple misconception.  
A Walter Gloor Mainstage Series event.

#### DUFFLEBAG THEATRE: "Twas THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS"

Friday, Dec. 1, 7 p.m.  
Marvel Theatre

Tickets: \$12  
DuffleBag Theatre returns with its unique take on a holiday classic. Approximately one hour, recommended for ages 6 and older.  
An *Observer* Kaleidoscope Family Series event.

#### "A ROCKAPPELLA CHRISTMAS"

Sunday, Dec. 10, 4 p.m.  
King Concert Hall, Reserved Seating  
Tickets: \$35, \$30, \$25, \$20  
The all-male a cappella quintet burst onto the scene in the early '90s and has provided a funky powerful soundtrack to several generations of vocal music fans.  
A DFT Communications Pops Series event.

### ART EXHIBITS

#### CATHY AND JESSE MARION ART GALLERY, MICHAEL C. ROCKEFELLER ARTS CENTER

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

#### ANDREA DEZSÖ: "SOMETIMES IN MY DREAMS"

Sept. 5 to Oct. 8  
Reception: Sept. 15, 7 p.m.

#### HARVEY BREVERMAN: A DECADE OF DRAWING, 2005-2015 (IDIOSYNCRATIC AMALGAMS AND DISPARATE COMPOSITES)

Oct. 17 to Nov. 17  
Reception: Oct. 20, 7 p.m.

#### SENIOR SHOW

Dec. 1 to 7  
Reception: Dec. 1, 7 p.m.

### SCHOOL OF MUSIC

\*\*indicates live streaming of event (subject to change) through the link found at [www.fredonia.edu/music](http://www.fredonia.edu/music).

### RECITALS

All are free, open to the public, and at 8 p.m., unless noted otherwise, in Juliet J. Rosch Recital Hall.

#### MONDAY, SEPT. 18

Faculty Recital: Fredonia Faculty Showcase\*\*

#### SUNDAY, NOV. 5, 6 P.M.

Faculty Recital: ANA Trio\*\*

### ENSEMBLE PERFORMANCES

Free, open to the public, and all at 8 p.m. unless otherwise noted.  
Conductors/directors include Drs. Paula Holcomb, Gerald Gray and Vernon Huff, Laura Koepke, Dr. Katherine Levy, Jonathan Lombardo, Tiffany Nicely, James Piorkowski, and Drs. Susan Royal, David Rudge, Andrew Seigel, Raymond Stewart, Kay Stonefelt and Melvin Unger, Nick Weiser and Dr. Wildy Zumwalt.

### KING CONCERT HALL

#### WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 27 AND THURSDAY, NOV. 16

Fredonia Wind Symphony (conductor TBA)\*\*

#### THURSDAY, SEPT. 28 AND TUESDAY, NOV. 14

Fredonia All College Band (conductor TBA)\*\*

#### TUESDAY, OCT. 3 AND WEDNESDAY NOV. 8

Fredonia Concert Band (Stewart)\*\*

#### SATURDAY, OCT. 14 AND WEDNESDAY, NOV. 15

Fredonia Wind Ensemble (Holcomb)\*\*

#### FRIDAY, NOV. 10, 7:30 P.M.

New Horizons Band of Western New York (Levy)

#### SUNDAY, DEC. 3

Fredonia Holiday Choral Concert (Huff, Unger, Gray)\*\*

### ROSCH RECITAL HALL

#### THURSDAY, OCT. 12 AND TUESDAY, OCT. 31

Fredonia Student Composers\*\*

#### FRIDAY, OCT. 20

1970s Fredonia Jazz Ensemble Alumni Concert\*\*

#### SATURDAY, OCT. 21, 4 P.M.

Fredonia Percussion Alumni Concert\*\*

#### MONDAY, OCT. 23

Fredonia Clarinet Ensemble (Seigel)\*\*

#### TUESDAY, OCT. 24

Fredonia Woodwind Chamber Ensembles

#### WEDNESDAY, OCT. 25

Fredonia Flutasia (Royal)\*\*

#### SUNDAY, OCT. 29, 4 P.M.

Fredonia Chamber Choir, Fredonia College Choir and Fredonia Women's Choir (Huff, Unger, Gray)\*\*

#### WEDNESDAY, NOV. 1

Fredonia Curricular Jazz Ensemble (Weiser)\*\*

#### THURSDAY, NOV. 2

Fredonia Bassoon Ensemble (Koepke)\*\*

#### MONDAY, NOV. 6

Fredonia Latin Jazz Ensemble (Weiser)\*\*

#### TUESDAY, NOV. 7

Fredonia Percussion Ensemble (Stonefelt)\*\*

#### WEDNESDAY, NOV. 8

Fredonia Guitar Ensembles and Quartets (Piorkowski)

#### THURSDAY, NOV. 9

Fredonia Saxophone Ensemble (Zumwalt)\*\*

#### FRIDAY, NOV. 10

Fredonia String Chamber Ensembles I

### SUNDAY, NOV. 12

Fredonia Brass Chamber Ensembles

### MONDAY, NOV. 13

Fredonia Chamber Made Guitar

### THURSDAY, NOV. 16

Fredonia String Chamber Ensembles II

### MONDAY, NOV. 27

Fredonia Improv. Collective (Rudge)

### TUESDAY, NOV. 28

Fredonia Trombone Choir (Lombardo)\*\*

### MONDAY, DEC. 4

Fredonia World Mallet Ensembles (Nicely)\*\*

### TUESDAY, DEC. 5

Fredonia African Drumming Ensembles (Nicely)\*\*

### WEDNESDAY, DEC. 6

Fredonia Chamber Orchestra (Rudge)\*\*

### SPECIAL EVENTS

#### HILLMAN OPERA 60TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Friday, Oct. 20, 8 p.m.  
King Concert Hall  
Tickets: \$50, \$35, \$27, \$20 (students \$10)  
(See page 14.)

#### SHUFFLE! CONCERT

Saturday, Oct. 28, 8 p.m.

Rosch Recital Hall  
Tickets: \$20  
An ensemble comprised of classically trained musicians who invite the audience to participate in the selection of works for the concert, from solos to sextets, ranging from classical to pop to Broadway and more! Presented in collaboration by the School of Music and Rockefeller Arts Center.

#### CLAUDETTE SOREL PIANO COMPETITION

Final Round, Saturday, Nov. 4  
Rosch Recital Hall  
For pianists 15 to 18 years of age. For online registration and information, go to [fredonia.edu/music](http://fredonia.edu/music). First Prize is \$2,500 in cash and an hour-long recording session at Fredonia. Additional cash prizes will be awarded at the discretion of the judges.

## In the winner's circle in the world of opera



Kyle van Schoonhoven



The Winners of the 2017 Metropolitan Opera National Council Grand Finals Concert (from left) Kyle van Schoonhoven, Vanessa Vasquez, Samantha Hankey, Kirsten MacKinnon, Aryeh Nussbaum Cohen and Richard Smagur.

Fredonia alumnus Kyle van Schoonhoven was a Winner on March 19 at the Metropolitan Opera National Council (MONC) Grand Finals Concert, held at Lincoln Center in New York City.

The 2011 Fredonia School of Music graduate with a Bachelor of Music degree in Music Education was accompanied by the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra, conducted by Nicola Luisotti. Host for the event was renowned opera singer Renée Fleming. During the finals, Mr. van Schoonhoven performed the “mad scene” from the opera “Peter Grimes” by Benjamin Britten, and “Rienzi’s Prayer” from Richard Wagner’s “Rienzi.”

In addition to van Schoonhoven, 2017 MONC Winners included Kirsten MacKinnon, Vanessa Vasquez, Samantha Hankey, Richard Smagur and Aryeh Nussbaum Cohen.

Representing the Central Region, van Schoonhoven performed in the semi-finals in New York City on March 12, with regional winners including Samantha Hankey, mezzo soprano, Eastern Region; Natalie Image, soprano, Western Region; Kirsten MacKinnon, soprano, Middle Atlantic Region; Aryeh Nussbaum-Cohen, countertenor, Eastern Region; Cody Quattlebaum, bass-baritone, Eastern Region; Gabriella Reyes de Ramirez, soprano, New England Region; Richard Smagur, tenor, Central Region; and Vanessa Vasquez, soprano, Middle Atlantic Region.

Van Schoonhoven, originally from Lockport, was a first-year Adler Fellowship recipient with the San Francisco Opera this past year, and will make his San Francisco debut in the fall in Strauss’ “Electra” as Young Servant. He recently received the 2017 Nicolai Gedda Memorial Award from the George London Foundation and was a finalist in the 2016 Jensen Foundation Vocal Competition. He also participated in the Merola Opera Program in 2016, and debuted with the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra in July at Kleinhans Music Fall at its 2017 Donor and Subscriber Appreciation Concert.

Following his Fredonia years, during which he studied with the late Delia Wallis and Dr. Gerald Gray, van Schoonhoven earned a Master of Music degree from Westminster Choir College. Dr. Gray noted, “Kyle van Schoonhoven is quickly rising to the top ranks of operatic tenors. He is uniquely poised to become one of, if not the great Wagnerian tenor of his generation. And to be sure, true Wagnerian tenors are rare. One could argue that the world has been waiting for the next one for some time. I am so proud of Kyle for his musical, vocal and personal success, and for the humility and gratitude he has shown throughout his journey to the top. And, I am most grateful to have had some small influence on shaping a talent that will bring joy and richness to so many lives.”

Fredonia’s additional connection to

the Finals competition is alumna Barbara Kilduff-O’Farrell, ‘81, who was a Winner in the Finals in 1986 with Luciano Pavarotti and Placido Domingo as judges. She also won the Munich and Tchaikovsky competitions the same year. She went on to an exciting career, singing in the most famous opera houses in the world, including Lincoln Center, where she made her debut with the Metropolitan Opera as Zerbinetta in “Ariadne auf Naxos.” She will be a featured performer at this fall’s Hillman Opera 60th Anniversary Alumni Concert.

Some of the best known singers in opera have participated in the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions including Ms. Fleming, Susan Graham, Thomas Hampson, Stephanie Blythe, Eric Owens, Patricia Racette, Deborah Voigt, Angela Meade and Frederica von Stade.



Dr. Gerald Gray (left) and Kyle van Schoonhoven at the champagne reception following the Finals at Lincoln Center.

## Finance graduate switches careers, launches Chicago non-profit to benefit youth

In Chicago, more than 500 miles from his alma mater, Justin Cunningham, ‘15, is guiding a non-profit organization that he and a few childhood friends launched last year to empower youth through the arts, education and civic engagement.

That’s a tall order in a troubled American city, but SocialWorks—with a fast-rising hip-hop star on board—is tackling that laudable goal.

Mr. Cunningham teamed up with GRAMMY Award-winning artist Chance the Rapper—he was Chancellor Bennett in the third grade classroom they shared on Chicago’s South Side—and Essence Smith, a high school classmate, to create SocialWorks.

“We got together to form SocialWorks because we’ve always been looking to enhance opportunity and provide access to those without,” explained Cunningham, its executive director. “This is something we all felt we must take part in, especially this extraordinary opportunity to leverage Chano’s celebrity and make being a good person cool again.”

Also on board as a founder is Ken Bennett, who brings considerable political and social work experience to the fledgling organization. Mr. Bennett served three Chicago mayors, was a campaign manager for President Barack Obama during his U.S. Senate run and was a deputy officer in the Obama presidency. He’s also Chance’s father.

Being able to impact the community is what steered Cunningham, who earned a degree in Finance and a minor in Leadership Studies, away from corporate work. Cunningham held administrative positions with a nationwide food-service and facilities management firm, a major convention center and Chicago Public Schools.

SocialWorks’ roots go back to early 2015 with monthly “OpenMike” sessions that provided safe spaces for high school students to express themselves and also learn and network with like-minded individuals. Through the Warmest Winter, an initiative with The Empowerment Plan that hires homeless individuals to make coats that can be transformed into sleeping bags, SocialWorks raised over \$110,000 and gave over 1,100 coats to homeless individuals and shelters.

SocialWorks hooked up with Chicago non-profits in last fall’s Flex Your Vote

campaign to facilitate millennial voter activation, education, demonstration and celebration. Pop-up registration shops and town hall gatherings set the stage for a free concert in the city’s Grant Park and Parade to the Polls. Over 2,000 people—including about 750 first-time voters—marched to the polls to exercise their early-voting option.

The organization’s logo conveys a universal message of community, progression and positivity, Cunningham explained. All figures are placed close together, raising objects associated with particular fields—photography, science, music and art. They are raised in a fun, liberating fashion within the hands of diverse groups of people.

Cunningham longed to have a positive influence in his hometown with his family and friends. “I believe everything is more clear in civic work, meaning you know who you are impacting and why,” explained Cunningham.

It was Cunningham’s tenure in Enactus, a student organization at Fredonia committed to projects that have a social, economic or environmental impact in the community, which fueled the SocialWorks vision.

“What inspired me to get involved with SocialWorks was my experience with Fredonia’s Enactus. I’m essentially doing the same work,” Cunningham said. “Fredonia Enactus allowed me the opportunity to be a part of something bigger than myself. Enactus is all about creating programming and infrastructure



Photo credit: William H. Goff III

that provides impact on a continual basis and alters the community to ultimately change the world.”

School of Business Assistant Professor Susan McNamara said Cunningham, a former SUNY Chancellor’s Award for Student Excellence nominee, had the rare ability to integrate his academic learning with his experiential and extra-curricular experiences.

Fredonia instilled in Cunningham a “sense of community” that he wasn’t accustomed to while growing up. “I try to acknowledge everyone and build a relationship. That’s something that I learned at Fredonia.” More information about SocialWorks is available at [www.socialworkschi.org](http://www.socialworkschi.org), on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram: @Socialworks\_Chi.

Justin Cunningham (right), with fellow SocialWorks founders Essence Smith and Chance the Rapper. Photo credit: William H. Goff III



## WINTER AND SPRING RECAP

**BASEBALL** – Junior outfielder Alexio Medina (Marilla, N.Y.) and junior utility player Steve Zaprowski (Williamsville, N.Y.) made Third Team All-SUNYAC. Medina batted .304 with 9 doubles, 4 homers, 18 RBI, and 8 stolen bases ... Zaprowski played all three outfield positions, as designated hitter, and appeared in six games on the mound. He led the Devils with a 1.84 ERA.

**MEN'S BASKETBALL** – Junior forward Ian Helps (Bronx, N.Y.) made All-SUNYAC Third Team. He also became the 14th Fredonia player to reach the 1,000-point plateau and finished the season at No. 10 on the career scoring list with 1,090 points.

**WOMEN'S BASKETBALL** – The Blue Devils advanced to the first round of the SUNYAC Tournament ... senior guard Alexis Cheatham (Lockport, N.Y.) was selected WBCA Honorable Mention All-America and First Team East Region, D3hoops.com All Region, and First Team All-SUNYAC. She is the first Blue Devil all-region since Becky Hebert in 2014 ... Cheatham led SUNYAC in scoring, playmaking, and three-point shooting, and was second in NCAA Division III in three-point baskets per game and fourth in total three-point field goals. She graduated No. 3 on Fredonia's all-time scoring list, No. 1 in three-pointers ... sophomore forward Jenna Einink (Westfield, N.Y.) was Second Team All-SUNYAC ... Cheatham and senior guard Khee Nance (Dunkirk, N.Y.) were selected 2017 Arthur Ashe Jr. Sports Scholars.

**MEN'S HOCKEY** – The Blue Devils returned to the SUNYAC Tournament after a four-year hiatus ... Junior center Samuel Wilbur (Saginaw, Mich.) and sophomore goaltender Eric Bogart (London, Ont.) made Third Team All-SUNYAC ... Wilbur was Fredonia's leading scorer while Bogart set single-season school records for saves per game and save percentage ... sophomore forward Luke Rivera (Pacific Palisades, Calif.) and first year defenseman Max Blitz (Chino Hills, Calif.) were named to Team USA for the 20th World Maccabiah Games.

**WOMEN'S LACROSSE** – Junior midfielder Audrey Yokopovich (Webster, N.Y.) led SUNYAC in caused turnovers and draw controls. She made Second Team All-Conference as did sophomore forward Samantha Spiess (Fairport, N.Y.), who led the Blue Devils in scoring.

**SOFTBALL** – First-year pitcher-outfielder Katie Yudin (Liverpool, N.Y.) was SUNYAC Co-Rookie of the Year as well as First Team All-Conference ... junior left-fielder Lauren Pixley (Hamburg, N.Y.) made Second Team All-SUNYAC.

**MEN'S SWIMMING AND DIVING** – Arron Carlson (LeRoy, N.Y.) won both boards in springboard diving (see separate story) and Adam Clouthier (Conroe, Texas) was the 100-yard and 200-yard breaststroke champ with school and SUNYAC records in both swims. They made First Team All-SUNYAC ... Jake Favret (Watertown, N.Y.), a sophomore, made Second Team ... Third Team honors went to seniors Troy Lubanski (Leicester, N.Y.) and Liam Jones (Tonawanda, N.Y.); and juniors Bill Bradley (Dunkirk, N.Y.), Ben Chatley (Sanborn, N.Y.), Graham Jones (Tonawanda, N.Y.) and Nathan Link (Grand Island, N.Y.) ... Chatley received The One Love Foundation's Unsung Hero Award for his leadership role in SUNYAC Student-Athlete Advisory Committee's (SAAC) 10 Million Yards for Yearley Walk.

**WOMEN'S SWIMMING AND DIVING** – Senior springboard Meghan Bartlett (Johnstown, N.Y.) made First Team All-SUNYAC (see separate story), the lone Fredonian to make the all-conference team.

**MEN'S TRACK AND FIELD** – Senior distance runner Kyle Collins (Suffern, N.Y.) broke a 34-year-old school record in the 5,000 meters before qualifying for the NCAA Division III outdoor meet, where he finished 17th. Bernie Prabucki held the record since 1983.

**WOMEN'S TRACK AND FIELD** – After breaking her own school record in preliminaries, junior sprinter Brittany Feldman (Jamestown, N.Y.) finished seventh in the 400 meters at the NCAA Division III Outdoor Track & Field championship meet. It resulted in her second All-America award ... Feldman won the SUNYAC Outdoor Track Athlete of the Meet after winning the 100-meter and 200-meter titles. She and Sarah Couperus (Marion, N.Y.), winner of the high jump, made First Team, and juniors Mikayla Capestrani (Jamestown, N.Y.) and Anneliese Bienko (Clarence, N.Y.) made Second Team in the pole vault and the discus, respectively. Capestrani's vault was a new school record ... Feldman won the SUNYAC 400 and set the school 500-meter record during the indoor season ... Couperus and junior pole vaulter Kristen Sawyer (Lockport, N.Y.) were Second Team All-SUNYAC indoors ... senior Kristen Guarino (Bergen, N.Y.) won the SUNYAC Elite 20 Award in indoor track for having the highest grade-point average among student-athletes competing at the conference meet.

**MISCELLANEOUS** – Men's soccer tied for fourth in NCAA Division III's Most Improved Team category with a 6.5-game improvement from 2015 ... The SUNYAC Elite 20 Award in women's tennis went to senior Leanne Hofstead (Liverpool, N.Y.). It was announced in January ... Fredonia retained the Lake Erie Cup in its "Battle by the Lake" vs. SUNY Buffalo State. The Blue Devils have won all three years it has been held ... Fredonia Athletics Awards Gala hardware: Bartlett and Carlson Female and Male Athletes of the Year, sophomore softball player Cassie Herman (Maybrook, N.Y.) and first-year men's soccer goaltender Ty Bentham (Columbus, Ind.) Rookies of the Year, women's soccer senior Maria Gordon (Stephentown, N.Y.) Scholar-Athlete of the Year, women's volleyball the top academic team, and women's basketball the Blue Devil Cup ... Clouthier's two SUNYAC breaststroke records earned him Performance of the Year ... A game-winning free kick vs. nationally ranked Oneonta by men's soccer senior Bryan Sibble (Liverpool, N.Y.) was voted Play of the Year.



2017 Athletics Awards Gala winners (from left) Cassie Herman, Meghan Bartlett, Ty Bentham, Bryan Sibble, Maria Gordon, Arron Carlson and Adam Clouthier.

## Wrapping up two All-America careers

by Jerry Reilly, Sports Information Director



Divers Arron Carlson and Meghan Bartlett

Two Fredonia springboard divers continued a run of success in 2017 that has now stretched to a dozen years.

Meghan Bartlett (Johnstown, N.Y.) and Arron Carlson (LeRoy, N.Y.) earned several post-season honors – including two All-America certificates each last March at the NCAA Division III Swimming & Diving championships in Shenandoah, Texas.

Bartlett, a six-time All-America, was named SUNYAC Diver of the Meet for the second time and Female Diver of The Year for the third straight season. She also won the SUNYAC Scholar-Athlete of the Year Award.

Carlson, owner of seven All-America certificates (including honorable mentions), was SUNYAC Diver of the Meet for the second straight year and SUNYAC Male Diver of the Year for the first time. He also received SUNYAC's James Fulton Award, an annual men's swimming and diving award recognizing athletic, academic and lifetime achievement.

Prior to graduating in May, Bartlett and Carlson each won their second Fredonia Athletes of the Year awards as voted upon by the Athletics Department and announced at the Student-Athlete Gala on May 7. They are the first back-to-back winners under the new awards format.

Fredonia's string of NCAA contestants

dates back to 2006 when Kelly (Sponholz) Neth—a 2016 Fredonia Athletics Hall of Fame inductee—won her first of eight straight SUNYAC championships and All-America awards, including the 2009 NCAA Division III 3-meter springboard title as a senior.

Since then, 12 Blue Devil divers have combined for 46 All-America awards—at least one in every year. It was that history of success which led Bartlett to Fredonia's door—after a stop for one year at NCAA Division I St. Bonaventure. She transferred to Fredonia as a sophomore.

"I knew that Coach (John) Crawford had built up a strong community and the team was really close," she said. "So if I was going to transfer out of a Division I program, I knew it had to be to the best Division III program around."

Crawford, the former Fredonia head coach who returned as an assistant when the program returned in the early 2000s, had recruited Bartlett at Johnstown (N.Y.) High School, so she was familiar with the school and the program. What surprised her was the level of diving talent Crawford had amassed.

"To be honest," she said, "I was amazed at how good they were. They were throwing 2 ½ flips off the 1-meter board. That was better than what most Division

I divers could do. That's not to say there weren't good divers at Division I, but I mostly only saw them at the championship meet. Compared to Division I, Division III was a lot better overall, the competition more fierce, the level of the diving a lot higher."

Carlson's "a-ha!" moment came during the second week of practice during his first year. He had just performed a very basic dive off the 3-meter board—a dive that eventually became so simple, he stopped doing it at meets.

"I remember getting out of the water and thinking 'Hey, that wasn't hard or scary. This shouldn't be too bad!'" he said. "After that things got progressively easier and easier...I was having fun trying to learn harder stuff rather than being scared trying to learn harder stuff."

It also made him realize if he put his faith in his coach, the sky was the limit.

"For two weeks," Carlson said, "we basically did nothing but basic skills. I had no idea what these basic skills were. I was re-learning from the ground up everything I knew about the sport, which was encouraging, because it meant I wasn't going to have to work so hard mentally. I just had to listen and do everything physically to be better."

## Photographic memories ... social media snaps



King and Queen at the snowy "College Camp" in Brocton, in 1942.



The adorable Barry and Estelle Greenberg, '57, in 1956, at the mic on WCVF radio.



Participants in the dance marathon "Dance for Those Who Can't" in the Williams (Campus) Center to benefit the Muscular Dystrophy Association, circa '70s.

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

- FACEBOOK  @fredoniaalumni
- TWITTER  @fredoniaalumni
- INSTAGRAM  @fredoniaalumni
- YOUTUBE  @fredoniau
- LINKEDIN  @fredoniau



**Fredonia**  
@Fredoniau

We're not saying #foodtruckThursday has been successful already, we're... Okay, we're saying it!!!



1:22 pm - 27 April 2017  
8 Retweets 60 Likes



**fredoniau**



173 likes  
fredoniau #campusclosureup, #threemanhill  
August 4, 2016

## Honoring 44 years of service to Athletics

While he retired as Fredonia's Athletic Director this summer, Greg Prechtl won't be going far. He has been named Athletic Director Emeritus and will remain active in the Blue Devil Booster Club and the Fredonia Athletics Hall of Fame Committee.

"They said they would find me a small office somewhere on campus," Prechtl said. "I want to stay involved, to have some place to go to."

Including his four years as a student, Prechtl has been coming to campus since the fall of 1965. During 44 years of employment, his jobs have included Residence Director at Alumni Hall, Head Men's Basketball Coach and Athletic Director. Perhaps his great achievement was meeting his future wife, Linda, while both were Fredonia students. They have three children and three grandchildren.

Well-wishers have included former players, opponents, and work colleagues.

"I still remember my dad and I meeting you for the first time," wrote John Fischetti, a former player and Hall of Fame point guard. "On my way home my father strongly suggested FSU and I had to admit he was right. You know how hard it is to admit your father is right when you are 17."

"I didn't like you very much my early years in Fredonia," wrote Kevin Donovan, another former player. "Over the years, I've grown to love you like a family member. It was my blessing to have you in my life ... I appreciate your kindness and true love for

your players and all others associated with Fredonia Athletics."

Wrote former SUNY Buffalo State men's basketball coach Dick Bihr: "You carried on a great tradition in Intercollegiate Athletics at Fredonia and in the SUNYAC (and) I knew you always acted in the best interest of your student-athletes and the game both of us cared so much about."

"I feel fortunate indeed to have had a chance to work with you," wrote Dr. Don Wesley, a former colleague at Gowanda Central School, where Prechtl spent one year teaching high school English. "As you enter retirement, I know you will continue to matter in the lives of others."

Prechtl said he was "overwhelmed by the nice things people have said."

"Apparently they are very forgiving or very forgetful," he joked. "I probably wasn't the easiest guy to play for when I was coaching. But I think most of the guys who played for me knew that while I could be very demanding, I cared for them a lot."

"I liked my job as an Athletic Director and made quite a few friends across the state. But my love always was in coaching. That's because I was able to work with student-athletes...I liked the kids who played for me and felt that almost every night they gave me a good effort. The people who were on my staff were great people to work with."

Vice President of Enrollment and Student Services Cedric Howard noted the campus has set up the Greg & Linda



Greg, '69, and Linda (Ferry) Prechtl, '71

Athletic Naming Endowment with the goal of raising \$50,000 for athletics in order to rename office space in Dods Hall. More details will be announced at a retirement and naming ceremony Oct. 21 as part of Homecoming Weekend. A webpage has already been set up for donations at <https://give-to-fredonia.formstack.com/forms/prechtl>

(See the full story about Greg Prechtl's retirement at <http://www.fredoniabluedevils.com/news/2017/5/25/general-prechtl-retirement.aspx>)



## Alumni golf tournament

The Ninth Fredonia Alumni Golf Tournament was held July 14 at Shorewood Country Club in Dunkirk. The four-player scramble format included 21 teams of alumni, faculty and staff, and friends of the university, playing on what turned out to be a beautiful afternoon. Winners included the foursome (pictured, from left) of Ken Drummmond, Josh Harrington, Rob McAfee and Jeremy McAfee from Comfort Pest Control. Net proceeds from the event were nearly \$9,000 to benefit the University Police Scholarship, Alumni Association Scholarships and the Fredonia College Foundation Scholar Awards. Among the many sponsors and supporters were Lake Shore Savings, Lipsitz Green Scime Cambria Attorneys at Law, the Buffalo Bills, DFT Communications, West Herr Select Vehicle Purchase Plan, Basil Chevrolet Buick of Fredonia, Liberty Mutual Insurance, Star Media Group, Earth Risks Consulting (Michael P. Wilson, '71), Tyco Integrated Security, the Faculty Student Association and the Fredonia Beaver Club. The 2018 tournament is slated for Friday, July 20, at Shorewood.



### Adventure, humor and hijinks sail in 'Pirates of Penzance'

From stem to stern, the Marvel Theatre stage was filled with rollicking, high-stepping fun in the Department of Theatre and Dance's production of Gilbert and Sullivan's much beloved "The Pirates of Penzance." Veteran Director Tom Loughlin based his final production at Fredonia on the 1980 Joseph Papp adaptation of "Pirates" that transformed the lighthearted comedic opera into a zany Errol Flynn adventure with a "Pirates of the Caribbean" flavor. The talent of more than 100 students was showcased in the Walter Floor Mainstage Series event.



### Award-winning singer Liz Callaway coaches students

Liz Callaway, a Tony Award nominee and Emmy Award-winning actress, singer and recording artist, conducted a master class for Voice students from the School of Music and Department of Theatre and Dance in April in Mason Hall. Students were selected to perform for Ms. Callaway and a large audience of students and community members.



### 'Pink the Rink' proceeds top \$76,400 in milestone year

Blue Devil hockey players suited up for Fredonia's 10th "Pink the Rink" fundraiser to benefit the Buffalo branch of the American Cancer Society. More than \$8,700 was raised from the sale of commemorative player jerseys at the Jan. 21 game, which Fredonia won handily over Post University. Total Pink the Rink proceeds over 10 years exceed \$76,400. The 2018 "Pink the Rink" game is slated for Saturday, Feb. 8, versus Oswego.



### Pennica returns for research conference

Undergraduate students and faculty members from across the SUNY system gathered at Fredonia for the SUNY Undergraduate Research Conference West, featuring a keynote address, "The 50 Year Journey to the Development of the Clot-Buster: t-PA," by Fredonia alumna Dr. Diane Pennica (pictured) that highlighted the success of the clot-busting drug t-PA (Activase). Drawing upon her expertise in the biotechnology industry and drug development, Dr. Pennica discovered and cloned the gene for the clot buster t-PA—the body's natural clot dissolving substance—so it could be produced in large quantities to treat patients who experience a heart attack or stroke.



### Duke professor explores Twitter activism

Fredonia alumnus Mark Anthony Neal, professor of African and African American Studies at Duke University, author and National Public Radio (NPR) commentator, returned to campus in February to deliver a talk, "Twitter Activism: How to Craft a Powerful Statement in 140 Characters or Less," as part of the Writers@Work series. The residency series brings alumni with a variety of educational backgrounds, careers and accomplishments back to campus to meet with students.



### Chancellor's Award for Student Excellence

Three Fredonia seniors who collectively had five majors, two minors and GPAs of 3.9 or higher were among 256 SUNY students from across the state to receive the 2017 Chancellor's Award for Student Excellence. The recipients—Maria Gordon, from Stephentown, N.Y. (pictured, with Chancellor Nancy Zimpher and Vice President for Enrollment and Student Services Cedric Howard); Zachary Eklum of Jamestown, N.Y.; and Rebecca Hartling of Falconer, N.Y.—were chosen from among eight Fredonia finalists. The awards ceremony was held at the Empire State Plaza Convention Center in Albany.





**Metzger named Vice President for Finance and Administration**

Michael Metzger has been named Fredonia's new Vice President for Finance and Administration and assumed his duties on July 3. Mr. Metzger has 30 years of experience in the private sector. He most recently served as Vice President and Strategic Advisor for Blackstone

Advanced Technologies LLC of Jamestown, a position he held since 2014. In previous positions, Mr. Metzger was president of Blackstone Business Enterprises from 2010 to 2013, Chief Financial Officer for Acu-Rite Companies from 1985 to 2010 and worked at Bausch & Lomb from 1976 to 1984. "Mr. Metzger brings a range of experiences in operations management, including in the not-for-profit and government sectors," said President Virginia Horvath, "He has a successful record of motivating and leading employees, and he has managed significant budgets and physical facilities."



**Schwalbe receives fifth Fulbright award**

SUNY Distinguished Service Professor Ted Schwalbe of the Department of Communication received a Fulbright Specialist Award to work with Aleksander Xhuvani University in Elbasan, Albania, during May and June. Dr. Schwalbe previously received Fulbright Traditional Awards to Bulgaria (1997) and Hungary (2004) and Specialist Awards to Swaziland (2002) and Namibia

(2007). "It was an honor to represent Fredonia in Albania," Schwalbe said. "The country holds a special place in my heart since it was the site of my first professional international experience in 1994." In addition to Fulbright Awards, Schwalbe has also received four major international media training grants from the U.S. government. These were in Albania (1994), southern Africa (1996), Bulgaria (1997) and Turkey (2008).



**Jabot professional activities focus on global learning and regional climate education**

Michael Jabot, professor of Science Education in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction, served as lead presenter at the North American Regional Meeting for Global Learning and Observation to Benefit the Environment (GLOBE) Program held at the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville. Dr. Jabot led the group with representatives

from across the nation on the use of question formulation and

field investigations for development of student research. Jabot was also elected to the Advisory Board for the Journal of Global Education and Research (JGER). In addition, Jabot was awarded a grant to support climate education across the region by the Chautauqua Education Coalition through support from National Grid. The funds awarded will expand the growing Regional Climate Network developed by Jabot.



**Birger Vanwesenbeeck invited to give Magliocco Lecture**

Birger Vanwesenbeeck, associate professor of English, was selected to give the Magliocco Lecture at Western Illinois University in March. The prestigious annual lecture series, named after a professor emeritus of English at the university, has brought scholars to the Western Illinois campus for talks on literature, film, theory, or the state of the

discipline, since 2006. In his lecture, Dr. Vanwesenbeeck focused on the recent return to considerations of late style and "lateness" within contemporary literary criticism and art theory, a topic on which he has published extensively. During his visit he also met with English graduate students.

**Igoe, Smith received Best Education Video award at BEA convention**



Mike Igoe and Roslin Smith, assistant professors of Communication, received a video award for their production, "Good Storytelling," at a screening and award ceremony held at the Broadcast Education Association's (BEA) 15th annual convention on April 23 in Las Vegas, Nev. "Good Storytelling" won Best Educational Video honors at the BEA's 2017 Festival of Media Arts, the largest digital media and broadcast competition in America, with over 1,450 entries representing over 175 colleges and universities. Aimed at journalism students, the video demonstrates the importance of good video storytelling, not just during the news gathering process but also during the editing phase. It also highlights mistakes to avoid along the way. Mr. Igoe wrote, produced and hosted "Good Storytelling," while Ms. Smith, as an associate producer, re-edited several sequences and updated the music tracks.



**Tillery named to editorial boards of journals**

Dr. Kim Tillery of the Department of Communication Disorders and Sciences was invited to serve on the editorial boards of two journals; the American Journal of Audiology and American Journal of Undergraduate Research. The American Journal of Audiology is an international, peer-reviewed scholarly journal that publishes peer-reviewed research and other scholarly articles pertaining to clinical audiology methods and issues, and serves as an outlet for discussion of related professional and educational issues and ideas. The American Journal of Undergraduate Research is a national, peer-reviewed, multidisciplinary student research journal. Its editorial board is comprised of nearly 50 subject editors in a variety of fields.



**Valentine selected for leadership institute**

Megan Valentine, associate director of Athletics and Recreation, was selected for the Women in the Spotlight's Brand Leadership Institute. Through a new collaboration with the National Collegiate Athletics Association (NCAA), Ms. Valentine was tabbed as the Division III representative for the institute. The mission of the program is "to actively shape

the future of women, wellness and the workplace through an innovative development platform designed to address the pay, performance, and pipeline gap. We exist to empower emerging and executive leaders with the essential skills, influential relationships and life balance strategies to rise to new levels of impact, recognition and retention." She is currently serving as Interim Director of Athletics following the retirement of Greg Precht (see story on page 25).



**Horvath tapped to serve as Co-Chair of Western New York Regional Economic Development Council**

Governor Andrew M. Cuomo announced in February that President Virginia Horvath will serve as the academic co-chair of the Western New York Regional Economic Development Council (WNYREDC). President Horvath, a member of the

WNYREDC since 2015, will lead the Regional Council in collaboration with Council Co-Chair Jeff Belt, president of SolEpoxy Inc. She replaced State University of New York at Buffalo President Satish K. Tripathi, who served on the council

since 2011. "Western New York has made incredible progress since the inception of the Regional Economic Development Council and today I am proud to appoint and welcome Dr. Horvath to serve as co-chair of the regional REDC," said Governor Cuomo. "The REDC has been an innovative force since it began, with business leaders, elected officials, and higher education leaders working together to advance our region. I look forward to assisting in this leadership role, as the REDC continues our commitment to economic growth in Buffalo and in communities across Western New York," said President Horvath.



**Stoddart receives CCSBA 'Friend of Education' award**

The Chautauqua County School Boards Association honored Charles Stoddart, associate professor of School Building Leadership in the College of Education, with its 2017 Friend of Education award. "It's truly rewarding to be the recipient of the CCSBA award. Being recognized by one's peers for doing what comes as an educational duty is truly awesome," said Dr. Stoddart, whose career in education spans parts of

six decades, including the last 13 years at Fredonia, most recently as co-coordinator of School Building and School District Leadership programs in the Department of Language, Learning and Leadership. He joined the College of Education in 2004 after 42 years of service in the Orchard Park (N.Y.) Central School District. Stoddart began his career as a teacher at the former Lincoln Elementary School in 1962 and became principal of South Davis Elementary in 1976 and superintendent of schools in 1982.



**Kinkela offers perspective, remarks in PBS Rachel Carson documentary**

History Professor David Kinkela provided commentary in the PBS "American Experience" documentary on Rachel Carson, the influential writer, scientist and author of the best-selling "Silent Spring," considered by some historians as the seminal event that launched the American environmental movement. Dr. Kinkela is the author of the award-winning book, "DDT

and the American Century: Global Health, Environmental Politics and the Pesticide that Changed the World," which examines the interconnections between U.S. environmentalism and U.S. foreign policy. He was contacted by the documentary's director, Michelle Ferrari, who had read "DDT and the American Century" and asked the historian if he would be willing to sit for an interview. "It was great," Kinkela remarked. "I was glad that my book helped someone think about Carson's work in a different way. As a writer that was very exciting. And the offer to participate in the film was simply an added bonus." He added, "My work as a historian was to draw attention to the intersections between science, politics and culture and how they not only shaped Carson's thinking, but those of the chemical industry."



Arizona Alumni Reunion



Fredonia alumni, future alumni, and friends gathered at Sailor Circus in Sarasota, Fla., on Jan. 15, where Mary Anne Harp, '63, (fifth from left) played trumpet and conducted at the Windjammers Circus Band Concert.



Laura Knoepler, the principal organizer of the Thomas Stocky and Thomas E. Tunney III memorial event, standing next to the Peace Pole dedicated on July 8 on the College Lodge property. She, John Kirk and Trish Miller, and many people associated with folk music at Fredonia over 40 years raised \$2,400 at "A Concert for Two Toms" that evening at the 1891 Fredonia Opera House to benefit the Thomas Stocky '77 Scholarship established through the Fredonia College Foundation in memory of the Fredonia alumnus, and to contribute to the Southern Poverty Law Center in memory of Mr. Tunney, who attended Fredonia for two years before he died. Ms. Knoepler and Mr. Kirk donated the Peace Pole.



New Smyrna Beach (Fla.) boat excursion, with alumni and emeriti faculty and staff.

**1950s**

**John Aceti, '58**, (elem. ed.) has recently published his fifth book, "Wineries of the Texas Hill Country plus One Fine Brewery" by Friesen Press which can be purchased at FriesenPress/Bookstore and Amazon.com.

**1960s**

**Judith (Levine) Kaplan, '61**, (speech and hearing hand.) is retired and volunteers with her dog in two programs: READ (Reading Education Assistance Dog) and CATS (Canine Airport Therapy Squad). She also teaches barre, pilates and Silver Sneakers classes at her local YMCA.

**John Barnes, '68**, (geology) retired in February as chief of the Mineral Resource Section of the Pennsylvania Geological Survey after more than 46 years of service. He will continue his association with the survey part-time as a volunteer, assisting with laboratory analyses.

**1970s**

**Onaje Allan Gumbs, '71**, (music ed.) gave a concert at Aaron Davis Hall on the City College of New York campus. In tribute to bassist/musician activist Bob Cranshaw who passed away last year, he was presented with the first ever Bob Cranshaw Community Achievement Award by the Jazz Foundation of America.

**John O'Donnell, '71**, (history) was inducted into the St. Joe's Signum Fidei Society at St. Joseph's Collegiate Institute in Buffalo, N.Y.

**Wayne Ormsby, '71**, (psych.) was elected to The Resource Center's board of directors.

**Tom Charlton, '72**, (music ed.) is a guest columnist in the weekly outdoors section for the *Quad-City Times* in Davenport, Iowa. He is also an avid hunter, angler and all-around outdoorsman, and published a book, "The Hunters Become the Hunted."

**David Polechetti, '72**, (soc. stds.-sec. ed.) was inducted to the Chautauqua County Sports Hall of Fame.

**Michael Hanitz, '76**, (special studies) retired after 37 1/2 years as a school social worker for Hamburg (N.Y.) Central Schools.

**Mark Zanghi, '76**, (pol. sci.) was the recipient of the 2016 "Friend of Public Education" award from the Ohio School Boards Association-Central Region. The Central Region encompasses over 100 public school districts in 14 counties. He was nominated by the Licking County Educational Service Center.

**Mary (Brown) Carlson, '77, '83**, (elem. ed.) had her second book published, "Princess Casey," which was inspired by her daughter, **Casey Carlson, '08** (comm.-comm. studies).

**Gretchen (Preve) McCallister, '77**, (elem. ed.) was recently hired as a curriculum resource teacher in early childhood education with Seminole County Schools in Florida.

**Melford Swanson, '77**, (elem. ed.) celebrated his 600th win as a girls basketball coach at Sherman (N.Y.) High School. He is third in most wins in the New York Public High Schools Athletic Association history.

**Doug Fenton, '78**, (special studies) was elected to a second term on the Vestry Church Council at the Episcopal Church of the Advent in Kenmore, N.Y. He is a Community Manager for Calamar's Woodlands Active Living in Wheatfield, N.Y.

**Dr. William Fredrickson, '78**, (music ed.) recently completed a residency as an Endowed Chair in Music at the University of Alabama School of Music.

**Paul Camp, '79**, (bus. admin.) is happily married to **Roberta (Aftuck) Camp, '79** (English). They have two adult children and a two-year old granddaughter. They reside in South Carolina.

**Edward Courtney, '79**, (bus. admin.) represented Fredonia and President Virginia Horvath at the inauguration of SUNY Farmingdale's ninth president, Dr. John S. Nader, on March 31.

**1980s**

**Dan Furlong, '80**, (pol. sci.) was elected last year to a 14-year term as a Justice of the New York State Supreme Court. He is currently assigned to Niagara Falls in Niagara County. Dan graduated in 1983 from Case Western University Law School, and was in private practice for 26 years, until 2010, when he became the Confidential Law Clerk to Supreme Court Justice Joseph Glownia.

**Elizabeth (Ambrose) Simons, '80**, (special studies) was hired as Director of Corporate, Foundation, and Government Relations at Hilbert College in Hamburg, N.Y.

**Thomas Erdmann, '81**, (music ed.) had his sixth book published, "How Jazz Trumpeters Play Music Today," which is the follow-up to his last book, "How Jazz Trumpeters Understand Their Music." He currently directs the orchestra at Elon University.

Award-winning writer **Sean Kirst, '81**, (English) is writing a local news column for *The Buffalo News*.

**David Sluberski, '81**, (special studies) was on campus to conduct a master class in

recording and broadcasting to a group of sound recording students. He is currently a Senior Lecturer for the School of Film & Animation at Rochester Institute of Technology.

**Mitchell Banas, '82**, (psych.) was named Deputy Managing Member of Bond, Schoeneck, & King in the firm's Buffalo, N.Y., office.

**Curt King, '82**, (special studies) was hired as Chief Information Officer at Salem State University.

**Richard Lang, '82**, (account.) joined Fust Charles Chambers LLP as Senior Consulting Manager in its health care consulting department.

**Robert Raff, '82**, (special studies) has been appointed as Vice President and General Manager of KSNT-TV (NBC), KTMJ-TV (FOX), KTKA-TV (ABC) and MTKA-TV (CW) and associated digital services, including *KSNT.com*, serving Northeast Kansas.

**Dr. David Rudari, '83**, (music ed.) conducted the All-County Treble Chorus at the 2017 Chautauqua County Music Teachers Association's Winter All-County Festival.

**Scott Hull, '84**, (sound rec. tech.) is Owner/Chief Engineer of Masterdisk sound recording studio and just moved his studio from Manhattan to Peekskill, N.Y. He has worked on albums for Steely Dan, Lou Reed and Sting.

**Linda (Thomas) Koszalka, '84**, (commun.) is First Vice President for Wells Fargo Advisors.

**Simone Fancher, '85**, (sociology) of Clarence, N.Y., recently opened a restaurant at the Eastern Hills Mall in Williamsville, N.Y., as an expansion of her Cheesy Chick Food Truck. A third project is underway with the purchase of a food trailer to sell food at events,

**Fredonia Marxonia slated for late September**



Fredonia Marxonia, which celebrates the link between the village of Fredonia and the 1933 Marx Brothers' film, "Duck Soup," is slated for Sept. 28 and 29. The event is supported by the Hahn Family Fredonia Marxonia Fund of the Fredonia College Foundation. Guest Noah Diamond's appearance is supported by the foundation's Carnahan Jackson Humanities Fund, Reed Library, and the Hahn Family fund. Activities, all free and open to public, are coordinated by Cynthia Yochym of Reed Library.

**Thursday, Sept. 28**

**3 p.m.**, Reed Library - Exhibit opening (running through Oct. 22), singing of "Hail Fredonia," annual group photo, and cake in honor of Groucho Marx's 127th birthday and celebration of 30 years since the first Fredonia Marxonia. The exhibit theme is, "Broadway and the Marx Brothers." Douglas Canham, '87, founder of Fredonia Marxonia, plans to be in attendance.

**7:30 p.m.**, 1891 Fredonia Opera House, 9 Church St., Fredonia - "The Marx Brothers on Broadway: 1924-1929," multimedia lecture by writer, performer, and Marx Brothers expert, Noah Diamond. Mr. Diamond devoted years to research, restore, and realize the revival of "I'll Say She Is," the first

of three 1920s Broadway musicals starring the Marx Brothers.

**Friday, Sept. 29**

**Noon**, Reed Library - Lunch-time interview with Noah Diamond. **7:30 p.m.**, 1891 Fredonia Opera House - Screening of "The Cocoanuts," the 1929 Marx Brothers film adapted from their 1925 Broadway musical.

At a location and time yet to be determined, there will be a screening of "Duck Soup," the 1933 Marx Brothers film set in the fictional country of "Fredonia."

Everyone, regardless of age or skill level, is welcome to participate in a Fredonia Marxonia art contest.

**Shelly (Peterson) O'Boyle, '89**, (speech path.) was named Superintendent at Frewsburg (N.Y.) Central School District and was also named Outstanding New York State Education Technology Leader for 2016 by the New York State Association for Computers and Technologies in Education.

**1990s**

**Rohan Patrick, '92**, (art) had his multi-media exhibition, "iTraits of (H.I.M.) Haile Selassie I," on display at The Catskill Art Society. It combines video, digital audio production and digital imagery.

**Bob Schlick, '92**, (theatre) plans to retire as Director of the Robert L. Scharmann Theatre at Jamestown Community College after the 2017-18 season. He has spent the past 21 years as Director.

Contact Ms. Yochym for information on all activities at [Cynthia.yochym@fredonia.edu](mailto:Cynthia.yochym@fredonia.edu)



2016 Fredonia Marxonia keynote speaker, playwright and alumnus Tom Dudzick, 73, with Cindy Yochym in Reed Library.



**Marty Bauerlein, '93**, (bus. admin.) was named Senior Vice President, U.S. Sales for CRN, a brand of The Channel Company in Clearwater, Fla.

**Kathy (Ratliff) Seastead, '94**, (biology) was named 2017 Outstanding Biology Teacher of the Year for the State of South Carolina by the National Association of Biology Teachers (NABT).

**Elizabeth Conrad, '96**, (psych.) is Associate Director of the Center for Leadership and Service at the State University at Albany.

**Derek Fialkiewicz, '96**, (math) was selected as Nevada's Assistant Principal of the Year by the National Association of Secondary School Principals. He was nominated for his work in establishing a Parent University, a math tutorial service for parents to learn directly from their children's math teacher. For the

**Matthew May, '98**, (theatre) received an award for theatrical excellence from The South Florida Silver Palm Theatre for writing and producing the outstanding interactive theatrical experience, "Diego & Drew Say I Do."

**Charlie Post, '98**, (sound rec. tech.) was featured in an article outlining his work with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra where he works as an Audio Engineer. For more details, visit: <http://csosoundsandstories.org/backstage-at-the-cso-audio-engineer-charlie-post/>

**2000s**

**Jenn Champ, '00**, (English) was hired as an Education Coordinator for the Fenton History Center in Jamestown, N.Y.

**Robin Cecala, '01**, (commun.-TV & digital film) earned her Ph.D. in

No-Cut Coach All-Star Team. He is a varsity tennis coach and a music teacher at Amherst (N.Y.) Central School. He also teaches music at Canisius College in Buffalo, N.Y.

**Dr. Jason Campbell-Foster, '03**, (English) earned his doctoral degree from Northeastern University where he currently serves as the Assistant Dean of Students.

**Erik Reinhart, '03**, (music ed.) led the All-County Vocal Jazz Ensemble at the 2017 Chautauqua County Music Teachers Association's Winter All-County Festival.

**Neasa Seneca, '04**, (history) was hired as an Associate at Lippes Mathias Wexler Freidman, LLP.

**Brian Filjones, '05**, (sociology) was hired as Associate Director of Admissions at Hilbert College in Hamburg, N.Y.

the 2018 Music Educator Award presented by the Recording Academy and the GRAMMY Museum. He is a music teacher at Fredonia (N.Y.) Central School.

**Eric Perry, '08**, (music perf.) is a member of Renasissance Men, a professional male vocal chamber ensemble based in Boston, Mass. The ensemble was founded by five Fredonia alumni in 2014 and includes: **Jay Mobley, '10** (music comp.); **Will Prapestis, '10** (music perf.); **Chris Scalfani, '11**, (music- applied), and **Benjamin Pfeil, '10** (music perf.). The group is at the tail-end of its fundraising campaign for a debut recording set to be done in Western New York.

**Edwin Rodriguez, '08**, (commun.-public rel.) was hired as Director of Public Relations and Marketing for The Lutheran Home in Jamestown, N.Y.

**John Murphy, '10**, (music ed.) accepted a teaching fellowship from the University of Oklahoma to pursue a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Piano Pedagogy.

**Kyle Badger, '11**, (bus. admin.-manage.) was promoted to HR Generalist at Rich Products.

**Nick Gunner, '11**, (commun.-audio/radio) is President and Founder of Orbitist, a multimedia, data visualization and technology company which is housed in the Fredonia Technology Incubator. Orbitist recently competed in an entrepreneurial competition at the State University of Buffalo and won second place. The competition was looking to generate solutions for problems plaguing Lake Erie. Orbitist advanced two rounds of the competition in Buffalo and Detroit and moved on to the final in Cleveland.

**Theo Collins, '12**, (pol. sci.) delivered the 2017 Commencement address at Jamestown Community College, (Jamestown and Olean campuses). He is an attorney with Spilman Thomas & Battle in Pittsburgh, Pa., a U.S. Marine Corps Reserve veteran and 2009 graduate of JCC, where he received an associates degree in Criminal Justice. Collins also received JCC's Distinguished Alumni Award.

**Hillary Grobe, '12**, (music ed.) is a Technical Sergeant in the U.S. Air Force and a member of the Singing Sergeants of the U.S. Air Force Band.

**Chelsea Leibundgut, '12**, (comm. disorders and sci.) was promoted to Program Director at the Lancaster (N.Y.) Family YMCA.

**Danielle Beckvermit, '15**, (music perf.) was a Buffalo/Toronto District Winner in the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions in January and received an Encouragement Award in the Great Lakes Region Final. She currently is attending graduate school at Mannes School of Music-New School in New York City.

**Brad Costa, '15**, (history) received the Burlington (North Carolina) VFW Post 10607-sponsored award for Teacher of the Year. He teaches at Eastern Alamance High School in Mebane, N.C., and also earned VFW District 6 Teacher of the Year honors.

**Samantha Gaudio, '15**, (early child.-biology) conducted research in the field of Applied Behavior Analysis as part of her capstone in the M.S.Ed. in Special Education Early Childhood Intervention

**Deanna Civilette, '17**, (music ed.) released her first album, "Deanna Quinn." She is a member of the band "New Masons," an indie-pop band, and performs vocals and plays piano. Her album can be found on *iTunes*, *Spotify*, and *Google Play*.

**Faculty/Staff**

**Dr. Dale Tuggy** (philosophy) was featured in a WalletHub debate on whether money is the root of evil. For more information, visit [wallethub.com/blog/money-is-the-root-of-all-evil/31418/#dale-tuggy](http://wallethub.com/blog/money-is-the-root-of-all-evil/31418/#dale-tuggy)

Submit Class Notes to [alumni.office@fredonia.edu](mailto:alumni.office@fredonia.edu) or to the Alumni Affairs Office, Alumni House.



Onaje Allan Gumbs, '71 Duane (far left) and Ruth Braun, '70, join Mike Wilson, '71, at the Maine Coastal Botanical Gardens. Mary (Brown) Carlson, '77, '83, and Casey Carlson, '08, with family pet, Izzie. Elizabeth (Ambrose) Simons, '80 Curt King, '82 Lisa Brigantino, '86, and Lori Brigantino, '87, as "Vickie & Nickie." Brian Filjones, '05 Nick Greco, '05 (left) in "The 60 Yard Line." Mary Jerz, '09 Nick Gunner, '11, (second from left) and his Orbitist team members (left to right) Kristen O'Connor, Jason Zimmermann and Atticus Kiser, all May graduates. Danielle Beckvermit, '15

past five years, he has been the Assistant Principal at Cram Middle School in Las Vegas. He previously taught math for 10 years at Green Valley High School and was a Dean for three and a half years at Bonanza High School.

**Amy (Dombrowski) Steiner, '96**, (music ed.) was named a quarterfinalist for the 2018 Music Educator Award presented by the Recording Academy and the GRAMMY Museum. She is employed by Hutchinson Central Technical School in Buffalo, N.Y.

**Patrick Walders, '97**, (music ed.) has been named Choral Director of the La Jolla Symphony and Chorus, a University of California, San Diego, affiliate.

**Frank Williams, '97**, (English) was named Interim Vice President for Enrollment Management at Daemen College in Amherst, N.Y.

Mass Communication from the University of Southern Mississippi and began teaching at Point Park University in Pittsburgh, Pa. in August of 2011. She was recently granted tenure and promoted to Associate Professor. After graduating from Fredonia, she earned a Master of Science degree from Duquesne University in 2003, and taught at Fredonia from Fall 2003 to Spring 2005.

**Greg Presti, '01**, (bus. admin.-market.) is CEO of *LocalSearchForDentists.com*, a dental marketing agency for dental practices which was recognized as one of the fastest growing businesses in America by *Inc.* magazine for the third year in a row.

**Paul Biddle, '02**, (music perf.) was selected by the United States Tennis Association as one of 10 coaches in the United States to the

**Nick Greco, '05**, (commun.) co-produced and starred in a feature film, "The 60 Yard Line" which was selected for the Wisconsin International Film Festival. For more information, visit [The60YardLine.com](http://The60YardLine.com)

**Mike Rukavina, '05**, (commun.-audio/radio) was named a finalist in the Headline Writing Category by the New York State Associated Press Association in its 2016 contest. He is a News/Wire Editor at *The Post-Journal* in Jamestown, N.Y.

**Sarah Schwab, '07**, (English) wrote the screenplay for the short film, "A My Name Is," a story about an 8-year-old with cancer. For more information about the film, visit [AMYNameIsTheFilm.com](http://AMYNameIsTheFilm.com). Sarah has also worked on several other films including: "Starman," "Animal House" and "Indiana Jones."

**Andrew Bennett, '08**, (music ed.) was named a quarterfinalist for

**Amanda Fraccica, '09**, (psych.) was promoted to Associate Relationship Manager at Key Private Bank, the wealth management division of KeyCorp.

**Mary Jerz, '09**, (childhood ed.) recently won Success Academy Charter Schools' Teacher Growth Award, which recognizes teachers who have exhibited the most significant progress in achieving classroom-wide excellence since the start of the school year. She currently teaches kindergarten at Success Academy Union Square.

**Kyle Leikam, '10**, (bus. admin.-finance) was hired as a Wealth Advisor for Evans Investment Services, a wealth management affiliate of Evans Bank, N.A.

**Kathrine Meister, '10**, (childhood inclus. ed.-math) was named Senior Program Director at the Ken-Ton (N.Y.) Family YMCA.

**Kazlin Mason, '11**, (speech-language path.) recently completed a surgical mission trip with the Smiles International Foundation and wrote a brief synopsis about the trip.

**Eric Tichy, '11**, (commun.-journalism) was named a finalist in the Spot News photography category by the New York State Associated Press Association in its 2016 contest. He is a City/Region Editor for *The Post-Journal* in Jamestown, N.Y.

**Jonas Barranca, '12**, (acting) played Victor Frankenstein in "Frankenstein" at the Road Less Traveled Theatre in Buffalo, N.Y.

**Matthew Beebe, '12, '14**, (child. inclus. ed., literacy) is a special education teacher at Lorton (Va.) Station Elementary School in Virginia and was featured in the school's newsletter in an article highlighting his accomplishments since he started there in 2014.

**Cody Maggi, '12**, (commun.-comm. stds.) is the Social Venture Coordinator at Catholic Charities of Onondaga County in Syracuse, N.Y.

**Betsy Thayer, '12**, (public account.) was hired as a Controller for The Resource Center.

**Dana Tyrrell, '12**, (art history) was the curator for the art exhibit, "Light as a Feather/Stiff as a Board," at Sugar City Gallery and Dreamland Gallery in Buffalo, N.Y.

**Chrissy Ortolano, '13**, (bus. admin.-market.) is on the Millennial Advisory Board at Lake Shore Savings Bank. She is the Director of Selection and Recruitment with Northwestern Mutual.

**Mark Sonner, '13**, (public account.) was hired by Chiampou Travis Besaw & Kershner LLP as an Experienced Staff Accountant.

Specialist program at Hofstra University.

**Anna Jones, '15**, (child. inclus. ed.-music) was promoted to Program Coordinator for the youth program at the Learning Disabilities Association of WNY.

**Allie Stoerr, '15**, (commun.-public rel.) was hired as a Sales Coordinator for the Hyatt Regency in Buffalo, N.Y.

**Michelle Cope, '16**, (bus. admin.) moved to New York City and is an Associate Business Manager at PS Business Management, an entertainment firm.

**Stephanie Willis, '16**, (commun.-public rel.) is working as a Business Analyst for the 340b program through the Hudson Headwaters Medical Institute.

**Erin Bischoff, '17**, (interdisc. stds.) has been accepted into the Peace Corps in Madagascar.

**Emeritus**

**Dr. Robert Heichberger**, (education) released a new children's book, "We Will be Friends Forever."

**Dr. Jerry Rose** (sociology) is the author of the new book, "Word Play: on the Road and Home Again," with 300 short whimsical rhymed poems in the manner of Ogden Nash. It is available at the university bookstore, Fredonia's Paper Factory or from the author. Dr. Rose returned to Fredonia after 12 years in Florida and has conducted monthly "nights with Jerry" at the Darwin R. Barker Library on a wide variety of subjects.

**Births**

A son, Alexander "Alex" Dale, to **Kate (Smith), '04**, (music perf.) and Dr. Vernon Huff.



**We want to meet the next generation of our #FREDfamily!**

We will accept photos of newborn babies of Fredonia alumni for *The Statement*. Send your photo, along with a description, to [donna.venn@fredonia.edu](mailto:donna.venn@fredonia.edu). Due to space constraints, we may not be able to feature all photos submitted to us.

**Marriages**

**Robyn Starr, '84**, (sociology) to Herbert Mendez.

**Dan Howell, '03**, (commun.-audio/radio) to **Scott Falkowski, '03** (interdisc. stds.-arts admin.).

**Deaths\***

**Alumni**

**Lorena (Schumacker) Schmidt**, Class of 1928

**Virginia (Barber) Nelson**, Class of 1935

**Grace (Harris) Grimes**, Class of 1938

**Martha (Aud) Guson**, Class of 1938

**Charles D. Best**, Class of 1939

**Marilynn (Blotner) Vrooman**, Class of 1942

**Carolyn (Wrathall) Getz**, Class of 1944

**Joyce (Stahley) Emley**, Class of 1945

**Shirley (Smith) Taschenberg**, Class of 1946

**Shirley Hoeschele**, Class of 1947

**Olga (Cielnicky) Leone**, Class of 1947

**Walter E. Reitz**, Class of 1947

**Emily M. Newell**, Class of 1948

**Laurel M. (Snyder) Lalonde**, Class of 1949

**Edward Malcos**, Class of 1949

**Patricia (Forbes) Johnson**, Class of 1950

**H. Miriam Gray**, Class of 1951

**Ferne (Frye) Merrill**, Class of 1951

**Barbara (Buczowski) Polasik**, Class of 1951

**Anna L. (Lemke) Cooley**, Class of 1953

**Bernice "Bea" (Learman) Joy**, Class of 1953

**Gerald A. Benz**, Class of 1954

**Roy J. Plummer**, Class of 1954

**Rolland M. Bray**, Class of 1955

**Harry E. Hickey**, Class of 1955

**Sam A. Caruso**, Class of 1956

**Ronald L. Corsaro Sr.**, Class of 1961

**Carol A. Jones**, Class of 1961

**William "Bill" R. Kochan**, Class of 1961

**Donald Carson**, Class of 1962

**Patricia A. (Smith) Sprague**, Class of 1962

**Charles J. Polvino**, Class of 1963

**Dr. J. Robert Quatroche**, Class of 1963

**Harriette Worosz**, Class of 1963

**Samuel "Butch" A. DeFazio**, Class of 1966

**John M. Lojek**, Class of 1966

**Shirley A. (Knapp) Carroll**, Class of 1967

**Roger A. Fabich**, Class of 1967

**Robert A. Mackowiak**, Class of 1968

**Carolyn (Adams) Salminen**, Class of 1968

**Beverly (Johnson) Such**, Class of 1968

**Richard T. Trippe**, Class of 1969

**Mary (Haley) Carlberg**, Class of 1970

**Ann-Marie Olson**, Class of 1970

**Flora D. (Zielinski) Foye**, Class of 1972

**Charles J. Metzler**, Class of 1972

**Ann N. (Turowski) Mead**, Class of 1974

**Roseann (Murszewski) Keegan**, Class of 1975

**Sylvia (Greene) Lobb**, Class of 1975

**Fred L. Ciavardini**, Class of 1976

**John C. Seibert**, Class of 1976

**John C. Cassada**, Class of 1977

**Dr. Estelle M. (Wade) Crino**, Class of 1977

**Laraine O. (Fagerberg) Franze**, Class of 1977

**Richard J. Saletta**, Class of 1979

**Martha Emerling-Garrett**, Class of 1980

**Nancy (Dunton) Thomas**, Class of 1980

**Lynn A. (Buczak) Cook**, Class of 1981

**Daniel N. Hill**, Class of 1981

**Sean W. Murphy**, Class of 1981

**Julian Siva**, Class of 1981

**Betsy Dixon-Lang**, Class of 1984

**Lawrence Southwick III**, Class of 1984

**Timothy M. Lefebvre**, Class of 1985

**David L. Worthington**, Class of 1985

**Karin Jo (Catalano) Bardo**, Class of 1987

**Felicia A. Drozek**, Class of 1987

**Jeffrey W. Krauss, Esq.**, Class of 1987

**Timothy P. Mitchell**, Class of 1991

**Bruce F. Benson**, Class of 1992

**Sandra J. (Bradley) Baldwin**, Class of 1993

**Kimberly (Fleischman) Kegler**, Class of 1997

**Jamie Kornstein**, Class of 1998

**Elizabeth J. (McDonnell) Keddie**, Class of 1999

**Elizabeth L. Bouchard**, Class of 2001

**Bryan M. Kroon**, Class of 2007

**Jessica L. Werner**, Class of 2008

**Faculty/Staff/Emeriti**

**Ann (Reynolds) Carden**, Associate Professor, Department of Communication, 2001-2017

**Dr. Arthur E. Danese**, Associate Professor/Professor, Department of Mathematics and Computer Science, 1963-1987

**Dennis D. Dorogi**, Assistant Professor, Department of Art, 1965-1969

**Carl V. Mazzio**, Adjunct Instructor, School of Music, 1998-2016

**Dr. Julian R. McQuiston**, Professor/Chair, History; Professor, Communication, 1964-2001

**Sister Frances Roberts**, Cooperating Teacher/Lecturer, School of Music, 1973-1994

**Dr. L. Walter Schultze**, Director, Institutional Research, 3-1-3 Program; Acting Director, Computer Center, 1966-1984

**Mary T. Sevola**, Faculty Student Association, 41 years

**Dale Till, '58**, Assistant Men's Baseball Coach/Head Coach, 1974-1999

*\*Memorials may be directed to a scholarship established with the Fredonia College Foundation. See [fredonia.edu/foundation](http://fredonia.edu/foundation).*

# CAREER CORNER

by **TRACY COLLINGWOOD, '94**  
Director, Engagement and Career Development

The Career Development Office (CDO) provides Fredonia alumni with professional career coaching to achieve lifelong career success and worldwide networking opportunities at every stage of your career.

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**Early Childhood – English**

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**KARA MURRAY**

**Public Relations**

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Our second **#FREDlanthropy Day is coming soon! Join us on Oct. 3** as we take to social media to show you how your donations are making a difference to students and programs at your beloved Fredonia! Watch our Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram channels in the days and weeks leading up to #FREDlanthropy Day; we will show you the campus you remember so fondly, and give you a chance to hear from faculty who had such a strong impact on your time at Fredonia. Plus, we will show you how you can make a difference by getting your Fredonia classmates to follow your lead and match your donation. A simple gesture on your part can lead to new programs and scholarships! If you don't already, like or follow our social media pages!

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