

# FOR YOUR INFORMATION

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A newsletter for faculty, staff and students of The University of Findlay

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Volume 4, Issue 11

Jan. 12, 2007

## NEW WORLD SYMPHONY CELEBRATES PAST, EMBRACES FUTURE JAN. 26



*Cristina Muresan, who has performed with Chicago's Grant Park Symphony and the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, will be the featured violinist Jan. 26.*

"The New World Symphony," also known as "Symphony No. 9 in E Minor, Opus 95," by Antonin Dvorak will be performed by the Toledo

Symphony Orchestra during its Concert and Lecture Series performance in the Winebrenner Theological Seminary auditorium at 8 p.m. Friday, Jan. 26. The selection was chosen because its theme mirrors that of the University as it celebrates its 125th anniversary: "Celebrating the Past, Embracing the Future."

Dvorak came to the "new world" from the Austrian Empire in 1892 to be the director of the National Conservatory of Music in New York. Charged with redirecting the course of American classical music, Dvorak wrote what would become his most popular

work, "The New World Symphony." Dvorak's music pays homage to the old world and celebrates the heritage of the past even as it embraces the vibrancy, energy and excitement of the future. Dvorak accomplished this by building on a firm foundation to create a new image and a new vision for a new world, just as the University does as it celebrates 125 years of academic excellence.

Additional orchestra selections include "Academic Festival Overture" by Johannes Brahms and "Violin Concerto No. 2 in D Minor" by Henryk Wieniawski featuring violinist

*See New World, Page 2*

## BLACK HERITAGE LIBRARY AND UF TO HOST 3RD ANNUAL UNITY WALK AND CELEBRATION



*Dr. Howard "H" Ward will provide the keynote address Jan. 15.*

of Findlay and the Black Heritage

Library and Multicultural Center to recognize the contributions of King, a Nobel Prize winner and an influential leader in American history.

The event is organized by The University

celebration Monday, Jan. 15. The event is organized by The University

Library and Multicultural Center to recognize the contributions of King, a Nobel Prize winner and an influential leader in American history.

The Unity Walk will begin at 5:30 p.m. in the parking lot of the Anchor Community Center at 215 East St., Findlay, Ohio, and will proceed south across the intersection of Martin Luther King Jr. Way and Main Cross Street to Central Church of Christ at the intersection of East and Hardin streets. Those participating in the walk should arrive at the Anchor Center by 5:15 p.m.

The celebration will begin at 6 p.m.

at Central Church of Christ. Dr. Howard "H" Ward will be the keynote speaker and will share his presentation titled "We are STILL Caught in an Incapable Network of Mutuality."

The grandson of Mississippi sharecroppers and the son of upstate New York migrant farm workers, Ward received his bachelor's degree from Mount Union College and his master's degree from Bowling Green State University (BGSU). He also holds a doctorate in higher education from BGSU.

Ward has worked in higher education for 29 years

*See Unity Walk, page 2*

# UF ECONOMICS PROFESSOR CHOSEN FOR NATIONAL STANDARD-SETTING PANEL

Maria V. Gamba-Riedel, associate professor of business and economics at The University of Findlay, was chosen as one of 40 panelists from a nationwide pool of approximately 250 nominees to participate in a pilot study for setting achievement standards for the 2006 Grade 12 National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) in economics.

"Determining the achievement standards is an interesting procedure," said Gamba-Riedel. "It is scientifically designed, and all panel members are restricted from sharing specifics about the process to prevent the chance of any student gaining an unfair advantage."

Panelists were chosen for their contributions to economics instruction and to their communities. The group met in St. Louis with staff from ACT Inc. and other experts in economics for four days of activities related to judging the performance of U.S. students on the

economics NAEP according to the standards for achievement at the basic, proficient and advanced levels established by the National Assessment Governing Board.

Commonly known as "The Nation's Report Card," the NAEP periodically tests samples of fourth, eighth and 12th grade students in various subjects. The economics assessment was administered for the first time earlier this spring.

Performance of 12th-grade students will be reported in 2007 according to the new criteria that are being developed. The criteria will then be held as a benchmark for determining whether the United States has made any progress in economics instruction when future students are tested.

The U.S. Secretary of Education will release information about students' 2006 economics performance before the end of 2007 in the "Nation's



*Maria V. Gamba-Riedel teaches business and economics in UF's College of Business and was selected from more than 250 nominees to participate in a national panel.*

Report Card for Economics."

ACT Inc. sponsors the ACT Assessment, the college-entrance exam taken annually by approximately 60 percent of students who enroll as America's college freshmen.

## NEW WORLD, CONT.

Cristina Muresan. "The New World Symphony" will be the third and final piece of the evening. There will be a 15-minute intermission before the final selection.

In addition to performing with the Toledo Symphony Orchestra, Muresan performs with Chicago's Grant Park Symphony, and she is a frequent guest violinist for the Detroit Symphony Orchestra. With the Grant Park Symphony, Muresan records yearly under the Cedille Record label. A recent release was nominated for a 2004 GRAMMY® Award. In 2000, she founded the Odyssey string quartet, a yearly feature of the Toledo Symphony's Chamber Series.

Muresan began studying the violin at the age of 7. She holds a bachelor's degree in music performance from "G. Dima" Music Academy, Romania,

where she was a student of emeritus Stefan Ruha, and a master's degree in music performance from Bowling Green State University where she studied with professor Vasile Beluska. In 1999, she was awarded a full fellowship to study with the late Isaac Stern in France.

Chelsea Tipton II is resident conductor and has appeared with major orchestras in the United States, including the Chicago Symphony, Nashville Symphony, Louisville Philharmonic, the Boston Pops Orchestra, the New World Symphony and the Atlanta Symphony.

Tickets are \$25 for general admission, \$20 for senior citizens and \$10 for students. Admission for UF undergraduate and graduate students is free, but a ticket is required. UF faculty and staff may purchase tickets for \$15. Tickets are available by calling the Box Office at 419-434-5335.

## UNITY WALK, CONT.

and has received numerous awards for his work with students, promoting diversity and participation in community service. He is actively involved in United Way leadership positions at Rochester Institute of Technology and serves on several nonprofit boards including the Women/Children Crisis Center, African American Family Resource Center, Hospital Advisory Board and Bi-Racial Partnerships.

The celebration also will include music, poetry and comments from Tony Iriti, mayor of Findlay, and Dr. DeBow Freed, president of the University. A short reception will follow the program.

For more information, contact the Office of Intercultural Student Services at 419-434-6967 or the Black Heritage Library at 419-423-4954.

# UF FIRST IN OHIO TO USE NEW ADMISSIONS TECHNOLOGY

The University of Findlay is the first university in the state of Ohio to offer customized electronic brochures to prospective students. The initiative combines online and print technology to give prospective undergraduates customized information about UF's programs and extracurricular offerings.

Students interested in attending the University may visit UF's website at [www.findlay.edu](http://www.findlay.edu) and click on the "Create Your Own Viewbook" link on the home page. After providing basic information, such as name and address, a student may choose a major and extracurricular activity of interest.

After submitting the form online, a customized brochure, with information about the student-selected topics, will be e-mailed to the student within minutes. A print version will follow to the student's home address within one week.



The new technology is made possible through Hobsons, a company with an extensive range of publications, including directories, casebooks, magazines, events and Internet services to help prospective students choose an educational pathway and employment opportunity.

Feel free to pass this information along to any student you know who may consider attending The University of Findlay!

# SPRING SEMESTER BEGINS WITH VIGOR



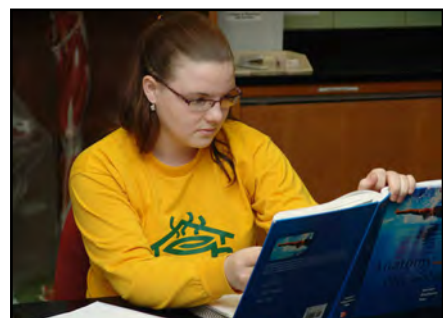
Last week, more than 250 new international students arrived on campus from 20 different countries including China, Japan, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, India, Ukraine, Korea, Brazil, Venezuela, Vietnam, Nepal, Taiwan, Thailand, Canada, Pakistan, Nigeria, Cameroon, Turkey, Lebanon and Bulgaria. At left, students received a tour of campus.



Donald Collins, assistant professor of psychology and student-athlete academic counselor, started his first class meeting with an excited introduction to the course, *Psychology of Becoming*.



Students in the Spanish for Health Professionals class, taught by Nancy Munoz, assistant professor of Spanish, were asked to communicate using only the Spanish language during their first class meeting.



Senior pre-veterinary major Emily Wisbar dove right into anatomy and physiology studies during the first class meeting Jan. 9.



Jerry Mallett, Ed.D., director of the Mazza Museum, and Terry Olthouse, Mazza Museum education coordinator, are happy to be standing in a brand new children's art studio, which is part of the museum's new 9,000-square-foot addition. A formal grand opening of the beautiful new space will be held later this year.

Photos by staff photographer Anne Risser Lee.

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR!** Have you ever wondered what it was like to be a student at UF during eras past? At 12:15 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 18, in Ritz Auditorium, Old Main, Dr. Richard Kern will share his freshman orientation address, a tradition of years past. Also, University Singers will perform, and Louis Chenette will return to campus to direct members of the band in a performance of the UF fight song, which he wrote.

# STUDENTS TO PERFORM ORIGINAL SHORT PLAYS JAN. 20



Senior Jessica Weber, junior Sam Foutz and senior David Grieve — all members of Habitat for Humanity — participated in Triage Theatre 2006.

A tradition at The University of Findlay, Triage Theatre 2007 will allow students to test their writing, acting, directing and time management skills. Groups will perform original short

plays – all written, staged and rehearsed during a 24-hour period – at 8 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 20, in the John and Hester Powell Grimm Theatre.

Tickets are \$5 for general admission, \$3 for seniors and students, and free for UF faculty, staff and students with UF identification. For additional ticket information, contact the Box Office at 419-434-5335.

The production process will begin with an initial meeting for all interested participants on the evening of Jan. 19. Alpha Psi Omega, the honorary theatre fraternity at UF, produces the performance and will reveal this year's Triage Theatre theme. Participants, who pay a small fee to participate, will select someone to write their group's play, someone to direct and someone to handle the technical aspects of the play.

Other members of each group will serve as actors.

Twenty-three hours later, each group will perform their original five-to 10-minute shows. As part of the experience, the audience and judges will select one play as the winner, and all winning participants are awarded the collected participation fees as a cash prize.

"The experience is a lot of fun for the students and for the audience," said Scott Hayes, director of the theatre program and Alpha Psi Omega adviser, "and it also tests the students' ability to think and 'act' quickly. The format of the production really lets the students stretch their theatrical skills."

For more information on how to participate in Triage Theatre 2007, contact Hayes at 419-434-4562.

FYI is published by the Office of Public Information.

Send story ideas to Brianna Patterson at [pattersonb@findlay.edu](mailto:pattersonb@findlay.edu) or call 419-434-4345. Read FYI online using KEYWORD: FYI.

# UF TO HOLD SCHOLARSHIP COMPETITION DAY JAN. 13

The University of Findlay will hold a Scholarship Competition Day at 9 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 13, in the Alumni Memorial Union. Nearly 150 students from around the nation are expected to attend with their families.

Qualified participants were invited to compete in the scholarship contest based on their high school grade point average and ACT or SAT score. The students will be competing for a limited number of renewable scholarships worth up to \$5,000.

"We are excited to have so many students with outstanding academic backgrounds coming to campus," said Randall Langston, director of undergraduate

admissions. "They are a talented group, and it will be a tough competition."

The competition will begin with a welcome from Dr. DeBow Freed, president of The University of Findlay. Students will spend the morning completing a written essay and being interviewed by University representatives. The event will conclude with lunch and tours of campus.

For more information, contact Nikki Shafer, assistant director of undergraduate admissions, at 1-800-548-0932, extension 4738, or e-mail [shafer@findlay.edu](mailto:shafer@findlay.edu) or visit [www.findlay.edu](http://www.findlay.edu) KEYWORD: undergraduate admissions.

## WORTH NOTING

**Melissa Cain**, Ph.D., professor of education, was selected as the recipient of the Friend of the Union award. Cain was honored by the Toledo Federation of Teachers for her partnership activities with the Reading Academy.

**Rich Martin**, Ed.D., professor of criminal justice, is a reviewing editor of the Journal of Gang Research. In 2006, he conducted a review of an article titled "Street Gangs in Indian Country: A Clash of Cultures."

**Julie McIntosh**, Ed.D., assistant professor of education and director of adolescent/young adult and multi-age programs, was named Ohio Outstanding Educator of 2006 by Project Learning Tree. She received the award in Columbus in December.

*If you know someone who has done something "worth noting," on campus or in the community, send that information to Brianna Patterson at [pattersonb@findlay.edu](mailto:pattersonb@findlay.edu).*