

# FYI FOR YOUR INFORMATION

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

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## FIRST-YEAR EXPERIENCE CONTINUES TO EVOLVE

Incoming first-year students at The University of Findlay will broaden their educational experiences and develop a sense of place and camaraderie this fall through a revamped First-Year Experience (FYE) program, directed by Dr. Diana Montague.

"Students' needs and experiences have changed since the original Freshman

Seminar program was designed in the 1970s," Montague said. For some, commitments have changed with more students working off campus, and there are more commuter students than when the original program was created.

The goal of FYE is to provide a transition to college within an academic context. The fall course also fulfills a UF general education requirement.

Changes in FYE include a narrowed target audience, the addition of peer mentors and courses specific to the program, instead of pre-existing courses. FYE's audience has been tailored to give students with majors in liberal arts and business, students in the Gateway program – designed for those who need additional help academically – and students with undeclared majors an opportunity to connect with other first-year students and address issues common to

new college students. Students enrolled in pre-vet and equestrian studies, pharmacy, education and similar programs with highly structured coursework have other opportunities to address transitional issues and bond with their classmates and faculty.

Peer mentors will work as liaisons between students and faculty and will

assist in teaching study strategies and helping students with other issues that may arise. The mentors were selected by instructors of FYE courses and are trained through a one credit-hour class taught by Montague.

Each First-Year Experience course will have its own academic topic, and all FYE courses will include lessons that are important to the collegiate transition and the values of the University, such as study strategies and time management, career exploration, basic personal finance, alcohol education, basic health issues, diversity and service learning. In addition to coursework, students will attend several presentations addressing those values.

A service learning component is also incorporated into FYE. During orientation weekend, all incoming first-year students volunteer within the commu-

nity at various locations throughout Findlay. Over the course of the fall semester, FYE classes develop a service project, to be completed in the spring. FYE students continue the program with a one-credit course in the spring that is a follow-up course to the fall session.

Each class consists of 18 students, one instructor and one peer mentor. For more information on FYE, contact Montague at 419-434-4623.



*Dr. Montague, director of FYE, talked about the evolution of Barbie and how it affected the feminine culture in her pop culture FYE class last fall.*



*Anne Albert, assistant professor of mathematics, works with students during the orientation weekend service project to count and number plastic frogs to be used in a fundraiser for the Humane Society of Hancock County.*

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To read FYI online, visit [www.findlay.edu](http://www.findlay.edu) KEYWORD: FYI.

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

# SUMMERSTOCK OPENS JULY 5



*Amber Nicole Patrick performs as Billie Holiday in "Lady Day at Emerson's Bar and Grill."*

SummerStock at The University of Findlay opens with "Lady Day at Emerson's Bar and Grill" by Lanie Robertson. The show runs July 5-8 at 8 p.m., July 8 at 2 p.m. and July 9 at 6 p.m.

Two additional shows will also be featured – "The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (abridged)", July 12-15 at 8 p.m. and July 16 at 6 p.m.;

and Disney's "Beauty and the Beast," July 26-29 at 8 p.m., July 29 at 2 p.m. and July 30 at 6 p.m. All shows will be performed in the John and Hester Powell Grimm Theatre.

"Lady Day at Emerson's Bar and Grill" transports the audience to 1959 in a seedy bar in Philadelphia to witness one of Billie Holiday's last performances, given four months before her death. More than a dozen musical numbers are interlaced with salty, often humorous reminiscences to project a riveting portrait of the lady and her music.

An irreverent, fast-paced romp through the Bard's plays, "The Complete Works of William

Shakespeare (abridged)" is London's longest-running comedy. Written by Adam Long, Daniel Singer and Jess Winfield, it has been described by the Montreal Gazette as "one of the funniest shows you are likely to see in your entire lifetime."

Based on the book by Linda Woolverton, Disney's "Beauty and the Beast" features songs written especially for the Broadway version written by Alan Menken and Tim Rice. The show also includes songs from the film. The story is set in a French provincial town

where the beautiful Belle lives with her father, an inventor. When he doesn't return from the local fair, Belle discovers he is being held captive in an old castle by a horrible beast. She trades her freedom for his, and the tale begins.

Scott Hayes, theatre program director and associate professor of theatre, is artistic director of SummerStock.

Tickets are \$15 per show or \$35 for the season. Tickets are available by calling the Box Office at 419-434-5335.



*Adam DelConte, Erick Anderson and Samuel Buti practice a scene from the comedy "The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (abridged)."*

## SHEPARD NAMED DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT

Charlie Shepard has been named director of development at The University of Findlay. Effective July 1, Shepard will be responsible for coordinating major gifts, planned gifts, annual fund, development services, stewardship, events, scholarships and endowments.

He will also be responsible for helping to build and implement an integrated fund raising strategy in support of the University's strategic plan and its fund raising priorities.

Shepard began his career at UF in July 2001 as coordinator of donor research. He has also served as a development officer and as co-director

of alumni and parent relations.

Shepard holds a bachelor's in history from Asbury College and a master's in liberal studies from The University of Findlay.



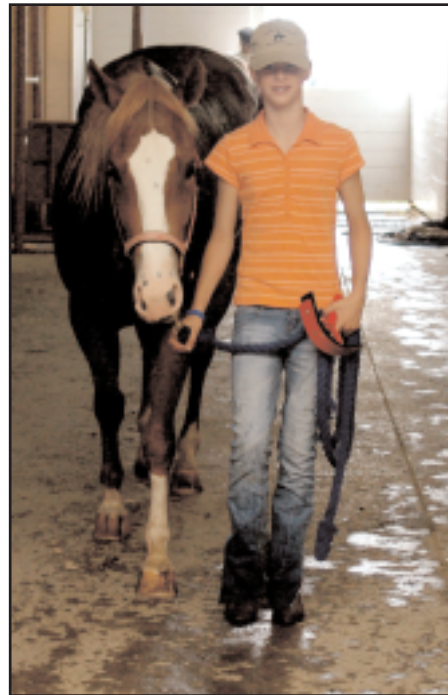
*Belle is played by Emma Lorraine in "Beauty and the Beast."*

# 2006 OHIO ENVIROTHON

High school students from across Ohio visited UF June 11-13 for the 2006 Ohio Envirothon. Below, students examine animal pelts and study characteristics of a wetland area. Students delivered five-minute presentations and answered questions relating to their experiences.



Two girls rest after practicing techniques learned at UF's swim camp, June 11-15.



A camper walks her horse through the stable after bathing her horse while attending the Western equestrian camp June 11-16. Students not only learn riding techniques but also how to properly care for an animal.



The University hosted an English equestrian camp June 11-16. A camper, left, walks her horse to join her classmates in the arena. Another, right, practices grooming tips learned at the camp.



## JONES PRESENTS WHITE PAPER ON SERVICE

Crystal Jones presented her White Paper titled "Be the Difference" June 19 in Winebrenner Theological Seminary (WTS). Jones served as the AmeriCorps Volunteers in Service to America (VISTA) campus and community collaboration leader on The University of Findlay campus for two years.

The audience was welcomed by Dr. DeBow Freed, UF president, who introduced Jones as someone who "gets others enthused about service that involves work," and commented on her positive energy and ability to organize. Freed noted that Jones has accepted a full time staff position at the University. She will be instrumental in cultivating greater participation in service from faculty, staff and students.

Jones began her presentation with a brief history of AmeriCorps, a network of service programs that connects Americans to communities where help is needed, and an introduction of Ohio Campus Compact, an organization working to support the civic purposes of higher education. She also discussed the many service projects that she coordinated with volunteers in the community and UF faculty, staff and students. A total of 1,795 volunteers from the University worked 10,711 hours within the community and on campus during the school year, providing services for a variety of organizations.

During freshman orientation weekend last fall, 624 students helped 29 agencies during a one-day orientation service project. Days of Caring was held last September, and 72 UF and WTS volunteers logged 288 service hours in the community.

Jones also led a group of volunteers to Special Needs Day, where special needs students from Hancock County



*Lesha Farias, AmeriCorps VISTA supervisor, left, came to UF to congratulate Crystal Jones, right, on her accomplishments over the past year.*

enjoy a day at camp. Other organizations that received Jones' help include the Hancock County chapter of Habitat for Humanity, Agency on Aging, Washington Intermediate school, Coats for Christmas and Chopin Hall.

On campus, Jones was actively involved in Campus Compact and UF's Habitat for Humanity chapter. She led a group of 32 UF faculty, staff and students on

an alternative spring break where the group remodeled seven Habitat for Humanity homes and completed 80 percent of a new construction. Before the trip, the group conducted a "Will

Work for Georgia" campaign and raised \$700.

During Act!Speak!Build! Week, an international Habitat for Humanity campaign to bring youth together, Jones' UF Habitat chapter organized Box City and raised \$1,900 for the local Habitat affiliate. Campus organizations built homes out of cardboard to raise awareness of homelessness. The event was awarded the Model Educational Student Organization Program of the Year on the University campus.

Jones hopes to incorporate service learning into a variety of academic courses at UF and encourage faculty, staff and students to be involved in service projects. For additional information, contact Jones at 419-434-6671.

## STUDENTS INDUCTED INTO NEWLY FORMED HONOR SOCIETY

Sixteen occupational therapy students from both the traditional and weekend college programs were the first to be inducted into The University of Findlay's Gamma Zeta chapter of the Phi Theta Epsilon honor society.

Inductees include Dawn Biegenwald, Joyce Bockey,

Mary Beth Dillon, Emily Gauger, Braden Kriegel, Kimberly Lydick, Minda McKee, Heather Meredith, Jessica Morris, Melissa Patton, Rebecca Rogliatti, Erin Russell, Jackie Ruck, Maria Smith, Bryson Stair and Alison Wibbeler.

The honor society encourages contribution to the advancement of the occupational therapy profession through research and special projects and recognizes scholarship and service

among members. Phi Theta Epsilon was founded in 1958 and was recognized as a national honor society by the Association of College

Honor Societies in 1995. The Gamma Zeta chapter at UF was established this year.

Jacquelyn Chamberlin, assistant professor of occupational therapy, serves as faculty adviser to the group.



*Sixteen occupational therapy students were recently inducted into the newly formed Phi Theta Epsilon honor society.*