



## Purdue Fort Wayne Announces Exemplar and Top 50 Recipients for 2023

Purdue University Fort Wayne has chosen its next classes of **Exemplar** and **Top 50 recipients**. These students not only excel academically, but go above and beyond outside of the classroom.

Each year, college and school deans, department chairs, and/or faculty select students to be Exemplars. Those receiving this honor must complete an undergraduate degree in December, May, or during the summer semester of the current academic year; have graduated with or be tentatively qualified to graduate with distinction; demonstrate excellence in their areas of study; and have a record of community outreach in their field.

In addition to achieving high GPAs, individuals who are part of PFW's Top 50 classes also make a difference with participation in university activities, events, and organizations—and through community engagement both here in Fort Wayne and in their hometowns.

All honorees have been invited to a dinner and awards ceremony on April 28 in the Walb Union International Ballroom. The event begins at 6:30 p.m.

[READ MORE](#)

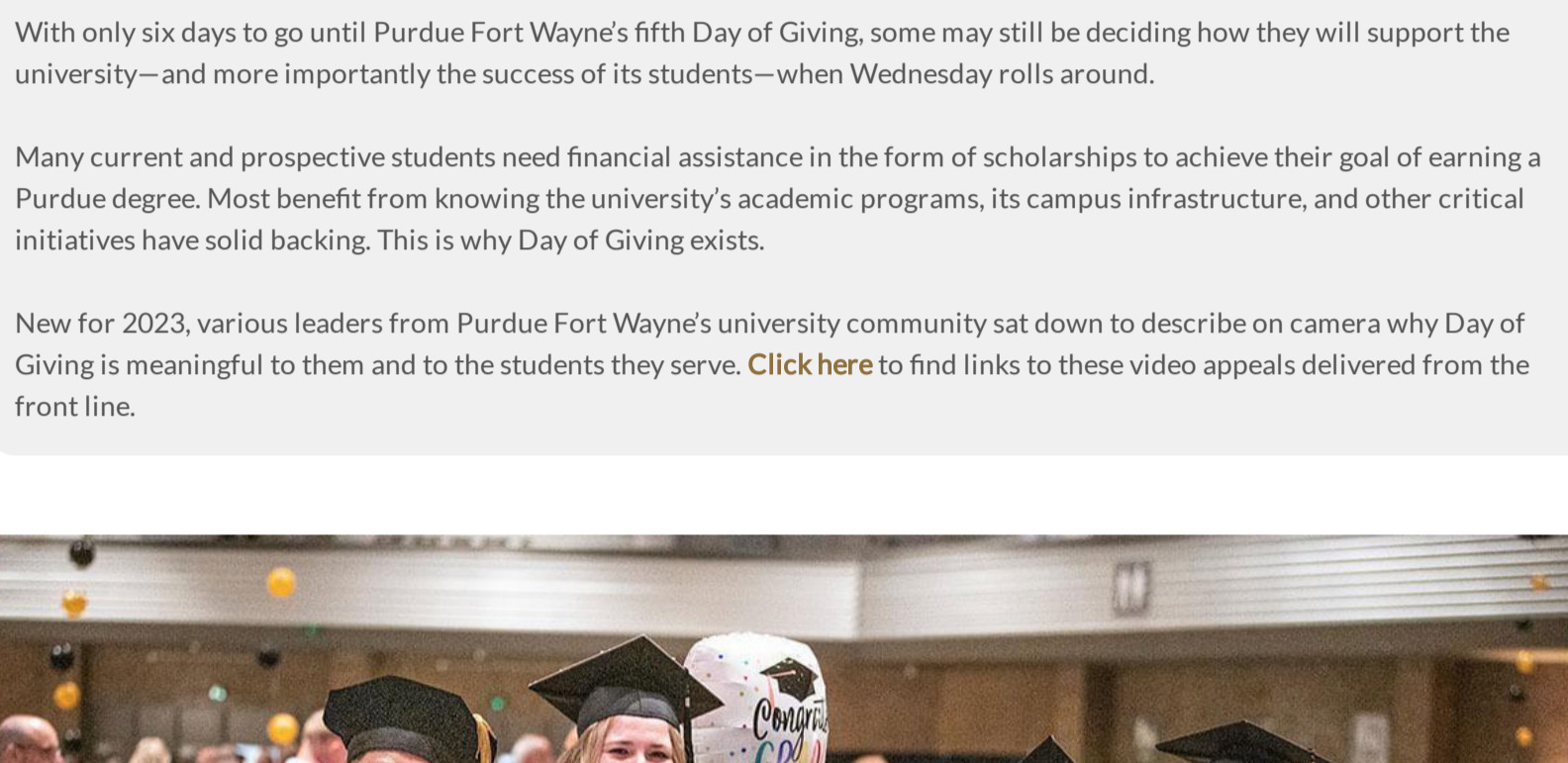
## Featured Faculty Award Winners for 2023 Chosen

The Office of Academic Affairs has announced the Featured Faculty Award winners for 2023. This annual recognition honors those who have demonstrated outstanding performance in engagement, research, service, or teaching/librarianship.

This year's recipients are:

- **Featured Faculty for Research and Excellence:** **William Sauerland**, assistant professor, School of Music, for research presented at multiple national and international conferences, many invited talks, and four publications to date, including his book *Queering Vocal Pedagogy*.
- **Featured Faculty for Teaching/Librarianship Excellence:** **John LaMaster**, senior instructor, Department of Mathematical Sciences, for 34 years of innovation and initiatives to enhance active learning in his own classes and those of his peers.
- **Featured Faculty for Engagement Excellence:** **Julia Smith**, assistant professor, Department of Teacher Education, for her sustained and very successful efforts to engage her peers, her students, and several community partners with the School of Education Urban Garden.

These dedicated faculty members will be honored at a campus-wide celebration during the fall semester.

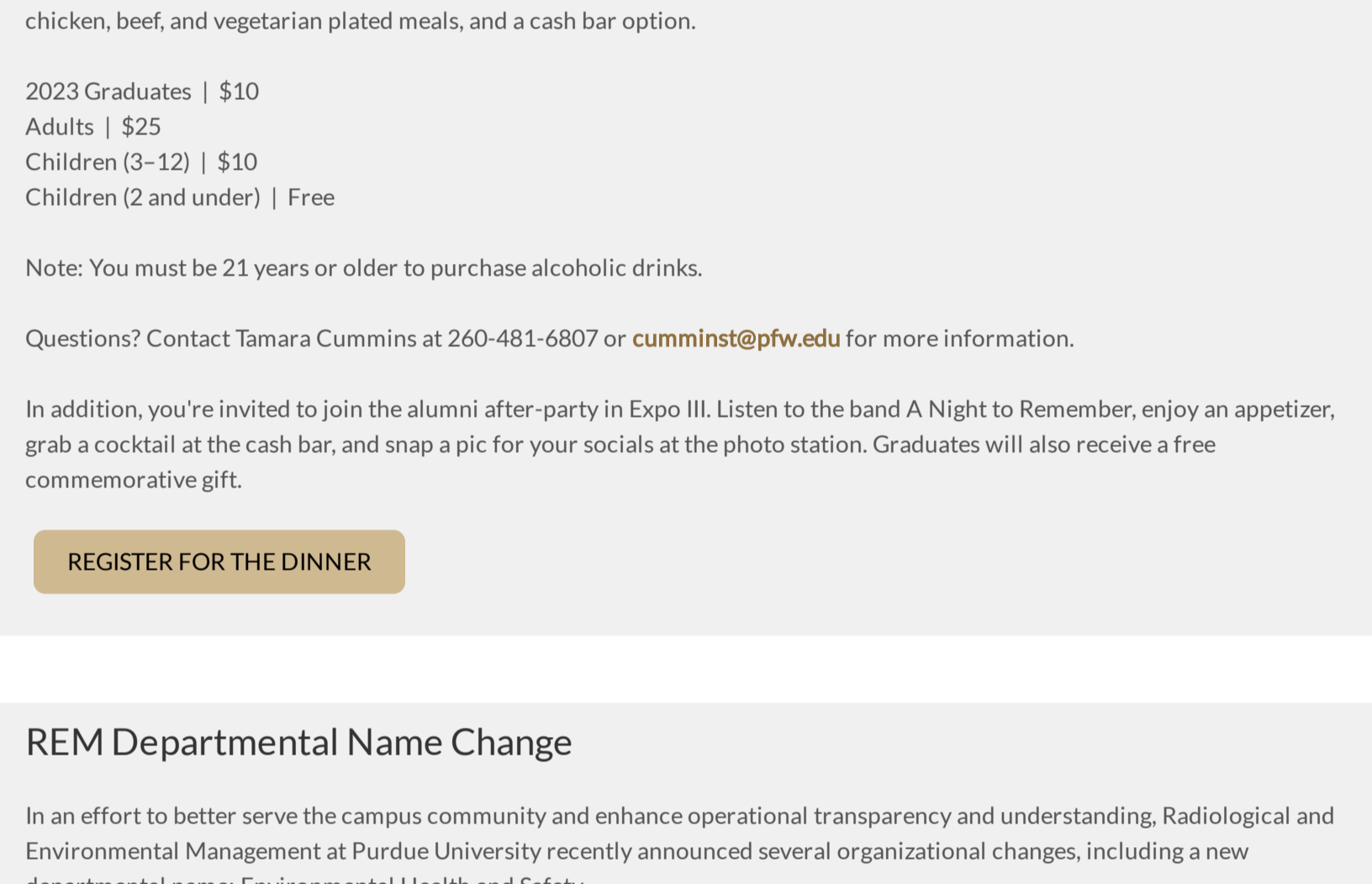


## Video Appeals Help Undecided See Value of Day of Giving

With only six days to go until Purdue Fort Wayne's fifth Day of Giving, some may still be deciding how they will support the university—and more importantly the success of its students—when Wednesday rolls around.

Many current and prospective students need financial assistance in the form of scholarships to achieve their goal of earning a Purdue degree. Most benefit from knowing the university's academic programs, its campus infrastructure, and other critical initiatives have solid backing. This is why Day of Giving exists.

New for 2023, various leaders from Purdue Fort Wayne's university community sat down to describe on camera why Day of Giving is meaningful to them and to the students they serve. [Click here](#) to find links to these video appeals delivered from the front line.



## Reserve Your Seat for Inaugural Chancellor's New Alumni Dinner

After Commencement, it's time to celebrate! The Mastodon Alumni Community invites faculty and staff to join our graduates, family, and friends for the inaugural Chancellor's New Alumni Dinner in Expo II at Memorial Coliseum. Menu choices include chicken, beef, and vegetarian plated meals, and a cash bar option.

- 2023 Graduates | \$10
- Adults | \$25
- Children (3-12) | \$10
- Children (2 and under) | Free

Note: You must be 21 years or older to purchase alcoholic drinks.

Questions? Contact Tamara Cummins at 260-481-6807 or [cumminst@pfw.edu](mailto:cumminst@pfw.edu) for more information.

In addition, you're invited to join the alumni after-party in Expo III. Listen to the band A Night to Remember, enjoy an appetizer, grab a cocktail at the cash bar, and snap a pic for your socials at the photo station. Graduates will also receive a free commemorative gift.

[REGISTER FOR THE DINNER](#)

## REM Departmental Name Change

In an effort to better serve the campus community and enhance operational transparency and understanding, Radiological and Environmental Management at Purdue University recently announced several organizational changes, including a new departmental name: Environmental Health and Safety.

To remain consistent, REM at Purdue Fort Wayne is also changing its name to Environmental Health and Safety. The department continues to be led by Stephanie Phillips, EHS manager, and supported by safety specialist Erin Turner.

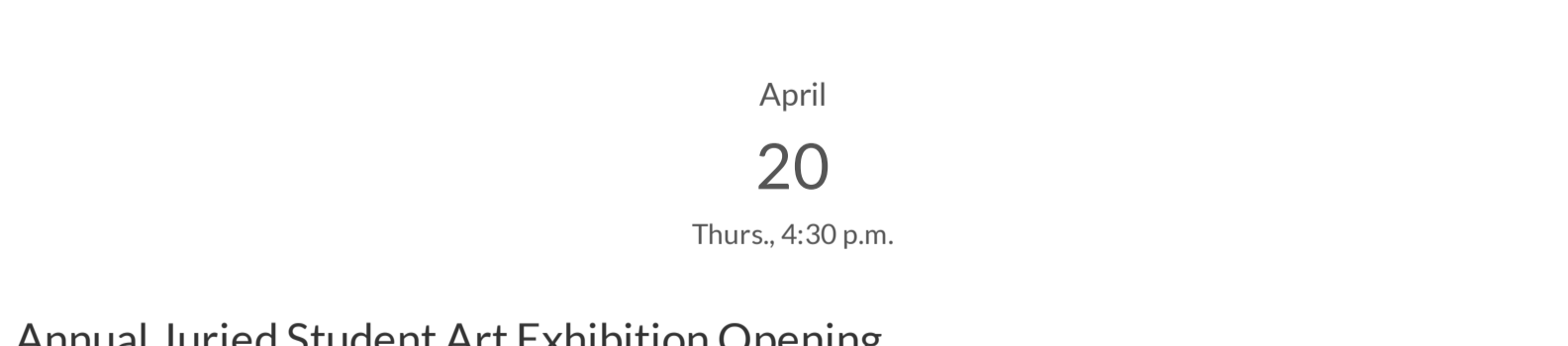
EHS operates as a consultant to the university community by monitoring regulatory compliance with federal, state, and university regulations involving environmental health and safety issues. Services provided include safety program development, training, regulations, and emergency response in these primary areas:

- Environmental health
- Hazardous materials
- Industrial hygiene
- Injury prevention
- Radiation and laser safety
- Occupational safety and ergonomics

Questions about the changes may be directed to Phillips at [steels@pfw.edu](mailto:steels@pfw.edu) or 260-481-4193.

## Dedicated People

*Our campus community's growth and success is the result of faculty and staff who work tirelessly to help make the university such a special place to work, learn, and flourish. This series helps us recognize those who exemplify PFW's positive progress.*



## Variety of Pursuits Help Smith Focus on Advising Youth

Most students lack any idea what they are capable of when starting college. In many ways, Ranessa Smith is still figuring that out, though she's now eight years past graduation and almost four years into her employment at Purdue Fort Wayne. Her potential is still expanding.

The newly named director of student success and advising for the College of Engineering, Technology, and Computer Science, Smith is always reaching higher and further, and then encouraging her students to do the same. She's following the example set for her by others when she was a student here.

"Not only am I educating students on opportunities and what they need to do to get a STEM degree, but I'm also actually living proof of it," Smith said. "No matter how I ended up getting there, I'm there."

[READ ARTICLE](#)

## Featured Events

*There's always plenty to do at Purdue Fort Wayne. Many opportunities are exclusive to university employees and their families. Check the full events calendar often to see what's happening on campus.*

APRIL  
20

Thurs., 7:30-9:30 p.m.

### Bands Concert II

The School of Music Bands will perform a European tour send-off concert prior to their departure in May for Paris, Geneva, Milan, Florence, and Rome. Free admission for Purdue FW students with ID and students under...

APRIL  
20

Thurs., 4:30 p.m.

### Annual Juried Student Art Exhibition Opening

The exhibition will feature art works created by students from Purdue University Fort Wayne. Art and design students, freshman through senior, will enter work to be juried by a professional artist/adjudicator...

APRIL  
22

Sat., 9 a.m.-noon

### Campus United 5k Run/Walk

All donations and proceeds will benefit the IU Crimson Care Scholarship and The FRIENDS of the University Pantry at Purdue Fort Wayne...

## In a Snap

*Seen and noted around campus. Monitor our university social feeds for more great moments of Mastodon life.*



*Students were dressed to impress in their best formal attire at the Student Activities Board masquerade ball on Saturday in the International Ballroom at Walb Student Union.*



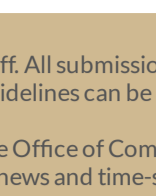
Events Calendar



Athletics



Ripples



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*Inside PFW* is produced twice weekly on Tuesday and Thursday by the Office of Communications and Marketing. *Inside PFW Special Edition* is a supplement to the regularly scheduled newsletter. It covers breaking news and time-sensitive information directly related to university operations.

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