

## Donna Brazile Omnibus Series Tickets Available at 1:30 p.m.

The current season of the Omnibus Speaker Series at Purdue University Fort Wayne will continue Feb. 29 with veteran Democratic political strategist **Donna Brazile**. The event begins at 7:30 p.m. in Auer Performance Hall.

Tickets to see “Political Outlook: A Comprehensive Picture of What’s Going on in Washington” will be released today at 1:30 p.m. They are free and available on a first-come, first-served basis through the **Schatzlein Box Office** or PFW’s **online ticketing platform**. A \$1.50 convenience charge is assessed per ticket for online orders, with a limit of four tickets per person.

[READ MORE](#)



*Graduate student Abdelrahman Gad inspects a small, four-propeller drone while wearing a headset that allows him to control it.*

## Mechanical Engineering Students Using Their Heads to Build Brain-Computer Interfaces

Sitting in his apartment, Purdue University Fort Wayne graduate student Abdelrahman Gad is recording a video that looks like action from an X-Men comic book or a big-budget movie mimicking telekinesis. But Gad's efforts are not special effects, and his results are reality.

At his mental commands, a small, four-propeller drone lifts about three feet off the carpet and executes in-air turns around a box in the middle of the room. Gad is wearing a headset connecting to 16 contact points around his head, and the device uses a computer to translate his thoughts into commands for the drone. Gad has been developing this project for a little more than a year, working on the flight portion for the last month. Sessions take 2 or 3 hours, and the drone's battery lasts 15 minutes.

"Before I even started using it myself, I couldn't believe I could control the drone with my head," Gad said. "The first time that I moved the drone with my brain, it was remarkable, fascinating."

Under the guidance of Zhuming Bi, professor of mechanical engineering and a Fulbright-Nokia Distinguished Chair in Information and Communications Technologies for the 2023–24 academic year, Gad and recent PFW graduate Hussein Bilal, M.S. '23, are working to expand humanity's possibilities. Similar to Gad operating a small drone, Bilal can manipulate a mechanical arm, twisting the device in directions using the power of his mind—and a brain-computer interface.

[READ MORE](#)





## Registration Deadline Extended for Employee Recognition Gala

This spring, Purdue Fort Wayne is combining various recognition events for staff and faculty into one evening gala—the 2024 **Employee Recognition Dinner**, which is scheduled for Thursday, March 14, from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the International Ballroom at Walb Student Union. If you haven't registered, there's still time; the deadline has been extended to Feb. 26.

Honorees have received personal invitations, and the free event is open to all PFW employees who want to show their appreciation. RSVP on the [event webpage](#).

As a reminder, any honoree who wishes to have a work-related photo appear in the event slideshow should contact Elizabeth Miller, HR coordinator, at [millerej@pfw.edu](mailto:millerej@pfw.edu).

Additional questions may be sent to [hr@pfw.edu](mailto:hr@pfw.edu).

## Eventful

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*There's always plenty to do at Purdue Fort Wayne. To find your favorites—or discover new activities—check the full [events calendar](#) often to see what's happening on campus.*

FEBRUARY

20

Tues., 10 a.m.–noon

# Black History is American History

Come and watch a Black history movie and take a Black history quiz for treats...

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FEBRUARY

21

Wed., noon–1:30 p.m.

## DEI Talk Series: Natural Hair in the Workplace

Bring your friends and your lunch and learn about DEI topics from others on campus...

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FEBRUARY

21

Wed., 7:30–9:30 p.m.

## Faculty Artists Recital: Kevin McMahon, Violin, and Hamilton Tescarollo, Piano

This recital will feature two masterworks for violin and piano—Beethoven’s Sonata in A Minor, Op. 23, and Brahms’ Sonata in A Major, Op. 100—among other works composed for the two instruments...

## News Spotlight

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*A sampling of external news coverage of Purdue University Fort Wayne.*

### Purdue University Fort Wayne strikes right note with Percussion Day

The Journal Gazette (subscription required) | Monday

### Bill relaxing wetlands protections headed to Holcomb’s desk



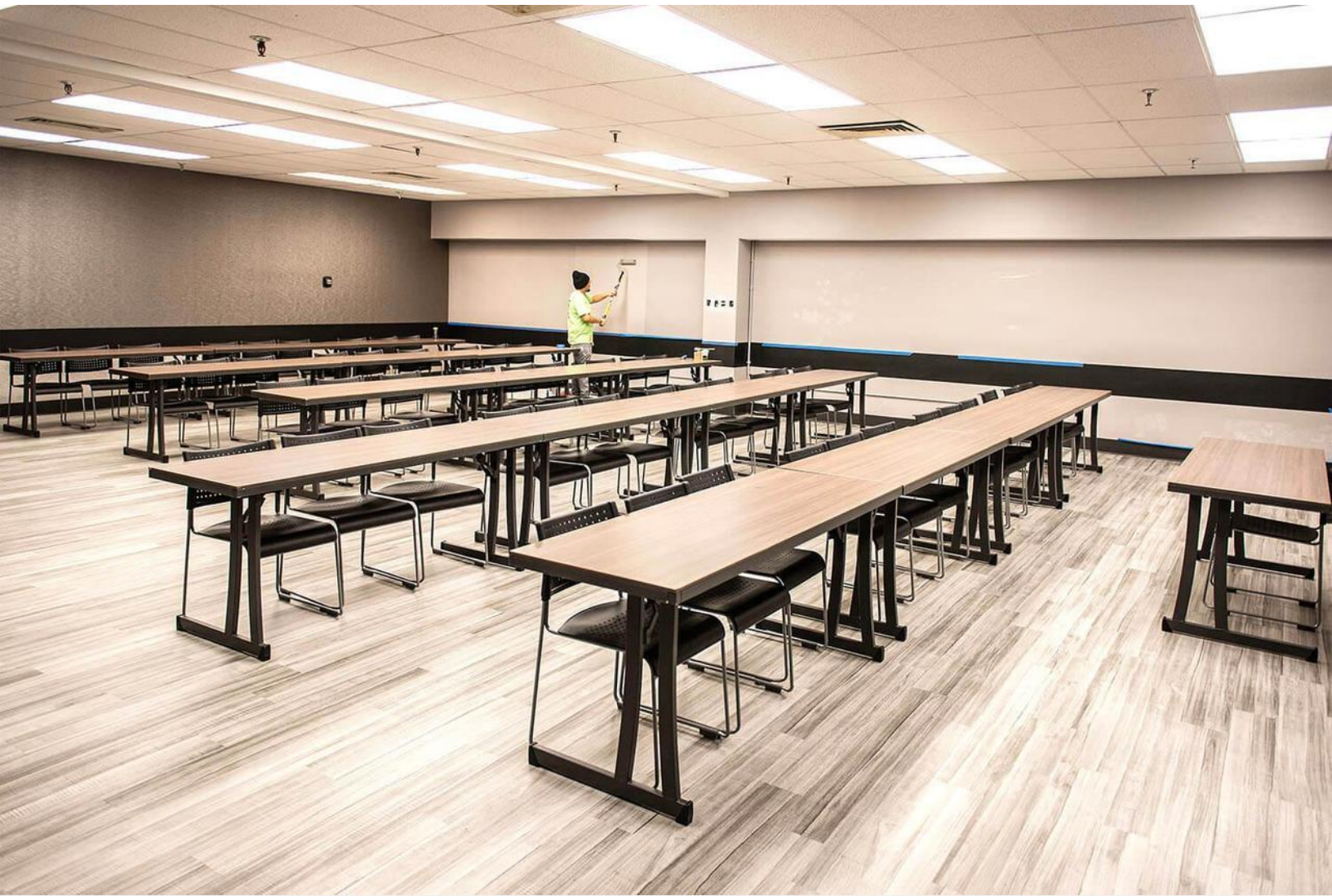
## Keeping kids safe online

FOX 55 | Feb. 6

# In a Snap

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



*Renovators are working to ensure some spaces in Walb Student Union look refreshed. Here, a painter applies a new coat in room G21.*



Inside PFW Archive



Athletics



Ripples



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