



## Day of Giving at Purdue Fort Wayne Breaks Records; Gifts Exceed \$1.37 Million

Purdue University Fort Wayne's 6th annual Day of Giving on Wednesday was one for the books. The tally as of early Thursday morning indicated \$1,370,075 was raised from 1,448 total gifts. Both are record amounts for the university.

For a full 24 hours, anyone who appreciates and supports what Purdue Fort Wayne students do to secure a stronger future for themselves and the regional workforce was invited to take part in the campaign. It looks like more donors than ever stepped up to the plate.

The "Big Give" as it's called at PFW benefitted again from participants on and off campus including faculty, staff, alumni, and external supporters. Through gifts big and small, donors demonstrated their confidence in the university by investing in scholarships, academic programs, campus infrastructure, athletics, and other critical initiatives.

"Our team would like to express its appreciation to all those who chose to make the Big Give this year—and every year—such an important statement to our students," said B.J. Hull, chief development officer, Purdue University Fort Wayne. "This record-breaking display of generosity will provide support to our students, programs, and departments for years to come."

Three units across the PFW campus raised more than \$100,000. They were the College of Visual and Performing Arts, Student Engagement and Support, and Purdue Fort Wayne Athletics. Seven units received 50 or more gifts. Additional information and full leaderboard results can be viewed at [dayofgiving.pfw.edu](https://dayofgiving.pfw.edu).

The previous Day of Giving records at PFW were \$1,310,632 in 2022 and 1,075 gifts in 2023.

[VIEW VIDEO](#)



## Purdue Fort Wayne's 56th Commencement the Culmination of an Epic Journey

For those Mastodons who were either wrapping up their freshman year at Purdue University Fort Wayne in the spring of 2020 or moving into student housing for the first time a few months later, it might be hard to explain to future generations all that's happened over the last four years.

Always celebratory, PFW's 56th commencement on May 8 at the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum will draw energy from thousands of stories that often find that perfect blend of experiences shared and experiences that are totally unique.

[READ NEWS RELEASE](#)

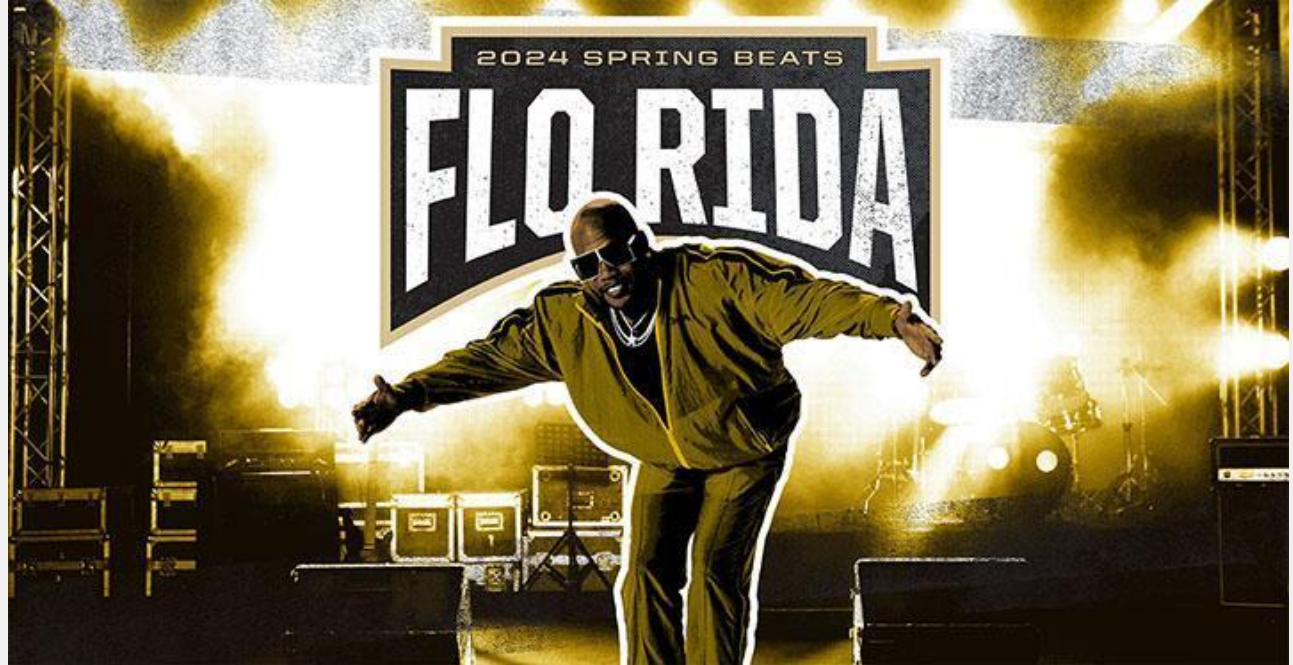


## Deadline to Register for Chancellor's New Alumni Dinner Is Tuesday

After the pomp and circumstance is over on May 8, be sure to stop by the commencement **After-Party** in the Conference Center lobby and Room C to enjoy appetizers and even a cocktail at the cash bar. And be sure to share your photo station snaps to social media! New graduates at the party will also receive a free commemorative gift.

Want to skip the crowded restaurants afterward? The Mastodon Alumni Community invites you to the **Chancellor's New Alumni Dinner** in Conference Center rooms D and E. Dinner choices for graduates, family, and friends include chicken, beef, and vegetarian plated meals with a cash bar option. Ticket prices for the dinner are \$10 for 2024 graduates and children ages 3-12, and \$25 for adults. Children 2 and under eat for free. **Register for the dinner** by April 30.

*Please note, you must be 21 years or older to purchase alcoholic drinks at either post-commencement event.*



## Flo Rida Ticket Promotion for Employees

As an added incentive for PFW and IUFW employees who would like to purchase multiple tickets to Friday's concert, a special promotional offer has been added. Current employees may purchase two (2) tickets for \$30, or a second ticket for \$10 if a \$20 ticket has already been purchased. Those making a new order for two tickets can use the promotional code **30FacStaff**. Schatzlein Box Office team members are reaching out directly to employees who have already purchased a single ticket to provide a different code if they want to purchase a second ticket at the discounted rate.

Anyone attending the concert who is not employed by PFW or IUFW is encouraged to make every effort to enter Gates Sports Center with the employee who purchased the tickets to avoid possible confusion and/or delays at the point of entry.

Since arriving at Purdue University Fort Wayne in 2009, Krissy Surface has wanted to bring a big-name performer to campus. It's also something students have annually asked of the vice chancellor for enrollment management and the student experience.

"As our campus continues to grow and attract directly from high school students who crave the college experience, it is a must that we deliver that," Surface said. "And, what says fabulous college experience more than a huge concert on campus?"

[READ MORE](#)



## Purdue University Professor Featured as COS Honorary Invited Lecturer

The College of Science will welcome Guang Lin to campus today at 7 p.m. as the next guest in its Honorary Invited Lecturer Series. Lin's subject will be "How Data Science, AI, and Digital Twins Could Help Us Predict the Future." The lecture will take place in Neff Hall, Room 101. The presentation may also be viewed remotely by plugging [bit.ly/PFWdigitaltwins](https://bit.ly/PFWdigitaltwins) into a web browser.

Lin is associate dean for research and innovation for the College of Science at Purdue University. He is a professor in both the Department of Mathematics and the School of Mechanical Engineering.

## Lavender and Multicultural Graduation Ceremonies Approaching Quickly

Purdue University Fort Wayne's Q Center is asking seniors who want to participate in the annual Lavender Graduation ceremony on May 6 to [register for the event](#) by May 2. The ceremony will start at 3:30 p.m. in the rainbow sculpture park between the Liberal Arts Building and Friends Pavilion. Chancellor Ron Elsenbaumer will deliver a brief message, and friends and family are welcome to attend. Participants will also receive a lavender cord to wear during commencement on May 8. In case of poor weather, the Lavender Ceremony will move to Walb Student Union, Room 114.

The Multicultural Center and Office of International Education will hold their third annual Multicultural Graduation on May 6 at 5 p.m. in the International Ballroom at Walb. Last year, 70 students representing 12 counties participated in the event.

## Eventful

---

*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.*

APRIL

26

Fri., 11:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.

## CPR and AED Certification Class

The American Heart Association basic life support and first aid class teaches basic life-support techniques—including CPR using various methods to assist victims of all ages—and how to operate an AED...

---

APRIL

26

Fri., noon–3 p.m.

## Biology Senior Seminar Poster Symposium

Biology seniors have been hard at work this semester in the classroom, the lab, and the field. See what they've been working on — they would love to share it with you...

## News Spotlight

---

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

### Local students receive honors at PFW

The Star (subscription required) | April 18

### 2024 Champions of Change Awards finalists named

FOX 55 | April 17

### Partnership between Fort Wayne school, university, leads to 'music of Levan

## PFW announces 2024 Exemplar and Top 50 recipients

FOX 55 | April 17

### In a Snap

---

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



*Mock trials with a guest judge presiding were held on the ground floor of Walb Student Union on Tuesday as part of a business law class. This also qualified as a civics literacy activity.*

News Center



Inside PFW Archive



Athletics



Ripples



*Inside PFW* is an official university communication for faculty and staff. All submissions should be sent to [inside@pfw.edu](mailto:inside@pfw.edu) no later than 2 p.m. on the day prior to the next edition to be considered for inclusion. Newsletter guidelines can be accessed in the [PFW News Center](#).

*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.

**PURDUE UNIVERSITY**  
**FORT WAYNE**

