



For Students

September 4, 2024



## Lineup Announced for 2024–25 Omnibus Speaker Series at Purdue Fort Wayne

Contemporary themes and personal experiences will be highlighted during the 29th season of Purdue University Fort Wayne’s popular Omnibus Speaker Series. The 2024–25 schedule will include topics such as the thoughts of a New York Times political podcaster; a journey through grief; brand strategy and cultural behavior; and an award-winning chef’s insights about her cultural duality.

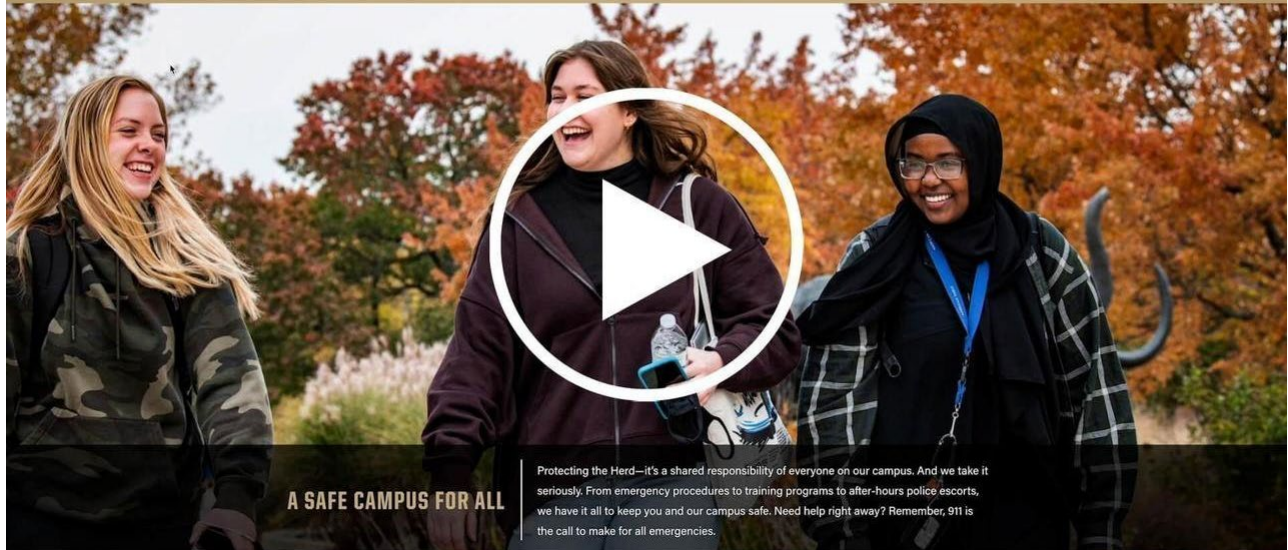
“We are so pleased to have such an outstanding lineup of speakers this season,” said Jerry Lewis, vice chancellor for communications and marketing at Purdue Fort Wayne. “The Omnibus Speaker Series has been a community treasure here in Fort Wayne for almost three decades, and our speakers this year are thought-leaders who will challenge us with a diversity of ideas, perceptions, and experiences.”

The new season opens Oct. 24 with Michael Barbaro, a New York Times political journalist and host of “The Daily” podcast, which is among the world’s most popular with 3 million listeners.

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CAMPUS SAFETY AND SECURITY

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A SAFE CAMPUS FOR ALL

Protecting the Herd—it's a shared responsibility of everyone on our campus. And we take it seriously. From emergency procedures to training programs to after-hours police escorts, we have it all to keep you and our campus safe. Need help right away? Remember, 911 is the call to make for all emergencies.

## Discussing Emergency Alerts with Chief Harrison

Click on the image above or the WATCH VIDEO button below to hear from University Police Chief Anthony Harrison as he describes what members of the campus community can do to update their own safety and security plans today.

Don't wait until it's too late. Opt in to receive emergency text alerts and visit the **Advisories and Notices page** of the Campus Safety and Security website to learn more.

WATCH VIDEO



## Gold Top Continues to Move the Needle

Four years ago, as he became a new clinical assistant professor of music and director of popular music in the School of Music, John Buteyn was welcomed with a to-do list. At the very top—practically bolded, underlined, and italicized—was starting a record label.

Taking inspiration from Gibson’s iconic Les Paul Gold Top guitar, which clearly fit well with Purdue University Fort Wayne’s colors, the Gold Top Music Group was introduced on Aug. 3, 2021. Beside Buteyn and Jason Lundgren, clinical assistant professor of music industry, there was one student at the start.

Today, Buteyn and Lundgren are still the cornerstones of the Center of Excellence, but now supported by five full-time and 12 part-time faculty members working with between 80 and 100 students. Since 2021, approximately 200 students have graduated with popular music and music industry degrees.

[READ MORE](#)



## Singer to Celebrate Debut Album during Party on the Lawn

As a 3-year-old attending her grandfather's retirement party at Hill-Rom in Batesville, Alex Hutchek broke into song before the company CEO. The youngster also loved singing to the background music in grocery stores.

"I just did not care," Hutchek said. "I loved the music."

Now a junior at Purdue University Fort Wayne, Hutchek will introduce her first recording album next week through PFW's Gold Top Music Group. The goal has been to drop the album in time for Tuesday's Party on the Lawn at Student Housing on the Waterfield Campus, which will also serve as her release party.

Using the stage name "VEO," which is her middle name and her great-grandmother's first name, Hutchek's "Reflections" features nine original country and rock songs. Most deal with events from her life, showing she still has that 3-year-old's passion and fearlessness.

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## World's Second Most Popular Sport Makes Big PFW Entrance

Almost everyone knows soccer is the world's most popular sport, but few Americans can guess which is No. 2—cricket.

A larger-than-you-might-expect number of people associated with of Purdue University Fort Wayne is excited cricket is now being played on campus. Since April, teams have gathered on a newly created cricket field to play the game they love.

"As we continue to have a larger international population every semester, it just creates more of a sense of belonging," said Nick Brand, Well-being and Recreation coordinator, who also supervises intramural competition. "We're here to create something new for all of our students and give international students an opportunity to connect with domestic students and introduce something new to them. Everyone loves sports and athletics, and they are a good way to bring people

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## Find Financial Support at ScholarshipUniverse

ScholarshipUniverse is a matching system that maximizes scholarship opportunities. It allows students to create an academic profile that enables them to connect with various internal and external sources.

Students who update their profile criteria regularly will likely see more external scholarships they

qualify for. ScholarshipUniverse will also match the participant to university scholarships and departmental scholarships. Most of these will be published within the next week or two, so it would be a good idea to view this site weekly until early October.

Current Purdue Fort Wayne student can head to [pfw.scholarshipuniverse.com](https://pfw.scholarshipuniverse.com) and enter their career account credentials to begin the scholarship search today.

## Honors Program Deadlines are Approaching

Each of these Honors Program deadlines is Sept. 13:

- **H-Option contracts.** Once you receive initial approval from your professor, email [combsf@pfw.edu](mailto:combsf@pfw.edu) to start the contract process.
- **Fall 2024 honors scholarship applications.** Click [here](#) to access the application process and [here](#) to access information about the different scholarships. You must have successfully completed at least three PFW honors credits and maintain an honors active status to be eligible to apply for honors scholarships.
- **Honors project proposals (for fall 2024 graduates only):** If you are a graduating senior pursuing the honors certificate, click [here](#) to access the application process to complete the form electronically and [here](#) to learn more about the process.

Fall 2024 **Honors Project Showcase** presentations will be held in the Honors Center at Helmke Library, Room 211, on Dec. 5 and 6.

Questions? Contact Farah Combs, program director, at [combsf@pfw.edu](mailto:combsf@pfw.edu).

## Good to Know

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### Athletics Gear Garage Sale Set for Thursday

Join Athletics in the fieldhouse for a one-day garage sale on Thursday from 1 to 5 p.m. You'll find PFW and IPFW merch, memorabilia, new and used uniforms, and more. No cash will be accepted; all payments will be via online donation at checkout.

### PFW Surplus Store: A Sweet Spot to Find Cool Stuff

An inexpensive resource for furnishing your room is right here on campus! The Purdue Fort Wayne **Surplus Store** represents the public's opportunity to see one aspect of the campus's sustainability efforts in action—reduce, reuse, recycle, repurpose. Located in Ginsberg Hall on the

**North Campus**, the store tries to be open to the public at least one Friday per month. This month the store will be open Sept. 28 from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.. Everything will be 50% off, and updates will be posted on its **Facebook page**.

## Graduate Program Information Sessions

Dive into a wide array of **graduate programs** and connect with program directors, faculty, and admissions staff. Explore options, admission requirements, and application deadlines—and take advantage of the opportunity to ask questions. **Register** for a session today to jumpstart your graduate journey.

## 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.*

SEPTEMBER

4

Today., 2–3 p.m.

### International Student Résumé Workshop

Listen to advice from Tracey Hanton, associate director of career development, on how to prepare your résumé for the U.S. job market. This session is open to all new and returning international students...

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SEPTEMBER

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Thurs., 7–9 p.m.

### Foam Party at the Disco

Open to all PFW and IUFW students, whether you live in student housing or not! Come dressed for the event. Music, food, giveaways, foam, and fun fun fun—don't miss it...

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SEPTEMBER

7

Sat., 2:30–6 p.m.

### Let's Go to the Zoo!

Make sure to sign up for this fun trip to the Fort Wayne Children's Zoo, sponsored by the EMSE Engagement Board. And don't let their name fool you, the zoo is not just for kids...

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SEPTEMBER

10

Tues., 11 a.m.–1 p.m.

## Mastodon Bones Display Celebration

No bones about it—let's welcome Donna back home! Come on down to a celebration of the newly installed mastodon bones display. There will be a limited edition hat and visor giveaway (students only) as well as posters and cookies for all...

## News Spotlight

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

### No skeleton in Purdue Fort Wayne closet

Local, state, and national media | August and September

### Purdue Fort Wayne Music Industry Program

PBS Fort Wayne Prime Time (23 min.) | Aug. 23

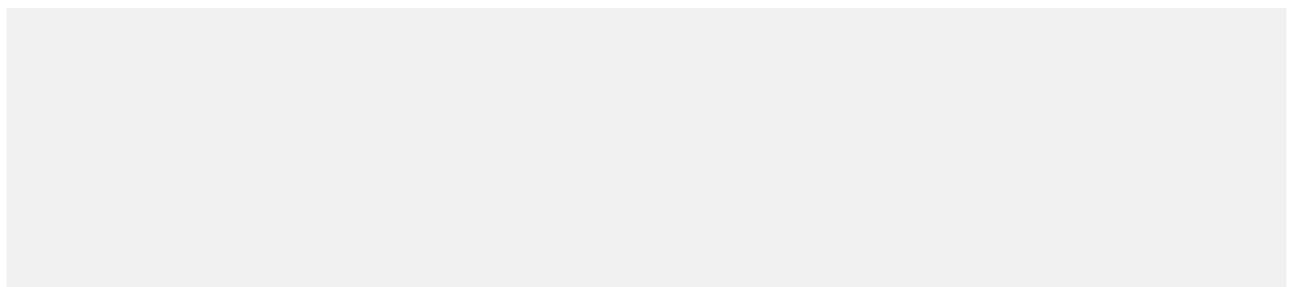
### PFW stages annual move-in day

FOX 55 | Aug. 23

## Mastodon Moments

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







*Vendors set up shop under the skybridge on Thursday as part of the Mastodon Market, which has returned for its fifth year. Students, employees, and community members can choose from a variety of vegetables, fruits, plants, and desserts. The market will be open every Thursday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. until Sept. 19.*

Athletics



Events Calendar



News Center



Don Life Archive



Don Life is an official university communication sent weekly on Wednesday to all currently enrolled students. Don Life 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**



