



*Elementary education major Alex Battershell is seen here working with a fourth grade student at Huntertown Elementary School.*

## PFW Students Changing the Face of Elementary School Instruction

According to a recent Indiana Department of Education report, only 9% of the state's elementary school teachers are male.

Michael Flory, an analytics and planning director for the School of Education at Purdue University Fort Wayne, said there are currently two men majoring in early childhood education at PFW and 18 in elementary education. That's compared to 66 in secondary education. And looking at the 91 spring 2024 graduates from the SoE, there were no males who majored in early childhood education and only three in elementary education.

While most men consider other fields when entering college, some at PFW are determined to become early childhood or elementary school teachers. They were not convinced by the need, but rather the belief that this is what were meant to do.

[READ MORE](#)

## Herd That

*The student experience is a big part of who we are as Mastodons. Here's one of our stories.*



*Sebastian Vachon, Zack Burk, and Gabriel Blye are proud members of "the Cult of the Crockpot."*

### Bingo Myth Turns out to Be a Bit of a Crock

There's something of an urban myth around the Purdue University Fort Wayne campus that a student somehow won four crockpots by playing in the monthly bingo night hosted by the Student Activities Board.

How is that possible? And why would someone be so fascinated with crockpots? It almost sounds too strange to be real.

Well, it is—in a way. As usual with such rumors, there’s a hint of truth involved, though liberally stretched.

[READ MORE](#)



## Home for the Holidays: A Heartwarming Holiday Tradition Returns Next Week

The holiday season is a time for joy, celebration, music—and Monday’s Home for the Holidays concert will combine all three. Purdue Fort Wayne’s annual holiday concert, presented by the School of Music, will feature the University and Community Orchestra, Chamber Treble Singers, Choral Union, University Singers, and student chamber ensembles.

Immerse yourself in a program of beloved carols and memorable seasonal tunes that are sure to fill your heart with joy and bring back cherished memories—the perfect way to start your holiday season.

Monday | 7:30 p.m.

Auer Performance Hall | Music Center

Free admission for PFW students with ID and students under 18



## Donations Top \$8,000 as Adopt-A-Don Helps 32 Student Families

Thanks to donations from employees and student organizations, the Adopt-A-Don project at Purdue University Fort Wayne continues to give generously to students and their immediate families. The fourth-year campaign organized through the Women's Center will give holiday presents to 32 student families during the Jingle Jubilee dinner this weekend. Items that will be presented include bags of food from the FRIENDS of the University Pantry.

The program has raised approximately \$32,000 over the years, including \$8,000 this year. Curt Hosier, senior lecturer in sociology, came up with the idea of Adopt-A-Don and is co-chair for the program, along with Cicelle Beemon, program assistant at the Women's Center.

"You never know if you might be somebody's only angel," Beemon said. "People come to us when they don't have anybody else. Sometimes we are the only support for students."

## 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.

DECEMBER

6

Fri., 7–11 p.m.

## Spielfreaks Campus-Community Tabletop Board Game Night

We play all kinds of modern tabletop board games like Settlers of Catan, Ticket to Ride, 7 Wonders, Splendor, and more. You'll find an eager crowd ready to play your favorites and teach whatever you want to learn...

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DECEMBER

7

Sat., 8–10 p.m.

## The 24-Hour Plays

The 24-Hour Plays is a wild night of original work featuring short plays written, rehearsed, and performed by students over the course of 24 hours. Writing all night, keeping the actors, props, and costumes in mind, the playwright will meet with their director at 7 a.m. to discuss the newly...

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DECEMBER

9

Mon., noon–1 p.m.

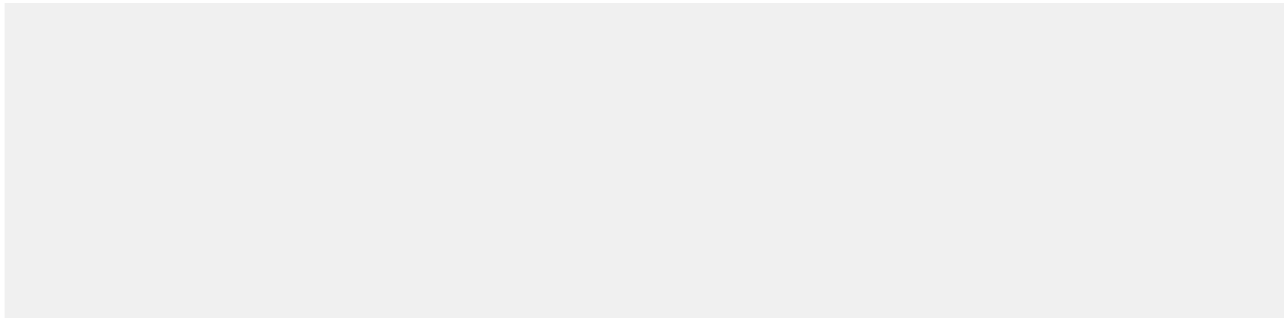
## Thriving, Not Just Surviving: A Panel Discussion with CoLA Majors

The College of Liberal Arts Student Affairs Committee invites you to a Fall Mixer—a panel discussion with CoLA majors. Dr. Damian Fleming will moderate a discussion focused on tips and tools for succeeding academically and juggling myriad responsibilities. Lunch is provided...

## Mastodon Moments

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





*Holiday food, games, crafts, and pleasant conversation were featured Monday during a TRIO holiday event at Walb Student Union.*

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