

Recognition of Student Success

The following list of students and student groups was submitted by deans, chairpersons, and faculty to the Academic Senate noting the educational and community-associated accomplishments these individuals have made during this academic year. Though not an exhaustive list of all student successes across campus, the Academic Senate recognizes the achievements of these students and student groups as a small, but representative sampling of YSU's outstanding Success Stories.

DIVISION OF INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS

YSU Women's Bowling Team

The Penguins beat Jacksonville State 4-3 in the NCAA championship match at the Suncoast Bowling Center in Las Vegas. It was YSU's first national championship ever in a women's sport and its first in any sport since 1997.

COLLEGE OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, AND MATHEMATICS

Tanya A Pai Dhungat

She received the Charles J. Ping Award as well as receiving the Legacy Award.

Charles J. Ping Student Service award is designed to recognize and honor undergraduate students at Triple C campus partner institutions for their outstanding leadership and contributions to community service or service-learning on their campus and within their community. Two students will receive the additional recognition of Legacy Award winner. These students will receive a \$250 donation made in their honor to a nonprofit organization of their choice.

(<https://www.communitycampuscoalition.org/charles-j-ping-student-service-award/>)

Coleman Buchanan, Elly Volz, Ely Vuksanovich, Joseph Bartlett, and Victoria Mathews

These students, members of the YSU Chapter of the American Foundry Society, took first place overall in the National Steel Founders' Society Cast In Steel Competition, including Best in Show (Overall 1st Place), Best Performance (1st Place), Technical Report (2nd Place), and Best Use of Casting (2nd Place).

Katie Chludzinski

Katie Chludzinski, a graduate student in mechanical engineering earned first place at the American Society for Engineering Education North Central Section Conference for her research and paper on continuously variable transmissions. ([News Link](#))

WILLIAMSON COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Jambar Staff

The staff of YSU's student newspaper, *The Jambar*, was recognized with the Frank E. Deaner Award for Excellence in Collegiate Journalism at the Ohio News Media Association Fellowship Day.

Sean Ascano, Caleb Sturgeon, Elizabeth (Lizzie) Saur, and Skylar Brocious

These students placed second at the regional ASCM Pittsburgh Academic Case Competition held at Duquesne University.

Aleen Kanan, Vince Koludrovich, Batool Alkarain, and Lindsay Collins

As a team, these students placed fourth in the Global Scaling Challenge, an international competition between university teams from several countries run and organized by The Anderson School of Management at the University of New Mexico. This prestigious global competition features three regional tracks: Americas, Europe & Africa, and Asia & Oceania. 43 teams in total attended the competition.

LeeAnn Harsha and James Delisio

These students were on two of the 14 best teams of 1,118 teams, in the 2024 X-Culture Project during the fall semester. They received Best Team certificates and are invited to the upcoming X-Culture Symposium, which will be held in Finland this summer. X-Culture is a large-scale international experiential learning project with around 6000 students from 135 universities in more than 50 countries participating every semester. In the project, students are placed on international teams that contain students from different countries. Students work on a real company challenge and develop a consulting report via online collaboration. X-Culture is a global project that immerses students and professionals in real-world cross-cultural collaboration. This hands-on business experience strengthens resumes, making participants more competitive in the worldwide job market.

The **YSU Penguin Shark Tank** was a great success. Awards totaled \$10,000 for the following students:

Finalists for Best Business Idea:

- **WINNER:** Nabayt Kibreab, a junior Computer Science and Economics major, is developing Velora, a stock trading platform. Also won \$2400 John Borgan Entrepreneurship Award.
- **2ND PLACE:** Jan Harter, a junior Business Analytics and Economics major, is developing a new piece of climbing equipment.
- **3RD PLACE:** Sai Teja Reddy Bokka, a Mechanical Engineering graduate student, is building Vigyus, a specialized platform for STEM education.

Finalists for Best Established Business:

- **WINNER:** Cadence McStowe, a freshman Nursing student whose business is Tallowtalk Skincare. Also won \$500 Audience Choice Award.
- **2ND PLACE:** Alexis Gaetano, a senior Marketing major whose business is ACG Media Marketing
- **3RD PLACE:** Hailey Bonner, a junior Marketing major who started Coastavida Jewelry.

BEEGHLY COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS, SOCIAL SCIENCES, AND EDUCATION

Kelly Kolberg

Ms. Kolberg is pursuing her masters degree in Social Work. She is the voluntary Executive Director for the non-profit called One Step at a Time, located in Painesville, Ohio. This organization provides transitional housing for young adults ages 18-24 who have been impacted by or aged out of the foster care system. In addition to running this organization as a volunteer for the past 7 years she also works full time as a social worker for children's services and is obtaining her MSW part time her at YSU.

Brandon Tabak, Jordan Pintar, Sofia Myers, and Peyton Hodge

These members of the YSU Intercollegiate Ethics Bowl Team won the regional competition (1st place) and were participants in the semifinal round of the national competition.

Elle Earnhardt and Sophia Misel, and Maureen Baker and Alyssa Weyand

These members of the YSU Moot Court Teams placed during the Mid-West Regional Competition: Elle Earnhardt and Sophia Misel, and Maureen Baker and Alyssa Weyand. Maureen and Alyssa went on to participate at the National competition at University of Houston Law Center.

CLIFFE COLLEGE OF CREATIVE ARTS

Department of Art

Leah Sydney

One of five students nationally chosen to attend the Advanced Student Project Network (ASPN) program at Red Lodge Clay Center (RLCC), MT. Over 40 colleges and universities from across the U.S. nominated students for the residency. They were juried by a RLCC committee, and only five were selected for the Artist-in-Residency, which provides young artists with opportunities to explore new ideas, exchange techniques, and deepen their professional development in ceramics with peers.

Dana School of Music

Ryan Lamb

- Gold Medal Winner, Leonard Falcone International Euphonium and Tuba Festival
- 2nd place, Midwest Regional Tuba Euphonium Competition (MWRTEC) Orchestra
- Excerpts Competition
- 2nd place, MWRTEC Solo Competition Student Division
- 1st place tie (no winner), Rafael Mendez Brass Institution Orchestra Excerpts Competition

Erika Walker

1st Place, National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS) Great Lakes Region Competition, advances to National Competition

Jéssyka Martins

2nd Place, Mozarteum Brasileiro Festival – YSU Graduate Research Award

Laura Bowden

3rd place, Collegiate Division, Central Ohio Flute Association Competition

Jacob Norton

Alternate, International Trombone Association Alto Trombone Competition (as a YSU sophomore, Jacob won over graduate students from the top conservatories in the US and around the world; eligibility is up to age 25)

YSU Ohio Collegiate Music Education Association Chapter received the Excellence in Professional Development Award from the National Association for Music Education

University Theatre

Ryan Bedi

- 1st Place, National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS) Tri-State Chapter Student Musical Theatre Competition
- 3rd Place, National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS) Eastern Region Student Musical Theatre Competition

Crystal Fischer

Juried invitation to participate in the Disney College Internship Program, a highly competitive, paid internship for college students and recent graduates. Participants are immersed in the world of Disney, gain valuable professional experience, make career-long connections, and more.

Sam Law

Accepted into the prestigious M.F.A. in Design Production at the University of Houston