

The Magazine for Fredonia Alumni and Friends

# Statement

Spring 2023



## **Kolison shares his vision at investiture**

14th president  
describes Fredonia as a  
'well of learning,  
discovery and success'

Student research  
focuses on improving  
creek restoration efforts

Geosciences 60th Reunion

Homecoming Highlights



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## Admissions Update

Admissions will continue to host daily information sessions starting in late January and running through early May. Following all health and safety protocols, Admissions is also welcoming registered Group Visits for High Schools and Community-Based Programs throughout the spring.

In late February through April, Admissions will host off-campus accepted student receptions spread across the state, as well as two on-campus Go Big BLUE Accepted Student Days. For details and registration, please visit: <https://www.fredonia.edu/admissions-aid/visit-tour>

## Alumni and Campus Events Calendar

**Please note:** Some of these events may be subject to change. It is also anticipated that events will be added as the year progresses. Please check the following link for updates: <https://events.fredonia.edu/alumni>

### MARCH

**Career Development Job and Internship Expo**  
Wednesday, March 1, 1–4 p.m.  
Williams Center, Campus  
For more information:  
[www.fredonia.edu/cdo](http://www.fredonia.edu/cdo)

**Spring Break**  
Monday–Friday, March 12–17

**Teacher Recruitment Day**  
Monday, March 20, 9 a.m.– 4 p.m.  
Niagara Falls Convention Center  
For more information:  
[www.fredonia.edu/cdo](http://www.fredonia.edu/cdo)

**Senior Expo**  
Wednesday, March 22,  
4–5:30 p.m.  
University Commons, Campus

### MAY

**Alumni Board of Directors Meeting**  
Thursday, May 11, 4 p.m.  
Alumni House

**Commencement**  
Saturday, May 20, 10 a.m.  
and 3 p.m.  
Steele Hall

### AUGUST

**Alumni Board Meeting**  
Thursday, Aug. 10, 4 p.m.  
Alumni House

### OCTOBER

**Fall Break**  
Thursday and Friday,  
Oct. 5 and 6

**Class of 1973 50-Year Reunion**  
Friday and Saturday, Oct. 20  
and 21  
In conjunction with  
Homecoming Weekend



**Homecoming Weekend**  
Friday–Sunday, Oct. 20–22  
Schedule of Events will be  
available in June at:  
<https://events.fredonia.edu/alumni>

**Geosciences 60th Anniversary**  
Saturday, Oct. 21  
In conjunction with  
Homecoming Weekend

**Class of 1993 Reunion**  
Saturday, Oct. 21  
In conjunction with  
Homecoming Weekend

**Residence Life Reunion**  
Saturday, Oct. 21  
In conjunction with  
Homecoming Weekend

**Family Weekend**  
Friday–Sunday, Oct. 27–29  
Campus

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Dr. Greg Gibbs,  
Fredonia Alumni  
Association President

Dr. Stephen H. Kolison Jr.,  
Fredonia President

## Dear Alumni and Friends,

I am pleased to connect with you again in this latest edition of the *Statement*. I hope life has been kind to you since we last connected and that 2023 is off to a great start for you.

It was a tremendous privilege and experience to have my investiture last fall after it was delayed by COVID-19. It was a successful and enjoyable occasion. The theme of the investiture centered around student access and persistence. Many people used the occasion to donate to the Bicentennial Fund to Enhance Access and Persistence. The event itself was funded totally by supporters of the university. I am grateful for their generosity. I am also very thankful for all the support we received for holding the event. It remains my highest honor and privilege to serve as president of SUNY Fredonia.

If you are a first-time reader of the *Statement*, welcome. We take great pride in the accomplishments of our students, past and present, and we celebrate them throughout this magazine. If you are familiar with the *Statement*, welcome back to another edition showcasing the wonderful things about SUNY Fredonia students, faculty, staff and alumni. These pages are filled with stories that will bring you smiles and pride. For example, students from the Department of Communication have received international acclaim for a short film produced as part of a capstone project. The School of Music is pleased to bring back an award-winning opera performer and 2011 Fredonia graduate to work with students during the 2022–23 academic year. Also, decorated student-athlete alumni were recently inducted into the Blue Devil Athletic Hall of Fame along with a legendary coach and athletic director.

With the Spring 2023 semester underway, I invite you to come back to campus and see all the exciting things happening. It could be to take in a musical or theatre production, an outdoor athletic event, or to enjoy the beautiful sights and sounds of our beautiful 256-acre campus as spring blooms. I hope you can find time to come by, and I look forward to seeing you.

Very truly yours,

Dr. K.  
Stephen H. Kolison Jr., Ph.D.  
President



# FREDONIA

STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK



## Student film receives BEA, Cannes Short Film Festival awards

"The Cryptid Cast vs. The Goopy Ganker," a film produced by a team of mostly Communication: Video Production students during the Spring 2022 semester, continues to rack up awards even after many in its creative team have received their B.A. degrees.

So far, the film — whose storyline involves a host of a monster-themed college radio show who gets herself and her friends wrapped up in an investigation after the mysterious disappearance of two of their classmates — has won Best Short Feature: Festival Director's Award at the Cannes Short Film Festival and an Award of Excellence from the Broadcast Education Association (BEA). It also picked up Best Student Film honors at the Dreamz Catcher International Film Festival in India.

**"The plan to make this massive movie started because a small group of talented and driven students wanted to go above and beyond."**

— Jackson DiCarlo, co-director/co-writer

The movie's tagline is: "Out for intrigue & out of their league."

"Being honored with an award from a festival in Cannes as well as from the BEA is a dream come true. It's incredible that our hard work has resulted in an award-winning film that's been screened around the globe," remarked Jackson DiCarlo, who shared directing and writing duties with Ben Anderson. "These are great milestones for all of us and our

careers right out of college. If there was ever any doubt of our futures being bright, this award has certainly dispelled that."

The film is a shining example that anything's possible with enough dedication and support, Mr. DiCarlo added.

"The plan to make this massive movie started because a small group of talented and driven students wanted to go above and beyond," DiCarlo said. "That team grew and grew as more friends and family lent a hand." Nearly 50 students — many wearing multiple hats — were involved in the production.

Seven of the nine members of the core team are '22 graduates majoring in Communication: Video Production. They, with their respective positions in the film, include: DiCarlo and Anderson,

director/writer; Sam Mackintosh-Smith, editor/camera assistant; Jay Gleason and Alec Wright, director of photography; Kai Guilds, audio director/public relations; and Nicolas Dohre, producer/gaffer.

The eighth and ninth members of the team are current seniors Skyla Cedeno, costume design/camera assistant; and Ryan Champlin, producer/assistant director. Both are Communication: Video Production majors.

The film was the capstone project for seniors enrolled in COMM 464: Fiction II, taught by Department of Communication Associate Professor Roslin Smith.

The Cannes Short Film Festival was created about a decade ago as a showcase opportunity for young emerging talent and a celebration of the best of international indie short filmmaking. It is not part of the widely known International Festival de Cannes.

"The Cryptid Cast vs. the Goopy Ganker" was one six recipients in the Broadcast Education Association's Award of Excellence in the Film & Video Narrative Competition, beating out 146 other student entries.

There was a lot to like about this film, noted a BEA judge, who singled out the "tremendous effort" put into the entire production. "It was obviously a very well thought out and executed project that took a lot of hard work," the judge wrote.

The film has become an official selection at five other film festivals around the world, including from New York City, Chicago, Moldova and Japan. There were also two screenings at Dunkirk Multiplex in May.

Students were able to finance the film through a successful GoFundMe campaign and several campus events such as Rockin' The Commons and the Lend-A-Paw Dog Walk that raised over \$2,500 to cover production expenses.

➔ Instagram: @cryptidcastfilm

YouTube: [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCJH\\_GuRgMd53z\\_9pzSakmWA](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCJH_GuRgMd53z_9pzSakmWA)



# *Kotison shares his vision at Investiture*

**14TH PRESIDENT DESCRIBES FREDONIA AS A  
'WELL OF LEARNING, DISCOVERY AND SUCCESS'**







In his inauguration speech as the 14th President of the State University of New York at Fredonia, Dr. Stephen H. Kolison Jr. emphasized the importance of relevance as the university approaches its 200th anniversary amid especially challenging times in higher education.

“Sustaining and enhancing one’s relevance, in my opinion, is a key to success in this new era,” President Kolison said at his investiture that was held in King Concert Hall in September 2022 after being delayed two years by the COVID-19 pandemic. “Relevance, in my view, has to do with whether what one is doing is in alignment with what society needs or wants,” he said.

“This fall and early into the spring, we will work on our strategic plan and academic master plan. I cannot think of a better time than now to do this given that we are emerging from the COVID-19 pandemic, which disrupted everything,” Dr. Kolison said. “These plans will be about our future, the place that we intend to secure for Fredonia in this rapidly changing higher education landscape and world.”

Kolison drew a parallel between SUNY Fredonia and a childhood memory traveling with his parents to their farm located in rural Liberia. He recalled his memory of a school teacher who lived in the area who shared his water well generously with his neighbors. He described him as a compassionate school teacher and his kindness in sharing the water in his well that brought people together and furnished much-needed water for drinking, cooking and bathing.

“This compassionate school teacher helped to improve the quality of life for families in the area,” he said.

“Here at SUNY Fredonia we have a well. I call it a well of learning, discovery and success. We know what drinking from this well does for students who are able to attend or have access to it. It transforms lives. It inspires them to become skilled, connected, creative and responsible global citizens. They go out into the world and help change it for the better.”

“What excites me about this place? What gets me up every morning and inspires me to come to this campus and work hard?” Kolison asked. “It is the students that we educate at this well.

“We educate students from diverse social and economic backgrounds,” Kolison continued, referring to about

40 percent of students coming from financially challenged backgrounds and 20 percent who are first-generation college students.

These numbers, Kolison believes, represent an opportunity for SUNY Fredonia — not a challenge.

“What happens to students after successfully drinking from this well? Think about how barriers to social mobility are removed after drinking at this well. Think about it in terms of how this country can sustain its status as a super advanced country by educating more people whether they are financially challenged or not,” he said.

“I think you will agree with me that we should enhance access and persistence and success at this well. So, in our planning for the future — the future where our relevance is in alignment with what society needs and demands — I believe we should aspire to enhance access to, and persistence at this well of learning, discovery and success for all our students, especially students from challenged financial backgrounds and first-generation (college) students.”

Kolison’s inauguration theme, “Emphasizing Student Access to and Persistence at the Well of Knowledge, Discovery and Success,” was reflected by numerous speakers.

***“The pandemic may have delayed this investiture ceremony, but it has not damped our excitement or anticipation for this moment.”***

— Fredonia College Council Chair  
Frank Pagano

According to Trustee Eunice Lewin of the SUNY Board of Trustees and chair of its Student Life Committee, Kolison has embraced his role at Fredonia with grace — during a time of upheaval and uncertainty — and “the belief that each and every student, regardless of where they come from, belongs within these walls,” Ms. Lewin said in a greeting on behalf of the board of trustees.

“His conviction that access to higher education is the cornerstone of creating and striving for a better future — a brighter, safer, more diverse, more collaborative and more understanding future for us all — has made his (time) here so far one of success, positivity and growth, and it is a sentiment that echoes in my whole heart,” said Lewin, who formally installed Kolison as SUNY Fredonia President.

Lewin, a Cuban immigrant and a first-generation college graduate, noted it was a privilege to be part of Kolison’s appointment process. “I am grateful for his reassurance that the students of Fredonia are being encouraged every day not to give up, that they have every opportunity for success open to them and we are here to guide them there,” Lewin said.

Fredonia College Council Chair Frank Pagano said Kolison was inspired by his father — a successful teacher who went back to school to earn a master’s degree — to make it his mission to make higher education accessible to all.

“So, Dr. Kolison, all these years later, your father will continue to have an impact, as students here at SUNY Fredonia will benefit from your leadership,” Mr. Pagano said.

Research compiled by Kolison while seeking the presidency was one of many qualities that made him clearly stand out among candidates, according to Pagano. “He had a distinguished record of serving in faculty and leadership roles. His passion for helping students achieve the dream of higher education is unmatched. We are working with someone who truly cares,” Pagano added.

“The pandemic may have delayed this investiture ceremony, but it has not dampened our excitement or anticipation for this moment,” Pagano remarked.

Haitian immigrant and SUNY Fredonia undergraduate France Charles, who excelled at school at an early age, focused her remarks on the importance of higher education as the first member of her family to receive a college degree. She described overcoming hardships and setting her sights on a post-secondary education, “as I knew that it would be one of the first steps to having a better life.”

Ms. Charles’ announcement that she officially became a U.S. citizen on June 8 was rewarded with hearty applause.

“My story is proof that a higher education is not as simple as a paper degree; it is for myself and many others,



a motivation for life and hope for a better and brighter future,” said Charles, a junior Economics and Marketing major.

Keynote speaker Donato Tramuto outlined a bond he shares with Kolison. As a child, Kolison struggled with dyslexia, was ridiculed and was told by his second-grade teacher that he “would not amount

of background. He is a man of action. He is an action hero. He is a compassionate leader.”

Joseph Falcone, a SUNY Fredonia graduate and chair of the Fredonia College Foundation Board of Directors, said it was a delight to partner with Kolison to establish the Bicentennial Fund.

with us and that he is committed to the well-being of not only the institution, but to every single person that makes up that very institution,” Ms. Thompson said.

Esther Kolison, an RN and nurse manager with Stanford Healthcare, congratulated her brother — the eldest son of 17 siblings — on his accomplishments. “We know that you will be a wonderful president because you care about people. You are kind, thoughtful, treat people with empathy, dignity, integrity and grace,” she said. “You are visionary, you work hard, you love students, you are a true believer in the power of higher education, you are a determined person and you are not afraid to tackle difficult situations.”

Fredonia Alumni Association President Greg Gibbs extended congratulations to Kolison on behalf of more than 50,000 alumni connected to each other through the university. “We appreciate your recognition of the strategic role our loyal alumni may play in the task of bringing Fredonia to the next levels of achievement,” Dr. Gibbs said.

New York State Senate congratulations were extended by Sen. George Borrello, who remarked there is great confidence in Kolison’s ability to lead SUNY Fredonia in exciting new directions.

“You’ve already confronted what I hope is the most daunting challenge in your tenure by taking on the role of President in August 2020, in the middle of the pandemic,” Sen. Borrello remarked.

Interim Vice President for Student Affairs Tracy Stenger presided over the ceremony. Student and faculty music ensembles performing at the investiture and reception included: the Fredonia African Drumming Ensemble; Fredonia Chamber Choir, directed by Associate Professor Vernon Huff; Fredonia Wind Ensemble, directed by Lecturer Donna Dolson; and Faculty/Student Jazz Quartet (Vincent Heller, Matt Incontro, Sam Guzzo and Sam Schaeffer). School of Music faculty Dr. Nick Weiser, Kieran Hanlon and Eliot Scozzaro performed “Dance,” composed in honor of Kolison by Deemer as a gift from the Fredonia College Foundation.

Nathan Kropp, former director of the Fredonia Newman Center, gave the invocation. The Rev. Wheigar J. Bright, brother-in-law of Kolison, gave the benediction.

***“Dr. Kolison is taking action ... he is doing something by furthering access to higher education for all people, regardless of background. He is a man of action. He is an action hero. He is a compassionate leader.”***

— Donato Tramuto, keynote speaker

to anything and should simply stop trying,” Mr. Tramuto said. Overcoming adversities with courage and tenacity propelled Kolison to become valedictorian of his senior class and, ultimately, led to a Ph.D. and accession in higher education administration.

Tramuto, an American healthcare executive, global health activist, author and former CEO of Tivity Health, revealed that he endured several surgeries to cure an ear infection that had robbed him of his hearing. An inability to pronounce his R’s and W’s when hearing was restored led some to believe that Tramuto had a learning disability but, working with a speech pathologist at SUNY Fredonia, Tramuto taught himself to speak clearly.

Even so, colleges — except SUNY Fredonia — dismissed the Dunkirk native as disabled and with low academic potential. But Tramuto wasn’t deterred, and graduated summa cum laude and embarked on an immensely successful career.

Tramuto urged the audience to look no further than Kolison for a leader to emulate. “Dr. Kolison is taking action...he is doing something by furthering access to higher education for all people, regardless

“We will focus on his vision to celebrate 200 years of student achievement and enhance student access and persistence at Fredonia,” Mr. Falcone pledged. The fund’s goal is to increase enrollment and retention of students.

Daniel Heitzenrater, president and CEO of the nearly 900-member Chautauqua County Chamber of Commerce, heralded the university’s role in the area, providing the promise of a better life through knowledge and skills that launch careers. “The college educates our future workforce while also helping prepare the community-minded citizens of tomorrow,” Mr. Heitzenrater, a SUNY Fredonia graduate, said.

Professor of Music Composition and Interim Chair of the Department of Theatre and Dance Rob Deemer praised Kolison for reaching out and keeping the campus informed while opportunities for interaction were severely limited during the pandemic.

As everyone was confined to their homes or in socially-distanced offices during Kolison’s first two semesters at Fredonia, Dr. Deemer explained, “the opportunity for our campus community to interact with you was limited, but every week you reached out to us — keeping us informed and making sure we knew that while we couldn’t interact in person, there was someone who was thoughtfully guiding the campus through those historic days.”

One of the first traits Student Association President Ilene Thompson, a junior, observed in Kolison was an eagerness to connect with students, having seen him at Activities Night, home volleyball games and Willie C’s.

“Dr. Kolison’s presence on campus is reassuring that he is in community





*“This fall and early into the spring, we will work on our strategic plan and academic master plan. I cannot think of a better time than now ...”*

— President Stephen H. Kolison Jr.







## Alumnus and Metropolitan Opera National Council Grand Finals winner Kyle van Schoonhoven returns as a Williams Visiting Professor

The Williams Visiting Professorship is supported through an endowment established with the Fredonia College Foundation. The residency is in two parts, a month during the fall semester and a return in the spring.

A highlight of Mr. van Schoonhoven's fall semester visit was a guest artist recital, where he performed excerpts from Richard Wagner's "Die Walküre" with soprano Sarah Cambridge.

When asked to reflect on his experience working with students, van Schoonhoven noted, "As a person, who was thrown head first into opera and the classical music world, back in 2006, it was surreal to retrace my steps at Fredonia, while helping the next generation find their footing in a field I love, and respect, so much.

"It was humbling to work with several professors who taught me, while reinforcing many of the concepts they

introduced me to many years ago, to their current students. Kind of a 'Twilight Zone' moment there. I'm looking forward to working with more students in the coming semester, they are all pretty inspiring," he said.



## EV charging stations now available on campus



Recharging an electric vehicle's battery at SUNY Fredonia has become a reality at parking lots adjacent to Gregory, Fenton and Dods halls.

The three charging stations—each with dual ports—are fully operational and can be utilized seven days a week, 24 hours a day by members of the campus community, as well as the general public. They are Level 2 stations that use 208-24 volts at 30 amps. Two parking spaces reserved solely for active electric vehicle charging have been established at all three locations.

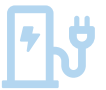
Dedicated charging spaces are identified by signage and stencils on the pavement of the reserved parking spaces.

The charging cost is \$0.30 per kWh. The driving range delivered by Level 2 charging stations can be up to 25 miles for each hour, though that can vary with the type of car and the battery.

To use a charging station, motorists are to download an app that will show if the units are available or are currently charging another vehicle.

Installation of the ChargePoint stations in November 2022 went better than expected, Director of Facilities Services Kevin Cloos noted, as existing conduit in the ground was utilized, so excavation costs were much lower.

The charging stations are a joint project of the Faculty Student Association (FSA) and Facilities Services.



## Incubator seeks alumni partners

[www.fredonia.edu/fti](http://www.fredonia.edu/fti)

The Fredonia Technology Incubator is developing an alumni network of founders, entrepreneurs, economic development personnel and investors to formally involve alumni as mentors, speakers, supporters and internship hosts at the incubator.

The incubator, an economic development and community engagement program established by SUNY Fredonia in 2009, is a significant economic driver in the region and state.

A rural, mixed-use business incubator focusing on arts, food-related, and technology-based start-ups, it provides entrepreneurs access to work-ready space, and paths to funding, as well as highly qualified mentors. It also offers clients the ability to obtain business consulting, mentoring and training, tax incentives, legal and accounting services, assistance with business formation, networking opportunities, access to faculty and



student interns. The incubator, located in Dunkirk, is a collaborative hub for entrepreneurship, economic development, and community engagement.

Overall, the incubator has facilitated

the success of businesses startups, created jobs and established a one-stop economic development center through partnerships with leading economic development agencies including Chautauqua County's planning and economic development entities.

The incubator has helped recruit students to SUNY Fredonia and retain local college graduates through educational programs, internships and the jobs it creates. The incubator is also a significant applied learning center for Fredonia students with its makerspace—the Innovation Design Studio, the Summer Entrepreneurial Fellowship Program, a well-established internship program, and an annual student business competition. The incubator has been a place for the development of innovative courses such as Professional Sales, Music Video Production and Podcasting.





## Student research focuses on improving creek restoration efforts



Compiling research leading to better watershed management in Chautauqua and Erie (N.Y.) counties is the central focus of three Geology students engaging in hands-on field- and lab-based experiences at SUNY Fredonia.

Elizabeth Wightman, Abigail Nordwall and Brett Boyer — all seniors majoring in Geology and enrolled in GEO 410: Directed Study — Independent Study and Research — are learning various aspects of stream management and monitoring in Dewittville Creek in Chautauqua County, and Spooner Creek in Erie County.

“Students are learning how to do various stream measurements, lab analysis and interpretation,” said Geology and Environmental Sciences Assistant Professor Matthew Purtill, who teaches the upper-level course. “It’s a unique experience for the student where they get to generate ‘real’ data that will ultimately help various communities make decisions to improve water quality and stream health.”

The field portion of the class involves recording various water parameters, such as flow, velocity and chemistry, as well as composition of the creek banks.

“A major benefit from this course is being able to collect field data that is similar to what companies in this line of work do,” said Mr. Boyer, of Randolph. “It’s a huge benefit to get valuable hours in the field and spending time using





**“It was more than just work; we had to problem-solve in the moment, figure out logistics firsthand, and were given the freedom to do so.”**

– Abigail Nordwall

equipment that will likely be used at a future job.”

Gaining experience in using tools and learning skills needed to work in the field is a major benefit of this research, confirmed Ms. Wightman, of Campbell. “Between learning how to properly handle equipment to recording data, I feel prepared to graduate and get a job in the field. In addition to the experience outside, my lab skills have also improved immensely,” she said.

“This course provided the chance to learn how to work on a team and what it will be like when we begin our careers,” said Wightman, who is also majoring in Earth Science.

Simply getting outside and applying skills learned in the classroom was a “massive eye-opener” to future career opportunities and goals for Ms. Nordwall, of Jamestown.

“It was more than just work; we had to problem-solve in the moment, figure out logistics firsthand, and were given the freedom to do so,” Nordwall explained. “Working with my peers and Dr. Purtill solidified that this is something that I would want to do in the future. It was an educational and realistic experience that took us out of the classroom and into the real world.”

Central to the research is how erosion can be related to the cloudy appearance of water and its actual flow volume, Dr. Purtill explained. What is the potential for the streams to erode their banks is the question students are seeking to answer.

Working in conjunction with the Chautauqua County Soil and Water Conservation District, students are continuing in a multi-year study that’s monitoring the effectiveness of a major stream bank restoration project undertaken to control erosion in Dewittville Creek. Significant stream migration and

erosion at a specific bend of the creek prompted construction of a boulder wall structure to stabilize the creek bank and placement of several spurs to redirect water flow away from the bank. More than \$100,000 was spent on the improvements.

Part of what the students are doing is evaluating how well those structures are performing what the soil and water conservation district thinks they are accomplishing, Purtill explained. “Missing from a lot of (similar) projects is long-term monitoring — five, 10 years — to see if it’s protecting the stream like we thought it would.”

Another element of the Dewittville Creek study is the flow of sediment that’s creating sandbars in Chautauqua Lake that become obstacles to boaters. Creek data generated by the students will also be entered into a larger study of harmful algae blooms.

“We are helping them to evaluate how effective those measures have been. That way, this information can be used in how to modify these kinds of projects in the future or reinforce what they’re doing,” Purtill said.

Dewittville Creek data compiled by students in the course a year ago was featured in a poster at the Student Research and Creativity Expo on the SUNY Fredonia campus.

At Spooner Creek, a tributary of Cattaraugus Creek, students are partnering with state Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) staff by compiling additional data on how to best manage the Cattaraugus watershed.

Murky conditions in the creek have been traced to erosion along creek banks that are adversely impacting the fishing industry, a major economic driver.

“The big concern is for fishing,” Purtill said. Cattaraugus Creek has become a very dirty creek, with significant suspended sedimentation that’s detrimental to fishing and other forms of recreational tourism, he explained.

“We hope to provide data on soil and water quality so that (communities) can make good decisions in the future on how to control flooding issues,” Purtill said.

The DEC reached out Purtil for ways to

partner with the university. “This will be a great experience for the students,” he said.

Boyer sees this research fitting well with the type of work he’ll be doing after graduation.

“Having experience measuring stream discharge, pH, conductivity, dissolved oxygen, collecting survey points, etc... are all helpful in environmental work. This experience has helped translate classroom concepts into real world skills,” Boyer explained. “Overall, it’s great to be outside all day and to get credits towards my degree for it,” he added.

Before enrolling in the course, Wightman had little idea she would enjoy doing this kind of research so much. She says this is the field she wants to enter, adding, “The work is rewarding and fun!”

Whatever students pursue in environmental research or in job opportunities after graduation, Purtill said, this research is providing them with hands-on experience with equipment and research approaches used in modern-day consulting.

“We are giving them a head-start on a lot of potential jobs, because they will have had real work experience in measuring data to solve problems,” Purtill added. Students will also have had networking opportunities with DEC staff that can potentially lead to internships or job openings.













# FALL 2022 RECAP

## CROSS COUNTRY



Kyle Campbell

Kyle Campbell (North Tonawanda, N.Y./Niagara Falls) finished 30th overall and earned All-Region honors at the NCAA Division III Regional Championships hosted by the University of Rochester. As a team, the Devils took 11th place in the 24-team region. Campbell's time of 26:33.4 was 23 seconds faster than the next Blue Devil, Patrick Klinger (Niagara Falls, N.Y./Niagara Falls) who finished in 50th place in 26:56.5. Josh Walters (Randolph/Randolph) and Ted Tomasello (East Aurora, N.Y./Iroquois) finished 70th and 71st, respectively. Sembel Koshi (Buffalo, N.Y./Hutch Tech) was the fifth Devil to earn points, finishing 80th out of 166 runners.

Two weeks earlier, the Devils had finished fourth in the SUNYAC Meet, led by Koshi who was 15th overall, finishing the 8k race in 26:27.8. Four other Devils finished in the Top 30. A total of 103 runners from 10 conference schools competed.

After finishing seventh in the SUNYAC Meet, the women's cross country team was 18th of 24 teams in the Regional Meet. Sophomore Alexandra Battaglia (Spencerport, N.Y./Spencerport) was the top Fredonia State runner at both meets, finishing 21st at SUNYACs (25:03.2), and 41st (24:16.5) at the regionals. A total of 166 runners competed.

Other finishers at the regional meet were Vanessa Ryhal (Cameron, N.Y./Addison) in 93rd place; Elizabeth Gloss (Kings Ferry, N.Y./South Cayuga) in 102nd; Erin Cool (Grand Island, N.Y./Grand Island) in 125th;



Kristin Kelemen

and Kristin Kelemen (Bemus Point/Maple Grove) in 130th. Kelemen won the Elite 20 Award for the highest GPA of any athlete competing in the SUNYAC Meet. She had also won the award last year.



Kaleb Steward

## MEN'S SOCCER

The men's soccer team was led by youth. Sophomore Kaleb Steward (Kennedy/N.Y., Randolph) led the team with six goals and four assists for 16 points, and freshman Chance LaCroix (Allegany/Allegany-Limestone) had three goals and two assists for eight points. The team finished one point out of a SUNYAC playoff berth. They finished on a high note, winning three of the final five matches, scoring three or more goals in each victory.



Izzy Audette

## WOMEN'S SOCCER

The women's soccer team saw three players earn All-SUNYAC Honors. Junior Brianna Grazen (Lancaster, N.Y./Lancaster) was Second Team, leading the Devils in scoring with three goals and five assists (11 points). Seniors Jordan Barrett (Wyoming, N.Y./Pavilion) and Izzy Audette (Ballston Spa, N.Y./Ballston Spa) were named to the Third Team. It was the third time Audette was named All-Conference. The team also honored 10 players on Senior Day.

## VOLLEYBALL

The women's volleyball finished one spot out of a SUNYAC post-season berth. The team was led by senior setter Kourtney Krchniak (Lockport, N.Y./Lockport), a three-year starter, with 598 assists and a team-high 49 service aces. She would finish her career with 2,220 assists, ranking fifth on the team's all-time list. Sophomore Gabrielle Sordetto (Buffalo, N.Y./Kenmore East) led the Devils with 199 kills, and classmate Erin Callahan (Clarence Center, N.Y./Clarence) added 166 kills.

## TENNIS

Caitlyn Snyder (Utica, N.Y./Notre Dame) and Sierra Allen (Binghamton, N.Y./Chenango Forks) both won three times to lead the women's tennis team. Snyder took two individual matches and a doubles match, while Allen claimed all three victories in singles.





## Athletic Hall of Fame

by Matt Palisin

On Oct. 8, 2022, the Fredonia State Athletic Department inducted five individuals and three Teams of Distinction into its Athletic Hall of Fame.

Among those inducted was Greg Prechtl, who has been involved with the athletic department over 50 years. Sarah Hite-Moore, Jordan Basile, Matt Borchard and Walter Hubbard were also inducted. The 1981 cross country team, the 1992–93 men's basketball team, and the 1985 and '86 men's soccer teams were also recognized.

The passing of a pair of Fredonia State legends was also recognized. Dr. Everett "Doc" Phillips, a longtime track coach, and Dr. Patrick Damore, a former coach in several sports who eventually moved on to become the commissioner of the State University of New York Athletic Conference (SUNYAC), were honored with a tribute. Damore would be the longest

serving commissioner in NCAA Division III history.

A banner recognizing the 20 track and field championships won was also unveiled by the current track and field/cross country coaches, Tom Wilson and his assistant Mike Kelley. The banner will be hung in Steele Hall.

For the Teams of Distinction, former athletes Don Brenner and Jim Siekmann spoke on behalf of the '81 cross country team. Former Soccer Head Coach Nelson Cupello and former player Jeff Hammond spoke of both the '85 and '86 seasons. For the 1992–93 men's basketball squad, Pat Swick and Ryan Smock spoke of the only men's basketball team to make the NCAA Division III Tournament. The squad was coached by Mr. Prechtl. Sarah Hite-Moore was introduced by her aunt, Penny Hite, who also served as her coach while at Fredonia State.

Mr. Basile was presented by his former coach and current Sports Information Director Matt Palisin. Basile officially took over the baseball program from Palisin last season.

Teammate Bryon Thoin and current Head Coach PJ Gondek introduced Mr. Borchard. Prechtl was presented by one of his former players, assistant coach, former SUNY Fredonia staffer and long-time friend, Dan Tramuta. Tramuta served in many capacities at Fredonia State during his long and distinguished career and was a colleague of Prechtl's for over four decades.

Mr. Hubbard was unable to attend. He played under Prechtl and was part of the '92–'93 team that was also recognized.

The 25th Induction ceremony was emceed by Director of Marketing Jeff Woodard. Originally slated for 2020, the ceremony was rescheduled for 2022.

➔ [fredoniabluedevils.com](https://fredoniabluedevils.com)



Inductees (left to right) Greg Prechtl, Jordan Basile, Sarah Hite-Moore and Matt Borchard.



# Fredonia State Blue Devils visual identity evolves

## 2022

A "refresh" of the trademarked Fredonia Blue Devil logo was completed in 2022. With a streamlined pitchfork and reduced yellow flames with cleaner lines — the refreshed logo now appears with straight text instead of curved. Minimal shadows and highlights provide easier reproduction for athletic facilities, uniforms and athletic gear.



## 2007

The first officially trademarked Blue Devil logo was developed and adopted for Fredonia State Athletics.



## 1989-90

A modernized version of the Blue Devil logo was used for Fredonia State Hockey.



## 1986

Illustration appeared in a brochure in 1986.



## 1952

Illustration appeared in *The Leader*, 1952



## 1948-1960s

The first Blue Devil mark adopted for uniforms appeared in 1948 and was used to celebrate Blue Devil spirit into the 1960s.



Cheerleaders shown wearing uniforms with a Blue Devil emblem, 1948.



Cheerleaders shown wearing Blue Devil clad uniforms, 1952.



# Stay involved with the Big Blue Family

➔ [www.fredonia.edu/alumni](http://www.fredonia.edu/alumni)

Wherever your adventures have taken you, you can stay connected with the Big Blue Family in many ways. Whether you connect with current students, come back to campus to reminisce, or stay up-to-date on campus through the virtual tour and regular news updates, you can keep in touch with Fredonia!

## Stay Connected

### Update your info

Keep in touch by updating your email and physical addresses, phone number, etc. We have an electronic form set up for this purpose.

### Send us a Class Note

Send us life news and updates including marriages, births, awards, accomplishments, and job announcements, and tell us how your Fredonia experience helped you fulfill your dreams. We have an electronic form set up for this purpose.

### Reunions and alumni events

Find out about upcoming alumni events near you. The best way to learn about all Fredonia events is to follow the Fredonia Events Calendar Alumni page.

### Get your FRED gear

Visit the bookstore website to purchase all your Fredonia gear.

### Virtual backgrounds

Want to show your Fredonia pride and spirit on your next Zoom meeting? Download one of these backgrounds for your next meeting.

### Come back and share

Faculty and students want to hear about your real-world experiences. Give a lecture or seminar. Contact us to come back and share by sending an email to [alumni.office@fredonia.edu](mailto:alumni.office@fredonia.edu).

### Hire a Fredonia graduate

Fill your position with a Fredonia graduate by contacting the Fredonia Career Development Office at [careers@fredonia.edu](mailto:careers@fredonia.edu) or visit their website at [www.fredonia.edu/cdo](http://www.fredonia.edu/cdo)

### Preserve the Future by Honoring the Past, One Brick at a Time

Show your pride in your alma mater by inscribing your name and class year on a brick. Commemorate a special occasion such as a graduation or retirement or memorialize a member of the Fredonia community. The brick walkway is installed in the Williams Center patio area for students, faculty and alumni to enjoy. The purchase of a walkway brick will support scholarships to assist Fredonia in continuing to attract the best and brightest students. For more information, go to [www.fredonia.edu/brick](http://www.fredonia.edu/brick).



Jim Ranney, '88, and his son, 2019 Fredonia graduate Joshua Ranney, look at "their" brick in the Fredonia Scholarship Walkway adjacent to the Williams Center, which now has over 200 personalized bricks purchased by alumni and friends of Fredonia.

### Alumni Events Calendar

Follow our Alumni Events calendar to learn about Homecoming, reunions and more at <https://events.fredonia.edu/alumni>

### Recruit New Students

Alumni recruiters can give back and be part of the Big Blue Family by encouraging students to attend Fredonia. Working with prospective students is a fun and rewarding experience. For prospective students, a Fredonia graduate is a powerful voice of experience.

By becoming a volunteer, you can remain connected with your beloved Fredonia, enhance the value of your degree by attracting qualified students, and relive positive memories by sharing your story with future students. By connecting with students and other recruiters, you can also expand your professional and social network.

### Virtual Tour

Virtually and in person, we welcome you to visit the beautiful Fredonia campus. To take a virtual tour by visiting the link on our Fredonia Alumni webpage.

### Give Back

The Fredonia College Foundation is a private, non-profit corporation that accepts and manages financial gifts that enable new scholarships and programs. To find out more about giving to Fredonia please visit: <https://www.fredonia.edu/alumni/giving-fredonia>





# Events and Performances

## ROCKEFELLER ARTS CENTER/ THEATRE AND DANCE EVENTS

### WESTERN NEW YORK CHAMBER ORCHESTRA CLASSICS: BEETHOVEN

Sunday, Feb. 19, 4 p.m.  
King Concert Hall  
General Public: \$20; Student/Child: free  
Conductor and Artistic Director Glen Cortese leads the orchestra in Ludwig Von Beethoven's "Coriolan Overture."

### "EENIE, MEENIE, MINEY, MIME!"

Thursday, March 2, 7 p.m.  
Continues March 3 and 4, 7 p.m.;  
March 4 and 5, 2 p.m.  
Bartlett Theatre, General Seating  
General Public: \$20 advance/\$25 door  
Student/Child: \$5 advance/\$10 door  
Step into the world of mime with this special Department of Theatre and Dance interactive production designed for children.  
The Walter Gloor Mainstage Series



### FREDONIA DANCE ENSEMBLE

Friday, March 24, 7:30 p.m.  
Continues March 25, 2 and 7:30 p.m.  
Marvel Theatre, Reserved Seating  
General Public: \$20 advance/\$25 door; Student/  
Child: \$5 advance/\$10 door  
The Fredonia Dance Ensemble returns for its 16th annual concert performance. Featuring choreography by faculty and guest artists, the Fredonia Dance Ensemble concert promises an unforgettable evening of dance.  
The Walter Gloor Mainstage Series

### "ROMEO AND JULIET"

Thursday, April 27, 7:30 p.m.  
Continues April 28 and 29, 7:30 p.m.;  
April 29 and 30, 2 p.m.  
Marvel Theatre, Reserved Seating  
General Public: \$20 advance/\$25 door  
Student/Child: \$5 advance/\$10 door  
Experience Shakespeare's timeless tale of ill-fated young lovers in an engaging production.  
The Walter Gloor Mainstage Series

### "LEAR" BY YOUNG JEAN LEE

Presented through special arrangement with Concord Theatricals.  
Thursday, May 4, 7:30 p.m.  
Continues May 5 and 6, 7:30 p.m.  
Marvel Theatre, Reserved Seating  
General Public: \$20 advance/\$25 door  
Student/Child: \$5 advance/\$10 door  
Described as "a collision" between Shakespeare's "King Lear," "Sesame Street," and playwright Young Jean Lee's own take on the dealing with a father's mortality, "Lear" focuses not on the aging Lear and Gloucester, but rather on their adult children who turned their backs on their father's suffering, in this absurdist tragedy.  
The Walter Gloor Mainstage Series



### WESTERN NEW YORK CHAMBER ORCHESTRA CLASSICS: MASTERWORKS

Sunday, May 7, 4 p.m.  
King Concert Hall  
General Public: \$20; Student/Child: free  
The Western New York Chamber Orchestra joins the Fredonia Chamber Choir, College Choir and Camerata for Mozart's "Ave Verum Corpus Requiem" and the world premiere of Conductor Glen Cortese's "Regina Coeli."



### COMMENCEMENT EVE POPS: THE MUSIC OF ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER

Friday, May 19, 7:30 p.m.  
King Concert Hall, Reserved Seating  
Level I: \$35; Level II: \$30; Level III: \$25;  
Level IV: \$20  
Webber dropped out of school to compose musicals and pop songs and had his first success with "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat." Three years later, he achieved fame with his rock opera "Jesus Christ Superstar." Now Rockefeller Arts Center's Commencement Eve Pops, a tradition dating back 30-plus years, pays tribute to the works of Lloyd Webber. Some of Fredonia's very best student vocalists join with the Western New York Chamber Orchestra and the Fredonia Chamber Choir for selections from "Phantom of the Opera," "Evita," "Jesus Christ Superstar," "Cats," "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat," "Sunset Boulevard" and more!  
The DFT Communications Pops Series

## ART EXHIBITS

### CATHY AND JESSE MARION ART GALLERY

Gallery Hours: Closed Monday, Tuesday to Thursday, noon to 4 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, noon to 6 p.m.; and Sunday, noon to 4 p.m.

### DEPARTMENT OF VISUAL ARTS AND NEW MEDIA FACULTY EXHIBITION

Tuesday, Jan. 24 through Sunday, Feb. 19  
Artwork in a variety of two and three-dimensional mediums by current faculty in Fredonia's Department of Visual Arts and New Media will be featured.  
Reception: Friday, Jan. 27, 6 to 9 p.m.



Shan Goshorn, "Two Views," 2018

### MIS/COMMUNICATION: THE POWER OF LANGUAGE IN CONTEMPORARY ART

Tuesday, Feb. 28 through Sunday, April 16  
Curated by Amy Kahng, the exhibition examines a variety of communication issues such as the global predominance of English; the colonial violence of European languages in the global south; and the societal tendency to censure other languages, dialects and linguistic practices. Participating artists consider spoken and written language as defined by national or cultural linguistic traditions like Korean, Spanish, and Portuguese; indigenous languages like Bété, Cherokee, and Marra; as well as non-verbal and non-standard communication like American Sign Language, performative body language, "academic speak," and Artificial Intelligence voice recognition programs.  
Reception: Friday, March 3, 6 to 9 p.m.

### SENIOR SHOW

Friday, April 21 through Sunday, May 7  
The student exhibition will feature artwork in a variety of mediums by graduating seniors in the Department of Visual Arts and New Media.  
Reception: Friday, April 21, 6 to 9 p.m.



**SCHOOL OF MUSIC**

(LS) indicates live streaming of event (subject to change) through the link found at [www.fredonia.edu/music/live](http://www.fredonia.edu/music/live)  
All events are free unless otherwise noted.

**ENSEMBLE/RECITAL PERFORMANCES**

Open to the public and all are at 8 p.m., unless otherwise noted.

**KING CONCERT HALL****WEDNESDAY, FEB. 22**

Fredonia Wind Orchestra and Fredonia Symphonic Winds (LS)

**SATURDAY, MARCH 4 AND APRIL 29**

Fredonia Wind Ensemble (LS)

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8 AND****SATURDAY, MAY 6**

Fredonia College Symphony Orchestra (LS)

**SATURDAY, APRIL 15**

Fredonia Camerata and University Chorus (LS)

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19, 6:30 P.M.**

WNY New Horizons Band

**THURSDAY, APRIL 20**

Fredonia Symphonic Winds (LS)

**TUESDAY, APRIL 25**

Fredonia Wind Orchestra (LS)

**ROSCH RECITAL HALL****TUESDAY, FEB. 21 AND MONDAY, APRIL 3, AT 8 P.M.; WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19, 6 P.M.**

Fredonia Student Keyboard Association presents: Piano Recital

**SUNDAY, FEB. 26, 1 P.M.**

Visiting Violin Series: Master Class: Markus Placci, violin

**SUNDAY, FEB. 26, 4 P.M.**

Visiting Violin Series: Markus Placci, violin

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1**

Puerto Rico Benefit Concert (LS)

**TUESDAY, MARCH 7 AND APRIL 18**

Fredonia Jazz Orchestra (LS)

**TUESDAY, MARCH 28**

Fredonia Brass Chamber Music/Brass Choir (LS)

**THURSDAY, MARCH 30**

Fredonia Flute Ensemble (LS)

**FRIDAY, MARCH 31**

Fredonia Woodwind Chamber Ensembles (LS)

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5**

Fredonia Clarinet Ensemble (LS)

**THURSDAY, APRIL 6**

Fredonia Chamber Made Guitar

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12**

Fredonia Percussion Ensemble (LS)

**THURSDAY, APRIL 13**

Fredonia Guitar Quartets and Ensemble (LS)

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19**

Fredonia Trombone Choir (LS)

**MONDAY, APRIL 24**

Fredonia Chamber Orchestra (LS)

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26**

Fredonia African Drumming Ensemble (LS)

**THURSDAY, APRIL 27**

Fredonia Chamber Choir and Fredonia College Choir (LS)

**FRIDAY, APRIL 28**

String Chamber Ensembles (LS)

**TUESDAY, MAY 2**

Fredonia World Mallets Ensemble (LS)

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 3**

Fredonia New Jazz Orchestra (LS)

**THURSDAY, MAY 4**

Fredonia Saxophone Quartets and Ensemble (LS)

**DIERS RECITAL HALL****SUNDAY, MARCH 5**

Fredonia Jazz Combos (LS)

**FRIDAY, MARCH 31, 7 P.M.**

Music Therapy Showcase

**FRIDAY, MAY 5, 5 P.M.**

Viola Studio Recital (Studio of Associate Professor David Rose)

**SUNDAY, MAY 7**

Fredonia Jazz Combos (LS)

**SPECIAL EVENTS**

(Some require tickets/fees/registration, see the School of Music website at [fredonia.edu/music](http://fredonia.edu/music))

**FREDONIA OBOE DAY**

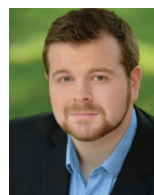
Sunday, March 5

Mason Hall

Open to high school students. Led by Dr. Sarah Hamilton, students will spend the day in workshops, master classes, reed making classes, performance groups and more. Register online: [www.fredonia.edu/music/community/oboe-day](http://www.fredonia.edu/music/community/oboe-day)

**WILLIAMS VISITING PROFESSOR/SCHOOL OF MUSIC ALUMNUS KYLE VAN SCHOONHOVEN RESIDENCY**

From March 27 to April 14 for classes, workshops, and master classes with students. Check the university online Events Calendar for more details closer to the event.

**"THE MAGIC FLUTE" WITH THE BUFFALO PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA AND FREDONIA ALUMNI**

Saturday, April 22, 7:30 p.m., and Sunday, April 23, 2:30 p.m.

Kleinhans Music Hall, Buffalo, N.Y.

The Buffalo Philharmonic and SUNY Fredonia's Hillman Opera program join to celebrate Mozart's beautiful fairy tale opera in a semi-staged performance of the cherished, lighthearted masterpiece. SUNY Distinguished Teaching Professor Julie Newell is producer, Professor Paul Mockovak is stage director, Dr. Adam Luebke is chorus master, and Voice faculty member James Harrington will perform the role of Sarastro. Alumni performing include Mary Hangle, John Tiranno, Lucia (Helgren) Flowers, Margaret Eighmey, Stephanie Foley Davis, Amanda Bottoms, Jordan Pitts and Katherine Joslyn. Students include Abigail Brudz, Alexandra Bastian and Erin Colaluca. Tickets: [www.bpo.org](http://www.bpo.org)

**FREDONIA SCHOOL OF MUSIC ANNUAL CONCERTO COMPETITION (LS)**

Sunday, April 30, 1 p.m.

King Concert Hall

**FREDONIA HARP DAY**

Sunday, May 7

Mason Hall

Specifically designed for harpists of all ages and all levels. The no-stress day includes harp ensemble rehearsals and performances, a special guest recital by an American Harp Society National Competition winner, lunch, a t-shirt, and a chance to meet and mingle with other harpists. Participants can play as many or as few of the pieces as they like; harp ensemble repertoire will be sent when registration is received. Register online: [www.fredonia.edu/music/community/fredonia-harp-day](http://www.fredonia.edu/music/community/fredonia-harp-day)

**FREDONIA SCHOOL OF MUSIC CONVOCATION AND AWARDS CEREMONY (LS)**

Friday, May 12, 3 p.m.

Rosch Recital Hall



# Homecoming Highlights

- 1 The ribbon-cutting for the newly renovated Houghton Hall, which completes the Fredonia Science Complex, was attended by students, faculty/staff, emeriti and alumni.
- 2 Alumni Outstanding Achievement Award recipients (far left) Sean Kirst, '81, (English) and Cecelia Howe Fordham, '59, (Speech and Drama) with President Stephen H. Kolison Jr. (second from left) and Fredonia Alumni Association President Greg Gibbs, '71.
- 3 Members of the Class of 1992 enjoy being together at the Homecoming tent on a gorgeous fall day.
- 4 President Kolison offers remarks at the Scholars Brunch, conducted by the Fredonia College Foundation to honor over 100 benefactors and scholarship recipients, held in Cranston Marchè.
- 5 The "Much More Chill" a cappella group performs during the pep rally held in the Steele Hall arena.
- 6 Student Association President Illene Thompson offers remarks at the Houghton Hall ribbon-cutting and dedication.
- 7 Joining in the ribbon-cutting for the Gestwicki Conference Room in Houghton Hall are (from left) Dean of Liberal Arts and Sciences Andy Karafa, Project Shepherd and Professor Emeritus Holly Lawson, President Kolison; and Thomas, '70, and Andrea (Beatty) Gestwicki, '74, representing their family.
- 8 Alumnus Dennis Costello, '72, shares his wisdom with current students in the Fredonia Science Center.
- 9 Homecoming royalty Makayla Barone (left) and Kasi Williams celebrate in Steele Hall.
- 10 Class of 1990 classmates.
- 11 Joey Molland (far right) from the former rock group, Badfinger, performs with SUNY Fredonia Music Industry program coordinator Armand Petri, '81, on drums, and Paul Davie on keyboard.
- 12 Members of the EnFusion dance group entertain during the Steele Hall pep rally.
- 13 The Gilman Petrology Lab in Houghton Hall, endowed through the Fredonia College Foundation by Dr. Anne B. Lutz, '67, and John H. Barnes, '68, is dedicated, with Professor Emeritus Richard Gilman (fourth from right) in attendance.
- 14 Saturday's festivities culminated with a performance by the Fredonia College Symphony, with featured artists and School of Music faculty members Drs. Natasha Fary and Eliran Avni, in King Concert Hall. A composition written by Avner Dorman for piano and cello was premiered. The piece was dedicated to the School of Music and the Class of 1966 by alumnus Christian Granger.









# Your FRED Stories

Every Fredonia graduate has a story. In each edition of the *Statement*, we will showcase where Fredonia alumni are now and how their Fredonia experience helped them get there. Have a story you want us to consider featuring? Go to [www.fredonia.edu/my-story](http://www.fredonia.edu/my-story) and tell us your story.



## Bill Filipiak, '88 (second from right)

Major: Communication

**Where are you now?** In March 2022, I was promoted to Director of Production for Opry Entertainment Group in Nashville, Tenn. I oversee production for Opry, Ryman, Ole Red and WSM radio as well as production of television series development for shows that air on Circle TV and other networks. I've been a producer/director here since 2018 and continue to produce programming/content in my new role.

**How did Fredonia prepare you?** Without question, my time devoted to WCVF radio paved the way for my career. But SUNY Fredonia in general provided me hands-on experience as a freshman. That's something a lot of larger schools don't provide. And of course, my mentor Dan Berggren, was instrumental in preparing me for life after college and how to approach the world professionally. Being in a college band, reggae Sundays outside the Campus Center, 10-cent wings at Rooney's...so many great memories!

## Lauren Carnahan, '05

Majors: Social Studies, Adolescence Education and History

**Where are you now?** I'm living in the Albany, N.Y., area and working for the New York State Education Department in the Office of State Assessment. My current title — Assistant in Instructional Services: Social Studies 7-12. This involves working on the N.Y.S. Social Studies Regents exams.

**How did Fredonia prepare you?** Fredonia prepared me to meet new people, work hard, and also go above and beyond what my initial goals were in life.







**Tom Tette, '91**

**Major:** Accounting

**Where are you now?** Managing Partner of Allied Financial Partners with offices across Western New York.

**How did Fredonia prepare you?** Professors and students always encouraged a “never give up” attitude.



**Elizabeth George, '21**

**Majors:** Public Relations and Art History

**Where are you now?** I am currently working as a Perlu Digital Outreach Specialist for Terakeet in Syracuse, N.Y. My duties have consisted of aiding the planning and execution of influencer marketing campaigns through research, outreach, and teamwork. I've even had the privilege of helping to optimize Perlu.com's layout and influencer marketing strategies, and have also curated content for their blog and social media channels. As an added bonus, I also help to create content on the side for A to Z Sports Nashville, a media company that covers the Tennessee Titans.

**How did Fredonia prepare you?** My SUNY Fredonia education provided a strong foundation for me to flourish in the career world. Double majoring was extremely hard considering all of the other responsibilities I had on my plate, but it allowed me to develop into a strong, well-rounded person. The critical thinking and writing skills that I picked up from my rigorous art history classes have continued to serve me daily. Not to mention, I picked up quite a bit of communication skills and industry knowledge from my upbeat Public Relations courses too.

All in all, I am very thankful for SUNY Fredonia, as it has allowed me to become the person I am today. Not only did this school set the stage for me to get hired right after graduation, but it also has provided me with strength, priceless memories, and above all, wonderful friendships that will last a lifetime.





## 1950s

**Edward McClenathan, '56**, (elem. ed.) is currently working on ATO (Adjusted Traditional Orthography), his phonetic alphabet for teaching reading. Ed noted that Professor Emeritus Richard Sheil was responsible for computerizing the symbols, and that it has been tested in a local school district. Those interested in hearing more can reach him through the Fredonia Alumni Office.

**John "Jack" Carpenter, '57**, (music ed.) has been retired for 27 years from teaching and school administration in Indiana. He and his wife, Joyce, are still active in their rental property business and were married 60 years in June 2022.

**Dr. Stephen "Steve" Lazar, '59**, (speech) spent 43 years as Dean

## 1970s

**Carol "Stash" Stanley, '71**, (theatre) inventor of the LaceLocker, offered a YouDoShoe campaign on her Etsy site. She lives in Charlottesville, Va., and is a member of the Fredonia Alumni Association Board of Directors.

**Marilyn Barnes Pecoraro-O'Connell, '72**, (math. sec. ed.) is celebrating 25 years since opening Wild Birds Unlimited in Blasdell, N.Y. Her daughter, Danielle Pecoraro, who joined her as a co-owner in 2005, now runs the day-to-day operations while Marilyn spends seven months of the year in Naples, Fla., with her husband of 26 years, Tom O'Connell, and the rest of the time in Silver Creek.

**Chris (Wilber) Howard, '73**, (speech and hear. hand.) has had a career as

"I miss all my friends from Disney Hall and hope that their careers have been as fulfilling as mine."

**Barbara (Trill) Ricotta, '77**, (elem. ed.) retired at the end of June 2022 after 25 years as Dean of Students at the State University at Buffalo, and 38 years overall at the university, beginning in 1984 as assistant to the Director of Student information Systems.

**Ray McCabe, J.D., '79**, (soc. stds. sec. ed.) was named to 2023 Edition of The Best Lawyers in America. He specializes in Employee Benefits (ERISA) Law in the Buffalo office of Barclay Damon LLP.

**William Wilson, '79**, (bus. admin.), retired as a Colonel from the U.S. Army and is the owner of a successful security business contracting with the U.S.

and works with her two sons. The company, founded in 2013, was recently awarded #1 food truck in Western New York by *Buffalo Spree Magazine*, and has grown to three trucks and a café.

**Wendy Corsi Staub's, '86**, (English) fifth title in her Lily Dale Mystery series, "The Stranger Vanishes," was released in October 2022.

**Gregory M. Hennessey, '86**, (art) is an Account Director at Marketing Tech in Buffalo, N.Y., and recently started a podcast, "In the Flamingo Lounge," with RockabillyGreg. The podcast focuses on musicians and music industry professionals from Buffalo and Western New York. A recent guest was the family of SUNY Fredonia Professor Emeritus Walter S. Hartley. Episodes can be found at Google and Apple Podcasts, as well as Spotify.



SUNY Distinguished Service Professor Emeritus Robert J. Spitzer, '75,



Ray McCabe, '79



William Wilson, '79



at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine in New York City, and 13 Years as Executive Dean of the Sackler School of Medicine, Tel Aviv University in Israel (American Medical Program). He lives in New York City and travels to Israel every few weeks, adding, "Still working! Still in contact with my Antwerp 'family' every week since 1962! Still in contact with Fredonia friends!" He has also been married to Dr. Marlene Lazar for over 51 years.

## 1960s

**Dr. Eugene Alexander, '64**, (elem. ed.) is fully retired and lives in Merrick, N.Y., and Phoenix, Ariz., with his wife of 56 years, Sandy. They have two grown daughters and four grandchildren.

**Rebecca (Gifford) Bennett, '69**, (English) in retirement is enjoying time to travel, including visiting her daughter in Paris.

a speech pathologist, is very active in community theatre, and is in the process of creating a documentary about local activists after founding Surefooted Films, a not-for-profit company.

**SUNY Distinguished Service Professor Emeritus Robert J. Spitzer, '75**, (pol. sci.) is the author of a new book published by Oxford University Press, "The Gun Dilemma: How History is Against Expanded Gun Rights." The book examines the new, more aggressive gun rights movement that has resulted in an expansion of Second Amendment rights by the Supreme Court in 2022. The book is Dr. Spitzer's 16th, and sixth on gun policy. He retired from SUNY Cortland in Fall 2021.

**Anthony J. Crupi, '77**, (econ.) has been working for the New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision for 27 years after 14 years in banking. He noted,

government. He is a survivor of the 9/11 attack upon the Pentagon. Single, he is the parent of two adopted children from Korea.

## 1980s

**Sean Kirst '81**, (English) a columnist with *The Buffalo News*, received two awards — a first place for Sports Writing and second place in the Columns category — from the Journalists Association of New York. His columns, according to the judge, focus on "detailed portraits of ordinary people emboldened by extraordinary circumstances." The awards were announced at JANY's annual banquet in October 2022.

**The Rev. Mark Swanson, '83**, (history) is the new pastor of the First Lutheran Church of Jamestown.

**Simone Fancher, '85**, (sociology) owns the Cheesy Chick Cafe and food trucks in Williamsville, N.Y.,

**Deneen Hernandez, '86**, (pol. sci.) was selected as the American Indian Science and Engineering Society's (AISES) 2022 Professional of the Year.

**Bro. Peter Veitch, OSB, '86**, (art) taught art for 32 years and retired in October 2021, after which he traveled to Posznan, Poland, to profess solemn vows in the Benedictines of Holy Wisdom, affiliated with the Ecumenical Catholic Communion. He has been given the religious name of Claudio, after Blessed Claudio Granzotto, a Franciscan friar and artist.

**Ron Wachenheim, '87**, (bus. admin./finance) celebrated his 35th anniversary working for New York State government in September 2022, in five different New York State agencies including the Office of General Services (OGS), Department of Corrections and Community Services (Corcraft),



Attorney General's Office, Office of Addiction Services and Supports (OASAS); and currently, with the Department of Financial Services (DFS). He has been in the contracts and procurement/purchasing field his entire career, and progressed from being a trainee at OGS to Director of Contracts while at OASAS, and is currently a Contracts Manager at DFS.

**U.S. Attorney for the Western District of New York Trini E. Ross, '88**, (sociology) was named Lawyer of the Year by the Bar Association of Erie County (N.Y.).

**New York State Sen. Sean M. Ryan, '88**, (elem. ed.) was elected a seat in the re-drawn 61<sup>st</sup> New York State Senate District. He previously served the 60<sup>th</sup> Senate District since 2020, and served in the New York State Assembly from 2011 to 2020.

Dr. David Rudari, '83, (left) is joined by Professor of Music and School of Music Interim Director Emeritus Daniel Ihasz and former School of Music faculty member Margaret Chalker at the Civic Morning Musicals Vocal Competition at Onondaga Community College. Dr. Rudari was the on-site chair of the event, and is Associate Professor of Music and Director of Choral Ensembles at OCC.

## 1990s

**Patricia (Shea) Juliano, '91**, (psych.) was named 2022 Nurse of the Year at Lakewood Ranch Medical Center. She lives in Bradenton, Fla.

**Samuel Haynes, '91, '94**, (English) has been appointed Associate Vice President of Student Affairs at Arapahoe Community College in Littleton, Colo. He previously served as Vice President for Student Life and Dean of Students at Bethel College, Drew University and Scripps College.

**Dave Wedekindt, '94**, (bus. admin.) was promoted to Vice President at Artpark in Lewiston, N.Y., where he has worked since 2018. He was also recently elected as President of the board of directors for Arts Services of WNY.

**Dr. Tracy Feiertag, '95**, (psych.) is a nationally ranked darts player — reported in August 2022

## 50-year anniversary class photos from Homecoming



**Class of 1970** (left to right) front row: Susan (Hacker) Blish, Virginia (Nilan) Schumacher and Deborah (Clark) Dugan; back row: Lance Durban, Michael Kern, William Cain, Robert Vandemark, David Wiens, Charles Rice and Ronald Tyrrell.



**Class of 1971** (left to right) front row: Janet (Sibley) Evert, Michaelene Comerford, Marcia Hohenstein Tyrrell, Toby (Shakin) Vandemark, Linda (Ferry) Precht, Joyce Conciardo and Anna Marie (Jones) Rice; back row: Linda Quaranto, Mary (Cronin) Featherly, Dianne (Thompson) Morrisette, Walter Levy, Fred Guerriero, Michael Wilson, Greg Gibbs, Mark Constantino, Edward Finger, Wayne "Lizard" Spitz, Bernard Payne, Robert Dando, James McLeod, William Marks, Kathleen Piersons, Cynthia (Darling) Finger and Anne Schepp.



**Class of 1972** (left to right) front row: Vonnie (Taylor) Benitz, Carol (Catryle) Tarshin, Kathleen (Bills) Spitz, Cheryl Freed, Esther McMillan, Nancy Lesko and Susan (Padley) Cecere; back row: Kathy (Mueller) Fox, William Giannone, Gary Crow-Willard, Guy Devitt, Larry Bernhard, George Monroe, Randy Cronk, Burton Perry, Joel Gonzales, Christopher Willoughby, Vincent Bonafede, Dennis Costello and Cheryl (Keyes) Brinkman.



**Take Note:**

We are always looking for announcements of marriages and children—and photos!

📧 [www.fredonia.edu/my-story](http://www.fredonia.edu/my-story)

to be sixth in the U.S. She is also Deputy Assistant Director at Phelps Hospital in Sleepy Hollow, N.Y., and Director of Cancer Initiatives for the Northwell Westchester Region.

**Gregory Borowski, '97**, (commun.) just completed his second semester as an adjunct at the State University at Buffalo teaching a Product Management class to MIS students in the School of Business. He is also coming up on five years at ACV Auctions Inc in Buffalo, N.Y., where he is Vice President of Product Management.

**Stacy Kraus McDonald, '97**, (pol. sci.) represented SUNY Fredonia

playing the role of Headmaster Marrow. He also was in the company's national premiere of "The Wheel."

**Casey Jakubowski, '98**, (soc. studies sec. ed., history) is co-author of the new book, "Crushing it From the Start, 50 Tips for New Teachers." He has donated copies of his three books to Reed Library and the College of Education.

**Charlie Post, '98**, (sound rec. tech., music-applied) was nominated for a 2023 GRAMMY, along with Shawn Murphy and Gary Rydstrom, as engineers on "Bates: Philharmonia Fantastique — The Making Of The Orchestra," by Edwin Outwater and the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, for Best Engineered Album, Classical.

**Mary Elizabeth Smith, '98**, (elem. ed./soc. stds.) was named Director of Children's Programs at the

Specialist for the Lake Erie Regional Grape Program.

**2010s**

**Mary Holland-Bavis, '10**, (pol. sci.) from Ithaca, N.Y., represented SUNY Fredonia at the inauguration of Ithaca College's 10<sup>th</sup> president, Dr. La Jerne Terry Cornish, in October 2022.

**Joe Ianaconi, '10, '12**, (music ed., music perf.) received the New York State School Music Association's (NYSSMA) Early Career Achievement Award. He teaches at St. Regis Falls (N.Y.) Central School District.

**Wade Weatherlow, '10**, (bus. admin./mgmt.) is President at the Jamestown Community College Foundation.

**Dr. Carrie Pawelski, '11**, (music perf.) was named a quarterfinalist for the 2023 Music Educator of the Year

**Carrie Johnstone, '14**, (psych.) was promoted to Executive Director of Vincroft Retirement Community in Clarence Center, N.Y., a Heritage Ministries independent living community.

**Vaughn Faison, '15**, (music-applied) is a member of the a cappella group, Kings Return, which earned a 2023 GRAMMY nomination for its arranger, Matt Cusson, for the tune, "How Deep is Your Love," in the category of Best Arrangement, Instrumental or A Cappella.

**Michael Hawk, '16**, (music perf.) received a 2022 Emerging Artist Award from Opera Index in October 2022.

**Casey Swartz, '16**, (interdis. stds./exer. sci.) was named Head Coach of SUNY Corning Community College's men's and women's cross country teams.



Simone Fancher, '85



Gregory M. Hennessey, '86



Samuel Haynes, '91, '94



Friends from the classes of 1988 and 1989 at Bethany Beach, Del.

at the inauguration of Temple University's 12<sup>th</sup> president, Dr. Jason Wingard, in September 2022.

**Randy Merrill, '97**, (sound rec. tech.) was mastering engineer for six 2023 GRAMMY-nominated entries including Adele's "Easy on Me" and Harry Styles' "As It Was," for Record of the Year.

**Brian Walsh, '97**, (bus. admin.) was promoted to Vice President/Director, Assistant Treasurer, at ESL Federal Credit Union.

**Phil Aguglia, '98**, (music ed.) who teaches at Kenmore East High School, was named a Finalist for the 2023 Music Educator of the Year award presented by the Recording Academy and GRAMMY Museum.

**La Shawn Banks, '98**, (mus. theatre) was in the Steppenwolf Theatre Company production of "Choir Boy,"

Francis Center in Niagara Falls, N.Y.

**2000s**

**Marcy (Bates) Fitzpatrick, '02**, (theatre/prod. design) spent the summer as the Wardrobe Supervisor for Chautauqua Theatre Company at Chautauqua Institution. She enjoyed collaborating with many Fredonia students, alumni, faculty and staff, noting, "It was refreshing to be surrounded by Fredonians and trade stories." She is currently a freelance wardrobe supervisor and dresser located in Youngstown, Ohio.

**Jennifer Phillips Russo, '05**, (biology) was the keynote speaker at Urban Rural Day in Westfield, with a presentation on the Spotted Lanternfly invasive species. She is Cornell's Viticulture Extension

award presented by the Recording Academy and GRAMMY Museum. She is band director at Jefferson Middle School in Jamestown and has been an adjunct faculty member in the Fredonia School of Music.

**Maxwell C. Radley, '13**, (econ., pol. sci.) became an Associate in the Business Services and Economic Development & Public Incentives practice groups at Hurwitz Fine P.C.

**Amanda Lynn Bottoms, '14**, (music perf.) was a second-year Santa Fe Opera apprentice during the summer of 2022 and covered the role of Carmen. She will perform in an upcoming Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra production of "The Magic Flute" and the Akron (Ohio) Symphony performance of Mahler's Symphony No. 3.

**William Steadman, '16**, (music perf.) is teaching full time as the Department Chair of Music, Visual, and Performing Arts at Cathedral Preparatory School in Erie, Pa., and has founded classes including Pep Band, Developmental Band, Acting and Stagecraft, and Orchestra. He has a private voice studio, is cantor at St. Paul's Lutheran Church and conducts the Gannon University Concert and Jazz Bands.

**Lucia (Helgren) Flowers, '17**, (music perf., arts admin.) was the soprano soloist at the Buffalo Philharmonic Chorus performance in December 2022 of Handel's "Messiah" at Our Lady of Victory Basilica in Lackawanna, N.Y.

**Madeline Friedler, '19**, (history) was named Deputy Director of the Livingston County (N.Y.) Historian's Office.





The 1970s Reunion Jazz Ensemble played at Homecoming, including alumni (left to right), front row: Russ Carere, Rich Nunemaker, Paul Stencil, Patti Dunham, John Hasselback, Don Carducci, Don Knecht and Dave Long; back row: Dave Cohen, John Maguda, Dave Pratt, John Cooley, Will Sprague, Charlie LeCount, Niles Dening, Bob King, Jayd Mollnar and Craig Fattley.



Dave Wedekindt, '94



Gregory Borowski, '97



Casey Jakubowski, '98



William Steadman, '16

## 2020s

**John Carroll, '20**, (music comp.) wrote a micro-opera, "Troubleshooting," which premiered in November 2022. He earned a master's degree from the Tisch School of the Arts in 2022.

**Patrick Ryan, '20**, (commun./journalism) was promoted to News Reporter at WIVB-TV Ch. 4 in Buffalo, N.Y.

## Deaths\*

### ALUMNI

**Marion (Nixon) Crowe**,  
Class of 1940

**Caroline Margaret Wood**,  
Class of 1948

**Garrett Donald "Don" Rathgeber**,  
Class of 1952

**Dr. Charles C. Burnsworth**,  
Class of 1953

**Eugenia "Jean" M. (Jakubowski) Kaczor**,  
Class of 1953

**Carol D. Mead**, Class of 1953

**Bonnalyn "Bonnie" E. Reynolds**,  
Class of 1954

**Fay M. (Lange) Schotz**,  
Class of 1954

**Sandra Y. Fleischer**, Class of 1958

**Linda B. Hall**, Class of 1960

**Richard Clark**, Class of 1963

**Sandra K. (Okerlund) DuBois**,  
Class of 1963

**Carole A. (Rothra) Faust**,  
Class of 1963

**Patricia (Meiklejohn) Few**,  
Class of 1963

**Linda (Loessi) Holtz**, Class of 1964

**John "Jack" David Martindale**,  
Class of 1964

**Frank R. Giuliani Giancola**,  
Class of 1966

**Mary Jane (Malinowski) Miga**,  
Class of 1966

**Carol (Thompson) Tornquist**,  
Class of 1966

**David "Dave" C. Dunbar**,  
Class of 1968

**Pauline Frances (Sledzinski) Muth**,  
Class of 1968

**Cynthia A. (Davidson) Fish**,  
Class of 1969

**John G. Markott III**, Class of 1969

**Robert "Bob" J. Hurley**,  
Class of 1970

**Barry Noble Kolpien**, Class of 1970

**Ann Maria Young**, Class of 1970

**Richard Witt Clifton**, Class of 1971

**Kathleen A. Walczak**, Class of 1971

**Kevin N. Brinkman**, Class of 1972

**Marjorie A. (Brennan) Foxton**,  
Class of 1972

**William "Bill" J. Baggiano**,  
Class of 1973

**Linda (Thomas) Scotty**,  
Class of 1973

**Karon Cogdill**, Class of 1974

**Natalie (Osborne) McGroder**,  
Class of 1974

**Brian M. Colvin**, Class of 1975

**April Malinverni Pezzolla**,  
Class of 1975

**Elizabeth E. (Ross) Schnebel**,  
Class of 1975

**Barbara "BJ" Burkett**,  
Class of 1977

Continued ►



**Take Note:**

We love it when the Fredonia family grows! We are always looking for announcements of marriages and children — and photos! We look forward to hearing from you at

📧 [www.fredonia.edu/my-story](http://www.fredonia.edu/my-story)

**Janet (Lesch) Schmonsky,**  
Class of 1977

**Kathleen “Kathy” (Messer) Bell,**  
Class of 1978

**William F. Birk,** Class of 1979

**Jon R. Thomas,** Class of 1979

**William F. Duncanson IV,**  
Class of 1980

**Timothy W. Halas,** Class of 1980

**Thomas Peter Leonard,**  
Class of 1981

**Elizabeth “Beth” (Bestercy) LaFantano,** Class of 1982

**Henry “Hank” J. LoDestro,**  
Class of 1982

**Kimberley Ann (Jones) Grant,**  
Class of 1984

**Carol V. Sandt-Brick,** Class of 1985

**Judith Ellen (Williams) Schindler,**  
Class of 1985

**Alan L. Stewart,** Class of 1987

**Joanna (Federico) Cox,**  
Class of 1994

**Bruce Ferry,** Class of 1996

**Elizabeth M. (Schiedel) Littere,**  
Class of 2002

**Michele “Mickie” A. (Matecki) Muirhead,** Class of 2003

**FACULTY/EMERITI**

**Dr. Robert “Bob” Dean Klassen,**  
Chair, Department of Theatre and Dance, 1984–1999; Professor, 1999–2020

**Dr. Bruce Klonsky,** Fellow, AASP; Professor, Department of Psychology, 1992–2022

**STAFF/RETIRED STAFF**

**Gary Cady,** Cleaner/Groundsman/ Senior Grounds Worker, 1975–2010

**Ronald P. LaDolce Jr.,** Cleaner, 2002–2015

**William “Bill” M. Paige,** Structural Trades, Facilities Services, 1982–2002

**Gilbert “Gil” H. Seekings,** Plant Utilities Engineer, Facilities Services/ HVAC, 1986–2010

\*Memorials may be directed to a scholarship established with the Fredonia College Foundation. See [fredonia.edu/foundation](http://fredonia.edu/foundation).

**Births**

A daughter, Lucy, to Melissa and **Adam Kane, '90** (acting).

**We really want to stay in touch with you! Please send your updated email address to [alumni.office@fredonia.edu](mailto:alumni.office@fredonia.edu)**



SUNY Fredonia greatly values and appreciates our Alumni community! However, due to recent changes imposed by Google that went into effect on July 1, 2022, the campus can no longer offer SUNY Fredonia Alumni fredonia.edu Gmail accounts or access to other Google Workspace apps.

Prior to July 1, 2022, Alumni were notified that they would have to transfer or move their files from their Fredonia Google Workspace Apps (e.g FREDmail, Drive, etc.) to their personal apps before the July 1 deadline.

Google notified all of its customers that they would be changing their storage policies from unlimited data storage for all users to a limited domain-wide quota. In order to maintain and secure critical university business services, the university needs to pay for all Google Workspace account storage and pay for protecting the accounts with Duo Multi-Factor Authentication moving forward.

Students graduating from Fredonia at the end of the Spring 2022 semester or December 2021 semester have access to their fredonia.edu Google Workspace account (e.g .FREDmail and Drive, etc.) for two years after their graduation date.

Fredonia will continue to provide all Alumni access to their eServices account (User ID and Password) to access other appropriate SUNY Fredonia services as needed.

For more information regarding the Fredonia Google Workspace changes, please visit the Fredonia Google Workspace Storage FAQs online at <https://tinyurl.com/epf2zeku>

You can also provide us with your personal email address by logging into YourConnection at <https://connect.fredonia.edu/yourconnection/> clicking on the Personal Information tab and taking the following steps:

- Click on the “View Email Addresses” tab
- Then, in the middle of the page click on the link “Update Alumni Email Address”
- Enter your personal email address
- Then, select “Update”

**Request for contact information and announcement for Geosciences 60th Anniversary**

Includes those who participated formally or informally with geosciences:

- Earth Science Education
- Environmental Science
- Geochemistry
- Geographic Information Systems
- Geophysics
- Special or Independent Studies

Please celebrate with geoscience alumni, faculty, emeriti, students, and friends at **Homecoming 2023.**

**Saturday Evening, Oct. 21**

Planning and holding this event will take much work and time, so we need to begin early to announce the date and to establish contact information. Please help us with contact information.

Will you share this announcement via email or U.S. Post or greeting cards or personal contact with geo alumni or friends? Current faculty, administration, available emeriti, and a core group of alumni have begun planning for the event.

Please send all updated contact information, including any employment information to the Alumni Office, 286 Central Ave, Fredonia, NY 14063 or [Alumni.Office@fredonia.edu](mailto:Alumni.Office@fredonia.edu)

**Attention Fredonia Class of 1993!**

2023 marks 30 years since we graduated from SUNY Fredonia — can you believe it? With this in mind — it’s time for a reunion!

Please mark your calendar for Fredonia Homecoming on Oct. 20 to 21 and plan to reunite with fellow classmates and friends.

The ‘93 Reunion Committee of Scott Mekus, Brett Warren, Jennifer (Killenbeck) McElwain, Adam Kamlet and Lori (Zebraski) Leyendecker along with the Fredonia Alumni Affairs Office, is excited to plan a weekend of fun events and lasting memories.

The committee is looking for contact information (phone and email addresses) and past photos of the SUNY Fredonia Class of 1993 members, so please share message and forward information to Brett Warren at [brett.warren@excellus.com](mailto:brett.warren@excellus.com) or Scott Mekus at (716) 720-0564.

For more information, join the class Facebook page at Fredonia ‘93.

We’ll see you in the fall!



Class of 1993 classmates (from left) Scott Mekus, Judd Carey, Mike Dinunzio and Dave Elsom.



## Advice for job seekers from employers

The Career Development Office (CDO) works with employers in many different industries, and they often give us advice to share with students and alumni. Here are the top five suggestions from employers that will maximize your chances of getting an offer.

### 5 Know your strengths.

Questions like “Why should I hire you” or “What do you have to offer our organization” are actually asking about your strengths. Have three in mind, with a brief explanation or evidence to support them. Speak confidently about your strengths!

### 4 Know a weakness, and how to present it.

Only give one (unless asked), and always discuss how you have tried to address it. Don't call it a weakness; refer to it as something you are “trying to improve.” Admitting a weakness shows humility and self-awareness, and showing how you've worked on it indicates a commitment to self-improvement. Don't dodge this question!

### 3 Relate your experience and strengths to the job at hand.

In your cover letter, don't just restate items from your resume. Instead, relate those experiences to aspects of the job. Do the same in your interview answers, when the experiences you share can be paired to parts of the job description. The letter and the interview are not just about you — they're about how you fit their open position!

### 2 Do practice interviews.

Practicing your answers and discussing strategies for presenting your experiences will improve your confidence and delivery at the interview. Practice answering the “behavioral” questions that assess soft skills, such as forming relationships, building trust, and strengthening teams. CDO practice interviews are tailored to the profession and will help with some of the toughest questions.

### 1 Research the organization!

Employers want evidence that you have done your homework on them and are applying because you are a good match. Read the website, do an online search for news about the organization, and review any materials they share with you. Recruiters look favorably on who took some time with this step, but it's more than just making a good impression. This will help you decide whether you think the organization is a good fit for you.



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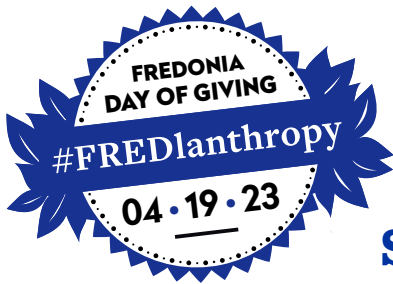
## FREDNetwork - powered by Handshake

Search for job opportunities in the CDO's FREDNetwork powered by Handshake. The career management system intuitively connects you to relevant job opportunities based on your profile, interests and search activity.

Login today at <https://fredonia.joinhandshake.com/register> to create your account and complete your profile so that you can put your best self forward to employers.

Call (716) 673-3327 Email [careers@fredonia.edu](mailto:careers@fredonia.edu) Web [www.fredonia.edu/cdo](http://www.fredonia.edu/cdo)





## Save the Date!

Thank you for making FREDlanthropy Day 2022 our best yet! With nearly 300 donors, our alumni and friends stepped up in a big way to help Fredonia. Your donations supported scholarships for deserving students, as well as the departments, programs and athletic teams you care about. While you may not have physically been on campus in a few years, your impact is still felt!

Our students celebrated FREDlanthropy by sharing some notes of gratitude. Prince Aziz said, "Fredonia was the first place I've felt like I had a home and that's only been possible through your financial contributions and donations. Once again, thank you. I greatly appreciate it." And Betty shared, "Thank you so much!! If it weren't for your generosity, I wouldn't be here."

Be sure to save the date for FREDlanthropy Day 2023, on April 19, when we hope to inspire even more of our alumni and friends to further their impact by supporting future generations of Fredonians.

