

UF Receives Bequest for Scholarships

The University of Findlay has received a \$1.9 million bequest from the estate of Emerson and Laura Pelton to endow student scholarships. The scholarships are for residents of Ohio who have excellent academic credentials and demonstrate financial need.

In 1993, the Peltons established the Pelton Scholarship Endowment Fund with a gift of stock. In 1995, they contributed their 120-acre farm near Bloomdale, Ohio, to the University in exchange for a charitable remainder annuity trust, which provided income to them for the rest of their lives and helped supplement their living expenses. Upon their deaths, the remainder

of their estate was to go into the endowment fund they had established earlier.

“We both feel very comfortable with what we have done, and are quite proud that we will be helping a number of people be more successful than they would have been otherwise,” the Peltons stated when they established the scholarship endowment in the early 1990s.



Emerson and Laura Pelton

The Pelton Scholarship Endowment Fund will be the largest

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Fall 2009 Commencement Concludes

Nearly 300 students graduated from The University of Findlay during fall commencement ceremonies at 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, in the Koehler Complex on campus.

Photos are available on the University’s Picasa Web album: <http://picasaweb.google.com/TheUniversityofFindlay>. Anyone can view, download and print photos from the site.

Daniel J. May, Ph.D., vice president of academic affairs, gave the commencement address. May joined the University in 1991 as an assistant professor and has served in his current position since 2004.

“Education can substitute for some experience, but real learning begins as you choose and reflect

upon the experiences which will educate you each and every day for the rest of your life,” he said. “You will need more teachers and mentors and ministers to continue to assist you. Note that they come in all guises and from stations above and around and below you.”

The University’s traditional Arch Ceremony immediately followed



Master of occupational therapy degree recipients Rachael Rufe, Michelle Mueller, Miranda Tippie, Alicia Hindall, Amanda Boyce and Amanda Wolford get ready for the processional.

commencement at the Griffith Memorial Arch.

Christmas Activities Complete Semester

Each year, the University community does more to give back to the greater Findlay community.

Christmas on Campus – The Hospitality Management Club, in partnership with many other student organizations, hosted the annual event Dec. 6, during which approximately 53 area children, age 11 months to 3 years, came to campus. Each child was paired with a UF student during the event.

Activities included elaborate face painting; games; crafts, such as creating a winter wonderland out of cotton balls and pipe cleaners and decorating Rudolph cupcakes; and having pictures taken with Santa. Each child received a gift that had been donated by faculty and staff members, and each family went home with a ham, compliments of the Hospitality Management Club.

Coats for Christmas – Donations of 103 gently used and new winter coats, as well as 220 pairs of

gloves, 138 hats, 14 scarves and two headbands, were collected through Dec. 4 from the campus community. The items were distributed through a city-wide event Dec. 12.

Deck the Trees – The Public Relations Student Society of America hosted its annual tree-decorating event Dec. 3. Student organizations decorated Christmas trees, which were on display in the AMU.

Toys for Tots – The toy collection effort on campus collected 312 toys and \$226. An open house was held in the AMU Dec. 2 at the close of the toy collection.



Kari Jesse, Nicholas Camiolo and Amanda Sundling, all hospitality management majors, pose for a photo during Christmas on Campus.

M. Binn

Operation Christmas Child –

This was the first year the University participated in the worldwide project. Approximately 210 boxes were donated, which will be sent around the world to children in need. The on-campus effort was led by student Katie Wilburn.

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endowed scholarship fund of the University. The Pelton Scholarship Endowment Fund will be the largest endowed scholarship fund of the University. Dr. DeBow Freed, president of The University of Findlay, noted that the generous spirit reflected by the Peltons is most admirable and the scholarships provided by the fund that they have established will be a living memorial to them. “These scholarships will help many, many deserving students at The University of Findlay in the future,” he said.

Emerson Pelton and Laura Myers grew up in Bloomdale. After attending Bowling Green State University, they grew crops and raised cattle on a farm near Bloomdale. Both had a lifelong love of horses, and they belonged for

many years to the Buckeye Horse Club in Findlay.

They cattle ranched for five years in Osage County near Bartlesville, Okla., and returned to farming in Ohio. Emerson also worked at Ohio Producers Livestock in Findlay. Emerson believed in leaving the land improved and earned county and state agricultural awards.

Later, they lived in Findlay, where Laura worked at the Alice Dress and Beauty Shop, a women’s dress shop located downtown.

After retiring, they traveled extensively and eventually relocated in 1985 to Green Valley, Ariz. They moved to a retirement village in Tucson, Ariz., in 1995. They had been married 62 years when Emerson died Feb. 27, 1999. Laura passed away July 5, 2009.

Emerson loved the land. He was

a successful farmer and a shrewd businessman. He was a person who was interested in doing things well, according to the Emersons’ niece, Rebecca Babcock of Findlay. A friend said Emerson was “a man of unwavering standards of integrity who could be meticulous about doing things right.”

Laura cooked, sewed clothes and costumes, played the organ for church, was an avid birdwatcher and was an accomplished amateur artist as demonstrated by her paintings and drawings.

Laura was a positive, upbeat person who enjoyed life, embraced each day and never complained, according to Charlie Shepard, campaign director and former director of development, who visited her many times in her Arizona home.

College of Business Helps Entrepreneurs

Earlier this month, the Small Business Development Center (SBDC) Region 3 at Rhodes State College donated NxLevel materials to the College of Business for use in business research classes taught by S. Chris Ward, Ed.D., associate professor, and Dan Yates, Ph.D., assistant professor.

During each semester, students may utilize the materials as reference guides to completing a business plan for a small business entrepreneur/owner or a non-profit organization in the local area.

The University will donate the materials it's been using to the Walter C. Potts Entrepreneur and

Training Center in Lima. The center uses its resources to help future minority entrepreneurs.

UF began its partnership with the SBDC to help small business owners three years ago and has helped more than 40 local businesses develop business plans.



Photo provided by S. Chris Ward

S. Chris Ward, Dan Yates, Craig Brown (SBDC adviser) and Kathleen Keller (SBDC director) meet in Shafer Library to discuss new business materials, donated to the College of Business by the SBDC.

Commencement Brings Smiles for Grads



Dr. DeBow Freed hands a scroll to Katelynn Bicklehaupt, who was recognized as one of only two Honors Scholars, as he congratulates her for completing requirements for a bachelor's degree.



A row of MBA graduates anxiously awaits for the commencement ceremonies to begin.



A group of friends celebrates their accomplishments following the Arch Ceremony on the front lawn.



Three graduates smile for the camera after walking through the Griffith Memorial Arch.

WLFC 88.3 FM Radio Plans Programming

The University of Findlay's radio station, WLFC 88.3 FM, will broadcast Christmas music 24 hours a day through Christmas day, Dec. 25.

Music includes traditional selections as performed by the UF Symphonic Band and the UF Concert-Chorale, as well as popular mainstream selections, from the theme song from *The Grinch* to tunes by the Chipmunks.

WLFC also will air an Orson Welles radio drama of "A Christ-

mas Carol" from 1938 and 1939 or a Festival of Lessons and Carols from King's College, Cambridge, England, at 1 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Basketball fans can catch the full schedule of men's and women's basketball games, which are streamed live at www.findlay.edu/pulse. Click the "WLFC listen live" icon at the



bottom of the page, and feel free to tell your friends about it, too!

UF Gives Children's Books Top Priority

As the home of the Mazza Museum, the University is no stranger to excellence in the realm of children's illustration. The Mazza has more than 3,600 original illustrations from authors/illustrators such as Theodore Geisel "Dr. Seuss," Maurice Sendak, "Where the Wild Things Are," Marc Brown, "Arthur," and Randolph Caldecott — among others.

Even aside from the astounding collection of illustrations within the walls of the museum, the University is an advocate of children's literature and literacy in other ways.

Many are familiar with the Caldecott Medal, which is awarded to the artist of the most distinguished American children's picture book. However, many are probably unaware that the University hosted its own version of a Caldecott committee in the beginning of December.

Melissa Cain, Ph. D., professor in the College of Education, put together a Caldecott read-in for graduate students as a mock version of the real Caldecott committee, which announces its choice for a winner in January.

"It's a great culminating experience for the students, and it's a good way for them to see what's new," said Cain. "We look at history, styles and trends ... the students read through the books and we vote based on a point system to see which book we think should win the medal."

Cain and her students aren't the only ones with a mission to find the most honorable children's books on campus.

Dec. 4 and 5, the United States Board on Books for Young People held an Outstanding International Books Committee meeting at the Mazza Museum with the goal to "produce a short (35-40 books) honor list of outstanding books published this year for children in grades K-12 and originating outside the United States."

The committee evaluated books based on the following criteria: represent the best of children's literature from other countries, introduce American readers to outstanding artists and writers from other countries, help American children see the world from other

points of view, provide a perspective or address a topic otherwise missing from children's literature in the U.S., exhibit a distinct cultural flavor and be accessible to American readers.

Members from the committee are from around the country, and Elizabeth Poe, who serves as chair, also serves on the Mazza Museum Board of Directors.

By definition, The University of Findlay is an institution of higher education. But, by supporting the many facets of the Mazza Museum, holding mock Caldecott committees and hosting the Outstanding International Books Committee — it is clear that the University is an enthusiastic supporter of literacy for all ages.

Students and community members are welcome to experience the world of children's illustration and literacy within the Mazza Wednesday through Friday, noon-5 p.m. and Sunday, 1-4 p.m.

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FYI is published by the Office of Public Information. Send story ideas to Brianna Patterson, public relations officer, at pattersonb@findlay.edu or call 419-434-4345.

If you know someone who has done something "worth noting," on campus or within the community, send the information to pattersonb@findlay.edu.