



news

AU prepares for third annual Day of Giving

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Spring is fast approaching, and the Day of Giving committee is preparing for their third year of the one-day-only, campus-wide event on March 22.

The Day of Giving is a 24 hour fundraising challenge organized by a group of students. It is a big way non-profit organizations can make money.

According to Samm Stutzman, one of the students on the planning committee, only 75 percent of the money students pay in tuition costs goes towards their experiences: the rest comes from donations.

“I never realized how much the funds contribute to everything,” Stutzman said.

Last year, there were five social media fundraising challenges and one grand prize challenge, and Greek Life and the college of business were the only two organizations that won in all areas. They got to keep the money they raised, and they have done a lot with it.

Dustin Hargis, the assistant director of student life, said Greek Life used the funds they won last year to send a few students to a national conference in Indianapolis during the second weekend of Feb-



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The College of Business used the money they raised to redesign the Dauch lobby.

topics such as sexual assault and racism,” Hargis said. “They learn how to develop tools to engage with these community and campus issues. Those are really moving and inspiring experiences that will build our community.”

Looking into this year, Hargis does not know what to expect, “but it is really exciting.” Whatever money Greek Life raises through

used to renovate the COBE Cafe with high-top, data integrated tables and a new espresso machine, and redesign the entire lobby to be a more business-like and sophisticated congregation spot.

As the Dean of the College of Business, Elad Granot said the primary focus of everything the college does is to benefit its students.

“What we loved about the Day of Giving is it’s specifically designed to help our students and that’s why we’re here. We were incredibly motivated last year, we did not ignore our competitive nature as business students and faculty. Once a challenge is issued we are more than willing to participate in the spirit of the competition with the understanding that no matter who wins, the students win in the end,” Granot said.

Even though the structure of the challenges and the donation process has changed, Granot and Hargis are looking forward to seeing what the students and community members can do to engage and to give back.

The Day of Giving’s student team conducts research and plans different strategies and events for the Day of Giving with a faculty advisor supervising their work.

As a completely student run day,

it is a PR and marketing challenge that students participate in through social media.

“This year we invited Vinyl Marketing to help us shoot videos,” Stutzman said. “They will also be on campus the day of, getting shots of campus and students.”

Stutzman said the goal of this day is to get 400 donors. They are looking for alumni to donate, but students, faculty, staff and community members are welcome to give back as well.

The challenges will remain social media based, but they will change this year.

Donors will specifically place their money with a certain organization or group on campus so everyone has an “equal opportunity to receive funds, instead of just one or two groups.”

There will also be T-shirts again, and the planning committee will be looking for student volunteers to help pass them out and to run the various booths on campus throughout the day. Sign ups for volunteering will be available in the student center.

“We are looking for student philanthropy. It’s going to be a great day, so come out and raise money for your school,” Stutzman said.

As a completely student run day,



SUBMITTED BY JAKE RAYMAN

Day of Giving’s student team prepares for the event.

ruary.

“The Association of Fraternal Leadership and Values brings together around 3,700 Greek students from across the country, and they work on developing their leadership skills, learning how to manage their community and campus, and discuss pressing and relevant

donations, they get to keep and utilize. That money is going right back into building Greek Life.

The college of business won the five thousand dollar grand prize for completing the all-day challenge, in addition to the other smaller challenge winnings and donations they received. That money was

Commuter services office works to help students

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AU’s Commuter Services office works to offer commuter students the same college experience as residential students.

“We try to be an advocate for commuter students, help them get connected to the other offices on campus, and provide events and services for them,” Erin Mitchell, Commuter Services coordinator, said.

Since commuters can live up to 35 miles away, the university offers free commuter lockers, and the commuter lounge in the student center.

“Commuters maybe in the time between classes, they don’t have their residence hall to go back to so giving them a space to hang out with each other, meet other commuters. It has a TV, it has a microwave, a sink,” Mitchell said.

Another service provided to students is assistance with car trou-

bles.

Safety Services Director Dave McLaughlin said that commuter students call frequently for help with their cars.

“We do more jump starts and lockouts with commuter students than anybody and of course that’s because they’re using their cars every day,” McLaughlin said.

Safety Services also frequently provide students with escorts when they have to walk around campus at night said McLaughlin.

“If they’re not comfortable walking out to their car, especially at this time of year when it gets dark early, they can absolutely give us a call and we’ll provide escorts. We’re happy to do that,” he said.

McLaughlin wants commuter students to know that all of the services available to residential students are available to them as well.

“We appreciate our commuters here. If you live closely to the university that’s a plus,” McLaughlin said.

Museum of the Bible makes a stop at AU

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The Museum of the Bible is coming to AU April 2 - 14 in the student center conference rooms from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekdays and Saturdays.

President Carlos Campo serves on their board in Washington D.C.

“We had been talking to the Museum of the Bible for some time, I serve on their board, and they had done a number of traveling exhibits but nothing quite like this before,” Campo said. “We had been asking ‘what would it look like to do one of them here,’ probably for a year or so, and they had been talking to a number of folks within our facility services and seeing if we had the space requirements and those

kinds of things.”

The Green family has helped the Museum of the Bible collect their artifacts and manuscripts. After the family started collecting for their private library, “they realized before long that they had really a solid collection and they saw a real opportunity,” Campo said.

Thanks to the Green family, this exhibition has artifacts that come from all over the world.

Rome, the Vatican Museum, and other countries have contributed to this collection.

They have been displayed in Oklahoma City.

This is the exhibition’s first stop on their travels around the world.

“One of the things we are trying to do is use Ashland as a pilot project to see what the interest is like

because this one really focuses on the aesthetic, the illustrations, in the bible,” Campo said. “I think that’s going to be very fascinating for people to see, not only the Word itself, but also the way the illustrations have helped illuminate those words.”

Being a Christian-based school helped in the exhibition’s decision to come to AU.

“They’re open to bringing the artifacts to different kinds of campuses that have different kinds of backgrounds,” Campo said, “but I know that they were very encouraged by the fact that we have a very strong student body in terms of their commitment to Christianity, Fellowship of Christian Athletes and The Well.”

Many different types of students

will be coming to this exhibition and everyone is welcome, regardless of denomination.

“...Community engagement is a big part of our strategic plan,” Campo said. “We want people to know that Ashland isn’t just for the students on campus, it’s really a resource for the whole community. It’s not an Evangelical museum, it’s not a museum that says you have to believe a certain way.

The Bible has a huge influence on literature, on history, on social movements.”

Campo said to invite people to come and let others know.

“The museum is making it available and free of charge,” Campo said. “It’s a great opportunity, so I hope a lot of people will take advantage of it.”

Senior theatre student produces first “24 Hour Theatre Project”

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Megan Harvey will be producing her senior project, “24 Hour Theatre Project”, from 7:30 p.m. March 23 to 7:30 p.m. March 24 in CFA.

Harvey, senior and a multiple-disciplinary theatre and business management major, described the process of turning months of hard work into 24 hours.

“The goal of this project is to condense an entire theatre process into 24 hours and demonstrate the job of a producer and the importance of collaboration,” Harvey said. “A typical theatre production includes four to five months of design meetings as well as four to six weeks of rehearsal with actors.”

Harvey said she got the idea of creating an entire play came from a company called Starkid.

Starkid is a theatre company that started at the University of Michigan.

“After I started doing research, I became interested in 24 hour theatre and the idea that an entire show could be created in one day,” Harvey said. “I felt this would be perfect for a senior project because it would also give me the opportunity to produce, something I plan to do after graduating from Ashland this May.”

As the producer of this production, Harvey was in charge of everything: from the budget to organizing teams.

“Part of my role as the producer was to select and organize a team of leaders and participants, divide the budget provided by the department between the areas of focus for the production, and create a timeline for the months leading up to as well as the actual event,” Harvey said. “During the timeframe, actors audition, a script was written, memorized, designed, marketed and finally performed. This poster presentation will provide insight into the process of what it takes to produce theatre in 24 hours.”

Both Ashland University and Harvey have never done a production like this before.

“Because this is a newer concept for educational theatre, I have done a great deal of research,” she said. “This has included contacting schools who have produced similar projects, interviewing the artistic director of the Basement Arts student run theatre at the University of Michigan and reading a great deal on producing.”

This is not just open to theater majors.

Anyone and everyone is invited to make a team.

“Everyone involved in the project will help in some way,” Harvey said. “Theatre is a collaborative art form. Without the writers there would be no script. Without the actors and directors, nothing would be presented to an audience. Without the designers and the people constructing the sets and costumes, the actors would be on a bare stage and naked. Every job and person matters. A producer can pick a team but without the team, there would be nothing.”

If interested, contact Harvey at mharvey2@ashland.edu.

“This is the first time anything like this is being produced on the AU campus and we have many people involved from many different majors and organizations,” Harvey said. “You will not want to miss this.”