

Wright State University

CORE Scholar

The Guardian Student Newspaper

Student Activities

12-6-2021

The Guardian, Week of December 6, 2021

Wright State Student Body

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Weekly Horoscopes
Star Signer
December 6, 2021

Life can be rough sometimes. Read on for a quick gift of inspiration or a positive reminder that you deeply need at this moment based on your zodiac sign.

ARIES

“If you can dream it you can be it”

TAURUS

“Dream without fear and love without limits.”

GEMINI

“If you don’t have anything nice to say, don’t say anything at all.”

CANCER

“Don’t worry, be happy”

LEO

“Your life is as good as your mindset”

VIRGO

“Teamwork makes the dream work.”

LIBRA

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“Be the kindness you wish to see in the world.”

SCORPIO

“Patience is a virtue”

SAGITTARIUS

“Be curious, not judgemental.”

CAPRICORN

“When nothing goes right, go left.”

AQUARIUS

Life’s a journey, not a race.”

PISCES

“Don’t be the same, be better.”

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Events on Campus Week of Dec. 6

Alexis Wisler

December 6, 2021

Events for the week of Dec. 6 include Campus Recreation running, H2O Church NightLife and Pints with a Priest.

Monday, Dec. 6

9:30 a.m. | Cru Men's Group | Student Union Explorer Room

6 p.m. | IMIG and AMIG Event with Dean Weber | Online

6 p.m. | Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Study Tables | Student Union Discovery Room

7 p.m. | Collegiate eSports Club Wright State Raid | Millett 033

Tuesday, Dec. 7

4:30 p.m. | Business of Medicine Physicians Shortage Presentation | White Hall 120

5:30 p.m. | Campus Recreation Running | Alumni Tower

7 p.m. | H2O Church Night Life Group | Oelman 109

Wednesday, Dec. 8

5 p.m. | AMA Topic Discussion Group | White Hall 130

Thursday, Dec. 9

7 p.m. | H2O Church Night Life Group | Allyn 124

Friday, Dec. 10

6 p.m. | Catholic Medical Student Association Pints with a Priest | Wandering Griffin Brewery



Saturday, Dec. 11

9 a.m. | Students Teaching Educational Plans for Success Health Initiative | St. Vincent de Paul Gettysburg

Sunday, Dec. 12

No events scheduled at this time.



WSU Not Expecting Widespread Non-Compliance with Covid Vaccine Mandate

Jamie Naylor

December 6, 2021

Wright State University (WSU) is requiring all employees to become vaccinated against COVID-19 and is providing educational programs to those who are in opposition to the policy.

Enforcement for vaccine mandate

WSU announced a new COVID vaccine policy, implemented late last week, that requires employees and student employees to become vaccinated.

The policy and administrators, like Dean of Students Chris Taylor, have indicated that those who do not follow the policy may be terminated from their positions on campus.

To prevent this, counseling and education will be provided for employees who flatly refuse to follow the policy, according to Seth Bauguess Director of Communications. If these programs are unsuccessful in convincing employees to follow the mandate, then progressive discipline measures may be used.

According to the Personal Conduct Policies for Employees handbook, disciplinary actions can include verbal warnings, written warnings, suspensions, reductions in pay, demotions and or removal from the position.

The university is not expecting widespread non-compliance with the mandate and believes it unnecessary for a hiring or recruiting campaign to replace those who are terminated for non-compliance.

"A hiring campaign is not part of the employee vaccine mandate plan," Bauguess said.

Sherri Mickey-Boggs and Emily Hamman from Human Resources did not wish to comment on the topic.

Student employment

Student employees who do not follow the mandate may also be subject to disciplinary process and termination.

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It is uncertain how this policy will affect student organizations or largely student-run departments if a significant number of student employees do not comply.

It is also unknown if the same education and counseling process applies to students. Students with questions or concerns may consult their managers or supervisors.

The Wright State Guardian reached out to Career Services and they did not wish to comment on the matter.

Other Ohio universities

Universities across Ohio have also implemented vaccine mandates, including Miami University and Ohio University.

Taking effect Nov. 22, 2021, Miami's policy includes a vaccine mandate for all university students and employees.

According to their policy, students who do not follow the policy will be unable to register for spring 2022 classes and may not be able to partake in on-campus activities. Miami employees who do not comply will face disciplinary action. The policy does not outline what disciplinary action includes.

According to its COVID-19 policy, Ohio University is requiring continuing and new students to receive a COVID vaccine in order to participate in spring semester 2022. Employees are subject to the same mandate.

Wright State employees must upload proof of their COVID vaccination by Jan. 4, 2022.

Students Required to Add Two-Factor Authentication by Jan. 31

Brendan Blankenship

December 7, 2021

Wright State University (WSU) announced a required two-factor authentication for student, staff and faculty accounts to increase security.

Two-factor authentication

Computing and Telecommunications Services (CaTS) sent an email to WSU students, staff, and faculty announcing the new two-factor authentication being added to WINGS accounts on Oct. 19. CaTS added the two-factor authentication when logging into a WINGS account in order to add increased security.

“Over the last couple of months, Wright State has been subject to multiple attempts by external scammers to gain access into students’ accounts,” the email states.

Safety concerns

Two-factor authentication will protect students from phishing attacks, according to Chief Information Security Officer (CISO) Mike Natale.

“[Two-factor authentication] provides an additional layer of protection on the user’s account beyond a username and password,” Natale said.

Natale said that scammers target information like students’ social security, phone number and address. Scammers can use this information to get more out of students including finding their social media and gaining more personal details.

Natale explains this makes it easier for scammers to target other personal data like bank account information.

“Oh, I know this person’s social security number. I know their address. So I’m going to call the bank and say I am this person, and I’m armed with all the data’,” Natale said.

Student protection

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Natale warns students that they should be careful of what they download and watch out for email accounts that may be impersonating a WSU account.

Students can use their smartphones for free to add two-factor authentication, according to the Manager of Information Security (MIS) John Remley. Natale says students will be given one free key fob with a code they can use if they do not own a smartphone.

“Using the smartphone app is free and it’s very convenient and the preferred way,” Remley said.

Students can add two-factor authentication today and will be required to do so by Jan. 31, 2022, according to the email.

New Must-See Movies Coming Out in December

Ellee Rogers

December 7, 2021

This December brings with it a vast array of new movies. With an exciting winter break on the horizon, seeing a movie could be a great activity to relax and unwind. Here are four movies coming out in December that could interest many students across campus.

“West Side Story”

This Broadway classic of the same name is releasing in theaters Dec. 10 and stars Rachel Zegler and Ansel Elgort. Steven Spielberg directs the film, which focuses on the love story between Maria (Zegler) and Tony (Elgort) as they find themselves in a 1950s version of “Romeo and Juliet,” set in lively New York City.

“Don’t Look Up”

This film has an incredible cast list: Leonardo DiCaprio, Jennifer Lawrence, Meryl Streep, Timothee Chalamet, Ariana Grande, Kid Cudi, Jonah Hill and Tyler Perry. “Don’t Look Up” releases in theaters on Dec. 10 and will be available on Netflix Dec. 24.

The film is directed by Adam McKay and its [official synopsis](#) reads “Two astronomers go on a media tour to warn humankind of a planet-killing comet hurtling toward Earth. The response from a distracted world: Meh.”

“The Matrix Resurrections”

The fourth movie of the beloved “The Matrix” story releases on Dec. 22. Note that this date was purposeful, as it reads 12/22/21 numerically. The film is directed by Lana Wachowski and stars the impressive Keanu Reeves, Carrie-Anne Moss and Yahya Abdul-Mateen II.

Although it is available in theaters, “The Matrix Resurrections” also releases on the same date on HBO Max. Need to catch up on the first three installments of “The Matrix” films? HBO Max also offers “The Matrix” trilogy!



“Sing 2”

This movie is perfect for a family outing! “Sing 2,” the sequel to the very successful “Sing,” follows multiple lively animals as they show off their singing talents and fight their fears. The film releases in theaters Dec. 22 and is directed by Garth Jennings.

The cast includes Reese Witherspoon, Matthew McConaughey, Tori Kelly, Bono, Pharell Williams, Nick Kroll, Scarlett Johansson, Halsey, Bobby Cannavale and Nick Offerman.

Miracle Makers Delivers Over 150 Grilled Cheese Orders to Benefit Dayton Children's
Katie Jones
December 7, 2021

Wright State University's (WSU) Miracle Makers brought food and a feeling of comfort with their annual Grilled Cheese Hotline on Nov. 30.

Grilled Cheese Hotline

The Grilled Cheese Hotline is an event hosted by Miracle Makers since 2017. Held during the week before finals, it fulfills the dual purpose of bringing comfort food to WSU students and raising money for the kids at Dayton Children's Hospital.

Danielle Dargan, freshman and Miracle Makers' chair for production, was excited for her first time experiencing the event.

"It was super fun. A lot of people helped out and I had friends that helped out. And I liked that if you need that quick little snack or meal we got you," Dargan said.

Dargan, like the other Miracle Maker members, worked on assembling grilled cheese sandwiches, delivering them and making TikToks to promote the event.

Miracle Makers' members sell grilled cheese sandwiches for \$1 and tomato soup for 50 cents to students on campus.

The money raised is donated directly to Dayton Children's.

"Dayton Children's goes the extra mile to make sure that babies and young kids are healthy and happy. Kids can't wait to get access to lifesaving care. They need it now, and our organization makes that possible," Abby Adams, Management major and President of Miracle Makers, said, quoting the organization's slogan of "kids can't wait."

History and impact

The slogan "kids can't wait" encompasses a large part of why the Grilled Cheese Hotline is important.

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“It’s important to give back because for children who have diseases, they can’t wait for those treatments or care. Grilled Cheese Hotline may be a small event but it helps in a really big way and it can also lead to a large impact,” Dargan said.

This year, Miracle Makers was able to give back to Dayton Children’s with a donation of over \$850, a hundred dollars more than their original goal.

They were also able to give back to the WSU community, delivering over 150 orders of grilled cheese and tomato soup.

“Finals week is always really stressful and it was nice to not worry about making food,” student Teresa Paul said.

Miracle Makers will have their upcoming event, Raiderthon on April 9. Raiderthon is a 12-hour dance marathon with music, games, food and visits from Miracle Kids from Dayton Children’s. Students can sign up at [Raiderthon](#).

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Raiders Welcome 20 New Athletes to Basketball, Volleyball, Baseball
Noah Kindig
December 8, 2021

It is that time of year again for Division I Athletics, as high school senior prospects from around the country start to commit to their school of choice on national signing day.

The Raiders added 20 new recruits to their ranks from Nov. 10 to Nov. 17, in Men's Basketball, Women's Basketball, Volleyball and Baseball.

Never doubt Nagy

Men's Basketball had the least number of signees of the four sports, but that does not mean both

of Nagy's picks are anything short of strong.

Logan Woods and Drey Carter will be strong guards for the lineup, and both have their different strengths to play towards.

At 6'8", Carter will be the tallest guard on the Raider lineup and brings an incredible 45% three-point percentage from his junior season.

To put that in perspective, Tim Finke, the team's leading three-point scorer last season, only shot about 41% from the three-point line.

For his part, Woods is 6'4", around the average size of the other guards on the lineup, scoring an average of 16.1 PPG on 46.5% shooting from the floor for an all-around solid attacking player.

While Woods seems like a guard that Nagy is used to, Carter will be an explosive player to watch, especially with his size and his accuracy from range.

Hoffman's first

Women's Basketball was able to secure four signees in Head Coach Kari Hoffman's first signing class, with the highlight being Lauren Scott.

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Scott looks to be a starter in the making for the Raiders, averaging 21.7 PPG throughout last year, shooting 48% from the floor and 39% from the three-point range.

She follows the Raider mentality of being strong off the glass, averaging just under five per game. She was also named her conference player of the year and was a third-team All-State player.

She looks like exactly the style of guard that led the Raiders to their conference championship like Angel Baker and Emani Jefferson, able to score from any range on the court and also averaging about five rebounds per game for their team.



Shark Tank Meets Wright State With Annual Wright Venture Competition

Katie Jones

December 8, 2021

Shark Tank meets Wright State University (WSU) in the upcoming [Wright Venture](#) competition, where aspiring WSU entrepreneurs give business presentations to a panel of industry experts.

What is Wright Venture

Modeled after Shark Tank, Wright Venture offers students the opportunity to compete for a \$5,000 investment in their start-up.

Competitors will learn to prepare for pitch decks, write business plans and plan out their business. They will learn how to find financing and product marketing.

Students compete in teams and single-member teams can compete. Teams will be paired with a mentor from the local business community and WSU faculty or staff.

“There’s a lot of different kinds of people, a lot of different kinds of mentors. So it’s just kind of depending on what you’re seeking, and we get paired with the right mentor,” said Natasha Sandella, former Wright Venture entrant and President of Entrepreneurship Club.

With their mentor’s help, students prepare their presentations to present in late March/early April 2022 to the judges, or “wolves.”

Interested students can apply [online](#) by filling out a form and including an introductory video. They can also reach out to Dr. Goodrich, chair of the marketing department, or Sandella.

What students gain

Sandella and Thomas Traynor, the Dean of the Raj Soin College of Business, encourage students to join Wright Venture if they have a business idea.

A background in business is not required as students will receive guidance from mentors and attend workshops on business planning, marketing, finance and operations.

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“Going into it I had zero experience on giving a pitch deck or any sort of business presentation, but they really do push you to do that if you have a great business idea. So you know, anybody can do it. You don’t have to have a business background,” Sandella said.

Apart from workshops, Wright Venture offers networking opportunities, idea development, product design, service creation and more. It also lets students present any type of business idea, from apps to products and services.

“To me in a way what stands out is the great variety of products and services we’ve seen entered. We’ve seen skateboards and we had one person who had designed an inexpensive 3d printer,” Traynor said.

Other businesses include a laundry service, a software company and an inexpensive water cleaning product. Along with product variety, students come from different majors and backgrounds.

“I think it’s been very interesting how well the whole program has attracted students across the university. We had entrants from the College of Engineering, College of Education, College of Business. I think that’s an important feature of this. It’s not just for business [students],” Goodrich said.

Many contestants continued operating their businesses, whether as a side business or full time.

Wright Venture has been held every year since its founding in 2014, and many are looking forward to this year’s presentations.

“I’m looking forward to seeing the product and service ideas. They’re always new and interesting. And I really love the creativity that students bring into that,” Goodrich said.

Rey Rey Cafe and Espresso Lane Struggle to Reopen Amid Ongoing Pandemic

Jamie Naylor

December 9, 2021

Reynolds and Reynolds-sponsored cafes on Wright State University's (WSU) Dayton campus will remain closed due to COVID-19 issues. Plans for their reopening in spring 2022 are being discussed.

Rey-Rey Cafe

Opened in December 2015, ReyRey Cafe is a student-run cafe located in Rike Hall. It is sponsored by the local company Reynolds and Reynolds.

Closing in spring 2020 due to the coronavirus pandemic and university closure, the cafe reopened briefly in the fall of 2020 before closing again in spring 2021. Plans were then made for the cafe to open for fall 2021, which was successful until they recently closed again.

According to Seth Bauguess, director of communications, this new closure was due to COVID-19 exposure among the staff.

ReyRey is set to reopen for spring semester 2022.

The Wright State Guardian reached out to Paige Wilms, CEO of ReyRey, and Emelia Renali, marketing director for the cafe, and have yet to receive a response regarding the COVID-19 challenges and reopening plans for the cafe.

Espresso Lane

Located in the Russ Engineering Center, Espresso Lane is a coffee shop also sponsored by the Reynolds and Reynolds company.

Opened in 2015 and closed in the spring of 2020 at the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, the cafe is popular among engineering and computer science majors.

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According to Nicholas Paige, marketing director for Chartwells, WSU's foodservice who also supports the cafe, various campus and community partners including Reynolds and Reynolds and Chartwells are currently discussing the possibility of reopening the cafe.

"At this time, we are reviewing all factors including the financials to determine if this (reopening the Cafe) could be a possibility," Paige wrote.

The review of the Cafe and its financials is being considered for a possible reopening in spring semester 2022.

The Wright State Guardian contacted Mary Jean Henry, Assistant Vice President for Corporate and Community Engagement, and she did not wish to provide comment on these discussions for Espresso Lane.

Opinions

Engineering students like Ibrahim Abdal-Halim, Elyse Camerer and Benjamin Revilock enjoyed having Espresso Lane as an amenity due to their amount of time spent in the Russ Engineering Center.

"I was a little discouraged about Espresso Lane being closed for so long because as engineering majors we practically live in Russ and need coffee all the time," Abdal-Halim said.

While Espresso Lane attracts those in the College of Engineering and Computer Science, ReyRey Cafe is popular among business and finance students.

Senior finance major Chris St. Pierre reported that when the cafe was open he would get coffee every day before class and would be pleased to see the cafe reopen in the spring.



Community Events: Wright State University's Second Annual Holiday Toy Drive

Emily Mancuso

December 9, 2021

Last year's holiday toy drive through Wright State University (WSU) benefitting the Dayton Children's Hospital raked in over three thousand dollars worth of toys and cash. This year, the Neurosurgery Interest Group and Raider Pre-Health Counsel plan to donate even more.

Donations

The Neurosurgery Interest Group, the founding group of the toy drive, and Raider Pre-Health Counsel are hosting the toy drive this year.

Karley Fischer is Vice President of the Raider Pre-Health Counsel and helps with the organization of the holiday toy drive.

"As medical students...we see the children and we see their families with just an opportunity to give back and serve them through the holidays," Fischer said.

Donations of new and unopened toys can be dropped off at White Hall at Boonshoft School of Medicine (BSOM) or the Pre-Health office in Brehm 172 from now through Dec. 11.

For safety purposes, used toys, food or candy and blankets or pillowcases are not being accepted at this time.

Alex Gilman, President of the Neurosurgery Interest Group, is helping make sure donations are all COVID-19 safe as well as monitoring the toy drive organization.

"Generally we go by the guidelines of the hospital, like Dayton children's last year had us drop off all of our donations downstairs to receive. We had a representative come in and pick them up," Gilman said.

Donations are also accepted monetarily through the Neurosurgery Interest Group's Venmo: @NSIG_BSOM.



The Neurosurgery Interest Group and Raider Pre-Health Counsel hope to raise \$6,000 worth of donations, to double the results from last year.

Other Ways to Help

Even though students may not be able to donate monetarily or by giving toys, students can still assist in this drive and other opportunities.

There will be an event for wrapping the gifts coming up at an undetermined future date.

Spreading the word of this holiday toy drive is just as important as donating.

If one misses the date for donation for this drive, the nonprofit 'Bears4Childrens' will be accepting new bears from Build-A-Bear at the Fairfield Commons Mall from Dec. 8 through Dec. 22 to go to the Dayton Children's Hospital.

"This event is great for all ages, but it's especially great for young kids as it's an easy and fun way for them to learn about giving back," Callista Hess, coordinator for Bears4Childrens, said.

Bears4Childrens also accepts monetary donations, non-denominational holiday cards and drawstring bag donations.

For questions about Bears4Childrens, contact Callista Hess at hess.152@wright.edu, go to www.bears4children.com, or follow their Instagram [@bears4childrens](https://www.instagram.com/bears4childrens)

For more information about the holiday toy drive, visit the Dayton Children's Hospital [website](#).

Men's Basketball Takes Down IPFW, Falls to Cleveland State in First HL Games

Noah Kindig

December 9, 2021

Wright State University (WSU) Men's Basketball hoped to turn their 1-5 record around at the start of conference play where they took down Indiana-Purdue Fort Wayne (IPFW) but lost to Cleveland State (CSU).

It looked like the Raiders had thrown their problems from earlier in the season aside in their 86-73 win over the Mastodons, but similar problems came up once again in their game against the Vikings, with CSU taking the win 85-75.

Unnecessary turnovers for WSU as well as a lack of depth and consistency in their offense have affected the team all year. While those issues largely vanished against IPFW, the Vikings capitalized on the Raiders' weaknesses.

Winning the conference opener

Some of the biggest differences in the 13-point win over the Mastodons had to do with freshman center AJ Braun.

With four regular starters returning this year in Tanner Holden, Grant Basile, Trey Calvin, and Tim Finke, it was obvious who four of the starters would be. But a few different players have found their way into the fifth spot this year.

Finke only put in five this game, but Braun stepped up with 17 points. A decent enough defense for the Raiders held out the win.

If Braun had scored his average of 7.33 PPG, the result could have been a much closer game and even an IPFW win, especially with WSU only scoring nine points from bench players to their opponent's 16.

Can't close in Cleveland

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The consistent play from CSU is what won them the Horizon League tournament last season, and is what won them the game on Saturday by 10. The loss proves more than anything that depth and consistency are what the Raiders need to win, and what they currently lack.

Calvin can drop a career-high 28 and Basile can net a double-double, but if five Vikings score double-digit points there is nothing the Raiders can do.

The WSU bench contributed a total of six points of the total 75, whereas CSU's bench had 37 points, over six times what the Raiders were able to score.

While Finke seemed to find his shot back a little bit in this one, a full-court press from the Vikings had Holden struggling throughout the game, unable to find a rhythm and missing shots in the paint he normally would find with no issue.

Overall, for the Raiders to be a dominant force in the HL this year, they need to find consistency in their offense from both their starters and across their bench.

WSU Students Prepare for 9-Day Backpacking Trip in Santa Fe

Erika Jones

December 10, 2021

The Santa Fe, N.M. backpacking and snowshoeing trip is a 9-day hike to remember. During those nine days, trip-goers will experience mountain-side views and gain experience in both backpacking and snowshoeing.

The Trip begins Jan. 1 and goes through Jan 9.

What is expected from the Santa Fe trip?

The Santa Fe, N.M. trip allows people to experience views, new experiences with friends and a chance to soak in a natural hot spring in Colo. before returning home. The trip itself costs \$499 which includes meals, gear, trail leaders, campsite fees, permit fees, the post-trip hotel and the hot springs fees at the end of the 25 mile hike.

“I went to Seattle, Washington a couple years ago, that really made me want to go on a backpacking trip,” Dylan Hall said, one of the participants going on the trip.

This is not the first year that people get to gather and head to Santa Fe for this hike through the snow and wilderness. No other trips had been canceled prior to COVID-19 complications in 2020.

“[We’re] doing about four days on the trail. It’s gonna be about five to seven miles a day,” Eli Gerkenmeyer said, one of the two leaders on the Santa Fe trip.

The itinerary for this trip can be found [here](#) and on the signup page.

What is needed for the trip?

Zero backpacking and snowshoeing experiences is needed, but in order to do the seven mile daily hike, trip-goers need to be able to carry 40 pounds on a steep incline. The items included

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in the 40 pound backpack are clothes, equipment, toiletries, water, food, needed extras and flashlights.

Before participants can go with the group to Santa Fe, NM they must take a fitness test where they are given a 40 pound backpack and complete two miles on a treadmill at an incline. This is important so no one on the trip becomes injured due to physically being unable to carry that much weight.

At least three days before the trip begins, everyone must have a negative COVID-19 test before departure.

The sights and more

“This is actually [along part of] the Continental Divide Trail so it’s a lot higher in elevation,” Gerkenmeyer said.

One of the many sights that can possibly be seen if the skies are clear enough is a glimpse of the Milky Way Galaxy.

“I’ve never been backpacking before but it looks gorgeous in all the pictures we’ve seen so [I’m] excited to see the mountainous views and [having] a good time with a bunch of friends for the week,” Nate Saner said, another participant on the trip.

WSU Awards 1,181 Degrees This Weekend Over Two Ceremonies

News Team

December 10, 2021

Jamie Naylor, Brendan Blankenship and Alexis Wisler contributed to this article.

The 2021 summer and fall undergraduate and graduate commencement ceremonies will take place this Friday and Saturday, where 1,181 degrees will be awarded.

Undergraduate and graduate ceremonies

WSU will hold two commencement ceremonies to celebrate the fall 2021 graduate and undergraduate classes.

The graduate ceremony will take place Friday, Dec. 10 at 7 p.m while the undergraduate ceremony is set for Saturday, Dec 11 at 10 a.m. Both ceremonies will be held in the Nutter Center, according to a press release regarding commencement.

The ceremonies are ticketed events and will require guests and graduates to follow COVID-19 policies including wearing masks. The events will also be streamed on Wright States' [online event platform](#).

Number of graduates

These celebrations include summer and fall semester graduates. 1,181 degrees are being awarded including master, doctoral, bachelor and associate degrees.

Eighty-nine international students from 23 different countries will be graduating. Four 19-year-olds are receiving associate's degrees as well.

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The college with the highest number of graduates is the Raj Soin College of Business with 280 graduates. The College of Health, Education and Human services follows in second with 276 graduates.

Crime Notes: Nov. 29 – Dec. 5
Jamie Naylor
December 10, 2021

One crime occurred on Wright State University's (WSU) Dayton main campus for the week of Nov. 29 to Dec. 5, 2021.

Bias incidents

The Bias Based incident, also labeled as a hate incident on the log, occurred from Nov. 23 till Nov.27, 2021.

Reported in Hawthorn Residence Hall, the incident included property damage. A report was taken. It is uncertain if the case is still active.

Exploring the Unique Relationship of Passion vs. Pressure
Makenzie Hoeflerlin
December 12, 2021

Alissa McNeilis had to face the music.

Since she was 6 years old, she practiced and played her violin for up to 50 hours a week because her parents wanted her to be a professional musician and she wanted to please mom and dad. By the time she turned 18, she realized music was no longer her passion.

“When not only you, but other people like teachers, counselors and even your family are telling you that you’re only good at one thing, so you need to focus on it, that is what forced me to push myself to stay in this field,” McNeilis, a junior at Wright State University said. “Especially being young, not even 18 yet, and having your whole life set up for you in that way, it was not fair.”

Her story is all too common these days as students, employees and people of all ages try to resolve the conflict between passion and pressure and how it manifests into their life choices.

The average person will spend over [90,000 hours](#) at work in a lifetime. However, [surveys](#) show only 20 percent of U.S employees are passionate about their job.

That dynamic currently plays out in the job market all across the country, as younger workers are [quitting their jobs in record numbers](#), in part, because they’re not passionate about what they do.

Student reporters at Wright State University spent the fall 2021 semester examining the pressure versus passion dynamic. The four-month project will tell tales of college students, families and businesses all struggling with whether they should do what they want in life or what others feel they should do to be successful. The stories appeared in *The Wright State Guardian* in the form of articles, and talk shows, podcasts and an ebook.

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“I feel like pressure, a lot of time takes over and gets in the way of people’s passion,” reporter Lainey Stephenson said. “Pressure can overpower one’s passion and I think It’s important to hear other people’s stories.”

Pressure is unavoidable and relatable, but worth the struggle, according to reporter Shea Neal.

“Everyone, no matter what scale you are on... deals with pressure in different ways, but in the end, the passion is worth the pressure. If it’s something you really care about and something you really want to do with your life, you should find ways to combat that pressure.”

- Shea Neal

Wright State University President Sue Edwards believes chasing a passion was never meant to be easy.

“If you want something badly enough, you have to work for it. Nothing comes for free,” she said.

Edwards never saw herself as a university president, but eventually found herself in the role after serving as provost for two years. In a position of leadership, she faces many pressures that ultimately distract her from her passion — students.

“When I was here as provost and I was sick, who got me through it? The students. When they spoke to me about the president role, the students had been through so much, and I couldn’t bear to have them go through another upheaval. That is the only reason I took the job. They carried me, and I can never repay that. I’m here for the students, but they were here for me,” she said.

Oftentimes, intense passion coincides with intense pressure. For Edwards, that pressure is not letting her students down.

“I think that is the biggest pressure, If I fail, then I fail my students.”

- President Sue Edwards

Aside from the internal pressure that Edwards puts on herself, the president also faces several external pressures.

She is the second female president at Wright State, only after her immediate predecessor Cheryl Schrader. That put them both in an exclusive club. Just [33 percent](#) of public four-year

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colleges and universities had women presidents according to a 2106 analysis, the last year statistics were available.

Edwards also tries to please several different constituent groups such as students, faculty, staff, alumni, community partners, etc. all with strong and differing opinions.

“The greatest pressure I feel is the pressure I put upon myself,” she said. “I know that there is no perfect but I try to do the best I can. I just stay true to who I am and true to my core values. I can only do my best.”

Everyone’s relationship with passion and pressure is different.

Student reporters will focus on sharing stories of how different people experience pressure and find their passion.

Professor Ray Marcano teaches the class along with adjunct professor Ken Paxson. Marcano’s goal is for the stories to impact each student as well as the community.

“I’m hoping that some of these reach a wide audience,” he said. “They can then become introspective about what they do and whether or not choices that they’ve made [are] because they really want to do it or felt pressured to do it, and if they need to make changes as a result of that.”

Wright State student Sarah Patterson struggles to find what she is passionate about and to understand that’s okay.

“I think it’s important because finding a passion is something that every person stresses that you need to find and it’s super hard to find,” said Patterson, the project’s ebook editor. “There are many different obstacles and pressures to finding it [your passion].”

Nick Wood noted the theme’s relevance, especially mid-pandemic and post-shutdown. The pandemic [caused roughly one in five people](#) to reevaluate their lives, according to a Ipsos poll.

“The way I viewed my life before COVID is, I was just running running running and then we just hit a wall,” said Wood, a reporter on the project. “I was forced to slow down and look around me. What was I doing before and how do I want to move forward?”

Early on, reporters found a common theme — confidence plays a big role in determining whether you can step out of your comfort zone and pursue a passion that may be financially risky but more rewarding.

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Failure can often be a barrier to building that confidence, Edwards said.

“Sometimes you are going to try something and sometimes you are going to fail, and that’s okay, because you learn from that failure. Failure is a normal part of life,” Edwards said.

“However, that first time you fail in anything hurts, and it shatters your self-confidence.”

However one experiences passion and pressure in their life, they should challenge themselves to pursue their passion despite the pressures they may face.

“Pressure can give you purpose,” Edwards said. “Sometimes it is invigorating, and sometimes it is debilitating.”

Makenzie Hoferlin served as project editor.

Two Unlike WSU Students Fight Cultural Pressures to Pursue Similar Dreams

Lainey Stephenson

December 20, 2021

Simar Perez is chasing the American dream while forfeiting his own.

Perez, 21, finds happiness on the soccer field. He started his college soccer career at Wright State University but transferred to Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa, in hopes of getting more playing time.

Chasing dreams

He knows every time he leaves the field, he leaves his dreams behind.

Perez wants to be a soccer coach, but instead, he's studying computer science.

"I think for me, I feel the pressure that society's telling me to get a college education and that's the only way that I will be successful in life," Perez said.

Perez, a second-generation Mexican-American, and first-generation college student is not alone. Since 2000, children from immigrant families account for [60 percent of the growth in college students](#) nationwide. With that growth comes the pressure to succeed.

Perez graduates in December and becomes the first in his family with a college degree. Perez said his family takes pride in his hard work while he pursues his education. Perez wants to have children one day and raise them as he has been — let them make their own career choices and know they have their father's support.

"Being Hispanic, we don't always get the same opportunities without a college degree," Perez said.

The numbers back him up.

The Economic Policy Institute, in a 2017 report, said, [Hispanic men made almost 15 percent less in hourly wages when compared with white men.](#) This means people of Hispanic descent are often paid less than a non-Hispanic person, and although the gap has been minimized over the past few years, it is still significant.

While Perez battles with societal pressure, he feels no pressure being a first-generation college student from his family.

“My family has always supported me and it helps knowing I don’t have pressure from my family to be successful; they just want me to be happy.”

SoHam Dave has his father’s support, just like Perez. And just like Perez he feels the push and pulls of what he wants to do against what he feels he should do.

Coaching passion

Dave, 25, serves as a graduate assistant volleyball coach at the University of Miami, Ohio, and has an undergraduate degree in neuroscience from Wright State University.

Dave’s parents emigrated from Gujarat, India, in 2008 and, as the first person in his family to attend college in America, he feels cultural pressure to be successful.

His desire to coach volleyball means, following his passion regardless of the cultural pressures he feels. He feels this pressure every day.

“Within my community, I am an outcast, right? My parents are saying, ‘Hey, he’s getting his masters for free so why does it concern you.’ I have found my Indian culture has applied expectations upon me not only to be a doctor, someone in STEM, or someone in neuroscience but to be the most successful person in that field.”

Dave’s father, Pragnesh, has three biochemistry degrees from India and works for a biotech company in Chicago.

Dave wants to be a head coach of a Power Five conference. To qualify as a Power Five conference means being an elite conference for volleyball. The current Power Five conferences are the Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC), Big Ten Conference, Big 12 Conference, Pac-12 Conference, and Southeastern Conference (SEC).

Being Indian-American, Dave spoke of the slim representation amongst head coaches.

There have been [less than 10 head](#) coaches and assistant coaches of Indian- American descent in all NCAA sports, from the years 2012-2020.

Dave says if he gives up on his coaching dreams, he has a neuroscience degree to fall back on, but he will regret his decision for the rest of his life. Perez knows soccer will always be a part of

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his life but is sacrificing his passion because of societal pressure to work in the computer science field.

“I know choosing computer science over coaching soccer could be a decision I regret, and it sucks living my life with a ‘what if’ mindset but I feel like there is not another option for me. Computer science brings stability while coaching brings uncertainty.”