

The Buzz



WEST VIRGINIA STATE
UNIVERSITY

WVSU Alumni and Friends eNewsletter

March/April 2016



Hundreds attended the Fourth Annual WVSU Black & Gold Gala on Friday, April 8, 2016.

Upcoming Events

April 23 **WVSU Cares Day**, Institute, W.Va.

April 23 **Alumni Appreciation Day at WVSU**, Institute, W.Va.

April 28 **Fourth Annual Tower Awards for Student Film and Media Arts**, Institute, W.Va.

May 4-7 **WVSU National Alumni Association National Conference**, Chicago, Ill.

May 14 **Spring Commencement**, Institute, W.Va.

WVSU Exceeds Campaign Goal, Raises \$19.6 million

Campaign to wrap up one year early; donors can still participate through June 30

During this year's Black and Gold Gala, President Brian O. Hemphill announced that the University has raised over \$19.6 million for its "Realize the Promise, Deliver the Future" campaign, West Virginia State University's first ever capital campaign, which has brought in money for scholarships, academic programs, campus improvements and other projects. The campaign goal was \$18 million by 2017.

"We are very honored and thankful for the many individuals and supporters who have shared their love of State, believed in where State is headed and invested in our students, faculty and staff," he said. More than 2,700 people have donated to the campaign that started in 2010. The University will continue to gather support for the remainder of the fiscal year and all donations made through June 30, 2016, will be counted toward the campaign totals.



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WVSU Continues to Celebrate 125 Years of Service

Founders Day only the beginning of this year's celebration

On March 17, 2016, West Virginia State University celebrated 125 years as an institution dedicated to service, access and opportunity benefitting the State of West Virginia and its citizens. Hundreds have participated in anniversary events held so far this year, such as the Founders Day Luncheon Celebration, various lectures, open houses, concerts and art exhibits. Additional featured events in 2016 include the celebration of 100 Years of ROTC on April 22, the Fourth Annual WVSU Cares Day on April 23 and Homecoming weekend, September 29-October 1.



Join WVSU in celebrating 125 years of service in 2016!

117 Donors participate in WVSU Day of Giving

Alumni Giving Important to University's Success

This year's Founders Day not only celebrated 125 years of service for West Virginia State, but also marked the University's first ever Day of Giving where over \$11,700 was received from 117 donors, many of whom are alumni of the University.

Alumni giving continues to be important to the University's success, and events like these show the widespread amount of support the University receives from our alumni. We are deeply thankful for those individuals who support the University and its mission. For the past three years, West Virginia State University has been awarded the 1890 Alumni Engagement Award from the APLU, a research, policy and advocacy organization representing 219 public research universities, land-grant institutions, state university systems and related organizations. Since 2013, West Virginia State has shown the greatest increase in either alumni donors or alumni donations out of all other eligible 1890 institutions.



Director of Alumni Relations, Belinda Fuller, supports WVSU because she loves her HBCU. Why do you support WVSU? Send us an email at alumni@wvstateu.edu.

WVSU Hosts Urban Agriculture Conference

Third annual conference set for April 30

The West Virginia Urban Agriculture Conference returns to campus Saturday, April, 30, for its third-annual celebration of urban agriculture in the Mountain State. The daylong event will feature workshops on topics such as horticulture, homesteading, conservation, marketing, adaptive gardening and livestock, plus a local foods reception and a keynote address by New York Times bestselling author and farmer Forrest Pritchard. WVSU Extension Service, West Virginia University Extension Service and Capitol Conservation District are hosting the event. Registration is available through April 15 at urbanagwv.com.



WVSU Cares Day

Annual event scheduled for April 23, 2016

WVSU Cares Day brings together Yellow Jacket students, faculty, staff and alumni for a one-of-a-kind service opportunity. Project sites around the community of Institute, and in Kanawha and Putnam counties, have already been identified. The projects may include outdoor clean-up, working with youth, literacy education, serving meals, office work, and a variety of other worthwhile endeavors.

WVSU Cares Day is West Virginia State University's largest community service event and is a great opportunity for WVSU students to learn about local organizations and agencies and to join with the entire State family in service to others.



WVSU Alumni Association National Conference

23rd National Conference to be held in Chicago, May 4-7, 2016

Alumni from around the country will gather in Chicago, May 4-7, 2016, for the WVSU National Alumni Association's 23rd National Conference. The conference will focus on the importance of alumni support for the continuous growth of West Virginia State University and will feature seminars, presentations, luncheons and dinners as well as sight-seeing tours and activities in and around Chicago.

Full registration for the event is \$150. The registration deadline for the conference, which will be held in the Hyatt Regency McCormick Place, is April 22, 2016. The last day to book a room at the headquarter hotel at the discounted rate is Friday, April 15, 2016.

The Chicago Chapter has also arranged for \$40 discounted tickets to be available for Jackie Taylor's *Don't Make Me Over: A Tribute to Dionne Warwick* at the Black Ensemble Theater on Friday, May 6, 2016, at 8 p.m. Ticket price includes transportation and is first come, first served. For more information about the performance, please visit blackensembletheater.org. To reserve your tickets, please contact Larry Potts, Chicago, IL /Gary, IN Chapter President, at (708) 848-1254 or via email at BKB5354@aol.com.



The 23rd National Alumni Association Conference will be held in Chicago, Ill. at the Hyatt Regency McCormick Place, May 4-7, 2016.

ROTC Hall of Fame

Nominations now being accepted

It is now time to begin nominating individuals who are eligible for induction into the West Virginia State University Army ROTC Hall of Fame for 2016. This induction will have even greater significance as Army ROTC celebrates its 100th year of producing leaders for our Army and Nation.

The ROTC Hall of Fame is intended to honor West Virginia State University Army ROTC program alumni and its partnership/affiliate schools who have distinguished themselves in military or civilian pursuits. To review qualifications and download the



Nominations for the WVSU ROTC Hall of Fame are now being accepted until April 25, 2016.

nomination form, go to: <http://www.wvstateu.edu/Academics/ROTC/Hall-of-Fame.aspx> and click on By-Laws.

Email your completed form to the Military Science Department no later than April 25, 2016 to: rotcmail@wvstateu.edu, along with an 8" x 10" photo of the individual, and a biographical sketch. (Sample of 8 x 10 photo and biographical sketch are included in the By-Laws). You may also mail nomination materials via USPS mail, no later than, April 25, 2016 along with an 8" x 10" photo of the individual, including a biographical sketch to the following address: Department of the Army, West Virginia State University Reserve Officers' Training Corps, P. O. BOX 489, Institute, W.Va. 25112-0489.

Your nomination packet will be considered the last week of May by the Selection Committee. If you have any questions, please contact the Military Science Department at (304) 766-3109.

Headlines and Announcements

- Apr. 16 - [West Virginia State University to host Relay for Life Saturday, April 16](#), WVSU
- Apr. 09 - [West Virginia State University raises \\$19.6M in capital campaign](#), *Charleston Gazette-Mail*
- Apr. 04 - [WV State University launches Healthy Grandfamilies Initiative](#), WVSU
- Apr. 07 - [Farmer's market training offered](#), *Herald-Dispatch*
- Apr. 01 - [WVSU Dept. of Education to host Reaffirmation of Accreditation Celebration](#), WVSU
- Mar. 25 - [WVSU and WVSU Foundation annual Black & Gold Gala set for April 8](#), WVSU
- Mar. 17 - [WV State marks 125th anniversary](#), *Charleston Gazette-Mail*
- Mar. 14 - [West Virginia State University names new Head Women's Basketball Coach](#), WVSU
- Mar. 09 - [WVSU designated a Tree Campus USA from National Arbor Day Foundation](#), WVSU



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Alumni Relations

100 East Hall, P.O. Box 1000 Institute, W.Va. 25112
Phone: (304) 766.3387 Email: alumni@wvstateu.edu