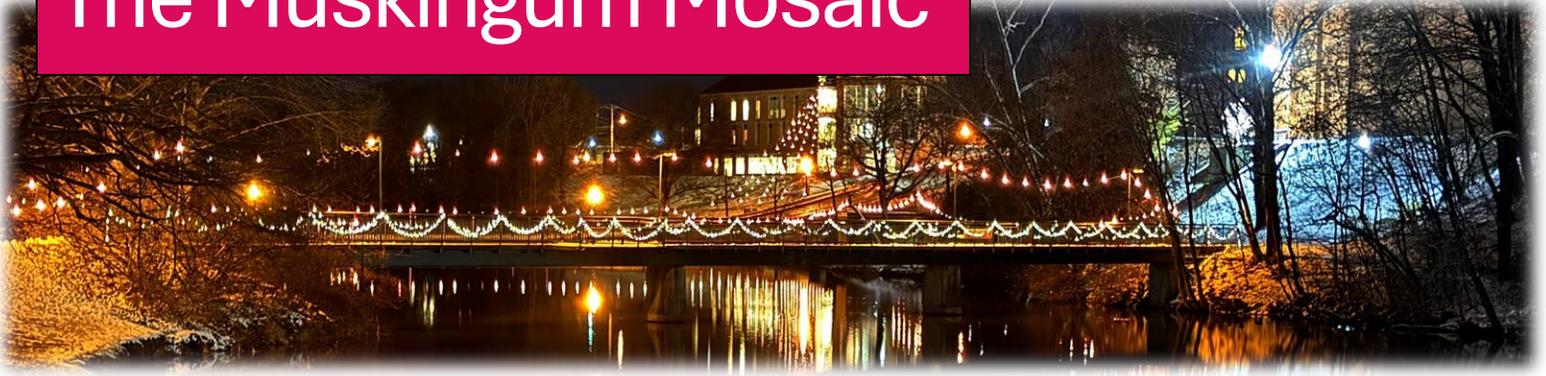


The Muskingum Mosaic



NOTES FROM THE CHAIR

As we wrap up finals week, our campus is settling into a well-earned winter break. Traditional undergraduate students will be off campus until January 12, and we hope the time away brings rest, renewal, and a chance to enjoy the holiday season with family and friends.

It has been a wonderfully busy month in the arts. The Music Department hosted a senior recital, two YouthFest events, several concerts, and the annual Christmas Festival, filling Brown Chapel with exceptional performances and festive spirit.

Theatre brought *A Christmas Carol* to the stage with an incredible four-day run. Each night sold out thanks to strong community support and the hard work of our students and faculty.

The Art Department remained active as the semester wound down, offering students opportunities to relax and create. The Art & Design Club hosted Cozy Craft Day on November 20 and invited participants to make colorful winter décor, adding warmth and cheer across campus.

As we head into the holiday season, I encourage you to take time to rest, reflect, and savor moments of joy. Wishing you a peaceful break and a bright start to the new year.

Dr. Tom German
Associate Professor of Digital Media Design
Chair of Art & Digital Media Design



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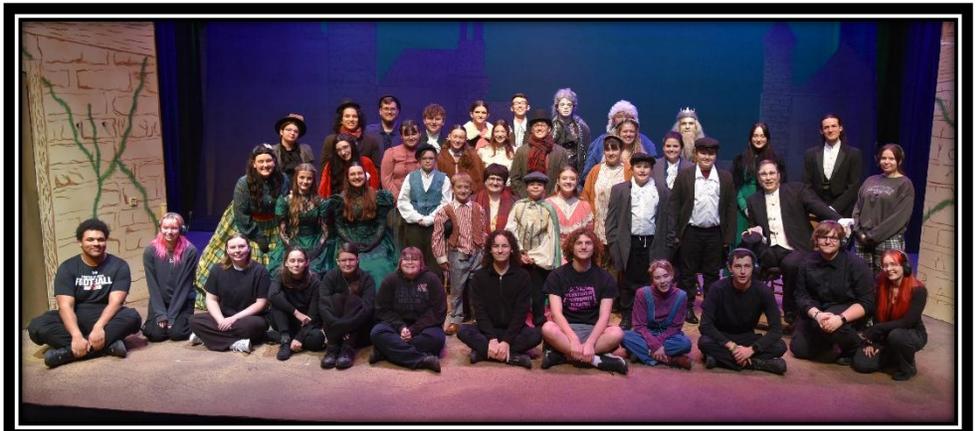
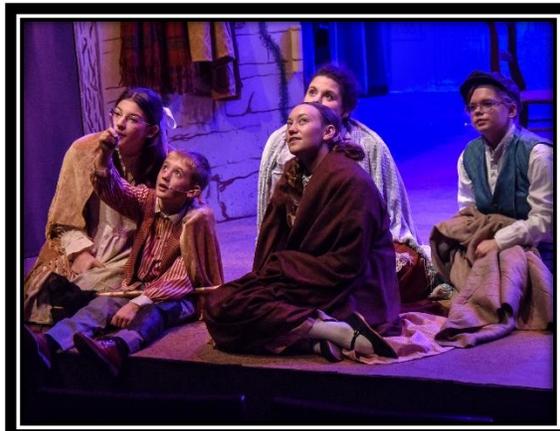
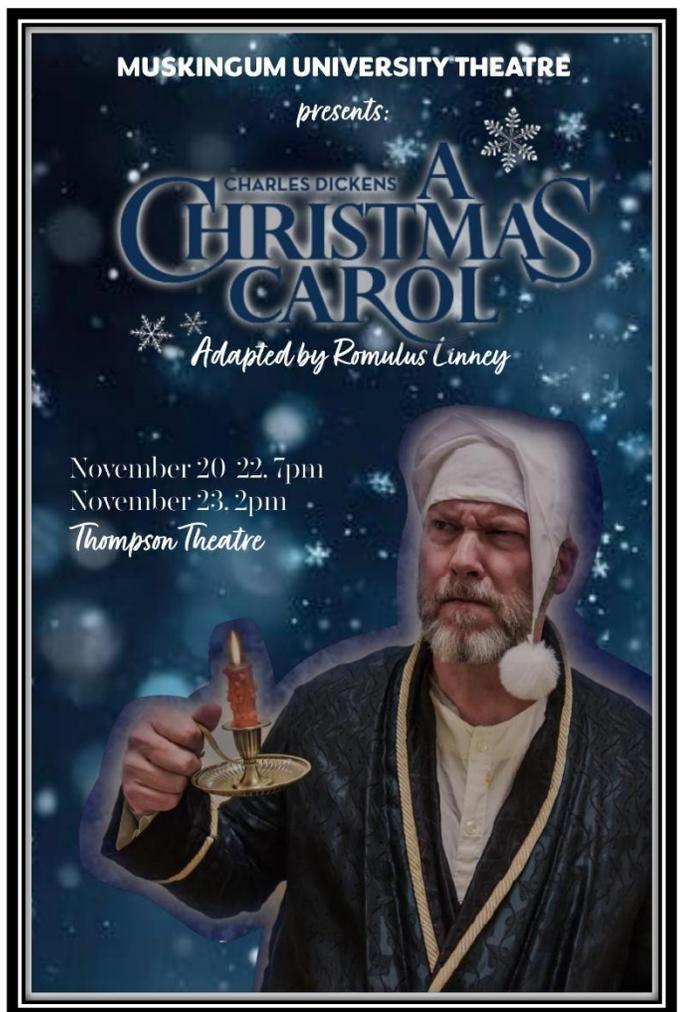
MUSKINGUM
UNIVERSITY

PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS

Thinking about attending Muskingum University? We'd love to have you join us! In the arts, we offer inspiring facilities, a contemporary and diverse curriculum, and a welcoming community that meets you where you are and provides opportunities to participate in our programs across the entire campus community. We also offer scholarships for all levels of participation. Learn more online and schedule a time to visit campus and experience our close-knit community for yourself!

A CHRISTMAS CAROL

Theatre sold out their run of the holiday classic *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens, adapted by Romulus Linney, November 20th-23rd. The production was directed by Dr. Diane Rao, designed by Professor Cassie King, with Projections Design by junior August Niner, and Choreography by senior Logan Moore. The cast included 32 performers, including three faculty/staff members and four local children, and crew consisted of 12 students. The show was well received and brought in the holiday season with snow falling in Thompson Theatre — “God Bless us, Everyone!”



CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL: *STELLA NATALIS*

On Friday, December 5th, the Music Department ushered in the holiday season with a stunning performance of *Stella Natalis*, Latin for “Star of Birth.” Composed in 2009 by renowned Welsh composer Karl Jenkins, this choral and orchestral work celebrates Christmas with a global and inclusive spirit. Featuring twelve richly varied movements, the piece combines lyrical beauty with rhythmic vitality, offering something meaningful for every listener.

Brown Chapel was packed, with more than 200 attendees gathering to enjoy the evening’s performance. The audience was treated to a moving musical experience that showcased the talent, dedication, and artistry of our student musicians and collaborators.

The concert provided a heartfelt and uplifting start to the holiday season, leaving the community inspired and filled with festive cheer.



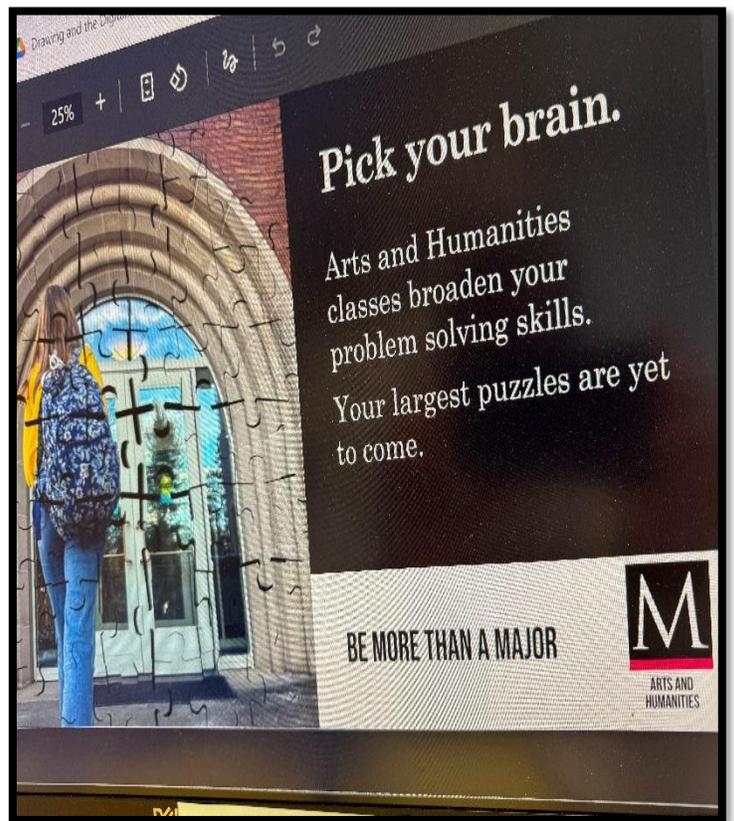
ORBIT MEDIA

Orbit Media welcomed seven new members this semester, with students completing their training in media practicum. Tune into WMCO or OrbitMediaTV next semester to catch this new group! The team also celebrated the graduations of outgoing Video Director Sam Pollock and Equipment Manager Luke Dunlap in a meeting December 2.



VISUAL COMMUNICATION CLASS PARTNERS WITH ARTS & HUMANITIES FOR PROMO PROJECT

Students in Dr. German's Visual Communication class partnered with the Arts and Humanities Division to create promotional messages to be shown on campus video displays and stand-up banners. The goal was to generate enthusiasm for taking classes in the humanities, both as Gen Ed options and electives. The theme that students chose to unify their campaign was "Be More Than a Major," which reinforced the goal of informing students that courses taken outside your major often teach unexpected lessons that stick with you for life.



FORENSICS TEAM SHINES IN FIRST TOURNAMENTS

The Muskingum Forensics Team (Speech & Debate) attended their first in person tournaments in November. The team took Fifth Place in Sweepstakes on Saturday, November 8 at Otterbein University, with novice speaker Ethan Rodriguez taking 3rd place in Poetry Interpretation, and Varsity speaker Alyssa Derry 4th place in Interviewing. The Team also traveled to the Marshall University Memorial Tournament November 14-15. This tournament was the most competitive seen in the tri-state region this season, with the greatest number of debaters hosted at Marshall University since they last hosted Nationals. Alyssa Derry placed 3rd in Impromptu Speaking AND 3rd top Individual Speaker Points in Novice IPDA Debate! Tasqeen Dhaliwal had a 3:2 record in JV IPDA debate. The team will next travel to January 23-24, 2026, and February 20-21, 2026.



SENIOR SEMINAR



Five Senior Communication Studies students presented their senior capstone projects on Monday, December 1. Congratulations to Alyssa Derry, Jade Shepard Lafferty, Lainey Hitchens, Aliyah Mills, and Nick Thomas who presented their final projects to complete their majors. Topics included Sabrina Carpenter, Vampires in Film, Culture Shock for international students, AI-Generated Fashion Messaging, and Firefighter identity and Macho Culture.

The Digital Media Design seniors also presented their projects working on The Voices of Change exhibit that will be in the Palmer Gallery in February. Congratulations to DMD Seniors Sydney Belville, Caleb Simpson, Joseph Baldinger, Parker Graf, Cassidy Phillips, and Alissa Abercrombie!

YOUTH FEST 2025



This year's Choral and Instrumental YouthFests brought vibrant energy to campus as young musicians from across the region gathered to learn, rehearse, and perform together. Over the two weekends, nearly 200 high school students filled our campus with music!

HEATHER DAWSON'S *Senior Recital*



Heather Dawson presented her outstanding senior recital with a program that included challenging repertoire from the Baroque to the modern day. In addition to singing, she showcased her versatility through her expressive euphonium repertoire. It was a fabulous, joy-filled capstone to her time in the music department!



PUBLIC SPEAKING CONTEST

The semi-annual Comm 200 Public Speaking Contest was held Wednesday December 3. Congratulations to the following students who were nominated to represent their classes in the competition. Candace Doubet was awarded a \$500 scholarship, Ali Neff received \$400, Holly McMahon and Bailey Silver received \$300, and Qwen Wagstaff and Audrey Hovorka received \$200 to put toward next semester. The contest is led by Assistant Professor of Communication Rachel Pollock. Dr. Rob Sharp, Dr. Melissa Conroy, and Chaplain Derek Waddlington served as judges.



CHAMBER ENSEMBLES CONCERT

The Music Department's Chamber Ensembles Concert highlighted the broad range of music-making within their department. The program featured dynamic performances by the Percussion Ensemble, the Flute and Clarinet Choirs, Steel Drum Band, Modern Music Ensemble, and the String Ensemble. Together, these groups showcased the creativity, collaboration, and dedication of our student musicians!



PUBLIC STORYTELLING

The COMM 260 Interpretive Reading course presented their final storytelling pieces as part of the New Concord Christmas festivities on December 1. The class is led by Rachel Pollock and featured performances by Candace Doubet, Mason Porter, Chris Burdiss, Garrett Pohler and Emmie Duskey.



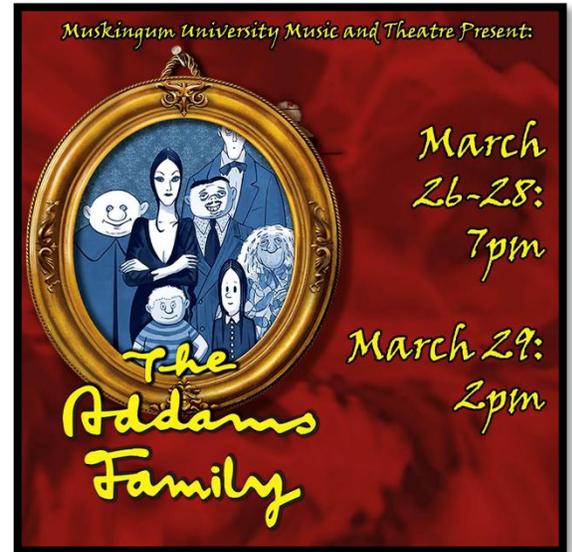


Mark Your Calendars EVENTS



THE ADDAMS FAMILY

Theatre and music held auditions for *The Addams Family* December 1-3. We are so excited to get started on this kooky, spooky musical! Mark your calendars for March 26-28 at 7pm and March 29 at 2pm! Tickets can be reserved at: <https://www.muskingum.edu/academics/theatre/production-tickets>



SPRING EXHIBITIONS

We're looking forward to a great kickoff to the Spring Semester with a show at the Louis O. Palmer Art Gallery featuring works from Muskingum's permanent collection. In addition to works collected over the years from students and friends of the university, we will also be displaying rare prints from Picasso, Chagall, and Matisse. Plan to visit between January 26 and February 12, 2025.

Following that will be an exhibition called "Voices of Change," which is part of a series of events being organized by members of the departments of History, Music, and Art & Design. The events are themed around the relationship between music and social change. The Palmer Gallery will feature an audiovisual exhibition created by students who completed HIST 390—Modern U.S. History Through Music, taught by Professor of History Karen Dunak, Arthur G. Professor and Eloise Barnes Cole Chair of American History. This museum-quality experience will run from February 22 until March 8.



HARSHA ABAYARATNE, PIANO
TUESDAY, JANUARY 27
7:00 PM
BROWN CHAPEL

Faculty Recital

FACULTY RECITAL

ERIN TORRES, FLUTE
FEBRUARY 3
7:00 PM
BROWN CHAPEL

33RD SEASON OF THE MUSKINGUM VALLEY SYMPHONIC WINDS

Sunday, February 22 | 3 PM

VOICES OF CHANGE

An interdisciplinary collaboration with the departments of history and art & design that explores music's role in social issues

VOICES OF CHANGE

The Muskingum Valley Symphonic Winds will be joined by the Muskingum Wind Ensemble for a performance on Sunday, February 22 of “Voices of Change.” This concert is part of a collaboration with History and Art & Design that will mark the opening of an art exhibition of the same title. “Voices of Change” features musical works that pay homage or tribute to a person, social movement, or idea. The concert opens with an homage to democracy by Kimberly Archer, “Fanfare Politeia,” followed by “A New Birth of Freedom,” which includes a recitation of Abraham Lincoln’s Gettysburg Address. Another work by Kimberly Archer, “Give the Ballot to the Mothers,” was composed in honor of the 100th anniversary of the Women’s Suffrage movement and this setting alludes to the many enthusiastic marches and rallies women of the late 1800s and early 1900s staged in their campaign to win the right to vote. musical snippets of music of the day. The cornerstone of the concert is Mark Camhouse’s “A Movement for Rosa,” which honors Civil Rights leader Rosa Parks. The concert concludes with Omar Thomas’s “A Mother of a Revolution,” which pays tribute to Marsha Johnson, a Black trans activist. The concert will include narration written and spoken by students and concertgoers will be encouraged to visit the “Voices of Change” art exhibition immediately after the concert. The concert will be held in Brown Chapel at 3 p.m. on Sunday, February 22.