



For Students

January 28, 2026



Omnibus Returns: Melissa Proctor Tickets Available Thursday at 1:30 p.m.

Atlanta Hawks executive and professional sports trailblazer Melissa Proctor will be the next presenter in the Purdue University Fort Wayne Omnibus Speaker Series on Feb. 12. Proctor's dream was to become the first female coach in the NBA, but is now executive vice president and chief marketing officer for the Hawks and State Farm Arena, serving in both positions since 2016. She will step onto the Auer Performance Hall stage at 7:30 p.m. to present "From Ball Girl to CMO," the title of her 2020 biography.

Tickets will be released Thursday at 1:30 p.m. They are free, general admission, and available on a first-come, first-served basis through the Schatzlein Box Office or PFW's online ticketing platform.

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Homecoming Week Is Officially Underway

Get ready to feel the rumble! Homecoming Week at Purdue University Fort Wayne is here, featuring a full lineup of lively events and activities for students to enjoy.

Throughout the week, enjoy giveaways at Mastodon athletic events, food trucks, bingo, a Homecoming dance, and more! The celebration wraps up with the Homecoming men's basketball game on Saturday at 1 p.m. at Memorial Coliseum.

Check out the [Homecoming website](#) for more details.



Seeking the Most Spirited Mastodon on Instagram

It's Homecoming Week at Purdue Fort Wayne and students are invited to show their spirit by covering the campus in a wave of black and gold! Those who "don" PFW spirit gear and share their excitement on Instagram—tagging @purduefortwayne—will qualify to win a gift card to the Mastodon Campus Store.

The spirit contest runs through Friday, with the final winner being announced on Saturday via a PFW Instagram story.

For more information about Homecoming 2026 activities, visit pfw.edu/homecoming.



Crisler's Term as Indiana Poet Laureate Extended

Despite being Indiana's poet laureate and a prolific writer, Curtis Crisler has been so busy this past year that he has lacked time to put pen to paper. An author of 13 books—with plans for at least five more—the Purdue University Fort Wayne professor in the Department of English was doing such a good job traveling and conducting readings across the state that the Indiana Arts Commission has extended his tenure for this prestigious honor

Crisler has been named **Indiana Poet Laureate** for a second term, a full year before his first stint is scheduled to end. That suits Crisler just fine. He realized a while back he's not fulfilled all of his goals and needs another two-year term, which will end at the start of 2028. There are still people to meet, places to see, schoolchildren to speak to, libraries to visit, and unique opportunities to share poetry.

"I find myself in a place where I seem to be focusing on the survival of the art form by adhering to the call of poet laureate," Crisler said. "That includes providing ways for future poets to prosper, as well as establishing collaboration in Indiana venues that benefit our humanity and art."

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Share the story:



Eventful

There's always plenty to do at Purdue Fort Wayne. To find your favorites—or discover new activities—check the full [events calendar](#) often to see what's happening on campus.

JANUARY

29

Thurs., 7–9 p.m.

Homecoming: Bingo!

An SAB classic during Homecoming week? Heck yes! Take your chances at 10 rounds of Bingo called by Mastodon royalty...

JANUARY

30

Fri., 7–10 p.m.

Homecoming Dance

Join the Student Activities Board in a celebration of Mastodon pride, sweet dance moves, and snacks...

FEBRUARY

2

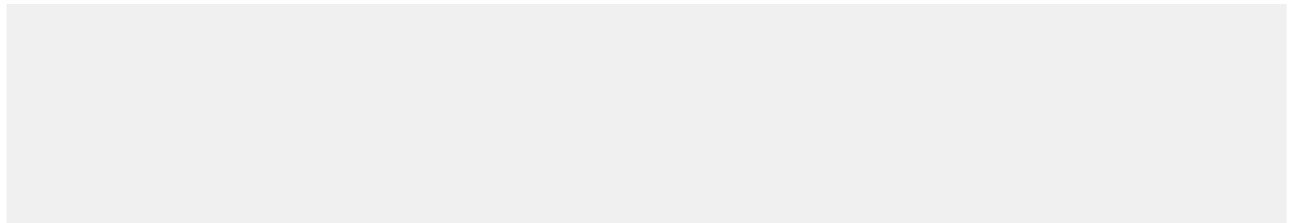
Mon., 2–3 p.m.

Write on the Money: Scholarship Writing Workshop

Ready to turn your story into scholarship success? Join the financial aid office and TRIO Student Support Services for a hands-on scholarship writing workshop designed to help you stand out...

Mastodon Moments

Seen and noted around campus. Monitor our university social feeds for more great moments of Mastodon life.





Ivy Hamersley, a freshman majoring in interior design, braves the bitter cold to have some downhill fun thanks to the fresh powder that has fallen this week.

Athletics



Events Calendar



News Center



Don Life Archive



Don Life is an official university communication sent weekly on Wednesday to all currently enrolled students. Don Life Special Edition is a supplement to the regularly scheduled newsletter. It covers breaking news and time-sensitive information directly related to university operations.

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