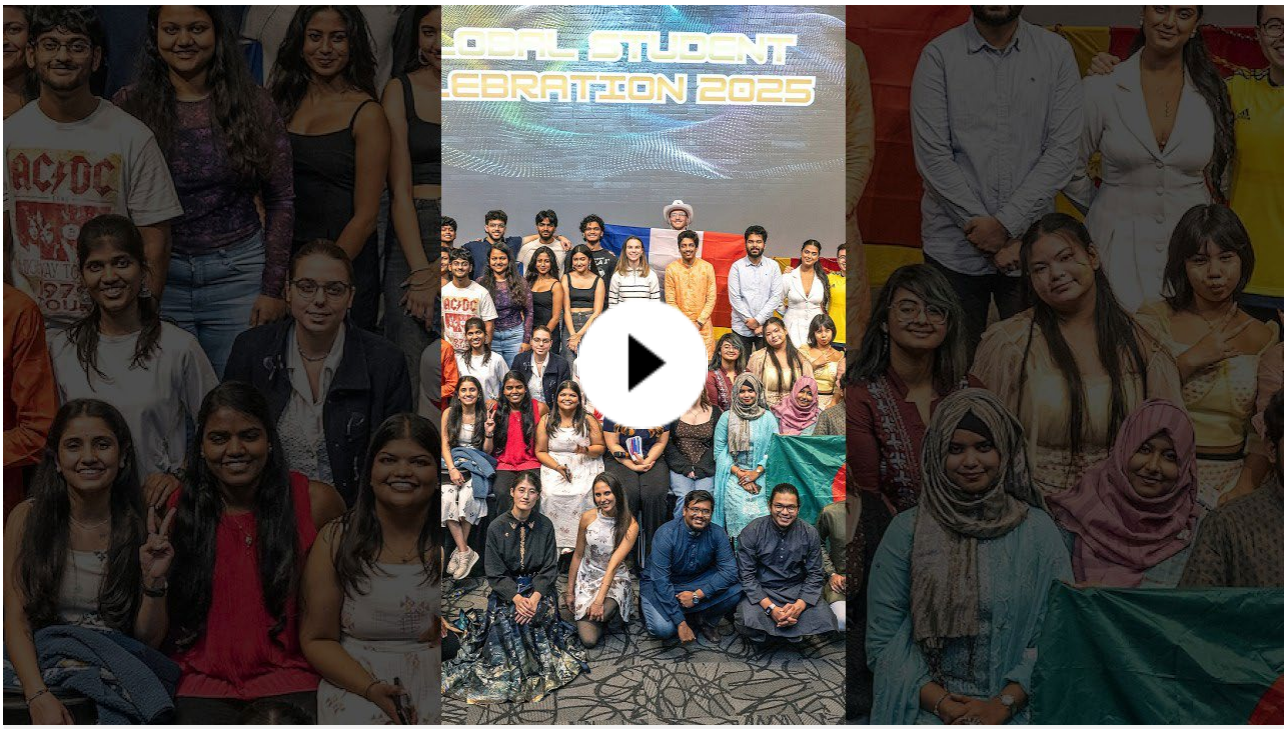


November 4, 2026



Experience the World at the Global Student Celebration

Get a taste of cultures from around the world this Friday at the Global Student Celebration. Enjoy live performances, international food, and an evening showcasing the traditions of your talented classmates from across the globe. **Admission is free for students**, so bring your friends and experience one of PFW's most colorful celebrations of culture and community.

Friday, November 6
International Ballroom
5:45–9:30 p.m.
Doors open at 5:45 p.m., show begins at 7 p.m.

WATCH VIDEO



Celebrate and Honor Our Military-Affiliated Mastodons during Veterans Week

Purdue University Fort Wayne's Center for Veteran and Military Student Success will host Veterans Week Nov. 9–13, featuring a series of events recognizing and celebrating our military-affiliated Mastodons!

Throughout the week, military-affiliated students can enjoy free breakfast and lunch, connect with fellow veterans over coffee, and explore local support services during the Veteran Community Resource Fair.

On Veterans Day, Wednesday, Nov. 11, all students are invited to visit the Science Mall from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. for a special American flag display honoring the service and sacrifice of veterans. Stop by to show your appreciation and recognize those who have served.

Learn more about Veterans Week and view the **full schedule of events**.



PFW Celebrates First-Gen Week with Events Honoring Nearly Half Its Student Body

Purdue Fort Wayne is dedicated in supporting our first-generation college student population. Nationally, 56% of college students are first-generation; at PFW, almost half (45%) of our students are the first in their family to attend college.

A first-generation college student is someone who is the first of their immediate family to attend college and earn a bachelor's degree.

In commemoration of the anniversary of the Higher Education Act of 1965 and its creation of the term "first-generation college student," colleges and universities across the country celebrate First-Generation College Celebration Day in November. This year, PFW will be hosting a First-Gen week. Join us for the following events to celebrate our vibrant and thriving first-generation students, faculty, staff, and graduates!

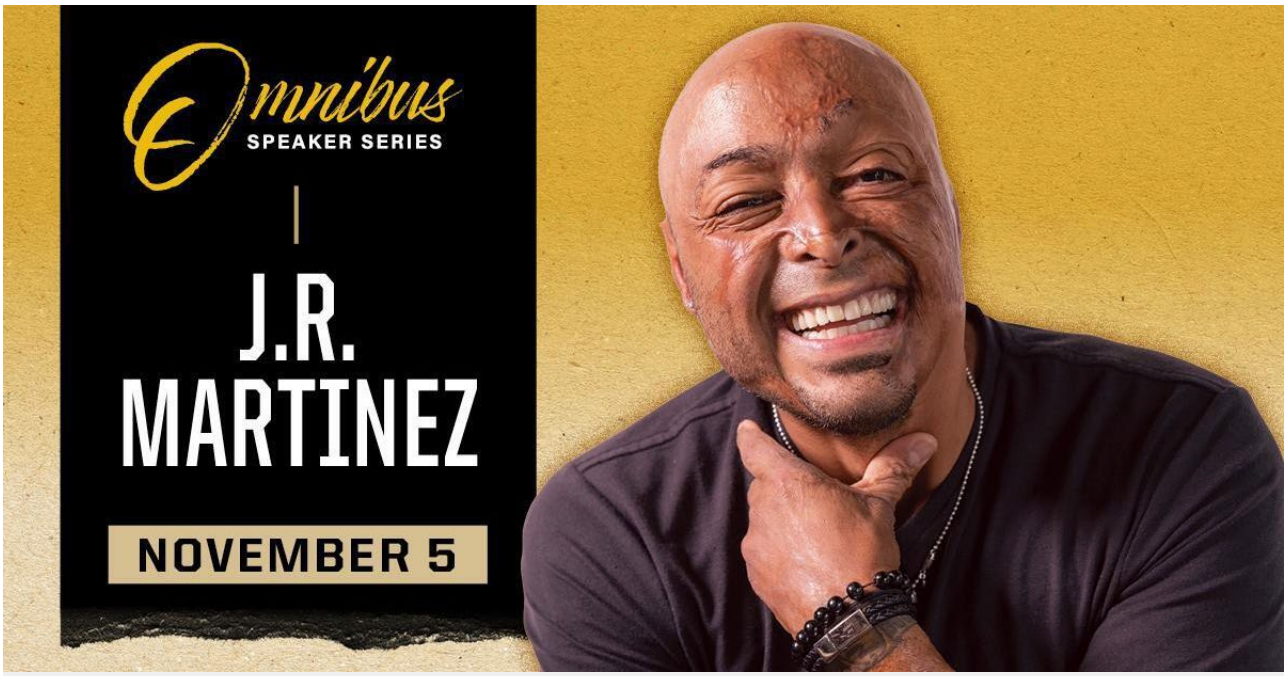
- Monday, Nov. 9 | 9:30–11:30 a.m. | **Morning Social** | Herd Hideout
- Tuesday, Nov. 10 | 2–4 p.m. | **Self-care Day** | Kettler Hall, Room G02
- Wednesday, Nov. 11 | 11 a.m.–1 p.m. | **National First-Gen Day Celebration** | Walb Student Union, Room G08



Join the ThanksStudentsGiving Celebration on Nov. 12

What is ThanksStudentsGiving? It’s a full, free Thanksgiving feast for students served by faculty and staff! Join the gathering on Nov. 12 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the International Ballroom. This meal is a special way for the Division of Enrollment Management and the Student Experience to say “thank you” to the campus community.

Drop in anytime during the 3-hour event window as long as seats are available. This family-style event focuses on sitting together, meeting new people, and sharing expressions of gratitude. And don't forget to stop by the Wall of Thanks to leave a note and read what others have shared.



This Thursday: An Evening with J.R. Martinez

Join us this Thursday, November 5, at 7:30 p.m. in Auer Performance Hall for the Omnibus Speaker Series featuring J.R. Martinez. A wounded U.S. Army veteran, actor, best-selling author, and motivational speaker, Martinez will present "Facing Adversity with Optimism and Resilience," sharing his powerful story of perseverance and finding purpose.

The event is free and open to the public. Learn more at **pfw.edu/omnibus**.

Early Registration for Spring Classes Continues This Week

The chance to register early for the spring 2027 semester began Oct. 26 for degree candidates, graduate students, seniors, and military-affiliates. Juniors, Honors Program students, student-athletes, and students with disabilities are getting their chance this week.

For the next two Mondays, early registration opens at 8 a.m. for these groups:

- Nov. 9: Sophomores
- Nov. 16: Freshmen and others

Remember to connect with your academic advisor to check on the status of your registration and review other important details specific to your academic journey.



Campus Reminder: Bicycle and Scooter Use and Registration

Electric bicycles, e-scooters and other electric mobility devices may be used on campus, but they may not be stored, charged, or operated inside any campus building. This restriction includes electric skateboards, hoverboards, mopeds, and any other device with an electrical propulsion system, with an exception for assistive devices used by persons with disabilities.

Additionally, roller skates, in-line skates, skateboards, bicycles, and similar devices may not be used inside university housing buildings. All bicycles, e-bikes, scooters, and e-scooters must be registered with University Police. To learn more about the registration process, visit **pfw.edu/parking**.

DAC and Academic Testing Merging in Spring 2027

Beginning in spring 2027, the Disability Access Center Testing Center will merge into Academic Testing Services, run by Director Khin Khin Gyi, to form one testing center in Kettler Hall, Room 232, and adjacent rooms. Bringing these services together is intended to make testing easier for faculty and students by providing one center rather than two separate services with different policies and procedures. Please note this change applies only to DAC's testing services; DAC's other functions are not part of the merger.

The combined center will provide academic and proctored testing for students who need

accommodations related to testing time or environment. The search for a second proctor will begin soon. The larger space and added staffing will also support plans to offer more tests that are not directly tied to coursework, such as Amazon Web Services, Cisco Systems, NCLEX and NCEES any many others.

What to expect during the transition:

- All scheduled DAC testing, including final exams, will continue in Walb Union 113 through the end of the fall 2026 semester.
- Beginning in January 2027, all DAC testing will take place at Academic Testing Services in Kettler Room 232 and adjacent rooms.
- All DAC testing equipment will move to Kettler 232 over winter break.
- DAC testing and regular academic testing will continue without disruption during the transition.

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.

NOVEMBER
5
Thurs., 6–8:30 p.m.

Medieval Studies Movie Night: Princess Mononoke

This Japanese film takes place in the 14th century where the harmony that humans, animals, and gods have enjoyed begins to crumble as seen through the eyes of a young protagonist. Open to all and free pizza and stuff! Discussion to follow...

NOVEMBER
7
Sat., 1–3 p.m.

Men’s Club Soccer Game

Be there when PFW Gold faces off off against PFW White in an exciting soccer match at the newly opened W. Paul Wolf Field...

NOVEMBER

String Studio Recital

The evening will include performances by students from the violin, viola,

10

Tues,, 7:39–9 p.m.

cello, and string bass studios, culminating in a performance by the Chancellor’s String Quartet...

Mastodon Moments

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



Panelists shared insights on the value of learning beyond the classroom during the Experiential Learning Summit on Oct. 30, sparking new partnerships between PFW students and community leaders.

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.

PURDUE UNIVERSITY
FORT WAYNE