

Jack, Joseph, & Morton Mandel Honors College

CLEVELAND STATE
UNIVERSITY **4.0** Honors College
Newsletter

Spring 2018

This Issue: "Finding Our Roots"

Elizabeth A. Lehfeldt Dean

Michael Sepesy Faculty Advisor & Designer

### CONTENTS

- 2 Cleveland State Welcomes New President by Rachel Sullivan
- 4 Washkewicz College of Engineering: A History by Louise Beckstrom
- 5 Requiem for a Film School by Matt Mascolo
- 6 Alum and Professor Look Back by Louise Beckstrom
- 7 An Interview with Dr. Lehfeldt by Matt Mascolo
- 8 Trinity Cathedral by Emily Risley
- **9 Phi Mu** by Emily Risley
- 10 Making the Most of Your Honors Experience by Rachel Sullivan

Staff:

Louise Beckstrom Matt Mascolo Emily Risley Rachel Sullivan

Downtown Cleveland as seen through a fish-eye lens Clayton Knipper All photos of Cleveland and Cleveland State throughout this issue are courtesy of The Cleveland Memory Project.



### Cleveland State Welcomes New President

The Next in a Rich History of Leadership

by Rachel Sullivan

Over the past year, Cleveland State University has been actively searching for a new president after the announcement of President Berkman's retirement last year. In January, the position was given to Harlan Sands, former vice dean and CFO of the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania.

Originally from Long Island, New York, Sands has a bachelor's degree from Wharton, a law degree from George Mason University, and an MBA from George Washington University. He also has more than ten years of military experience, including positions as a Naval Reserve intelligence manager and special assistant to the director of Naval Intelligence for Technology. He received two Naval Commendation Medals during Operation Desert Storm and a Coast Guard Meritorious Unit Commendation for the Space Shuttle Challenger recovery. After his service, Sands began to practice law in Miami, Florida and taught classes at Florida International University, during which time he became friends with President Berkman.

Sands was chosen out of 176 applicants for the position, making him the eighth person to lead Cleveland State University as president as of July 1, 2018. Cleveland State has a rich history of being led by extraordinary men and women, starting with Harry Newburn in 1965. Newburn served as president from 1965 until 1966, and then again from 1972-1973. Harold Enarson followed the presidency of Newburn from 1966 until 1972. Dr. Enarson's presidency was characterized by a period of monumental growth for Cleveland State University. The campus expanded from nine acres

and three buildings to over 27 acres with four new classroom and office buildings and enrollment increased from about 5000 students to about 15,000 students. Walter Waetjen served as president from 1973 to 1988. During this time period, Cleveland State continued to grow as an urban university. Programs such as the Legal Clinic, the Speech and Hearing Clinic, and the Center for Neighborhood Development were added. Following Waetjen, John Flower led the school from 1988 until 1992. Flower improved race and community relations between the school and the city of Cleveland. In 1993, Cleveland State welcomed its first woman as president of the school—Claire Van Ummerson—until 2001. Van Ummerson improved conditions for Cleveland State students by making changes such as changing to a semester system and integrating the use of more technology into classes. Following Van Ummerson, Michael Schwartz led the school from 2002 to 2009. Schwartz improved the school in countless ways, including establishing an honors and scholars program for students. Schwartz was followed by president Ronald M. Berkman.

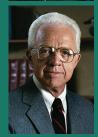
Harlan Sands is in no doubt joining a community with a history of successful leadership in downtown Cleveland. Cleveland State University welcomes president Sands and looks forward to what he will contribute to our campus in the following years.

Sources: "Cleveland State University's new president is Harlan Sands, CFO of the Wharton School" Karen Farkas, cleveland.com, Jan 30, 2018

"Cleveland State University: A Brief History" from http://www.clevelandmemory.org/csu/













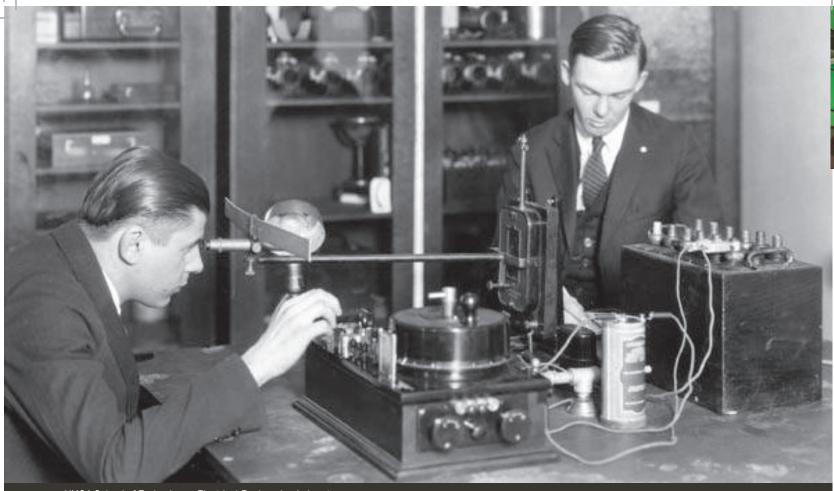


<u>GSU</u>

1920's

1923 - Y.M.C.A School of Technology adds business and engineering courses 1929 - Cleveland Y.M.C.A School of Technology becomes Fenn College

7



YMCA School of Technology - Electrical Engineering Laboratory circa 1928 (Cleveland State University Archives Photograph Collection)



Prospect Campus, circa 1932 (Cleveland State University Archives Photograph Collection)
Looking west along Fenn College campus on the south side of Prospect Ave. -- the Edwards and the Johnson Buildings and the Central Cleveland YMCA at East 22nd St.



Foster Engineering Building (Foster Hall), circa 1958 (Cleveland State University Archives Photograph Collection) Looking west along the north side of Euclid Ave at the Claude Foster Engineering Building, circa 1958



### Washkewicz College of Engineering: A History

#### by Louise Beckstrom

Cleveland Y.M.C.A School of Technology. Does that name sound familiar? Maybe not yet, but it will. In 1881, the Cleveland Young Men's Christian Association (Y.M.C.A) started offering a variety of free classes in business, and day classes were added to the program 1906. With the success of the school, the Cleveland Y.M.C.A was renamed the Cleveland Y.M.C.A School of Technology (Y-Tech).

As more students enrolled, the first college credit courses for engineering and business were added in 1923.<sup>2</sup> This is considered the founding date of Fenn College. What is the significance of Fenn? The Y-Tech was renamed after Sereno Peck Fenn in 1929, since he was the president of the Y.M.C.A for 25 years and a board director for 52 years.<sup>3</sup> Also, in 1928, Fenn donated money for a building specifically for labs and classrooms.<sup>4</sup> The new classrooms attracted more students and gave Fenn College a better rank among schools.

In 1930, the Nash Junior College of Fenn College was founded.<sup>5</sup> Nash was the school of arts and sciences.<sup>6</sup> The original schools of business and engineering remained. Shortly after, Fenn College realized the need for a cooperative education program. This enabled students to get experience in their field before graduation. Fenn College was the second school in Ohio to have a cooperative education program.<sup>7</sup> The program was pioneering and continues to help students today. Cooperative education programs are now a standard at most schools.

Now that Fenn College had the buildings and had the programs, the next need was to fill the seats. Most of the students were those who could not afford Case Institute of Technology and Western Reserve

University.8 Unlike the others in the area, Fenn College offered an affordable degree from a quality school in the making. Fenn College continued to grow as the years passed and more room was again needed. In 1937, Fenn College bought the National Town and Country Club building—now Fenn Tower.9 This gave the college a Euclid Avenue address—prestigious for the time. It also gave Fenn College a nickname: the Campus in the Clouds. 10 Shortly after acquiring the Tower, Fenn College became accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary School.<sup>11</sup> Even with Fenn Tower, more space was needed, particularly for the popular engineering school. Claud Foster donated money for a new building, which, in 1949, became the engineering building.12

With the continued success of the school, Fenn College never had a budget deficit, at least up until 1963, when operating costs climbed too high.<sup>13</sup> A change was necessary. After a long fight with the State of Ohio to have a state university in Cleveland, Cleveland State University was founded in 1964.<sup>14</sup> Fenn College began to thrive again and became the engineering school on campus.

Fenn College still thrives, though under a new name—Washkewicz College of Engineering—and with a new building—Washkewicz Hall. Donald and Pamela Washkewicz and the Parker Hannifin Corporation donated money for the new building and scholarships. Washkewicz is the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Parker Hannifin Corporation. The new building has a Parker Hannifin Motion and Control Laboratory and a Dan T. Moore makerspace. These will give students access to use their engineering skills and creatives senses.

From Y.M.C.A to Washkewicz College of Engineering, the school has changed and evolved. One thing that has remained is the interest in engineering. Cleveland State University is working toward having one of the strongest engineering programs in the country. <sup>16</sup> Are they close to that goal? It looks like it.

- 1. Earnest G. Brooks, "Fenn College." Case Western Reserve University, Case Western Reserve University, 2017, http://case.edu/ech/articles/f/fenn-college/.
- 2. "History of Fenn College," The Cleveland Memory Project, Cleveland State University, 2018, http://www.clevelandmemory.org/fenn/history.html.
- 3. The Cleveland Historical Team, "Fenn Tower 'The Campus in the Clouds,'" Cleveland Historical, Center for Public History + Digital Humanities, 2018, http://clevelandhistorical.org/items/show/54.
  - 4. "History," 1.
  - 5-7. Brooks, "Fenn College," 1.
  - 8. Cleveland Historical Team. "Fenn Tower," 1.
  - 9. "History," 1.
  - 10. Cleveland Historical Team, "Fenn Tower," 1.
  - 11-12. "History," 1.
- 13-14. Cleveland Historical Team. "Fenn Tower," 1.
- 15. Karen Farkas, "Cleveland State University Receives \$10 Million Gift for College of Engineering," *Cleveland.com*, 20 Nov. 2013, http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index. ssf/2013/11/cleveland\_state\_university\_rec.html. 16 Ibid., 1

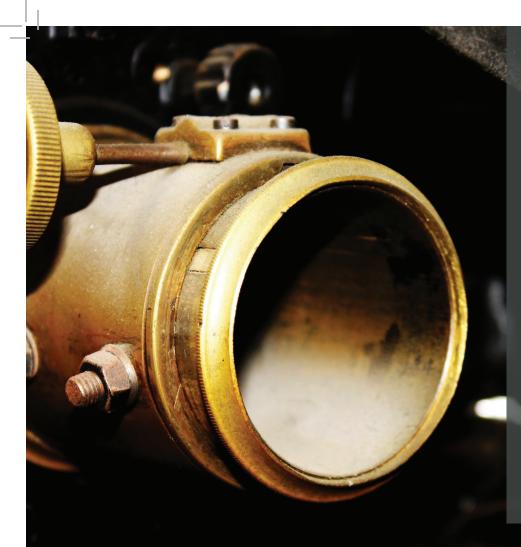
#### **Did you know?**

College lore holds that among the reasons for the original school's name change to Fenn College was that the school's graduates felt the name "YMCA" put them at a disadvantage in competing against graduates from other colleges in the job market.

1940-50's

1940 - Fenn receives accreditation from the North Central Association

1946 - Cleveland Law School and John Marshall School of Law merge into the Cleveland-Marshall Law School 1951 - Stillwell Hall completed 1959 Renovated Ohio Motors building becomes Stilwell Hall



# Requiem for a Film School

by Matt Mascolo

Since its announcement in April of 2016, Cleveland State's new film school has generated excitement from current film school students as well as community leaders. Film students see the school as a step toward greater legitimacy, while community leaders see the school's creation, and the influx of film related jobs it would bring to the area as a potential economic boom for the city. But lost in the shuffle of the prospect of new equipment and a completely reworked curriculum is the film school that came before. Before all focus completely shifts to the future, a brief history of what came before and what that meant is in order.

The film program was created through the combined efforts of Dr. Kimberly Neuendorf and associate professor John Ban. A pseudo film program had existed previously but nothing that resembled an actual academic program. The school up to that point had overwhelmingly focused on studio television production, and both

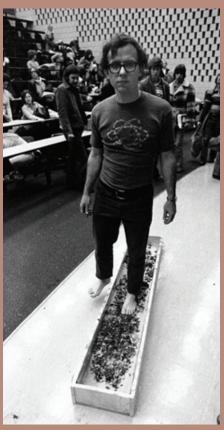
Neuendorf and Ban wanted to expand that focus to include film production as well. "So we did workshops," says Ban, and these workshops were not only funded by a presidential grant, but later renewed again and again. An art program winning a grant of that prestige was seen as a major coup by those in the still nascent film department, but it also showed that "the kids really wanted to do film" and that that interest was shared beyond Neuendorf and Ban.

Those previous successes led those in the growing department to wonder if perhaps hiring someone with an administrative history in film would benefit its growth. This thought was eventually realized with the hiring of Dr. Evan Lieberman for the 2006-2007 school year. Lieberman's path to Cleveland State was a strange one; in fact Cleveland State was the last university to contact him as a potential candidate. "They wanted someone who could teach screenwriting, production, theory, and history" says Lieberman, and rather than

be put off by the daunting workload, he embraced it. He then accepted the position and began to put together a curriculum reminiscent of the programs at prestigious schools such as at the University of Southern California and New York University.

This structure presented above has guided the film program until now. "The thing I'm the most proud of," says Lieberman "is that when I started we had twenty something majors, and then when I turned over the reins we had over 250 majors and we had become one of the fastest growing majors in the university." Even with that accomplishment in mind, there is a very real sense that the previous film program is being slowly forgotten. In the face of a new building, new curriculum, and a \$7.5 million dollar investment, the work done by those in the past seems to be fading from the public consciousness. At the very least, one hopes the sense of camaraderie and community that existed in the old school will be present in the new one as well.

With Fred Griffith of *The Morning Exchange* standing on him in MC 201, Dr. Walker lies between two beds of nails.



Dr. Walker in MC 201 after class, having walked on hot coals.

#### **Alum and Professor Look Back**

#### by Louise Beckstrom

In the past thirty years, CSU's campus has changed a lot. Buildings have come down and new ones have gone up. No one notices this difference more than the Cleveland State Alumnus. Jeffrey Beckstrom, who graduated from CSU in 1977 with a Bachelor's in Computer Science. He came back to CSU for an MBA in 1981. As for the changes that have happened on campus, Mr. Beckstrom said, "I think the campus has become more student friendly and am glad there are more students living on campus." The university is progressing along nicely. In response to Mr. Beckstrom's comment on the campus, Dr. Jearl Walker, a professor in the Physics Department, adds, "I remember when I first started, [the campus] was surrounded by slums and it was unsafe to walk around." These days, the city has been built up and students freely move

Dr. Walker was Mr. Beckstrom's physics professor. Mr. Beckstrom best remembers Dr. Walker as "very popular and a favorite among students—he made the class exciting, and I remember he was on *The Morning Exchange* [talk show]." "And I was on *The Tonight Show* with Johnny Carson," Dr. Walker adds, "I had my 15 minutes of fame on national TV." Mr. Beckstrom also remembers that Dr. Walker "did all these experiments in class. He made physics interesting." One of Dr. Walker's experiments had

him walk over hot coals during class (pictured in MC 201). Dr. Walker didn't just teach, though; he has also written books. One, *The Flying Circus of Physics*, was turned into a class for a period of time. Furthermore, the physics textbook used in the first two iterations of college physics was written by him.

After looking through his Commencement Booklet, Mr. Beckstrom finds that Dr. Walker won the 1977 Society Foundation Distinguished Faculty Award. Dr. Walker laughs and says, "Now I give an award: The Outstanding Teacher Award." Things have come full circle for Dr. Walker and he has become a role model.

Cleveland State University's campus has changed, the students have changed, and degrees have been added, but there are reminders of the past. Dr. Walker is one of those that ties the past, present, and future together. With his extensive experience, his quality teaching ensures a bright future for his students. Mr. Beckstrom is one of those students from Dr. Walker's beginnings. Now, working as a database administrator for the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority (GCRTA), Mr. Beckstrom shines with his education from Cleveland State. Quality faculty and hardworking students contribute to Cleveland State's reputation for excellence.



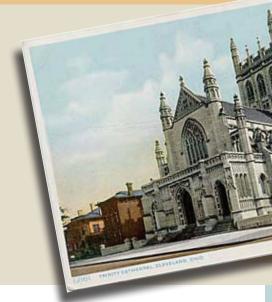


Jeffrey Beckstrom in college yearbook vs. now

Did you know?

Fenn Tower used to have the world's longest pendulum (211 feet).





## An Interview with Dr. Lehfeldt

#### by Matt Mascolo

Ever since becoming a part of the Honors College in 2014, Dr. Elizabeth Lehfeldt has been the Dean of the college, as well as a familiar face to those around the department. Rather than ask her about the current comings and goings of the college, which she has talked to this publication about numerous times in the past, we decided to get to know Dean Lehfeldt, the person, a little better.

#### 1. What hobbies do you have? Anything odd or strange?

Running (ran my first half-marathon in 2016!), cooking, traveling, needlepoint.

#### 2. What's your favorite color?

Growing up I wouldn't have hesitated and I would have said "blue." These days when I'm asked that question I don't have an immediate response. If you were to look at my closet, you might conclude purple. Or black.

#### 3. Favorite food/drink?

Pizza. Indian food. I drink coffee like it's going out of style.

#### 4. Favorite movie/TV show?

I hardly ever get to the movies anymore, but I am an unapologetic television enthusiast. I love *This Is Us* and am pretty much addicted to British police procedurals.

#### 5. Favorite musician?

Too many! I like singer-songwriter types, so Indigo Girls, Shawn Colvin, Bob Dylan, etc. I also still love the music from my high school and college days, so REM, the Police, etc.

#### 6. Favorite book?

Life After Life by Kate Atkinson.

7. Can you tell us something unusual or unexpected about yourself?
Something the Honors community may not know about you?

In 2010 I had breast cancer. It was a long and hard year that included a major surgery, chemotherapy, and radiation. Oddly, however, the experience has made me a more optimistic and happy person. I am a proud cancer survivor and committed to staying that way!

#### 8. Growing up, what was your dream job?

I'm not sure I ever had a dream job. I pretty much always gravitated towards education. Really, if I could, I'd be a professional student. I think that's what drew me to university teaching. If you stay active with your research, you get to continue being a student indefinitely.

#### 9. Have you ever met anyone famous? If not, what's your closest claim to fame?

I met Congressman John Lewis, who is one of my heroes, a few years ago. Shaking his hand is probably one of the greatest experiences of my life.

#### 10. What's your favorite thing to do around Cleveland?

I love the Cleveland Museum of Art, going to Indians games, and eating out.

#### 11. Are you sick of being interviewed for the Honors Newsletter?

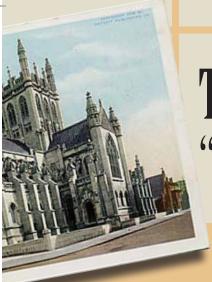
I never get tired of being interviewed for the Newsletter! Seriously. Students are the best part of this job and I love interacting with you.

1980's

1982 - Department of Nursing established

1985-6 season- Men's basketball team won 13 out of 14 NCAA Division 1 games 1986 - Official opening of Viking Hall

1987 - Doctor of Business Administration degree program approved 1989 - CSU celebrates 25th anniversary



### Trinity Cathedral: "The Middle Way"

by Emily Risley



On any given night, the massive wooden doors of Trinity Cathedral stand open, beckoning in passers-by on Euclid Avenue. On Wednesday evenings, one can pass through these doors and find themselves surrounded by the echoing, ethereal voices that make up Trinity's Evensong choir. This choir, full of modern adults of all ages, engages listeners in a tradition that is older than the cathedral itself.

It is said that Samuel Mather, of Mather Mansion, sometimes joked that he was married only six days of the week. On the seventh, he went to an Anglican Episcopal service, while his wife attended another church in the city. It was Mr. Mather who contributed financial support to the construction of Trinity Cathedral, the future place of worship of Trinity parish.

Trinity parish was founded in November of 1816 in Phineas Shepherd's home. When the congregation grew too large to be contained in Shepherd's home, they moved to a wooden structure on the corner of St. Clair and West 3rd Street (formerly known as Seneca) that, upon its consecration in 1829, became the first church building in the village of Cleveland. In 1855, the congregation moved again, this time to a large Gothic building; in 1890, Trinity church was offered as a seat for Bishop William A. Leonard, giving the parish the extra responsibility of maintaining a cathedral. This cathedral was designed by the distinguished architect Charles F. Schweinfurth.

Above: *Trinity Cathedral* Detroit Publishing Co. (Postcards of Cleveland)

<u> 1990's</u>

1990 - Music and Communication building completed 1996 - President Clinton and VP Al Gore appear at Wolstein Center

Originally intended as a Romanesque building, the Gothic Trinity Cathedral took six years to build. The structure is cruciform, meaning that it was built in the shape of a cross, and features a High Altar that weighs eight and a half tons, contains a stone from the Quarry of Solomon near Jerusalem, and faces south instead of the canonical east.<sup>2</sup> Behind the High Altar is a reredos, which is an ornamental screen of 59 figures carved from the same Indiana limestone that makes up the outside of the cathedral.<sup>3</sup> The chapel, a room in the southwest corner of the cathedral, features stained glass windows from the prior Trinity building and other closed Episcopal churches in Cleveland, a communion rail carved in England during 1457 taken from Old Trinity Church, and a triptych above the altar made during the 15th century.4

The original cathedral building is, today, very similar to how it was in the early twentieth century. Once visitors pass through the nave and the original cathedral, however, they will find themselves back in the present. East of the main cathedral is a circular piazza addition that houses clergy offices, meeting rooms, an enormous kitchen, and an oakpaneled library. Above the piazza hangs a circle of flags: the flag of the Episcopal church, the flag of the Diocese of Ohio, Trinity Cathedral's flag, and LGBTQ and Transgender Pride flags. Continuing through the piazza will bring visitors down a set of stairs and a corridor that connects to the back of Café Ah-Roma and Subway, giving students and visitors alike quick passage through all three establishments out of the weather.

In this, Trinity Cathedral is the *via media*, the middle way, that connects the old and new of campus—both the historic cathedral building with newer buildings, and the rich history of Cleveland with visitors both young and old.

#### Notes

1-4. *Trinity Episcopal Cathedral*. Cathedral Tour Information, 8.

2. Ibid., 6.

3. Ibid., 2.

4. Ibid., 3.

#### Did you know?

During the 1962 Ohio governor's race, James Rhodes proposed having a state university within a 30-mile radius of every citizen. At that time, Clevelands' nearest state university was Kent State in Kent, Ohio. On 18 December 1964, Gov. Rhodes signed Ohio General Assembly Amended House Bill No. 2, creating Ohio's 7th state university, Cleveland State University. (http://www.clevelandmemory.org/csu/)

1997 - New business building completed (Monte Ajuja Hall) 1998 - CSU adopts semester schedule



# Phi Mu: A Sorority with a Tradition of Giving

by Emily Risley



Phi Mu is the second oldest female fraternal organization in the United States, and the oldest sorority at Cleveland State. Kathleen McCurdy, president of the Rho Lambda chapter of Phi Mu at CSU, agreed to an interview to show the students of CSU both the history and future of Greek life as a part of Phi Mu.

#### 1. What year was Phi Mu founded, and by whom?

Phi Mu was founded at Wesleyan College in Macon, Georgia in 1852. Mary DuPont Lines, Mary Myrick Daniels, and Martha Hardaway Redding were the 3 founders of Phi Mu!

#### 2. Why was it founded?

Phi Mu was founded as a literary society for women at Wesleyan College.

#### 3. How has Phi Mu changed throughout the years?

Phi Mu wasn't Phi Mu at first—it was originally called the Philomathean Society until the Greek letters were chartered in 1904. Phi Mu has involved itself in several different philanthropic projects since its beginning, including adding Children's Miracle Network Hospitals (CMNH) as its philanthropy in 1994.

#### 4. How has Phi Mu affected the university through the years?

Phi Mu was the second National Panhellenic organization to charter on Cleveland State's campus. Since our installation, Phi Mu has started campus traditions such as the Dance Marathon that has since grown into

its own organization. Members of Phi Mu have served throughout the campus in many different capacities in other organizations. Phi Mu has helped alongside our other brothers and sisters in our Greek community in the push for better academic standards and camaraderie between our organizations and the campus community.

#### 5. What kinds of philanthropy do you do now, and how often?

Nationally, Phi Mu continues to serve CMNH and has contributed over \$14 million since adopting it as its philanthropy. Locally, Phi Mu started Cleveland State's Dance Marathon, which has raised over \$35,000 for our local Children's Miracle Network Hospital, Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital. Phi Mu has held drives for toys, hospital wish list items, and school supplies for the kids at Rainbow Babies. We hold several events each semester, both large and small in scale, to do whatever we can to support the hospital.

#### 6. What is required of members?

In Phi Mu, we like to say that being a Phi Mu is not about who you will become, but who you have always been. We believe that the uniqueness of our members is what makes Phi Mu so special. Phi Mu helps us to be vibrant women within our chapter, our campus community, and in our professional lives. In order to attain these ideals, we require members to hold standards related to academics and finance, but these standards are what helps our members grow and prepare for the real world.

# Making the Most of Making the Most of Experience Vour Honors Experience by Rachel Sullivan

Chief among the best things about being a part of Cleveland State University's Honors College are all of the opportunities provided to enhance the college experience for students. One way the college does this is by providing Honors Experience or HON courses. These courses not only provide a break from oftentimes rigorous classwork, but are a good way for Honors College students to connect and interact with each other. Some of the opportunities provided include a yoga class, movie watching club, sports appreciation, the chance to volunteer with local organizations, and the opportunity to write articles for and publish this newsletter.

So what kind of person are you? Are you interested in sharing your experience with other students and alumni? Do you want your voice to be heard about what's going on around campus? If so, try joining the team of students who publish the newsletter. Would you prefer to enjoy a list of interesting or quirky films in the Fenn Tower Theater? Check out Honors Movie Club during the spring semester. Do you enjoy working with others? Are you an excellent tutor or have a passion for working with children? Check out how volunteering can fulfill your HON requirement for each semester. The possibilities are endless and, regardless of the class you're choose for yourself, provide enjoyable experiences.

Another way to make the most of your time at Cleveland State University in the Honors College is to make sure you're checking your e-mails regularly for a range of opportunities. The Honors College often has exclusive offers such as discounted event tickets, internship opportunities, and even special trips to attend speakers and conferences. For example, this semester, a select group of students were chosen to travel to New York City to tour the science department of Pioneer Works. Honors College sponsored trips and offers for events are announced via e-mail and are offered usually on a first-come, first-served basis. If you would like to take advantage of these opportunities, it's important to be on the lookout for them.

Being a part of the Honors College at Cleveland State gives students so many opportunities to take their college experience to the next level—all you have to do is get involved and find what you enjoy!

#### **Did you know?**

Cleveland State University was recognized by the Brookings Institute as among Ohio's top four-year public universities for providing graduates the largest boost to their career income—on average, CSU graduates' mid-career salaries are \$10,000 more than those for grads from institutions with similar demographics.

2010's <sup>20</sup>

2013 - Fenn College of Engineering becomes the Washkewicz College of Engineering 2015 - Center for Innovation in Health Professions finished 2019 - Washkewicz College of Engineering to be finished



Exterior detail of the stone face above the main entrance of Fenn Tower on East 24th St., circa 1930