

## **Ohio's Independent Colleges and Universities One New Thing - 2020**

**Art Academy of Cincinnati** - The Art Academy of Cincinnati established the Corrina Mehiel Center for Urban Impact in collaboration with Mel Chin's S.O.U.R.C.E. STUDIO. This initiative will bring diverse woman artists to Cincinnati to work within the community of Cincinnati. Additionally, the Art Academy has established a Council on Diversity to continue to create additional pathways forward, for diversity, equity, and inclusion for our community.

**Ashland University** - Ashland University has launched a Physician Assistant graduate program and is currently reviewing applicants for admission into the Fall 2021 cohort. The Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies is a practice-focused degree that prepares Physician Assistants to function in diverse healthcare environments. Emphasis is placed on evidence-based medicine, to competently practice patient-centered care, exercise cultural humility, and cultivate a team approach that will produce practice-ready Physician Assistants upon graduation.

**Aultman College** - Even with many new things that we've all experienced as the result of COVID-19, Aultman College was able to continue its tradition of superior graduate preparedness. More than 90 percent of radiography graduates passed the ARRT exam, and 100 percent of nursing program graduates who have taken the NCLEX in 2020 have passed the exam to become an RN. For new programming: Aultman College's community education will start to offer a phlebotomy program in spring 2021.

**Baldwin Wallace University** - Building upon the success of BW's Accelerated Bachelor of Science in Nursing program, which has had exceptional NCLEX-RN exam pass rates since its inception, BW will launch a traditional four-year undergraduate nursing program for the first-year class entering BW in fall 2021.

**Bluffton University** - At Bluffton, we will help you discover your true self, achieve your goals and develop the resilience to pivot when plans must change. We call this the Bluffton Blueprint. The Bluffton Blueprint is ingrained in our campus culture and everything we do. But it starts with our Bluffton Blueprint classes, four foundational courses which include experiential components. In your first year, you'll take Becoming a Scholar, where you'll be mentored by professors who lead you through the "Design Your Life," curriculum originally developed by Stanford University. You'll learn to get more out of your college experience without getting overwhelmed.

**Capital University** - Capital University is pleased to announce that beginning this Fall, we will offer students two options for admission consideration: prospective students can either provide traditional test scores or complete a test-optional questionnaire. Both admission options require high school transcripts, which will also be used in the evaluation process. The test-optional questionnaire allows the Admission Office to gather a broader understanding of an applicant's ability to be successful at Capital University. With test-optional, the university will maintain minimum thresholds for academic indicators, but will also consider supplementary measurement tools such as essays, non-cognitive assessments, extra-curricular activities, and work experiences when reviewing applicants. It is our hope that we make the Capital experience more accessible and inclusive, and we look forward to an enriched campus community.

**Case Western Reserve University** - It's been quite a year for our new Health Education Campus (HEC), a 485,000-square-foot structure that stands next to Cleveland Clinic. Under normal conditions, this state-of-the-art facility brings medical, dental and nursing students together in teams before they graduate—for classes, meals, even studying. In the spring, CWRU partnered with

Cleveland Clinic to convert HEC to the Hope Hospital, increasing capacity for potential COVID patients. This fall, the HEC is mostly back to regular operations, including preparations to host the first presidential debate, leveraging the expertise of faculty and staff at both CWRU and Cleveland Clinic to do so safely.

**Cedarville University** - In fall 2019, Cedarville University launched the Beyond Startup Accelerator to foster a spirit of entrepreneurship among students and alumni. As part of Beyond, participants take entrepreneurship courses, benefit from access to business mentors, and present business ideas at biannual "pitch" competitions to receive feedback and potential investment. Beyond positions Cedarville to become the hub for new faith-based entrepreneurship in the Midwest. "Faith-Driven Investor" has already included Beyond in its list of Top 20 Accelerators.

**Cleveland Institute of Art** - Cleveland Institute of Art is pleased to announce that David Sigman is our new Vice President of Enrollment Management and Marketing. He comes to CIA from the Milwaukee Institute of Art and Design, where he was Director of Admissions. David has served on the board of directors for the National Portfolio Day Association, as a juror for the National Art Honors Society, and as a volunteer consultant for the Illinois High School Art Exhibition. He graduated magna cum laude from the University of Pennsylvania and completed the certificate program at the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts with a focus in studio art and art history.

**The Christ College of Nursing & Health Sciences** - The Christ College had record enrollment this year, exceeding 1,000 students for the first time in the college's history. Fall enrollment stands at 1,015.

**Columbus College of Art & Design** - They'll go from players to makers: In Columbus College of Art & Design's new Game Art & Design major, students learn everything game-making, from introductory coding to playable prototypes, from expert faculty across disciplines. Here at CCAD, they'll develop the skills and experience to create both digital and physical game-ready assets alongside emerging trends in augmented and virtual technologies, and they'll do it in a top city for aspiring game creators, with events like GDEX (the top gaming expo in the Midwest) and the Origins Game Fair (a tabletop gaming convention that's been going on for 45 years). Learn more at [ccad.edu](http://ccad.edu).

**University of Dayton** - 1) The University of Dayton is now test-optional. 2) In partnership with Sinclair Community College, we have developed over 70 pathways to a UD degree through our UD Sinclair Academy. 3) We now offer a full suite of online summer courses so future Flyers can get an early take-off to their degree.

**Defiance College** - Defiance College is proud to launch a new, innovative program called Jacket Journey. Housed in the newly created Institute for Career Readiness and Lifelong Learning, Jacket Journey prepares students for careers or graduate school aspirations by ensuring they can articulate their knowledge, skills and dispositions for success in their careers. There are three key objectives for Jacket Journey:

- 1) Focus on career readiness undergirded by the liberal arts to evolve students to step into the 21st century workplace
- 2) Connect the classroom and campus experiences to engage students in the development and practicing of skills for the 21st century workplace
- 3) Utilize community partners to position students to emerge into their professions of choice new thing.

**Denison University** - We are excited to announce the new Denison Launch Lab that is located in downtown Columbus and funded by the Austin E. Knowlton Foundation. The Launch Lab will provide support for Denison faculty who want to connect students and coursework to resources, experiences, and opportunities in Columbus. It will bring together academics, education technology firms, entrepreneurs and enterprises of all sorts to develop programs. Students will learn the fundamentals of workplace culture and capabilities, discover career options, and make essential connections. Students in all majors will have access to the lab including students in our newest majors that are Global Health and Politics and Public Affairs.

**The University of Findlay** - University of Findlay takes tremendous pride in the amount of hands-on education, practice, and research made available to students, faculty, staff, and the community as a whole. Recently construction has begun outdoor research enclosure lab which will be the sixth of its kind in the world. This lab will be used in Environmental, Health, Safety & Sustainability (EHSS) courses to aid in the research of pollutant effects on air.

**Franciscan University of Steubenville** - New On-Campus and Online Programs

In fall 2020, Franciscan University of Steubenville began offering a new BS in Biochemistry to expand its science degree offerings and career options for students, and it added a new BS in Criminal Justice grounded in Catholic teaching, natural law, and Judeo-Christian ethics. Franciscan University also began offering online versions of its BA in Catechetics, BS in Management, BA in Psychology, BA in Theology, and BA in Philosophy programs in response to requests to make Franciscan University's academically excellent and passionately Catholic education more widely available to students of various ages and life circumstances. [www.franciscan.edu](http://www.franciscan.edu)

**Franklin University** - From generous transfer policies to flexible course options and online degree programs, Franklin University has a long history of removing barriers to higher education. For the 2020-21 academic year, Franklin is proud to announce our tuition guarantee, a fixed tuition rate for associate, bachelor's and master's degree-seeking students. The rate, which locks-in at the time of the student's initial registration at Franklin, remains constant as long as a student maintains active enrollment status. The predictable rate positions students to accurately budget for tuition expenses, provides an additional incentive for steady persistence, and enables students to minimize out-of-pocket cost.

**Good Samaritan College of Nursing and Health Science** - Good Samaritan College of Nursing and Health Science is now offering a 100% Online RN to BSN Completion Program. We also offer various healthcare/general education courses online! Visit [www.gscollege.edu](http://www.gscollege.edu) for details.

**Heidelberg University** - This year Heidelberg University has updated our admissions process to include a test optional choice for students. We value students as individuals, as well as their academic credentials and track record. With that in mind, we are providing a test optional admission option for students who do not feel that their ACT/SAT score is reflective of their academic ability. We've also increased our renewable academic scholarships to range from \$15,000 up to \$20,000 a year. We feel these changes help make Heidelberg more accessible and affordable for our best fit students.

**Hiram College** - To eliminate the "sticker shock" that discourages students from learning more about its excellent educational experience, Hiram has created a whole new tuition model. The new model is a lower price/lower discount one that includes free summer courses and increased opportunities for paid internships and research projects. It is designed to capture the attention of students from all socio-economic backgrounds: making Hiram immediately attractive both to students who have significant financial need and to those who qualify for less "need-based" aid.

**John Carroll University** - John Carroll University: JCU has recently completed the second phase of student-driven improvements to D.J Lombardo Student Center. The Corbo Fitness Center has been expanded and reconfigured to include new fitness and weight lifting equipment, new large screen TV monitors, and new flooring. JCU's Music Room has also been expanded to include a choral room, instrumental room, and piano lab. Other recent renovations within the Student Center include the expansion and redesign of common areas and study spaces, and the addition of an outdoor patio.

**Kenyon College** - Kenyon's new Chalmers Library, opening in spring 2021, will feature state-of-the-art technology for undergraduate research, a concentration of student services such as the Career Development Office and classrooms that serve as laboratories for educational innovation. The new library is designed with the LEED Gold certification in mind and will be significantly greener and more energy efficient than the previous buildings. Chalmers Library will anchor the West Quad, which will also include an interdisciplinary academic building and new home for admissions and financial aid.

**Kettering College** - Kettering College recently renovated the Interprofessional Education (IPE) Simulation Center that now includes 10 additional client care beds, one of which mirrors a labor and delivery/postpartum setting, a pediatric patient room, a nursing station, a classroom, and a large control room where the simulations are run.

This extension allows eight to 10 simulations at the same time, which doubles the number of simulations students could participate at one time.

The IPE Simulation Center allows students to discover the best practices in a multi-disciplinary environment, resulting in our students delivering healthcare in a collaborative approach that is industry leading.

**Lake Erie College** - Lake Erie College: Lake Erie College continues to make exciting enhancements to its beautiful Painsville campus. Updates have included improvements to iconic College Hall, residence halls, Royce Hall for Fine and Performing Arts and new classrooms in the Garfield Center as well as advancements to the College's technology infrastructure. The new Inspiration Arena at the George M. Humphrey Equestrian Center has 20,000 square feet of riding space allowing students to take more riding classes, more team practice opportunities and more riding time to improve skills in both Western and English riding. Lake Erie College provides a highly personalized education grounded in the liberal arts tradition.

**Lourdes University** - The iWolf Power of Innovative Learning Program ensures a dynamic and relevant learning experience for Lourdes University students. By providing a more technology-rich environment, Lourdes seeks to increase student learning and engagement, improve the quality of teaching materials and decrease student costs.

Incoming freshmen receive an iPad with Apple Keyboard and Pencil, and select 100 level courses are designed with the full support of mobile technology. Faculty teaching these courses provide a more dynamic learning in-classroom experience, and online textbooks and open source materials promote a 24/7 educational experience.

**Malone University** - Renewing our commitment to help students discover a meaningful life, Malone University founded the Pendle Hill Pledge, a program designed for students to explore their calling through mentoring, experiential learning, and career support. Pioneer Park, home to intercollegiate competitions, club sports, and intramurals, will move forward with Phase 2 of the project, thanks to a generous donation of \$750,000 from the Hoover Foundation of Canton. To provide students with practical skills for today's working world, two majors and two minors have been added: Data

Analytics and Professional Writing and Editing; Chemical Dependency Counseling and Spanish for Service and the Professions.

**Marietta College** - Marietta College has approved a graduate program in Athletic Training.

**Mercy College of Ohio** - Mercy College of Ohio's new Pre Physician Assistant Direct Entry program allows for academically talented incoming freshman students to gain direct entry admission into the Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies (MPAS) program after successful completion of the approved plan of study for the Pre-PA Biology major and fulfilling admissions requirements. This alleviates the stress and uncertainty associated with the application process into a MPAS program. The Mercy College Pre PA biology degree provides specific course work required and healthcare experiences to strengthen clinical awareness and preparation for PA school. For more information visit [www.mercycollege.edu/prepa](http://www.mercycollege.edu/prepa)

**Mount St. Joseph University** - Mount St. Joseph University is celebrating our 100th year! As always, our goal remains to help our students develop as a whole person - mind, body, and spirit. Our Centennial Field House (opening in the fall of 2020) boasts energy-efficient features, an NCAA regulation-size track, practice and training spaces, a fitness center, and multi-purpose workout areas. It will be the only facility of its kind in the Cincinnati region.

New degrees:

- Bachelor degree
  - Communication Sciences & Disorders
  - Computer Science - Natural Language Processing
- Doctor of Education in Reading Science

**University of Mount Union** - The University of Mount Union continues to address college affordability and make its education accessible to students of all backgrounds by establishing the Pell Opportunity Grant. This grant bridges the gap between tuition costs and what families of modest financial means can afford to pay toward a degree. The University named Dr. Thomas Botzman the 13th president and was recently honored by Colleges of Distinction and received recognition for its programs in education, engineering, and nursing. Mount Union has approved a test optional policy for students applying for admission through spring 2022, suspending its ACT or SAT requirements.

**Mount Vernon Nazarene University** - Mount Vernon Nazarene University continues to innovate on behalf of students during these difficult times. Due to the uncertainty regarding standardized testing, MVNU announced that test scores are optional for incoming freshmen. In academic news, our new Biology track, Pre-Chiropractic, will prepare students for entry into chiropractic school. In keeping with its commitment to athletic expansion, MVNU has announced the addition of women's lacrosse for the 2021-22 season. The team will take the field in MVNU's new soccer and lacrosse stadium. Through it all, MVNU will stand firm to its motto: "To Seek to Learn is to Seek to Serve."

**Muskingum University** - The Muskingum University Athletic Department is excited to announce the addition of STUNT and Archery as our next varsity sport programs. Muskingum is the only school in the Ohio Athletic Conference, as well as one of very few in the state of Ohio to field both of these programs. STUNT is one of the fastest-growing female sports in the country and governed by USA Cheer, while Archery will offer competitive opportunities for barebow, recurve, compound and bowhunter divisions.

**University of Northwestern Ohio** - The University of Northwestern Ohio is celebrating its 100th year of educating students in 2020. Known worldwide as a leader in automotive, diesel, and high-performance motorsports education, UNOH has been helping students turn their passion into a career since 1920 in 50 accredited degree programs. This fall UNOH launches a new facet of their Diesel program, Light Duty Diesel. Light Duty Diesel Technology will be an associate degree program with a focus on smaller and consumer driven diesel vehicles and machinery as opposed to Heavy-Duty Diesel Technology program which has been part of our curriculum for nearly 50 years.

**Notre Dame College** - The new BA in Cybersecurity at Notre Dame College prepares students with new high-tech facilities, up-to-date curriculum, industry professionals as professors, and tech certifications. Cyber facilities built with a \$2.1 million grant include a Situation Room equipped with video wall, and a new Cybersecurity lab. The curriculum includes IT fundamentals, networks, ethical hacking, digital forensics, mobile/cloud security, and more, ending with an internship at a local cybersecurity facility. Cyber professors include industry professionals with years of experience in the cyber field. The program prepares students for certifications in A+, Network+, and Security+ so that NDC Cybersecurity graduates are ready for the cyber profession.

**Oberlin College** - Oberlin College is poised to prepare visionary and creative leaders in business, journalism, and the arts by introducing several new programs. Our integrative concentration in business provides students with both the values of a liberal arts education and high-quality experiences in business and finance. Our integrative concentration in journalism enhances our long history of preparing journalists for successful careers at some of the world's leading media outlets. Finally, students can deepen and widen their understanding of music through five new interdisciplinary programs: Music and Cognition, Music and Popular Culture, Interdisciplinary Performance, Arts & Creative Technologies, and Arts Administration and Leadership.

**Ohio Christian University** - We have added a Kingdom Diversity group in order to facilitate healthy, loving conversations about racial identity and equality from a kingdom perspective. We now offer flexible virtual meetings year-round with our Major Programs, Financial Aid Officers, Admissions Counselors, and more. In addition, we offer fully virtual Preview Days throughout the semester that offer the content of our in-person Preview Days, but from the safety of the prospective student's home.

**Ohio Dominican University** - ODU has increased the number of hybrid classrooms this summer from six to 31. These classrooms feature technology that lets professors live stream their classes, safely lets students participate in every lecture, and allows questions to be asked in real time no matter if the student is in person or attending remotely.

**Ohio Northern University** - Ohio Northern professor Dr. Robert Alexander appeared in the recently aired CNN special report "Count on Controversy: Inside the Electoral College." The documentary featured Alexander, professor of political science and director of the ONU Institute for Civics and Public Policy, as an electoral college expert and gave a nod to his extensive research on the topic, which spans over two decades. Alexander has written two books on the subject and his research — compiled over the past two decades with help from ONU students — was cited in oral arguments in a case before the U.S. Supreme Court.

**Ohio Wesleyan University** - Ohio Wesleyan is in the process of completing the first phase of a \$60 million Residential Renewal Project. Phase I focuses on the complete renovation of Smith Hall, which will become home to all first year students in Fall 2021. In addition, construction on Bradford Milligan Hall - OWU's first ever apartment building - is underway. Expected to also be open in Fall 2021, Bradford Milligan Hall will house 126 students in four-, six- and eight-bed units.

**Otterbein University** - In February, 2020, Otterbein University was named Ohio's first Truth, Racial Healing and Transformation Campus Center by the Association of American Colleges & Universities. As part of our commitment to affordability, we have eliminated the application fee. Due to the limited availability of standardized tests, Otterbein will be test optional for admission and scholarships for Spring, Summer and Fall 2021. [www.otterbein.edu/testoptional](http://www.otterbein.edu/testoptional). COTA Plus, an uber-like door-to-door service will take students from campus to anywhere in Westerville or Polaris Entertainment district for just \$3 a ride. Connect to a COTA bus and it's free.

**University of Rio Grande** - Our new Biochemistry major has been developed according to ACS and ASBMB guidelines to provide students with the tools that they need for post-baccalaureate education or a career in Chemistry or Biochemistry. The major is a 2+2 with the A.S. Chemistry to accommodate Rio Grande students or transfer students who are looking for a research-focused major at a predominantly undergraduate institution.

**Tiffin University** - Ever moving forward, science and technology are among Tiffin University's fastest growing areas of study. TU's newest building, the Center for Science and Technology, means more laboratory and instructional space, while integrating chemistry, biology, forensic and applied sciences. Students will delve into the role of the essential role of physical activity and exercise in the prevention, treatment and recovery with a 2,400 square-foot exercise science laboratory, ensuring that students will develop experiential skills they'll need in the workforce. New academic programs: applied health science/nursing, manufacturing management. Visit [tiffin.edu](http://tiffin.edu) for more or [tiffin.edu/visit](http://tiffin.edu/visit) for a virtual visit.

**Union Institute & University** - Union Institute & University has added a Master's Program in Applied Nutrition & Dietetics that is accredited through ACEND. The institution is still offering ways for students to Engage, Enlighten and Empower others through these tough times in the world, all the while doing so in an online education delivery format!

**Ursuline College** - Ursuline is excited to announce the addition of 3 new academic options: Exercise Science, Engineering 3+2 Partnership, and our LECOM medical school partnership. Exercise Science majors will benefit from a dedicated lab space featuring cutting-edge equipment. Ursuline's 3+2 Engineering Partnership with the University of Dayton allows students to seamlessly transition into Dayton's master-level programs in Bioengineering, Chemical Engineering or Materials Engineering. Students will earn their bachelor's degree through Ursuline in Biology or Chemistry. Additionally, Ursuline recently finalized a partnership with LECOM allowing Ursuline students advanced admission into LECOM's College of Osteopathic Medicine, School of Dental Medicine or School of Pharmacy.

**Walsh University** - Walsh University has launched 10 new majors this fall with programs geared towards student and industry needs including eSports/Gaming Management, Public Health, Actuarial Science, Data Analytics, Game Development, Information Technology, Web Design, Supply Chain

Management, Professional Sales and Human Resources Management, all are available in a hybrid of in-person and online formats. Walsh also transitioned from 16-week to 8-week terms, providing more flexibility for students to earn their college degree at their preferred pace, pursue internships, employment and other learning activities. Students will take a full load of courses, but through two consecutive terms, rather than simultaneously.

**Wilmington College** - Happy birthday, Wilmington College! 150 years ago, two brothers hitched a white horse to a phaeton and traveled the countryside building financial support for the establishment of a Quaker-affiliated college in Wilmington. Much has happened during the ensuing 150 years — WC merged with an institution twice its size, a WWII Air Force fighter plane crash-landed on the campus mall, a visionary student established an agriculture program in 1948 and a scrappy women's basketball team won a national championship. Those are but a few moments in our rich history, but a constant has been alumni going out and changing the world.

**Wittenberg University** - Wittenberg University announces the establishment of the Wittenberg Institute for Public Humanities and Sciences (WIPHS), focusing on providing learning and research opportunities for students in public-facing humanities and sciences through curricular and co-curricular opportunities and faculty-student collaborations. WIPHS also aims to foster the growth of public-facing humanities and sciences through innovative inter-institutional collaborations, and initiate a new signature program every two years that is responsive to the needs or trends of the public.

**The College of Wooster** - The College of Wooster announces new academic majors in Education, Environmental Studies, Global Media & Digital Studies, and Statistical & Data Sciences. Students may also pursue Wooster Pathways, new interdisciplinary programs distinct from majors and minors that connect academic interests (typically 3-4 courses) with career preparation including a guaranteed internship, service learning, or study abroad opportunity. Pathway examples include Entrepreneurship, Global Impacts - International Service & Development, Public Health, and Data Exploration & Design.

**Xavier University** - Xavier University's new Health United Building (home to health-related academic programs, student fitness center, and student health) is now open. Students can be considered for test-optional admission, including merit scholarships and Honors programs. A new Honors program in Data Science is now accepting applicants for Fall 2021 admission.