

## Josh Gracin, Reel Big Fish among performers at Music Fest 2013

By Meghan Cunningham

Josh Gracin was first introduced to the world as the country-singing U.S. Marine in the second season of “American Idol.”

Fans now know him as the artist behind the hit songs “Nothin’ to Lose,” “We Weren’t Crazy” and “Stay with Me (Brass Bed).”

The singer will stop by Toledo next month as he travels the country for the Josh Gracin Drink it Gone Summer Tour to take part in Music Fest 2013 at The University of Toledo.

The free outdoor music festival will take place Friday, Sept. 13, on UT’s Main Campus and will feature Gracin along with the ska band Reel Big Fish and a variety of musical guests that will be announced soon.

The Lonely Friends won the Local Band Challenge and will open Music Fest 2013 at 3 p.m. on the lawn outside Memorial Field House.

“Each year we strive to have something for every type of fan, and the diversity in the lineup for the 2013 show will again have all music lovers on their feet dancing and singing to their favorite songs,” said Larry Burns, UT vice president for external affairs. “Stay tuned for additional acts to be released later this week with the final band announced next week.”

Gracin, a native of Westland, Mich., earned a fourth-place finish on the popular singing competition show that crowned Ruben Studdard the idol that season.

After completing his military service in 2004, Gracin began his music career, releasing three albums, including his self-titled debut that was certified gold by the Recording Industry Association of America.

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Gracin

## Engineering, Medicine faculty members awarded \$2.3 million by Ohio Third Frontier Program

By Casey Cheap

The University of Toledo colleges of Engineering and Medicine and Life Sciences will collaborate with three Ohio companies to develop improved spinal implants and exercise machines for rehabilitation services needed to treat spinal injuries.

The three companies collaborating with UT are X-Spine, Metro Medical Innovations and Turning Point Biotechnology.

The Ohio Third Frontier Commission recently approved the expenditure of \$20.5 million for the support of new technologies that will prepare Ohio students for employment in technology-based industries. And an interdisciplinary proposal by the UT colleges of Engineering and Medicine and



Goel

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## Cool art



Photos by Daniel Miller



Greg Justus, one of more than 100 artists featured at the event, worked on a painting. More than 10,000 checked out creations at the juried art fair last month, according to Ansley Abrams-Frederick, director of alumni programming in the Office of Alumni Relations.

Lila Broughthton, 4, created a masterpiece in the children’s tent during the 21st annual Art on the Mall.

# U.S. Department of Defense recognizes UTMC's flexibility for staffer in military

By Casey Cheap

The University of Toledo Medical Center was one of 35 Ohio employers to receive an Above and Beyond Award from the U.S. Department of Defense out of more than 17,000 nominations in the state.

UTMC was recognized for its flexibility and willingness to cooperate and work around U.S. Jeremy Campbell's military service. Campbell, a surgical technician, was deployed overseas in the Army three times from 2007 to 2012.

Campbell has worked for the hospital since 2004 and prepares equipment and assists surgeons during operations. He was deployed for one year to Iraq in 2007 just before the 2008 surge, and to Afghanistan in 2010 and 2011.

"Every time I came back, they offered more time off than needed," Campbell said. "The government says employers need to give military personnel up to 90 days to get back to work, but UT was willing to give more time had I needed it."

Everyone in his department stayed in touch with him while deployed, and UTMC

was willing to pay 100 hours of military time off as vacation pay, said Campbell, who nominated the medical center for the award.

"The department always supported him overseas," said Edwin Hall, administrator of surgical services. "Jeremy could always reclaim his job and is an integral part of the operating team. He always had our moral support."

Hall received a Patriot Award for his role in keeping Campbell briefed and staying flexible with his deployments.

The awards were given recently at the 2013 Department of Defense Employer Recognition Banquet in Columbus. The recognition from the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve included a plaque and trophy.

The Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve was established in 1972 to promote understanding between Reserve Component Service members and their civilian employers and to assist in the resolution of conflicts arising from an employee's military commitment.



**ATTENTION!** Army Staff Sgt. Jeremy Campbell, UT surgical technician, center, posed for a photo with Terry Witter, regional director of the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve, left, and Edwin Hall, UT administrator of surgical services, at the Department of Defense Employer Recognition Banquet in Columbus.

## Music Fest

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Gracin's newest single, "Drink it Gone," was released in May, and he is writing and recording his next album.

Area fans will have the opportunity to hear Gracin live at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 13.

Reel Big Fish, known for the songs "Sell Out" and "Take on Me," also will play Music Fest. The group will take the stage at 9 p.m.

Last year, the ska-punk band released its seventh studio album, *Candy Coated Fury* (Rock Ridge Music). It is the group's first album of newly recorded material in five years.

They hit the music scene in 1995 with their first album, the self-released *Everything Sucks*, that gained word of mouth attention and led to their sophomore studio album, *Turn the Radio Off*, and future success.

Reel Big Fish also is known for its appearance in the movie "BASEketball" and its version of "Take on Me" was featured on the soundtrack.

For more information about Music Fest 2013, visit [utoledo.edu/musicfest](http://utoledo.edu/musicfest) or follow the event on Facebook at [facebook.com/UTMusicFest](http://facebook.com/UTMusicFest).



Reel Big Fish

## \$2.3 million

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Life Sciences has been awarded \$2.3 million for spinal research and product development.

A dollar-for-dollar match in funds is committed jointly by UT and the three companies.

Dr. Vijay Goel, UT Distinguished University Professor and endowed chair of orthopedic bioengineering, is the principal investigator.

The Ohio Third Frontier Program is administered through the Ohio Development Services Agency.

"Ohio Third Frontier sent out an email to UT," Goel said. "Once we became aware of the grant opportunity, I attended a bidder's conference in Columbus, submitted a letter of intent, and sent in our proposal."

Goel cited the peer-recognized collaborations between the colleges of Engineering and Medicine and Life Sciences and between the departments of Bioengineering and Orthopedics as to why UT was chosen for the grant.

The proposal strives to accomplish the development of several next-generation spinal implants and

therapeutic devices from concept to market at the request of several clients and companies.

"I want to thank UT President Lloyd Jacobs; co-investigators Dr. Anand Agarwal, research professor and orthopedic spine surgeon; Dr. Sarit Bhaduri, professor of mechanical, industrial and manufacturing engineering and surgery; Dr. Hossein Elgafy, associate professor of orthopedics; and Dr. Mustapha Khan, assistant professor of orthopedics; and everyone from the three companies for making this happen," Goel said.

He also thanked Dr. Nagi Naganathan, dean of the College of Engineering; Dr. Jeffrey Gold, chancellor and executive vice president for biosciences and health affairs, and dean of the College of Medicine and Life Sciences; Dr. James Trempe, vice president for research; Dr. Frank Calzonetti, vice president for government relations; and Anne Izzi and Stephen Snider from the Tech Transfer Office for their support of this project.

## UT alumna to open charter school in Detroit

By Khyara Harris

A University of Toledo alumna who founded a unique and successful business making eco-friendly children's clothing is embarking on another project to assist youth by starting a charter school in Detroit.



Smitley

"Being a young entrepreneur, we were going to all these fancy parties being called the future of this country. But what I was seeing was we were just talking about how great we were," said Kyle Smitley, who graduated from the UT College of Law in 2011. "I remember just being like, 'Is this as good as it gets?'"

"My company gave money to a charter school and those kids were geniuses but were growing up in a poor Chicago neighborhood. It was that moment when I decided that I could use my business savvy to develop my own charter."

Smitley, who began her own eco-friendly children's clothing line called barley & birch in 2009, is working to create the Detroit Achievement Academy. The K-8 school aims to look at education differently with the model of "teaching students up."

"We'll begin with 100 students, 50 first-graders and 50 kindergartners, and we'll move them up every year until eighth grade," she said, adding that each year a new class of kindergartners will join the school.

Growing up 30 minutes outside Detroit, Smitley decided to begin her first charter school there.



"I always knew I wanted to go back, and Detroit is one of the poorest cities in the country," she said. "The Grandmont-Rosedale neighborhood is the poorest, and we were being told good luck with these kids and families. We wanted to make a huge impact within this particular area."

The curriculum will include Detroit's history and present-day developments. The school also will focus on involving parents and families in the education and engaging with the community as a resource and community center.

Smitley's entrepreneurial spirit was first recognized while she was a third-year law student at UT. That's when she began barley & birch, which obtained national attention because of its focus on using organic cotton to develop children's clothes, and that process cuts the use of insecticides.

She was featured as the Huffington Post's "Greatest Person of the Day" in 2012 and strongly believes UT faculty members were part of her inspiration.

"I was in law school while also running a business. It was so brutal. Some professors were so kind and supportive and encouraging, and still are, and that was an amazing environment to learn in," she said.

The Detroit Achievement Academy's curriculum outperforms other schools in the district by 12 percent and is a strictly not-for-profit charter, Smitley said. The school also has implemented an organic and locally sourced meal plan program to help kids eat healthy.

The charter school will open Tuesday, Sept. 3. Smitley is raising funds to help with its first year.

To find out more about the Detroit Achievement Academy, visit [detroitachievement.org](http://detroitachievement.org).



Photo by Daniel Miller

**SIGNING IN:** Collegiate cyclists participating in the Journey of Hope stopped on Main Campus last week and signed a poster, a tradition that started several years ago during their annual visit. The 3,700-mile cross-country event is a program of Push America, the national philanthropy of Pi Kappa Phi Fraternity, which raises funds and awareness for people with disabilities.

### In memoriam

**Jeanne A. Hockley**, Toledo, a longtime member of the Satellites Auxiliary, died July 22 at age 86.

**Joanne M. (Pawelczak) Katafias**, Toledo, a former member of the Satellites Auxiliary, died July 29 at age 84.

**Joseph R. Links II**, Hudson, Mich., died July 23 at age 68. He joined the UT faculty as an instructor in business technology in 1969 and was promoted to assistant professor in 1973 and later to associate professor. In 1974, Links received one of the University's Outstanding Teacher Awards. In addition to teaching, he served as coordinator of the former Community and Technical College's Computer Programming Technology Program.

**Phyllis (Eck) Nordin**, Rochester, N.Y., died July 23 at age 84. An artist known for work in stained glass, metals and fibers, Nordin was commissioned to design a fountain for the University's centennial. The Toledo Edison Memorial Fountain was built in front of the Student Union in 1980.

Look for the next issue of UT News **Aug. 19**

## Law professor cited in 10th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals case

By Samantha Watson

**T**hanks in part to an article written by Lee J. Strang, UT professor of law, Hobby Lobby may no longer be required to offer its employees birth control and abortion-inducing medications.

The Greens, a Christian family who owns Hobby Lobby, went to the 10th U.S.

Circuit Court of Appeals to protest the Health and Human Services Mandate. The mandate requires employers to provide health insurance with coverage of contraceptive and abortion-inducing drugs — which goes against the Greens' religious beliefs.

The Greens claimed that the mandate violates the First Amendment, which states “Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof.” The Greens also argued that the mandate violates the Religious Freedom Restoration Act (RFRA), which prohibits laws that substantially burden a person's free exercise of his or her religion.

Because Hobby Lobby is a corporation, the court had to decide whether or not it was protected by RFRA, and that's where Strang's article came into play. His article uncovered the original meaning of “religion” in the First Amendment.

In his article, Strang found that in the draft of the First Amendment, the language changed from “protection of conscience” to “free exercise.” Strang stated that this change made the belief system of religion susceptible to corporate embodiment because while conscience is something only individuals have, exercise may be done by a community of believers.

Unlike other similar court cases challenging the mandate, this one was decided on by all the 10th Circuit judges rather than the usual three — called an “en banc” decision in the legal world. Moreover, unlike other cases so far, the 10th Circuit ruled that the family-owned company should be protected by RFRA.

“This is a major decision that expands who's protected by the Religious Freedom Restoration Act,” Strang said. “It's not just individuals, it's not just not-for-profit churches, it's for-profit companies like Hobby Lobby.”

The 10th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals is the first to rule in favor of religious protection for a corporation, and Strang's article was at the heart of its decision.

“It's gratifying to have American law change in response to something that I've researched and written,” Strang said. “Professionally, it's a validation that what I've done is valuable to American legal practice.”



Strang

## Mechanical engineering students win national design competition

**F**our recent graduates from The University of Toledo College of Engineering won first place in a national design competition with a device that assists individuals who have issues with mobility.

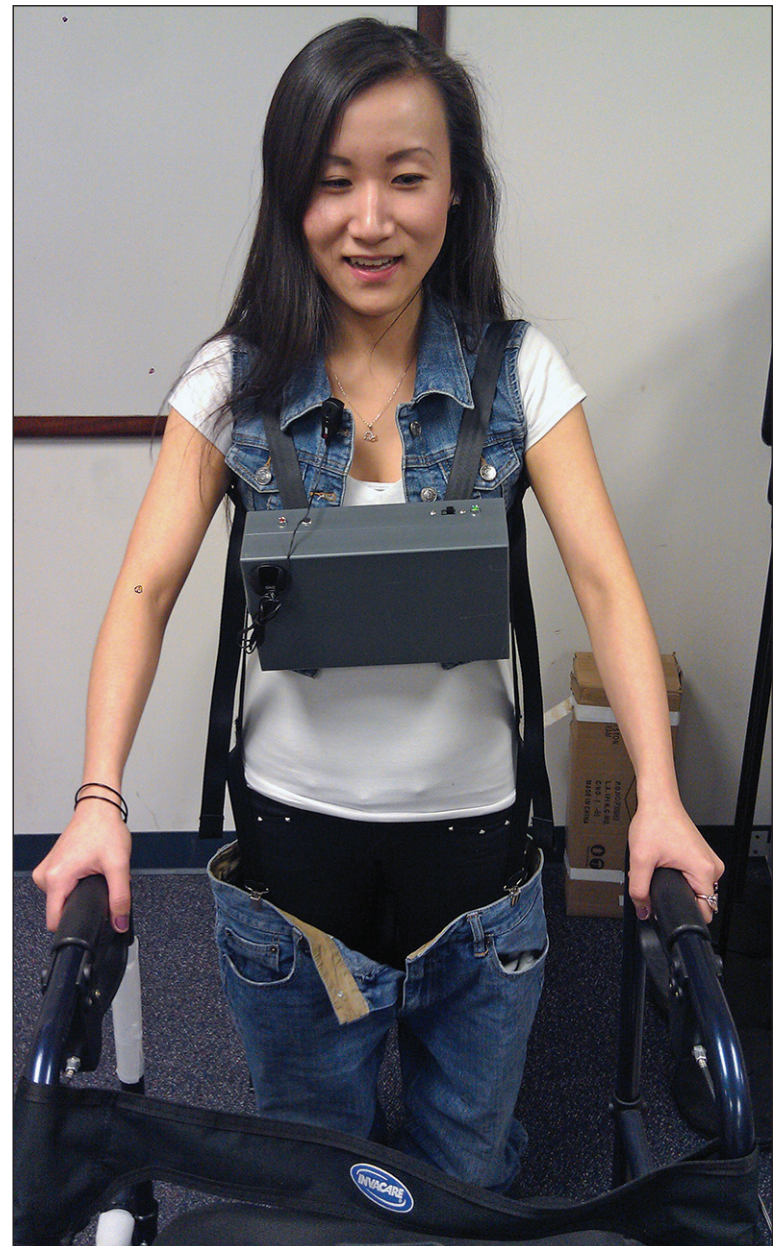
Xiaotong Li, Aaron Kirgesner, Mitchell Cramer and Adam Stephens created a device that attaches to an individual's pants and lifts or lowers them to or from a person's waist with voice activation. The device was created during the fall 2012 semester as the students' senior project, which was required for graduation in December that year.

In January, they submitted their concept to the 2013 Undergraduate Design Project Competition in Rehabilitation and Assistive Devices.

Out of 24 entries, the students were selected as one of six finalists to present their prototypes at the American Society of Mechanical Engineers 2013 Summer Bioengineering Conference held in Sunriver, Ore.

At the conference, the UT students were awarded first place as decided by judges from both academia and industry. The students received a plaque and certificate.

This project was possible for the students with the help of faculty advisers Dr. Mohamed Samir Hefzy, associate dean of graduate studies and research administration in the College of Engineering and professor of mechanical, industrial and manufacturing engineering, and Dr. Mehdi Pourazady, associate professor of mechanical, industrial and manufacturing engineering. It was funded by a grant from the National Science Foundation with Hefzy as a principal investigator and Pourazady as a co-principal investigator.



**AWARD-WINNING ASSISTANCE:** Xiaotong Li demonstrated the voice-activated device she and Aaron Kirgesner, Mitchell Cramer and Adam Stephens created to assist individuals who have mobility issues with lifting and lowering their pants.

## Pedestrian bridge behind library to be closed Aug. 5-8

**T**he pedestrian bridge behind Carlson Library will be closed Monday, Aug. 5, through Thursday, Aug. 8, due to work in the Ottawa River.

The final phase of Ottawa River restoration is under way and includes removing non-native invasive plants along the riverbank and adding large rocks, logs and other natural materials to mimic actual water flow and allow more diversity in the aquatic habitat.

The in-stream work is the final phase of the project that has included adding more than 300 native plants and trees along the banks of the river and creating a cut bank area near the Law Center last summer that will allow for more water storage during higher river levels.

The final phase of restoration is expected to be complete by Aug. 12.

## Statistical Society of Canada recognizes UT professor

By Khyara Harris

A University of Toledo math professor has been honored by the Statistical Society of Canada for a study that researched the separation between control groups and case groups in medical studies.

Dr. Biao Zhang, UT professor of mathematics and statistics, received the Canadian Journal of Statistics Award in May during the society's annual meeting.

"I am very honored. To win this award means that our research was recognized for being innovative in both methodology and presentation," Zhang said. "I am grateful for the attention, but hopefully this also brings more attention to the importance of statistics in the area of medical diagnostics."

The Canadian Journal of Statistics Award is given annually by the Statistical Society of Canada to the author(s) of an article published in the previous year in the publication in recognition of the outstanding quality of the paper's methodological innovation and presentation, according to Christian Leger, president of the Statistical Society of Canada.

Zhang and his partners Dr. Zhong Guan, professor of mathematical sciences at Indiana University at South Bend, and Dr. Jing Qin, mathematical statistician with the National Institute of Allergy and

Infectious Diseases, published a paper titled "Information Borrowing Methods for Covariate-Adjusted ROC (Receiver Operating Characteristic) Curve," in the September 2012 issue of the Canadian Journal of Statistics.

"Essentially, our paper focuses on the issue of achieving separation between control and disease (case) groups in medical studies," said Zhang, who joined the UT faculty in 1993. "Often, the information we have about specific patients in a study is limited due to factors such as cost, sample size and ethical issues. Thus, it is important to assess the accuracy of medical diagnostic tests.

"We present two models that build upon this approach by simultaneously considering the effect of multiple, related covariates — observed variables that are not manipulated but can affect the study's outcome — and follow up with a simulation study to demonstrate that our models work."

The Statistical Society of Canada is a professional organization with a mission to promote the development and use of statistics. It has been running for more than 70 years.

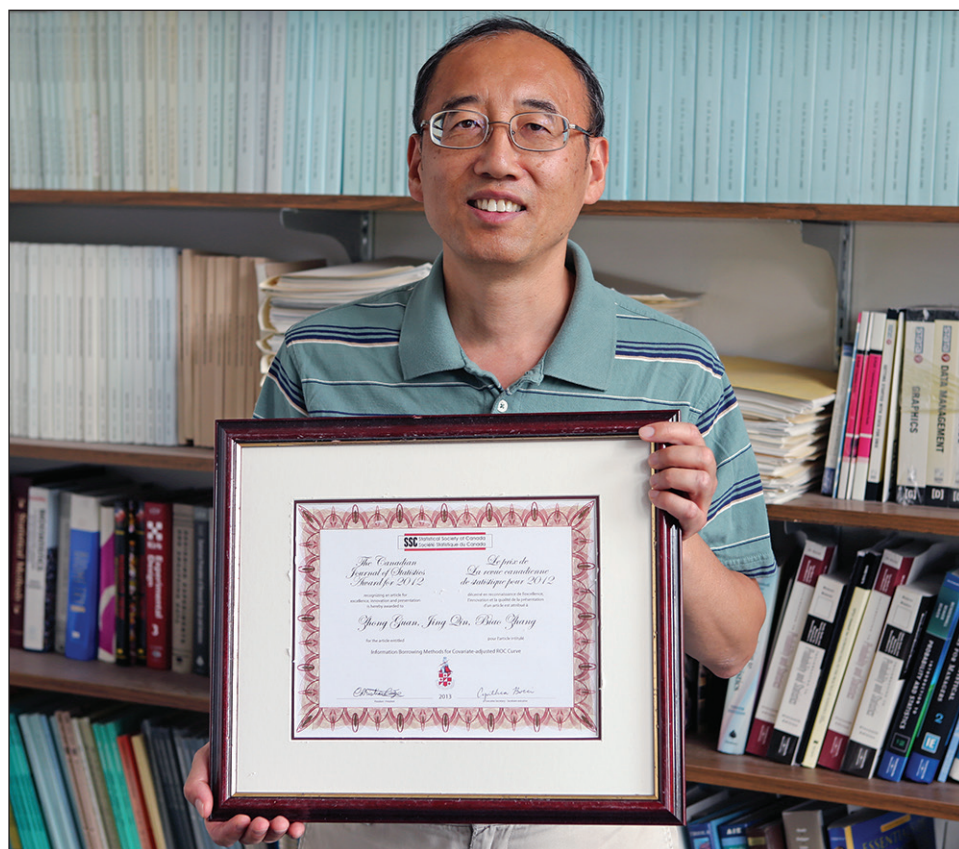


Photo by Daniel Miller

**HONORED:** Dr. Biao Zhang showed the Canadian Journal of Statistics Award he received for his research from the Statistical Society of Canada.

## Associate professor redefines the Black Arts Movement in new book

By Sam Naumann

A University of Toledo faculty member is changing the perception of the Black Arts Movement in her new book, *Visionary Women Writers of Chicago's Black Arts Movement*.

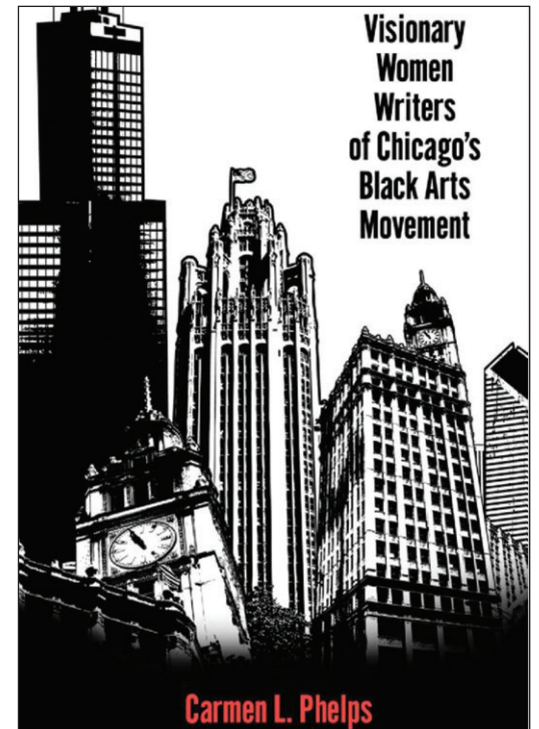
"Most people think that the Black Arts Movement was simply about aggression," said Dr. Carmen Phelps, associate professor and director of graduate studies in the Department of English. "But it wasn't a movement about aggression. This was a movement about empowerment."

Phelps began her research on the topic in graduate school. While pursuing her PhD, she focused her dissertation on the ideas, stories and narratives of women of African descent, specifically those involved in the Black Arts Movement, a period of artistic and literary development among black Americans in the 1960s and early 1970s.

She said that through various testimonials from people during the movement, her mission became clear: to provoke a new way of thinking about how so-called "radicals" can be construed as "passionate."

For Phelps, this project was about more than simply publishing a book; this was a service-oriented mission meant to encourage others.

"I see literary studies as service-oriented, in that it can be critical resources



for examining the politics of exclusion in academia as well as mainstream culture," Phelps said. "And because of my interest of advancing the yet-to-be-realized goals of an otherwise culturally inclusive humanities-inspired curricula, I see my work as a scholar and instructor as service-oriented, and as that which is influenced and informed by my investment in social justice ideals."

*Visionary Women Writers of Chicago's Black Arts Movement* is published by University Press of Mississippi.

## Kobacker Center seeks school supply donations for campers

The Kobacker Center on The University of Toledo Health Science Campus is seeking donations of school supplies to assist summer camp students with the upcoming academic year.

The center's Eight Weeks of Summer Fun Program, which concludes Aug. 15, provides lessons on character building, social skills, decision making, manners, rules of safety, professions, the Olympics and more throughout the summer.

As part of the celebration at the end of the camp, the students receive backpacks full of school supplies. Kobacker staff members are seeking donations of backpacks, folders, glue/glue sticks, scissors, crayons, markers, pencils, pens and notebook paper.

"The camp helps prepare these young people for a successful school year," said

Karon G. Price, agency executive director of behavioral health-care services at the Kobacker Center. "The backpacks and school supplies are a nice parting gift to help give them the confidence they need to do well."

The Kobacker Center specializes in helping children with severe emotional troubles such as intense anger, chronic depression and thoughts of suicide. Individual treatment planning allows families to begin to understand the emotional and physical reasons for such problems.

Donations can be dropped off at the Kobacker Center on Health Science Campus.

For more information, contact Price at 419.383.5419 or karon.price@utoledo.edu.

## UT Army ROTC to hold Fall Kickoff Aug. 16

By Casey Cheap

The University of Toledo Army ROTC Program will hold its annual Fall Kickoff Friday, Aug. 16.

The event, which is in its fifth year, will take place from 2 to 4 p.m. outside of the Health Education Center on UT's Main Campus.

"It is a very informal setting," said retired Lt. Col. Geoffrey Ovenden, assistant professor of military science. "It's an opportunity for students to have fun while learning about our organization and program. New and returning students will be involved."

Any UT student with an interest in the Army ROTC Program is encouraged to attend. More than 200 students attended last year's event.

This year's Fall Kickoff will include a rock climbing wall, paintball target range, and military vehicle and equipment displays. There also will be individual skills performance events, including pull-ups and football toss.

In addition to the social aspects of the event, it is designed to inform new UT students about trying out the Army ROTC Program.

"We certainly welcome students to get involved with the Army ROTC Program this fall," Ovenden said. "Students can always take the introductory course with no obligation or commitment to Army ROTC."



### Army ROTC Fall Kickoff

Friday, Aug. 16  
2-4 p.m.

Health Education Center,  
UT Main Campus



"It is a great way for students to come out and see what we are all about," said Becca Ruehl, a junior majoring in biology and third-year Army ROTC cadet. "Students can come out and have some food and meet the ROTC family."

Ruehl just returned from Romania through an Army ROTC international exchange program that placed her with the Romanian military. She had the chance to experience another military culture while she learned to climb mountains and help Romanians learn English.

The Fall Kickoff will be run by existing Army ROTC cadets, and Ruehl will be on hand to discuss the opportunities open to Army ROTC students.

For more information, contact Ovenden at 419.530.4696 or arotc@utoledo.edu.

Becca Ruehl, a junior majoring in biology and third-year Army ROTC cadet, will be at the Fall Kickoff Friday, Aug. 16, to talk to students about the opportunities available through the UT Army ROTC Program.



## College of Business and Innovation offers third GlobalTarget series

By Bob Mackowiak

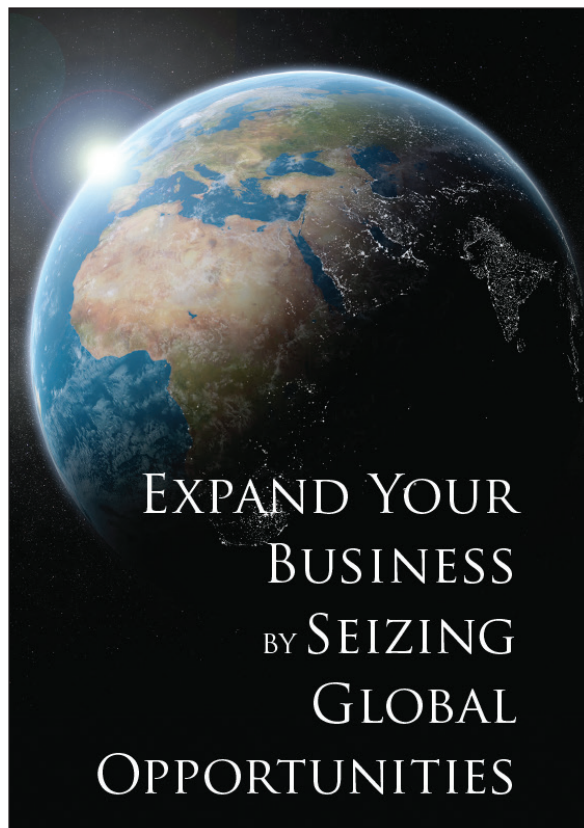
The Global Business Development Institute at The University of Toledo's College of Business and Innovation again is partnering with United Parcel Service (UPS) and the U.S. Commercial Service to provide area small- and medium-sized businesses access to experts who will help their companies enter new global markets quickly and with greater knowledge and confidence through the GlobalTarget Program.

This is the third year the college is offering this program.

Beginning in October, GlobalTarget participants will meet monthly for nine months in specialized sessions covering relevant topics based on an understanding of current members' needs. The program then helps companies develop plans to improve their business' supply chain, identify talent, understand export financing, and develop market entry strategies.

"It's a global world. Facilitating existing or new exporters to enter foreign markets benefits all of northwest Ohio," said Dr. Thomas Sharkey, interim dean of the College of Business and Innovation. "Companies often recognize that expanding to global markets is something they should do. We make it easier for them because we have the experts who will show them how to do this and will provide them with all the criteria for success, whether they have a manufactured product or intellectual property."

"GlobalTarget not only assists companies that are planning to conduct international business, but it also works with businesses already doing business globally that are looking for ways to expand their international presence," noted Debbe Skutch, director of UT's Center for Family and Privately Held Business, and GlobalTarget Program coordinator. "Furthermore, GlobalTarget is the first organized, focused attempt in this region to not only provide information, but to actually match local manufacturing companies with foreign markets."



Ben McGilvery of Toledo's Cauffiel Corp., who participated in the second offering of GlobalTarget at UT, said, "The format and resources provided are excellent to expose participants to international sales and logistics. Although we've been conducting international business for many years, the program helped us to better understand the process and utilize resources available to us."

Other features and benefits of GlobalTarget include access to ancillary educational programs offered by the College of Business — such as the Schmidt School of Professional Sales and the Center for Family and Privately Held Business — and site visits to area companies that already have achieved a level of success in global entrepreneurship.

The third GlobalTarget series of programs will begin in October, and participants are still being accepted.

To apply, download an application form at [utoledo.edu/business/global/target](http://utoledo.edu/business/global/target), or call the UT College of Business and Innovation's Global Business Development Institute at 419.530.2068.



Photo by Daniel Miller

**COURTING YOUNG TALENT:** Head Men's Basketball Coach Tod Kowalczyk talked to boys who attended a recent summer camp in Savage Arena.

## UTNEWS

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