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12-1-2022

### Montana Kaimin, December 1, 2022

Students of the University of Montana, Missoula

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# MONTANA KAIMIN

## ‘A long time coming’

One University of Montana  
dancer’s choreographic journey  
to the stage, in 94 days

Story by McKenna Johnson

Photos by Aston Kinsella



7 Where’s the dean?

12 Focus on Figure exhibit

15 NCAA violations

December 1, 2022 | Volume 125 | Issue No. 13





The Montana Kaimin is a weekly independent student newspaper at the University of Montana. The Kaimin office and the University of Montana are located on land originally inhabited by the Salish People. Kaimin is a derivative of a Salish language word, "Qe'ymin," that is pronounced kay-MEEN and means "book," "message" or "paper that brings news."

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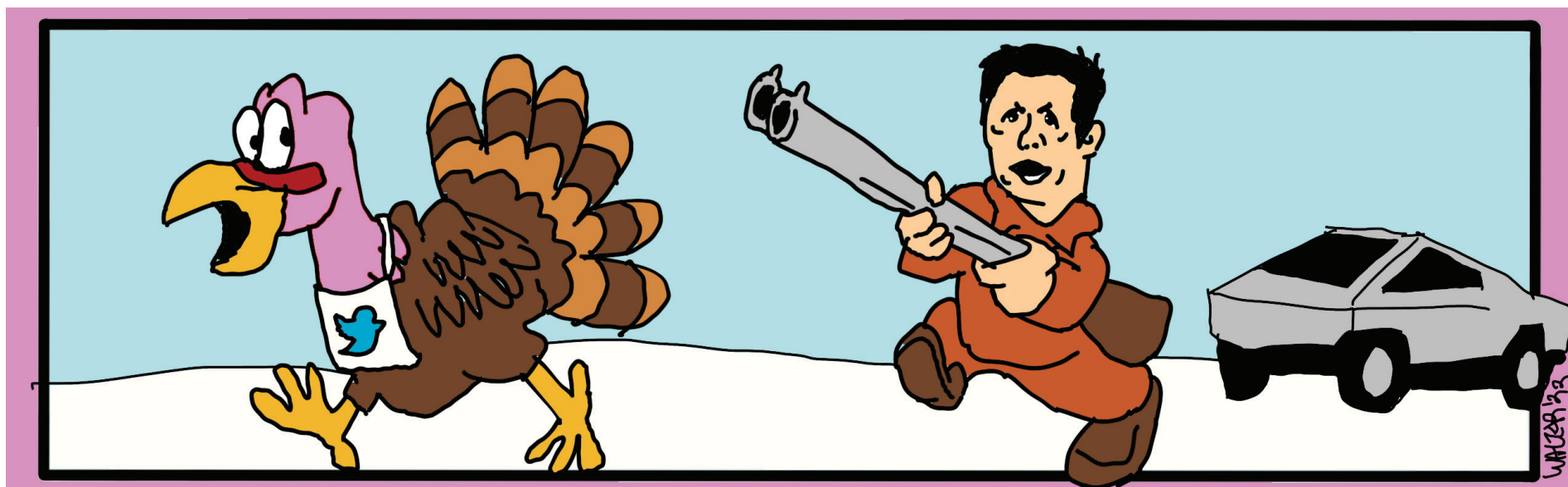
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## THE GARAGE: SE 3 EP 13



WALTER MEDCRAFT | MONTANA KAIMIN



# Semesters are taxing for students. Let’s go to quarters

It feels wrong that students at the University of Montana work so hard for 12 weeks, and then essentially get a week to check out, only to throw themselves into studies for another 10 days before finals.

UM’s Curry Health Center reported a steep rise in depression and anxiety last year. The Kaimin can’t help but speculate that perhaps the stress the semester system puts on students could be part of the reason.

Each semester, students spend a total of 15 weeks studying — excluding finals. During that time, there are few single-day breaks in the fall until Thanksgiving at week 13.

That lack of breaks makes the semester system exhausting for students. Students run a greater risk of burnout with this system, and missing a semester can set a student back half a year or more depending on the classes they need to take to fulfill their degrees.

The long sessions also limit the University’s ability to hold winter classes. When the University ended fall semester by Thanksgiving in 2020, it widened that possibility. Some remote students took advantage of those opportunities to knock out classes in the expanded winter session, so they could take fewer credits and have more time to focus on coursework.

The semester schedule hasn’t always been in play at UM.

From 1966 to 1989, the University used a quarter system, according to its enrollment guide. Students would take fewer classes in a shorter amount of time for each session. That meant students could place more focus on each class.

At the Kaimin, we believe bringing back quarters is in the best interest of students and professors alike. It offers flexibility for our peers and protects against the pitfalls of burnout.

With the semester system, course loads burden some students. Those seeking multiple degrees end up having to take 20+ credit semesters to fit in all their requirements. That can bog down students who want to explore outside a traditional degree’s curriculum.

The problem is so prevalent that UM Provost Pardis Mahdavi cites double

majors as a reason to restructure the University’s colleges into more collaborative groupings. While the Kaimin sees this as a solution, we think the University could go even further by offering more sessions to take classes.

The quarter system generally breaks the year into four 10-week sessions: fall, winter, spring and summer. That offers more chances for students to take the courses they need to fulfill multiple majors. Breaks between each quarter would help students avoid burning out.

Plus, taking a quarter off has less of an impact, should students need to do so. It impedes progress much less than taking off a semester of classes. At a time when limited professors teaching in certain majors means some students might have one opportunity every year or two for certain classes, maximizing flexibility should be UM’s highest priority.

Offering four sessions each year makes a lot of sense. It offers more time to take courses, helps avoid burnout by offering more chances to have a break from intense academics and allows students to have more agency over the classes they take — both within their degree programs, and with taking time off from school if necessary.

There are logistics issues with any restructure. Credits would need to be reevaluated. But there are other schools near and in Montana that operate on the quarter system, like Eastern Washington or the University of Denver. In fact, much of the West Coast does.

The University says it is making big decisions for our future right now. Those decisions are visible on campus. We can physically see four large-scale construction projects, and the Kaimin has written multiple stories this year about the new provost’s plans to restructure academics.

If now is the time to make changes at UM, why not consider reinstating the quarter system in the academic talks?

-Griffen Smith, Editor-in-Chief

*Like it? Hate it? Let us know.*  
Email us your opinions at [griffen.smith@umontana.edu](mailto:griffen.smith@umontana.edu)

# Un‘bear’able Loss

Griz fan Kyle Roth watches the fanfare at College GameDay before the Brawl of the Wild in Bozeman on Nov. 19. Roth drove from his home in Lolo. LUKAS PRINOS | MONTANA KAIMIN

## SUDOKU

Difficulty: Easy

			1			8		
		4	9	5				7
	5				3	4		
		2		4			8	
				3	2			
4	6						9	
		8				1		
	3	7						
		9			1	6	3	2

**HOW TO SOLVE:**

Each row must contain the numbers 1 to 9; each column must contain the numbers 1 to 9; and each set of 3 by 3 boxes must contain the numbers 1 to 9.

*Answer to Previous Sudoku:*

7	5	4	8	1	6	2	9	3
2	9	3	5	4	7	1	8	6
8	1	6	3	9	2	7	5	4
3	7	1	9	2	8	4	6	5
5	2	9	4	6	3	8	7	1
4	6	8	1	7	5	3	2	9
9	4	2	7	5	1	6	3	8
1	3	7	6	8	9	5	4	2
6	8	5	2	3	4	9	1	7

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# Secretary of State appeals voting rights case, YWCA receives \$4.5 million in gifts, virus cases for youth up in Montana

EMILY TSCHETTER

emily.tschetter@umontana.edu

### SECRETARY OF STATE APPEALS STATE SUPREME COURT ELECTION LAW RULING

Secretary of State Christi Jacobsen is appealing Yellowstone County District Court Judge Michael Moses' decision to nullify four 2021 voting rights and election administration laws.

Jacobsen's Nov. 23 filing continues a legal battle over the laws spanning back to April 2021. House Bill 176 would end voter registration on election day. Senate Bill 169 limited certain forms of voter identification, including student IDs. House Bill 530 prohibited paid third-party ballot collection.

Moses ruled all three are "unconstitutional" by disproportionately affecting certain people, like college students and low-income voters, more than others. The permanent injunction prevented the laws from being in effect on the Nov. 8 election.

"I remain dedicated to protecting these laws from the out-of-state liberal machine as I fight to make our elections secure and accessible for all Montanans," Jacobsen said in a statement the day the appeal was filed.

Jacobsen's appeal applies to a fourth law that would have prohibited ballot distribution to minors who would turn 18 by election day. Moses also deemed that law unconstitutional in a separate July ruling.

### YWCA RECEIVES BIGGEST GRANT IN HISTORY, AND ALSO \$2 MILLION DENNIS AND PHYLLIS WASHINGTON FOUNDATION GIFT

Billionaire Jeff Bezos' philanthropy group awarded YWCA Missoula's Housing Programs a \$2.5 million grant to serve more homeless families than any other organization in Montana.

Bezos founded the Day 1 Families Fund in 2018. The group annually awards organizations to help move sheltered and unsheltered homeless families to permanent housing. YWCA has short-term emergency shelter space, transitional housing and rental assistance for more than 3,000 people each year, according to reporting by the Missoulian.

The grant looks to provide mental health and substance use care, legal aid and domestic violence support for children, families and expectant mothers looking for stable housing.

Since 2018, the fund has issued more

than \$520 million in grants across the country and is working to build nonprofit preschools in low-income communities. A group of national advisers who lead homelessness service efforts selected YWCA. They focused on effective use of resources, racial equity and housing justice.

YWCA also received \$2 million from the Dennis and Phyllis Washington Foundation to help build a new early childcare center on its Russell Street campus, which will double YWCA's capacity for infant and toddler care.

### WESTERN MONTANA RSV CASES ON THE RISE, SURGES IN CHILD HOSPITAL VISITS

Respiratory syncytial virus, the common respiratory virus that can cause serious illness in young children known as RSV, is spreading nationwide and leading to more hospitalizations in Western Montana.

The US Department of Health and Human Services reports pediatric hospital beds are more full now than they've been in the past two years. Dr. Tim Stidham from the Logan Health Children's Hospital in Kalispell told KPAX the hospital sees 10-15 RSV admissions per week, up from an average of two cases per week less than a month ago.

RSV can cause pneumonia and severe breathing issues in young children. Children often need oxygen support when fighting the virus, according to the Centers for Disease Control. The CDC also says most children catch the highly contagious RSV before they turn two, but it can be especially dangerous for children with weakened immune systems and newborns.

Dr. Alex Kon from the Community Medical Center in Missoula told KPAX hospitals

statewide are working to build an RSV surge plan and share critical staff if certain hospitals have overwhelming need. Dr. Kon said RSV is usually mild for adults, but adults should be careful around children if they have cold symptoms.

### STANDARDS FOR SCHOOL STAFF RATIOS STAY INTACT IN MONTANA SCHOOLS AFTER DEBATE

The Montana Board of Public Education shot down a recommendation from the Office of Public Instruction to eliminate minimum ratio requirements for students and librarians, counselors and superintendents.

The state requires a minimum of one full-time counselor for every 400 students in K-12 schools and sliding scale requirements for superintendents and librarians. The board also decided to retain ratios between students and principals.

Some members of the board pushed back on the ratios, one stating the requirements put unrealistic strains on rural schools. OPI's Julie Murgel argued only six percent of the state's schools serve more than 500 students, so minimums should be set with rural schools in mind.

The Montana Federation of Public Employees called for the ratios to stay intact, along with many of the more than 1,000 public commenters in support of the ratios, pointing to the mental health crisis in Montana as a reason they should stay.

Board members shared at its Nov. 23 meeting that minimums need to stay in place to set a standard, but conceded the current approach doesn't work for everyone.

## POLICE BLOTTER

CAVEN WADE

caven.wade@umontana.edu

UMPD kept a close eye on campus before students went their separate ways for Thanksgiving break. Officers responded to a variety of reports from crayon-dalism to keying. Here are four reported incidents from Nov. 12 to Nov. 16.

### SATURDAY 11/12: ELEVATOR EXTRACT

UMPD responded to a report of a person stuck in an elevator at Washington-Grizzly Stadium during the game against Eastern Washington. They were able to assist the individual in escaping the broken-down metal box quickly. Hopefully the person didn't miss much of the game, since the Griz made sure it was basically over in the first 15 minutes of play time.

### 11/12-11/15: CAR CRIMINALS

From Nov. 12 to Nov. 15, UMPD responded to four reports of thefts from cars around the campus area. The first occurred on Saturday, Nov. 12, when an individual left their car unlocked during the football game in the parking garage. The next two occurred on Nov. 13 in Lot Y and Campus Drive. Both were reported to have unlocked cars with valuable items visible from the outside. The fourth theft occurred on Nov. 15 at the Lewis and Clark Villages and the car was also unlocked. There are currently no suspects for any of these thefts. With the holidays approaching people must be in a trusting mood, but that trust is fading quickly with each passing theft.

### MONDAY 11/14: CRAZY CRAYONS

UMPD received a report of criminal mischief that occurred in a Miller Hall bathroom. Some nefarious residents decided it would be cool to pull out a pack of Crayolas and leave their art on the walls of the showers. The images were found not to be disturbing or obscene in any way — just some drawings of possible shower thoughts. The wax may be difficult for staff to get off, but at least there is a pretty hefty water supply right there to help with the cleaning process.

### TUESDAY 11/15: VEHICLE VANDALISM

UMPD responded to a call from a student that their car had been keyed in Lot P while they were in class. There is currently no known suspect for who committed this vengeful act. Maybe they were inspired by "Before he Cheats" by Carrie Underwood before digging their key into this person's "pretty little souped up four wheel drive."

Can't get enough? Start listening.

This week on **THE KAIMIN CAST**,  
Clay Murphy talks to UM's Bug Club!  
And, tune in next week  
to the last episode of the semester.

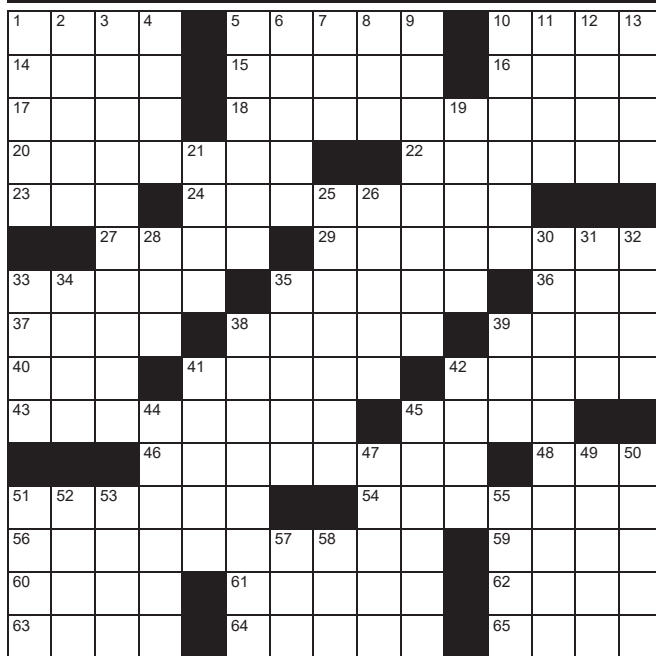
**THE KAIMIN CAST**



New episodes  
out Monday.  
Scan for the  
latest.

# The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke



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## ACROSS

- 1 Light pats
- 5 Take place
- 10 Rush job notation
- 14 Bryce Canyon locale
- 15 Wake up
- 16 Napa Valley sight
- 17 Flat-topped hill
- 18 Senior diplomat
- 20 Fragrant rice
- 22 Inventor's quest
- 23 Shocked letters
- 24 Soda since 1886
- 27 Anagram for "ruse"
- 29 Distinction
- 33 Blubbered
- 35 Far from poetic
- 36 Tissue layer
- 37 Loathe
- 38 It may be slippery
- 39 Cowboy wear
- 40 Period in history
- 41 Meager
- 42 Abstain from
- 43 Fierceness
- 45 Mr. Peanut prop
- 46 Seasoning for lamb
- 48 Heathcliff, e.g.
- 51 Changes
- 54 Danger for small boats
- 56 Type of test
- 59 Narrow margin
- 60 Prefix with phobia
- 61 Repulsive insect
- 62 Elementary particle
- 63 Despicable
- 64 Shopping binge
- 65 Capone nemesis

## DOWN

- 1 Disney elephant
- 2 Elite group
- 3 McCartney plays it
- 4 Deception
- 5 Man of many words
- 6 Stand-up guy
- 7 Windy City athlete
- 8 1963 song, "Surfin' \_\_\_\_"
- 9 "You're welcome," for one
- 10 Online image
- 11 A or B, on a 45
- 12 Auth. unknown
- 13 Smart-alecky
- 19 Like most chips
- 21 Got a perfect score
- 25 BOLO or YOLO, e.g.
- 26 Take as one's own
- 28 "Savvy?"
- 30 Increase in value
- 31 Slimy garden pest
- 32 Beginner
- 33 White hat wearer
- 34 In short supply
- 35 Word with hot or home
- 38 Tailor's tool
- 39 Bart, to Homer
- 41 Disdain
- 42 Warren's "Bonnie and Clyde" co-star
- 44 Crater Lake's state
- 45 Nativity scene
- 47 Lewis Carroll heroine
- 49 Felipe's farewell
- 50 Contract details
- 51 Eden dweller
- 52 Tiny parasites
- 53 Former skater Lipinski
- 55 Larger-life link
- 57 Absorb, with "up"
- 58 Roof stuff

## Answers to Previous Crossword:

A	R	A	B	S	C	R	A	M	D	A	S	H
L	O	U	R	C	L	I	M	E	E	M	M	A
P	A	R	A	T	R	O	O	P	S	A	B	U
S	M	A	S	H	E	D	S	I	L	A	G	E
S	E	W	C	O	U	N	T	S				
M	A	R	I	N	E	C	O	R	P	S	S	I
O	B	O	E	D	A	N	A	E	V	A	D	E
L	A	U	R	A	N	F	C	T	I	D	E	S
A	S	N	E	R	T	I	L	E	G	O	A	T
R	E	D	G	O	L	D	E	N	G	I	R	L
T	O	U	P	E	E	G	E	L				
P	L	A	N	E	T	P	A	N	A	C	H	E
R	O	B	S	I	N	D	I	G	E	N	O	U
I	S	L	E	C	A	I	N	E	T	A	M	P
M	E	E	T	S	P	E	E	D	E	T	S	Y

# Horoscope

## Band-o-scope



MAKAYLA O'NEIL | MONTANA KAIMIN

CHRISTINE COMPTON

christine.compton@umontana.edu

The Griz have somehow made playoffs, and that means an extended season for the real athletes of campus: The Grizzly Marching Band. It's a non-stop party on their side of the stadium, and even when the football team is getting crunched, thunked and concussed, you can count on the band to be blasting Seven Nation Army straight into the student section. If you want in on the gig, but aren't sure what to play, worry not: The stars are here to help.

**SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21):** "The heavier the instrument, the sexier the player" is the mantra you pray to yourself every time you carry that big-ass sousaphone on your shoulders. Back pain be damned, you are hauling that wrap-around-tuba like the main character you are, honking every note of Imagine Dragons covers you can remember — which is like, half. Just try not to slip a disc.

**CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19):** You're too good for the marching band, but your major requires you to grace the

stadium with your presence, so you suppose you'll pick up the marching horn. It's not as regal as your French horn back home, but it outplays the woodwinds and gets the harmony half the time. It will have to do.

**AQUARIUS (JAN 20-FEB 18):** As the saxophone, you're versatile and can jump between roles like you jump between boy toys. Melody? Harmony? A sound effect or a goofy chant? You're on it and happy to be there. Just don't let anyone ask you to stick to one spot. We all know you're allergic to commitment.

**PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20):** Poor little piccolo, you are trying your best in a system built against you. How the hell are you supposed to make a tiny flute be heard 50 yards away? You have no choice but to play out of tune just to feel something. Have a little self-sabotage as a treat.

**ARIES (MARCH 21-APRIL 19):** Your mother taught you the only way you can express yourself is through screaming, cursing and domination, and here you are squealing into a trumpet. Coping with insecurity by outplaying the band certainly is a strategy, but everyone's ears are ringing too much to argue.

**TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20):** As the drumline, people say you're the heartbeat of the band. You're too blazed to really know what that means, but you notice that people speed up and slow down with you. That stability is cool and all, but you're more interested in smacking an instrument for money.

**GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20):** You're the bass guitarist who only shows up for indoor pep band games. When a blizzard hits and temperatures sink below zero, you're content to watch the goofy little marchers try to make a sound with frozen instruments and slip around the field. Less pay, but less humiliation, you like to think.

**CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22):** You're an orchestra kid, but all your friends were joining the marching band, and you can't stand being left out. Now you're holding massive cymbals and dancing around like a clapping monkey toy. You say you're miserable, but you're the first to scream the Bill Nye the Science Guy chant every time. You have become what you feared the most: A huge nerd. Welcome to the club.

**LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22):** Trombone, we can hear you coming and you're proud of that. You're at the front of the parade and the top of the stands for a reason, and you think it's because you need room to WAAA to your heart's content. In reality, it's because everyone needs a break from you.

**VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEP. 22):** You love to think of yourself as the mom friend who cleans up other people's messes, and that's why you tried out for drum major: Leader of the band. You failed to consider that you're too disorganized for anyone to follow. At least you got a cool uniform out of it.

**LIBRA (SEP. 23-OCT. 22):** You played three notes on the piano and decided you hated it. However, you lacked a clique in middle school and decided, as strange as the band kids were, they could provide a sense of community. When you got to college, you became the baton twirler to keep your people. If they get too weird, you can always "accidentally" swing your baton in their direction.

**SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21):** Other people cry when their personal lives dissolve, but you suck every tear back into its duct and play the funk out of your clarinet instead. It doesn't matter if your grades are slipping and Chad doesn't text you anymore. Emotional repression is your favorite song and you'll play it until the pain goes away.





Big Dipper on Higgins Avenue closed for the season on Nov. 27. Big Dipper has never closed for the winter since it opened 30 years ago. **RIDLEY HUDSON | MONTANA KAIMIN**

# Big Dipper closes down for winter, lays off UM students

**NAJIFA FARHAT**

najifa.farhat@umontana.edu

Big Dipper is closing down its Higgins Avenue location for the winter for the first time since its opening 30 years ago. University of Montana student employees said the seasonal layoff caught them off guard.

According to names former employees shared with the Kaimin, at least eight UM students are losing their jobs. Some employees called the closure a calculated move in response to demands for better working conditions and a pay raise.

Big Dipper President Bryan Hickey declined to sit down with the Kaimin for an interview, but sent a statement. “This closure has no relationship to the recent concerns expressed by a small group of employees,” the statement said. “Big Dipper deeply values all of its employees.”

Scoopers who worked in the often busy ice cream shop said a poor work environment, short staffing, low wages and long working hours were among their major complaints.

As the school year started, many of the students curtailed their work hours at Big Dipper or moved back to their hometowns. This left fewer of the employees sticking around Missoula for the fall.

One of the fall employees was Maggie Bell, a UM student and ASUM senator who has worked at the shop since March.

“I’d work an entire six-hour shift, sometimes even longer, without getting a break, not even to eat,” Bell said. According to her, oftentimes one scooper was handling the entire counter alone due to short-staffing.

“We were being over-scheduled all the time and sometimes even disallowed to call in sick. In the meantime, they raised their prices to adjust for inflation, but my wage wasn’t raised considering that the cost of living also increased,” Bell said.

Bell and two other employees wrote a formal petition letter at the beginning of October. Signed by 15 employees, a majority UM students, the letter demanded a wage increase to \$15 an hour, mandatory paid breaks between shifts, recognizing sick leave and hiring at least five new employees.

This letter was intended to be a path of conversation, but Bell thought management saw it as an act of rebellion.

A week later, Hickey and manager Gabby Friedlander arranged in-person meetings with each employee. Friedlander’s main point of contact, the assistant manager, also did not respond to requests for comment from the Kaimin.

The experience was mixed for different employees. For Bell, it was a hostile experience as her bosses said she was not justified in asking for a raise.

However, Molly Brandt, another UM student, had a different experience. She said she felt management was open to having the conversation about the complaints.

“They seem open to the remarks. They agreed to be more sensitive toward employees’ needs,” Brandt said.

Brandt met with management on Oct. 18. A week later, all employees at the Higgins location received a \$1 or \$2 raise based on their positions.

But just two days later, the entire Higgins branch was laid off over a Slack message and

were told the remodel was the reason.

“The shop really needs a lot of improvement and I asked them to invest back in the business during our meeting but the response I got sort of felt the chances of that happening is slim, so the layoff was a complete shock,” Brandt said.

According to reporting by the Missoulian, the remodel project on the nearly 70-year-old building has been planned for months, but the timeline wasn’t confirmed until the beginning of November.

The statement from Hickey also said all “back-of-house employees,” management and Paxson Street employees will retain their jobs during the closure.

Susan Claire Elliott, another UM student and former scooper at Big Dipper, thinks the timing was very convenient for the Big Dipper management to lay them off.

“It just felt like they were worried we were going to unionize. The timing seemed almost perfect to fire your entire workforce for organizing negotiations with the excuse of remodeling because it’s not true that the entire shop is closing,” Elliott said.



# Search for law school dean continues

CHRISTINE COMPTON

christine.compton@umontana.edu

The University of Montana School of Law is still without a permanent dean after a search committee failed to find a new replacement last semester.

Now, the school is run by a long-time administrator and faculty member. Paul Kirgis, the former dean who resigned, is still teaching classes.

In October 2021, Kirgis resigned after he and another administrator were accused of mishandling Title IX complaints. Three interim deans — law professors Monte Mills, Sara Rinfret and Cathay Y. N. Smith — ran the school while a search began. That search failed to find a permanent dean. The school recently closed applications for a second search. A new interim dean took over the head job after the previous interim deans left or went on sabbatical.

Elaine Gagliardi took over in July 2022. She's worked at UM since 2001 in administrative positions such as associate dean of academic affairs, associate dean of students and served on the previous law school's dean search committee.

"As a graduate of the law school and a faculty member of more than 20 years, I care very much about our law school and am honored to be able to serve as its interim dean," Gagliardi said in an email. "It is important to me to use this time as interim dean to help the law school move forward and be ready to welcome the next dean."

The first dean search launched shortly after Kirgis resigned. He stepped down after law school students sent a letter to his office alleging Kirgis and then-associate dean of students Sally Weaver discouraged students from filing Title IX complaints.

While Kirgis and Weaver denied directly intervening with the complaint process, both stepped down from their positions. Weaver's contract ended at the end of spring semester 2022. Kirgis returned to a faculty position after his resignation. Kirgis taught three classes this semester and is scheduled to teach three in Spring 2023. During his time as dean, Kirgis' annual salary was \$201,630. His current negotiated salary as a tenured professor is \$124,500.

"I think most of the current student frustrations come from the confusion of the previous dean's search and the lack of transparency that came out of it," Paul Hutton, president of the Student Bar Association said. He doesn't speak for all law students, Hutton said, but he noticed students were anxious for more solid, long-

term leadership to be found. "Many of us did not know why we did not have a new dean coming into the new school year."

Like most position searches at UM, the law dean search has six stages: forming a search committee, posting an ad, screening applicants, selecting finalists, on-campus interviews and final recommendations. The salary for the position will be negotiated with individual finalists, but it will likely be around \$200,000 a year or a similarly competitive salary, UM spokesperson Dave Kuntz said.

A committee of students, administrators and faculty members then narrows down dozens of applications to four or five. The committee gives its thoughts on each finalist to a pre-selected administrator, who has the final say on the offers. The first search reached the finalist stage but none took the position.

Details are limited because of the process' confidentiality, but some finalists were likely unable to move to Missoula due to costs of living, Kuntz told the Missoulian in June.

"We were not successful in identifying the right leader for the School of Law at this moment, despite the search committee's excellent efforts over the course of the past several months," wrote UM Provost Pardis Mahdavi in a June email to students in the law school.

The law school launched a second search shortly after the first failed and accepted priority applications until Nov. 30.

The three previous interim deans announced they'd be unavailable for the 2022-23 school year. Mills found a career teaching law at the University of Washington, and Rinfret teaches public administration at Northern Arizona University. Smith went on sabbatical.

Gagliardi remembered a listening session the law school moderated by Michael Rohd, who joined as a cross-disciplinary faculty member over summer, and Anu Yadav, who isn't affiliated with UM. Students were asked, "What is our collective vision for a safe, inclusive and dynamic community at the law school? And, how can the law school and university faculty & leadership ensure that vision is a reality?"

Gagliardi said she's eager to find solutions to the concerns raised in the listening session, especially over the next semester. While not everyone participated in the listening session, the law school plans to release a recording of it with captions next semester.

It's frustrating to not have certainty, but



ABOVE: The Alexander Blewett III School of Law remains without a dean after the resignation of Paul Kirgis in October 2021. Applications closed for a second dean search after the three previous deans left for other jobs or sabbatical. Another interim dean has been hired. RIDLEY HUDSON | MONTANA KAIMIN

RIGHT: Elaine Gagliardi.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO | UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA

Hutton appreciates Gagliardi's actions, he said. He said he feels Gagliardi is acting decisively on student input.

"Ultimately, the students want a permanent dean, but want an individual who is going to stay and help grow the law school," Hutton said. "If that means we have to have an interim dean for a little longer, I think we would all be alright with that."



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# ‘A long time coming’

## One University of Montana dancer’s choreographic journey to the stage, in 94 days

Elle Lundgren, far left, Liana Dillon, Regan Tintzman and Isabela Sant’Anna-Skites, far right, run a dress rehearsal of Julia Lauany Duarte’s piece from start to finish on Nov. 19.

Story by McKenna Johnson  
Photos by Aston Kinsella

**J**ULIA LAUANY DUARTE sits pretzel-legged in front of dozens of University of Montana dancers in the Open Space, a dance studio in the basement of the PAR-TV building. Excitement and tension on this September evening hangs thicker in the air than the smell of hairspray and foundation powder. It’s audition night. Junior and senior dance majors weave in and out, each casting their own pieces and auditioning for others’ works.

Duarte, 20, leans her whole body forward away from the mirrors and takes notes, adjusting her silver-rimmed glasses. She’s a dance and art major from São Paulo, Brazil, casting for her junior project.

The dancers’ bodies waltz, run, pant and sweat across the floor. The Open Space is brimming with energy, and among it all, Duarte simply sits smiling, focused and still — other than her head, which moves and bobs as if on a swivel.

At the end of the night, each choreographer introduces themselves. Again, Duarte smiles and tells the room that she is Brazilian and dances Afro-Brazilian dance. She explains that her piece will meld Afro-Brazilian dance influences with modern Western dance styles.

When she finishes, she warns, with her bright, captivating eyes and in her sing-song voice: The dancers in her piece will have to work hard. In 94 days, the Open Space will transform into a stage for Dance Underground, the semester’s highly-anticipated production.

Her piece has been “a long time coming,” Duarte says. But it never felt like the right time to present it, until now. She’s choreographed before. But she hasn’t choreographed anything quite like this with students her age. And that comes with its own set of challenges.

### Turning points

Duarte has danced and performed across the world, but her story starts in Brazil. She started taking ballet lessons as early as 3 years old. It’s the earliest age she remembers dancing at all.

Her Afro-Brazilian training growing up wasn’t formal, she says. Afro-Brazilian dance is closely connected with the culture Duarte grew up with, and her religion, called Umbanda. Her first dance experiences came from the rituals she was surrounded by.

“It really is an intrinsic part of everything,” Duarte says. “I always knew I was a dancer.”

Lots of people in Brazil know at least a little bit about Afro-Brazilian dance and the traditions surrounding it, she says, but Duarte’s interest became more intense.

By the time she was a teenager, Duarte had reached a turning point. She thought about

how she would teach dance.

“I was around 14 when I was like, ‘OK, I can do this,’” she says. “I’m good enough. I can work my ass off and try.”

At 14, Duarte won a scholarship to dance at Opus Ballet, a professional dance training center in Florence, Italy. That’s where she met Charlene Campbell Carey, the founder and artistic director of Missoula’s Rocky Mountain Ballet Theatre, who convinced Duarte to come to Missoula to compete in RMBT’s Ballet Beyond Borders event.

Duarte brought four dances to Missoula that first year, 2018 — two classical variations, a modern piece, and a traditional Brazilian dance, so the judges could see her versatility, she recalls. She has been coming back ever since.

Duarte even met her future fiancé, Torin Jackson, currently a 21-year-old junior art major from Missoula, during one of her trips to dance in Missoula. He was hanging around the RMBT, where his sister danced, when they met. The two started a long-distance relationship while Duarte traveled back and forth to Missoula from Brazil.

After Duarte visited Missoula several more times, Campbell Carey encouraged her to apply to UM to become a dance student.

“I was like, ‘Sure!’” Duarte says. “I would love that!”

But, COVID-19 stunted her first semester. Duarte took classes online in Brazil and returned to Missoula for the fall 2020 semester. She began staying with Torin’s family. Amanda Jackson, Torin’s mom and Duarte’s future mother-in-law, remembers being captivated the first time she saw Duarte dancing in the RMBT studios years before.

“Julia is pure joy,” Amanda says, who also works at UM’s speech-language pathology department as a clinical assistant professor. “She is dance. She is her art.” Amanda says she’s seen Duarte find her place in Missoula, and has watched her independence and confidence grow. Amanda even taught her how to drive.

Duarte has spent this semester on her junior project, which is required to graduate. She’s been choreographing a piece, between 8 and 10 minutes long, mixing Afro-Brazilian dance techniques with the modern Western dance styles more commonly found at UM.

Her dance will be presented along with other junior and senior projects, guest works, class performances and student choreography pieces in Dance Underground.

The junior and senior projects are akin to research projects. For Duarte, it’s more than just another checkmark toward her degree. She weaves part of herself into the movement. That requires vulnerability — sharing her culture with the rest of the world — in a place as far from home as Montana.

### The first rehearsal

About three weeks after auditions, Duarte makes her way back to the Open Space. It’s her first rehearsal with her final cast of dancers. She cast 11, and five accepted: Elle Lundgren, Wren Gardner, Liana Dillon, Regan Tintzman and Isabela Sant’Anna-Skites, all dance majors. Dancers can be cast in multiple pieces, but they can only accept a certain amount, so this is not uncommon.

Later, Duarte revealed she had a pretty good idea of the cast ahead of time. For example, she met Gardner, an 18-year-old freshman dance major from Great Falls, Montana, just a few days before. Duarte remembers thinking: *I want this person in my choreography.*

Duarte descends the stairs and slides off her shoes. She sets up shop at a wobbly wooden desk with a foot stool stacked on top, which dancers call “the stereo.” Under rows of stage lights, the stereo is nestled among a piano, a giant ladder and an old-school rolling chalkboard on which someone has written words like “space,” “energy,” “time” and “pelvis.”

Sunlight peeks through the windows just below the ceiling and above the canvases advertising old dance shows, cascading squares of sunshine onto the Marley dance floor — a black slab of flexible vinyl that feels and smells like thick electrical tape.

Each Saturday of the fall semester, Duarte and her five dancers assemble to bring Duarte’s project to life. They start the morning in the Open Space as most dancers do — lying and rolling on the floor.

Duarte joins them. They chat while they move over the Marley and each other. It’s a scene you’d be hard-pressed to find anything comparable to elsewhere on campus.

“I feel like [the UM dance program] is one of the most inclusive places and spaces that I’ve been,” Duarte says. In an industry plagued with cut-throat competition and body-shaming, the Open Space acts as a sanctuary.

Duarte recalls she did not have a lot of friends growing up in Brazil because she was always rehearsing. But here, she’s surrounded by friends. It doesn’t feel lonely.

The early morning gossip slowly transitions into Duarte explaining what is about to happen. She is about to set Afro-Brazilian inspired choreography on dancers who, other than a few classes here and there, have not trained in Afro-Brazilian dance. There’s a lot of explaining to do.

“My ancestors would kick my ass if I didn’t talk about this,” Duarte tells them, laughing.

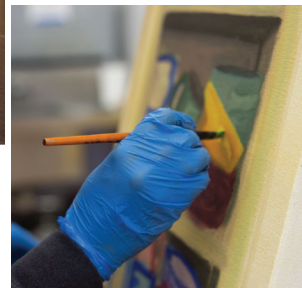
Afro-Brazilian dance is closely connected to concepts of healing and spirit, she says. The movement stems from the deities of Umbanda, called orixás or orishas, whom Duarte sometimes compares to the gods of Greek mythology.





**ABOVE:** Julia Duarte runs through the acts of the dance performance with her dancers, covering all the parts of the elemental influences and roots in her Brazilian heritage.

**TOP RIGHT:** Duarte, a double major in dance and art at UM, talks about her painting of mugs in a cupboard that she has in her home. While her main medium of work is drawing, she has been expanding her skills with painting.



**LEFT:** Inside the painting studio at the University of Montana, Duarte uses oil paints to complete a painting for her class on Nov. 11.

She talks about the history of how the deities came to Brazil through slavery. The enslaved people brought to Brazil from different African kingdoms and tribes brought their gods and beliefs with them, and they all mixed together, trying to keep their deities alive.

Each move Duarte introduces draws from a specific orixá. During the dancers' warm-up, Duarte often talks about Iansã, the goddess of windstorms, known for her quick, aggressive dance movements. Iansã married seven times and took powers from each of her husbands, making her — in Duarte's opinion — the "most badass" orixá.

Duarte explains that no matter each dancer's individual spirituality, she wants them to feel comfortable with the movement. But, it's important that her dancers understand the cultural importance of the movement.

"[Duarte] just says, it's her ancestry, she feels everything," Amanda says. "She's one of the most connected to her culture and her family and her ancestry of anyone I've probably ever met."

"My culture is very valuable to me," Duarte says. "And I don't want to disrespect it by just giving it away without giving the entire context."

Duarte's dance will be divided into five sections: earth, air, water, fire and ether (like spirit). Each dancer embodies an element. She's already decided that Gardner, the freshman from Great Falls, will be the fire. "In everything you did, I saw a little bit of fire," Duarte tells Gardner at the end of the rehearsal.

The dancers move across the floor, Duarte

with them. Their upper bodies lean slightly forward while their lower bodies bounce down with bent knees. Their feet slap off the Marley to the rhythm of the music, filled with drums and flutes and singing and chanting ... *thump, thump, thump, thump*.

Duarte says she often hears that dancers who have never danced Afro-Brazilian find the movements uncomfortable. She thinks it's because they hold a lot of tension while executing the movement. Tension that she doesn't have.

"Sorry, guys," she says as they move across the floor. "Shake it out."

"You don't have to apologize!" says Lundgren, 21, a junior dance and communication studies double major from Vancouver, Washington. It's an exchange they repeat many times over the next three months.

"We don't have a lot of the same movement that (Duarte) has as a basis," Lundgren says. "But whenever she approaches the movement, she's always very intentional with describing the intent, and why are we doing it, which I think helps it click in our bodies a little bit faster."

By the time the dancers leave, they are panting and slick with sweat. Duarte embraces each of them anyway. She only has 76 more days until opening night.

### Montana in mind

After setting her sights on UM, Duarte caught the admiration of Heidi Jones Eggert, a dance professor, associate director of UM's

School of Theatre and Dance and head of the dance program.

Duarte, still in high school, was in Missoula again for Ballet Beyond Borders, which was at UM. When she performs, Jones Eggert says, it feels like an invitation for the audience to join her.

"She's stunning," Jones Eggert says. "I'm sure there are other great dancers out there. But why would I watch anyone else?"

Jones Eggert remembers Duarte sitting on the dusty couch in her office — the couch that, after some cleaning, has become the iconic pale pink Dance Lounge couch. Jones Eggert was quickly impressed with Duarte's knowledge and understanding of the drive it would take to study in another country.

Duarte did the legwork to apply and get in, and Jones Eggert helped out where she could.

"And she's just a sweetheart on top of it," Jones Eggert says. "I fell in love with her right away."

Brooklyn Draper, an assistant professor of dance at UM, has been mentoring Duarte throughout the junior project process.

"You can really see Julia in this work," Draper says. "Which isn't always easy as a choreographer, to have your personal aesthetic show through your dancers."

Draper says she can see how Duarte has been challenging herself as an artist with her piece. Jones Eggert agrees.

"It would have been easy for her to just make a dance," Jones Eggert says. "I don't mean to belittle that, but it was important to her, the value of what the movement means.

Culturally, historically, personally, that is a big part of (her) project."

Three of Duarte's dancers — Lundgren, along with Dillon, a 20-year-old junior dance major from Missoula, and Tintzman, a 21-year-old senior dance and human biology double major from Whitefish, Montana — will debut their own respective projects at Dance Underground.

"I'm seeing a whole new side of her," says Dillon, who came to UM as a transfer student her sophomore year, the same year Duarte first attended UM in person. They became fast friends, and Duarte knew she wanted Dillon in her piece.

The days leading up to Dance Underground are beginning to shrink. But Duarte likes to take it one day at a time.

### At the paint studio

With 42 days until Dance Underground, Duarte is creating something else on the other side of campus.

She stands in front of a canvas on the third floor of UM's Fine Arts Building, hands covered in thin blue surgical gloves, vigorously trying to clean red paint out of her paintbrush. "It's messing up my whites, which is very upsetting," Duarte says. "Because I like my whites pretty white."

She is working on recreating a still life of items including a vase, green drapes and a stuffed cloth chicken for her painting class.

When painting, Duarte moves with the same ease as when she dances. Some dancers



believe their energy extends through and beyond their fingertips. Duarte's energy seems to stretch beyond her fingertips and all the way to the bristles of her brush.

A swoosh against her canvas replaces the harsh stomps of feet against the Marley. She laments that she doesn't have as much time as she'd like to work on these assignments. In about an hour, she'll leave for the RMBT studio for a different rehearsal.

"I've been treating it kind of as a dance," she says of the painting. "It's kind of like doing choreography, in a way. You start with a very general idea... and then the painting jumps out."

There's a large air filter trilling through the room, and it's hard to hear as she clicks her tongue and chides the paintbrush under her breath. "Naughty, naughty," she says in the sing-song of a parent scolding a child. Her white paint is still coming out pink.

She sighs, turns to her palette, and begins mixing shades of green for the drapes: forest, moss, emerald, cadmium, jalapeño pepper and cucumber skin. This is her favorite part. "It works just like magic," she says.

Duarte likes to draw with charcoal. Her bedroom is full of charcoal drawings. Even though painting is new to her, it's clear she's in her element. If she were still in Brazil, she says, she doubts she'd be on this path of studying dance and art.

"Arts are not very much of a priority in Brazil," she says while cleaning her brushes. "I'm pretty sure if I stayed in Brazil, I wouldn't have chosen dance as my career."

Duarte doesn't have any solid plans after graduation, still a few semesters away. She says her junior project process has opened her eyes to new possibilities and different paths she could take. She's currently thinking about ways to make the arts more accessible and help others understand its value.

"I think a lot of people are intimidated [by dance]," Duarte says. "And they aren't going to try it. But they don't know what they're losing."

## The little things

There are 26 days before Dance Underground and it's a lively morning in the Open Space. The dancers competed with UM Football fans for parking this morning, and Draper is sitting in to give additional feedback.

"Just breathe through the entire thing. Afro-Brazilian is rough!" Duarte says after the group's longest run of the piece yet.

They are working on the fire section today, Gardner's element. They've already finished earth (Dillon), water (Tintzman) and air (Lundgren). After fire, they will move on to ether, the element that 18-year-old freshman dance and environmental science double major Sant'Anna-Skites from Evanston, Illinois, will portray.

There are only a handful of rehearsals left for Duarte to finish and clean her dance, and the pressure is starting to show. Between illnesses, other class projects, work and every



**ABOVE:** Regan Tintzman and Liana Dillon roll across each other during a warm up run of the dance routine, choreographed by Julia Duarte, on Nov. 19.

other obligation, it's getting increasingly difficult to have all five dancers at every rehearsal.

Out of all the things conspiring against Duarte's piece, it seems to be the little things — broken car batteries, overdue homework assignments and alarm clocks — that are the biggest hurdles.

With dancing, choreographing, painting and her other classes, Duarte balances a lot. So, when her dancers miss a rehearsal, it can get frustrating. She tries to be understanding.

As Gardner puts it, "We all get there about 15 minutes late, because it's 9 a.m. on a Saturday. And that includes Julia."

With Draper in the room, things tend to get done a little quicker. The hour goes by smoothly and they finish the fire section. The dancers run through the moves Duarte just taught them, and Duarte, overcome with excitement, jumps in the air with her legs kicked out and screams, "Ah, this is so exciting!"

She covers her mouth with her hands like she can't quite believe what she's just created. Then she laughs, realizing she forgot to count the music for them. "Sorry guys, I was counting in my head," she says.

Duarte holds her chin a little higher than she did a few hours ago as she hugs her dancers goodbye.

"That was good," she whispers to herself, making her way back to the stereo.

## Final touches

A week later, it's Nov. 12. Only 19 days until Dance Underground. Just three of Duarte's dancers make it to rehearsals.

When dancers accept positions in Dance Underground routines, they are warned that attendance at all rehearsals is mandatory. Though in reality, the dancers are still students and attending every single rehearsal is easier said than done.

With just a couple counts of choreography,

on a blisteringly cold morning, Duarte finishes her piece. Dillon, the dancer embodying earth, says, "Julia, you have a finished piece!" The dancers look tired, but Duarte is relieved. She has a finished piece.

On Nov. 19, with four out of five dancers in attendance, the group rehearse in costume for the first time. They wear different colored skirts, pieced together from the dance program's costume closet. Blue for Tintzman's water, purple for Lundgren's air, green for Dillon's earth, white for Sant'Anna-Skites' ether, and red for Gardner's fire.

Duarte says that through her project, she's gained confidence in teaching others about dance and her culture, and she has loved getting to see her dancers improve over the last few months.

"The difference is visible. I can see just in terms of their confidence in the style as well," she says. "I'm proud of them."

"It feels like second nature at this point," Tintzman says.

## It's almost time

Just before the show, the Open Space is transformed into a proper stage, with wings suspended from the ceiling and risers set up for an audience.

Dance Underground opens tonight, but there is a different show lineup each night. Duarte's piece debuts Saturday.

Three months of Duarte's hard work have led to this moment, and she's excited to show off her piece. "I have the opportunity to showcase my culture," she says.

As a Brazilian Black woman with the opportunity to study what she loves in another country, Duarte says, she sees it as her duty to teach others about Afro-Brazilian dance the right way — with knowledge and understanding.

So when Saturday comes, the dancers will make their way once again to the Open Space

**BELOW:** UM dancers in a group on the floor ascend to a solo piece during the performance. The section features Regan Tintzman and is accompanied by fluid and angelic sounds of music.



— in the evening this time, not at 9 a.m. — to perform Duarte's vision one last time.

Before the dancers take over the stage with their respective elements — before Dillon rumbles with the fury of an earthquake, Tintzman moves with the grace of a siren, Lundgren floats like the wind and Gardner crackles like fire and Sant'Anna-Skites embodies ether — they'll dance an intro as one, warding bad energy offstage.

Duarte named her piece "Axé," a word used as "a greeting to wish happiness and good energies," she says.

The audience will applaud their welcome, the stage lights will rise. The music will queue:

*Venho para abrir as portas  
Felicidade me traz  
O que há de tristeza nesta casa  
Vá embora e não volte jamais  
Venho para abrir as portas  
A saúde é quem me traz  
O que há de doença nesta casa  
Vá embora e não volte jamais*

*I come to open the doors  
Happiness brings me  
What is sadness in this house  
Go away and never come back  
I come to open the doors  
Health is what brings me  
What is sickness in this house  
Go away and never come back*

And the dancers will begin.

*Dance Underground opens tonight, Thursday, Dec. 1, at 7:30 p.m. with shows the same time Dec. 2-3, and a 2 p.m. show on Dec. 3, in the basement of the PAR-TV building, room 005, the Open Space. Tickets can be bought at the door.*

Check out our short documentary by Griffin Ziegert, "Oxigênio," featuring Duarte, on our website and social media channels.





# 'Focus on the Figure' exhibit highlights female artists

KAYLA INGRAHAM

kayla.ingraham@umontana.edu

In 1989, a group of well-established female artists based in Missoula met in a private studio to draw the female figure. Around 33 years later, the select group of artists who make up the Pattee Canyon Ladies Salon have become the oldest active group of female artists in the state of Montana. The Montana Museum of Art and Culture exhibit, "Focus on the Figure," takes visitors on a walk through their history.

"The traditional paradigm is male artists having access to the female nude, and the male nude, as an object of study, and the fact that this is a group of female artists who have dedicated themselves to drawing the female body is pretty significant because it rebuts the tradition," said Rafael Chacón, the director of the MMAC and a professor for the School of Visual and Media Arts at the University of Montana.

Chacón discovered the Ladies Salon and brought the idea of honoring these artists up to the museum's curators around three years ago. The Salon has been putting on annual exhibitions, but Chacón said that he wanted to celebrate both the longevity of the group and the progressivism of the work they produce.

The focus of the exhibit is on the history of the Lady Salon. Chacón invited members of the group to join the curating team, including past and present artists and models. The MMAC received a grant from the Montana History Foundation to record all the active members, past models, present models and past members, to tell their stories and take attendees on an oral history journey. There is artwork in the exhibit which dates back to the 1990s.

The exhibit is dedicated to Nancy Erickson, who founded the group and hosted the artists and models in her home studio. Erickson passed away in February 2022, but her legacy and the social and supportive community she created lives on.

One of the models, Maureen McCourt, worked for the Ladies Salon from 2006 to 2008 while attending UM. She then moved to New York City for graduate school where she earned a master's in sculpture. McCourt had modeled for her friends' projects before, but never for people she didn't personally know.

She came across an advertisement in the paper asking for models for the all



"Focus on the Figure: The Pattee Canyon Ladies, 1989-2022" opened on Nov. 19 at the Montana Museum of Art Culture gallery in the PAR/TV Center.

ANDY MEPHAM | MONTANA KAIMIN

womens drawing group, and when she finally found the courage to call, she was met by Erickson on the other end of the line. McCourt recalled her as "warm and lovely." Soon after the call, Erickson brought McCourt into the studio, where she was met with familiar faces—including some of her own professors.

"I felt very part of the group, not just being there as a model to be looked at," McCourt said. "It was really enjoyable being a model for that group because they knew each other and had great conversations."

Being a young artist at the time, modeling for the group was an important experience for McCourt. She found it influential to experience these female artists come together to work and discuss their art. McCourt held this experience close to her during the years she lived in New York and Orange County, California.

McCourt hasn't modeled for the group since 2008, so most of the pieces were new to her, but she adored the exhibit. McCourt came back to Missoula for family,

and to settle down with her partner. She is currently in the clinical mental health masters program at the University.

"You can see so much artwork in New York," McCourt said. "I think what's more of a challenge is developing an art community, because it's so big and vast. I think that's something Missoula has to offer, because it is smaller and you can connect with the art community in more tangible ways."

Chacón, who came to Missoula from Chicago more than 25 years ago to teach, said the School of Visual and Media Arts is one of the most gender balanced programs at the University. When he arrived the faculty was 50 percent men and 50 percent women.

"The fact that we had gender equity in the school of art meant a great deal to me as a professor," Chacón said.

With the arts being traditionally dominated by men, the academic part of the art

world has helped to create a healthier and more balanced space. The human figure, Chacón said, is central to our understanding of art in the Western world and men are usually the ones telling the story.

"The tradition is that men have controlled the image of female beauty and the female body, and I think that to have women be the protagonist and the agents who get to determine what is beautiful and acceptable, and to look at, describe and interpret the female body is a rare thing," Chacón said.

*"Focus on the Figure" is open and free to the public Tuesday through Saturday from 12 p.m. to 6 p.m. until Jan. 7. It will be the last big exhibit in the Performing Arts and Radio/Television Center galleries before the galleries become work rooms for moving the current collection into the new museum building.*



# Montana Museum of Art and Culture catalogs textiles collection

ASA THOMAS METCALFE

asa.metcalfe@umontana.edu

Volunteers for the Montana Museum of Art and Culture started cataloging and packing the first of many collections to be rehomed in the new MMAC building after construction finishes early next year.

Ashley Rickman, the curatorial assistant for the new museum, led three volunteers on an expedition to the attic of the historic University of Montana's Prescott House.

The space was converted years ago into climate-controlled storage space for artifacts in the vast collection of the MMAC. With the new building comes an opportunity to consolidate those artifacts into one central location for the first time.

Rickman and the volunteers found boxes lining the walls. One wing of the attic had three full racks of hanging garments covered by a thick sheet for protection. The Prescott attic is home to two collections totaling 2,100 separate items.

But as with the many other collections included in the museum, the exact number and location of some artifacts remains unknown. Before these items can be moved they must be examined, cataloged and recorded a task that requires a lot of time and in the case of some storage spaces, a lot of effort.

"I found two outlets and that's it," Rickman said. "There are some challenges with weather and just doing it up in an attic."

A few of the impromptu storage spaces around campus are not designed for storing art or artifacts. Although they have been suitably safe, their inaccessibility has prevented much of the collection from ever being displayed.

Many pairs of shoes that have been donated throughout the years by the UM theatre department or as parts of the wider permanent collections were wrapped in paper and packed away in whatever boxes were available at the time of their last move.

For the future integrity of these collections, the shoes and other textile goods need to be packaged in special boxes designed to preserve such items.

The standard brown commercial cardboard that most household boxes are made from is treated with acids that can be damaging over time. Some pieces in the collection are still being stored in improper containers.

Materials are also examined for damage and assigned new identification numbers for their new filing in the upcoming building.

"It's really helpful to have some volunteers that are really knowledgeable on clothing and textiles," Rickman said.

One such volunteer is UM alum and celebrated local author, Jean Belangie-Nye.

"She's looking through things and explaining to me why it's really interesting," Rickman said. "She mentioned earlier a pair of shoes that look like they're from the '20s, but it was kind of a fake. So they were probably made a few decades later."

Belangie-Nye, who co-published "A Corner of Space and Time: Lee Nye's Eddie's Club Portraits," is volunteering for the MMAC move because she enjoys interacting with history.

"I just think it's so exciting, that's why I'm here," Belangie-Nye said.

Belangie-Nye remembers seeing some of the antique fashions and items both in her personal life and while studying theater at UM in the 1960s.

"They were shoes my mom wore and my aunts wore, and shoes that I wore," Belangie-Nye said.

The artifacts in the Prescott attic include women's shoes from the late 1800s to the 1970s and gowns spanning more than a century of styles, as well as military and nurses' uniforms through the years and a collection of ball gowns crafted by hand in the time before mass-manufacturing.

"What I find most interesting is when you can tell the amount of time and attention put into pieces," Rickman said.

The Prescott storage is only the first of many rooms that will be sorted and transported to the new building. The call for volunteers is still open to anyone who is interested in joining in the process. Rickman says the experience can be useful to students hoping to work with museums or art in the future or anyone who enjoys learning more about history.

"I started as a volunteer and then I did an internship and now I'm the curatorial assistant," Rickman said.

*For students interested in volunteering, contact Ashley Rickman at ashley.rickman@mso.umt.edu*



Volunteers Jean Belangie-Nye, bottom, Janet Whaley, left, and David Tyrell, right, unpack and catalog some of the hundreds of shoes in the Prescott House attic on Nov. 21.

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# Griz to the Blazers: Kendal Manuel finds new career after retiring from basketball

CALEB BRINTON

caleb.brinton@umontana.edu

Kendal Manuel, a 25-year-old University of Montana graduate from Billings, went from majoring in anthropology to playing professional basketball in Europe. Now, he's blazing his own trail as a member of the player development staff of the Portland Trail Blazers.

Manuel went to Billings Skyview High School before graduating and enrolling at Oregon State University. After one year in Oregon, he transferred to the University of Montana.

Manuel was the Big Sky Conference Newcomer of the Year while on the Griz team in 2018 and also played in the NCAA Tournament.

"It was an amazing experience," Manuel said. "So, I'm forever grateful for it and you know, love those guys over there. Every time I'm in town, I make sure to stop by and say what's up to them."

After his time as a Griz, Manuel went on to play professionally in Europe for three years.

He played with Oviedo in Spain with former Montana State player Harald Frey and also played for a different team in Lleida, Spain. Manuel also played in France before ultimately deciding to retire from playing basketball.

"I enjoyed my time, you know, had a good experience and got to travel, see a lot of things, and do a lot of things people

don't get to say they've done, and just was ready to come back to the U.S. and figure life out after that," Manuel said.

Manuel also spent time throughout his career playing for the Mozambique national team. His dad Paulo is from Mozambique and is also a nephew of Nelson Mandela, according to his Wikipedia page.

After retiring from playing professionally and deciding it was time to come home, Manuel started planning his future. Still in love with the game itself, he landed a job with the Portland Trail Blazers thanks to a few connections. He is working in player development and video coordination.

The Trail Blazers are one of 30 NBA teams and are the closest team to Montana.

Manuel says he helps players through workouts, including rebounding the pass for them or instructing them on drills. He



Former University of Montana guard Kendal Manuel drives through Weber State guard Khameron Davis. Manuel scored his 1,000th career point earlier in the first half. The Griz beat the Weber State Wildcats 72-37 on Feb. 23, 2020 in a home game at Dahlberg Arena. **CONTRIBUTED PHOTO | J.P. EDGE**

also analyzes film with them as a part of his video coordinating duties.

"Part of that is just really breaking down film to every minute little detail that is required on the basketball court," Manuel

said.

The Trail Blazers have started out 11-8 on the season despite being a very young team and would currently make the NBA playoffs if the season ended today.

# UM Athletics reports 15 NCAA violations in 2021-22

JACK MARSHALL

jack.marshall@umontana.edu

The University of Montana Athletics department reported 15 NCAA violations during the 2021-22 year, according to its yearly report on intercollegiate athletics submitted to UM's faculty senate.

Montana State University's athletic update, provided to its faculty senate this fall, listed no NCAA violations.

Of the violations reported by UM, eight involved the recruitment of student athletes. In the NCAA's overall report of Division I infractions from 2020-21, a majority of reported infractions were also involving recruiting and contact.

The first listed violation is that a UM

head coach had contact with a transfer athlete prior to their name being in the NCAA transfer portal. This violation is followed by two violations involving assistant coaches at UM having nonpermissible phone contact with recruits or their families.

UM also has two listed infractions involving sending automated emails to prospects prior to permissible dates. The Griz received two violations related to non-head coaches running practice.

Another noted violation in the report was that UM student athletes were not given two days off from athletic activities — which is supposed to be a guarantee.

Noted in the report were updates on coaching hires and a statement on labor

shortages.

"The athletic department is facing similar labor shortages experienced across campus and in Missoula," the report stated. "The rising cost of living in the area combined with a national trend of high turnover in the college athletics space is making it difficult to fill a number of key administrative and assistant coaching positions."

Both MSU and UM listed grade point averages of the respective athletic departments. MSU's student athletes posted a 2.26 GPA in the spring of 2022 while Griz athletes put up a 3.39 GPA average in that same semester.

In UM's report, it is also noted that UM has been operating with one fewer aca-

demic advisor than normal.

"After two failed searches, another search has been initiated to return to three full-time advisors," it adds.

In the same report on intercollegiate athletics, UM also mentioned how it operated at full capacity and hosted every home event in front of unrestricted crowds. The report also highlighted UM football's wins versus the University of Washington, Montana State and Eastern Washington.

There was also a focus put on the fact that 14 of UM's 15 teams participated in postseason play. Out of those teams, the UM soccer team was the lone team to bring home a Big Sky Conference Championship last year.



# Griz use big second half to win home playoff game

WORDS BY JACK MARSHALL  
jack.marshall@umontana.edu

The University of Montana football team caught fire in the second half of its home playoff game against Southeast Missouri State on Nov. 26, scoring 31 unanswered points to beat the Redhawks 34-24.

“Heck of a night for the Montana Grizzlies,” UM head coach Bobby Hauck said.

SEMO dominated the first half, holding the Griz to only three points and going up 17-3 at halftime. With fewer fans than usual in attendance and freezing temperatures, it seemed as if the Grizzlies’ season was over.

To open up the second half, SEMO drove down the field and scored to go up 24-3. All signs pointed to the game being over, but UM redshirt senior Malik Flowers had different ideas.

Flowers bobbled the kickoff from SEMO but then regained possession of the ball and raced toward the north endzone of Washington-Grizzly Stadium. No Redhawk defenders could catch Flowers and he tossed the ball into the stands after scoring a touchdown to narrow the deficit to 24-10.

“It’s always nice scoring,” Flowers said.

After UM’s defense got a stop, its offense drove down the field and scored a touchdown. Montana only trailed by one score. The Griz defense delivered another stop and forced a SEMO punt.

SEMO would make a fatal mistake while punting the ball by letting UM sophomore Junior Bergen return it. Bergen got a few good blocks and sprinted into the endzone for a touchdown as Washington-Grizzly Stadium exploded.

Bergen’s punt return tied the game at 24 and the Grizzlies would never look back.

After getting another defensive stop, UM would make a field goal and go up 27-24. A big part of UM’s defensive success was redshirt senior safety Robby Hauck. Robby Hauck finished with 15 total tackles and broke the Big Sky Conference all-time tackle record in the process.

After some more SEMO offensive failures, UM’s Cole Grossman caught a fourth quarter touchdown pass to put UM up 34-24.

The win puts the Griz at 8-4 overall on the year. Now UM will travel to Fargo, North Dakota, on Dec. 3 to take on the North Dakota State University Bison.

“They’re the gold standard,” Bobby Hauck said about NDSU. NDSU is the defending football championship subdivision champion.



**LEFT:** Sophomore running back Xavier Harris points to the student section as the team sings the UM fight song with the crowd on Nov. 26. The Griz pulled through with a win 34-24 against Southeast Missouri State, advancing to the next round of playoffs. **RIDLEY HUDSON | MONTANA KAIMIN**



**ABOVE:** Sophomore running back Xavier Harris runs toward the endzone. **RIDLEY HUDSON | MONTANA KAIMIN**



**RIGHT:** UM wide receiver redshirt senior Malik Flowers runs toward the end zone for a touchdown against Southeast Missouri State in the third quarter Nov. 26. Griz caught up to SEMO in the third quarter with three touchdowns. **RIDLEY HUDSON | MONTANA KAIMIN**



**ABOVE:** Fans cheer on the Grizzly football team as they make a comeback in the second half on Nov. 26 at Washington-Grizzly Stadium. Half of the student section was filled during the Thanksgiving break playoff game. **NATE SANCHEZ | MONTANA KAIMIN**