DEAR GRIZZLIES,

For nearly 40 years, this magazine has shared what UM does best: foster inclusive prosperity in our community and enable every individual who joins the Griz family to reach their full potential. It’s a 129-year-old promise that has remained true and steadfast for generations of Grizzlies. Our work to transform lives and serve as an economic and research engine for Montana has arguably never been more important than it is today.

Thank you for being part of the fabric that reflects the best of UM. Our world is a brighter place because of the gifts, talents and accomplishments that Grizzlies share.

As you will see in these pages, we are in an exciting time of growth and innovation here at UM. This year, we welcomed our largest freshman class in six years, marking the second consecutive year of growth for UM’s incoming classes. I’m pleased to share Montana’s flagship University is firmly set into a cycle of growth. We are seeing more and more students and families choose UM for their education — an exciting trend that we will build on in the years ahead. We also recently celebrated the achievement of R1 status, which was a tremendous accomplishment years in the making. If you’ve been here at UM recently, you will have noticed that our beloved campus is undergoing a major infrastructure renewal – the largest in the history of our institution – that will benefit students, faculty and staff for generations to come. And finally, thanks to the tremendous generosity of the Griz community, private support for UM this past year was near an all-time high.

In short, it’s a great time to be a Griz.

As you read this issue, I know you will be motivated to pursue your own contributions to UM’s mission, boldly and bravely. We have much to look forward to together.

Thank you for reading.

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ALL THESE STORIES AND MORE AT NEWS.UMT.EDU
FALL 2022
MEET.UMONTANA.EDU

COLLEGE FOOTBALL EXPERIENCE IN AMERICA

There’s a special Montana magic when Griz Nation cheers together in Washington-Grizzly Stadium, which becomes Montana’s 7th biggest town on game day.

WE ARE R1

GRIZ

There’s so much awe-inspiring research going on at UM that we are a Top-Tier “RI” institution.

MEETING CHALLENGES WITH HEART

Giving back isn’t a job for us. It’s an ethos. You’ll find a Grizity tackling global challenges with creativity and courage in every place they’re needed.

TREASURED TRADITIONS

Every October, Grizzlies give us pumpkin to talk about.

PLAYING OUR HEARTS OUT SINCE 1893

Our music teachers, performers and composers share their unmatched talent all over the globe.

STEWARDS OF PLACE, CHAMPIONS OF CHANGE

Because the world won’t wait and UM’s climate change studies program was the first of its kind in the nation.

THE WILD (LIFE) IS CALLING

With the sounds of the backcountry coming from our very own UM-managed ranch and forest. Learn why our nationally ranked wildlife biology program is unrivaled for a reason.

DISCOVER MORE

at MEET.UMONTANA.EDU
HAVE WE CAUGHT YOUR EYE?
DO WE LOOK A LITTLE DIFFERENT?

We sure hope so! Last year, UM underwent a yearlong process and took a wide and deep dive into our University brand. We worked alongside students, faculty, donors, alumni and community partners to thoughtfully examine UM’s brand and its collective impact. What we found is that while some things will never change — UM’s heart, spirit and purpose — the way we present ourselves to the world needed a refresh. Enter:

MONTANA MADE.
MONTANA MAKING.

As you’ll see in these pages, we’re boldly championing our new brand in just about every space we can. Don’t fret. Maroon, copper, silver and our foundational identity will remain the same.

We found that a proposed new color palette — with colors like “Montana Wheat,” “Copper Climb,” “Snowbowl Silver,” and “Lubrecht Green” — and bringing in elements and personality in color, tone and visuals are energizing a new generation. In a full-circle moment, the Gen Z generation is loving a style that was popular on campus in the 60’s and 70’s, a tenor lovingly dubbed “Skiing in Jeans.” (You know who you are). We were groovy then, and we’re groovy now.

You can see more about what we’re talking about at meet.umontana.edu.
And if you happen to travel to the Missoula International Airport or see an ad on a social media or catch our new brand in an advertisement on a Grizzly Football game this season, know that we’re working hard to authentically renew what we do best. After all,

WHAT’S MADE IN MONTANA IS REMAKING THE WORLD.
Missoula is decked out in maroon to welcome students back to campus! Students and staff handed out Griz Kits to local businesses and community members to show Grizzly pride for the upcoming school year! Griz Kits can be picked up in the Montana GSA office on the first floor of the Adams Center!

Back to school! Our newest Grizzlies got to know each other by participating in service projects that included beautifying our campus walkways.

It was nothing but rhythm, black magic, and smooth, evil ways in the Adams Center when Latin rock and roll legend Carlos Santana was in town to perform.
**ARIZONA** • Madison Diehl, a UM sophomore studying psychology, and Carl Shaw, a UM sophomore studying management information systems, pose above Horseshoe Bend near Page, Arizona, on the Colorado River.

**GERMANY** • Left to Right: Hunter Grimes (recent UM graduate) and Ben DeBar (current UM student) visit Seth Carmichael (current UM student) at the Zollverein Coal Mining plant, a UNESCO World Heritage Site in Essen, Germany. Carmichael was studying abroad in Dortmund, Germany last year. He returned this fall as a student representative of UM’s Franke Global Leadership Initiative.

**AUSTRIA** • (Left to right) Damian Specht (from Merzig, Germany); Daniel Teubenbacher (from Graz, Austria); Eleonora Schirmer (from Tampere, Finland); and Noora Huhtala (from Helsinki, Finland); pose together near the Schloßberg fortress in Graz, Austria. The four Europeans met at UM as former study abroad students in 2019-20. They have kept up their friendships and meet annually!

**JOHNS HOPKINS** • Devin Hunt, UM alumnus, poses with Griz gear at his newest university, Johns Hopkins, where he began training this year as an Md-PhD.
$122 MILLION IN RESEARCH EXPENDITURES

SCHOLARSHIPS & AWARDS

GRIZZLIES WERE FINALISTS FOR THE RHODES SCHOLARSHIP, THE WORLD’S OLDEST AND MOST PRESTIGIOUS ACADEMIC RECOGNITION.

GRIZZLIES WON THE NATION’S TOP GRADUATE-LEVEL AWARD IN STEM FROM THE NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION.

UM STUDENTS WERE AWARDED GILLMAN SCHOLARSHIPS AND ARE NOW TAKING THEIR STUDIES TO THE UK, SPAIN & JAPAN.

BY THE NUMBERS

70% 72% 100%

ACCEPTANCE RATE TO MEDICAL SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS LAST YEAR
PASS-RATE IN MATH & WRITING CLASSES IN A NEW CLASS MODEL
PASS-RATE ON EVERY NATIONAL COUNSELOR EXAM FOR FIVE YEARS
$2 MILLION IN FUNDING FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION FOR UPWARD BOUND

$70 MILLION INJECTED DIRECTLY INTO MONTANA ECONOMY BY ‘YELLOWSTONE’ SHOW

1,000 HIkers in one day
A UM STUDENT CATALOGED HIKING OUR FAMOUS M TRAIL
THE TRAIL IS UNDERGOING EXTENSIVE RENOVATIONS TO PRESERVE FOR GENERATIONS TO COME.

2,600 STUDENTS MADE THE DEAN’S OR PRESIDENT’S LIST FOR ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT IN THE 2021-22 ACADEMIC YEAR.

31 YEARS SINCE A PAIR OF COOPER’S HAWKS & JUVENILE OFFSPRING NESTED ON CAMPUS

73 YEARS HOW LONG THE SCHOOL OF MUSIC HAS OPERATED SUMMER MUSIC CAMPS

SCAN THE QR CODE TO SEE MORE

SCAN THE QR CODE TO SEE MORE
TEAMWORK.

UM is partnering in a new federal program that provides science-based climate information and services to Native American ranchers and farmers in the Intermountain West. The program will strengthen the role of USDA Climate Hubs in Indian Country. These hubs support agricultural producers and professionals by providing region-specific information about climate change and climate adaptation strategies.

SONG.

UM’s Chamber Chorale was invited to perform across England and Germany this summer in some of the world’s top choral venues, competitions and festivals. The chorale performs regularly for campus and community events. It includes students from diverse majors including neuroscience, wildlife biology and education, proving music beats in everyone.

HUMANITIES.

Cornerstone humanities programs at UM received a $499,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. UM was awarded the maximum level of grant funding to support programming, classes and scholarship in history, literature, anthropology and Native American Studies.
THREE-FER.
A trio of UM researchers – geosciences scientist Hilary Martens, evolutionary geneticist Brandon S. Cooper and atmospheric chemist Lu Hu – won funding from the coveted National Science Foundation’s Faculty Early Career Development Program. These CAREER awards are given to promising early career faculty members, and only 300 are awarded each year.

WATER.
UM’s Flathead Lake Biological Station researchers were part of a scientific team that used modern environmental sensor technology to track the vital signs of streams in near real time. The new system they developed acts almost like a Fitbit for monitoring the nation’s freshwater ecosystems. It allows researchers to better predict how freshwater vital signs might shift with land development, climate change and other disturbances.

EQUATIONS.
Lauren Fern, UM’s math student success coordinator, has led a multiyear effort to revamp UM’s developmental math program, resulting in changes to the process for placing students in math courses. Instead of high dropout rates, these classes now boast a 72% pass rate. When it comes to success, this new approach adds up.

PARADES.
After a pandemic and a bridge construction delay, UM went its own way and brought back the beloved UM Homecoming parade this year. The route was different, but the crowds, floats and bands brought the same Grizzly spirit. It was worth the wait.

SAFE CONNECTIONS.
UM’s new CyberMontana program already counts as its alumni middle school students conquering code at summer camps and Montana National Guard members learning to identify and fix cyber breaches. Funded by the Montana Legislature in 2021, this initiative provides cybersecurity awareness and training for businesses and residents across the state.

PHARMACISTS.
The College of Health’s GrizRx Assurance Program offers a direct, fast-track path to qualified freshmen interested in pursuing a Doctor of Pharmacy degree. Students in the program are enrolled in a focused two-year pre-pharmacy curriculum, are provided concentrated mentorship by pharmacy faculty, opportunities to conduct research and have a reserved seat in their incoming first-year pharmacy class.

HEADSTARTS.
UM and Frentchtown High School are providing high school students a running start to college. The program allows students to enroll dually at Missoula College and graduate with a certificate in general education with their high school diploma. Students who participate could save up to $15,000 that they would normally pay during their freshman year of college.

ELECTRICITY.
UM is leading the charge – get it? – to expand access to electric vehicle infrastructure in western Montana. This spring it installed four electric vehicle charging stations on campus. The new stations are already popular and signal UM’s effort to support electric vehicle ownership.
UM EARNs ‘R1’ RESEARCH MILESTONE

The University was upgraded to the “Doctoral Universities: Very High Research Activity” classification, otherwise known as R1.

For decades, scores of researchers and administrators have worked toward the goal of making UM one of the top research universities in the nation. That milestone was achieved this past winter, when the University was named a top-tier “R1” research institution.

“UM HAS MANAGED TO NURTURE AND GROW RESEARCH PRODUCTIVITY AGAINST ALL ODDS.”

The honor was conferred by the Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education organization. The University was upgraded to the “Doctoral Universities: Very High Research Activity” classification, also known as R1.

Since the Carnegie classification system was created in 1970, UM has striven toward the goal of achieving R1 status. Of the roughly 4,000 degree-granting institutions across the U.S., only 146 (about 3.7%) are ranked in this elite group.

“UM reaching R1 status is a great testament to the quality of our faculty, staff and students,” says Scott Whittenburg, UM vice president for research and creative scholarship.

The R1 classification lasts for five years.

Research spending at UM has soared in recent years. The $55 million reported in fiscal year 2014 swelled to a UM-record $122 million this past year. Whittenburg says UM is the sixth-fastest growing research university in the nation, known for its work in wildlife biology, forestry, pharmacy, chemistry, climate change and more. In 2020, the vaccine research by UM’s Center for Translational Medicine landed the University on a list titled “Best Universities Solving the Coronavirus Pandemic.”

“One nice feature of the Carnegie designation is that the research dollars and doctorates are not limited to the STEM disciplines,” Whittenburg says. “Research and doctoral completion in the humanities, social sciences and other fields contributed greatly to UM’s attainment of the R1 designation.”

“Our R1 status will boost the economy of our region and open up new opportunities.”

“Earning R1 validates the impressive research and hard work of many outstanding people at the University of Montana,” UM President Seth Bodnar says. “UM has become many things during its 129-year history, and now we can add to that our status as a nationally and globally known center for research.”

Carnegie uses a variety of factors to determine whether a university qualifies for R1 status, including research spending, staffing levels to support the research, and the number of doctorates awarded by the institution. Bodnar says of all R1 universities, only two don’t have a medical or engineering school: UM and the University of Oregon.
Dr. Jane Goodall, DBE, founder of the Jane Goodall Institute and a UN Messenger of Peace, spoke at UM on a warm June evening to an estimated crowd of over 3,000.
Her lecture, “Hope Through Action,” was part of UM’s President’s Lecture Series and was co-sponsored by UM’s Maureen and Mike Mansfield Center and the International Wildlife Film Festival.

The Missoula and UM community took advantage of the unique opportunity to listen to the iconic researcher, conservationist and UN Messenger of Peace.

Dr. Goodall, who early in her career was not taken seriously as a young woman in science, has inspired generations of women and men with her legacy. During her lecture, the Oval was notably full of young women passionate about conservation, wildlife and the environment.

Goodall’s scientific legacy stretches back over 60 years to her groundbreaking research of the then little-known wild chimpanzees living in Tanzania’s Gombe National Park. With mentorship from paleoanthropologist Dr. Louis Leakey, Goodall’s research transformed the study of wildlife. Since then, Goodall has built on innovative science and a lifetime of advocacy — particularly through her global organization, the Jane Goodall Institute, founded in 1977.

Her observation that chimpanzees make and use tools rocked the scientific landscape, forever redefining our understanding of the relationship between humans and other animals.

UM’s President’s Lecture Series was created to provide Montana citizens opportunities to gather, learn and discuss the ideas and issues that animate our communities.
But camping is more than Rice’s avocation. It’s also his vocation, and as a researcher in outdoor recreation and wildland management, he studies the science and art of camping, including how campers actually pick their campsites and the seismic changes taking place in U.S. national parks as America’s love affair with the public commons became exasperated after the pandemic.

Rice’s research, conducted with colleagues around the country and at the W. A. Franke College of Forestry & Conservation, has found a park system strained by the exploding popularity of outdoor recreation and struggling to find ways to balance park protection with equitable access to all.

This year, Rice, along with UM Associate Professor Jennifer Thomsen and graduate students Jaclyn Rushing and Peter Whitney, released a study that digs deep into the issue of online camping reservations systems and their impact on the demographics of national park campers.

“There is a massive push right now to go to online reservation systems,” says Rice, noting that two areas of Glacier National Park are now online for the first time. “It’s just more efficient for the park agency.”

Efficient, perhaps, but not without unintended consequences, his team’s research found.

Using federal camping data and mobile device location technology – with funding secured from UM’s Center for Population Health Research – Rice was able to more closely correlate the ethnicity and income of campers with their ability to access campground sites. The research looked at five national park campgrounds across the country that offered campsites both through the park system’s reservation platform, Recreation.gov, and on a first-come, first-served basis.

The analysis found that on average campers accessing sites that require reservations came from areas with significantly higher portions of white residency and higher-incomes than those accessing sites not requiring reservations.

The reasons for these outcomes are many, Rice says, and are based on everything from technology to workforce dynamics.

“To use these systems you need high-speed internet, which can be a problem for some campers – particularly in remote places like we have in Montana,” he explained. “You also need flexibility to plan your trip for six months from now. People with lower-income jobs often don’t have the ability to set vacations that far in advance.”

Success in securing the site also requires a level of institutional knowledge on how the system works, which can lead to fewer novice campers landing coveted sites, he says.

Rice says these findings add much-needed research to a growing conversation around inequitable accessibility to National Park Service campgrounds – a phenomena as old as the park system itself.

“There has always been an aspect of exclusivity to the national parks,” Rice says, noting campgrounds were conceptualized by the leisure class to emulate the suburbs. “And to a large degree they remain exclusionary.”

So how does the National Park Service preserve what makes parks “natural” while keeping them accessible to all?

“We’re hoping for funding to look deeper into lottery system to see if it works,” Rice says.
HONORS STUDENT NAMED PRESTIGIOUS TRUMAN SCHOLAR

Beatrix Frissell, a UM senior from Polson, was one of only 58 students in the country awarded a prestigious Truman Scholarship.

Frissell is the first Truman Scholar to come from UM since 2014, when Mara Menahan earned the scholarship.

Frissell’s penchant for academic rigor coupled with a UM education steeped in justice, gender equity, policy and environmental sciences prepared her to earn this national scholarship, she says.

Truman Scholars demonstrate outstanding leadership potential, a commitment to a career in government or the nonprofit sector and academic excellence. Truman Scholars also receive funding for graduate studies, leadership training, career counseling and special internship and fellowship opportunities within the federal government.

Double majoring in political science in UM’s College of Humanities and Sciences and environmental sciences and sustainability in the W.A. Franke College of Forestry and Conservation, Frissell also is a student in UM’s Davidson Honors College. In addition to a rigorous academic load, she runs women’s cross-country and track and field for Grizzly Athletics and makes time in between her studies to complete about 60 miles of long-distance running a week.

Frissell says running long distances for practice reflects her academic pursuits at UM.

“In running, you’re in constant pursuit of perfection and you have to manage your own self-improvement,” she says. “That’s a bit like my time in the classroom at UM, because I’ve had to push myself to get outside of my comfort zone and seek new challenges that I wasn’t sure I could accomplish.”

Just a few of those accomplishments include maintaining a 4.0 GPA, completing UM’s Global Leadership Initiative 12-credit certificate program, serving on the Associated Students of UM Sustainability and Elections Committees and participating in UM’s first SEA Change cohort (Safe, Empowered, Accelerated) to advance gender equity and combat stereotypes.

Growing up on the Flathead Indian Reservation, Frissell says she was enveloped in a deep connection to land, people, climate and culture that all intertwined by the time she arrived at UM, enrolling as a Presidential Leadership Scholar.

“UM has a lot of things to apply for and people who can connect you and help provide funding,” she says. “I found so many wonderful resources and incredible faculty advisers who would point me in the directions where was I interested, and they connected me with resources and support.”

Frissell plans to attend graduate school for a combination of public policy and environmental science, or possibly law school. She spent a summer interning with the U.S. Forest Service Region 1 office in Missoula in forest management planning and public outreach, as well as served as a Baucus Climate Scholar in UM’s Max S. Baucus Institute.

When asked where Frissell imagines herself in the future, she replied with another goal dedicated to public trust and serving her home state.

“Becoming governor of Montana,” she says.

“I’VE HAD TO PUSH MYSELF TO GET OUTSIDE OF MY COMFORT ZONE AND SEEK NEW CHALLENGES THAT I WASN’T SURE I COULD ACCOMPLISH.”
In 2019, Carlson won the barrel racing national championship as a member of the College of Southern Idaho team. She joined the UM Rodeo team that fall in hopes of repeating as a national champion in barrel racing and developing her goat-tying and breakaway-roping skills to win an All-Around championship.

“That was my plan, and then everything got messed up with COVID-19 and then I broke my ankle,” Carlson says.

“But I’ll be back in the chute for another title.”

The business major from Loma, Colorado, missed the entire 2021 season with a broken left ankle, after the 2020 rodeo season was canceled due to COVID-19.
CHAMPION BARREL RACER REPRESENTS AT NATIONAL RODEO
Carlson returned to the national stage in June following a second-place finish in barrel racing in the Big Sky Region to qualify for the College National Finals Rodeo in Casper, Wyoming.

Carlson had her sights set on winning another gold buckle, the award given to national champions. But she faced one more hurdle when her horse, Stick, a dark bay Quarter Horse that Carlson rode during the national championship in 2019, was too sore to compete. In a pinch, Carlson rode her breakaway-roping horse, Tequila, who never competed in barrel racing before.

Despite the inexperience, Carlson and Tequila had a strong showing and finished 28th overall. Carlson plans to ride Tequila in future barrel racing events. She was gifted Tequila four years ago from Scott Giltner, who raises horses through his business Diamond G Specialties in Southern Idaho.

“I think she will finish out to be a better competitor than Stick, so I’m really excited to get her going,” Carlson says. “I’ve always felt like that about her.”

Carlson came to Montana when she was recruited by UM Rodeo coach Kory Mytty, a former professional rodeo competitor who made the College National Finals Rodeo in 1988 and 1989 while at Blue Mountain Community College in Pendleton, Oregon.

Mytty is always impressed by Carlson’s spirit. “Ashtyn is very fiery,” Mytty says. “She loves to win and is extremely competitive.”

Mytty, who coached 11 athletes on the 2022 team, says the group is a mix of Montana residents and others from Canada and across the U.S., including New York, California, Colorado, Oregon, Washington and Idaho.

As the UM coach for the past 10 years, Mytty says the team has gained more fans each season. At the UM Spring Rodeo in Missoula in April, more than 2,000 spectators came to watch each of the two competitions.

“We had never had that many people at our college rodeo before,” Mytty says. “That was a testament to people wanting to get out and get some entertainment.”

Carlson plans to offer more entertainment for rodeo fans next season. She will return to take advantage of an extra year offered due to the pandemic.

“ASHTYN IS VERY FIERY. SHE LOVES TO WIN AND IS EXTREMELY COMPETITIVE.”

Nobody would blame Carlson if she eventually moves on from rodeo, considering she still feels her left ankle flare up during competition and has bone chips floating around both knees from her legs hitting the barrels so many times. But rodeo is her passion, and Carlson can’t wait to represent Montana next year at the College National Finals Rodeo.

“It’s always an honor to go compete at the CNFR,” Carlson says, “and compete with the best of the best.”
Tucker Sargent, head coach and a former Griz lacrosse player who was on the 2007 national champion team, says the team has worked toward a return to the national spotlight since he took the helm as coach in 2010.

Montana made it to the national tournament in 2017 – its first appearance since 2007 – and again in 2019. Both years, Montana lost in the first round. But this year the Griz won its first two games at the tournament in Round Rock, Texas. The Griz eventually lost in the semifinals.

“It’s really fun for the players to be on that stage and see where Montana stacks up against everyone else,” Sargent says. “It was really exciting to see the guys get out there and play for each other and represent the University of Montana and do pretty well.”

Montana’s lacrosse team, like other club sports at UM, draws student athletes from across the country who come to Missoula to study at the University and continue their athletic passions.

The lacrosse roster features athletes from all corners of the nation, including Hawaii, New York, Georgia, Minnesota and Ohio.

“For a lot of these guys, continuing to play their sport is a big priority when they are looking at college,” Sargent says. “We bring in a lot of kids who otherwise wouldn’t come here.”

The team also has several homegrown players, including Jace Jarvis and Ethan Eppard from Missoula, Wyatt Smith of Kalispell, Brenden Cahill of Whitefish and Aidan Potter of Billings.

Jarvis, who played lacrosse at Hellgate High School in Missoula before joining the Griz in 2020, says he remembers the college team visiting his practices in high school to invite the younger players to the Montana home games.

Jarvis, who studies business management at UM, continues to feel supported by the team and the community in Missoula. During the national tournament, the team regularly was featured in news articles across Montana and fans gathered at restaurants to watch the games being played in Texas.

“I had a lot of friends and family sending me articles and showing me they were watching the games at some of the local restaurants,” Jarvis says. “It was nice to have that Montana support.”

**GRIZ LACROSSE RETURNS TO NATIONAL STAGE**

The UM lacrosse team had its most successful season in 15 years, reaching the semifinals of the Men’s Collegiate Lacrosse Association DII National Championship.

GRIZ LACROSSE RETURNS TO NATIONAL STAGE
Kyle Brekke helped launch a new Student Veterans Organization, which is designed to help veterans succeed in higher education.

A Minnesota local, Brekke kicked off his senior year of high school by signing up for the U.S. Marines. During five subsequent years in the infantry, he was stationed in Hawaii and deployed to Hong Kong, the Philippines, Korea and Japan. Afterwards he bounced around colleges in California, becoming an unhappy economics major.

“It took me a long time to figure out where I need to be. I felt a little lost, but I found a home here.”

“It was a weird stage in my life,” the veteran says, “I kind of dropped out. Then COVID hit.”

Brekke decided to return to Minnesota. He had always found solace in the outdoors, so he and his pickup camper took a circuitous, soul-searching route home that passed through Missoula. A friend showed him around town, and he walked across UM campus beneath looming Mount Sentinel.

“It felt right,” he says. “I was thinking about a forestry degree, and as soon as I got back to Minnesota, I applied.”

Brekke isn’t alone. More than 1,400 military-affiliated students attend UM, which this year earned a Gold ranking for being a Military Friendly School from MilitaryFriendly.com. He learned right away why UM earned the designation.

“I applied to all the big forestry schools, and the communication process was really smooth for me here at UM,” says Brekke, now a junior in the University’s W.A. Franke College of Forestry and Conservation. “An adviser put me in touch with a veteran in the forestry school, and he told me all about things and sold me on it. I didn’t get that from any other school I applied to.”

That same adviser, Darryl Lee, helped Brekke land a job with UM’s Military and Veteran Services Office. In that role he helps other veterans like himself transition to university life. This includes helping them process their benefits and getting them signed up for everything from health care and housing to email.

“We even help them get to class and decide where they want to sit in class,” he says. “Some of them are older and getting back into all that can be a struggle.”

The Military and Veterans Services Office is located in a house at 1000 E. Beckwith Ave. on the edge of campus. It’s a base of operations where veterans can share experiences and support one another. Brekke says they offer a lounge, coffee station and television, and the basement has a bank of computers where veterans can study and work on assignments.

“UM really provides a special learning environment for military and veteran students because we clearly understand where our students are coming from while empowering them to get where they want to go,” says Patrick Beckwith, the West Point Military Academy graduate who directs UM’s Military and Veterans Services Office. “We earned the Military Friendly Gold designation because we recognize our military and veteran students are a core component of the UM identity.”

Beckwith says his office actively works to recruit veterans and active-duty members of the military and their families. It also works to certify and process VA benefits and collaborates with UM academic departments to help improve credit transfer.

Brekke has helped launch the University’s new Student Veterans Organization, which is designed to help students with military connections succeed in higher education and navigate post-military life. He plans to graduate in 2023.

Does he feel like he’s found his path?

“It took me a long time to figure out where I need to be,” he says. “I’m glad I didn’t rush it, and I’m happy where I am. I found a home here.”
The UM student has studied piano since he was a young child, and he's played the trumpet for almost a decade. His family owns a music store in Anchorage, Alaska, and his parents met when his mother took her broken flute to have it repaired at the family shop.

A future in the arts seemed an almost certainty for Kagerer, who researched music conservatories while finishing high school.

But then, as often happens, life threw him a curve, leading him to enroll at UM not in music, but in pre-pharmacy.

Kagerer explains matter-of-factly that an injury to his face from improper playing techniques and a rare metals allergy made it difficult, if not impossible, to play brass instruments.

“I thought to myself, well, what do I do know?” Kagerer recalls. “I loved my science classes, and I had an uncle who was a pharmacist, so that’s what I chose. My parents were a bit shocked at first, but they were super supportive. Having lived in the music world, they knew a lot of professional musicians who didn’t make it.”

Kagerer looked at several universities to study pharmacy. He fell in love with Missoula and UM.

But as he successfully made his way through his pre-pharm studies, music was never far away, and he began to practice again in the fall of 2018 thanks to an upgrade to his trumpet.

“Mouthpieces are brass with silver plating, which I am allergic to,” Kagerer says. “I tried plastic for a while, but it doesn’t respond the same. I now have one that is made of titanium and that has worked well.”

By the time his sophomore year rolled around, the pull of music was too strong to ignore. Kagerer left the pharmacy track and transferred full time to the School of Music. He chose to major in music education, a field woefully short on teachers.

“I had incredible music teachers growing up,” he says. “They made such a difference in my ability to play.”

Today, he is studying piano and trumpet and playing in a number of ensembles, including perhaps the largest of them all – the Grizzly Marching Band, where he serves as a section leader.

Between classes, lessons and late-evening rehearsals, Kagerer puts in long hours at the School of Music building. As he puts it, he’s in “one building, all day, every day.”

The time spent, he says, has become more pleasant and professional thanks to the ongoing renovations to the Music Building made possible by alumni donors. Improvements included reconstruction of the facility’s two largest ensemble rooms, as well as a suite of basement-level practice rooms.

“The old spaces were falling apart and very loud. It felt like something you would see in middle school,” Kagerer says. “The new spaces feel so high class. It’s a blast to play in them.”

As to next steps when he graduates, Kagerer may teach or he may go on to graduate school to ultimately work at the collegiate level.

“I am super passionate to share what I do with others,” he says of teaching. “And to see that spark – to ignite it in others – is exciting.”
MUSIC STUDENT OVERCOMES OBSTACLES TO FOLLOW PASSION FOR PERFORMANCE

To say music has played a major part in Andrew Kagerer's life would be an epic understatement.
His academic happy zone is the University of Montana Missoula College's kitchen and bakery, with its assemblage of high-tech freezers and old-world rolling pins.

It's here that Gonzales-Graybill creates sheet pans of cakes, cupcakes, breads and bagels for all Grizzlies to enjoy.

"Baked goods can bring people together," says Gonzales-Graybill. "The smell of fresh baked goods can bring a sense of peace."

For Gonzales-Graybill, that sense of peace has not always come easy. Adopted as a child after spending time in foster care, he "went down a long road of alcohol and addiction" in his late teens and early 20s. Those addictions led to prison and dark times, he says.

While incarcerated, and with many months to reflect, Gonzales-Graybill says he came to the realization that his true calling was baking. It was a calling that harkened back to his childhood.

"My grandmother is Italian – a complete Sicilian – and a great cook," he explained. "For her birthdays I would try to make her a birthday cake. It was a boxed cake mix, and I'd make it in the middle of the night. It was super terrible, but I was like 7. Still, I guess you could say I've always had a knack for baking."

Gonzales-Graybill enrolled at Missoula College two years ago – his sobriety and schooling going hand-in-hand. He has since become a baking force of nature at the college and now operates the college's coffee bar, the Iris, and takes requests for custom cakes and other confectionaries. Along the way, he's made the Dean's List and racked up a 4.0 GPA.

"I wanted to prove a point to me, to my parents, to my probation officer, that I can be somebody again," says Gonzales-Graybill who, in addition to studying culinary arts, is studying business management and entrepreneurship through the Davidson Honors College.

Chef Instructor Amy Nack has watched Gonzales-Graybill come into his own at the college. A pastry chef and baker herself, Nack says succeeding in baking requires a unique set of skills.

"You really need to learn patience because you can't rush bread," she says. "Xavier has come to learn that. He's got the artistry, too. He does everything with heart." Matt Parkey, restaurant director for institute, agrees.

"Xavier has seen more things than most people, and he's always been very open and real about his past," Parkey says. "He's taken the cards that were dealt him and reshuffled the deck."

When he graduates, Gonzales-Graybill dreams of opening a bakery that caters to pets and their humans. His experiences at the institute will be valuable when he opens for business.
Nearly every day, Erim Gomez, assistant professor in UM's W.A. Franke College of Forestry and Conservation, wears the traditional Latin American men's shirt – a guayabera. Gomez likes to bring his “whole self” to the classroom, including his Mexican heritage. He says that’s important if the next generation of land managers, conservationists and wildlife biologists are to come up in a field that needs more diversity.

You have a rich, cultural heritage of being Mexican-American, a first-generation college student and the son of immigrants. How do you fold these experiences into your teaching and scholarship?

I've attended three universities. Never have I had a faculty of color teaching one of my STEM classes or a Latino professor – not even in my Spanish classes. My history and culture affect the things I teach about. In every single one of my classes, I'm concerned with the big idea about how we protect ecosystem well-being alongside human well-being. I am most concerned about the human well-being part of this discipline, often because in the conservation arena, we have neglected to think about Indigenous communities or communities that don’t have as much political or social power when it comes to conservation. I give a more holistic history of the conservation movement in my classes, including addressing highly problematic views by conservation heroes. What being a person of color in front of my students means, is that I hope no matter who they are, or if their parents were farm workers or immigrants or are people of color, that they, too, can become a wildlife biologist and achieve their professional and academic dreams.

The land management and conservation disciplines are not immune to histories of social injustice and inequity. For UM students who will serve as next-generation land managers, how can they benefit from having a deeper cultural awareness and traditional ways of knowing when it comes to our natural environment?

I've witnessed national leaders in the fields of biology talking about ecological issues at a prestigious conference unknowingly and simultaneously insulting traditional ways of knowing. I don’t think this particular person realized how problematic his views are. And I share this story because we are in a moment of a major cultural awareness, and we can’t be making those same mistakes. If we think about the idea of wilderness, from the Western perspective, it’s that it has been “untouched” by man. However, there’s millions of people living in North America, and that idea of wilderness to many, most especially for Indigenous people, doesn’t quite make sense. They’ve been living on the land and managing it for millennia. It’s important for students to know that humans have been part of North American landscape for 10,000 years or more. We have evidence of this, and we need to incorporate that into our knowledge and teaching. To be a successful land manager, you need to have buy-in from your community. Indigenous people and people of color are stakeholders who have been historically neglected in these conversations. The field is starting to realize this.

In our immediate environment, there's also a lot of intriguing issues and problems, including hosting the largest collection of superfunds sites in the country (from Milltown State Park to Butte). We have some
of the nation’s best environmental experts (my colleagues) researching heavy metal issues along the Clark Fork River, with enormous ecological restoration going on. We are home to beautiful landscapes, none of which are untouched, and we still have beautiful ecosystems filled with opportunities to figure out how to restore some of the ecosystems that we’ve negatively impacted. It’s truly a dream to be here.

You’ve mentioned UM as the “ultimate” program in the country in wildlife biology and teaching in this program as a dream job. Why UM? Now that you’re here, what do you want to accomplish?

I’ve known about this program for 22 years. There’s a rich history here. I sit in the office of a former chief of the U.S. Forest Service, Jack W. Thomas. The reason I wanted to become a wildlife biologist was because of a video about grizzly bears from the Craighead brothers. [John Craighead was the former director of UM’s Montana Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit and a former UM faculty member.] To have those connections and that legacy here is inspiring. Everyone in wildlife biology knows about the UM wildlife biology program. We have great access to the outdoors, wilderness, national forests and all kinds of opportunities to do research in our own backyard.

How do you connect to your culture in Missoula?

Latino dancing! I have found wonderful community here in Missoula, and I like to get my students up and moving. I’ve connected with a program called Here Montana, managed by the City of Missoula, that organizes outdoor recreation adventures and education for the local BIPOC community. We’ve guided raft and backpacking trips and hosted other opportunities for different groups to make deeper connections across campus.
On a spring weekend in April, after two years of COVID-induced silence, the Adams Center came roaring back to life with the sounds, sights and colors of Indigenous cultures from across Montana and the nation. The Kyiyo Pow Wow returned for a celebration of singing, dancing and story sharing. The annual event honors the rich heritage of tribes and Native cultures while sharing it with the University and future generations. In its 53rd year, the powwow is one of the nation’s oldest student-run powwows and a beloved University tradition.

“It’s a celebration,” says Zachariah Rides At The Door, a UM student from Browning who helped organize the powwow. “Being that they couldn’t put it on for the past two years, I am so excited for our student members who have never seen Kyiyo.”

In 2021, UM President Seth Bodnar established an endowment of $300,000 to support the powwow with the gift, named after the late Blackfeet Chief Earl Old Person. The endowment will offset costs for the powwow in the future.
UM photographer Andy Kemmis set up a portrait studio during the powwow and captured the rich and beautiful tribal diversity in attendance.

**Above:** Cactus Runsa of Northern Cheyenne and Gros Ventre Nations.

**Top Center:** Nabahe Piikani Shebala of the Blackfeet and Navajo nations.

**Top Right:** Bobby Pease, beaded griz paw, Crow Nation.

**Bottom Center:** Oteskweheeksaki Dezbah Shebala of the Blackfeet Nation.

**Bottom Right:** Beatrice Little Mustache of the Piikani Nation in Alberta, Canada.
UM GRAD INSPIRED BY HISTORY, BIG DATA

Kayla Irish used her UM training in the humanities to tackle complex power dynamics within STEM.

Her winding road includes history and math degrees, a stint interning at the nation’s capital, time in a lab spent designing statistical models and a deep commitment to the ethical development of modern technology.

Meet Kayla Irish, a recent UM alumna, who combined the critical thinking of the liberal arts with training in STEM fields, following a thread of curiosity the entire way.

“Sometimes I can’t believe how individualized my path was at UM,” Irish says. “And then I think about how much support I received to pursue practically any topic that interests me. The opportunities offered to me were limitless.”

This fall, Irish began a doctoral program in statistics at the University of Washington and focuses on the ethical quandaries surrounding artificial intelligence.

“Our world now is all about data, every single choice we make and action we take is a data point,” Irish says. “But what’s more interesting to me is what we do with that data. And a lot of those answers come from history because it can inform us about groups of people having power over the behavior of other groups of people. What we are capable of when it comes to data is worth being concerned about.”

Irish says she always felt a pull toward UM and found herself as a Presidential Scholar in the Davidson Honors College “completely enthralled” with an Introduction to American History class, taught by UM Associate Professor Kyle Volk, chair of UM’s Department of History.

“I noticed right away Kayla’s penchant for rigor,” Volk says. “She sat front and center every day and was a force. She was always prepared and was very comfortable taking different positions with complicated historical problems. She thought deeply and always grounded her insights in evidence.”

Irish says from there she took as many history classes as she could and was invited to take Volk’s graduate level history class. He wrote a letter of recommendation for her to intern in Washington, D.C., which landed Irish an internship with U.S. Sen. Chuck Schumer and a bird’s eye view of the workings of the U.S. Senate Committee on Finance.

Irish says her time in Washington, D.C., sparked an interest to understand “modern societal issues through data and math.”

So she returned from her internship with a hunger for STEM and enrolled in math and computer science classes, taking a deep dive into the disciplines after completing requirements for a history degree.

She sought mentorship and found statistics and computer science faculty members like Jon Graham and Travis Wheeler. She also found opportunities to engage with big data. All along, Irish developed a passion for statistical theory and analysis as they relate to human populations.

“The critical thinking side of my brain drives me to pursue human-centered research in AI [Artificial Intelligence], and the logic side of my brain really enjoys dissecting and exploring systems.”

Those systems include self-driving cars, cancer detection technology, advertisements and even phone facial recognition and the ways data is provided to machines.

“Artificial intelligence is only as good as the data it’s given,” she says. “Any bias in the data can hurt the integrity of its decisions.”

That might look like companies using technology to scan for job placements that inadvertently leave female candidates out of the running. Or when a facial recognition system doesn’t identify people of color because the system doesn’t have enough diversity in its data.

“Ideally, I would like to see AI be able to explain or articulate the choices it makes,” she says. “I want to provide AI with an ethical framework.”

Irish says her training in the humanities taught her to approach complex power dynamics with strong writing, research and communication skills, which created a bridge to STEM.

“I cannot overstate how important training in the social sciences is for the modern world,” Irish says. “Data, machine learning, and AI are critical parts of everyday life, so the people working on these technologies need to feel responsible for their impacts.”

Volk says Irish found the “connective tissue” between math and history and mastered multiple disciplines.

“We should all want someone with Kayla’s humanistic training doing this type of work in the STEM fields. The stakes couldn’t be much bigger.”
An impressive class of UM students has been accepted into a host of the nation’s top medical schools. Among them:

- Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine
- Stanford University of Medicine
- Harvard Medical School
- Yale School of Medicine
- Vanderbilt School of Medicine
- University of Washington School of Medicine
- Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine
- University of Colorado School of Medicine
- UC San Diego School of Medicine

The American Association of Medical Colleges reflects a national average medical school acceptance rate of 41%. At UM, the acceptance rate for pre-med majors so far this year is 70%.

“We’re very pleased with this exceptional class of students,” says Mark Pershouse, pre-medical sciences director and associate professor in UM’s Department of Biomedical and Pharmaceutical Sciences.

“It’s certainly a year of success for these bright, accomplished and unique students, and it’s also a win for us as an institution to see that our formula of student support and intensive academic advising is working.”

Pershhouse added that while a 70% acceptance rate is impressive, it’s not the highest UM has seen in its history. The program had a peak of 88% acceptance in 2013, and over the last 14 years has achieved an average of 61% acceptance. He says not only is UM’s acceptance rate well above the national average, it’s also inspiring given the surge in American students applying to medical school.

The pandemic has inspired a new generation of doctors, so much so that the Association of American Medical Colleges saw nearly an 18% increase in 2021-22 med school applicants. This was dubbed the “Fauci effect.”

Pershhouse says UM’s focus on wide and deep preparation for medical school is unique. At UM, students studying pre-medical sciences participate in an advising program that helps students become well informed and aware of the diversity of health care professions, with access to professionals, mentorship and support at every turn.

“Whatever professional interest a student might have, we provide them the academic and science training needed to apply,” he says. “Students are also provided multiple opportunities for hands-on training by arranging for them to shadow doctors and volunteer in clinics. We do our best at being transparent about the uniqueness of each field and prepare them to enter several professional tracks.”

Pershhouse says every student arrives with a different background story or passion when it comes to wanting to work in health care. That passion, combined with a rigorous curriculum and mentorship is paying off, he says, as the college sees scores on the Medical College Admissions Test that are above the national average.

Last year, UM alumnus Devin Hunt scored in the 100th percentile on the MCAT. Hunt is attending the MD-PhD program at John’s Hopkins University.

“Our staff and faculty are proud of each and every one of these students and we know their impact on health care, patient care and the field are going to be important,” Pershouse says.
not a football photo probably
DEAR GRIZZLIES,

The primary goal for everyone in Grizzly Athletics is excellence in everything we do. That includes in the community, in the classroom and in competition. I am proud of our success in all three of these areas. Grizzly student-athletes continue to outpace the undergraduate student population in all academic measures, including number of credits completed, average cumulative GPA and average semester GPA.

For the 2022 spring semester, our 320+ student-athletes posted a cumulative GPA of 3.39 with the overall average GPA of all student-athletes at 3.42. This marks the 33rd straight semester of a 3.0 or higher GPA for our student-athletes. Their ability to balance the rigors of athletic practice and competition, along with keeping focus on academics, is inspiring!

In thanks to thousands of generous donors, we continue to make great advancements in the infrastructure facilities supporting our athletic endeavors. The recently completed men's basketball locker room remodel takes advantage of some of the space vacated when the Washington Grizzly Champions Center opened several years ago. Funds for a much-needed indoor practice facility are in place and construction will start at the end of the year. This inflatable dome will cover a new turf field and multi-use surface on the field adjacent to Campus Drive and will provide expanded opportunities during the winter months for all student-athletes, the campus and the greater Missoula community.

With the relocation of the men’s basketball locker room complete, space opens to remodel our women's locker rooms. We are more than half way to our goal of $3.5 million to get this project done. Construction on the Lady Griz locker room will begin once fundraising is complete, with work on the volleyball space and other Olympic sport locker room facilities coming in phase two.

Our Lady Griz basketball program is one of the great treasures of this University and the state of Montana. We are excited to get this project going and ask supporters of all Grizzly athletic programs to come together to make it possible.

There are many challenges in college athletics right now. We face changes in the use of student-athlete name, image and likeness; the transfer portal; the transformation of the NCAA; seismic conference realignment; and the definition of what it means to be a student and an athlete. However, at the core, we are committed to building leadership through athletics, providing outstanding academic opportunities, and winning championships.

I believe in the role college athletics plays in higher education in this country. While it is not the most important thing we do at the University of Montana, I believe intercollegiate athletics is still critical. In no other setting are the lessons taught that come from being part of a team, learning to deal with success, and picking yourself up after a difficult defeat.

Cheering for the Griz also brings remarkable unity. I am always in awe when I watch a community of many different people, from all different backgrounds, with all different life experiences, come together and rally around a common cause... the Griz! In a time when division seems to be the easy way out, athletics can be a great unifier. I am proud to be a part of Griz Nation.

GO GRIZ!

Kent Haslam
Director of Athletics
DEAR BOOKSHELF READERS,

Is it possible to be overwhelmed by books? It might be. In our opinion, that’s not a bad problem. But the rub is there are just too many wonderful titles and stories from our UM network that we’re forced to cull the list, omitting some, highlighting others, all without the time to pour deeply into each read.

So, we’ve decided to sunset Bookshelf in its current form – a list of books once a year – and pivot to a program that celebrates and highlights a broader scope of our authors. The new program will allow authors to submit their works online across non-fiction, fiction and poetry on a webpage hosted by the UM Alumni Association. Every eligible book submitted will be highlighted on the webpage. Once a month, the Alumni Association will select a “Griz Pick” for our audiences and a book will be selected for a monthly highlight.

The criteria for submission include:

- Authors must have a tangible connection to UM.
- The work cannot be self-published, and it must be publicly available for purchase.
- An advanced hard copy is encouraged but not required.

Authors are welcome to submit their books at bit.ly/um-bookshelf.

Bookshelf is not a traditional library that archives works. Rather, it is a promotional platform to share the published works of UM-affiliated authors.

If authors would like to send in a hard copy for physical placement in the Alumni Association Bookshelf Library, books can be mailed to:

Montanan Bookshelf
107 Brantly Hall
Missoula, MT 59812

Email correspondence can be sent to alumni@umontana.edu.

BOOK SUMMARIES BY GINNY MERRIAM.
“Every Cloak Rolled in Blood” by James Lee Burke
*Simon & Schuster, 2022, 278 pages, $27*

In his new novel, James Lee Burke dips more than a toe into the world of the supernatural – and his own life. His protagonist, novelist Aaron Holland Broussard, is an octogenarian whose daughter recently died. But Fannie Mae is still with us, making ghostly appearances and advising her dad as he fights a literal army of evil ghosts who massacred Native Americans in their day. Former UM faculty member Burke is a two-time Edgar Award winner with 40 novels to his credit.

“My Suicide Race: Winning Over the Trauma of Addiction, Recovery and Coming Out” by Mark A. Turnipseed
*Mark A. Turnipseed, 2021, 226 pages, $6.39*

Mark Turnipseed’s memoir tells the story of a young man who knew at age 6 that he didn’t fit in anywhere because he was gay. Turnipseed tried to bury his shame and self-loathing in alcohol, pills and finally – as a student at UM – heroin. After years of addiction, two failed marriages to women and a less-than-stellar record of parenting, Turnipseed found redemption in fitness and the triathlon. A psychology graduate, he now leads a sober life as an inspirational speaker, fitness coach and advocate.

“The Stone Sister” by Caroline Patterson
*Black Lawrence Press, 2021, 441 pages, $25.95*

Award-winning writer Caroline Patterson mined Montana history, medical social history and her own family story to tell the story of a young Montana couple facing the aftermath of the birth of a daughter with Down Syndrome. In 1953, that meant that Bob and Mary’s doctor advised them to immediately commit their daughter to an institution, the Stone Home for Feeble-Minded and Backward Children. The surrounding secrecy affected generations of their family. Patterson earned an MFA in Creative Writing at UM.

“Montana Disasters: True Stories of Treasure State Tragedies and Triumphs” by Butch Larcombe
*Farcountry Press, 2021, 272 pages, $18.95*

After retirement from his career as a reporter and editor around Montana, UM School of Journalism graduate Butch Larcombe has pursued his interest in history. Here he tells stories of dramatic disasters in Montana, from the Nyack train collision of 1901, involving 28 freight cars on the loose, to mine disasters, dam failures, earthquakes and plane crashes. Larcombe’s interest is in the people who died in and lived through the disasters and in telling stories that serve as “cairns that mark a path to remembering.”

“Winning Well: Maximizing Coach and Athlete Wellness”
by Cara Cocchiarella and Camille Adana

Cara Cocchiarella earned degrees through the doctorate in Health and Human Performance and Educational Leadership at UM, where she played for the Lady Griz basketball team. Cocchiarella draws on her extensive coaching, consulting and teaching experience to dispense state-of-the-art advice and best practices for athletes and coaches. She and her co-author cover multiple facets of wellness – physical, social, emotional, spiritual, occupational and even financial.
“IMC Independently Middle Class: How to Beat a Rigged System, Protect the Environment, Reject Materialism, Achieve Financial Independence” by Thomas Romine  
*Thomas Romine, 2021, 112 pages, $9.95*

Thomas Romine grew up in the 1950s in a frugal middle-class family. His dad was a loyal employee of Gulf Oil, proud of his 30-year pin and oil-derrick cufflinks. Then he was laid off. The younger Romine began to question whether worker loyalty paid off. After earning his master’s degree in accounting at UM and working as a CPA, he pursued real estate and saved money with the aim of financial independence.

“Of Being Neighbors” by Daniel Biegelson  
*Ricochet Editions, 2021, 87 pages, $15*

Daniel Biegelson investigates the heartstring-tugging experience of parenthood, the confusing challenge of the modern world and the what-if questions we rarely ask. Working in poetry and prose, he looks at the complexity of Jewish identity and the simultaneous community and isolation in a polarized time. “Why can’t we attach a balloon to a teacup and fly to New Jersey?” his son asks. “Why do you mow the lawn and despise clover?” Biegelson earned his MFA in Creative Writing at UM.

“Montana Historic Places on the National Register: From Banks and Barns to Bridges and Battlefields” by Michael Ober  
*Mountain Press Publishing Co., 2022, 128 pages, $20*

The National Historic Register lists more than 1,000 historic locations in Montana. They range from modest and remote to charismatic and well-known. Consider the Cottonwood Creek Bridge on Ismay Road in Fallon County. Built in 1934 using timber-stringer construction, it has seen traffic from Model Ts to hybrids. Better known are Chico Hot Springs near Emigrant, the Fort Peck Theater, and the Chief Joseph Battlefield. Michael Ober earned history and English degrees at UM.

“Out of Which Came Nothing” by Laurie Blauner  
*Spuyten Duyvil, 2021, 239 pages, $20*

Critics describe Laurie Blauner’s new novel as “fresh,” “dystopic,” “suprareal,” “illuminating” and “penetrating.” She introduces readers to Aaron, a boy who does not hear, speak or walk and is kept in bed by members of a cult called THEM. She takes readers into another universe and dimension for a tale about loneliness and identities. Blauner earned her MFA in Creative Writing at UM and is the author of four novels and eight books of poetry.

“Montana Stories” by Paul G. Ulrich  
*Pathway Enterprises Books, 2021, various paging, $40*

Paul Ulrich grew up in Butte across the street from the historic Travona mine. He graduated from UM and Stanford Law School and enjoyed a career as an appellate attorney in Phoenix. He loves Butte, and he loves history. He divided his book into two sections – the first with stories about Butte and the second about other pieces of Montana history. Both are filled with stories about mining, the Copper Kings, political figures and Montana’s rich newspaper history. He aims to show readers how Butte and Montana became what they are today.
“Beyond the Rio Gila” by Scott G. Hibbard
*Gale, a Cengage Company, 2021, 371 pages, $25.95*

Scott Hibbard’s historical novel tells of the longest march in U.S. infantry history. In 1846 and '47 during the Mexican-American War, U.S. army soldiers and Mormons fleeing persecution formed an unlikely alliance and marched 2,000 miles in an effort to capture California. Against this historical event, young Moses Cole learns and grows up. Historical figures mingle with fictional characters to take the reader back more than a century. Hibbard comes from a century-old Montana ranching family and earned both an MFA in Creative Writing and an MBA at UM.

“Our Plastic Problem and How to Solve It” by Sarah J. Morath
*Cambridge University Press, 2022, 202 pages, $24.99*

Scholar, scientist and attorney Sarah J. Morath takes on the global problem of plastic pollution and possible solutions. Her book looks at plastic’s history and chemistry and the harm it does to the environment. Plastic pollution is ubiquitous, turning up in our most pristine rivers and lakes and, more visibly, piling up on beaches around the world. Morath earned degrees at Vassar College and Yale University before graduating from UM’s law school. She is a law professor at Wake Forest University School of Law.

“Dead Wool and Other Prairie Poems” by Max Maxwell
*Many Voices Press, 2021, 64 pages, $16*

Max Maxwell grew up on his family’s Lazy Shamrock sheep ranch in eastern Montana in the 1950s. He learned the seasonal hard work of herding and protecting sheep in icy winter, shearing in spring, building and repairing fences, learning from his dad. “Loose gates told of dereliction, we were warned.” Maxwell earned a degree in English Literature at UM.

“Wilted Wings: A Hunter’s Fight for Eagles” by Mike McTee
*Riverfeet Press, 2022, 176 pages, $18*

In a decade-long study at the MPG Ranch in the Bitterroot Valley, researchers found that 95% of the golden eagles they captured had been exposed to lead. Some birds die, others are crippled, and scientists don’t yet know the long-term effects on eagles showing no symptoms of lead poisoning. This lead poisoning comes from bullets shot by the 12 million Americans who hunt. Lead is picked up by eagles scavenging deer and elk carcasses. McTee asserts that there are alternatives to lead ammunition. He earned degrees in chemistry and geosciences at UM.

“Mariah is Missing” by David Henry Nelson
*Cenatorial Publishing, 2021, 245 pages, $17.99*

UM law school graduate and wheat farmer David Henry Nelson’s debut novel is a fictionalized account of the disappearance of school teacher Lana Harding in Conrad in 1974. The case occurred when Nelson was serving as Pondera County attorney. Nelson’s characters elicit the feeling of 1970s north-central Montana and give readers a look into the pressures of investigating a murder, set against politics from local to national, with acknowledgement of the long-term effects the event has had on the people of Conrad.
Glacier National Park is known as the Crown of the Continent. Standing along the shoreline of Lake McDonald on a warm July afternoon, it's easy to see why. Everything from the crystal-clear water to the still snow-capped rocky peaks glistens under the sun. Trees and vegetation are still a verdant jewel tone, due in part to the late rain and snow that has kept Glacier’s famous Going-to-the-Sun Road shut to traffic well into the peak tourism season. It’s one million acres of some of the best views and wildlife spotting Montana has to offer.

UM alumnus and new park Superintendent Dave Roemer can’t wait to explore it. He’s been to the park before, in 2003 as part of a team mapping out wildfire recovery, but he didn’t cover many miles.

“Modern firefighting — you’re down in a basement at a computer the whole time,” he says with a smile. “I’m hoping I’ll get out of the basement now and see some things.”

After growing up on Long Island, New York, and spending his undergraduate years at Antioch College in Ohio, Roemer was ready to head west. He took a Greyhound bus across the country to work a summer position with the National Park Service in New Mexico. The enjoyment he got from working outdoors was something he wanted to make into a career, so he began searching for a graduate degree to make it possible. He settled on Montana and earned a master’s in environmental studies at UM.

“Apart from loving Missoula and loving the campus, the coursework I was taking, and the teachers and classmates that I was going to school with were a big part of the experience that I treasure,” he says.

One class in environmental law gave Roemer a look at the real-world impacts of his studies. His mock legislation on cave conservation sparked the interest of a state lawmaker. The two met over coffee at Butterfly Herbs in Missoula to discuss making the legislation real. Roemer then went to Helena to testify, and soon the Cave Conservation Act of 1993 was signed into law.

Surprisingly, the closest Roemer got to Glacier as a student was picking up a new student at the train station in Whitefish. He was too busy further west, working in the Kootenai National Forest and Idaho panhandle surveying bat and harlequin duck populations.

After graduating, Roemer began a career with the National Parks Service, starting at Carlsbad Caverns and then moving to Bryce Canyon and Big Thicket. Most recently, he served as the deputy superintendent at Redwood National Park.

Roemer says his time at Redwood highlighted the importance of incorporating tribal perspectives. This year, the park worked in partnership with the Yurok Tribe to restore California condors to their historic range along the northern California coast. He hopes to bring an emphasis on tribal partners to his time at Glacier, where the land holds a place in the culture of the Blackfeet, Salish, Pend d’Oreille and Kootenai tribes.

Meeting with him on day two of his tenure, Roemer is aware of the opportunity for adventure and discovery at Glacier. He’s also aware of the challenges that lay ahead.

With a pandemic-funded boom in outdoor recreation, the park saw its second-highest visitation ever in 2021. Roemer is enthusiastic about people rediscovering what national parks have to offer but acknowledges it might require some adjustments to how we approach recreation and conservation.

“The lens that I always view park challenges through is how can we apply the best available science, how can we faithfully follow law and policy, and how can we make the best decisions for future generations in the park,” Roemer explains. “Sometimes that involves not doing something that might be easy and expedient in the moment, but trying to think it through and think about how your decision affects situations in the long term.”

Roemer’s wife and two kids will soon join him in Montana. He’s looking forward to taking them on backpacking trips and a tour of Missoula, where they may even catch a Griz game.
The population of Dagmar hovers around 30 people. It’s a small, unincorporated community in Sheridan County in the extreme northeast reaches of the state. Winter temperatures regularly drop to minus 30, and many kids travel 20-plus miles to school every day. It’s a challenging, often unforgiving environment, but UM alum Megan Torgerson still finds a lot to appreciate about her childhood spent in Dagmar.

“Looking back I can feel really grateful for where I grew up,” Torgerson says. “I think not a lot of people get the opportunity to grow up on a farm and ranch, and as part of a family business.”

Torgerson’s connection to UM started at a young age. Growing up, she often made the nine-hour drive to Missoula while her older sisters were students at UM. And each time, she knew she was heading in the right direction.

“When I was like 3 years old, as we would hit the Rocky Mountain Front and see the mountains, I would tell my mom: I’m going home!” she says.

Missoula may be in the same state as Dagmar, but for Torgerson it seemed a world away. As a Griz, she made the most of her new environment in Missoula, studying literature, creative writing and film and exploring the lush and imposing landscapes of western Montana.

After some time spent living abroad and on the East Coast, Torgerson started to question the belief that she had been missing out as a child.

“I got curious about where I grew up and also rediscovered a lot of cool things happening in eastern Montana.” She began reexamining her childhood on Montana’s Hi-Line, especially as rhetoric around rural America turned simplistic and one-sided during the 2016 election.

“There were a lot of negative stories, and it just felt like it was a single story,” Torgerson says. “It was only one narrative that was being portrayed, and it didn’t really fully represent the experience I had in a rural place.”

She remembered the sense of community at social events like Branding Days and the commitment to preserving Scandinavian traditions passed down through generations.

While applying to graduate school at Seattle University, Torgerson developed the idea of telling rural stories from a more in-depth, personal perspective. She didn’t know what form that would take until she enrolled in a podcasting class. The medium made sense to her: “I love audio, I’m a musician and I love listening to podcasts.”

The first season of her podcast, “Reframing Rural,” focuses on Dagmar and its surrounding communities. From a local mailman/taxidermist/preacher to a high school history teacher working to incorporate indigenous perspectives, Torgerson introduces listeners to a cast of rural residents who don’t fit any single mold. The podcast is garnering acclaim and support for Torgerson’s mission to spotlight rural stories. She’s received grants from the Seattle Office of Arts & Culture and Humanities Montana, as well as a fellowship with Humanities Washington.

She stays busy beyond the podcast too, working as a freelance grant writer and public relations consultant, as well as assisting nonprofits with outreach and education. She still returns to her family’s farm to help with harvest season.

“Reframing Rural” is heading into its third season this year after the pandemic pushed the show’s second season to a remote Q&A interview format. Torgerson looks forward to getting back into the community.

“That really excites me”, she says. “Being in person with people and capturing those sounds and stories in person.”
ALL EPISODES OF REFRAMING RURAL ARE AVAILABLE ON APPLE PODCASTS, SPOTIFY AND MOST OTHER PODCAST PLATFORMS. YOU CAN READ MORE ABOUT TORGERSON AND HER PROJECTS AT REFRAMINGRURAL.ORG.
UM alum and Montana local Glenda Bradshaw may be a number cruncher at heart, but walking into Missoula’s Clyde Coffee, you can’t deny her instinct for running a small business. The coffee shop is a bright and welcoming space, with flashes of color and a wall of stylish, shoppable merchandise. People sip coffee or tea from handmade ceramic mugs while working on laptops or chatting with friends.

Bradshaw developed the business plan for Clyde Coffee during her second stint as an undergraduate student. She first came to UM in the late 1980s, but she left school before graduating and began a career with FedEx Kinko’s, eventually managing retail operations for a large portion of the western U.S.

After nearly 20 years with the company, she decided it was time to shift priorities, and made the move back to Montana to finish her degree. “I understood without finishing my degree, doors were just closed to me,” says Bradshaw. In a strategic venture management class, students were tasked with creating a viable business plan. “I thought, well, I could run a coffee shop. I love coffee; I like hospitality and retail.”

The original Clyde Coffee opened on Missoula’s Hip Strip in 2015, and quickly turned into a popular spot not only to grab a coffee but also to meet friends, study or work. In 2021, the business moved into a new space with more square footage, a full kitchen and a roasting space.

Looking back on her time at UM, Bradshaw says her biggest takeaways are the great environment of the business school and the advice she received as a student. “The business school’s advising was so good. Every class was like: this is how you do it...you just wanted to be there and they made it really easy to be there,” says Bradshaw.

For anyone out there who may be considering starting their own small business, Bradshaw believes it all comes down to numbers: “Do all of your research, take your time, vet it. Make sure if you’re not an accountant that you work with somebody to put together income statements and statements of cash flow. You have to know when your cash is coming in and going out so you can plan accordingly.”
Floyd Smith | 1959
Olympia, Washington

Floyd competed in the 2022 Washington State Senior Games, winning silver in his age group for the 1500-meter power walk. Floyd has participated in the Games for several years, receiving a total of 8 medals. He’s used to taking home hardware, as a member of the 1953 UM track team that broke the record for the men’s relay. This summer, he showed off his Griz pride by wearing his varsity jacket to his high school reunion in Fort Benton. Floyd is retired after a 38-year career as a science teacher.
1970s

Alfred B. Young Man | 1974
Lethbridge, Alberta

Alfred was featured among top influential American Indian scholars in the nation at AcademicInfluence.com. Originally from Rocky Boy's reservation, he is widely known for his work as a Cree artist, writer and educator.

Richard Kaudy | 1976
Littleton, Colorado

Richard was elected president of the Colorado chapter of the American Board of Trial Advocates.

Tim Brick | 1976
Traverse City, Michigan

Tim was awarded a declaration from the state of Michigan in recognition of more than 30 years of radio broadcasting of high school football games in his hometown of Traverse City, Mich. He also was recognized for his involvement in raising more than $2 million to refurbish the local high school stadium.

Deborah McWhinney | 1977
New York City, New York

Debby was named to the Standard and Poor’s Board of Directors following a merger with IHS Markit.

Luana Ross | 1979
Seattle, Washington

Luana was featured among top influential American Indian scholars in the nation at AcademicInfluence.com. She is a sociologist and associate professor emerita of gender, women and sexuality studies at the University of Washington.

Bill Johnston | 1979 & 1991
Missoula, Montana

Bill was honored with the Montana Ambassador Plenipotentiary award. Bill serves as the community relations officer at First Security Bank of Missoula.

1980s

Brian Handel | 1982
Glendive, Montana

Brian recently was named business manager for International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local #206 for Montana.

Patricia Brolin-Ribi | 1979 & 1985
Sun Valley, Idaho

Patricia was elected president of the International Chapter of PEO Sisterhood for 2022.

Dan Vuckovich | 1982
Great Falls, Montana

Dan was elected chair of the Montana State Board of Accountants, serves on the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants’ Professional Ethics Executive Committee and the NASBA UAA (Uniform Accountancy Act) Committee.

Jeff Jenson | 1984
Boulder, Colorado

Jeff received the 2022 Distinguished Career Achievement Award from the Society for Social Work and Research in January 2022.

1990s

Tracy Stone-Manning | 1992
Missoula, Montana

Tracy was named director of the federal Bureau of Land Management in 2021 by President Biden.

Muhammad Farooqui | 1994
Lahore, Pakistan

Muhammad, recently retired, has 36 years of professional experience in academia, including teaching, research, administration, budget management and strategic planning. He earned his Ph.D in geology from UM in 1994, after which he returned to Pakistan to continue his career in academia. During his time at UM, he served as an ASUM senator and member of the University Court. His contributions to making UM a more diverse and multicultural community were recognized by UM and was awarded a certificate of honor.
Kyle Wood | 1996
Samarkand, Uzbekistan
Kyle volunteered as an international election observer for the October 2021 presidential election in Uzbekistan.

Matt Ziglar | 1998
Stuttgart, Germany
Col. Ziglar was named commander of U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart in Germany.

Sarah (Schmid) Stevenson | 1998
Manistee, Michigan
Sarah has accepted a position in political communications for Moonsail North, a PR firm in Michigan and California. She previously spent 10 years as editor of Xconomy Detroit.

Gregory Gourdet | 1999
Portland, Oregon
Gregory was selected to compete on Netflix’s “Iron Chef: Quest for an Iron Legend” this summer. He owns the famous pop-up restaurant Kann PDX and is also the former executive chef and culinary director of Departure at The Nines in Portland.

Hadley Ferguson | 1999
Missoula, Montana
Hadley Ferguson ‘99, Missoula, showed her most recent series of small landscape paintings at Radius Gallery in downtown Missoula. Nearly all of the pieces sold out in the first weekend. Ferguson is known for her murals, including pieces in the state capitol building in Helena, and in the heart of downtown Missoula. She is also the co-founder of the Open AIR program, which connects artists with creative residencies across western Montana.

2000s

Sherri Mason | 2001
Erie, Pennsylvania
Sherri works to enhance the effort to stop microplastic pollution in the Great Lakes. Her work led the Food and Drug Administration to ban plastic microbeads in face creams and shampoos. Her new project is to launch a food composting system at Penn State Behrend where she is a professor and sustainability coordinator.

Sam Sunshine-DeWitt | 2001
Denver, Colorado
I landed my dream job with the Brewers Association, the national craft beer trade association, as state government affairs manager. I spend my days lobbying state lawmakers on the economic impact of local breweries on their economies and communities.

Pearlynn Houck | 2002
Charlotte, North Carolina
Pearlynn was named a Power Player by Sports Business Journal in recognition of outstanding work in sports law.

Anna Birkas | 2006
Ukiah, California
Anna is the founder of Chickfly pants design for women. The patented design has a pull-apart fly design that caters to female outdoor enthusiasts. After a successful Kickstarter campaign, Chickfly has just launched its online store.

Haines Eason | 2006
Lawrence, Kansas
Haines is the managing editor of “A Place for Mom” and is a published freelance writer.

Stephanie Krebs-Anderson | 2007
Spokane, Washington
Stephanie was recently promoted to the role of associate general counsel and deputy ethics and compliance officer of ENGIE Impact, a management consulting company in Spokane, Wash.
Maritsa Georgiou-Hamilton | 2008
Missoula, Montana

Maritsa was awarded the Walter Cronkite Award for her coverage of U.S. Postmaster General policies implemented nationwide, the effect of which was to slow down mail delivery. Her reporting for NBC Montana broke the story of mailbox removal in Montana, especially in Democratic areas, potentially disenfranchising voters. Maritsa now works as a national correspondent for the news company Newsy.

2010s

Bess Pallares | 2011
Brookings, South Dakota

Bess has joined Portland-based comics publisher Oni Press as an editor. Bess previously worked for Oni Press while completing her master’s in publishing at Portland State University, and will now manage titles including Rick and Morty and Aggretsuko.

Lee Baxter | 2012
Anchorage, Alaska

Lee was promoted to shareholder at Schwabe, Williamon & Wyatt. Lee is part of the Indian Country and Alaska Native Corporation and Natural Resources industry groups.

Megan Torgerson | 2014
Dagmar, Montana

Megan was named Public Humanities Fellow from Humanities Washington. She will produce a new series of her podcast “Reframing Rural.”

Christian Hunter | 2015
Warren, Pennsylvania

Christian completed the 2,200-mile hike of the Appalachian Trail.

Reagan Colyer | 2017
Bozeman, Montana

Reagan was named assistant editor of Trail Runner magazine, a partner publication of Outside magazine. An alum of UM’s track and field and cross country teams, she also has worked as a local reporter for the Madisonian in Ennis and as a news service writer covering agriculture at Montana State University.

2020s

Jonathan Karlen | 2021
Bozeman, Montana

Jonathan was selected to represent Montana at the Western Governors’ Leadership Institute in the summer of 2022. The Leadership Institute recognizes and rewards each delegate’s history of leadership. As a delegate, Jonathan, along with 21 other young leaders, will learn directly from governors and other influential leaders in the West.

Cassidy VanderVoort | 2022
Missoula, Montana

Cassidy is returning to UM this fall to pursue her master’s in history with a certificate in public history. She spent the summer working at the Historical Museum at Fort Missoula. As an undergraduate history major, VanderVoort developed an interest in museum management. She loves the aspect of working directly with history and sharing it with visitors. VanderVoort also leads walking tours for the Missoula Downtown Association. She hopes to pursue a career in museum management.

Submit your class notes at bit.ly/um-classnotes.
IN MEMORIAM

WE EXTEND SYMPATHY TO THE FAMILIES OF THE FOLLOWING ALUMNI AND THOSE WITHIN OUR UM COMMUNITY.

1940s
Helen Virginia Walterskirchen Neumunz, Sandy, UT, '44
Dorothy Kirscher Zimmerman, Phoenix, AZ, '47
Gretchen Lehman Peterson, Chicago, IL, '48
Erma Lea Brammer, Orland, CA, '49
Stuart W. Conner, Billings, '48, '49
Martha Priscilla Story Drysdale, Bozeman, '49
Esther Ann Halverson Hull, Concord, CA, '49
Patrick Houston Jack, Hamilton, '49
Robert D. "Bob" Morrison, Helena, J.D. '49
Laura Mae Moore Patterson, Missoula, '49
Harris Anthony Wiltzen, Plains, '49

1950s
William Howard Bush, Big Fork, '50
Jon Adams "Jack" Jourdonnais, Missoula, '50
Helen Ruth Johnson McClellan, Polson, '50
Walter Arthur Ryder, Boise, ID, '50
John R. "Jack" Stevenson, Missoula, '50
Garon Lucille Cox, Bigfork, '51
Wade J. Dahood, J.D., Anaconda, '51
Kenneth H. "Ken" Gullard, Billings, '51
Jack F. Lawson, Billings, '51
Bernard J. "Bernie" Lazzari, Butte, '51
Bernice K. "Bereny" Mowat, Billings, '51
Raymond Martin "Ray" Rice, Arcata, CA, '51
Claude Robert "Bob" Watkins, Bothell, WA, '51
John Herbert Badgley, Missoula, '52
John Edward Dally, Carmel, CA, '52
Robert Morris "Bob" O'Neil, Kalispell, '52, M.A. '57
William Arthur "Bill" Reynolds, Eugene, OR, '52
Donald Earl "Don" Seese, Cameron Park, CA, '52
Richard S. "Dick" Biggerstaff, Missoula, '53
Eugene "Gene" Jurovich, Billings, '53
William J. "Bill" Sullivan, Hall, '53, M.A. '58
Edward Y. Zumoto, Seattle, WA, '53
Paula Hoiness LeTellier, Billings, '55
Harold "Glen" Patton, Eugene, OR, '55, M.A. '55
Richard C. "Dick" Sherman, Bigfork, '55
James Richard "Jim" Schoenbaum, Missoula, '55
Eugene A. "Gene" Tidball, Boulder, CO, '55, J.D. '53
Thomas R. "Tom" Van Meter, Dexter, MI, '55
Michael Allan "Al" Andrus, Missoula, '55
Fitzroy Arthur "Art" Belcher, Meridian, ID, '56
Robert "RJ" Cardinale, Oconomowoc, WI, '56
Loyd Richar Norby, Billings, '56
Ralph H. Olson, Rapid Grand, MN, '56
Howard George "Sandy" Sandford, Stevensville, '56
John Paul "Jack" Tidyman, Danville, '56
Mary Catherine Riley Donovan, Pensacola, FL, '53, M.Ed. '57
Kenneth Allen "Al" Foucar, Escondido, CA, M.Ed. '57
Sara Ann "Sally" Ball Hutch, Missoula, '57
Virgil Louis Pettinato, Cameron Park, CA, '57
Raymond Louis "Ray" Rom, Salem, OR, '57
Joel George Roth, Great Falls, '57, J.D. '57
Roland "John "Ron" Hundt, St. Louis, MO, '57
Richard Milton "Dick" Venable, Missoula, '57
Gavin Bjork, Portland, OR, M.A. '58
Harold David "Hal" Erickson, Surprise, AZ, '58
Jo Ann Sayre Firm, Wasilla, AK, '58
Sally Ann Bohac Hannah, Shawnee, KS, '58
Howard W. George, Worden, '58
Martin H. Johnke, Marinez, CA, '51, M.Ed. '58
Edward Joseph "Ed" King, Bakersfield, CA, '58
Stanley A. "Stan" Nicholson, Missoula, '58
Lawrence M. Pitet, Jackson, WY, '58
Teresa Elaine Drvadahl Ridgeway, Chaplin, CT, '58
George A. Schultz, Hampton, NJ, M.A. '58

William Francis "Bill" Adams, Jr., Lakewood, CO, '59
John L. "Jack" Blair, Delta, CO, '59
Donald Dean "Don" Brickley, Denver, CO, '59
James Lynn "Jim" Everard, Sr., Billings, '59
Roy Norman Jones, Nashua, NH, '59
Yotji Niemeyer Saeun, Polson, '59
Robert John "Bob" Seim, Missoula, '59
Stuart William "Stu" Swenson, Whitefish, '59
Louis "Lou" Volk, Jr., Albuquerque, NM, '59

1960s
Robert James "Bob" Connelle, Missoula, '60
Rose "Helene" Loy Doney, Whitefish, '60
Clinton E. "Clint" Grimes, Missoula, '59, M.A. '60
John Frances Kistle, Lompolo, CA, '60
Ralph Donald Laws, Cheney, WA, '60
Bryce E. Lundell, Cheyenne, WY, '60
JoMay Mellinger Unger, Missoula, '60
Robert M. "Bob" Amick, Jr., Clarkston, WA, '61
Glenn Alexander Biehl, Eugene, OR, '56, M.Ed. '61
Max Hernandez, Hamilton, M.Ed. '61
John Edward Burns, Camden, ID, '61
Roger O. Lambson, Shawnee, KS, '61
Nola Jane Magallon, Millilani, HI, '61
Zena Beth McCloud, Butte, '61
Edward Charles Nichols, Omaha, NE, '61
Glendon W. "Glen" Rummel, Plains, '61
Mary Jo Nelson Barrett, Wenatchee, WA, '62
Jerry Lloyd Colness, Aurora, CO, '62
Paul Irving Cranmer, Southampton, NJ, '62
Carol Lynn Cooper Ferguson, Clancy, '62
Cecile Marie "Celia" Hertz, Bozeman, '62
Donald A. "Don" Klebenow, Reno, NV, '60, M.A. '62
James I. "Jim" Mershon, Trout Creek, '62
John N. Radonich, Anaconda, '60, J.D. '62
Neil Edwin Snyder, Great Falls, '62
William E. "Bill" Stevens, Boulder, '62
Janet Trask Cox, Seattle, WA, '63
Kenneth Russell "Ken" Lane, Billings, '60, M.Ed. '63
David Robert Lester, Florence, '63
Sylvia Alice Wigen Carty, Grayland, WA, '64
Deloris Anita Trubell Cleveland, Las Vegas, NV, '64
James Sheridan "Jim" Erickson, Helena, '64
Edward Raymond "Ed" Hale, Helena, M.Ed. '64
Dean Edward Hazelton, Kent, WA, '64
Albert Thomas "All" Kington, Helena, '64
James I. "Jim" Jackson, Billings, '64
Jack Ray Stelling, Missoula, '64
Robert Thomas "Skip" Baxter, Thompson Falls, '62, J.D. '65
Kenneth Maleon "Ken" Croft, Bedford, VA, M.Ed. '65
Milton "Milt" Datsopoulos, Missoula, '62, J.D. '65
Bradley Edward "Brad" Dugdale, Sr., Havre, '60, '65
David E. "Spiker" "Dave" Fuller, Helena, '65
Rhys Evan Hanson, Olympia, WA, M.Ed. '65
James Daniel "Jim" Helgerson, Billings, '65
Louis Anthony "Tony" LePlante, Springfield, OR, '65
Donald Palmer "Don" Thomas, Corvallis, '65
James Patrick "Jim" Cronin, Trubuco Canyon, '66
Stephen H. "Steve" Dalby, Libby, '63, J.D. '66
Allen Joseph "Al" Haas, Choteau, '66
William M. Hickson, Wausau, WI, M.Ed. '66
Terry Michele Dougan Law, Vernon, IL, '66
Dolphy Orvin "Dee" Pohlman, Jr., Butte, '66, J.D. '66
Sharon Lee Rosebright Rau, Billings, '66
Charles Fletcher "Chuck" Secrest, Olympia, WA, '63, J.D. '66
Norman W. "Norm" Wyatt, Reno, NV, '59, M.Ed. '66
Roger Harding Bosse, Gloucester, VA, '67
Kenneth McLean "Mac" Brown, Jr., Seattle, WA, J.D. '67
Robert James "Bob" Campbell, Missoula, '63, J.D. '67
James Wendell "Jim" Corbett, Polson, ’67
Richard Otis Dunn, Renton, WA, ’67
Robert Patterson Hacker, Lethbridge, AB, ’67
Donald Lee "Don" Pattie, Edmonton, AB, M.Ed. ’60, Ph.D. ’67
William Joseph "Billy" Potts, Carter, ’66, M.A. ’67
Mary C. Rognlien Salsbury, Bigfork, ’67
Mary Deanne Strömberg, Bellevue, WA, ’67
Marian C. Taber Dunnwebber, Arlee, ’67
Alan Anthony Goddard, Missoula, ’61, M.A. ’68
Darrell Charles Hagen, Helena, ’68
Lester Harvey "Les" Hankinson, Los Angeles, CA, ’65, M.A. ’68
Cecil Newton Kent, Townsend, M.Ed. ’68
David A. "Dave" Lake, Missoula, M.Ed. ’68
William "Bill" Olson, Polson, ’66
Soren "Sam" Olsen, Blackfoot, ’65, M.B.A. ’68
Nona Graybeal Overcast, Monument, CO, ’68
Raymond Herman Saeman, Wht Sphr Spgs, ’69
Gary Marvin Stevens, Billings, ’69
Roger Edward Binkie, Cut Bank, ’69
Nancy Nielsen Erickson, Missoula, M.A. ’69, Ph.D. ’73
Robert Alan "Dick" Farrell, Great Falls, ’70
Edward George "Ed" Groenhoust, Flagstaff, AZ, ’67, M.A. ’69
Edward Charles "Ed" Hudson, Helena, ’69
Thomas "Duane" Jack Meili, Helena, ’69, M.A. ’73
William "Bill" Niles, Coupeville, WA, ’69
Jack Edward Popham, Jr., Kyle, TX, ’69
Gary Emil Notti, Rafael, CA, M.A. ’69
Robert H. "Bob" Olson, Corvallis, M.Ed. ’69
A.A. Dave Rahn, III, Billings, ’69

1970s
Christine "Chris" Suntherer Coleman, Powell, TN, ’70
Orval "Bill" Gastineau, Jr., Hamilton, ’70
Lois Elaine Wilson Peck, Spokane, WA, ’70
Sharon Lucille Richardson, Bozeman, M.A. ’70
H. Peter "Pet" Skibrud, Kalispell, ’70
Jerry Charles Tonne, Prescott, WA, ’70
William Lee "Will" Greiner, Helena, ’70
William Lee "Will" Stover, Missoula, ’71
William J. "Bill" Mortensen, Corvallis, ’71
Robert Stanley "Stan" Poole, Missoula, ’72
Michael Anthony "Mike" Zeidler, Hamilton, ’72
John D. Sweeney, Choteau, CA, ’72
Larry Clay "Wayman" Seeley, Lake, ’72
Marvel Jean "Jeanie" Angel, Hamilton, ’72
Floyd Boschee, Sun City West, AZ, Ph.D. ’72
Daniel Stern, Baltimore, MD, Ph.D. ’72
James Patrick "Jim" Tremp, Townsend, ’72
Sheri Jo Skovgaard Weber, Helena, ’72
Margaret Elsie Aplin, Missoula, ’72
William Robert "Will" Bascus, Seattle, WA, ’73
Joseph J. Beall, Sebastopol, CA, Ph.D. ’73
George J. Hirschenberger, Jr., Missoula, ’73
Curt T. Karlen, Missoula, ’73
Betty Jean Petek, Red Lodge, ’73
Dwight Pharis Stevenson, Great Falls, M.B.A. ’73
Michael Dale Thompson, Helena, ’66, J.D. ’73
Kent Nolan "Skeet" Good, Helena, ’66, M.A. ’74
Virginia Eloise Mauffray, Sacramento, CA, Ph.D. ’74
James Joseph "Jim" Walrath, Deer Lodge, ’74
Terence Gardner "Terry" Cromwell, Missoula, ’75
Richard Tracy Gordon, Butte, ’75
Virginia Gingrich Grifffin, Helena, J.D. ’75
Steven Nelson "Steve" Helmbrecht, Havre, ’75
Beverly Jean Jones, Stevensville, ’75
Jerald Reece "Jerry" Clyde, Henderson, NV, ’76
Charles F. "Charlie" Crane, Gilbert, AZ, ’76
Harold D. "Hal" Hawley, Entiat, WA, Ph.D. ’76
Rebecca Ann "Becky" Miller, Billings, ’76
Rudy J. Tomich, Helena, ’76
Larry Don Wall, Zillah, ’76
Debbie Lynn Anderson Cannata, Phoenix, AZ, ’77
Shirley Mae Aitken, Highlands Ranch, CO, ’78
Frank Glen Cacciato, Missoula, ’78
Joseph H. "Joe" Lang, Missoula, ’78
Candace Jean "Candi" Vincent, Cody, WY, ’78
Ronald Lynn "Ron" Burnett, Missoula, M.Ed. ’79
H. "Dean" Mikes, Jr., Missoula, ’79
David Geramian, Minneapolis, MN, ’79
Pamela Ruth Scharbauer, Mirage, CA, ’79
Tufului Kalapu "Duke" Uperesa,Pago Pago, AS, ’79

1980s
Lemuel H. "Lem" Elway, Jr., ’69, M.Ed. ’80
Carol Ann Ulsafer, Missoula, M.Ed. ’80
Barbara Jean Lahir Kelly, Kalispell, ’73, M.Ed. ’80
Roger Preston "Rog" McClure, Polson, ’72, M.Ed. ’80
Janet Marie "Jan" Morris, Beaverton, OR, ’80
Patrick Kevin Quinn, Billings, ’80
Ronald Gary Jeppesen, Missoula, ’81
Daniel John Smith, Missoula, Ph.D. ’81
Daniel M. "Dan" Wackles, Eugene, OR, ’81
Robert Hatler "Bob" Gearheart, Missoula, ’81
Bradley Lorin "Brad" Jacobson, Cowiche, WA, ’82
Peter Jeffrey "Jef" Langen, Glasgow, ’82
Thomas Frank Smyth, Missoula, ’82
Debra Kay Waite, Bozeman, ’75, J.D. ’82
Nancy Thea Krogstad Crabtree, Missoula, M.Ed. ’83
Timothy Scott "Scott" Friday, Madison, WI, ’83
Shirley G. "S.G." Olson Maclauchlan, Kalispell, ’83
Michael John "Mike" Mayer, Missoula, ’83
John Jay Miller, Missoula, ’83
Clark George Schaauck, Darlington, WA, Ph.D. ’83
Delbert Wayne "Det" Shepard, Missoula, ’83
Betty Lou Tolman Touchette, Frenchtown, ’83
Lowell J Panusak, Columbia Falls, ’84
Terry William Rainforth, Sidney, ’84
Carol Ann Ulsafer, Missoula, M.Ed. ’84
Gary Lee Wolfe, Missoula, ’84
Cornelius J. "Con" Kelly, Missoula, J.D. ’85
Frank Mark Laber, Dixon, ’85
Gary Lee Frazer, Missoula, ’80, ’81, M.A. ’86
Leslie Kent Heiner, Missoula, ’86
Larry Martin Johnson, Missoula, ’75, M.A. ’86
Janelle Elizabeth Patterson, Missoula, ’86
Marlyn Patricia "Moni" Frederick, ’86
Betty Marie Miller Tucker, Clinton, ’86
John Trexel Hamilton, Missoula, ’87
Lee Mitchell Johnson, Ridgecrest, CA, ’87
Irene K. McLaughlin Nelson, Missoula, ’87
Curtis David "Curt" Carlson, Superior, ’88
Miral Duane Gamradt, Bozeman, M.P.A. ’88
Sharon Marie Parker, Orting, WA, ’88
Daniel Herbert "Danny" Baxter, Stevensville, ’89
Marlys Knutson Booschee, Sun City West, AZ, Ph.D. ’89
Lorenzo J. "Larry" Gangi, Jr., Missoula, ’89
Helen L. Potter Needles Jensen, Post Falls, ID, ’89
To be included in "In Memoriam," the UM Office of Alumni Relations requires a newspaper obituary or a letter of notification from the immediate family.

Send to:
Office of Alumni Relations
107 Brantly Hall
Missoula, MT 59812

Material for "In Memoriam" reached our office by May 29, 2022.
For a complete list visit bit.ly/um-memoriam.
Music has a way of bringing back a certain feeling. The right song can remind you of the first time visiting a new place, a care-free summer or falling in love.

For over seven decades, the University’s School of Music has hosted thousands of middle and high school students at its popular music camps to create the kind of beautiful music that evokes those feelings. The music camps, first held in 1949, are not the usual memento featured in the Montanan’s Artifacts section, but it’s a rich tradition worth celebrating.

The camps draw young students from all across Montana and the nation for instruction from UM music faculty and interaction with other students. Many chose to live in residence halls during the camps, dining at the University and getting a feel for what it might be like to be a UM student.

In short, many find their place at UM through music.

At the most recent camp this past summer, McCann Purcell, a high school junior from the small Montana town of Fairfield, found a music melting pot of expertise, community and learning.

Purcell had never seen so many instruments in one room before. He grew up loving to play trombone and piano, but given the size of his hometown – some 700 people – access to diverse music lessons was limited.

That’s why he was excited to be in Missoula, at UM and with a group of about 85 other music campers he called “his people.”

“I’ve met so many people,” Purcell says at the time. “Missoula is like no other town I’ve been to in Montana. It’s like New York City!”

Jim Smart, UM’s director of bands, says the camps are a beloved tradition at UM that allow talented students to improve their skills while exploring whether they want to continue their musical expertise in college. This year’s music camps brought in nearly 200 students to campus.

The experience of playing with new musicians creates a camaraderie necessary to excel not just in music, but in life, Smart says.

“Music attracts kids from lots of different backgrounds and is a collaborative activity,” Smart says. “As humans we are social beings, and I think putting kids into an environment where they don’t know everybody helps them grow.”

Listening to the melodies ringing through campus this past summer was a soundtrack for the vibrancy of the University. The music was a fitting backdrop to an especially celebratory time at UM. Much of what made this year so special was outlined in this issue.

LIKE THE DETERMINED GRIZZLIES WE ARE, WE’LL CONTINUE TO PLAY LOUDLY & PROUDLY.
WHAT’S MADE IN MONTANA IS REMAKING THE WORLD