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UM NEWS



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UM NEWS



December 29, 2011

MISSOULA –

The Snowstorm Tour will end its frozen trek with a final show at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 21, on the Adams Center stage at The University of Montana. T-Pain and Gym Class Heroes are co-headlining the tour with special guests Grieves & Budo, Cris Cab and Outasight.

Tickets will go on sale at 10 a.m. Friday, Jan. 20, and can be purchased at all GrizTix locations, online at <http://griztix.com> or by calling 406-243-4051. All tickets sold on Jan. 20 will cost \$19.50. Starting on Jan. 21, tickets will cost \$29.50 in advance and \$35 the day of the show. All tickets are subject to applicable fees. All floor tickets are general admission.

The Snowstorm Tour blasted across the Midwest before concluding its journey in Big Sky Country. Produced by North Dakota-based Jade Presents, the tour is designed to take artists with Top 40 radio play to smaller markets and deliver a great show at an affordable price.

With his December release of “rEVOLVER,” T-Pain continues to provide his hip-hop sound while reaching new audiences. His latest single, “5 O’Clock,” featuring Wiz Khalifa and Lily Allen, has the pop-song feel with the suave, cool styling of an R&B standard.

Gym Class Heroes’ genre-jumping sound and energetic live performances have continued to push them to the top. After scoring one of the biggest songs of 2010 with his solo hit “Billionaire,” featuring Bruno Mars, front-man Travie McCoy returned to Gym Class Heroes to release a new album in November. “The Papercut Chronicles II” is the band’s fourth album co-produced by Decaydance Records and Fueled By Ramen.

The album’s multi-platinum lead single “Stereo Hearts,” featuring Adam Levine, became the band’s second No. 1 hit this fall.

Rhymesayers Entertainment artist Grieves enlisted longtime friend, collaborator and producer Budo on his latest album, “Together/Apart,” which charted No. 1 on Billboard’s Heatseekers, No. 13 on Billboard’s Rap Albums and No. 106 on Billboard’s Top 200.

Cris Cab, an 18-year-old virtuoso leading the pack in the digital music world, rounds out the tour. Cab is an independent artist who has gained an immense fan base solely online. His covers of Wiz Khalifa, Kanye West and Foster The People have garnered attention on YouTube with more than 1 million hits.

Yonkers, N.Y. hip-hop artist Outasight will be performing his genre-crossing music. Outasight’s music has been described as energetic hip-hop mixed with a melodic soul and has attracted fans from all spectrums. His latest single, “Tonight is the Night” has continued to surface on the Top 40.

For more information go to <http://snowstormmusic.com>.

###

AR/all

Local

122911snow

Contact: Melissa Kucirek, Jade Presents media contact, 402-677-0930, melissa@jadepresents.com; Aaron Reynolds, marketing coordinator, UM Productions, 406-243-4719, marketing@umproductions.org.

UM NEWS



December 22, 2011

MISSOULA –

Renovation contractors, maintenance workers and painters who work on pre-1978 housing facilities will have an opportunity to participate in certified lead renovator training offered by the College of Technology at The University of Montana.

The two-day training will take place Tuesday and Wednesday, Jan. 17-18, at the COT campuses. The first day will feature a lecture and certification test from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. in Room HB 01 on the East Campus, located at 909 South Ave. W. The second day will feature a hands-on workshop from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the West Campus, located at 3639 South Ave. W.

The course costs \$200 for UM COT students and \$240 for nonstudents. Registration and payment are required by Tuesday, Jan. 10. A registration form that participants can mail or fax in is available online at http://www.cte.umt.edu/outreach/lead_2012.aspx.

Regulations issued by the federal Environmental Protection Agency require contractors to have a certified renovator on board for all projects taking place in residential or child-occupied facilities built before 1978, as they may contain lead-based paints and other coatings.

Responsibilities of certified renovators include performing and directing lead-safe work practices, using EPA-recognized test kits to identify lead-based paint and maintaining containment areas to minimize the spread of dust. The COT training course will address these and other responsibilities.

The Montana Weatherization Training Center, an entity of Montana State University Extension, will provide the training, which is sponsored by the COT's Outreach Office.

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ALS

Western Montana

122111lead

Contact: Mary Opitz, UM College of Technology program coordinator , 406-243-7812, mary.opitz@umontana.edu.

UM NEWS



December 21, 2011

MISSOULA –

University of Montana Music Associate Professor Charles Nichols has earned the prestigious title of finalist in the 2011 International Music Prize for Excellence in Composition and will be honored by the National Academy of Music with a diploma in music composition.

Composers of all ages from around the world were invited to submit an original composition to the competition. A team of composers, performers, theorists and musicologists constituted the artistic committee that evaluated all submissions and selected the winning entries.

Nichols submitted his composition into the advanced level of the competition, which required the piece to be of concert-venue quality. More than 210 compositions were evaluated at this level, and Nichols was among 13 composers who earned the title of finalist. His composition, "The Blues is Crying," was nominated by four of the five artistic committee members.

The National Academy of Music is a public educational charity. The goal of the competition is to stimulate composers of all ages and nationalities to write new, high-quality music for educational purposes and motivate highly talented composers to build careers in composition.

###

ALL

Western Montana

122111musc

Contact: Stephen Kalm, dean, UM College of Visual and Performing Arts, 406-243-4970, kalms@mso.umt.edu; Charles Nichols, associate professor, UM School of Music, 406-243-5360, charles.nichols@umontana.edu.

UM NEWS



December 20, 2011

MISSOULA –

A University of Montana radio-television student has earned third place in the radio news and features category of the national Hearst Journalism Awards.

The third-place finish earned Clark Hodges, a senior from Billings, a berth at the June Hearst Awards national finals in San Francisco. The top five finalists in the category will compete in a live news coverage competition, and Hodges will have the chance to win thousands of dollars on top of the \$1,500 he already won in the preliminary round.

Hodges' entry was a compilation of three radio stories he reported, wrote, voiced and edited for the UM School of Journalism's Advanced Audio course. The stories ranged from a first-person audio diary and a story on designer drugs to a piece highlighting campus diversity issues.

The Hearst Awards, often referred to as the "college Pulitzers," accepts contest submissions from students at nationally accredited journalism programs. The program annually awards more than \$500,000 in prizes, stipends and grants.

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DD/als

Western Montana, hometown (Billings Gazette)

122011hrst

Contact: UM School of Journalism, 406-243-4001, .

UM NEWS



December 20, 2011

University of Montana officials continue to actively pursue an investigation into allegations of sexual assault that may involve a date rape on campus and will provide periodic updates on the matter.

UM President Royce C. Engstrom said the University will adhere to guidelines issued last spring by the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights in regards to the allegations.

The University has hired former District and Montana Supreme Court Judge Diane Barz to accelerate and assist with the investigation. Barz began the investigation Dec. 15 and is being assisted by Lucy France, director of UM's Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action Office, and Charles Couture, UM dean of students.

The team is investigating possible sexual harassment, including sexual violence, to determine what occurred and then take immediate action to resolve the situation. The investigation will be completed by the end of the month.

"We are committed to resolving this as quickly as possible," Engstrom said. "We will continue to use the UM Student Code of Conduct and federal Title IX laws as our guides.

"We will also continue to maintain the confidentiality of all student witnesses and suspects involved," Engstrom said. "At this time, we do not have specific evidence implicating anyone. When we do, we will take immediate action under the University Student Code of Conduct."

Engstrom also said the University will continue to cooperate fully with the Missoula Police Department to move any possible criminal investigation forward.

Contact: UM President Royce Engstrom, 406-243-2311, royce.engstrom@umontana.edu; Jim Foley, UM executive vice president, 406-243-2311, james.foley@umontana.edu.

UM NEWS



December 13, 2011

MISSOULA –

The University of Montana School of Music has announced the winners of the 32nd Concerto Aria competition, held on campus Dec. 10.

The following students will perform their competition pieces with the UM Symphony Orchestra at the annual spring Honors Convocation on at 7:30 p.m. Monday, April 30, in the Music Recital Hall. The event is free and open to the public.

- K.J. Olsen of Missoula, tenor: "Una furtiva Lagrima" and "Ah! Leve toi, soleil!"
- Jacob Thomas of Eugene, Ore., soprano saxophone: "Fantasia for Saxophone and Chamber Orchestra, Mvts. I, II and III."
- Stephanie Quist of Helena, piano: "Concerto No. 2 in F minor for Piano and Orchestra, Op. 21, Mvt. I."
- Brian Simpson of Valley Center, Kan., double bass, won honorable mention.

The annual Concerto Aria competition is open to all students currently enrolled for applied music instruction at UM.

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ALS

Local, hometowns (Independent Record, The Register-Guard, The Ark Valley News)

121311aria

Contact: Cheri Ferguson, UM School of Music promotions coordinator, 406-243-6885, cheri.ferguson@mso.umt.edu.

UM NEWS



December 13, 2011

MISSOULA –

University of Montana students, employees and their families are invited to join University Dining Services to spread some holiday cheer by baking and decorating cookies at the 14th annual Great UM Christmas Cookie Cook-Off on Thursday, Dec. 15.

The event will take place from 2 to 6 p.m. at the Food Zoo, located in the Lommasson Center. This year's theme is based on the classic holiday movie "Christmas Vacation."

Half the cookies baked will be donated to a local youth home, senior home, group shelter or other nonprofit organization, and participants may take home the other half. Annually, about 300 dozen cookies are donated to 18 local charities, and more than 29 campus departments participate in the festivities.

UDS will supply its personnel and facilities, and Sysco Food Services of Montana will donate the cookie dough and decorations. All participants need to bring is their holiday spirit.

Beverages, music and a children's play area will be provided, and Santa will join the party from 5 to 6 p.m. UM mascot Monte will make a special appearance as well.

So bring the kids, or at least the kid in you, and join UDS for some tasty and charitable holiday fun.

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JO/als

Local

121211cook

Contact: Jerry O'Malley, University Dining Services, 406-243-6433, jerry.omalley@mso.umt.edu.

UM NEWS



December 12, 2011

MISSOULA –

Two geoscience faculty members at The University of Montana have started a partnership with a private company to sustainably produce commercial products from algal biomass.

Potential products include organic fertilizers, natural pigments, food flavorings, fatty acids for biofuels, cholesterol-reducing compounds for food additives, and natural anti-inflammatory and anti-cancer drugs. Natural inputs and nontoxic production methods will give potential products a competitive advantage over similar products produced from petroleum and other nonrenewable sources.

Carrine Blank, a research assistant professor in UM's geosciences department, and Nancy Hinman, a geosciences professor, are working on the project with Blue Marble Biomaterials, a company specializing in fully sustainable, zero-carbon, specialty chemicals.

The company was founded by Kelly Ogilvie and James Stephens, a UM alum. Stephens, also the company's chief science officer, leads Blue Marble's role in the collaborative effort, which largely takes place in the company's biorefinery near the Missoula airport.

"Our goal will be to tap into Blue Marble's carbon dioxide waste stream and then turn that CO₂ into algal biomass," Blank said. "We will then work together to harvest commercial products from that biomass."

She said the diverse collection of patent-pending cyanobacterial and microalgal strains they work with derive from a number of regional waters, including Puget Sound, Washington's Soap Lake, and local rivers and lakes in Montana. Additional strains come from soil.

Blank said she and Hinman are working to publish a paper about the research being used with the UM/Blue Marble partnership.

Stephens says UM's favorable attitude toward industry partnerships was one factor in the decision to move the company from Seattle to Missoula in 2010.

"Partnering with UM is key to our research and development program," Stephens said. "Innovation happens at the nexus of science and market opportunity. This partnership combines Blue Marble's expertise in chemistry, microbiology and industrial manufacturing with the University's excellence in research methodology, geoscience and biology. By combining these strengths, we are able to take advantage of an existing market opportunity."

Joe Fanguy, UM director of technology transfer, said the research partnership with Blue Marble offers an excellent example of how university research can aid private industry and help the Montana economy.

"Successful research collaborations with innovative companies like Blue Marble are a priority for the University's research enterprise," Fanguy said. "These partnerships stimulate new research, new inventions, new educational opportunities and, ultimately, new, high-wage jobs in our community, which is a big win for Missoula and Montana."

Blank says such industry partnerships also offer educational opportunities for UM students. Since 2010 Blue Marble has hired six UM graduates, including four students from the College of Technology. Currently, Blue Marble hosts five interns from UM who gain broad experience in biology, chemistry, engineering and business operations.

For more information on Blue Marble Biomaterials, visit <http://bluemarblebio.com>.

###

CBS

State

121211blue

Contact: Carrine Blank, research assistant professor, UM Department of Geosciences, 406-241-2038, carrine.blank@umontana.edu; Julia Ruedig, director of marketing, Blue Marble Biomaterials, 603-568-0435, julia.ruedig@blumarblebio.com.

UM NEWS



December 09, 2011

MISSOULA –

A production of the world's highest-grossing Irish dance show, "Lord of the Dance," is slated for 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 15, in the University Theatre at The University of Montana.

Individual tickets for the lower level or floor seats cost \$51.50, and tickets in the upper balcony cost \$47.50. Groups of 15 or more can receive a 10 percent discount by purchasing group tickets. Both individual and group tickets can be purchased at all GrizTix locations, online at <http://griztix.com> or by calling 406-243-4051. For more information on group tickets, call Kelsi Plante at 406-243-5329 or email kelsi.plante@mso.umt.edu.

Sixteen years ago, Michael Flatley created and launched "Lord of the Dance." Today, more than 60 million people from 68 countries have seen the show in sold-out arenas and theaters.

Flatley, who retired from dancing this year, is artistic director of "Lord of the Dance" and oversees all aspects of the production.

"We are really excited to introduce our fans to the new visual experience that complements our show," Flatley said. "We have fresh wardrobes and an exciting new set featuring elements from the successful international tour I performed in last year. Fans will see technological highlights like video incorporated into an LED wall, as well as a number of changes to the overall lighting and set designs."

The story of the dance is based upon mythical Irish folklore as Don Dorcha, lord of darkness, challenges the ethereal lord of light, the Lord of the Dance.

"'Lord of the Dance' is a classic tale of good versus evil, based on Irish folklore, which brings a romantic and passionate love story to life," Flatley said.

Dance Director Marie Duffy-Pask, together with Flatley, hand-picked the cast of more than 40 dancers, each of whom have earned individual recognition as a national or worldwide dance champion.

Flatley conceptualized and staged the show in a mere 16 weeks, paying particular attention to the costumes, lighting and staging, which are cinematic in scope.

"Irish dance lovers and music fans alike will experience the engaging, rhythmic adventures that have helped catapult Celtic dance mania and Irish dancing into the global spotlight," Flatley said.

For more information, go to <http://www.lordofthedance.com> or <http://facebook.com/MichaelFlatleysLordoftheDance>.

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AR/all
State
120911lord

Contact: Aaron Reynolds, marketing coordinator, UM Productions, 406-243-4719, marketing@umproductions.org.

UM NEWS



December 09, 2011

MISSOULA —

Community members ages 50 and older can explore topics such as literature, history, music, philosophy and politics in winter term courses offered by the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at The University of Montana (MOLLI).

The courses, taught by dynamic UM and community educators, will take place December through February. Registration is now open for all winter courses.

An annual MOLLI membership fee of \$20 is required to enroll. Registering now provides membership until summer 2011. Registration for each course costs \$60. MOLLI currently is offering a winter special that includes two courses for \$100, a 33 percent savings on the second class.

MOLLI will offer an early-start course with Theresa Waldorf, A Backstage Pass with "Doubt," which will provide an in-depth look at the making of a professional theater production and invites students to attend opening night of the Montana Repertory Theatre's touring production of "Doubt" in the Montana Theatre. The class begins Dec. 27.

MOLLI also will host the fifth annual Behind the Scenes at the Symphony: Members-Only Event. This year, A Look at Innocence: Mahler's Fourth Symphony, with symphony director Darko Butorac, will allow members to attend the Missoula Symphony Orchestra's March 15 rehearsal free of charge.

Following is a list of all MOLLI winter courses and instructors:

- Theresa Waldorf , A Backstage Pass with "Doubt"
- David Morgenroth, The Bebop Revolution
- Marilyn Bruya, Dialogue on Works in Progress
- Darko Butorac, In Prokofiev's Footsteps
- Dorothy Patent, Finding Your Unique Voice through Writing
- Greg Patent, "Oklahoma!" and "Carousel": How Rodgers and Hammerstein Transformed the American Musical Theater
- Mark Matthews, Swinging Through U.S. History
- Richard E. Walton, Ancient Philosophers and Modern Ideas
- Larry Riley, Important Insights and Understanding of Everyday Law for the Non-lawyer
- Hal Stearns, My Love Affair with Montana
- Anna Conley, Legal Traditions of the World: What is "Law" Anyway?
- Fred McGlynn, Reflections on Sophocles' Oedipus Trilogy
- Robert Greene, Revolutionary Russia, 1900-1929
- Rodolfo Villarreal-Rios, Religion and Politics: Catholicism, Protestantism & the Mexican State and its influence on American Politics in the 1920s
- Joanna Shelton, America in the World Economy
- Garry Kerr, The Dead Do Tell Tales
- George Risi, Infectious Diseases: Past, Present and Future Impacts on Human History
- Richard Bridges, Science in the Headlines, Making Informed Judgments

Complete course descriptions, locations, instructor information and online registration can be found on MOLLI's website at <http://www.umt.edu/molli>. For more information or to register for courses, call the UM School of Extended & Lifelong Learning at 406-243-2905 or email dannette.fadness@umontana.edu.

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DF/als
 Western Montana
 120911mlli

Contact: Dannette Fadness, UM Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, 406-243-2905, dannette.fadness@umontana.edu.

UM NEWS



December 09, 2011

MISSOULA –

School of Business Administration students taking the Individual and Corporate Philanthropy class at The University of Montana recently dispersed grant funds totaling \$10,000 to Missoula nonprofits serving needs related to youth, disabilities and animals.

The students issued a request for proposals in October and received 27 submissions from local nonprofits. With only \$10,000 to award, the students implemented a rigorous in-class review and scoring process to determine which projects to fund.

In the end, four Missoula nonprofit organizations received funding. The Humane Society of Western Montana received \$2,517 for its spay and neuter program. The Girls Way Inc. received \$2,118 for its Summer Sustainability and Outdoor Adventure project. The Missoula Children's Theatre received \$2,247 to maximize the theater experience for hearing-impaired patrons with assisted listening devices. The Missoula Food Bank received \$3,118 for its Kids Table take out program.

The Individual and Corporate Philanthropy class gives students the opportunity to learn firsthand about the relationship between nonprofit and for-profit organizations, individual and corporate philanthropy and to take part in a philanthropic experience funded by the Learning by Giving Foundation.

With a generous grant from the Sunshine Lady Foundation, students are able to learn about the importance and practice of philanthropy by evaluating proposals and awarding grants. Doris Buffett, sister of Warren Buffett, is the benefactor of the Sunshine Lady Foundation, which provides the grant money for this opportunity.

Bambi Douma, a UM business professor, and Andrea Vernon, director of the University's Office for Civic Engagement, wrote the grant to bring the Learning by Giving program to UM.

"The students brought a great deal of enthusiasm," Vernon said. "They learned firsthand about the important role of corporate and individual philanthropy in helping our community meet and tackle its most pressing needs. The response and interest level of local nonprofits was equally impressive."

Students will reward the winning proposals and celebrate community engagement during a special campus ceremony on Monday, Dec. 12.

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AV/all
Local
120811lbgp

Contact: Andrea Vernon, director, UM Office for Civic Engagement, 406-243-5159, andrea.vernon@mso.umt.edu.

UM NEWS



December 08, 2011

MISSOULA –

A University of Montana journalism student took third place in the feature writing category of the national Hearst Journalism Awards for a story she wrote about hitting a teenager on the freeway in Washington state.

Billie Loewen, a junior from Missoula, is the design editor of the Montana Kaimin student newspaper. She wrote a first-person account for the Kaimin about what happened on a night in 2009 when a 15-year-old girl was killed after running onto the freeway. Loewen wrote not only about the girl's death, but also about who she was in life and how Loewen developed a relationship with the teenager's mother and grandmother after she died.

The Hearst Awards, often referred to as the "college Pulitzers," accepts contest submissions from students at nationally accredited journalism programs. Loewen competed against 133 other students in the feature writing competition. She received a \$1,500 prize, and the UM School of Journalism received a matching award. Her showing puts the UM journalism school in third place in the yearlong print competition.

Loewen's story can be viewed online at <http://tinyurl.com/cqjd659>.

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CV/als
Western Montana
120711hrst

Contact: UM School of Journalism, 406-243-4001, .

UM NEWS



December 08, 2011

MISSOULA –

The U.S. State Department has awarded the Maureen and Mike Mansfield Center at The University of Montana a \$400,000 grant to implement a new citizen exchange program.

The grant will fund the Women's Empowerment Project, which will send 20 Montana women to the Southeast Asian countries of Cambodia, Laos, Thailand and Vietnam. In exchange, 20 English-speaking women from these countries will be placed in nonprofit organizations and government offices in Montana to learn firsthand how issues in their fields are addressed in the U.S. The exchange will occur in four stages beginning in March 2012.

The women will have expertise in areas such as the environment, economic development, health, safety and security, and education. Participants will network and develop a broader sense of global issues in their areas of expertise.

Montana exchange participants will be drawn largely from host organizations, though additional women who work in the targeted fields may be chosen to participate in the program overseas through homestays or cultural support.

"We're honored to have been awarded another in a series of grants from the Department of State to support our mission to promote understanding between the peoples of the U.S. and Asia," said Terry Weidner, Mansfield Center director. "This is a fantastic opportunity to expand global partnerships for our Montana communities."

The Women's Empowerment Program offers a hands-on approach to shared issues in women's leadership and maximizing the potential of technology to address those issues. The goal of the exchange is to teach emerging leaders to engage in collaborative action to address women's concerns that have global repercussions.

A key aspect of the program is empowering women by providing them the skills to increase local capacity and connectivity. The Mansfield Center will team up with state and foreign partners to demonstrate how women in business, civil society and government can cooperate effectively and adapt approaches to participants' native environments.

Current Montana partners in the program include the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes, the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services, the city of Missoula, Women's Foundation of Montana, the Montana Community Development Corporation, WORD, Women's Voices for the Earth, YWCA, Missoula Businesswomen's Network, Missoula Area Chamber of Commerce, Thrive and the Montana Women's Business Center.

The Mansfield Center's foreign partners in the program are Village Focus International in Laos; Help Our Homeland in Cambodia, Chiang Mai University's Women's Studies Center in Thailand, and the Center for Education Promotion and Empowering Women in Vietnam.

More information is available online at <http://www.umt.edu/mansfield/>.

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DM/als
Local, dailies
120711empr

Contact: Deena Mansour, UM Maureen and Mike Mansfield Center, 406-243-2713, deena.mansour@umontana.edu.

UM NEWS



December 08, 2011

MISSOULA –

A cohort of Brazilian students will arrive at The University of Montana this January as part of a new partnership with Brazil's Science Without Borders Program.

International Programs successfully applied for UM to serve as a host institution for the program, and new cohorts of undergraduate students will arrive each semester for about three years to study a science, technology, engineering or math discipline.

"This new relationship with Brazil is of significant importance for UM," said Mehrdad Kia, UM associate provost for International Programs. "Gov. Schweitzer just returned from Brazil, and Montana is initiating new exchange relationships, which should involve close collaboration with Brazilian universities."

Kia also said the initiative aligns with emerging trends of focusing international education on the BRIC countries (Brazil, Russia, India and China), and the STEM disciplines.

The program provides scholarships to undergraduate students from Brazil for one year of study at colleges and universities outside of Brazil, with about half of all participants expected to attend U.S. institutions. The Institute of International Education administers the placement of program participants at institutions in the U.S.

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ALS
Campus
120711brzl

Contact: Peter Baker, UM International Programs development officer, 406-243-6142, peter.baker@mso.umt.edu.

UM NEWS



December 08, 2011

MISSOULA –

The Payne Family Native American Center at The University of Montana has been awarded LEED Platinum status, and on Friday, Dec. 9, the University will commemorate this achievement with a reception and plaque-unveiling.

“The Payne Family Native American Center became one of UM’s signature buildings when it was completed in 2010,” UM President Royce C. Engstrom said. “We couldn’t be more proud that this showpiece structure also is one of the most energy-efficient buildings in the state. It now serves as a shining example for all future campus building projects.”

The reception will run from 3:30 to 5 p.m. in the building’s Bonnie HeavyRunner Gathering Place. The program will begin at 3:45 p.m.

Speakers will include Engstrom; Robert Duringer, UM vice president for administration and finance; Daniel Glenn, the Crow tribal member and architect who led design of the building; Christopher Comer, UM College of Arts and Sciences dean; and Terry Payne, the Missoula businessman whose family is the building’s major donor.

LEED Platinum status is the highest level of certification awarded by the U.S. Green Building Council for achieving sustainable building standards. LEED, which stands for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, is the nation’s pre-eminent program for the design, construction and operation of high-performance green buildings.

Certification is based on dozens of criteria, such as efficient energy, water and material use; indoor environmental quality; and sustainable site selection. All new buildings constructed on campus are required to achieve at least a LEED Silver rating, the third-highest level.

The center needed to tally 52 out of a possible 69 points to earn Platinum status, and it scored 54. The building scored a perfect 10 in the optimum energy performance category, indicating energy savings of 42 percent over that of a standard building.

Green features of the Native American Center that helped it reach the Platinum level include its east-facing, canted roof with a central oculus and slotted skylight, which provide natural light to the majority of the building; high-efficiency fixtures such as low-flow faucets, showers and toilets; a groundwater-based cooling system; and high-efficiency air filters that minimize dust.

The structure also received points for the selection of a sustainable site on campus: Only one tree was removed (and later salvaged and used in the building’s floor), and no additional parking was needed to accommodate it. Even the native Montana grasses and shrubbery planted around the center required no permanent irrigation system to thrive.

When completed in 2010, The Payne Family Native American Center was the first building of its kind on any university campus in the nation. It houses UM’s Department of Native American Studies, American Indian Student Services and related campus programming under one roof.

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CBS
Western Montana, Dailies
120811payn

Contact: Rebecca Power, UM assistant to the president, 406-243-2311, rebecca.power@mso.umt.edu.

UM NEWS



December 07, 2011

MISSOULA –

The University of Montana's annual Day of Dialogue is offering a \$500 grant to support diversity workshops or programming during spring semester 2012.

The grant will be available for student, faculty and staff partnerships who are interested in hosting a diversity event next semester. This is an opportunity for the campus community to showcase research, explore professional interests or share experiences related to issues of diversity. All members of campus are encouraged to submit proposals.

Requirements for the award include that the event be:

- held on campus during spring semester 2012 and is free and open to the UM community.
- focused on issues of diversity.
- a collaboration between faculty/students, faculty/staff or students/staff.
- in line with the mission of the Day of Dialogue and specifically demonstrates or models diversity through civil discourse.

Proposals are due Jan. 6, 2012. For more information visit the Day of Dialogue website at <http://www.umt.edu/dayofdialogue>.

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JE/js

Local, campus

120711dial

Contact: Julie Biando Edwards, UM Diversity Advisory Council co-chair, 406-243-4505, julie.edwards@umontana.edu; Jinann Bitar, UM Diversity Advisory Council student member, 406-243-5622, dayofdialogue@mso.umt.edu.

UM NEWS



December 07, 2011

MISSOULA –

The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services office will host a review of the naturalization process at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 13, at the Missoula Public Library, located at 301 E. Main St.

Field Office Director Jodi Bard will discuss general requirements and how to prepare for the naturalization interview and test. There also will be a question-and-answer session and study materials will be distributed.

For more information, call Effie Koehn, director of Foreign Student and Scholar Services at The University of Montana, at 406-243-5580 or email effie.koehn@umontana.edu.

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JS

Campus

120711immi

Contact: Effie Koehn, director, UM Foreign Student and Scholar Services, 406-243-5580, effie.koehn@umontana.edu.

UM NEWS



December 07, 2011

MISSOULA –

The University of Montana ranked No.1 in Montana for campus safety in a recently released ranking of the safest colleges and universities in the U.S. by StateUniversity.com. The safest schools findings are based on incidents of campus crime as reported by campus safety officials. The 2011 rankings are available online at http://www.stateuniversity.com/rank/safety_score_rank.html.

As part of the safest schools ranking, StateUniversity.com analyzed crime statistics for 450 colleges and universities and assigned a safety rating to each school. Safety ratings are determined based on the number of occurrences of aggravated assault, robbery, burglary, theft/larceny, motor vehicle theft, forcible rape and murder on campus. The numbers then are weighed based on the probability of each incident happening to each student since larger campuses would be expected to have a higher number of total incidents. Violent crime is given more weight in the ranking system and has a greater effect on the safety rating than nonviolent crime such as theft.

Compared to universities nationwide, UM was ranked as being safer than more than half the colleges and universities surveyed.

"Student safety and campus crime are sometimes overlooked during the college evaluation process," said Dominik Mazuz, founder of StateUniversity.com. "We believe it is important for students to be aware of crime on campus and in the surrounding community."

The safety rankings are the latest in a series of rankings lists compiled by StateUniversity.com, including top ranked schools overall.

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BF/all

State

120511safe

Contact: UM Office of Public Safety, 406-243-6131, .

UM NEWS



December 07, 2011

POLSON –

The University of Montana's Flathead Lake Biological Station has received a \$1 million challenge gift for research and monitoring of Flathead Lake water quality. The gift, made through The University of Montana Foundation, is from a donor who wishes to remain anonymous. It requires a dollar-for-dollar match from other donors.

"We are grateful for this expression of support for one of The University of Montana's premier research programs, the Flathead Lake Biological Station," said President Royce Engstrom. "The gift will make a significant impact on UM's efforts to help preserve our natural resources."

Researchers with the Flathead Lake Biological Station began lake monitoring through periodic studies in the 1890s. Since 1977, the measurements have been continuous, but focused on a single mid-lake sampling site. Funds from the gift will allow this program to be continued without interruption and cover a larger portion of Flathead Lake, in addition to taking measurements more frequently and at greater depths.

The long-term data and interpretations compiled by researchers help residents, managers and governments evaluate their actions and conserve the clarity and cleanliness of the lake. The research activities also provide training for the next generation of water quality managers and educators. Matching gifts will go into an endowment fund to ensure that these activities will be sustained for years to come.

"We are thrilled to receive this generous gift," said Bonnie Ellis, research assistant professor at the Flathead Lake Biological Station. "With community support, we can raise the matching funds to meet the \$1 million dollar challenge and double our efforts to help protect the Flathead Lake Ecosystem for years to come."

Since 1899, students and researchers from around the world have come to the Flathead Lake Biological Station to learn firsthand about ecology and limnology, the study of inland fresh waters.

"Over the years, gifts, research grants and hard work by the resident staff and faculty have allowed the Flathead Lake Biological Station to become one of the finest field stations in the world," Ellis said. "Maintaining the detailed record of water quality is key to protection of the Flathead Lake for future generations."

To contribute and help double the impact of this gift, call Ellis at 406-982-3301 x239 or email bonnie.ellis@umontana.edu.

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TJ

Statewide, national

120611flat

Contact: Tara Jensen, news editor, UM Foundation, 406-461-5782, tara.jensen@mso.umt.edu; Bonnie Ellis, research assistant professor, Flathead Lake Biological Station, 406-982-3301 x239, bonnie.ellis@umontana.edu.

UM NEWS



December 06, 2011

HAMILTON –

The steering committee for the Bitterroot College Program of The University of Montana will hold its monthly meeting at 3 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 7, in the Human Resource Council Building Meeting Room, located at 316 N. Third St. in Hamilton.

The BCP steering committee is a public board and welcomes members of the public to observe and participate at its meetings.

Agenda topics will include operational, educational planning and fiscal issues. The meeting agenda and supplemental meeting materials will be available Monday, Dec. 5, on the BCP website at <http://www.umt.edu/bcp> (click on "Meetings" under "Steering Committee"), by calling BCP Director Victoria Clark at 406-375-0100 or by emailing victoria.clark@umontana.edu.

The BCP steering committee is a collaborative group comprised of Ravalli County stakeholders, UM officials and state higher education representatives. The committee is charged with planning an entity to provide responsive and sustainable adult and higher education opportunities to Ravalli County residents. BCP currently offers more than 30 UM courses in the Hamilton area.

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VC/all

Local, Ravalli Republic

120511bcpm

Contact: Victoria Clark, director, Bitterroot College Program of UM, 406-375-0100, victoria.clark@umontana.edu.

UM NEWS



December 06, 2011

MISSOULA –

Ray Callaway, an ecologist and biology professor at UM, is the next faculty member to speak in the Provost's Distinguished Faculty Lecture Series at The University of Montana.

Callaway will present "Darwin versus Kropotkin: Just How 'Red in Tooth and Claw' is Nature?" at 6 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 7, in the University Center Theater. The lecture is free and open to the public. An informal reception will follow.

Callaway will look at theories by famous English scientist Charles Darwin, who described nature as "red in tooth and claw," versus the theories of Russian nobleman Peter Kropotkin, who wrote the book "Mutual Aid." The lecture will discuss mutualism and competition within nature through the works of these two figures. Callaway will link Darwin's and Kropotkin's theories to modern nature.

Callaway primarily focuses his research on how organisms interact with each other, including direct and indirect interactions. Through his work with graduate students, Callaway now explores how exotic invaders become so abundant in non-native lands.

For more information, visit <http://www.umt.edu/provost/PDFLS/Callaway.aspx>.

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AB

Local

120211lect

Contact: Lisa Thomas, administrative associate, UM Office of the Provost, 406-243-4689, lisa.thomas@umontana.edu.

UM NEWS



December 06, 2011

MISSOULA –

University of Montana seniors in the Radio-Television Department in the School of Journalism produced a half-hour television program for MontanaPBS. "Montana Journal: Home Grown" will premiere at 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 15.

Traditionally Montanans have lived close to the land, but ask a group of first-graders where their food comes from, and they'll tell you "the grocery store." The concept of a local food movement puts most people in mind of farmers' markets or small businesses. But can the grow-your-own concept work on a larger scale? That's the question addressed in "Montana Journal: Home Grown."

The senior journalism students show how businesses and institutions in Montana are incorporating local foods into their operations. Viewers will travel to the Bitterroot Valley, Deer Lodge, Great Falls and Missoula to learn about the economic impact of the grass-roots effort.

"Montana Journal: Home Grown" also will air at 5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 17, 10:30 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 18, and 3 a.m. Monday, Dec. 19.

For more information go to <http://www.montanapbs.org/MontanaJournal/episode1401/>, call John Twiggs at 406-243-4565 or email john.twiggs@umontana.edu.

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JT/all
State
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Contact: John Twiggs, producer, KUFM-TV/MontanaPBS, 406-243-4565, john.twiggs@umontana.edu; Denise Dowling, associate professor, UM School of Journalism, 406-243-4143, denise.dowling@umontana.edu.

UM NEWS



December 29, 2011

MISSOULA –

The University of Montana Office of Research and Sponsored Programs has announced that Maureen and Mike Mansfield Center Director Terry Weidner is the University's top external funding award recipient for 2011. Weidner received \$3.3 million in funding this year.

The Mansfield Center was established at UM in 1983 by an act of Congress to honor the long and distinguished service of U.S. Sen. Mike Mansfield and his wife, Maureen. The Center houses programs that embody the core interests and characteristics of Sen. Mansfield's career, namely modern Asian affairs and ethics in public affairs.

About 5 percent of the center's budget comes from an endowment, while the remaining 95 percent of its budget for staff and programming comes solely from external sources.

Weidner joined the center in 2003, when he determined that pursuing external funding had to be a priority to sustain the center and better serve the people of Montana.

"Our mandate is to support an understanding of ethical public policy as well as Asian affairs at UM and throughout communities in Montana," he said. "We have made it a priority to go out and seek funding that allows us to do just that. Our success in recent years reflects the talent and hard work of the center staff but also demonstrates the commitment our partners have made to bring new opportunities to UM and the state of Montana."

Funding earned in 2011 supports such efforts as:

- **The Defense Critical Language and Culture Training Program.** The Center provides intensive onsite and online training for the U.S. military and other U.S. government personnel through a congressionally funded Defense Critical Language and Culture Program administered through the National Security Education Program. The program prepares military officers, Montana National Guard personnel and civilian officials to assess the challenges of both conflict and crisis management throughout the world, while also providing courses and support for students and faculty at UM.
- **The Women's Empowerment Project.** One of many exchange programs funded by the U.S. Department of State, this project will allow 20 women from Montana to travel to the Southeast Asian countries of Cambodia, Laos, Thailand and Vietnam. In exchange, 20 English-speaking women from these countries will be placed in nonprofit organizations and government offices in Montana to learn first-hand how issues in their fields are addressed in the U.S.
- **The Public Policy and Leadership Initiative.** Funded by a Congressional appropriation administered by the U.S. Department of Education, the Initiative contributes to the development of the next generation of civic leaders by funding teaching by outstanding public servants in fields such as government, journalism and the environment; developing public programming aimed at fostering dialogue on key public policy issues; and providing support for outstanding students who pursue internships or research topics related to public policy or leadership issues.
- **The Confucius Institute.** Part of an international network, the institute provides funding for elementary and high school Chinese language and culture instruction at several sites in Missoula and online for high school students throughout the state via the Montana Digital Academy. It also funds a summer China program for Montana high school students and presents diverse lectures, cultural events, teacher training and business consulting in Missoula and elsewhere in Montana.
- **Natural Resource Fellows Exchange with China.** Eight representatives from Montana traveled to China in an exchange with 20 Chinese natural resource professionals visiting Montana under the sponsorship of the U.S. Department of State, giving each a broader perspective on their work and insight into the other culture.
- **Study of the U.S. Institute.** A State Department public diplomacy program that brings 20 undergraduate students from Southeast Asia to Missoula each summer to study climate change and the environment in a dramatically different context than their home countries. The program has been shaped to foster interaction and dialogue with UM students and the western Montana community.
- **Vietnam Study Abroad Program on Climate Change.** The Department of State provided seed money to develop a study abroad opportunity for UM students in the Mekong Delta region of Vietnam, the first of its kind in the U.S. The second group of UM students departed for Vietnam on Dec. 27, led by climate change program coordinator Nicky Phear.

The Mansfield Center continues its work to bring additional funded opportunities to Montana. More information is available online at <http://www.umt.edu/mansfield/>.

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DM/js

Western Montana

122911mans

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UM NEWS



December 02, 2011

MISSOULA –

The 34-page fall 2011 issue of the Crown of the Continent e-magazine has been released and can be found online at <http://issuu.com/crown-of-the-continent/docs/fall2011>.

Articles in this issue include "The Beauty of a Burned Forest," "Town of the Crown" and "The Lonesome Life: Kishenehn Ranger Station 1910-1940."

The region called the Crown of the Continent encompasses Glacier National Park and spans the Continental Divide from the Elk River headwaters and Crowsnest Pass in Canada to Rogers Pass and the Blackfoot River drainage in Montana.

The University of Montana launched the Crown of the Continent Initiative to provide an educational catalyst for collaboration between UM and Glacier National Park. The initiative continues to grow and now includes many groups, organizations, agencies and institutions beyond the park in Montana, Alberta and British Columbia.

The initiative publishes three color-filled e-magazines each year, providing up-to-date information about issues driving decisions and research in the Crown. The magazines cover everything from the physical and historical geography of the Crown to interesting scientific research on the region's wildlife, climate, rivers, glaciers and more.

To receive other Crown of the Continent Initiative updates, email umcrown@umontana.edu. The Crown of the Continent website is at <http://crown.umt.edu>. Current and past issues of the e-magazine are available in PDF format on the website under "publications."

For more information, email Rick Graetz or Jerry Fetz, initiative co-directors, at umcrown@umontana.edu.

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JS

Local, dailies, weeklies

120211crwn

Contact: Rick Graetz, UM Crown of the Continent Initiative co-director, 406-439-9277, rick.graetz@mso.umt.edu; Jerry Fetz, UM Crown of the Continent Initiative co-director, 406-546-5711, fetzga@mso.umt.edu.

UM NEWS



December 02, 2011

MISSOULA –

The Associated Students of The University of Montana Child Care Centers will celebrate the season with a “Winter Sing-Along” at 10:30 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 8, in the University Center Atrium.

The children will arrive in the UC at 10:15 a.m. to participate in winter craft activities, and then gather outside the UC Market for a sing-along and story time. Santa will join the children, and cookies and chocolate milk will be served.

The activity is an annual event for the ASUM Child Care Centers and proves to be great fun for all. The public is invited to stop by and hear the children sing.

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JS

Campus

120211sing

Contact: Marcie Ronck, ASUM program manager, 406-243-2542, marcie.ronck@umontana.edu.

UM NEWS



December 02, 2011

MISSOULA –

President Royce C. Engstrom announced two important decisions about the future of The University of Montana on Friday, Dec. 2, during a campus news conference.

First, he said UM's effort to build a biomass heating system is suspended indefinitely. In addition, he said the proposed College of Technology building will still be built on the UM Golf Course once funding is secured from the Legislature.

Engstrom said several considerations led him to suspend the biomass effort. He noted that natural gas prices have dropped considerably in the past year and that a reliable source of affordable biomass fuel had not been identified.

"While reducing (campus) carbon emissions is the right thing to do, I cannot commit the University to doing so under conditions of financial loss," he said.

He said emissions from the proposed plant were projected to be well within legal limits, but certain emissions – notably particulate matter – may increase over natural gas. He said the facts don't support a significant impact on Missoula's air quality, but he acknowledged the worries of some that a substantial improvement in carbon emissions might come at an unacceptable cost to local air quality.

Finally, he said the biomass debate had deteriorated to the point where civic and respectful dialogue had become difficult, and he apologized on behalf of Robert Duringer, UM vice president for administration and finance, for inappropriately characterizing individuals who had been vocal in opposition to the biomass proposal.

In regards to the golf course, Engstrom reaffirmed UM's goal to build the new COT building on the course once funding is secured. This dovetails with the goals of the South Campus Master Plan approved by the Board of Regents in 2007.

"The new COT will be the first building on the South Campus," Engstrom said. "The next century will demand that we build not only a new COT building, but new classrooms, laboratories, studios and residence halls."

He said the construction and placement of the COT alone would not require closing the golf course. He invited the local golf community to help reroute some holes so that the proposed COT and golf course could coexist.

"To be clear," Engstrom said, "the next building after the COT will almost certainly require that the golf course close. The next building is likely years down the road, as the planning and approval process for any major building takes considerable time. That provides us years to transition."

Engstrom stressed the new COT building is key to fully integrating that college with the larger UM campus.

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CBS

Western Montana, dailies

120211pres

Contact: Jim Foley, UM vice president, 406-243-2311, james.foley@umontana.edu.

UM NEWS



December 01, 2011

MISSOULA –

The Maureen and Mike Mansfield Center at The University of Montana has appointed its first Mansfield Fellow in International Affairs.

Kimberly Maynard is an internationally recognized consultant, teacher and researcher on problems of international development, humanitarian and emergency relief assistance, and national transitions from situations of violent conflict to stability and peace. She started her new duties at UM on Nov. 1.

“Dr. Maynard has a unique combination of expertise that adds an important new dimension to the Mansfield Center’s work,” center Director Terry Weidner said. “She offers invaluable insights into our efforts to promote a better understanding of Asia and U.S.-Asian relations, as well as the practical problems and ethical dilemmas that communities and nations face in their efforts to overcome conflict in different parts of the world.”

A native of Redmond, Wash., Maynard will give lectures, lead workshops, conduct research, and work with her colleagues in the Mansfield Center to develop new projects and programs.

Maynard holds a doctorate in international affairs and has more than 20 years of experience in conflict-ridden areas of Africa, the Balkans, Central America, Central Asia and East Asia. She has worked for organizations such as the World Bank, U.S. Agency for International Development, U.N. agencies, consulting firms and prominent international nongovernmental organizations.

She also has taught graduate courses at the American University School of International Service and Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies and is the author of many articles, reports and other publications. She has received research and study grants from the U.S. Institute of Peace and the Stanley Foundation.

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OK/cbs

Local, dailies

120111mans

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