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August 2012 news releases

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MISSOULA –

Guests will enjoy fine food, beverages and silent and live auctions Friday, Sept. 14, at The University of Montana Creative Writing Program’s Writers’ Fall Opus.

The fourth annual event is sponsored by Kevin Head and Charlie Brown and will be held from 6:30 to 10 p.m. at the Florence Building Governor’s Room, located at 111 N. Higgins Ave.

Auction items include a signed, first-edition copy of James Welch’s “Winter in the Blood,” a guided fly-fishing trip with “Best of the West” author and fishing guide Jamie Rogers, a Dunrovin Ranch party, Pearl Jam tickets and collectable artwork, among others.

Tickets cost $35 or $60 per couple, and all proceeds benefit the UM Creative Writing Program’s literary journals, the visiting writers reading series and student scholarships. Attendees must be 21 or older.

The event schedule is as follows:

- 6:30 p.m.: Hors d’oeuvres, silent auction
- 7:50 p.m.: Speaker: Christopher Comer, dean of the UM College of Arts and Sciences
- 8:00 p.m.: Mayor John Engen conducts the live auction
- 8:45 p.m.: Silent auction closes and raffle begins
- 9:15–10 p.m.: Auction settlement

For more information or to RSVP, call Karin Schalm at 406-243-5267 or email karin.schalm@mso.umt.edu.

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Contact: Karin Schalm, UM Creative Writing Program coordinator, 406-243-5267, karin.schalm@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA –

University of Montana alumna Laurel Nakanishi of Missoula will travel to Nicaragua as the recipient of a Fulbright U.S. Student scholarship for the 2012-13 academic year. Nakanishi earned a master’s in creative writing from UM in May and will study writing in the prestigious international exchange program that operates in more than 155 countries. The Fulbright Program is sponsored by the U.S. State Department’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs.

Recipients of Fulbright awards are selected on the basis of academic or professional achievement, as well as demonstrated leadership potential in their fields. Seven other UM applicants were offered Fulbright positions in the spring, though one declined to pursue a doctorate.

For more information call UM Fulbright Adviser Liz Ametsbichler at 406-243-5001 or email liz.ametsbichler@mso.umt.edu.

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BP

Local

083112fulb

Contact: Liz Ametsbichler, UM Fulbright adviser, 406-243-5001, liz.ametsbichler@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA –

Music, Monte and free ice cream will welcome new and returning students of The University of Montana to campus and the community during the 11th Annual Neighborhood Ice Cream Social on Sunday, Sept. 9. The street party will be held from 3-5 p.m. in the 400 block of University Avenue.

The social helps engage students with the homeowners, city officials, and the UM faculty, administrators and staff who make up the University community. Attendees can meet their neighbors, browse informational tables and win door prizes. Live music will be provided by the Steel Toe Flores, UM mascot Monte will make an appearance, and there will be free ice cream for all.

The annual ice cream social was created in 2002 by the local group Thoughtful Neighbors with the intent to celebrate the diversity UM’s students bring to the neighborhood. This year, Thoughtful Neighbors hopes to remember a key leader in the development of the ice cream social, former UM professor and UM School of Music Chair Don Simmons. Simmons was a well-loved supporter of the arts and a Missoula personality who passed away in July at the age of 84.

Thoughtful Neighbors is an evolving mix of University neighborhood homeowners and residents, UM students and administrators, the UM Foundation and UM Alumni Association, and members of several charitable and service organizations.

For more information, call Jean Woessner at 406-721-3540.

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BP

Local

083112icec

Contact: Jean Woessner, Thoughtful Neighbors media chair, 406-721-3540, jwoessner@bigsky.net.
MISSOULA –

The University of Montana’s spectrUM Discovery Area will bring its popular “Hands on Health” exhibit to Cut Bank on Thursday, Sept. 6, for the Northern Rockies Medical Center’s Health Fair.

The fair will be held from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. in the Cut Bank Civic Center and is free and open to the public. Students from the Cut Bank School District will participate in guided field trips of the exhibit throughout the day.

Highlights of the exhibit include a giant runny nose that children can diagnose, a health assessment station, a life-sized medical teaching torso for simulated surgery activities and guided cow-eyeball and heart dissections.

spectrUM travels the state with a mobile science center featuring various interactive science exhibits, including “Hands on Health” and “The Brain: A World Inside Your Head.” The program has visited dozens of counties and reservations in Montana since 2007, including some of the state’s most remote communities.

“We travel hands-on science around the state, transforming gymnasiums and cafeterias into powerful science learning centers that help inspire Montana’s next generation of scientists, health care providers, engineers and visionaries,” spectrUM Director Holly Truitt said.

The “Hands on Health” exhibit was developed with support from the Western Montana Area Health Education Center and Blue Cross Blue Shield of Montana. The Northern Rockies Medical Center will sponsor the exhibit at the Cut Bank fair.

spectrUM Discovery Area is located on The University of Montana campus. For more information or to bring spectrUM to your school, call Outreach Coordinator Hannah Motl at 406-243-4828 or visit http://www.spectrum.umt.edu.

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BP

Western Montana

083012spec

Contact: Holly Truitt, director, spectrUM Discovery Area, 406-243-4872, holly.truitt@mso.umt.edu; Hannah Motl, outreach coordinator, spectrUM Discovery Area, 406-243-4828, hannah.motl@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA –

Development of a new partnership between The University of Montana Department of Physics and Astronomy, the California Institute of Technology and Pennsylvania State University will place UM on the cutting edge of the search for new planets and help address the age-old question, “Are we alone?”

UM is working with the astronomy departments of Caltech and Penn State to build a new array of telescopes called MINERVA, which all three universities will use to search for planets orbiting nearby stars. The ultimate goal, according to UM Assistant Professor of Astrophysics Nate McCrady, is to locate earthlike, rocky planets capable of supporting liquid water, the most basic building block of life as we know it.

The search for exoplanets – planets that orbit stars outside our own solar system – has gained speed in the past few years, most notably through the findings of NASA’s Kepler Mission. Kepler, a powerful, orbiting telescope, points at a single patch of sky with stars that are hundreds to thousands of light-years away. By detecting dips in light signifying the “transit” of a planet passing in front of a star, Kepler has discovered about 2,200 planet-candidates since 2010.

The MINERVA array will bring the search for new planets much closer to home.

“We want to find rocky planets around nearby stars,” McCrady said. “Kepler is looking farther away.”

Nearby, in this case, means stars that are tens of light-years away rather than thousands. Some are visible from Earth with the naked eye. The stars also need to be in the right stage of development to have orbiting planets – past their volatile early millennia, but not so old they’re ready to explode. Ideally, a star should be putting out a stable amount of light and heat, like our own sun.

By partnering with other universities, UM has the capability to purchase one of four telescopes that, when used in conjunction with the others, will allow astronomers to search the skies with extreme power and precision. Looking to the stars with the combined light collected by all four telescopes will bring the cost of this powerful array down from the $6 million ballpark to about $1 million. UM’s stake would be about $250,000 for one telescope and the imaging camera within it.

Penn State already has purchased their telescope, which will be mounted for testing at Caltech in Pasadena, Calif., in the coming weeks. Caltech currently is raising funds to purchase possibly two of their own, and UM has started its fundraising efforts.

After the initial investment for the telescope, the project has the potential to generate much more funding for research at UM.

“It really elevates UM’s profile and makes us very competitive for NASA and National Science Foundation funding,” said McCrady.

Though the Department of Physics and Astronomy is looking into grants to purchase the telescope, they have started working with the UM Foundation and primarily are looking for private funding to support this important step forward in the research capabilities of the University. Once the telescope is purchased, funding for operation will be easier to secure through research grants.

Currently, the most powerful telescopes in the world are located in remote locations far from Missoula. Researchers can spend thousands of dollars booking observation time and traveling to a large observatory, only to be thwarted by a cloudy day.

MINERVA eventually will be housed at the Palomar Observatory in southern California. This prime location will allow UM researchers and students about 300 clear viewing nights per year, and the array and individual telescope can be operated remotely from McCrady’s astronomy lab in the Clapp Building at UM.

MINERVA will allow researchers and students to look at potential planet-hosting stars near our solar system and, like Kepler, can detect transits of planets. But it also will use radial velocimetry to detect the reflex motion – the slight wobble of a star as it is pulled by a planet at the apex of its orbit. This means MINERVA will not only identify candidate-planets like Kepler, but confirm they are exoplanets with further analysis.

This information can help scientists determine the size, mass and ultimately the density of these exoplanets. A small, dense planet will likely be rocky, as opposed to a gas giant such as Jupiter. If it’s not too close or far from the star, it could contain liquid water and possibly life. Researchers won’t be able to view these newfound planets with...
MINERVA, but it is important to detect their location because viewing capabilities will be possible soon.

"The next generation of telescopes can look at planets located around nearby stars," McCrady said. "We need to tell them where they should be looking."

The idea for MINERVA was born from collaboration between McCrady, John Johnson of Caltech and Jason Wright of Penn State, who attended the University of California, Berkeley, together during their doctoral studies. Aside from the exciting new academic opportunities for students at all three universities, MINERVA will allow students to collaborate on research between campuses.

"Our engagement in the MINERVA project will provide UM undergraduate students exposure to very high-level astronomy science and will allow them to interact and learn from graduate students and faculty members from some of the very best programs in the world," UM Provost Perry Brown said. "It is an extraordinary opportunity that will open doors to future research projects and further educational and employment opportunities for our students. It will enhance UM’s educational excellence in physics and astronomy."

The UM Department of Physics and Astronomy will retain the Blue Mountain Observatory, a telescope located at the top of Blue Mountain south of Missoula, but MINERVA will give UM students access to research-grade, state-of-the-art equipment.

"We’re in a position to be on the cutting edge," McCrady said. "No one's doing exactly what we’re doing with this."

For more information call McCrady at 406-243-2041 or email nate.mccrady@umontana.edu. You can learn more about MINERVA or donate funds to purchase the telescope at http://www.physics.umt.edu/minerva.

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BP

State

082912mnrv

Contact: Nate McCrady, assistant professor of astrophysics, UM Department of Physics and Astronomy, 406-243-2041, nate.mccrady@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

The University of Montana’s 2012-13 President’s Lecture Series will begin Wednesday, Sept. 5, with a lecture from acclaimed investigative journalist Andrew Nikiforuk titled “The Energy of Slaves: Oil and the New Servitude.”

The lecture will begin at 8 p.m. in the University Center Ballroom. Nikiforuk also will present a seminar titled “Empire of the Beetle: How Human Folly and a Tiny Bug are Killing North America’s Great Forests” earlier the same day from 3:10 to 4:30 p.m. in Gallagher Business Building Room 123. Both the lecture and seminar are free and open to the public.

Nikiforuk is a freelance writer and investigative journalist in Canada. He is well known for his work on environmental issues and his work has appeared in The Walrus, Maclean’s and Canadian Business. He has won seven National Magazine Awards and top honors as an investigative journalist from the Association of Canadian Journalists.

Nikiforuk also is the author of several books, including two which are the basis for his scheduled presentations. His 2008 book “Tar Sands: Dirty Oil and the Future of a Continent” was a bestseller in Canada and received the Rachel Carson Environment Book Award.

These two lectures are presented in collaboration with the UM School of Journalism and the College of Forestry and Conservation.

The President’s Lecture Series will consist of 10 talks on vital topics by distinguished guest speakers throughout the academic year. For more information on the President’s Lecture Series, visit http://umt.edu/president/events/lectures/ or call UM History Professor Richard Drake at 406-243-2981.

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BP

Local

082812pres

Contact: Richard Drake, UM history professor and lecture series organizer, 406-243-2981, richard.drake@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA –

The Friends of Irish Studies will present the traditional Irish band FullSet in a concert at 7:30 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 9, at the George and Jane Dennison Theatre at The University of Montana.

FullSet, a six-piece band featuring award-winning Irish musicians, released their debut album "Notes at Liberty" in 2011, and have performed at festivals and venues across Europe. Their music features traditional button accordion, uilleann pipes, whistles, fiddle, bodhrán, guitar and vocals.

The Friends of Irish Studies supports the UM Irish Studies Program, which offers a minor in Irish studies through courses on Irish language, history, literature, drama and dance. FullSet will perform another benefit concert at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 7, at the Motherlode Theatre in Butte.

For more information contact UM Irish Studies Program Director Traolach O'Riordain at 406-243-6973 or email traolach.oriordain@mso.umt.edu.

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BP

Western Montana

082712irsh

Contact: Traolach O'Riordain, director, UM Irish Studies Program, 406-243-6973, traolach.oriordain@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA –

International and Davidson Honors College students will join administrators and faculty for an educational and social mixer from 4 to 5:30 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 30 at the Honors College.

UM Provost Perry Brown, International Programs Dean Jerry Fetz and Davidson Honors College Dean James McKusick will sponsor the event and welcome Honors College and UM alumna Ashleen Williams.

Williams recently completed a year as a Fulbright teaching assistant in Bahrain and is about to begin a graduate program at the University of Ulster in Derry, Northern Ireland, as UM’s first Mitchell Scholar. She will speak to students at the mixer about international opportunities on campus and abroad, as well as plans for the international patio at the Honors College.

Following the presentation, students can learn about service opportunities with Global Partners and Conservation Partners, programs of UM’s Foreign Student and Scholar Services and International Programs. English Language Institute students can practice their English through a human scavenger hunt and cultural competence questionnaire and share their most unusual international experiences. Music and refreshments will be provided.

Davidson Honors College Director of External Scholarships and Advising Laure Pengelly Drake helped plan the event and hopes it will facilitate conversations between international and Honors College students.

“The games and other activities should make it easier for all of us to approach and build relationships with people whose language and culture are different from ours,” Pengelly Drake said. “We also have a good chance of learning a pretty great Brazilian football shuffle together.”

The event is open to students who have received an invitation. For more information call Pengelly Drake at 406-243-6140 or email laure.pengellydrake@umontana.edu.

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BP

Campus

082712mixr

Contact: Laure Pengelly Drake, external scholarships and advising director, Davidson Honors College, 406-243-6140, laure.pengellydrake@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

Four outstanding University of Montana graduates will receive 2012 Distinguished Alumni Awards during Homecoming weekend festivities Sept. 21-22. The awards are the highest honor presented by the UM Alumni Association. This year’s distinguished alumni are Doug Chadwick of Whitefish, Don Molloy of Missoula, Thomas Riggert of Brisbane, Australia, and Joseph Valacich of Tucson, Ariz.

Chadwick graduated from UM in 1974 with a bachelor’s degree in wildlife biology. He has traveled the globe to research and report on wildlife conservation issues, publishing 29 books and 168 magazine articles along the way. He is the critically acclaimed author of “The Fate of the Elephant,” “A Beast the Color of Winter,” “The Company We Keep: America’s Endangered Species” and “Enduring America.” He is a frequent contributor to National Geographic Magazine and other scientific publications.

Chadwick also has appeared in numerous wildlife documentaries and he played a significant role in getting the grizzly bear listed as a threatened species by giving presentations before the secretary of the interior. He is the director and founding board member of Vital Ground, a nonprofit foundation that has safeguarded more than 600,000 acres of habitat for grizzly bears and other wildlife.

Molloy graduated from UM in 1968 with a bachelor’s degree in political science and in 1976 with a juris doctorate. He served as one of five U.S. District Court judges in Montana from 1996 to 2011, when he assumed senior status. In 2001, he became chief judge for the District of Montana. As a federal judge, Molloy presided over some of the most closely watched cases in state history. He punctuated his illustrious career with a slew of famous decisions during his final year on the bench, including his ruling that Yellowstone grizzly bears should not be taken off the endangered species list.

Molloy is the founder of the Judicial Institute with the Federal Court – a three-day intensive training session that gives Montana high school government teachers hands-on exposure to the judicial branch. Prior to his career as a federal judge, he ran a highly successful private practice as a civil litigator in Billings for more than 20 years. In 1993, he was named Montana Trial Lawyer of the Year by the Montana Trial Lawyers Association.

Riggert earned a bachelor’s degree in wildlife biology from UM in 1962. One of Australia’s most influential conservation biologists, he has dedicated more than 45 years to solving complex environmental issues surrounding commercial development, land rehabilitation, waterway protection and waste management. Riggert laid the foundation for environmental planning strategies in Australia, where he recently completed a $55 million river decontamination project that transformed a hazardous wasteland into a wetlands sanctuary.

His research efforts also have stretched to countries such as Antarctica, Africa, Iceland and Greenland. His wildlife documentaries have appeared on BBC and he has lent his expertise to National Geographic Magazine as a consultant and contributor. He currently lectures students on environmental engineering at the Southbank Institute of Technology in Brisbane, Australia.

Valacich received a bachelor’s degree in computer science in 1982 and a master’s degree in business administration in 1983, both from UM. He currently is a professor of management information systems at the University of Arizona. He previously was a distinguished professor in the MIS department at Washington State University, where he built a world-class MIS program that currently is ranked as one of the top 20 research programs in the world. Valacich has led development programs for several large companies, including AT&T, Boeing and Microsoft. In 2006, he was recognized as one of the top 20 information systems researchers in the world. A prolific writer and scholar with nearly 200 conference and journal articles, he currently is a senior editor at MIS Quarterly. He also has coauthored several best-selling textbooks.

The public is invited to attend a panel discussion featuring all four Distinguished Alumni Award recipients at 5:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 21, in the UC Ballroom on UM mountain campus. An awards ceremony and reception will follow.

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SC

State

082712alum
Contact: Susan Cuff, associate director, UM Office of Alumni Relations and Alumni Association, 406-243-5211, susan.cuff@umontana.edu.
Harnessing the talents of its faculty, staff and students, The University of Montana has created a new online tutorial to educate students about sexual violence issues.

The training is titled Personal Empowerment Through Self-Awareness. PETSA consists of short, informative videos and a quiz and takes about 20 to 30 minutes to complete. All UM students are required to complete the training starting this fall, and they must complete it before registering for spring semester classes. The videos can be seen at http://www.umt.edu/petsa.

"Sexual violence of any type will not be tolerated on our campus, and those who engage in this predatory behavior will be held accountable," UM President Royce Engstrom says in an introductory video. "We are strategically working toward a violence-free campus, and this online course is one critical component."

Subjects addressed in the videos include the law, consent, predatory behavior, myths and facts, personal empowerment, how to intervene and to get help. The tutorial abounds with information or advice such as:

- The overwhelming majority of assaults (82 percent) are perpetrated by acquaintances, friends or family members who use coercion to assault.
- According to Montana law, a person cannot give consent if they are mentally disabled or incapacitated, physically helpless for any reason (including alcohol or drug intoxication) or overcome by deception, coercion or surprise.
- Get involved if you believe someone is at risk. If you see someone in trouble or someone pressuring another person, don’t be afraid to intervene.

The videos are concise and hard-hitting. A prominent message at the start of the tutorial states: If this tutorial feels uncomfortable, STOP and contact SARC (Student Assault Resource Center) for support. You can reach them at 406-243-6559.

“We really wanted to educate our students about Montana law and their responsibilities,” said Danielle Wozniak, a UM social work associate professor and one of the driving forces behind the creation of PETSA. "I don’t ever want to hear of one of our students standing in front of the dean of students or a police officer saying, ‘I didn’t know that was rape. I didn’t know I had to have consent.’ Because the bottom line with this tutorial is you will know."

Wozniak chairs the University Council on Student Assault, a presidential committee that recommended educating all students about how to reduce their risk of being assaulted and reduce their risk of committing personal violence. Provost Perry Brown and Vice President for Student Affairs Teresa Branch assembled a team of faculty and staff to consider several ways to reduce sexual violence and to discuss how an online training could be done.

Wozniak said they searched for trainings already designed and in use by other universities, but nothing met their standards.

“We wanted something tailored to our needs and something based on the most current literature in sexual assault reduction and prevention – something that really spoke to our students personally,” she said. "Nothing we found was professional or heavy-hitting enough. Many spoke about risk reduction aimed largely at women while failing to include any educational piece on how to help young men reduce their risk of committing sexual violence. There also is a section on bystander intervention that offers ways peers can help.

“I think what we have achieved has set a new national standard for this type of training,” she said.

Wozniak surveyed the literature and then met with campus and community groups seeking solutions for the assault issue. Then she and Elizabeth Hubble, co-director of UM’s women and gender studies program, spent hours writing the video scripts. Working collaboratively with Robert Squires, director of UMOnline, and Professor Rick Hughes, chair of UM’s School of Media Arts, the team took the scripts and began producing videos.

“Rick and Robert assembled this brilliant team of UM students to begin creating the videos,” Wozniak said. “It was really them who gave pictures to our words. I need to stress what a brilliant collaborative team effort this was across campus. We saw a need, and people jumped in to address it by doing what we do best – educating our students.”
Other essential collaborations included the narrators, William Marcus, director of the Broadcast Media Center, and Annie Sondag, a health and human performance professor. UMOnline helped address accessibility and build the videos in Moodle, the University’s online learning management system. Eight UM faculty and staff members also have speaking roles in the videos.

The training has been tested with several student groups, and Wozniak said initial reactions have been overwhelmingly positive and generated healthy discussion.

“I appreciate that the PETSA videos remind students that sexual assault and harassment is not something they have to stay silent about or just ‘grin and bear’ until graduation,” said Micah Nielsen, a UM student and Associated Students of UM executive. “It’s a relief to finally have a definitive series dedicated to powering past the laid-back acceptance of this destructive problem.”

Wozniak said a comprehensive notification campaign has been prepared to alert UM students to the need to complete the PETSA training. Besides online alerts, all incoming students will be notified at Orientations, residence hall assistants will spread the word and provide reminders and assistance, and academic advisers will offer reminders before spring semester enrollment.

“Students often come to college with preconceived ideas about gender relations, power and sexuality that don’t serve them well when they begin to date,” Wozniak said. “Developmentally they often have a difficult time talking about intimacy in their relationships. This training is designed to create the opportunity for dialogue and discussion and to make sure we are not silent about these issues.

“We know that this training can evoke strong feelings on the part of men and women,” she said. “It is a very personal as well as a public issue. But it’s important to talk about these feelings and to create an opportunity for dialogue.”

Wozniak said plans are being made to follow this training up with face-to-face campus discussion forums during autumn semester.

“We expect that this will be challenging learning process and want to encourage discussion,” she said. “This will allow students to check in, ask questions and explore what these videos mean for them. Our previews with students groups tell us that students deeply care about this issue, and we are prepared to process the experience with them.”

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CBS

State, select national publications

082412ptsa

Contact: Danielle Wozniak, UM social work associate professor, PETSA training co-organizer, 406-243-5746, danielle.wozniak@mso.umt.edu
MISSOULA –

The University of Montana School of Art will host an opening reception for the annual Art Faculty Exhibition from 5 to 7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 6, in UM’s Gallery of Visual Arts. The show will be on display Sept. 4-21.

Each year School of Art faculty exhibit their work to introduce themselves to students and the community. This year’s show will highlight the permanent, tenure-track faculty, including Brad Allen, James Bailey, Kevin Bell, Mary Ann Bonjorni, H. Rafael Chacón, Jennifer Combe, Elizabeth Dove, Julia Galloway, Matt Hamon, Trey Hill, Beth Lo and Cathryn Mallory.

Chacón, professor of art history and criticism, will present a lecture to accompany the show titled “An Artist/Historian Collaboration” from 5:10 to 6 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 13.

The exhibition, opening reception and lecture are free and open to the public. The Gallery of Visual Arts is located on the first floor of the Social Science Building. It is open 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday; 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday; and by appointment only on Monday.

For more information call Mallory at 406-243-2813, or email gallery.visarts@umontana.edu. Information about the Gallery of Visual Arts is available at http://www.umt.edu/art.

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BP

Local

082312gall

**Contact:** Cathryn Mallory, director, UM Gallery of Visual Arts, 406-243-2813, gallery.visarts@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

The Montana Board of Regents recently approved a new master’s degree in athletic training at The University of Montana. The program will begin accepting students in the spring, and the first class of students will start classes during summer 2013.

The program will provide students the opportunity to become certified/licensed athletic trainers and will advance their studies in the profession. The accelerated three-two model involves three years of undergraduate prerequisite courses and general education requirements, followed by two years in an entry-level master’s professional program. At the end of the program, students will have earned both a health and human performance bachelor’s in science and a master’s in athletic training.

"The caliber of our faculty and the tremendous array of clinical opportunities – including in-depth experience with a wide array of incredible athletic teams – have created a great foundation for growth in expertise and level of study," said Roberta Evans, dean of the Phyllis J. Washington College of Education and Human Sciences. "Now, through this new graduate program our students will leave UM with the highest national qualifications and be equipped with the necessary skills to transition into extraordinary careers."

While in the professional program, students also will complete a substantial number of clinical hours in medical settings that include colleges, high schools and physician, sports and physical therapy clinics.

"The new UM program allows for greater potential to establish partnerships within the state of Montana and surrounding northwest region," said Scott Richter, associate professor and department chair of UM’s Department of Health and Human Performance.

According to the National Athletic Trainers Association, more than 70 percent of practicing certified athletic trainers hold a master's degree.

According to Richter, the athletic training profession is at the front end of its market curve, and NATA and Certified Athletic Trainers/Licensed Athletic Trainers are now recognizing that athletic trainers' professional skills have value outside athletic departments.

Because of athletic trainers' role in preventing injuries and reducing health care costs, employment in the field was projected to grow 37 percent between 2008 and 2018, much faster than the average for other occupations, according to Bureau of Labor statistics.

"As greater emphasis is placed on preventive health care and reduction of national health care costs, athletic trainers will have more employment opportunities in the health care field, including hospitals and offices of health practitioners," Richter said.

Richter said increased licensure requirements, more rigorous educational standards, and the utilization of athletic trainers in new nontraditional employment settings, such as the military, have led to a greater awareness of how athletic trainers can make significant contributions as qualified health care professionals.

For more information call Richter at 406-243-5246 or email scott.richter@umontana.edu.

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SR/all

State

082112athl

Contact: Scott Richter, associate professor and department chair, UM Department of Health and Human Performance, 406-243-5246, scott.richter@umontana.edu
MISSOULA –

The University of Montana once again was named one the top four-year colleges and universities in North America by the Princeton Review.

The 2013 edition, “The Best 377 Colleges,” was released Aug. 20. The rankings are based on surveys of more than 122,000 undergraduate students. The 80-question survey asked students about their school’s academics, administration, campus life and student body. Only about 15 percent of the nation’s four-year colleges and two Canadian colleges made the list.

“While the university maintains a fantastic liberal arts program, students especially laud the wildlife biology, forestry, physical therapy and forensic anthropology departments,” Princeton Review said of UM. “Moreover, undergrads at Montana are highly complementary of their teachers who are generally ‘helpful, engaging and accessible.’”

Students surveyed for this 2013 report noted the UM’s focus on “environmental sustainability and social justice,” along with the fact that the University strives to develop “creative thinkers and engaged citizens.”

Complete listings are online at [http://www.princetonreview.com](http://www.princetonreview.com).

Contact: Peggy Kuhr, UM interim vice president for integrated communications, 406-243-2311, peggy.kuhr@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA –

Sports fans are invited to show their pride by wearing Griz gear during College Colors Night on Tuesday, Aug. 28, as the Missoula Osprey take on the Great Falls Voyagers at Ogren Park Allegiance Field.

University of Montana students, faculty and staff with a valid Griz Card can purchase one reserved seating ticket each for $5, or they can purchase the Griz package for $10, which includes one reserved seating ticket, two hot dogs and one soda.

Tickets are available at the MSO Hub, located at 140 N. Higgins Ave., or at the ticket office at Orgen Park Allegiance Field. The game begins at 7:05 p.m.

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JS

Local

082312ospr

Contact: Erika Palmer, UM director of trademarks and licensing, 406-243-2317, erika.palmer@umontana.edu.
The University Center at The University of Montana will sponsor "Drinking, Driving and Other Delusions," an interactive event for students to explore the consequences of drinking and driving while learning more about local resources and alternative transportation options from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 6, on the Oval.

Several local organizations will host activities at the event, including an interactive display that details the steps of getting a DUI and helps students grasp the financial and emotional repercussions of drinking and driving.

Additional displays will include a "Jail Cell" provided by the Forester's Ball Committee, field tests conducted by the Missoula County Sheriff's Department and UM Public Safety and screenings and blood alcohol content cards provided by Self Over Substance. The ASUM Office of Transportation will be on hand with a U-Dash bus to promote free late-night rides for students. Other local organizations that will be present include Red's Towing, ASUM Legal, Blue Mountain Clinic and the UM Health Enhancement Office.

"Drinking, Driving and Other Delusions" is a collaboration of the University Center Student Involvement Network and many other campus and community groups. To learn more, visit the University Center website at [http://www.umt.edu/uc](http://www.umt.edu/uc) or call Jamar Galbreath, program adviser with the UC Student Involvement Network, at 406-243-5576 or email jamar.galbreath@mso.umt.edu, or call Topher Williams, student coordinator with the UC Student Involvement Network, at 406-243-4340 or email christopher.williams@mso.umt.edu.

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Contact: Jamar Galbreath, program adviser, UC Student Involvement Network, 406-243-5576, jamar.galbreath@mso.umt.edu; Topher Williams, student coordinator, UC Student Involvement Network, 406-243-4340, christopher.williams@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA –

George Black, author of “Empire of Shadows: The Epic Story of Yellowstone,” will present a lecture tracing the history of the national park at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 5, at The University of Montana.

The lecture, titled “Civilizers, Soldiers, Explorers and the Creation of Yellowstone National Park,” is sponsored by the O’Connor Center for the Rocky Mountain West. The event is free and open to the public and will be held in Gallagher Business Building Room 123.

Fact & Fiction will sell copies of “Empire of Shadows” at the lecture for $35. The book explores the creation of the world’s first national park through the culmination of three interwoven themes: The passion for exploration, the violence of the Indian Wars and the “civilizing” of the frontier and its inhabitants.

Black also is the author of "The Trout Pool Paradox" and “Casting a Spell.” He serves as executive editor of OnEarth magazine, a publication of the National Resource Defense Council.

The O’Connor Center for the Rocky Mountain West is a regional studies and public education program of the University dedicated to the broad-based study of the larger Rocky Mountain West.

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BP

Local

082312yell

**Contact:** William Farr, UM O’Connor Center for the Rocky Mountain West senior fellow, 406-243-7700, [farr@crmw.org](mailto:farr@crmw.org)
MISSOULA –

Applications are now available for entry into this year’s University of Montana Homecoming Parade, to take place Sept. 22 in Missoula.

Last year’s parade featured more than 110 entries. This year’s Homecoming theme, “We Are Montana,” embodies the united spirit and pride of all UM students, alumni, supporters, faculty and staff.

Applications are available online at [http://www.grizalum.com](http://www.grizalum.com) or by calling 406-243-5211 or 1-877-862-5867. Applications may also be picked up in person at the Missoula Chamber of Commerce, 825 E. Front St., or at the UM Office of Alumni Relations and Alumni Association, Brantly Hall Room 115 on the mountain campus.

Applications and a $30 entry fee are due by 2 p.m. Friday, Sept. 14. For more information call 406-243-5211 or email alumni@umontana.edu.

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Contact: Angela Weisenburger, administrative associate, UM Office of Alumni Relations and Alumni Association, 406-243-5211, alumni@umontana.edu.

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MISSOULA –

After a nationwide search, The University of Montana will conduct campus interviews and public forums with four finalists for its director of athletics position.

The four finalists are Carl Clapp, associate athletics director at the University of Hawaii at Manoa; Kent Haslam, associate athletic director for development with the UM Foundation; John Johnson, senior associate director of athletics at Washington State University; and Chris King, director of intercollegiate athletics at the University of Texas-Pan American.

“We had a strong pool of candidates during this national search,” said UM President Royce Engstrom, who chaired the search committee. “These four finalists are passionate about their work and exhibit the strong leadership skills we need to take Grizzly Athletics to an even higher level of excellence.”

The four candidates each will speak at a forum where members of the public will have opportunities to question them and provide feedback to the search committee. Each forum will run from 5:15 to 6:15 p.m. in the University Center Theater. The schedule follows:

-- Carl Clapp – Monday, Aug. 27
-- John Johnson – Wednesday, Aug. 29
-- Kent Haslam – Thursday, Aug. 30
-- Chris King, Friday Aug. 31

Clapp has worked at the University of Hawaii at Manoa since 2006, part of that time as interim athletics director. Since 1992, he also has served in athletics director positions at Avila College in Kansas City, the University of Redlands in California and Saint Mary’s College of California. He did postgraduate work at the University of Kansas and holds a master’s degree in science, exercise and sports sciences (athletic administration emphasis) from the University of Arizona.

Johnson has served in his current role at WSU since 2004. He was senior associate director and athletics director at Weber State University in Ogden, Utah, from 1997 to 2004. From 1984 to 1997, he served multiple roles at Eastern Washington University, including director of intercollegiate athletics from 1993 to 1997. He holds a master’s in business administration from EWU.

Haslam has served in his current role with the UM Foundation since 2006. From 2000 to 2006 he was associate athletic director for external operations at Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff. From 1998 to 2002, he was manager of media communications for the Salt Lake Olympic Organization Committee and Olympic news service supervisor for the 2002 Olympic Winter Games. He holds a master’s degree in education (administration emphasis) from NAU.

King has served in his current role with UTPA in Edinburg, Texas, since 2009. From 2002 to September 2009, he was associate athletic director for compliance and associate athletic director for administration at the University of Alabama, and he held similar posts at the University of Central Florida from 1999 to 2001. He also worked at Liberty University in Virginia, Campbell University in North Carolina and Robert Morris College in Pennsylvania. He holds an education master’s degree (concentrated in educational leadership and supervision) from Campbell.

Contact: UM President Royce Engstrom, 406-243-2311, royce.engstrom@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA –

Anyone interested in the past, present and future of the Crown of the Continent is invited to register for the 3rd Annual Conference of the Roundtable on the Crown of the Continent, titled “Pathways to Prosperity: Caring for Communities in the Crown of the Continent.”

The two-day conference is organized by The University of Montana Center for Natural Resources and Environmental Policy. It aims to connect people to sustain and enhance culture, community and conservation in the 18-million acre Crown of the Continent region, which is centered on Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park and parts of Montana, British Columbia and Alberta. It will take place Thursday and Friday, Sept. 27-28, at the Fernie Mountain Lodge in Fernie, British Columbia. Registration costs $100 and includes meals.

In the third of a planned series of four roundtable conferences about the region, attendees will join tribal, government, nonprofit, education and business leaders for two days of conversation and presentations.

Through workshops, forums and policy dialogues, the Roundtable on the Crown of the Continent embraces the region; includes all perspectives and communities; focuses on connecting people, facilitating communication and catalyzing action; supplements other activities; and promotes sustainable communities and landscapes.

The annual conference series was born of the 2009 Roundtable on the Crown of the Continent, a forum for organizations and people who care about the region. The first conference in 2010 focused largely on conservation initiatives, while the 2011 conference focused on the cultural fabric within the region.

Roundtable events are organized and convened by the UM Center for Natural Resources and Environmental Policy with the support of the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy and the Kresge Foundation.

For more information, to register for the conference or to learn about sponsorship opportunities, visit http://crownofthecontinent.eventbrite.com.

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BP

State

082112conf

Contact: Shawn Johnson, Center for Natural Resources and Environmental Policy senior associate, 406-381-2904, shawn.johnson@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

Peggy Kuhr, dean of The University of Montana School of Journalism, has been named UM’s interim vice president for integrated communications. She started her new duties Aug. 21 and will report directly to President Royce Engstrom.

Kuhr chairs the search for the new vice president for integrated communications position and will return to her dean role once the new vice president has been hired and begins work. Denise Dowling, chair of UM’s radio-television department, will serve as interim dean for the School of Journalism.

“I am pleased to employ Peggy’s expertise as a member of my cabinet as we begin a new academic year,” Engstrom said. “She is known for her strong journalism background and her insistence on transparency. I believe she is uniquely positioned to expand and enhance our communications with the campus community and the greater Missoula and Montana communities.”

“I am honored to serve in this important officer-level position for my alma mater,” said Kuhr, who earned her undergraduate degree at UM. “As a member of the campus family and as a journalist, I understand the need for the University to communicate quickly and clearly with the public during this time of transition to a new vice president.”

Kuhr is president of the national Association of Schools of Journalism and Mass Communication. She has served as the dean of the UM School of Journalism since August 2007. She had a 26-year career in newspapers before joining the University of Kansas in 2002 as professor and Knight Chair on the Press, Leadership and Community.

Kuhr also spent 16 years at The Spokesman-Review in Spokane, Wash., serving as projects editor, city editor, assistant managing editor and, ultimately, managing editor for content. The newspaper was a Pulitzer Prize finalist in 1993 in spot news reporting for coverage of the Randy Weaver standoff on Ruby Ridge in northern Idaho. She was city editor at the time and directed reporting coverage of the 13-day siege.

Dowling joined UM in 2000 after 20 years working in television and radio newsrooms. In 2004 she was named the country’s most promising journalism professor and in 2010 won the Broadcast Education Association’s Best of Festival award for her radio news work.

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PK/cbs

Local, dailies

082112kuhr

Contact: Peggy Kuhr, UM interim vice president for integrated communications, 406-243-2311, peggy.kuhr@mso.umt.edu
MISSOULA –

Painting and ceramics unite in "Co-Adaptation," a new art exhibit by University of Montana students Claire Melli and Sarah Tancred. The compelling show – displaying a juxtaposition of vastly different mediums – will open at the University Center Gallery on Monday, Aug. 27.

Melli and Tancred are currently pursuing master's degrees at UM's School of Art, and decided to collaborate on an exhibit that explores the complex meaning of "home." Melli is a painter and enjoys the simplicity of the craft, while Tancred creates ceramic objects that bring back memories of people or places in time.

An opening reception for the show will be held from 4 to 6 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 30, at the gallery, located in UC Room 227. The exhibit will be on display until Sept. 28.

The UC Gallery is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday during the academic year. To learn more, visit http://www.umt.edu/uc/ucg.

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BP

Local

082012ucga

Contact: Gwen Landquist, University Center marketing and art manager, 406-243-5555, gwen.landquist@mso.umt.edu; Kristina Myer and Sabrina Charlson, UC Gallery student coordinators, 406-243-5564, ucartgallery@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA –

The Montana Museum of Art & Culture’s summer exhibits will conclude with a lecture, reception and gathering of Montana Institute of the Arts artists from 5-8 p.m. Friday, Aug. 24, in the Performing Arts and Radio/Television Center lobby at The University of Montana.

MMAC Curator of Art Brandon Reintjes will present a lecture titled “The History of the MIA” at 5 p.m. in the PAR/TV Center’s Masquer Theatre. The reception will immediately follow at 6 p.m. in the lobby.

The exhibits – “Cultural Homesteaders: Montana Institute of the Arts from the MMAC Permanent Collection” and “Edith Freeman: Montana Seasons” – celebrate Montana artists.

“Cultural Homesteaders” features selections from the MIA. Founded in 1948, the institute was a statewide grassroots organization that tied together the relatively isolated practitioners of various arts and crafts across Montana through publications, an annual festival and traveling exhibits.

In 1954, the MIA began a collection of artworks solicited from member artists. The organization collected for more than 30 years at a time when there were few other collecting institutions in the state and none that focused exclusively on fine art. The MIA collection illustrates the history of the development of the arts in Montana during this time period. In 1994, this collection was transferred to the MMAC and is now part of the museum’s Permanent Collection.

“The MIA artists we have notified thus far about this exhibition and closing reception have expressed appreciation and excitement about a reunion of sorts,” said MMAC Director Barbara Koostra. “Their positive response signifies the richness of the Montana arts community from the 1950s through the 1980s.”

“Edith Freeman: Montana Seasons” is a traveling exhibition sponsored through the Museum and Art Gallery Directors Association-Montana, on loan from the Yellowstone Art Museum Permanent Collection.

Freeman (1913-1992) was a noted artist, rancher and teacher. Upon her retirement as an elementary school teacher, she began her second career as a printmaker. Active in the MIA, she is recognized as a master of reduction woodcut printing. She studied with noted Billings artist Isabelle Johnson. Freeman was the recipient of an Eastern Montana College Distinguished Alumna Award and received the Montana Governor’s Award for the Arts in 1983.

The final opportunity to view these exhibits is from noon to 3 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 25.

MMAC’s hours are noon to 3 p.m. Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday and noon to 6 p.m. Friday. For more information, call 406-243-2019 or go online to http://www.umt.edu/montanamuseum.

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BP

Local

081712mmac

Contact: Brandon Reintjes, curator of art, Montana Museum of Art and Culture, 406-243-2019, brandon.reintjes@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA —

Celebrating 40 years of performances, Montana Shakespeare in the Parks is once again coming to The University of Montana Oval to perform "The Twelfth Night" and "Hamlet" on Monday and Tuesday, Aug. 27-28.

The troupe will perform "The Twelfth Night" at 6 p.m. on Monday and "Hamlet" at 6 p.m. on Tuesday. Audiences are encouraged to arrive early with chairs, blankets, a picnic and friends and family to enjoy the evening. Both performances are free and open to the public.

The troupe expects to put on 76 performances in 59 communities in the region. The company features 10 professional actors who were selected by national auditions. They tour without technical assistance to bring live theatre to communities primarily in rural areas.

The company launched its 10-week tour with eight performances in Bozeman before hitting the road July 2. It will conclude the summer tour Sept. 9.

"This summer, audiences of more than 30,000 people will be treated to two wonderful performances that cover the broad perspective of Shakespeare's genius as a playwright," said Joel Jahnke, MSIP's artistic director and a professor of theater at Montana State University.

Jahnke directs "Hamlet," which he said is almost universally hailed as the greatest play ever written in the English language. Associate Artistic Director William Brown directs "The Twelfth Night," Shakespeare's comedy of wild infatuation and mistaken identities.

The UM performances are sponsored by the University Center. For more information, go to http://life.umt.edu/uc/ucsi/SIN/fun/shakespeare.php. For more information on the plays and a complete tour schedule, visit the company's website at http://www.shakespeareintheparks.org.

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ML/all

Local

081712park

Contact: Mary Lester, UC Game Room and Theater manager, 406-243-5590, mary.lester@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA –

Montana Superintendent Denise Juneau recently asked 19 Montana Campus Compact AmeriCorps VISTA (Volunteers in Service to America) members to raise their right hand and take the oath of service on the Capitol steps in Helena.

Over the next year, these MTCC VISTAs will work with campus partners to further community-driven anti-poverty efforts in the areas of education, veterans/military family support, economic opportunity and healthy futures.

The projects MTCC VISTAs will work on over the next year include building community and school gardens, developing programming for safe after-school activities for kids, leveraging volunteers and funding for local nonprofits, and creating a training program for low-income individuals to gain job skills.

"MTCC AmeriCorps VISTA members commit a year of their lives to leveraging resources of higher education, in the form of student volunteers, to meet critical community needs," said Brian Christianson, MTCC VISTA program manager. "When this works, mutually beneficial, long-term partnerships develop between community organizations and higher education institutions, providing college students exciting civic-engagement opportunities, while addressing the most pressing issues facing their communities."

VISTA members come to Montana from all over the country to serve a one-year term to forge campus-community partnerships around the state of Montana. In addition to working with low-income populations, VISTAs take a vow of poverty and are prohibited from holding outside employment. At the end of their term of service, they receive an education award that can be used to pay off student loans or further their education.

VISTA members make a big impact on the communities they serve. In the past year, MTCC VISTAs generated $286,166 in cash and in-kind donations for projects addressing poverty problems in Montana. Additionally, MTCC VISTAs recruited more than 2,000 volunteers who contributed more than 18,000 hours of service.

The following members comprise the incoming class of MTCC VISTA members:

- Adrianna Ely, serving with Missoula County Public Schools in Missoula
- Stevie John, serving with the Missoula Food Bank in Missoula
- Jordan Backstrom, serving with the National Affordable Housing Network in Butte
- Rich Collins, serving with Hopa Mountain in Bozeman
- Elizabeth Higgins, serving with Great Falls College- MSU
- Michael McConnell, serving with Sunburst Unlimited in Great Falls
- Kimbra Buerachers, serving with Flathead Valley Community College in Kalispell
- Liz Cleek, serving with Gallatin Valley YMCA in Bozeman
- Hannah Jensen, serving with HRDC Home Stay Program in Bozeman
- Shay Farmer, serving with Mission Mountain Food Enterprise Center in Ronan
- Gladys Walter, serving with Helena Public Schools in Helena
- Michael Stone, serving with Opportunity Link in Havre
- Donna Bulatowicz, serving with the Garfield Literacy Project in Billings
- Alison Ross, serving with the University of Montana Campus Community Garden in Dillon
- Hannah Kooistra, serving with Home Resource in Missoula
- Zoe Carberg, serving with National Center for Appropriate Technology in Butte
- Robin McClanahan, serving with Habitat for Humanity of the Flathead Valley in Kalispell
- Kelsey Nix, serving with Girl Scouts of Montana and Wyoming in Billings

This year’s class also includes two members who re-enrolled for a second year of VISTA:

- Robyn Hegland, serving with WORD Inc. in Missoula
Montana Campus Compact Welcomes New Class Of Americorps Volunteers - UM News - The University Of Montana

• Ellen Missert, serving with Smile MT! in Bozeman

The Montana Campus Compact, headquartered in Missoula at The University of Montana, is Montana's largest higher education network.

MTCC member campuses include: Aaniiih Nakoda College, Blackfeet Community College, Carroll College, Dawson Community College, Flathead Valley Community College, Fort Peck Community College, Little Big Horn College, Miles Community College, Montana State University-Billings, Montana State University-Bozeman, Montana State University-Great Falls, Montana State University-Northern, Montana Tech of The University of Montana, Rocky Mountain College, Salish Kootenai College, Stone Child College, The University of Montana-Missoula, The University of Montana-Helena, The University of Montana Western and University of Great Falls. MTCC also works with campuses in neighboring regional states.

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AO/all

State

081012

Contact: Amanda Opitz, AmeriCorps VISTA leader, Campus Compact at UM, 406-243-5451, vistaleader@mtcompact.org.
MISSOULA –

University of Montana President Royce C. Engstrom will outline UM’s institutional priorities for the upcoming academic year during his annual State of the University address at 10 a.m. Friday, Aug. 24.

The public is invited to the event, which will be held in the Montana Theatre of UM’s Performing Arts and Radio/Television Center. Refreshments will be available starting at 9:30 a.m. in the PAR/TV Center lobby.

A press conference will follow the address in the Montana Theatre, and a public question-and-answer session will also take place immediately after the address in the Masquer Theatre of the PAR/TV Center. UM Provost Perry Brown will moderate the public session until President Engstrom has finished the press conference.

###

BP

Local

081412pres

Contact: Office of the President, 406-246-2311, prestalk@umontana.edu.
University of Montana faculty and staff are invited to join Enrollment Services, Residence Life, Dining Services, the Alumni Association and The Bookstore at UM in helping students move into the residence halls as part of the Move-in Crew.

Volunteer slots are available any time between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 22, and Saturday, Aug. 25. Volunteers on the Move-in Crew are some of the first welcoming faces new students and their families see when they arrive in Missoula.

Volunteers who donate two or more hours on the Move-in Crew will receive a free meal in the Food Zoo and a “Move-in Crew Volunteer” button.

If you are interested in volunteering as part of the crew, call Enrollment Services at 406-243-2388 or email orientation@mso.umt.edu with your name, time you would like to volunteer and residence hall preference. The final deadline to register to volunteer is Friday, Aug. 17.

###

BP

Campus

081412move

Contact: Enrollment Services, 406-243-2388, orientation@mso.umt.edu
MISSOULA –

Students, faculty and staff will be able to hop a ride to campus again when the Associated Students of The University of Montana start running buses on regular routes Aug. 27, the first day of autumn semester classes.

The buses run Monday through Friday during the academic year on routes from campus to Park-N-Ride locations, including South Avenue to the University Villages apartments, Dornblaser Field and Lewis and Clark Apartments throughout the day, as well as an East Broadway Avenue route every 10 minutes. Special lots on these routes allow students, faculty and staff to park for free and catch the bus to campus.

An additional bus runs between the mountain campus and Missoula College UM (formerly the College of Technology) every 15 minutes.

The buses – nine in total, with six running during the day – were purchased and are maintained with student-approved ASUM transportation fees. Bus service is free and well-used. About 1,500 riders take the bus to and from campus daily, a total of 3,000 rides per day with about 450,000 rides provided last academic year.

Riders are definitely getting their money’s worth, too.

“Students invest more than $1 million dollars in transportation options annually,” said ASUM Office of Transportation Director Nancy Wilson.

About 40 percent of riders walk to the ASUM bus stops, expanding the walking district to UM and MC, Wilson added.

The riders who commute on the buses daily also alleviate parking congestion on campus. To increase on-campus parking to accommodate the 1,500 daily riders of the ASUM buses would require a parking garage more than four times the size of the new five-story East Front Street Parking Structure under development downtown.

The buses also provide safe, alternative transportation for students heading downtown with the UDASH shuttle. The service runs until midnight Monday through Wednesday, until 2:30 a.m. with service every 30 minutes on Thursday, and from 7 p.m. to 2:30 a.m. with service every 15 minutes Friday and Saturday. The UDASH runs from the mountain campus to south campus, then downtown and back to mountain campus.

For more information and to see routes, go to [http://www.umt.edu/asum/ot](http://www.umt.edu/asum/ot), and see real-time bus maps at [http://www.asumbus.com](http://www.asumbus.com). Call ASUM Office of Transportation Director Nancy Wilson at 406-243-4599, or email nancy.wilson@mso.umt.edu with questions.

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BP

Local

081312asum

Contact: Nancy Wilson, ASUM Office of Transportation director, 406-243-4599, nancy.wilson@mso.umt.edu
MISSOULA –

Students of The University of Montana College of Forestry and Conservation will receive scholarships to fund experiential learning opportunities, thanks to a recent gift from the family of Marlene and Arne J. Jacobsen.

Arne, a 1953 graduate of the college, established a scholarship fund in 2000 to assist students with travel and expenses associated with field-study programs. His daughter, Heidi Jacobsen-Schley, recently added to that endowed fund with a $50,000 gift in memory of her mother, Marlene.

The Marlene and Arne J. Jacobsen Endowed Forestry Scholarship will be available to students in the forest management department of the college.

Marlene Jacobsen, who passed away earlier this year, taught junior-high home economics in Great Falls for 27 years. Jacobsen-Schley recalls that wherever they traveled in Montana, Marlene would encounter former students who talked about how much they’d learned from her.

Arne initially established the forestry scholarship to help current students fund travel and field studies. He remembers that his mother had to cash out a life insurance policy to cover the $200 fee for his own senior forestry field trip.

Twenty-two forestry students have received the scholarship since 2000. The additional funds will allow the college to award students larger gifts to cover field-study program tuition, travel and associated costs.

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LS/all

State

080912jaco

Contact: Leana Schelvan, director of communications, UM College of Forestry and Conservation, 406-243-5257, leana.schelvan@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA – Award-winning author Marty Essen will kick off his fall college tour with a benefit for the Bitterroot College of The University of Montana at 7 p.m. Friday, Sept. 7, in the Hamilton Performing Arts Center located at Hamilton High School. Money raised from the performance will help support the Bitterroot College UM’s science lab.

“I think it’s important to give back to the local community, so every year I try to donate a show,” Essen said. “Last year it was a private show for the students at Hamilton High School, and the year before it was the same for Victor High School students. This year I thought it would be fun to do a show that was open to the public.”

Tickets cost $5 for adults and $3 for seniors and students (K-12 and college), and may be purchased at the door or from BC in advance. For advance ticket sale information, call 406-375-0100 or email patricia.skinner@umontana.edu. Recommended participant age is 9 or older.

“Raising money for the college science lab is important, because as a society we all benefit from increased scientific knowledge.” Essen said. “Just think how often – both locally and nationally – science is pushed aside in favor of politics. Or worse, scientific theories, such as the relationship between carbon dioxide and climate change, are misconstrued as speculation, not something that has been subjected to rigorous testing and peer-review. Science is the key to progress.”

Essen is one of America’s most frequently booked college speakers. His show, “Around the World in 90 Minutes,” features the best of the thousands of photos he took while traveling the world for his multiple-award-winning book, “Cool Creatures, Hot Planet: Exploring the Seven Continents.”

A skilled presenter, Essen mixes information about critical environmental issues and new scientific discoveries with exhilarating globetrotting stories.

Following the BC benefit, Essen will head to the East Coast on a tour that includes colleges in Pennsylvania, Virginia, Maryland, Indiana and Tennessee.

“Aside from my show at the Hamilton PAC, two shows I’m really looking forward to are the University of Maryland-Baltimore and Purdue University,” said Essen. “I’ve been on all seven continents and in 49 of the 50 states, but I’ve never been to Maryland. The University of Maryland show will complete that list. As for Purdue, anytime I can speak at a Big Ten college it’s an honor.”

Essen has been the Association for the Promotion of Campus Activities’ No.1 booked college speaker for 38 out of the past 45 months, and Campus Activities Magazine named him one of their “Hot Speaker” picks for 2011.

Highlights of “Around the World in 90 Minutes” include:

- Amazing animal facts,
- Debunking animal myths,
- Cuddly wallaroos and spiny walking sticks,
- Charging elephants and howling wolves,
- Deadly snakes and friendly penguins,
- Bizarre creatures and endangered species,
- Swimming with piranhas,
- Kayaking in the rainforest,
- Hiking with the Porcupine caribou migration,
- Rafting with humpback whales and
- Surviving a hippo attack in Zimbabwe.

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Marty Essen To Kick Off Fall Tour With Bitterroot College Benefit - UM News - The University Of Montana

081312mtry

Contact: Victoria Clark, director, Bitterroot College of The University of Montana, 406-375-0100, victoria.clark@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

American Indian students will have a unique opportunity to join their classmates in learning about The University of Montana campus, programs and services as part of the 4th Annual Day of Welcome Moving Camp Orientation on Wednesday, Aug. 22.

The Moving Camp Orientation, hosted by UM’s American Indian Student Services, allows students to enter their new environment while tying into the tradition of Native American “moving camps.” Tribes moved camp primarily during hunting season to follow bison and secure future survival and prosperity, according to AISS. Students can now “move camp” with their classmates and learn ways to secure their future success and prosperity as part of the UM community.

The day aims to address the sometimes overwhelming economic and social changes that occur when native students relocate to Missoula and UM. The Day of Welcome events help ease the transition and afford students the chance to build friendships, and learn about services and opportunities while forming a supportive social network.

“We are enthusiastic about the upcoming academic year, starting with the Moving Camp,” said AISS Director Fredricka Hunter. “We have a great lineup of events to support native students on The University of Montana campus. It’s always an exciting time to see the journey of our native students moving from their community and transitioning to become part of the UM community. With this move comes change, challenge and growth.”

The Day of Welcome will begin with a traditional prayer led by an elder in the Bonnie HeavyRunner Gathering Place at The Payne Family Native American Center and an introduction from UM President Royce Engstrom, Vice President of Student Affairs Teresa Branch, Dean of Students Randy Voorhees and Provost Perry Brown.

Students will have the opportunity to join the UM Student Involvement Network for team-building activities and explore campus offices and departments throughout the day, including Admissions and Enrollment Services, the Office for Student Success, the Office for Civic Engagement, Financial Aid Services and the Missoula Indian Center.

The AISS advisory council will mingle with students during lunch, and the afternoon will finish with informational games and door prizes donated by campus and community supporters.

For more information, call AISS Program Assistant Jinann Bitar at 406-243-6305 or email jinann.bitar@umontana.edu.

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Western Montana
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Contact: Jinann Bitar, American Indian Student Services program assistant, 406-243-6305, jinann.bitar@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

University of Montana glaciologist Joel Harper and his partners have been awarded a $1.3 million grant to study movement of the Greenland ice sheet.

The National Science Foundation grant funds a project titled “Collaborative Research: In Situ Borehole Measurements to Partition the Velocity of the Greenland Ice Sheet into Deformation and Basal Sliding Components.”

Harper, an associate professor in UM’s Department of Geosciences, said $590,000 of the grant will come to UM, $527,000 will go to a collaborator at the University of Wyoming and $200,000 will fund helicopter work in Greenland.

“The purpose of the project is to improve our ability to model the movement of ice sheets, which are a very important component of Earth’s climate system,” Harper said. “The research will investigate the mechanical properties of glacier ice that dictate how ice flows and deforms when force is applied to it.”

He said ice is a fluid much like honey or thick pancake batter and has complex mechanical properties. Ice flows when squeezed. But if one squeezes ice twice as hard, it doesn’t flow twice as fast. Instead it flows three to four times faster.

“Our current understanding of this complicated behavior is primarily based on experiments done in the laboratory with manufactured ice, so it’s not real glacier ice,” Harper said. “Ice in the Greenland and the Antarctic ice sheets, however, can have crystals bigger than softballs and large variations in temperature. It also can contain impurities such as wind-blown dust and salt.”

He said these factors all complicate the mechanical characteristics of a massive ice sheet and leave scientists with a poor understanding of how the ice deforms under the force of gravity as it flows outward from the sheet’s center.

“To address this problem, we will drill nine boreholes 800 meters deep into the Greenland ice sheet,” Harper said. “The holes will be drilled with a custom drill we made ourselves that melts a 15-centimeter-wide hole through the ice. The boreholes will be fitted with sensors for measuring the rate at which the ice deforms under its own weight over a two-year interval.”

So instead of making measurements in a laboratory on a 1-cubic-centimeter sample of artificial ice, as others have done in the past, the researchers will measure more than 2 billion cubic meters of real glacier ice. Harper said they will need to learn how to drill through the ice sheet and install sensors all along the boreholes in order to successfully do this.

The project will involve undergraduate and graduate students in the field research, and Jesse Johnson, an ice-sheet modeler in UM’s computer science department, will incorporate the findings of the experiments into numerical models for ice-sheet flow.

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Contact: Joel Harper, UM geosciences associate professor, 406-243-5867, joel@mso.umt.edu
MISSOULA –

The University of Montana is participating in the inaugural “Pledge Your Allegiance for College Colors Day” spirit competition and is asking for fan support to help win the College Colors Day Spirit Cup and $10,000 toward the general scholarship fund.

By visiting http://www.espn.com/collegecolorsday, Griz fans can register to pledge their allegiance to UM as the school with the most college spirit and loyal fan base. All registrants are entered to win weekly $50 gift cards from ESPN Shop and one of two grand prizes, including a $500 college shopping spree at ESPN Shop.

College Colors Day is an annual celebration dedicated to promoting the traditions and spirit that embody the college experience by encouraging fans across America to wear their favorite college or university apparel throughout the day on Friday, Aug. 31.

The spirit competition is presented by The Collegiate Licensing Company, a division of IMG College, and NCAA Football.

Additional information on College Colors Day and other UM licensing promotions can be found on UM’s official licensing Facebook page, http://www.facebook.com/getyourgrizon.

Contact: Erika Palmer, director of UM trademarks and licensing, 406-243-2317, erika.palmer@umontana.edu.

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MISSOULA –

The University of Montana will present “An Evening with Mark Twain” in the George and Jane Dennison (formerly known as University) Theatre at 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, Sept. 5.

The play presents Mark Twain, who is played by Kurt Sutton, telling the witty and humorous stories for which he is famous. In addition to Twain’s narration, music will invite the audience into Twain’s parlor. Twain was a talented musician and played the piano, guitar, banjo and harmonica, as well as sang.

Tickets cost $15 in advance, $10 for students and seniors, and children 14 and under are free. Tickets can be purchased at all GrizTix locations, by calling 406-243-4051 or 1-888-MONTANA or online at http://www.griztix.com.

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Contact: Tom Webster, director, George and Jane Dennison Theatre, 406-243-2853, Thomas.Webster@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

A new professor in The University of Montana’s College of Forestry and Conservation led an important nationwide study of climate change last year, which will be featured in an article in the Aug. 2 issue of Nature science journal.

Ashley Ballantyne, an incoming professor of bioclimatology, was the lead researcher on a study of the response of Earth’s vegetation and oceans to carbon emissions while he was a postdoctoral researcher at the University of Colorado Boulder. The article poses that Earth absorbs increasing amounts of carbon as emissions continue to rise, though researchers aren’t sure if and when plants and oceans will reach their limit.

The study examined global carbon dioxide emissions reports from the past 50 years and compared them to rising levels of CO2 in Earth’s atmosphere during that time. The results showed that while CO2 emissions had quadrupled, natural carbon “sinks” – areas that sequester the greenhouse gas – doubled their uptake. Despite the increase in emissions, primarily caused by the burning of fossil fuels, these carbon sinks lessened the warming impact on Earth’s climate.

“What we are seeing is that the Earth continues to do the heavy lifting by taking up huge amounts of carbon dioxide, even while humans have done very little to reduce carbon emissions,” said Ballantyne. “How long this will continue, we don’t know.”

Ballantyne said recent studies by others have suggested carbon sinks were declining in some areas around the globe, including parts of the Southern Hemisphere and portions of the world’s oceans. But Ballantyne’s new study shows global CO2 uptake by the Earth essentially doubled from 1960 to 2010, though increased variations over years and decades suggest some instability in the global carbon cycle.

Researchers are particularly concerned about the increased uptake of CO2 by the world’s oceans, which is making them more acidic. Dissolved CO2 changes seawater chemistry by forming carbonic acid, which is known to damage coral, the fundamental structure of coral reef ecosystems that harbor 25 percent of the world’s fish species.

Ballantyne’s research team used several global CO2 emissions reports for the study, including a report from the U.S. Department of Energy’s Carbon Dioxide Information Analysis Center.

According to the study, researchers observed decreased CO2 uptake by Earth’s land and oceans in the 1990s, followed by increased CO2 sequestering from 2000 to 2010. Ballantyne said such variations indicate that Earth’s carbon cycle must be observed for significantly longer periods of time in order to understand what’s occurring.

“When carbon sinks become carbon sources, it will be a very critical time for Earth,” said Ballantyne. “We don’t see any evidence of that yet, but it’s certainly something we should be looking for.”

To gather data, researchers from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the Scripps Institution of Oceanography measured atmospheric CO2 levels at 40 remote sites around the world, including stations in Antarctica and Mauna Loa Volcano in Hawaii.

The study was funded by the National Research Council, the National Science Foundation and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Co-authors of the article, titled “Increase in observed net carbon dioxide uptake by land and oceans during the past 50 years,” include CU-Boulder Professor Jim White, CU-Boulder doctoral student Caroline Alden and NOAA scientists John Miller and Pieter Tans.

Ballantyne will begin his new position at UM on Sept. 1, and hopes to continue research into carbon/climate relationships and the interaction between the carbon cycle and global climate systems, as well as the amplification of arctic temperatures and what causes them to rise more quickly than global temperatures.

“What made UM appealing was the strength of the existing department, and for a medium-sized university it has attracted some really good scientists,” said Ballantyne. “Both the town and the University were appealing.”

And the faculty is also pleased to welcome Ballantyne.

“Dr. Ballantyne epitomizes the kind of young faculty UM can now attract, publishing their research in the highest-impact journals like Nature,” said Steve Running, Regents
New UM Professor Finds Earth Absorbs More CO2 Even As Emissions Rise - UM News - The University Of Montana

Professor of Ecology in the UM College of Forestry and Conservation.

For more information call Ballantyne at 760-846-1391 or email apballantyne@gmail.com.

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