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UM NEWS



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UM NEWS



September 17, 2013

MISSOULA – The University of Montana’s Irish Studies Program and School of Music join with Humanities Montana and the Friends of Irish Studies to present an Irish harp concert at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 26, in UM’s Music Recital Hall. The concert is part of a five-concert series which aims to examine Irish music.

Gráinne Hambly will play the Irish harp, such a prominent piece of Irish culture that Henry VIII chose it as the official symbol of Ireland, and it remains to this day.

Hambly is an all-Ireland champion and award-winning harpist. She garners a huge following for her versatility and willingness to explore all the possibilities her instrument offers.

“She has broken the genteel parlor image and elevated the stature of the harp right up there with the fiddles and pipes in the realm of dynamic dance music,” wrote an Irish music critic. “Add to that the unsurpassed expressive quality the harp has in her hands ... you have the masterful performance of an experienced and renowned player.”

Hambly will be joined by Billy Jackson on the Scottish harp to give audience members a Celtic celebration. The duo will play Missoula first on Sept. 26 and again in Butte at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 27, at the Montana Tech Library Auditorium.

Tickets cost \$20; \$15 for students and Friends of Irish Studies members; and children under 12 get in free. Tickets can be purchased online at <http://www.umt.edu/griztix/> and <http://www.friendsofirishestudies.com/>. Tickets for the Missoula concert can be purchased at the UM Adams Center, The Source in the University Center, the UM School of Music, at Southgate Mall and at Rockin Rudy’s. Tickets for the Butte concert can be purchased at the Butte-Silver Bow Archives, Cavanaugh’s County Celtic and Granite Mountain Bank.

For more information visit <http://www.friendsofirishestudies.com/>, call Traolach O’Riordain, director of UM’s Irish Studies Program, at 406-243-6973 or email traolach.oriordain@mso.umt.edu.

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ALL

Local, Butte-area media

082313iris

Contact: Traolach O’Riordain, director, UM Irish Studies Program, 406-544-0311, traolach.oriordain@mso.umt.edu.

UM NEWS



August 26, 2013

MISSOULA – An analysis of Montana nonresident visitor comments recently completed by the Institute for Tourism and Recreation Research at the University of Montana found that 89 percent of all unsolicited comments on the surveys were positive reviews of the state and their visit.

More than 1,100 nonresidents wrote comments in the annual survey conducted by ITRR. General positive comments were written most often, and ranged from exclaiming how friendly the people in Montana are to the beauty and open space, and a desire to visit again.

“Of all of the states I have been to or lived in, Montana is one of the most beautiful,” wrote one visitor. Another wrote, “Beautiful state! I was impressed by the outdoors, the local people and the amount of local microbreweries.” Many mentioned their desire to return to the state: “We enjoyed our stay in Montana! We got spectacular impressions of the landscape, wildlife and historical sites. We will come back!”

Nonresident visitors were quick to point out travel related issues they may have experienced. Some said the roads were in great condition while others thought the roads needed improvement. Better signage on Montana roads was mentioned, but with caution. One visitor wrote, “I always enjoy Montana and my time spent. As a tourist and retired truck driver I can appreciate the appropriate amount of both road signs and advertising signs without having the landscape cluttered, i.e. driving the billboard alley.”

Many nonresidents were once residents of the state and felt compelled to write their love of Montana. “Though I moved from Montana 15 years ago, I love coming back not only to visit my friends and family, but for an amazing vacation of open space, clean water and beautiful environment.” Others needed to point out that coming back to live in Montana was their desire, but it was difficult for them. “My husband was born and raised in MT. He would love to move back if there were more jobs & cost of living wasn’t so high (Flathead area).”

Most of the negative comments about Montana related to the lack of recycling opportunities around the state. “Love Montana – need a recycling program!” “I don’t think I’ve seen a single recycling bin.” Many Montana visitors come from cities and states where recycling is a way of life, such as Washington, California and Oregon, and they expect and want those same services available where they travel.

According to Norma Nickerson, director of ITRR, unsolicited comments from visitors provide an insight into what remains in the minds of the visitor upon their return home.

“When we see so many positive statements written about the state, it is more likely that word-of-mouth ‘advertising’ will benefit Montana,” Nickerson said. “Tourism is a huge contributor to Montana’s economy with over \$3.27 billion spent by nonresidents in the state last year. A good experience by visitors encourages a healthy state economy.”

On the other side, however, Nickerson says it is important to listen to the suggestions and concerns visitors have about the state.

“Usually, visitors are not telling us things we don’t already know,” she said. “It’s just a matter of identifying those things we need to improve upon, be it recycling, road conditions or the waiter who was rude, and implement solutions. In the end, we all benefit.”

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NN/js

Statewide

082613trav

Contact: Norma Nickerson, director, UM Institute for Tourism and Recreation Research, 406-243-2328, norma.nickerson@umontana.edu.

UM NEWS



August 30, 2013

MISSOULA – The National Communication Association recently award University of Montana Professor Alan Sillars the Bernard J. Brommel Award for Outstanding Scholarship or Distinguished Service in Family Communication.

The award is given annually to an individual who has made an outstanding contribution to the area of family communication. This contribution may include research published in scholarly publications or leadership in instructional areas.

Sillars was nominated by his colleagues at the University of California-Santa Barbara, University of Illinois, University of Texas and the University of Kentucky. He ultimately was selected for the award by a national committee.

“We are thrilled you will receive this significant honor for your outstanding and longstanding contributions to the discipline of family communication,” wrote selection committee member Carol J. Bruess, journalism and communication professor at University of St. Thomas, in her announcement of the award.

Sillars earned the award for his research, which focuses on communication and conflict in families – specifically the way couples, parents and children talk about disagreements and tensions in the family, along with areas of misunderstanding affecting these situations. Most recently, he and his colleagues have studied parent-adolescent communication, including factors that affect parental understanding of children and child understanding of parents.

“The Brommel Award recognizes scholarship over the course of my career,” Sillars said. “It is especially gratifying to have this work acknowledged by my peers at other universities, whose teaching and research overlaps with my own.”

The NCA advances communication as the discipline that studies all forms, modes, media and consequences of communication through humanistic, social scientific and aesthetic inquiry. For more information on the award and for a list of past recipients, visit <http://www.natcom.org/BrommelAward/>.

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ALL

State

082813alan

Contact: Alan Sillars, professor, UM Department of Communication Studies, 406-243-4463, alan.sillars@umontana.edu.

UM NEWS



August 13, 2013

MISSOULA – University Dining Services at the University of Montana will roll out its new brand identity at 4 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 15, in the University Center Ballroom.

A new name and logo will replace the 20-year-old University Dining Services brand. Guests will be invited to sample the new menu items that chefs will prepare at the event.

Each of the 11 campus restaurants, with 23 dining venues total, that comprise the campus dining operation also will reveal their new logos during the event. The new logos share a clean, modern and consistent design and color scheme that unifies each campus restaurant as part of the larger whole. New uniforms for staff, culinary and student employees also will be on display.

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JO/js

081313dine

Local

Contact: Jerry O'Malley, University Dining Services at UM, 406-243-6433, [University Dining Services at UM](#).

UM NEWS



August 29, 2013

Missoula – The Office for Civic Engagement at the University of Montana will host its Fall Volunteer Fair on Tuesday and Wednesday, Sept. 10-11. The fair will run from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. both days in the University Center Atrium.

More than 30 community agencies will be on hand to educate students and community members on the numerous volunteer opportunities available in the Missoula area. Attendees will learn about interesting civic work they can get involved in, and agencies will recruit new student volunteers.

At the beginning of each fall and spring semester, OCE coordinates a volunteer fair to connect interested students, UM employees and other members of the community with volunteer opportunities in the Missoula area. The fair helps nonprofit agencies promote their activities and recruit new members in order to meet community-identified needs. OCE also provides information about several of its own programs.

OCE, a department of UM's Davidson Honors College, was founded as Volunteer Action Services at the University in 1992. It serves as UM's primary agent of community activism and civic responsibility. Through various programs and projects, OCE promotes civic engagement as a means to develop actively engaged citizens in our democratic society.

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CK/cbs

Western Montana

082913voln

Contact: Colleen Kane, UM Office for Civic Engagement, 406-243-5531, colleen.kane@mso.umt.edu.

UM NEWS



August 29, 2013

MISSOULA – Applications are now available for entry into this year's University of Montana Homecoming Parade, scheduled for 10 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 5, in Missoula.

Last year's parade featured more than 110 entries. This year's Homecoming theme – "Up With Montana!" – is derived from UM's fight song, penned in 1914, and celebrates both the rich tradition and exciting future of the University.

Note this year that there will be significant changes in parade lineup locations. All entries will line up on Broadway. Parade entrants will receive specific lineup information by email before Oct. 5.

Applications are available online at <http://www.grizalum.com> or by calling 406-243-5211 or toll-free at 1-877-862-5867. Applications also may 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 115.

Applications, accompanied by a \$30 entry fee, are due by 5 p.m. Friday, Sept. 20. For more information, call 406-243-5211 or email to alumni@umontana.edu.

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EO/cbs

Western Montana

082913pard

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

UM NEWS



August 28, 2013



Dustin Askim

MISSOULA – University of Montana student Dustin Askim recently earned a Jim Murray Scholarship, a top national award for excellence in sports writing.

Askim, a senior in the UM School of Journalism, was one of five essay-competition winners from across the country. The award and \$5,000 scholarship honors the long and illustrious sports-writing career of Pulitzer Prize-winner Jim Murray.

Murray covered sports and entertainment for newspapers and magazines for 50 years and was one of the founders of Sports Illustrated. He won the National Sportswriter of the Year award 14 times and was inducted to the Baseball Hall of Fame's Writers' Wing. The scholarship is granted through the Jim Murray Memorial Foundation.

Askim, of Laurel, called Murray's writing hilarious, sad, clever and inquisitive, and said Murray is the only writer who has made him tear up more than once.

Askim's essay was judged by professional sports writers including UM alumnus and former Murray Scholar Bill Oram of the Salt Lake Tribune. With Askim's win, five UM journalism students have claimed the prestigious award.

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Photo outline: Dustin Askim.

BP

State

082813murr

Contact: Denise Dowling, interim dean, UM School of Journalism, 406-243-4143, denise.dowling@mso.umt.edu.

UM NEWS



August 28, 2013

MISSOULA – University of Montana Regents Professor of Ecology Steve Running has been appointed to the NASA Advisory Council Science Committee and chair of the Earth Science subcommittee within that council. In the words of the NASA administrator in the appointing letter, “The Council reports directly to me and is the senior external advisory body ... addressing important program and policy matters related to the U.S. civil space program.”

Running chairs the Earth Science subcommittee, which will join other subcommittees in Astrophysics, Heliophysics and Planetary Science under the Advisory Council.

“My responsibilities as Earth science chair are twofold,” he said. “First, I will lead our subcommittee in recommending priorities for new satellite missions, continuity of space-based Earth observations, Earth systems research, and information management of global datasets. Second, I will represent Earth science priorities within the broader NASA science goals, and advocate for critical Earth science objectives that fulfill national policy needs.”

Running has taught at UM since 1979 and is an internationally recognized scholar in satellite-remote sensing data, global vegetation productivity, climate change and more. The appointment follows Running’s longstanding involvement as a team member of the NASA Earth Observing System, a member of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Science Advisory Board Climate Working Group, and as a chapter lead author for the Nobel Prize-winning 2007 Assessment of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

For more information on the NASA Advisory Council, visit <http://science.nasa.gov/science-committee/members/>.

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LS/all

State, select national publications

082813nasa

Contact: Steve Running, Regents Professor, UM College of Forestry and Conservation, 406-243-6311, swr@ntsg.umt.edu.

UM NEWS



August 28, 2013

TEDx UMontana

x = independently organized TED event

TEDx

The University of Montana will host TEDxUMontana at 7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 19, in the Masquer Theatre of the Performing Arts and Radio/TV Center. The program will feature nine speakers, two TED Talks videos and two performances with a 30-minute intermission for interaction and discussion.

TEDxUMontana is limited to 100 participants. People interested in attending the event can enter a ticket drawing at <http://umt.edu/tedx>. The drawing will take place Wednesday, Sept. 4. Tickets are \$40 for the public and \$20 for UM students.

The event will be webcast live. Visit <http://umt.edu/it> the day of the event to connect.

TEDxUMontana speakers

Art historian **H. Rafael Chacón** will talk about how an academic exercise turned into a personal journey when he had his DNA sequenced by the National Geographic Geno 2.0 Project.

Chris Comer, a neuroscientist and dean of UM's College of Arts & Sciences, will share what new research reveals about our brain and literary imagination.

Exercise scientist **Steven Gaskill** has ideas about how to design a school day that includes a lot more movement and a lot more learning.

Neva Hassanein, an environmental studies professor, and **Mark S. LoParco**, director of UM Dining, will talk about food democracy and lessons learned from the UM Farm to College Program, one of the leading local food-purchasing programs in the nation.

Anthropologist **Kimber McKay** will challenge our culture's definition of marriage by sharing stories from her fieldwork in Nepal's northwestern Himalayan district of Humla.

Composer and sound designer **Dale Sherrard** will provide unique perspectives on the art of listening.

Entomologist **Diana Six** will tell the story of how a little beetle has ecologically and economically altered North America's forests.

Josh Slotnick, co-founder of Garden City Harvest and the PEAS farm, will describe the transformative power of doing humble work with others.

About TEDx, x = independently organized event

In the spirit of ideas worth spreading, TEDx is a program of local, self-organized events that bring people together to share a TED-like experience. At a TEDx event, TEDTalks video and live speakers combine to spark deep discussion and connection in a small group. These local, self-organized events are branded TEDx, where x = independently organized TED event. The TED Conference provides general guidance for the TEDx program, but individual TEDx events are self-organized. (Subject to certain rules and regulations.)

About TED

TED is a nonprofit organization devoted to Ideas Worth Spreading. Started as a conference in California 26 years ago, TED has grown to support those world-changing ideas with many initiatives.

At a TED conference, the world's leading thinkers and doers are asked to give the talk of their lives in 18 minutes or less. TED speakers have included Roger Ebert, Sheryl Sandberg, Bill Gates, Elizabeth Gilbert, Benoit Mandelbrot, Philippe Starck, Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, Brian Greene, Isabel Allende and former UK Prime Minister Gordon Brown. Three major TED events are held each year: The TED Conference takes place every spring in Vancouver, Canada, simultaneous with TEDActive, in Whistler, B.C.; and the TEDGlobal Conference takes place each summer in Edinburgh, Scotland.

On TED.com, talks from TED conferences are shared with the world for free as TED Talks videos. A new TED Talk is posted every weekday. Through the Open Translation Project, TED Talks are subtitled by volunteers worldwide into more than 90 languages. Through our distribution networks, TED Talks are shared on TV, radio, Netflix and many websites.

The TEDx initiative grants free licenses to people around the world to organize TED-style events in their communities with TED Talks and live speakers. More than 5,000 TEDx events have been held, and selected talks from these events are also turned into TED Talks videos.

The annual TED Prize grants \$1 million to an exceptional individual with a wish to change the world. The TED Fellows program helps world-changing innovators from around the globe to become part of the TED community and, with its help, amplify the impact of their remarkable projects and activities. TED-Ed creates short video lessons by pairing master teachers with animators, for use in classroom instruction or independent learning.

Contact: Jace Laakso, University of Montana Information Technology, 406-243-2858, jace.laakso@umontana.edu.

UM NEWS



August 27, 2013

MISSOULA – Magda Resik Aguirre, a key figure in the pioneering effort to restore Old Havana, Cuba, will visit Missoula on Thursday and Friday, Aug. 29-30, and will deliver a lecture titled “The Future of Old Havana” at 7 p.m. Thursday in the University of Montana’s North Underground Lecture Hall.

Resik is the director of communications for Havana’s Office of the City Historian. Her Thursday lecture is free and open to the public. She also will meet with a Global Leadership Initiative student discussion group on Friday at UM.

Old Havana was founded in 1519 as the center of Spain’s colonies in the New World. It remains the heart of Cuba’s capital city. Home to 400,000 residents, it has undergone extensive restoration for the past 20 years, and Old Havana now is a UNESCO designated World Heritage Site.

This effort is unique in multiple respects as a Cuban business model. Underway since 1993, the program restored about 1,000 buildings, some more than 300 years old. In addition to physical restoration, the effort has major social, cultural and economic components. Medical facilities, senior citizen centers and trade apprentice schools are major elements.

Maximum effort is made to train and employ local residents in the actual work of historic building restoration. The Office of the City Historian employs about 7,000 people. The project is not directed or controlled by the national government.

During her weeklong visit to Montana, Resik will visit historic preservation sites around the state. Her visit is co-hosted by the UM Global Leadership Initiative, the UM School of Art, Humanities Montana, Carroll College, the Montana Historical Society and Artemis Common Ground.

For more information call UM School of Art Professor H. Rafael Chacon at 406-243-2735 or email hrafael.chacon@umontana.edu.

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BP

Campus, Local

082713cuba

Contact: H. Rafael Chacon, professor, UM School of Art, 406-243-2735, hrafael.chacon@umontana.edu.

UM NEWS



August 26, 2013

MISSOULA – The University of Montana’s Irish Studies Program, School of Music and President’s Lecture Series join with Humanities Montana and the Friends of Irish Studies to present a fall filled with the best of Irish music.

“Irish Music: Traditional and Contemporary,” a series of lectures and concerts, will be held in both Missoula and Butte September through December and will include some of the most renowned and innovative performers the Irish tradition has to offer. The full series schedule follows:

- **President’s Lecture: “3,000 years of Ancient Ireland’s Music and Instruments,”** by Simon and Maria O’Dwyer.
 - 7:30-9:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 19, UM’s George and Jane Dennison Theatre
 - 7:30-9:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 20, Butte-Silver Bow Public Archives.

- **Concert: Irish Harp, Performed by Grainne Hambly.**
 - 7:30-9:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 26, UM’s Music Recital Hall
 - 7:30-9:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 27, in Montana Tech Library Auditorium

- **Concert: The Bouzouki in Irish Music. Performed by Roger Landes.**
 - 7:30-9:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 17, UM Music Recital Hall
 - 7:30-9:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 18, Montana Tech Library Auditorium

- **Concert: The Music and Song of Ireland. Performed by Méabh Ní Bheaglaoich and Páidí Mhárthain.**
 - 7:30-9:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 7, UM Music Recital Hall
 - 7:30-9:30 p.m. Friday, Nov. 8, Montana Tech Library Auditorium

- **Concert: The Tradition in Contemporary Irish Music. Performed by Liam Ó Maonlaí.**
 - 7:30-9:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 5, UM Music Recital Hall
 - 7:30-9:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 6, Montana Tech Library Auditorium

Tickets cost \$60 for the season; \$20 for individual concerts; \$15 for students and Friends of Irish Studies members; and children under 12 are free. The President’s Lecture Series event is free in both locations. Tickets can be purchased online at <http://www.umt.edu/griztix/> and <http://www.friendsofirishestudies.com/>. Tickets for the Missoula concerts can be purchased at the UM Adams Center, The Source in the University Center, the UM School of Music, at Southgate Mall and at Rockin Rudy’s. Tickets for the Butte concerts can be purchased at the Butte-Silver Bow Archives, Cavanaugh’s County Celtic and Granite Mountain Bank.

For more information visit <http://www.friendsofirishestudies.com/>, call Traolach O’Riordain, director of UM’s Irish Studies Program, at 406-243-6973 or email traolach.oriordain@mso.umt.edu.

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ALL

Local, Butte-area media

082313iris

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

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UM NEWS



August 26, 2013



UM junior Sara Thane (Courtesy photo)

MISSOULA – There are few more iconic places to spend a summer than the White House. University of Montana student Sara Thane did just that through the White House Internship Program in Washington, D.C.

Thane, a 2011 graduate of Missoula's Hellgate High School, is a junior at UM majoring in political science with minors in Arabic studies and international development studies. This summer, she she interned in the Students Department within the Office of Presidential Correspondence.

There, she read and helped respond to correspondence from students and classrooms on behalf of the president, assisted in coordinating volunteers within the department and answered phone calls from Americans on the White House Comment Line, recording their comments for the Office of Presidential Correspondence.

"So far, my favorite part of the internship has been reading and listening to the hopes, frustrations, stories, and views of Americans," Thane said earlier this summer. "I have the opportunity to see, in an unfiltered way, how current policies are impacting citizens. Often these letters have challenged my own way of thinking about these issues."

Internship Coordinator Cheryl Minnick worked with Thane through UM Internship Services to help her navigate the lengthy application and interview process for the prestigious internship.

"Sara is a delightful student dedicated to creating and improving federal and state policies that support families," Minnick said. "The White House internship improved her professional communication skills, strengthened her resume, created a strong career network and gave us all a peek at her brilliant future. We are all extremely proud of Sara."

Thane said her communication skills were incredibly important to her internship, and each day she worked to improve them.

"Being able to effectively communicate with staff members, other interns, volunteers and constituents has been essential," she said.

UM Internship Services offers students of all majors academic and career planning, as well as help searching for internships, writing resumes and cover letters, completing online applications, editing supplementary materials, preparing for interviews and assistance finding and applying for scholarships. Through Internship Services, UM is the only university in the state with a nationally certified resume writer and international career counselor available on staff to help students.

For more information call Minnick at 406-243-4614 or email cheryl.minnick@umontana.edu.

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Photo outline: UM junior Sara Thane volunteers during the Fourth of July celebration at the White House in Washington, D.C. (Courtesy photo)

BP

State, Local

082613sara

Contact: Cheryl Minnick, career counselor and internship coordinator, UM Internship Services, 406-243-4614, cheryl.minnick@umontana.edu.

UM NEWS



August 26, 2013

MISSOULA – The Diploma Dash, a fun run/walk for student scholarships, will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 14, at the University of Montana.

Sponsored by UM's Staff Senate, the dash will start at the Van Buren Street footbridge. Distances are 5K or one mile. The event costs \$20 for University students and \$25 for non-students. Entry for children 12 and under is \$10 and does not include a T-shirt. Stroller riders and leashed dogs are free.

Prizes will be offered for the best costume and most-spirited runner. Registrants also will be eligible to win UM football Homecoming game tickets.

The Diploma Dash registration form is online at <http://www.umt.edu/staffsenate>. Send registration forms and payment to UM Staff Senate, Physical Plant 135F, Missoula, MT 59812. Make checks out to UM Staff Senate. Postmark registrations by Sept. 1 to guarantee a Diploma Dash T-shirt.

The 30-member Staff Senate facilitates communication and cooperation between the UM administration and non-academic staff at the University. For more information call the Staff Senate at 406-243-5422 or email staffsenate@umontana.edu.

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CBS

Western Montana

082613dash

Contact: UM Staff Senate, Staff Senate , 406-243-5422, staffsenate@umontana.edu.

UM NEWS



August 22, 2013

MISSOULA – The Gallery of Visual Arts and the University of Montana School of Art will present “Accumulation/Transformation,” the annual art faculty exhibition, Sept. 3-25.

An opening reception will be held for the exhibition from 6 to 7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 5, in the Gallery of Visual Arts, located on the first floor of the Social Science Building. Earlier that evening, UM School of Art Associate Professor Valerie Hedquist will deliver an accompanying lecture titled “Miss Linwood’s Picture Gallery in Leicester Square” from 5:10 to 6 p.m. in Social Science Building Room 356.

“Accumulation/Transformation” explores the concept of collecting and collections. Faculty members were challenged to examine how the things they collect inform their creative process and create work in response. In some cases, actual collections of objects will be displayed in addition to other artwork.

Artists included in this year’s exhibition are Brad Allen, James Bailey, Kevin Bell, Mary Ann Bonjorni, H. Rafael Chacon, Jason Clark, Jennifer Combe, Elizabeth Dove, Julia Galloway, Matt Hamon, Hedquist, Trey Hill, Steven Krutek, Beth Lo, Cathryn Mallory and Edgar Smith.

Chacon, a professor of art history and criticism, will cap the exhibition with a lecture titled “Wanted: Indian Art Majors” from 5:10 to 6 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 25, in Social Science Building Room 356.

All events are free and open to the public. The Gallery of Visual Arts is open from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and by appointment 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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NOTE TO MEDIA: To request digital images of the exhibition, contact Mallory at 406-243-2813 or email gallery.visarts@umontana.edu.

BP

Local, Campus

082213gall

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

UM NEWS



August 21, 2013

MISSOULA – This year's outdoor Week of Welcome movie at the University of Montana will be "Man of Steel."

Sponsored by the University Center, the Superman movie will start when it gets dark around 9 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 29, on the Oval. The event is free and open to the public. Bring your chairs or blankets and enjoy an outdoor movie on the big screen.

Based on the DC comics character Superman, the 2013 film is the origin story of the American superhero. For more information visit <http://www.umt.edu/uc>.

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AD/cbs

Local

082113movi

Contact: Adrienne Donald, UC assistant director of student involvement and communications, 406-243-6029, adonald@mso.umt.edu.

UM NEWS



August 20, 2013

MISSOULA – The University of Montana has extended important deadlines for students who are fighting wildfires.

The extension gives student firefighters until Monday, Sept. 16, to meet registration, financial aid, housing and other deadlines. To take advantage of the extended deadlines and reserve a space in courses for which they are registered, UM students who are fighting fires must call 406-243-6599 by Sunday, Aug. 25.

The number, in operation 24 hours a day, will offer a recording asking students to provide the following information: their name, student identification number, the name of the agency for whom they are working, and if they are scheduled to move into University housing.

The extension applies to all students working in the firefighting effort, including those providing support services for fire crews, as well as National Guard members and other military personnel.

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JH/js

Local, statewide

082013fire

Contact: Joseph Hickman, UM interim registrar, 406-243-2995, joseph.hickman@umontana.edu.

UM NEWS



August 20, 2013

MISSOULA – A new paper co-written by UM associate professor Mark Hebblewhite details ecological changes caused by a loss of Arctic sea ice. The paper concludes that the loss of sea ice obviously will impact the marine food web and the marine mammals that depend on sea ice habitat. Other major ecological changes in adjacent land-based habitats and species also will occur because of warming oceans.

The findings were published in the Aug. 2 issue of Science magazine.

Wildlife species like the polar bear are symbolic of how animals are vulnerable to loss of sea ice. Other wildlife species also will be indirectly affected. For example, arctic fox populations will become more genetically isolated, pathogens like the phocine distemper virus will pass more easily between currently separated species in Arctic Canada and changed migration patterns may increase parasites in caribou herds and increase their risk of drowning as they migrate across weakened ice.

Loss of sea ice also will cause changes to plant growth in areas such as Greenland, which influences food availability for wildlife like caribou. Hebblewhite notes these vegetation changes are especially important because of how closely Arctic tundra is coupled with the marine system.

Most importantly, human activity in the area will increase. These impacts include on and off-shore mining exploration, increased shipping traffic through the once un-navigable Northwest Passage, and construction of new deep-sea ports. This increased activity is likely to bring increased oil spills and other disturbances never seen in the region.

Hebblewhite notes the importance of the findings by saying "In July 1991, when I was 18, I first stood on the sea ice of Hudson Bay. Little did I know that 20 years later Hudson Bay sea ice, and all the species that depend on it, would be gone nearly one month earlier each year because of human-induced climate change. Our paper makes the point that loss of sea ice is a form of habitat destruction that rivals or even exceeds the rate at which the Amazon rain forest has been destroyed in the past two decades. The loss of sea ice will have effects that cascade far beyond the iconic polar bear. This will transform the Arctic."

Hebblewhite's co-authors are from Pennsylvania State University, University of Alaska, University of Washington, University of British Columbia, University of California-Santa Cruz, University of Calgary, and University of Alberta and include Jeediah Brodie, who received his Ph.D from UM's Wildlife Biology Program and currently is an assistant professor of conservation ecology at the University of British Columbia.

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BP

State, National Science

081913hebb

Contact: Mark Hebblewhite, UM associate professor of ungulate habitat ecology, 406-243-6675, mark.hebblewhite@umontana.edu.

UM NEWS



August 20, 2013

MISSOULA – The U.S. Army has awarded University of Montana researcher Dave Poulsen a \$1 million grant to further develop a drug that limits damage caused by traumatic brain injuries.

Researchers in Poulsen's lab have shown that low doses of methamphetamine given to rodents within 12 hours after a traumatic brain injury or stroke significantly reduce brain damage and impairment. The Army grant will advance preclinical development studies of the drug in preparation for Phase I/II human clinical trials.

"The military eventually wants a drug that can be administered to soldiers exposed to blast-force energy waves from explosions such as those experienced by soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan," said Poulsen, a research professor in UM's Department of Biomedical and Pharmaceutical Sciences. "Such therapies would be applied within hours of exposure to a significant blast."

Poulsen already had earned a \$1.5 million Army grant in 2011 to determine the lowest effective dose and therapeutic window that the drug can be administered following a moderate or severe traumatic brain injury. The award also examined the potential for low-dose methamphetamine to prevent or reduce post-traumatic epilepsy. Poulsen's lab determined that effective doses were similar to those used to treat ADHD in children.

More funding may be on the way. In June, Poulsen was invited to submit a \$6 million funding application to the Joint Warfighter Medical Research Program. If successful, this award would support a human Phase I/II safety study in patients who have received traumatic brain injuries. The work would be conducted at Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio.

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CBS

State

081913dose

Contact: Dave Poulsen, research professor, UM Department of Biomedical and Pharmaceutical Sciences, 406-243-4709, david.poulsen@umontana.edu.

UM NEWS



August 16, 2013

MISSOULA –The University of Montana’s spectrUM Discovery Area invites the community to celebrate the unveiling of its brand-new home in downtown Missoula at its communitywide ribbon-cutting ceremony and reception from 5 to 7 p.m. Friday, Aug. 23.

The event will include remarks by UM President Royce Engstrom and Missoula Mayor John Engen as well as a blessing by Salish elder Tony Incashola. As part of spectrUM’s grand opening activities, the new discovery area also will be free and open to the public from noon to 6 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 24, and from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 25.

Located in the Maya Building at 218 E. Front St., spectrUM Downtown is expected to serve up to 50,000 people annually.

“SpectrUM makes science fun and in doing that, prepares students for future success in school and in life,” UM President Royce Engstrom said. “We are excited about this new facility, and its potential to introduce even more young people to so many interesting and innovative science-related activities in our community.”

Unlike any other museum in the nation, spectrUM Downtown will house a National Institutes of Health-funded, real-time neuroscience “Brain Lab,” collaboratively created and designed by the Center for Structural and Functional Neuroscience as part of the Big Sky Brain Project. This working lab will be staffed by UM researchers and Missoula high school students. An exhibit in itself, the lab will allow visitors to experience cutting-edge neuroscience research firsthand.

Just steps away from the Clark Fork River, the museum also will feature a National Science Foundation EPSCoR-funded large-river ecosystem exhibition developed in partnership with the Montana Institute on Ecosystems. A cornerstone of the new museum space, the exhibition will include a water table where visitors can splash, play and learn about the Clark Fork River’s ecology, a river theater, an interactive flood plain table and a flight simulator where they can soar above the Clark Fork River.

Other features include a DigiZone where visitors can explore everything from robotics to digital games from PBS’s popular SciGirls Program, a beautiful multimedia classroom funded in part by the Jane S. Heman Foundation, spectrUM’s signature Discovery Bench, an expanded science gift shop and a full range of rotating exhibits and experiences.

“We are ecstatic about our beautiful new facility,” spectrUM Director Holly Truit said. “It has truly taken a community to create and will ultimately inspire tens of thousands of Montana K-12 students each year about higher education and careers in science, technology, engineering and math.”

The expansion was made possible with support from dozens of national and community partners, including: the National Science Foundation EPSCoR Program, Missoula Redevelopment Agency, National Institutes of Health, Institute on Ecosystems, Center for Structural and Functional Neuroscience, UM President’s office, Jane S. Heman Foundation, UM College of Health Professions & Biomedical Sciences, UM’s School of Extended and Lifelong Learning and SciGirls.

SpectrUM’s current home on the UM campus will continue to be used as a gallery space to display hands-on exhibits for the University community and will be used regularly for special field trips, clubs and summer camps.

The community can visit spectrUM Downtown during public hours, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday. Admission is \$3.50 per person. Teachers can call 406-243-4828 to book a field trip at spectrUM.

For more information on spectrUM Discovery Area visit their website at <http://spectrum.umt.edu/>.

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JF/all

Local

081613open

Contact: Holly Truitt, director, spectrUM Discovery Area, 406-243-4872, holly.truitt@mso.umt.edu.

UM NEWS



August 16, 2013

MISSOULA – In June, Montana Shakespeare in the Parks opened its 41st season of providing free, professional theater productions of the classics throughout Montana and four neighboring states. The troupe will return to the University of Montana campus to perform George Farquhar's "The Recruiting Officer" at 6 p.m. Monday, Aug. 26, and Shakespeare's "Henry V" at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 27.

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 plans to produce 75 performances in 60 communities in the region. The company features 10 professional actors selected by national auditions who tour without technical assistance to bring live theater to communities primarily in rural areas.

The 41st season will feature one of Shakespeare's most popular historic plays, "Henry V." Joel Jahnke, who has been with the company since 1977, is artistic director for this production. During his tenure, he has directed more than 40 productions for MSIP including 19 of Shakespeare's plays. He also has directed for the Montana Repertory Theatre, Greasy Joan & Company in Chicago and the Magic Circle Mime Company based in Seattle. This will be his second time directing "Henry V" for MSIP.

In the opening speech of "Henry V," Shakespeare asks the audience, "On your imaginary forces work," since the obvious limitations of the stage could never adequately depict a battle of several thousand and all the elements of this historic story. The play then is theatrically structured with a narrator who introduces each scene. This theatricality will become the center of focus for the production on the UM Oval. Aside from the actor playing Henry, the other nine actors will take on multiple roles changing costumes and gathering props in full view of the audience.

MSIP is producing "The Recruiting Officer" for the first time. The play is a restoration comedy and will be directed by Associate Artistic Director William Brown. Set in the early 18th century, the play emphasizes the 'comedy of manners' style often associated with this time period. Elegant costumes and beautiful scenery along with original music by award-winning composer Andrew Hansen will complement this comedy.

Montana Shakespeare in the Parks is an outreach program of Montana State University's College of Arts and Architecture. The Gianforte Family Foundation sponsors MSIP's entire summer season. Other major sponsors include Subaru, The National Endowment for the Arts, NorthWestern Energy, Barrick Gold Foundation, Montana Cultural Trust and the Montana Arts Council.

For more information on the Missoula performance, visit the University Center's website at <http://www.umt.edu/uc>. 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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AD/all

Local

081313park

Contact: Adrienne Donald, UC assistant director of student involvement and communications, 406-243-6029, adonald@mso.umt.edu.

UM NEWS



August 16, 2013

MISSOULA – The three-time Grammy Award-winning Zac Brown Band will play the Adams Center at the University of Montana on Thursday, Nov. 21.

Tickets for the show will go on sale at 10 a.m. Friday, Aug. 23, at all GrizTix outlets, including Worden's Market, Southgate Mall, MSO Hub, The Source in the UC, the Adams Center Box Office, by phone at 406-243-4051 or 888-MONTANA or online at <http://www.griztix.com>. They cost \$79.50 and \$69.50, plus fees.

The Georgia seven-piece Southern rock band has been lauded by fans and critics alike as a "truly astounding troupe of musicians" with a "staggering display of instrumental prowess" that makes them "one of the best live bands on the planet." Their third studio album "Uncaged" debuted at No. 1 when it was released in 2012.

For more information visit <http://www.zacbrownband.com>.

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JS

Local

081613zacb

Contact: Mandi Zillner, Knitting Factory Entertainment, 208-343-8883 ext.115, mandi@KnittingFactory.com.

UM NEWS



August 15, 2013



O'Connor

MISSOULA – Retired U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor will receive an honorary doctorate of laws from the University of Montana at 3 p.m. Friday, Sept. 13, in the George and Jane Dennison Theatre. The ceremony is free and open to the public.

O'Connor has long-standing connections to the UM School of Law. She delivered the inaugural address of the school's prestigious Jones Tamm Lecture Series in 1997, and she sat by designation on a panel of the U.S. Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, which conducted oral arguments at the school in the fall of 2011.

O'Connor, who was appointed by President Ronald Reagan in 1981, is the first woman to serve on the U.S. Supreme Court. She retired in 2006, and since has continued her judicial service by hearing cases in the U.S. Courts of Appeals. In 2009, in recognition of her lifetime accomplishments, President Barack Obama awarded O'Connor with the nation's highest civilian honor, the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

"Justice O'Connor is a true friend of our distinguished School of Law and we are deeply honored that she accepted our invitation," said UM President Royce Engstrom.

The faculty of the School of Law recommended O'Connor for the honorary degree, which was confirmed by the UM Faculty Senate and the Montana Board of Regents of Higher Education. The ceremony will be held in the fall to accommodate her schedule.

"Justice O'Connor occupies a unique place in the law," said UM School of Law Dean Irma Russell. "Her service is a model for students and embodies our Western heritage. The Law School is honored by our association with Justice O'Connor and we're delighted that UM is conferring this degree."

For more information call UM Vice President for Integrated Communications Peggy Kuhr at 406-243-2311 or email peggy.kuhr@mso.umt.edu; or call the UM School of Law Director of External Relations Carla Caballero-Jackson at 406-243-6254 or email carla.caballero-jackson@umontana.edu.

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Photo cutline: Former U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor. (Credit must be used: Dane Penland, Collection of the Supreme Court of the United States)

BP

State

081513sand

Contact: Peggy Kuhr, UM vice president for integrated communications, 406-243-2311, peggy.kuhr@mso.umt.edu; Carla Caballero-Jackson, director of external relations, UM School of Law, 406-243-6254, carla.caballero-jackson@umontana.edu.

UM NEWS



August 15, 2013

MISSOULA – Findings from a large-scale ice drilling study on the Greenland ice sheet by a team of University of Montana and University of Wyoming researchers may revise the models used to predict how ice sheets move.

The work was published in *Science* on Aug. 15 in a paper titled “Basal Drainage System Response to Increasing Surface Melt on the Greenland Ice Sheet.”

The bed of the Greenland ice sheet, hidden beneath hundreds to thousands of meters of ice, is one of the most isolated locations on earth – making it difficult for scientists to understand just how the second largest ice body on the planet functions.

Led by UM glaciologist Joel Harper and with backing from the National Science Foundation, the team of researchers set out to observe and record exactly how melt water flows along the bed of the ice sheet and how that water influences ice sheet acceleration.

“Our ability to predict and understand what’s going to happen in the future hinges on our ability to have an adequate understanding of the present processes and how those might influence future ice sheet behavior under climate changes,” said Toby Meierbachtol, the study’s lead author and a UM doctoral student.

The team employed a unique strategy for collecting widespread measurements of the conditions at the bottom of the ice sheet.

“Our approach was to be lightweight and nimble so that we could drill lots of boreholes all over the ice sheet.” Harper said.

Using a drill designed by Neil Humphrey, UW professor and co-author on the paper, the team melted 23 boreholes through the ice sheet to measure the pressure and flow conditions of the water under the ice. The drill was easily transported by helicopter and even could be carried short distances by six people.

The other component to their strategy was to carefully select a small and hard-working field team. The group comprised two professors, two doctoral students, two graduate students and two undergraduate students.

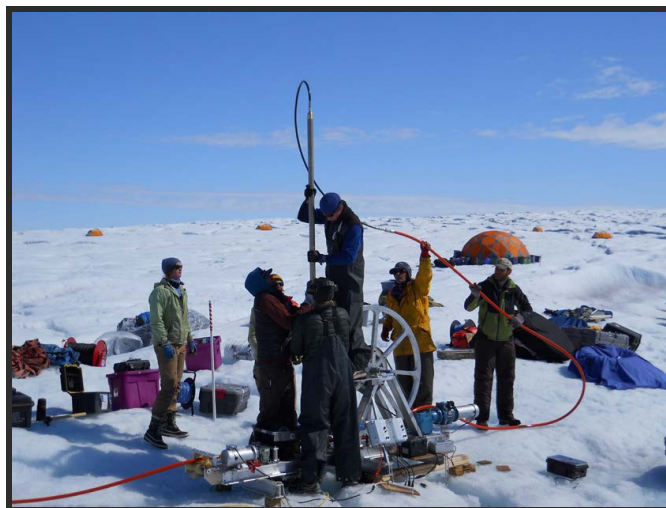
According to Harper, the team selection was of critical importance. He needed mentally tough team members who both excelled academically and also could withstand difficult conditions. “Our success relied on finding people who were equally comfortable fiddling with circuit boards or fixing a broken generator, and doing those things in the cold and with a relentless wind blowing,” he said.

Once the data was analyzed, the research team discovered that it didn’t match up with the working hypotheses for water flow beneath the ice sheet. This led the scientists to surmise that there are other critical processes at work that had been missing – one possibility being that as the ice sheet accelerates, the acceleration itself opens up space between the ice and bedrock and expands the drainage network.

“This process is largely neglected in current interpretations,” Meierbachtol said. “We need to pull ourselves away from the narrow vision and start to explore some of the other options for transient growth.”

Future warming likely will be enhanced over the Arctic. This body of research will provide a more accurate assessment of the impacts of future warming on Greenland.

“Much climate research focuses on documenting recent and ongoing changes, or making projections about future change,” Harper said. “We can only go so far with that work before we hit stumbling blocks resulting from our incomplete understanding of how various components of the climate system work. Our research is focused on unraveling the fundamental physical processes controlling how ice sheets move when sitting on flowing melt water. This basic research is essential to increasing confidence in our understanding of climate and sea level change.”



The full paper can be accessed online at <http://www.sciencemag.org/>.

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Photo cutline: UM doctoral student Meierbachtol holds up the stem of the hot-water drill as the team prepares to drill a 2,700 feet-deep borehole.

ALL

State, select national publications

081513scie

Contact: Joel Harper, associate professor, UM Department of Geosciences, 406-243-5867, joel@mso.umt.edu; Toby Meierbachtol, UM doctoral candidate, 406-239-0885, toby.meierbachtol@umontana.edu.

UM NEWS



August 14, 2013

MISSOULA – The Montana Museum of Art & Culture presents a lecture by glass collector Toba Winston at 7 p.m. Wed., Aug. 21, in the University of Montana Performing Arts and Radio/Television Center's Masquer Theater. Her talk will be delivered in conjunction with an exhibition of her glass in "Four Collections," which is on display Aug. 8-Sept. 21 at UM.

"Four Collections" focuses on four exceptional regional collections that celebrate the richness of international culture and Montana. The exhibition invites audiences to experience outstanding cultural and fine-art objects from around the globe, advancing the MMAC's mission to examine the world through the lens of our place in the Rocky Mountain West.

Winston will discuss her collection of fine-art glass and crystal. Her collection focuses on cameo glass, a technique of etching and carving through different layers of colored blown glass to produce designs or reliefs.

Her collection includes pieces of French, English, Asian and American glass by internationally recognized designers such as Louis Comfort Tiffany, Emile Gallé, Auguste and Antonin Daum – referred to as "Les Frères Daum" and others. Winston also collects pieces by living artists such as Briton Jonathon Harris and American Charles Lotton. Winston stresses that while the value of glass has soared, collecting remains accessible.

"We are grateful to all of these generous collectors for letting MMAC help tell the story of their objects and collections," said Barbara Koostra, MMAC director. "It's a rare opportunity for our visitors to see objects from private collections displayed in a public museum setting."

Museum summer hours through Aug. 24 are noon to 3 p.m. Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday and noon to 6 p.m. Friday. Academic hours beginning Aug. 26 are noon to 3 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Saturday, and from noon to 6 p.m. on Thursday and Friday. For more information call MMAC at 406-243-2019 or go to the museum's Website at <http://www.umt.edu/montanamuseum>.

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NOTE TO MEDIA: Digital images are available. Please call Brandon Reintjes at 406-243-2019 or email brandon.reintjes@mso.umt.edu.

BK/all

Western Montana

081413glas

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

UM NEWS



August 14, 2013

MISSOULA – University of Montana President Royce C. Engstrom will outline institutional priorities for the upcoming academic year during his annual State of the University address at 10 a.m. Friday, Aug. 23.

The public and members of the media are invited to the event, which will be held in the Montana Theatre of UM's Performing Arts and Radio/Television Center.

Following the address, there will be a brief break with refreshments in the PAR/TV Center lobby. Then Engstrom and UM Provost Perry Brown will hold a public question-and-answer session in the PAR/TV Center's Masquer Theatre.

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NOTE TO MEDIA: Official UM media parking passes for 2013-14 will be distributed during the event. Call Cary Shimek, senior news editor with University Relations, at 406-243-5914 for more information or email cary.shimek@umontana.edu.

CBS

Local

081413pres

Contact: UM Office of the President, UM Office of the President, 406-246-2311, prestalk@umontana.edu.

UM NEWS



August 12, 2013

MISSOULA – Skilled guitarist Andy McKee will perform at the George and Jane Dennison Theatre at the University of Montana on Thursday, Oct. 3. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and the show begins at 7:30 p.m.

Guitarist Magazine hails McKee as “your new favorite acoustic guitarist” and it’s easy to see why. He is well-known for his finger-style approach on the acoustic guitar, along with his uncanny ability to use his guitar for percussion, rhythm and melody all at the same time.

The Kansas native quickly rose to fame after his live performance of the song “Drifting,” which caught viewers’ attention and gained more than 44 million views on YouTube.

Since his discovery, McKee has been on multiple tours, put out a variety of albums and has performed with well-known artists such as Josh Groban. Recently, McKee announced his plans to record and release small but frequent collections of music in 2013 and 2014. The Missoula show will be one of the few he plans to play.

Tickets currently are on sale and cost \$28 for the general public and \$18 for students. An extra fee of \$2 will be added to tickets purchased the day of the show. Tickets are available at all GrizTix locations including Worden’s Market, Southgate Mall, The Source in the University Center, MSO Hub and the Adams Center Box Office; by calling 1-888-MONTANA or online at <http://griztix.com>.

For more information about McKee visit <http://www.andymckee.com/>.

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HK/all

Local

081213mcke

Contact: Heather Krebsbach, marketing coordinator, UM Productions, 406-243-4719, marketing@umproductions.org.

UM NEWS



August 12, 2013

MISSOULA – The University of Montana will participate in the second annual College Colors Day spirit competition and needs fan support to help win the national Spirit Cup award, which includes \$10,000 toward the University's general scholarship fund.

Griz fans can register to vote for UM as the school with the most college spirit and loyal fan base by visiting <https://www.facebook.com/collegecolorsday>. After placing a vote, fans will have the opportunity to win prizes and discounts through an instant-win game, view and submit photos to the College Colors Day fan-photo gallery and download a custom Facebook cover photo promoting UM for College Colors Day.

"We have some of the most dedicated and spirited fans anywhere in the country," said Erika Palmer, UM trademarks and licensing director. "I think we have a real shot at winning – so we want to encourage all students, alumni, staff and fans to show their support for the Griz by voting for UM as the institution with the most school spirit."

The Facebook-based rivalry competition, which includes more than 160 participating colleges and universities and is an element of this year's 2013 College Colors Day celebration, kicks off Monday, Aug. 12, and runs through 11:59 p.m. ESD Thursday, Aug. 29. Fans can vote once each day and can check who is winning the competition nationally and within each conference. The winner will be announced on College Colors Day on Friday, Aug. 30.

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 Aug. 30.

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

"We are excited to engage fans in the College Colors Day spirit rivalry competition through Facebook," said Catherine Gammon, CLC senior vice president of brand development. "We encourage all fans to vote and spread the word with fellow fans to ensure their favorite school is crowned the winner of the College Colors Day Spirit Cup."

For more information on UM's involvement in College Colors Day or the Spirit Cup award, call Palmer at 406-243-2317 or email erika.palmer@mso.umt.edu.

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EP/all

State

080813ccdc

Contact: Erika Palmer, director, UM Trademarks and Licensing, 406-243-2317, erika.palmer@mso.umt.edu.

UM NEWS



August 07, 2013

MISSOULA – A worldwide exhibit of ancient and sacred relics of the historic Buddha “Shakyamuni” and other great Buddhist masters from India, Tibet, Korea and China will be on display Aug. 16-18, at Missoula College.

The free and open-to-the-public exhibit will open with a ceremony from 5 to 7 p.m. Friday, Aug. 16, in the MC Health and Business Building Room HB01, located at 909 S. Ave. W. The public can view the exhibit from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 17, and from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 18.

The Missoula event also will feature pet blessings from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Aug. 16-17, in an outside tent on the Missoula College grounds. Leashed pets can be blessed with the sacred relics.

Participants will have a rare opportunity to view the sacred relics, which were found among the cremation ashes of the Buddhist masters. They resemble beautiful, pearl-like crystals called “ringsel.” Buddhists believe relics embody the master’s spiritual qualities of compassion and wisdom and are deliberately produced by the master at his death.

The Dalai Lama offered eight relics of the Buddha, which are more than 2,500 years old, to this collection. Visitors also may participate in a blessing ceremony where the relics of the Buddha are gently placed on the crown of the visitor’s head as a personal blessing.

“Visitors often report experiences of inspiration and healing when in the presence of the relics,” said Michael Fouts, tour development and marketing coordinator. “While some are inspired to pray for world peace and to develop their inner wisdom, others are overcome by emotion as the powerful effects of the relics open their hearts to compassion and loving kindness.”

“I was skeptical going into it, but I’m a curious person and kept an open mind. I left there amazed,” said Ben Easter, a Des Moines, Iowa, relic-event visitor. “It’s hard to put into words, but the energy was very powerful.”

Relic-tour Manager Amanda Russell says she has been consistently moved by what people tell her about their experiences encountering the relics. “Nearly everyone reports some kind of change or shift, whether it is releasing physical or emotional pain or experiencing a profound sense of peace.”

The UM Liberal Studies Program and Missoula College are co-sponsoring the event together with the Osel Shen Phen Ling Tibetan Buddhist center in Missoula.

According to event organizers, the event is non-sectarian and is intended for participants of all faiths to learn about and to experience the historic relics.

The relics are clearly visible inside display cases that encircle a life-size, golden statue of the Maitreya Buddha. According to Buddhist scriptures, Maitreya will be the next Buddha to bring teachings of loving kindness to the world. Eventually, a portion of the relics will be enshrined in a 150-foot bronze statue of Maitreya Buddha that is being built in Bodhgaya, northern India.

For more information on the Loving Kindness Tour’s stop in Missoula, call Fouts at 505-603-8084 or email michaelfouts1@gmail.com.

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Note to media: High resolution images can be downloaded at <http://www.maitreyarelictour.com/media-coverage/> by clicking on the “Download the press pack” link.

MF/all

Local

080713love

Contact: Linda EagleHeart-Thomas, MC associate professor of psychology, 406-243-7906, linda.eagleheart@umontana.edu; Michael Fouts, tour development and marketing coordinator, Americas Maitreya Heart Shrine Relic Tour, 505-603-8084, michaelfouts1@gmail.com.

UM NEWS



August 05, 2013

MISSOULA – The 19-piece symphonic pop-rock band the Polyphonic Spree will play a concert at 8:30 p.m., Tuesday, Aug. 13, at the Top Hat Lounge at 134 W. Front St. in Missoula. The show is presented by KBGA College Radio, based out of the University of Montana.

Tickets cost \$15 in advance and \$20 the day of the show. They are available at the Top Hat, <http://www.tophatlounge.com>, <http://www.ticketfly.com>, Rockin Rudy's and Ear Candy Music. The show is open to all ages.

The Polyphonic Spree will release their new album "Yes, It's True" on Tuesday, Aug. 6. In 2000, lead singer Tim DeLaughter formed the group in Dallas. Their music relies on a variety of vocals and instrumentation, featuring a choir and several instruments. The band is known for singles including "Light & Day/Reach for the Sun," "Hold Me Now" and "Soldier Girl."

The concert also will feature Harper Simon, son of Paul Simon, who is touring on his latest release, "Division Street." Simon has been a member of the Plastic Ono Band and his music has been featured in the hit HBO show "Girls."

For more information call KBGA Promotions Director Sean Janzer at 406-243-6758 or email promotions@kbga.org.

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Western Montana

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Contact: Sean Janzer, promotions director, KBGA College Radio, 406-243-6758, promotions@kbga.org.

UM NEWS



September 03, 2013

MISSOULA – Eleven volunteers took the oath of service to become AmeriCorps VISTA members through Montana Campus Compact on July 19 in a special ceremony conducted by Montana Lt. Gov. John Walsh in Helena.

Over the next year, these MTCC VISTAs will work with college and university campus partners in communities across the state to further antipoverty efforts in the areas of education and veteran/military family support. Their projects include creating local college access networks, developing programming for K-12 success and retention, providing financial literacy for college students and leveraging volunteers and funding for local nonprofits.

“MTCC AmeriCorps VISTA members commit a year of their lives to using higher education resources to fight poverty,” said Brian Christianson, MTCC program manager. “When this works, mutually beneficial, long-term partnerships develop between community organizations and higher education institutions, providing college students with exciting civic engagement opportunities and addressing the most pressing issues facing their communities.”

The new class of MTCC VISTA members, their sites and partner campuses are:

- Anne Genereux, serving with the Red Lodge Area Community Foundation in partnership with Montana State University Billings in Red Lodge;
- Deneen Pancari, serving with the Children’s Museum of Bozeman in partnership with Montana State University in Bozeman;
- Dylan German serving with Montana State University Office of Student Success in Bozeman;
- Esther Yoon, serving with Graduation Matters, Bozeman Public Schools in partnership with Gallatin College in Bozeman;
- Jack Cowden, serving with Helena Public Schools in partnership with Carroll College in Helena;
- Justin Redeen, serving with Montana State University Office of Student Success in Bozeman;
- Krysta Peterson, serving with the Girl Scouts of Montana and Wyoming in partnership with the University of Montana in Missoula;
- Matthew Shipp, serving with the Garfield Literacy Project in partnership with Montana State University Billings in Billings;
- Molly Wilkins, serving with Montana College Access Network in partnership with Flathead Valley Community College in Helena;
- Taylor Moeller, serving with Montana State University Office of Student Success in Bozeman;
- Tyson Krinke, serving with Greater Gallatin United Way in partnership with Montana State University in Bozeman;
- Valerie Watkins, serving with Montana Office of Public Instruction in partnership with Helena College in Helena.

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

- Kelsey Nix, serving with Girl Scouts of Montana and Wyoming in partnership with Montana State University Billings in Billings;
- Katie Regan, serving with Park County Community Foundation in partnership with Montana State University in Livingston.

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

“The impact VISTA members make on the communities they serve is staggering,” Christianson said. “In the past year, MTCC VISTAs generated \$367,166 in cash and in-kind donations for projects addressing poverty problems in Montana. They recruited more than 5,000 volunteers who contributed 33,800 hours of service.”

The Montana Campus Compact is Montana’s largest higher education network and works to improve community life by educating students for civic and social responsibility. The network office is located on the University of Montana campus.

For more information call MTCC VISTA Leader Liz Higgins at 406-243-5177 or email vistaleader@mtcompact.org.

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UM NEWS



August 05, 2013

MISSOULA – Missoula, home to the University of Montana, recently was named the No. 7 best college town in America for 2013 by Livability.com.

For this fourth installment of the annual ranking, editors narrowed their search to cities with a high quality of life based on factors ranging from cost of living and walkability to cultural amenities and pollution levels. Then they focused on those cities where a university is the top employer and key economic driver.

And finally, they considered student-to-resident ratios, educational attainment, college-led community outreach programs and the percentage of 21- to 34-year-olds to show that people stick around or move in after graduation.

Livability.com editors wrote: "Lush forests and fresh waterways surround Missoula, Mont., but the city's cultural attractions and entertainment options are surprisingly urban for a place founded by miners, timber companies and farmers. Live theater and music venues, museums, eclectic shops, restaurants and bars create a lively scene for residents and (UM) students alike. On campus, athletic games, music recitals, concerts, art gallery receptions, public lectures and film screenings keep the entire Missoula community entertained."

"Students at UM participate in many forms of community outreach, ranging from wildlife restoration projects and toy drives to health screenings and reporting for state newspapers and radio stations," they continued. "During the past three years, nearly 2,000 students donated 366,000 hours of service. The University also is home to the spectrUM Discovery Area, an interactive science museum with exhibits, activities and demonstrations for kids."

"For a small to midsized town, having a great college or university can add immeasurably to the livability," said Livability.com editor Matt Carmichael. "Schools provide a level of economic stability, a constant influx of new residents and cultural and sporting events that cities couldn't produce on their own."

The full article is online at <http://livability.com/top-10/top-10-college-towns-2013>.

The Top 10 Best College Towns 2013

1. Boulder, Colo.
2. Ann Arbor, Mich.
3. Gainesville, Fla.
4. Columbia, Mo.
5. Lexington, Ky.
6. Iowa City, Iowa
7. Missoula, Mont.
8. Madison, Wis.
9. Fayetteville, Ark.
10. College Station, Texas

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UM NEWS



August 02, 2013

MISSOULA – According to the data, in general Montana is a good place to raise kids. The latest edition of the Montana KIDS COUNT Data Book was released this week and details information such as access to education and health insurance coverage for children in Montana's 56 counties.

"Overall, Montana's children face good conditions across the spectrum," said Thale Dillon, director of Montana KIDS COUNT at the University of Montana Bureau of Business and Economic Research.

Among the information included in the report, data shows:

- A growing number of Montana residents attain some level of post-secondary education, and more children live in families headed by someone with at least a high school diploma;
- more than two-thirds of families with children are married-couple families;
- teen births are well below national levels;
- juvenile offense rates, child abuse, infant mortality all are on a downward trajectory;
- motor vehicle crashes where the driver is under age 18 also are declining, and fewer youth under age 21 are involved in alcohol-related motor vehicle crashes;
- and the percentage of Montana children who do not have health insurance continues to decrease.

However, though the data shows the rate of child deaths also is on a downward curve, that curve is not steep enough, Dillon said. For decades, Montana has had one of the highest child death rates in the nation. Combined with high rates of alcohol and drug abuse among youth, this distinction caused Montana to be ranked last among all the states in terms of child health in the national KIDS COUNT data book, which was release a few weeks ago.

"While there is more to child well-being than just health, when our children die at a rate that's almost twice as high as the national average, it trumps other indicators," Dillon said.

Montana children die at a rate of 45 per 100,000 children, while the national average is 26 per 100,000. Among the state's many youth deaths, a large portion are preventable, with 70 percent of the deaths a result of either accidents or suicide.

The largest contributors to Montana's accidental death rate are traffic-related deaths. Further, the majority of suicide victims are males in their late teens who take their own lives using firearms.

"Simple actions such as using a seatbelt or child-safety seat or temporarily removing the means by which someone can commit suicide make a difference in the final outcomes," Dillon said.

Research shows that strong family connections and relationships play a vital role in keeping children safe. The Montana KIDS COUNT Data Book provides results from the bi-annual Prevention Needs Assessment survey, which indicates that communication and closeness within Montana families have improved during the past 10 years.

When children know that their parents or guardians care about them and what they do, and when there are clear rules and expectations regarding behavior, they are less likely to see risk behavior or suicide as viable options.

"This is why it's encouraging to see a significant increase in the percentage of Montana youth who report that their parents are strongly involved in their lives," Dillon said.

The Montana KIDS COUNT Data Book can be accessed at <http://www.montanakidscount.org>. For more information call Dillon at 406-243-5113 or email thale.dillon@umontana.edu.

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Contact: Thale Dillon, director, Montana KIDS COUNT, UM Bureau of Business and Economic Research, 406-243-5113, thale.dillon@umontana.edu.

UM NEWS



August 01, 2013

NOTE: Information for students interested in applying for the scholarship through the UM Financial Aid Office is available [here](#).

MISSOULA – The University of Montana recently received a \$1 million grant to endow its Osher Reentry Scholarship Program.

Osher re-entry scholars are students who:

- have experienced a cumulative gap in their education of five or more years;
- are at the undergraduate level and pursuing their first baccalaureate degree;
- anticipate workforce participation for a significant period of time subsequent to graduation;
- are ideally ages 25-50;
- demonstrate financial need;
- and show academic promise and a commitment to obtaining their degree.

Across the United States, there are 90 Osher Reentry Scholarship Programs, with UM housing the only program in Montana.

“Montana is a state of small towns, with many residents coming from humble beginnings,” said UM President Royce Engstrom. “Many students are returning to school after having spent years working in traditional Montana industries. The endowment comes at an important time for our institution and our state as we work to increase significantly the number of people with college degrees.”

Based out of San Francisco, the Bernard Osher Foundation first gave UM \$50,000 in fall 2010 to start a program for re-entry students. From 2011 to 2013, the first- and second-academic years of the program, UM awarded 40 scholarships worth \$2,500 each. After successfully administering the initial grant resources, the University was invited to apply for an endowment. Ultimately, the Bernard and Barbro Foundation, another Osher family philanthropic organization, awarded UM \$1 million for the Osher Reentry Scholarship Program. While the endowment is being set up, the Bernard Osher Foundation awarded UM an additional \$50,000 grant to use for Osher Re-entry Scholarships in the interim, ensuring continuous resources for the program.

The endowment is set to start funding Osher Reentry Scholarships in the 2014-15 academic year.

“Paying for college while meeting all the other financial responsibilities that adult students face can be challenging,” said Mary Bitterman, president of the Bernard Osher Foundation. “The re-entry program is intended to address and ameliorate that challenge. The University of Montana enrolls a substantial number of nontraditional students and provides them with ample support services, making it an attractive candidate for the Osher endowment.”

Some of these programs include comprehensive financial-aid counseling; undergraduate advising; free law clinic at the School of Law; free tax preparation assistance at the School of Business Administration; disability, veteran and career services; on-campus, low cost child care; options for family health insurance and access to health care through the Curry Health Center; Native American student services; and the recent formation of the Nontraditional Student Association.

Patrick Wayne returned to school at age 47, and became an Osher re-entry scholar.

“I was determined to return to college, but financially it was difficult,” said Wayne. “With all the trepidation of going back to school, anything that eases the challenge is so helpful. Becoming an Osher re-entry scholar was paramount to my return. I had hit a point in my career where further education was imperative for my ability to develop professionally. These resources catapulted me into a program and experience that has been extremely rewarding.”

Now Wayne says that if all goes as planned, he will graduate in fall 2014, with a Bachelor of Arts in political science, with an emphasis in public administration – ahead of schedule and without significant debt.

“If I play my cards right, at that point, I will focus on the next step,” Wayne said. “I’ll stay on at the University of Montana for a master’s degree in public administration. A few years ago, I would have never dreamed that I would be sitting here, but because of the generosity of the Osher family, here I am.”

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Note to the media: Wayne is available to be interviewed on Thursday, Aug. 1. Please call Beth Hammock, UM Foundation vice president of strategic communications and marketing, 406-243-4609, to make interview arrangements.

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Contact: Beth Hammock, vice president of strategic communications and marketing, UM Foundation, 406-243-4609, beth.hammock@umontana.edu.