
Fitchburg State University Today

Author and illustrator Peter H. Reynolds '83 returns Thursday

Best-selling author and illustrator Peter H. Reynolds '83 will return to campus for an artist residency that will include a moderated discussion with President Hodge at 2 p.m. **Thursday** in the main lounge at Hammond Hall.



Reynolds' works, including *The Dot*, *The Word Collector* and *Say Something!*, have inspired children of all ages with their messages of authentic learning, creativity, bravery, empathy, and courageous self-expression. He is also the illustrator of the best-selling *I Am* and *Judy Moody* series written by Megan McDonald.

[Learn more](#)



Homecoming Weekend coming in October

Our annual [Homecoming](#) weekend begins **Friday, Oct. 18**. This year's festivities begin at 2 p.m. with a pep rally on the quad, with our expanded carnival opening at 3 p.m. in the Ross Street lot.

To accommodate the expanded carnival and keep this event free for university students, non-students and guests will

need to [purchase tickets](#) to attend.

Tickets for university faculty, staff and alumni are \$5 and must be purchased in advance. (Tickets are free for university students and may be reserved on [FalConnect](#).)

A limited number of tickets for the general public are also available. Community [guest tickets](#) are \$10 (and \$5 for children under 12) and may also be purchased online in advance.

Learn about the weekend's other festivities, including our [Fitchburg Falcons](#) in action along with a casino night and dance, on the [Homecoming website](#).

Banned Books Week observed

Fitchburg State will observe Banned Books Week

with programs highlighting children's books and the challenges facing public libraries.

The programs will begin with a Banned Book Storytime **today at 9 a.m.** in the [Amelia V. Gallucci-Cirio Library](#) in Hammond Hall. In this program, faculty, librarians and students will read and discuss banned children's picture books.

There will also be a panel discussion at **11 a.m. Thursday** in the Amelia V. Gallucci-Cirio Library featuring librarians from surrounding communities who will discuss questions related to book banning and censorship.

[Learn more](#)

FITCHBURG STATE UNIVERSITY
AMELIA V. GALLUCCI-CIRIO LIBRARY
CENSORSHIP IS A DEAD END.

BANNED BOOKS WEEK

SEPTEMBER 22-28, 2024
HAMMOND HALL | LIBRARY | 1ST FLOOR

Banned Book Storytime

Monday, Sept. 23, 9-10:30am
Join Dr. Covino's Banned Book ALFA class in reading and discussing children's books that have been challenged and/or banned.

Banned Books in our Public Libraries: Panel Discussion

Thursday, Sept. 26, 11am-12pm
Join us for a conversation with local area public librarians on the recent national wave of book challenges and bans in public libraries.

Banned Book Display

Sept. 22 - Sept. 28
Check out a display featuring books that have all been challenged or banned in libraries and schools.

All events are open to the public.
Light refreshments will be served.



Hispanic Heritage Month continues

The university's celebration of [Hispanic Heritage Month](#) continues this week with guests invited to join the Caribbean Student Association for a salsa

and kizomba class at **4:30 p.m. Tuesday** in the Hammond Main Lounge. Admission is free.

Upcoming events include an anti-hate speech event with attorney and activist C.L. Lindsey at **6 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 1** in the Hammond Main Lounge.

Events are open to the campus and wider communities.

[Hispanic Heritage Month](#)

7th cohort of police program graduates

The 7th Recruit Officer Course of our [police program](#) graduated on Sept. 13, with all 10 graduates already hired by municipal police departments across Massachusetts. (See [photos](#) from the ceremony on the *Burg Blog*.)

In his address as class leader, Cooper Howell of Acushnet (pictured) recalled the experience of his classmates as high school students who graduated during COVID. "We were presented with an unprecedented situation and took it in stride and figured it out," he said. "It gave us the ability to become problem-solvers, which will be crucial for the rest of our lives as we start our careers in law enforcement."



**VOTING IN AMERICA:
THE PROCESS AND
ITS IMPORTANCE**

WHY DOES VOTING MATTER?

Join us for a series of lightning talks where speakers will share their experiences with the voting process and the importance of voting in a democracy.

SPEAKERS INCLUDE:

Joanna Bilotta, Fitchburg City Clerk
Derrick Cruz, Fitchburg Ward 6 City Councilor
Dannette Day, Associate Professor, Education
Jacalyn Kremer, Dean, Gallucci-Cirio Library
Elizabeth McNiff, Fitchburg Assistant City Clerk
Kenneth Mackie, Assistant Professor, EHP
Zachary Miner, Associate Professor, Sociology
Ben Railton, Professor, English Studies
and more . . .

**THE VOTE IS PRECIOUS.
IT IS THE MOST POWERFUL NON-VIOLENT
TOOL WE HAVE IN A DEMOCRATIC
SOCIETY, AND WE MUST USE IT.**

—Congressman John Lewis
(1940-2020)

**SEPT. 25, 2024 AT 3:30PM
MAIN LOUNGE, HAMMOND HALL**

REFRESHMENTS WILL BE PROVIDED

FITCHBURG STATE UNIVERSITY

This event is part of the Engaging Students in the Voting Process Voter Education & Drive series which is coordinated by faculty and librarians from the following departments: Economics, History and Political Science, Education, English Studies, and the Amelia V. Gallucci-Cirio Library.

"Voting in America: The Process and its Importance" is focus of Wednesday talks

As part of a series of events entitled "Engaging Students in the Voting Process: Voter Education & Drive Series," there will be lightning talks and a discussion about the importance of voting in a democracy at **3:30 p.m. Wednesday in the Hammond Main Lounge**. Refreshments will be provided.

Speakers will include:

- Joanna Bilotta, Fitchburg City Clerk
- Derrick Cruz, Fitchburg Ward 6 City Councilor
- Danette Day (Education)
- Jacalyn Kremer (Amelia V. Gallucci-Cirio Library)
- Elizabeth McNiff, Fitchburg Assistant City Clerk
- Kenneth Mackie (Economics, History &

Political Science)

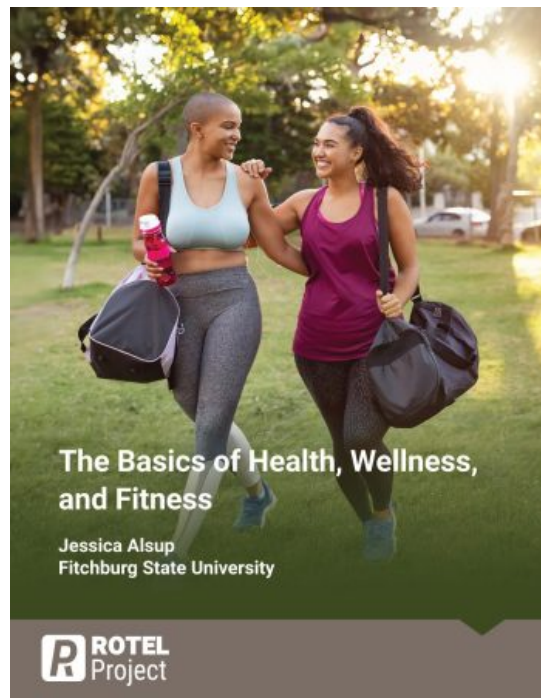
- Zachary Miner (Behavioral Sciences)
- Ben Railton (English Studies)

There will be voter registration tables set up for those who need to register to vote, check their voting status, or request a mail-in ballot.

Latest ROTEL books published

Fitchburg State is one of six Massachusetts institutions participating in the Remixing Open Textbooks through an Equity Lens (ROTEL) grant. This project provides stipends for faculty to remix and/or develop accessible, intentionally inclusive open textbooks and other open educational resources (OER) that reflect students' local and lived experiences.

Associate Professor Jessica Alsup (Exercise and Sports Science), a member of the ROTEL community, recently published the OER, [The Basics of Health, Wellness, and Fitness](#). This book includes information and opportunities for self-assessment and reflection on all aspects of health and wellness including, setting goals, physical activity and exercise, cardiovascular fitness, muscular strength and endurance, body composition, flexibility, nutrition, stress management, and self-care and sleep.



Associate Professor J.J. Sylvia (Communications Media) published his second ROTEL book, [Introduction to Communication and Media Studies](#), examines communication and media studies, covering key communication theories and illustrating how to develop information and media literacy through critical thinking and rhetorical analysis. It also

Perseverantia podcast remembers John Crawley

In a special [episode](#) of the "*Perseverantia*" [podcast](#), students and faculty colleagues recall the late **John Crawley** of the Business Administration Department. Crawley died unexpectedly in May, and in his memory the podcast producers collected memories and recordings to capture his impact on the campus community.

[Listen to the episode](#)



Washington Center info session Oct. 1

The campus will welcome Hannah Keane from [The Washington Center](#) (TWC) at **3:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 1** to discuss internship opportunities in the nation's capital for Fall 2025 semester. The program will be held in person in Percival Hall 107 and participants may also [register to participate](#) in a Zoom meeting.

For background on internships and career-building program benefits from TWC with Fitchburg State, please see our [TWC webpage](#), highlighting some of our illustrious graduates who've gained greatly from their scholarly experiences, career preparation, and career development, and advancement.

LGBTQ+ Pride Flag Raising Ceremony

The campus will start its celebration of LGBTQ+ History Month with a flag raising ceremony at **3:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 1** at the Alumni Quad (between Hammond and Thompson Halls). In the event of inclement weather, the event will move to the Falcon Hub.



Self-defense training on Oct. 1

The University Police Department will partner with the [Vanessa T. Marcotte Foundation](#) to host a self-defense workshop for females at **5 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 1** in the Athletics and Recreation Center. Space is limited so [advance registration](#) is required.

Participants will learn about situational



PERSONAL SAFETY WORKSHOP

Learn about situational awareness and how to handle a confrontation both physically and mentally.
Practice realistic self-defense tactics.
Have fun, learn some skills, and feel empowered!

*Please dress in comfortable clothes and sneakers.
Designed for individuals who identify as female. All are welcome.*

Tuesday, October 1, 2024
5 - 6:30 PM | Recreation Center Gym

ADMISSION IS FREE. Space is limited, so register today.
Scan the QR code to register. ▶



awareness and how to handle a confrontation both physically and mentally. They will practice realistic self-defense tactics as well as have fun, learn some skills, and feel empowered. Comfortable clothes and sneakers are recommended.

Keep up with campus happenings on the Burg Blog

Follow the [Burg Blog](#) for timely updates of campus life.

Among the recent articles and slideshows, see scenes from the Hispanic Heritage Month [flag-raising](#) (pictured); the [Constitution Day](#) keynote address; the [Student Affairs](#) retreat; the return of the [therapy dogs](#) to Hammond Hall; the Sigma Pi "[Pie a Pi](#)" event; and classroom activities including our [multi-camera](#) television production class visiting Elliot Field.

[Burg Blog](#)



Cultural Events

**Gallery Opening:
"Second Nature" by
Atom Moore '05**

The works of celebrated photographer and alumnus Atom Moore will be on display in the Sanders Administration Building throughout the 2024-25 academic year,



with a gallery opening and reception with the artist at 4 p.m. **Thursday.**

Moore, a 2005 Fitchburg State graduate, will discuss the exhibition, "Second Nature," during a gallery talk in the Fiorentino Foyer adjacent to the Sanders Administration Building gallery space.

Moore is a professional photographer and videographer living and working in New York

City. He specializes in macro watch photography working with major watch brands and publications to bring his unique view to the industry. He has been creating artwork based on his watch photography since 2015 and has had solo exhibitions of his work in New York City, Hong Kong, and The National Watch and Clock Museum in Columbia, Pa.

[Learn more](#)

Faculty Notes

Professor Eric Budd (Economics, History and Political Science) presented a talk at the Worcester Club for the Worcester World Affairs Council. The title of his talk was "Indonesia and the Philippines: Navigating in a Dangerous (and Uncertain) Neighborhood." Prior to the talk he met with college students from the Worcester area.

Join Our Mailing List

Follow us on Social Media



Fitchburg State University | 160 Pearl Street | Fitchburg, MA 01420 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!