
Fitchburg State University Today

Open House season continues

The campus welcomed hundreds of guests Saturday for the second in our series of fall open houses.

Prospective students and their families visited with faculty members and administrators, heard from students about life at Fitchburg State, and toured the campus.

The final open house of the season will be held **Saturday, Nov. 13**, and the university offers a number of other options to [visit](#), including our [virtual tour](#).



President Lapidus hosting open forums Wednesday



President Lapidus invites the campus community to gather for open forums at **10 a.m.** and **3:30 p.m. Wednesday** in Kent Recital Hall.

The sessions will include updates about university operations, with opportunities for members to ask questions. For those unable to attend in person, the sessions will be livestreamed and viewers can post questions online.

- The 10 a.m. session will be streamed at <https://youtu.be/s4jD-j3KFcl>.
- The 3:30 p.m. session will be streamed at <https://youtu.be/7r7pLXbVRQM>.

Listening sessions set this week for provost/VPAA search

As the university embarks on a search for the next provost/vice president for academic affairs, the search committee will be hosting listening sessions this week for faculty and staff to share the characteristics and qualities the next provost should possess to be a successful member of the Fitchburg State community.

- The first faculty listening session will be held from **2 to 3 p.m. Tuesday**. Join with Google Meet at meet.google.com/enp-xsks-hnn or join by phone at (US)+1 347-569-6730, and enter PIN: 371 935 478#.
- The second faculty listening session will be held from **3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Thursday**. Join with Google Meet at meet.google.com/iqy-vqzp-nxp or join by phone at (US)+1 337-441-2650, and enter PIN: 729 970 136#.
- There will be an open session for the entire campus community at **11 a.m. Friday**. Join with Google Meet at meet.google.com/xqf-zhfw-dbg or join by phone at (US)+1 717-964-0263, and enter PIN: 559 279 916#.

Speakers Series continues with talk on criminal justice reform

The university's Speakers Series continues **today at 12:30 p.m.** with a [talk](#) by **Assistant Professor Lilean Bobea** (Behavioral Sciences) on "Police Reform in the Dominican Republic: Challenges and Opportunities." The presentation will be offered online via [Google Meet](#), and a recording will be shared afterward for those who can't join live.

Virtual Graduate School open house this Wednesday

The [School of Graduate, Online and Continuing Education](#) will hold a [virtual open house](#) at **6 p.m. Wednesday**.

During this live session visitors will have the opportunity to:

- Learn about Fitchburg State's 40+ certificate and master's programs
- Speak with program chairs and administrators about curriculum, job opportunities and student resources
- Gain knowledge about how to submit the best application
- Ask any questions



[Register](#)

Events explore legacy of Italian colonialism in 1930s

Starting this month, the [Center for Italian Culture](#) will look at the legacy of Italian [colonialism](#), centered on the invasion of Ethiopia in the 1930s and its resonance across generations and continents.

In October 1935, Italian Army soldiers invaded Ethiopia. The war was fought until February 1937, and is remembered in Ethiopia as the Italian Invasion, and in Italy as the Ethiopian War. Through its series entitled [Confronting Italian Colonialism](#), the CIC invites the community to explore the complex legacy of this time period with a series of

Confronting Italian Colonialism

FILM SCREENING:



If Only I Were That Warrior (2015)

TUESDAY, NOV. 9 | 3:30 – 5 PM

Ellis White Lecture Hall (Hammond Hall, Rm. G-02)

Followed by a virtual Q&A with the filmmakers from 5-6 PM.



Scan to view the trailer and learn more.

A film about the Italian occupation of Ethiopia in 1935 and its unresolved legacy today. Driving this investigation is the story of a recently constructed monument to Rodolfo Graziani, a Fascist general remembered for war crimes committed during the invasion and occupation of Ethiopia, which sparked international protests and brought this chapter of history back to the forefront of public discourse.

The film's primary aim is to offer an unprecedented glance at the controversial memory of the Fascist invasion in Ethiopia. Italy's uncomfortable relationship with its colonial past has been a matter of discussion in academia, but the general public never engaged in a critical discourse on the real events that took place during Mussolini's campaigns in Africa. *If Only I Were That Warrior* aims to contribute to this conversation by shedding light on the facts of the past and dispelling some of the myths accumulated over decades of revisionism.

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programs that will explore history and culture from a variety of perspectives.

At the heart of this exploration will be the acclaimed novel *The Shadow King* by Ethiopian-American author Maaza Mengiste. Faculty members will lead discussion groups centered on the novel, culminating in February with a keynote address by the author.

The programs begin with a film screening and discussion of *If Only I Were That Warrior* at 3:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 9 in Ellis White Lecture Hall. The documentary looks at the recent construction of a monument dedicated to Fascist general Rodolfo Graziani, and addresses the unpunished war crimes he and others committed in the name of Mussolini's imperial ambitions.

Following the screening, at 5 p.m., there will be a virtual question and answer session with director/producer Valerio Ciriaci and cinematographer/producer Isaak Liptzin, who will discuss the making of the film and the questions it raises about the malleable nature of history.

Assistant Professor Kevin McCarthy (Communications Media) will introduce the screening and lead the Q&A with the filmmakers.

[Learn more about Confronting Italian Colonialism](#)

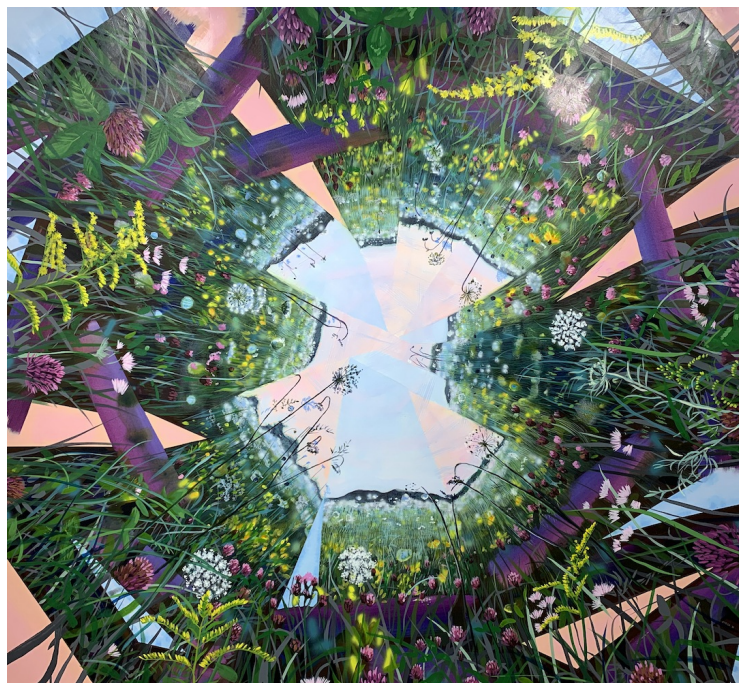
CenterStage and cultural events

In the Hammond Hall Art Gallery: "Terrestrial Magnetism" by Jenn Houle

The Fitchburg State CenterStage arts and culture series features "Terrestrial Magnetism," an exhibit of the work of artist [Jenn Houle](#), through Dec. 10 in the Hammond Hall Art Gallery.

Houle will present an artist talk at the gallery at 3:30 p.m. **Wednesday**.

Houle is a visual artist with a studio based on her property in Merrimac surrounded by her pollinator gardens. She has held artist residencies in



the Great Smoky Mountain National Park, Vermont Studio Center, and the Plumbing Museum. Houle is a grant recipient from the Puffin Foundation, Massachusetts Cultural Council, Cornell Council for the Arts, Einaudi Foundation, and John Hartell Graduate Award for Art and Architecture.

Houle currently teaches at Fitchburg State, UMass Lowell and Montserrat College of Art. She received a Bachelor of Fine Arts from Massachusetts College of Art and a Master of Fine Arts from Cornell University.

Coming Soon: In the Holiday Mood with The Glenn Miller Orchestra

The Fitchburg State CenterStage series invites you to get "In the Holiday Mood" with the world famous Glenn Miller Orchestra at 7 p.m. **Sunday, Dec. 5** at Weston Auditorium.

Tickets are \$28 for adults; \$25 for Fitchburg State alumni, seniors and staff; and \$5 for students, and may be purchased [online](https://fitchburgstate.edu/centerstage) at fitchburgstate.edu/centerstage or by calling the Weston Box Office at 978.665.3347. The box office, located at Weston Auditorium, is open 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. Thursday and Friday.

Faculty Notes

Professor Michael Greenwood (Business Administration) gave the keynote address on "High Performance Leadership" at the opening of the [North Central Massachusetts Chamber of Commerce's Community Leadership Institute](#). Professor Greenwood has been on the institute's planning committee since 2011.

Associate Professor Katherine Jewell (Economics, History and Political Science) has been [selected](#) by the Library of Congress to join a digital humanities program tasked with preserving college and community radio recordings. She was appointed co-chair of the College and Community Radio division of the Radio Preservation Task Force of the Library of Congress National Recording Preservation Board last year. Her new responsibilities will see her joining the curatorial team of its recently launched [Sound Submissions program](#), through which community and private collectors will be encouraged to share digitized recordings and associated metadata for the permanent digital archive at the Library of Congress.

Associate Professor J.J. Sylvia IV (Communications Media) recently saw the publication of several journal articles. These include:

- "[An Affirmative Approach to Teaching Critical Data](#)," Journalism and Media, Algorithms and Artificial Intelligence in Journalism and Media Special Issue. Vol. 2, Issue 4. 641-656.
- "[A Genealogical Analysis of Information and Technics](#)." Information. Vol. 12, Issue 3. 123.
- "[The Biopolitics of Social Distancing](#)" in Social Media + Society, 2k Special Issue. Vol. 6, Issue 3.

Sylvia has also been appointed as the Book Review Editor for the Journal of Posthumanism.

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