

Fitchburg State University Today

Rose Cardarelli '81 to deliver commencement address May 14

Rose Cardarelli, Ed.D., a humanitarian, educator, military veteran and a 1981 graduate of Fitchburg State University, will deliver the [commencement address](#) at her alma mater on **Saturday, May 14**.

Cardarelli is the founder and chief executive officer of the Education for All Coalition, Inc., a humanitarian organization dedicated to creating and bridging educational opportunities for youth through education services for displaced children affected by forced migration around the world.

Her charitable work bridges the education gap to support displaced refugee and migrant children and underserved communities around the globe. Her efforts support two main goals: improving access to education and educational resources and developing community efforts that foster wellbeing in the youth generation, with social justice, inclusion and equity in mind.

Additional honorees will be announced soon.

[Learn more](#)



New provost Patricia Marshall reports for duty in July

President Lapidus announced the appointment of **Dr. Patricia A. Marshall** as the institution's next provost and vice president for academic affairs.

Dr. Marshall, who has served as deputy commissioner for academic affairs and student success at the Massachusetts Department of Higher Education (DHE) since 2015, will report to the Fitchburg State campus in July.

President Lapidus said Dr. Marshall's statewide work to enhance racial equity, narrow achievement gaps and improve student success made her an ideal fit for



Fitchburg State's position.

"Dr. Marshall's proven track record of success, and her demonstrated commitment to improving outcomes for all students, align perfectly with Fitchburg State's strategic goals," President Lapidus said. "I am confident that Dr. Marshall's dedication to creating opportunities for students, and realizing the institutional evolution that will support them, will serve Fitchburg State well."

[Learn more](#)

Faculty Research Colloquium to be held virtually on Wednesday

The [Center for Faculty Scholarship](#) will present its third



annual [Faculty Research Colloquium](#) on "Using Data to Address the Diseases of the Future" from 3:30 to 5 p.m. Wednesday [online](#).

The program will feature presentations by Assistant Professor Dennis Awasabisah (Chemistry), Associate Professor Michael Hove (Psychological Science) and Assistant Professor Tara Mariolis (Nursing).

Undergraduate Research Conference exhibits viewable



The [Undergraduate Conference for Research and Creative Practice](#) opened in virtual form last Thursday.

The conference showcases the research and creative work of Fitchburg State students.

For more than a decade, the undergraduate conference has been a showcase for academic and creative expression.

The virtual format allows visitors to experience and appreciate excellent student work at their own pace.

In addition to oral and poster presentations of student research, recorded performances from the Chamber Choir and the Fitchbyrds (Fitchburg State's jazz band) may be viewed on the site. ARTERies, the juried exhibition of student artwork, is presented in an online gallery format, along with a selection of students' creative writing.

[Visit the 2022 Conference Site](#)

Heritages of Change exhibit runs through April 29

[Heritages of Change](#), a collection of mini-exhibitions developed by Fitchburg State Writing II students of **Associate Professor Kisha Tracy** (English Studies) for members of Adult Learning in the Fitchburg Area ([ALFA](#)) and the wider community, will be on display through Friday.

Each of the [mini-exhibitions](#) in the series practices curatorial activism, bringing attention to the heritages of marginalized and emerging topics.

The theme for this final month of the series is COVID, Health, and Disability.



See the latest on-campus happenings with the Burg Blog



Get caught up on campus happenings with the [Burg Blog](#).

Recent posts highlight our campus observance of [Earth Day](#), our [nursing students](#) working on their practical skills, and a look at [Center for Teaching and Learning co-talks](#) in the Abolitionist Park located near campus.

[The Burg Blog](#)

Take Back the Night on Tuesday

[Counseling Services](#) and [FAVE](#) will present our 15th annual Take Back the Night event from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Tuesday in the main lounge at Hammond Hall.

Take Back The Night is the earliest worldwide movement to stand against sexual violence. It is observed annually across colleges, universities, and organizations both nationally and globally.

The program is an opportunity to offer support to those impacted, engage in creative healing activities together, and continue to unify against sexual violence.

Counseling Services and FAVE present

15th Annual TAKE BACK THE NIGHT 2022

HAMMOND MAIN LOUNGE
APRIL 26TH 6:00-7:30PM

WHAT IS TBTN?



Reminder: "Tell Us Your Story" portal now open

This semester, we launched our new "[Tell Us Your Story](#)" campaign, designed to help us learn about how Fitchburg State has made a difference in the lives of our students, faculty members, staff, and alumni.

It can be something from a class or an extracurricular activity, or an internship, or a graduate making a difference in the world beyond campus. We have many modes of storytelling at our disposal, so all we're asking from you is to supply us the basics, and we'll do the rest.

[Tell Us Your Story](#)

CenterStage and cultural events



Opening this Week:
VISIONS, April 27-June 29

[VISIONS](#), the Communications Media Department's exhibition of student work, opens at **4:30 p.m. Wednesday**, with an alumni panel in Ellis White Lecture Hall in

Hammond Hall.

The opening celebration will also include a reception and gallery opening at 5:30 p.m. in the Hammond Hall Art Gallery, followed by a theater showcase at 7 p.m. in Weston Auditorium with a film and video screening to follow in Weston at 8 p.m.

Choral Concert: "You Can't Stop the Beat" on May 3

Fitchburg State's concert choir and chamber choir will perform their semester-ending concert "You Can't Stop the Beat" at **7:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 3** in Weston Auditorium.

Admission to the concert is free and open to the public. The performance will also [stream live](#).

Assistant Professor Jonathan Harvey (Humanities) said the concert will include genre-spanning selections, including the premiere of an original piece composed by fellow faculty

members.

“There will be something for everyone, including movie music, musical theater, Renaissance music, pop, folk, avant-garde, and a world premiere of a piece by faculty composer **Robin Dinda** (Humanities) and faculty poet **DeMisty Bellinger-Delfeld** (English Studies),” Harvey said.

Coming Soon: Music from the Movies on May 7

The career of legendary film composer John Williams will be celebrated in song at “Music From the Movies” at 7 p.m. **Saturday, May 7**, featuring musicians from Fitchburg State and Christ Church.

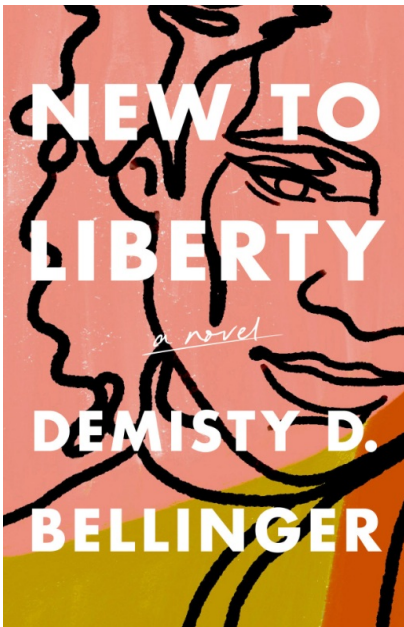
The concert, to be held at Christ Church at 569 Main St., will also feature music from award-winning composers Howard Shore (*The Lord of the Rings*), Henry Mancini (the *Pink Panther* films) and Ennio Morricone (*The Mission*), among other selections that listeners will recognize from the movies.

The performance will include the combined choirs of Fitchburg State and Christ Church, conducted by **Assistant Professor Jonathan Harvey** and featuring accompaniment from Alanna Rantala and Christ Church's Minister of Music and the Arts, Robert Potterton III. Darth Vader will also make an appearance at the show.

Admission is free with a recommended donation of \$10 at the door. Donations will support scholarships for the Fitchburg State [Community Music Lesson Program](#).

[Learn more](#)

Faculty Notes



Associate Professor DeMisty Bellinger-Delfeld (English Studies) celebrated the launch of her new novel *New to Liberty* at the Silver Unicorn Bookstore in Acton.

A novel told in three parts, *New to Liberty* showcases the growth and strength of three unforgettable women as they evolve in a society that refuses to.

Professor Teresa Fava Thomas (Economics, History and Political Science) published “Italian Diaspora in a Massachusetts Mill Town: Migration between Palestrina (Lazio), Italy and Southbridge, Massachusetts,” in the new journal *Diasporic Italy*, published by the Italian American Studies Association and University of Illinois Press. The article is available [online](#).

The article summarizes Thomas' research completed in Italy and Massachusetts into the education and economic empowerment of Italian immigrants and their upward mobility.

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