

## Fitchburg State University Today

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### Police program graduates 6th recruit class

The 11 members of Fitchburg State's 6th Recruit Officer Course [graduated](#) Friday, Sept. 15, completing their certification to work in municipal police departments in Massachusetts and other states.

All 11 members of the group have already been hired by municipal and collegiate police departments.



Graduate Jonathan Revil of Bridgewater gave the class address, in which he recounted how the members of the 6th ROC became a team.

"We have been challenged physically, mentally and academically," Revil said. "I can proudly say I would go to any call with any of the 10 brothers and sisters sitting before me today."

[Read more](#)

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### Latinx/a/o Heritage Month celebration continues

The university's celebration of [LatinX/A/O Heritage Month](#) continues this week, creating opportunities for community members to enjoy themselves and learn something new in the process.

Among the upcoming events:

- Bomba de Acquí Afro-Puerto Rican Sound and Traditions Workshop, **6 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 26**, Hammond Main Lounge. Bomba de Acquí is a dance and music company that performs and teaches Afro-Puerto Rican traditions. The workshop will be both a teaching and performance experience about Afro-Puerto Rican music and arts.
- LatinX/A/O Heritage Month Mariachi Band and Singer, **6:30 p.m.**



**Driving while Black or Hispanic: The Constitution at Work**   
 Sept. 18 | 3:30 pm | Hammond Main Lounge  
 Dr. Mary Fowler (Professor of Mathematics, Worcester State University; Expert witness in Racial Profiling Cases across the Commonwealth). Dr. Fowler will share her experiences as a statistical expert witness in support of making United States Constitutional Provisions effective in Massachusetts. A series of racial profiling cases shows the development of this area of the law.

**Salsa and Bachata Dance Class with Juan Mambo Lopez**  
 Sept. 21 | 6:00 pm | Hammond C01/G01B  
 Join dance instructor and Fitchburg State alum Juan Mambo Lopez as he teaches you all the steps to get your Salsa and Bachata moves going. Bring a friend. Light refreshments will be provided.

**Island Vibes Jouvart**  
 Sept. 23 | 12:30-6:00 pm | Ross Parking Lot  
 Join the African Student Association and the Black Student Union for a Caribbean Carnival party at Ross Parking lot. Please plan to wear white clothes for the party at the event. Entry is free and food will be provided. Sounds by DJ Junes, DJ Juice, and DJ Donut. Additional performances will take place.

**Bomba de Acqui Afro-Puerto Rican Sound & Traditions Workshop**  
 Sept. 26 | 6:00 pm | Hammond Main Lounge  
 Bomba de Acqui is a dance and music company that performs and teaches Afro-Puerto Rican traditions. The workshop will be both a teaching and performance experience about Afro-Puerto Rican music and arts.



Fiesta del Norte



Juan Mambo Lopez



Bomba de Acqui



LatinX/a/o Food

**Mariachi and Singer**   
 Sept. 27 | 6:30 pm | Quadrangle  
 Join the LatinX/a/o Heritage Month Committee with a live mariachi band named Fiesta del Norte! Fiesta del Norte is a Mexican mariachi band performing the traditional folk and popular music of Mexico. There will be free food, and great opportunities to mingle on the quad. We encourage the greater Fitchburg Community to join us and drop by the event.

**Career Services Internship Fair**  
 Oct. 3 | 1-4 pm | Hammond Main Lounge  
 This fair focuses on internship opportunities for spring and summer 2024. Meet with employers attending from several different industries. First-year students, sophomores, juniors, and seniors are strongly encouraged to attend and take this opportunity to connect employers looking to hire Fitchburg State students for internships!

**Spider Man: Across the Spider Verse—Movie Showing**   
 Oct. 4 | 3:30 & 6:30 pm | Ellis White LH  
 This sequel follows Miles Morales as he navigates multiple universes of spider heroes. Free popcorn will be provided.

**CDI Meet and Greet**  
 Oct. 10 | 3:30 pm | Hammond G04  
 Join the Center for Diversity and Inclusiveness and enjoy some good music, food, and community.

**Chartwells LatinX/a/o Food Themed Night**  
 Oct. 11 | Holmes Dining  
 Join Chartwells in Holmes Dining for LatinX/a/o themed food night!



**FULL EVENT INFO**    
[fitchburgstate.edu/latinxao-heritage-month](https://fitchburgstate.edu/latinxao-heritage-month)

**Wednesday, Sept. 27, on the Quad**  
 Join us for a live performance by Mexican mariachi band Fiesta del Norte, who will be performing the traditional folk and popular music of Mexico. There will be free food, and great opportunities to mingle on the quad. This event is open to the public.

[Latinx/a/o Heritage Month Events](#)

## Celebrate LGBTQ+ History Month in October

Fitchburg State will celebrate [LGBTQ+ History Month](#) in October with a series of programs and celebrations organized around the theme, “We are a Voice.”

The opening ceremony for the month will be held at 3:30 p.m. **Monday, Oct. 2** with a Pride flag raising on the Hammond Hall street level patio. The Fitchburg State Choir will perform “I am a Voice” and “Over the Rainbow,” and speakers from across campus will be sharing remarks. Refreshments will be served. In the event of inclement weather, this event will be held in the Falcon Hub inside Hammond Hall.

In conjunction with Banned Book Week, the Amelia V. Gallucci-Cirio Library will be featuring LGBTQ+ and Latinx titles on their main floor in Hammond Hall. The library will also be featuring a collection of digital titles on its [website](#).

Nationally known leadership speaker Michael Miller will deliver the month’s keynote

# LGBTQ+ HISTORY MONTH

[fitchburgstate.edu/lgbtq-history-month](https://fitchburgstate.edu/lgbtq-history-month)

**Oct. 2023 CALENDAR OF EVENTS**  
 FITCHBURG STATE UNIVERSITY

**Opening Ceremony: Pride Flag Raising**  
 October 2 | 3:30 PM | Hammond Street Level Patio  
 BANN LOCATION: Falcon Hub  
 Join us as we kick off LGBTQ+ History Month with the presentation of the LGBTQ+ flag. The Fitchburg State Choir will regale us with a rendition of “I Am a Voice,” and the crowd favorite, “Over the Rainbow.” Speakers from across campus will give the festivities. Refreshments to be served following the flag presentation. 

**Banned LGBTQ+ and Latinx/a/o Book Week**  
 October 1-7 | Library Main Floor, Hammond Hall

**LGBTQIA+ Paint Night**  
 October 3 | 5 PM | Falcon Hub, Hammond Hall  
 The event is open to all members of the Fitchburg State community. Students can sign up beforehand and will be provided with a canvas and paint supplies where they can gather, relax, and make community. Refreshments to be served.

**LGBTQ+ History Month Opening Speaker: Michael Miller**  
 October 4 | 7 PM | Main Lounge, Hammond Hall  
 “It’s On All of Us What WE Can Do to Support our LGBTQ+ Community Members”  
 Want to learn more about other members of our university community? Would you like to be someone who supports and champions LGBTQ+ community members? Then join nationally known leadership speaker, **Michael Miller**, for a fast-paced session where we’ll share stories and more—ways we can serve as allies and supporters, to folks who experience difficulties based only upon their identity. Come prepared to learn, interact, and feel more confident in using your voice to support others! Sponsored by LEADING FOR CHANGE COMMITTEE. 

**Drag BINGO**  
 October 5 | 7 PM | Falcon Hub, Hammond Hall  
**Victoria Owens** will be hosting LGBTQ+ History Month Drag BINGO. Everyone gets a chance to win prizes! 

**Indigenous People’s Day / Two Spirit Day**  
 October 9  
 Two-spirit is a modern, pan-Indian, umbrella term used by some Indigenous North Americans to describe Native people in their communities who fulfill a traditional third gender ceremonial and social role in their cultures.

**LGBTQ+ History Trivia Night**  
 October 10 | 7 PM | Falcon Hub, Hammond Hall  
 When was the first LGBTQ+ “Flag Created”? What does it mean to be a friend of Dorothy? Who is the number one LGBTQ+ Performer of all time? Grab some friends and create a team! Prizes to be awarded to the top team!  
 Sponsored by Straight Alliance

**National Coming Out Day**  
 October 11

**The Book of Queer Series: Episode 1 & 2**  
 October 16 | 7 PM | Ellis White Lecture Hall, Hammond Hall  
**Episode 1 – Pride or Die:** Uncover shocking new details about the queer rights activists, and learn about the gay organizer of the 1969 March on Washington, Bayard Rustin.  
**Episode 2 – Gatsby & Forward:** Some of the greatest artists and scientists of all time were queer! Learn the steamy details about Michelangelo, Da Vinci, Ma Rainey, Alan Turing and more.

**International Pronoun Day/Week**  
 October 18 | 11 AM (while pins last) | G-Lobby, Hammond Hall  
 GSA will be giving out Pronoun Pins as a way to celebrate yourself and to educate the university community on how to use one’s pronouns.

**NoWoCo Pride Parade and Pride Festival**  
 October 21 | 11 AM  
 Parade begins at Fitchburg Library  
 3rd Annual NoWoCo Pride Parade, Main Street at the Library to Boulder Drive  
 Riverfront Park  
 Join GSA as we represent Fitchburg State’s LGBTQ+ Ally Community.  
 12:00 PM  
 Fitchburg Riverfront Park  
 5th Anniversary NoWoCo Pride Festival

**Asexual Awareness Week (SAW)**  
 October 23 – 29

**The Book of Queer Series: Episode 3 & 4**  
 October 23 | 7 PM | Ellis White Lecture Hall, Hammond Hall  
**Episode 3 – Queer Black Makes the Team Work:** Learning how the power of just inspired the Sacred Band of Thebes, ancient Greece’s army of boy-friends and discovering the history of the rainbow flag.  
**Episode 4 – From Gay to Ze:** Shocking stories about King James and his edition of the Bible, erotic poems from an island of Lesbians and queer secrets about the old American West.

**Second Chance From Gayla**  
 October 28 | 7 PM  
 Main Lounge, Hammond Hall  
 A second chance prom is a do-over dance for those who didn’t get a chance to attend their high school prom as their true authentic selves, to attend with who they wanted to, or who fell as though they weren’t allowed to. The goal is to allow everyone to present the way they want in a safe place and to have fun. All are encouraged to dress in their favorite Gayle outfit that expresses who they are! Faculty, staff, students, and alumni are invited to attend. Sponsored by GAY STRAIGHT ALLIANCE

**The Book of Queer Series: Episode 5**  
 October 30 | 7 PM | Ellis White Lecture Hall, Hammond Hall  
**Episode 5 – Pride or Die:** Takes a real inside the Stonewall Inn as the queer revolution begins, and hear about Josephine Baker, the WWII bisexual resistance hero who was a French spy.

**MONTH LONG EVENTS:**  
 Flag Display and Pride Lights in Trees | Front of Hammond Hall  
 Weekly Trivia Instagram Post

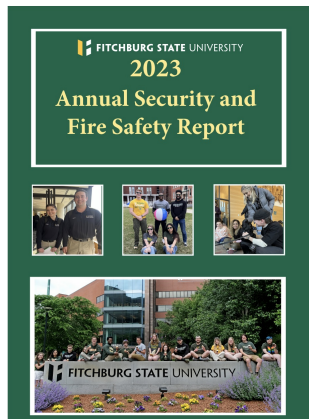
address, entitled “It’s On All Of Us! What WE Can Do To Support Our LGBTQ+ Community Members,” at 7 p.m. **Wednesday, Oct. 4**, in the main lounge of Hammond Hall.

[LGBTQ+ History Month](#)

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## Speakers Series launches Oct. 2

The university's Speakers Series will begin at 12:30 p.m. **Monday, Oct. 2** with a talk by **Assistant Professor Kenneth Mackie** (Economics, History and Political Science) on “The Affect Magnetism Heuristic: Belief Formation in Asymmetric Information Environments.” The talk will be given [online](#).



## Annual Security and Fire safety report posted

The university has completed the [Annual Security and Fire Safety Report](#) for 2023 and the complete document is now available for public view.

The report, compiled in accordance with federal law, is available to view [online](#) on the University Police Department’s website (along with other information and [resources](#) about [campus safety](#)).

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## Global delegation visits police program

For the second time [this year](#), the university [welcomed](#) an international delegation to learn more about its groundbreaking [police program](#) and its mission to respond to evolving community needs in the profession.



The university this week hosted several public safety and education professionals from the [Srpska Republic](#) in Eastern Europe. The visit to Fitchburg was part of a tour of several police agencies organized for the delegation by [PH International](#) and included retired Fitchburg Police Chief Edward Cronin, who has long worked with the international agency.

[Read more](#)

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## CIC's "Nuovo Mondo" series keynote address on Oct. 19

The [Center for Italian Culture](#) (CIC) will explore the Italian immigrant experience, past and present, with a series of programs called “[Nuovo Mondo: A Century of Migrations from and to Italy.](#)”



# NUOVO MONDO

A Century of Migrations  
from and to Italy



2023 – 2024 PROGRAMMING SERIES

LECTURES, FILM SERIES, FOOD EVENTS,  
DISCUSSIONS, WORKSHOPS, and more!

[fitchburgstate.edu/nuovo-mondo](https://fitchburgstate.edu/nuovo-mondo)



This series is  
brought to you by



FITCHBURG STATE UNIVERSITY  
CENTER FOR ITALIAN CULTURE

Through lectures, film series, food events, discussions, workshops, and more, the CIC will examine the impact and legacy of the emigration of Italians to the United States and contemporary migration into Italy.

The series continues with the Dr. Joseph Luzzi Residency Keynote Address: Italian Immigration to America at **3:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 19**, in Ellis White Lecture Hall in Hammond Hall. Dr. Luzzi, the child of Italian immigrants and an award-winning scholar of Italian literature, is Asher B. Edelman Professor of Literature at Bard College. In his address, he will discuss the subject of Italian immigration to America, with special reference to his 2014 memoir, *My Two Italies: A Personal and Cultural History*. Admission is free and open to the public.

## University draws high scores in U.S. News & World Report

Fitchburg State earned [high marks](#) in U.S. News & World Report's latest collegiate [rankings](#), released last week.

The magazine's 2024 Best Colleges rankings listed Fitchburg State among the top Regional Universities in the North; among the top public schools in Regional Universities in the North; and a best value in Regional Universities in the North. The publication, which this year updated its [ranking methodology](#), has been rating institutions of higher education for nearly 40 years.

"We are proud of our continued recognition as among the top choices for students for both quality and value in our region," President Lapidus said. "The latest rankings reflect our ongoing commitment to offering high-quality programs with a strong return on investment."

## 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 [Rock the Block XXV](#), students an in [intro to film/video](#) course, Chartwells' "Joy-Ful" student [welcome event](#), our recent [Industrial Arts alumni](#) reunion, and the first in a series of commuter [Drive and Thrive](#) events sponsored by Commuter Affairs and the Fitchburg Activities Board.





## CenterStage and Cultural Events

Platinum hit-makers Orleans, now celebrating 50 years of live performances, will [perform](#) at Weston Auditorium at 7 p.m. **Saturday, Sept. 30.**

[Tickets](#) are \$20 for adults; \$15 for senior citizens, Fitchburg State alumni and university employees; and \$5 for Fitchburg State students. Tickets on sale now, [online](#) or by calling 800.657.8774.

### Coming Soon: Mark O'Connor Duo on Friday, Oct. 20

The Grammy Award-winning Mark O'Connor Duo [performs](#) at 7 p.m. **Friday, Oct. 20** at Weston Auditorium. Mark and Maggie O'Connor concerts feature both instrumental and vocal music, and performed on string instruments—violin, guitar and mandolin. Their performances include solo violin compositions from Mark, violin duos arrangements with Mark and Maggie, Mark's solo guitar performances, duets featuring Maggie's violin and Mark's mandolin, new original vocal songs, and a few vocal classics.

[Tickets](#) are \$20 for adults; \$15 for senior citizens, Fitchburg State alumni and university employees; and \$5 for Fitchburg State students. Tickets are on sale now at [SpectacleLive.com](#) or by calling 800.657.8774.

### In the Hammond Hall Art Gallery: "Don't Close Your Eyes" by Hanna Melnyczuk

Powerful drawings inspired by the war in Ukraine are on display in the Hammond Hall Art Gallery in artist Hanna Melnyczuk's [exhibit](#) "Don't Close Your Eyes." The exhibit is on display through Oct. 15.

Melnyczuk began creating these drawings upon Russia's invasion of Ukraine in an attempt to show her personal attempts to process what is happening to the country her parents left in 1944. Influenced by her work on children's books, the images in this collection show her struggle to understand the unfathomable acts of war that fill her mind.

Melnyczuk held a gallery talk last week; see [photos](#) from the event on the Burg Blog.

[Learn more](#)

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## Faculty Notes

**Daniel Welsh** (Biology/Chemistry), **John Ludlam** (Biology/Chemistry), **Emma Downs** (Biology/Chemistry), **Elizabeth Gordon** (Earth, Geographic, and Public Health Sciences), **Elyse Clark** (Earth, Geographic, and Public Health Sciences), **Benjamin Levy** (Mathematics), **Jane Huang** (Earth, Geographic, and Public Health Sciences), and **Aisling O'Connor** (Biology/Chemistry) had [their paper](#) "Stream fish community structure across an urban gradient in a northeastern US watershed" appear in print in *Environmental Biology of Fishes*. The paper was a result of a multi-year grant funded project that incorporated 25 undergraduate students in research projects examining the health of the Nashua River watershed.

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