
Fitchburg State University Today

Black History Month continues

Fitchburg State's highlighting of African Americans and the arts for [Black History Month](#) continues this week.

**BLACK
HISTORY
MONTH**



Programming includes a [panel discussion](#) on BIPOC mental health and self-care at **6 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 22** in the Hammond Main Lounge. This discussion, presented by the Center for Diversity and Inclusiveness and Counseling Services, features a panel of Black, Indigenous, Professionals of Color discussing what it is like navigating human services work while investing in personal well-being and self-care. Light refreshments will be served.

The month's theme acknowledges the connection between African American art and influence with African, Caribbean, and the Black American lived reality. This theme, organized by the National Association for the Study of African American Life and History, focuses and emphasizes the many ways in which art manifests in our current world whether it be in film, architecture, cooking, and additional forms of expression.

The month will close with a keynote address at **7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 29** by Austin Martin, founder of Rhymes with Reason, in the main lounge of Hammond Hall. Admission to the talk is free and open to the public.

[Black History Month](#)

We want to hear from you!



We are currently reviewing our university **Mission Statement** and invite you to participate in a short survey.

▶ **SCAN TO TAKE THE SURVEY**



Campus community input sought for mission review

A university-wide committee is currently reviewing Fitchburg State's mission, vision and core values. Its goal is to lay

the foundation of this important work during this academic year and to then pause to allow our next president to participate in the process.

The committee has conducted an initial review and discussion of the mission statement and now invites all members of the campus community to provide feedback by completing a [brief survey](#).

Follow the process on the mission review [webpage](#).

Reminder: Campus hosts

film premiere this week

Award-winning filmmaker - and current Fitchburg State student -Tonia Magras will present the premiere of her latest documentary, "More than Our Skin," at Fitchburg State University **this Thursday, Feb. 22.**

The [film](#), focusing on five women living with the autoimmune disease vitiligo, will be shown at **11 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.** in Ellis White Lecture Hall in Hammond Hall. Admission is free and open to the public, and guests will include cast members and state and local leaders. The film has also been entered into competition at several film festivals.

Magras, a three-time Emmy-award winner and seven-time nominee, is producer and director of the film, and is currently enrolled in the film/video program at Fitchburg State. She has over three decades of production and film experience, beginning with her 25-year career at PBS' flagship station, WGBH Boston. She enrolled at Fitchburg State in 2022 to pursue her formal education while she continued her career in film.

[Learn more](#)



"Powerful! Poignant! Beautiful!"

"The strength and vulnerability of these five women leaps off the screen!"

"There's so much I didn't know. Now I want to learn more!"

"EVERYONE NEEDS TO SEE THIS MOVIE!"

PRODUCED & DIRECTED BY TONIA MAGRAS EXECUTIVE PRODUCER GREGORY MAGRAS WRITTEN BY CYNTHIA JOHNSON CO-PRODUCER/CO-EXECUTIVE PRODUCER CALVIN A. LINDSAY, JR.

HULL BAY PRODUCTIONS presents a JAMIE-LEE FILM in association with CENTURION FILMWORKS
KATRINA CHRISTIAN | MILLENT MEADOWS | VALARIE MOLYNEUX | PATRICIA ROSSY | ALICIA ROUFS
music composed by MARK WARD director of photography GREGORY MAGRAS
additional cameras LANCE DOUGLAS | BILLARD MORRISON | HOWARD POWELL
associate producers SHELEE BREVARD | MYA MCKINNON
post-production editor MIKE CHAPMAN post-production audio JOHN JENKINS
assistant editor HAILEY FINN graphic designer CATHERINE BOSSE production manager MARGARET MURPHY

Production underwriting provided in part by:



Presidential Search updates

The [presidential search](#) continues this week with a meeting at **8 a.m. Friday, Feb. 23** in Presidents' Hall during which search committee members will review questions to ask the preliminary pool of candidates.

The first rounds of candidate interviews will be held in closed session off-campus in the coming weeks, with on-campus interviews with finalists expected to be conducted in late March or early April.

[Presidential Search](#)

Community-engaged Scholarship is topic of Crocker Center talk

The [Crocker Center for Civic Engagement](#) will host a discussion for university faculty and librarians on community-engaged scholarship from **3:30 to 5 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 29** in the ideaLab at 717 Main St.

At the event, **Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs Franca Barricelli** will discuss use of Community Engaged Scholarship (CES) in teaching, service, or scholarship for reappointment, T&P, and PTR. **Professor Renee Scapparone** (Business Administration), faculty coordinator of the Crocker Center, will

explain the experience to the Crocker Center can be a resource for faculty and librarians and their students, and past and current CES experiences will be shared.

Refreshments will be served.

Faculty & Librarian Event

JOIN US FOR A DISCUSSION ABOUT
**Community Engaged
Scholarship Opportunities**

Thursday, February 29 | 3:30 - 5 PM
Fitchburg State University's ideaLab
717 Main Street, Fitchburg

REFRESHMENTS & BEVERAGES SERVED



PARKING IN REAR OF IDEALAB
BY TURNING ONTO CENTRAL STREET

- Hear Franca Barricelli, AVP of Academic Affairs, discuss use of Community Engaged Scholarship (CES) in teaching, service, or scholarship for reappointment, T&P, and PTR
- Meet Professor Renee Scapparone, Faculty Coordinator of the Crocker Center, and learn how the Crocker Center can be a resource for you and your students in CES
- Listen to past and current CES experiences of your colleagues and have all your questions answered
- Informally network with your colleagues over complimentary Crocker Center beverages and appetizers



CIC's *Nuovo Mondo* series continues with film screening on Feb. 29

The Center for Italian Culture's [Nuovo Mondo](#) series, exploring the phenomenon of immigration from and to Italy, continues this spring with three Italian-made films that examine recent immigration into Italy.

The screenings begin at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 29 with the Italian comedy *Billo - Il grand Dakhaar* (2007). Directed by Laura Muscardin, this quasi-documentary features hip-hop designer Thierno Thiam in his own real-life story as a Senegalese boy who arrives in Italy in search of fortune with the desire to work in the fashion industry, but life puts him face to face with tragicomic situations. Admission to the screening, which will be held in Ellis White Lecture Hall in Hammond Hall, is free and open to the public.

[Learn more](#)

Community Read programs continue in March

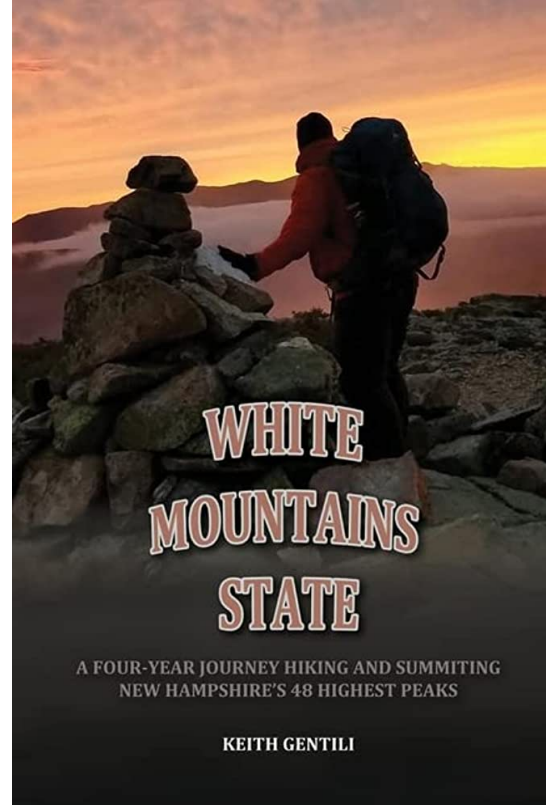
The [Community Read](#) of alumnus Keith Gentili's book *White Mountains State: A Four-Year Journey Hiking and Summiting New Hampshire's 48 Highest Peaks* continues with a series of events this spring, including a talk by the author himself.

The Fitchburg Public Library will host a book discussion of *White Mountains State* at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 6 at 166 Boulder Drive. Admission is free and open to the public.

Back on campus, there will be a screening of the film "Wild" (2014) starring Reese Witherspoon at **4 p.m. Thursday, March 7** in Ellis White Lecture Hall in Hammond Hall. Associate Professor Kevin McCarthy of the Communications Media Department will host a discussion of the film after the screening. This event is co-sponsored by the Amelia V. Gallucci-Cirio Library at Fitchburg State, the Fitchburg Public Library, and Mount Wachusett Community College.

The campus will welcome White Mountains State author Keith Gentili at **5 p.m. Thursday, March 21** in the Falcon Hub in Hammond Hall. Gentili, a Fitchburg State graduate, will be joined by other alumni who are featured in his book during the talk. There will be a social hour with refreshments before the speaking program begins at 6 p.m.

[Learn more](#)



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 African Student Association's [Wear Pink Wednesday](#) event for Valentine's Day, the Office of International Education's

study abroad and international student [fair](#), [theater students](#) practicing their physicalization in Weston Auditorium, students experimenting with [cell culture](#) in an Antonucci Science Complex lab, and game design students working on their [capstone](#) projects at the game studio on Main Street.

[Burg Blog](#)

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