
Fitchburg State University Today

Women's History Month continues this week

Fitchburg State continues its celebration of [Women's History Month](#) with the Nancy Kelly Memorial Lecture, which will be delivered by Rachel O'Leary Carmona at 2 p.m. **Thursday** in the Randall Lecture Hall of the Antonucci Science Complex. This event will be ASL interpreted.

Cardona, executive director of the Women's March, will discuss her activism work and the future of feminism in the U.S. and the rest of the world. Admission is free and open to the public.

Other programs include Women in the Arts on **Thursday, March 28**. The program will include works and performances by university students, faculty, staff and members of the wider community, including music, acting, film, painting, photography and poetry. The program will start with an exhibition at 3:30 p.m. with a performance at 4 p.m. in Kent Recital Hall in the Conlon Fine Arts Building. This event will be ASL interpreted.

[Read more](#)



**WOMEN'S HISTORY
MONTH 2024**

MARCH 5, 2024- MARCH 28, 2024

 **FITCHBURG STATE UNIVERSITY**
CENTER FOR DIVERSITY & INCLUSIVENESS

Grants support investment in new technology for nursing simulation

Nursing students will benefit from cutting edge technology and next-level simulations thanks to generous grants from the Elaine Nicpon Marieb Charitable Foundation and the George I. Alden Trust.

The grants will fund wearable technology to let students and instructors utilize the latest augmented reality software as well as stipends for nursing and game design students to create and deploy new scenarios for nurses in training. *(See more images from the simulation training on the [Burg Blog](#).)*



"This really is cutting edge," said **Associate Professor Deborah Benes**, chair of the Nursing Department. "We're giving our students the opportunity to work with equipment

they never would have seen before that's being used in the workforce right now.”

[Read more](#)



Education programs receive national accreditation

The Association for Advancing Quality in Educator Preparation ([AAQEP](#)) has awarded full seven-year accreditation to the initial licensure programs in the Fitchburg State's [School of Education](#).

The Commission evaluated the program's evidence for each AAQEP standard and determined that all four standards are met.

“On behalf of the faculty and administrators in the School of Education, I am proud of this acknowledgement of our efforts, and the continued investment of time and resources into the highest standards for our students and future teachers,” said **Dean of Education Nancy Murray**. “This accreditation recognizes our efforts in our ability to work proactively with partners to address local needs, with a focus on early exposure by prospective candidates to support increasing accessibility and diversity in the teacher pipeline.”

[Read more](#)

Presidential Search updates

The [Presidential Search Committee](#), currently in the middle of a national search to find Fitchburg State's 12th leader, will soon be identifying finalists for on-campus open sessions with various constituencies.

The schedules for finalist visits is posted on the [search page](#) and may be viewed at the following links:

- [Candidate 1](#): Wednesday, April 10 and Thursday, April 11
- [Candidate 2](#): Tuesday, April 16 and Wednesday, April 17
- [Candidate 3](#): Monday, April 22 and Tuesday, April 23
- [Candidate 4](#): Monday, April 29 and Tuesday, April 30
- [Candidate 5](#): Wednesday, May 1 and Thursday, May 2

Information about the finalists will be posted and shared in advance of the campus visits.

[Presidential Search website](#)



Campus community input sought on university core values

The university's [Mission Review Committee](#) is seeking feedback from the campus community regarding Fitchburg State's core values by taking a [brief survey](#).

Learn more about the mission review process [online](#).

Reminder: Panel talk on psychedelic science and mental health this week

The medical, scientific and social aspects of psychedelic-assisted therapy will be discussed when Fitchburg State hosts a panel discussion of experts from medicine, neuroscience and clinical practice at **3:30 p.m. Tuesday** at the main lounge of Hammond Hall. Admission to the talk is free and open to the public.

Psychedelics, such as psilocybin and MDMA, are promising treatments for mental-health disorders including addiction, depression, anxiety, and PTSD. The expert panel will discuss psychedelic-assisted therapy as well as future prospects and challenges.

The panel discussion will be moderated by **Associate Professor Michael Hove** (Psychological Science). Panelists will include:

- Yvan Beussant (MD, MSc, Harvard Medical School, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute), a hematologist, palliative care physician, and clinical investigator, with training in psychedelic research and therapy. He studies the effects and mechanisms of psilocybin- and MDMA-assisted therapy on depression, pain, and existential distress in patients with serious illness.
- Francis Guerriero (MA, LICSW), a therapist, trainer, supervisor, and clinical social worker in private practice. He trains and supervises local clinicians in psychedelic-assisted psychotherapy. He was a therapist on a national study of MDMA-assisted therapy for PTSD, deemed a breakthrough therapy by the FDA and currently under FDA review for approval.
- Alexandre Lehmann (PhD, McGill University, Montreal), a cognitive neuroscientist and a psychedelic science advisor to media and nonprofits. Fascinated by the therapeutic potential of music and non-ordinary states, he has been involved in ketamine and psilocybin research.

The event is sponsored by the university's Psychological Science Department and its School of Health and Natural Sciences.



Psychedelics, such as psilocybin and MDMA, are promising treatments for mental-health disorders including addiction, depression, anxiety, and PTSD. This panel, featuring experts from medicine, clinical practice, and neuroscience, will discuss psychedelic-assisted therapy and research. Ethical, legal, and social aspects of psychedelic-assisted therapy will be addressed, as well as future prospects and challenges.

Panel moderated by Psychology Professor Michael Hove, Ph.D.



Yvan Beussant
MD, MSc, Harvard Medical School,
Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

A hematologist, palliative care physician, and clinical investigator, with training in psychedelic research and therapy, he studies the effects and mechanisms of psilocybin- and MDMA-assisted therapy on depression, pain, and existential distress in patients with serious illness.



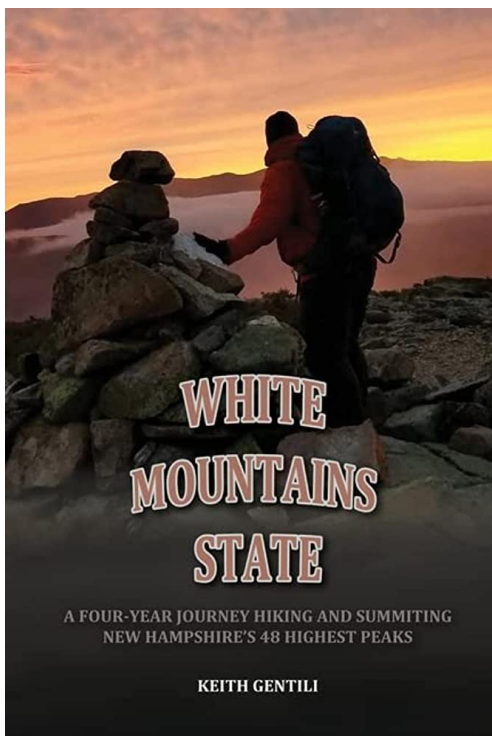
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Alexandre Lehmann
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Community Read programs continue this week with author talk

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 this at **5 p.m. Thursday** 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](#)

CIC's *Nuovo Mondo* film series continues this Thursday

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

The screenings continue at **5:30 p.m. Thursday** with a screening of *Fuocoammare (Fire at Sea)* (2016), a gripping Italian documentary film directed by Gianfranco Rosi. This film, which was nominated for the Academy Award for Best Documentary Feature, was shot on the Sicilian island of Lampedusa during the ongoing European migrant crisis, and sets the dangerous Mediterranean crossing by migrants against a background of the ordinary life of the islanders.

[Learn more](#)



Celebrate International Night on Thursday

The campus is invited to an evening of cross-cultural celebration at the [International Night](#) at **6 p.m. Thursday** in the Hammond Main Lounge.



- Relish a gastronomic voyage across continents with an array of authentic culinary delights meticulously curated to represent diverse cultures.
- Enthral your senses with mesmerizing performances showcasing the rich tapestry of global music and dance traditions.
- Marvel at a splendid exhibition of traditional attire, each garment a testament to the beauty and heritage of its respective culture.
- Experience the enchanting "Harana" (Serenade), a captivating performance featuring Longy Music School alumni and students. A soprano, baritone, and flutist will serenade you with soulful Harana songs, transporting you to the heart of Philippine culture.
- Embrace this opportunity to foster cultural appreciation, forge meaningful connections, and broaden your global perspective.

Admission is free and open to students, faculty and staff.

For more information, contact the [Office of International Education](#) at inthelp@fitchburgstate.edu or call 978-665-3089.

This event is made possible by the support of the Newman Center Trust Fund.

Reminder: Drag Show tickets on sale now

The Gay Straight Alliance will present its 17th annual benefit drag show at **7 p.m. Thursday, April 4**, an event



designed to entertain, enlighten, and share a great cultural experience with the community.

The “Dancing Queens” drag show will be held at the Athletics and Recreation Center, 130 North St., Fitchburg. Proceeds from the show will support the LGBTQ Student Scholarship at Fitchburg State. The program is labeled as New England’s largest and oldest drag show. [Tickets](#) are available now.

[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 faculty-led Spring Break trip to [Croatia](#), students and staff observing [International Women's Day](#), a meet and greet at the

[Veterans Center](#) in Thompson Hall, the Engineering Technology Department [employer roundtable](#), and Professor Teresa Fava Thomas delivering the [Harrod Lecture](#) in Presidents' Hall.

[Burg Blog](#)

Faculty Notes

Associate Professor **Özge Özay** (Economics, History and Political Science) presented “Recovery for All? Unmasking the Intersectional Unemployment Gaps in the US Labor Market Amidst the Pandemic” at the Eastern Economic Association Conference in Boston on March 2.

Cultural events

The Music Mega-Mix, our showcase of bite-sized performances by its Community Orchestra, Concert Band, Chamber Choir, Concert Choir, and Modern Band will be held at **7:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 26** in Weston Auditorium, 353 North St. Admission is free and open to the public.

The ensembles consist of students, alumni, faculty, staff, and community members.

The Community Orchestra is conducted by **Professor Hildur Schilling**. **Associate Professor Jonathan Harvey** conducts the Chamber Choir and Concert Choir, and the Concert Band and Modern Band are conducted by **Assistant Professor Amy McGlothlin**.

Learn more about the university's music offerings at



fitchburgstate.edu/music.

ARTeries opens this week

[ARTeries](#), the annual juried exhibition showcasing the strongest original student work in drawing, painting, sculpture and mixed media art, will launch with an opening reception at **3:30 p.m. Thursday** in the Hammond Hall Art Gallery.

The student works will be on display in the gallery through April 18.

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