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McGillicuddy Humanities Center Newsletter_November 2021

University of Maine McGillicuddy Humanities Center

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Matthew Revitt <matthew.revitt@maine.edu>

McGillicuddy Humanities Center November Newsletter

1 message

MHC <mhc@maine.edu>
Reply-To: MHC <mhc@maine.edu>
To: matthew.revitt@maine.edu

Mon, Nov 1, 2021 at 10:46 AM

McGillicuddy Humanities Center Newsletter [November 2021]



November is a transitional month in Maine. It's the time to rake leaves, change our clocks, and prepare for the coming holidays. Last month the annual homecoming celebrations returned to Orono, as the resumption of many in-person events hinted at a future we're all ready to enjoy. The Center was busy; we sponsored a tour of the Zillman Art Museum in Bangor, a Poetry Pop Up in Orono (pictured above), and collaborated with community and university partners in support of the humanities. Below you'll find our upcoming November events, our recent news updates, and new grant opportunities. As always, we value your presence at our events and your feedback on the work we do here at the McGillicuddy Humanities Center.

[Image: Fall Poetry Pop Up, Orono, Maine. Credit: Karen Sieber]

McGillicuddy Humanities Center Events & Updates

SPEAKING TO CITIZENS, CONNECTING WITH AUDIENCES

NOVEMBER 9
4:00PM EST
HILL AUDITORIUM
BARROWS HALL



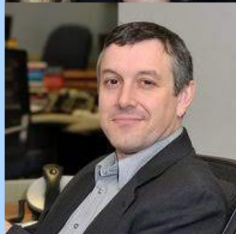
Humanities: Impact in Real Life 2021-2022



Panelist

Victoria Bonney

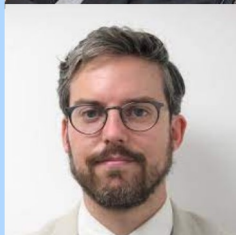
Director of Communications
Congresswoman Chellie Pingree (D-Maine)



Panelist

Colin Woodard

New York Times bestselling historian,
award-winning journalist



Moderator

Dr. Robert A. Ballingall

Assistant Professor of Political Science
University of Maine

The University of Maine is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution.

Speaking to Citizens, Connecting with Audiences

Arthur St. John Hill Auditorium, Barrows Hall
November 9, 2021, 4:00 p.m.

How might politicians, pundits, journalists, scholars, and other social and cultural leaders best connect with the audiences they need to address? As part of its 2021-2022 Annual Symposium, the McGillicuddy Humanities Center is pleased to sponsor a panel exploring this question and the issues it raises. Bringing together a professional political communicator, a Maine-based journalist, and a professor of political philosophy, the panel will describe how skills learned from the humanities – such as how to conduct interviews and answer questions, how to speak and write clearly, and how to engage audiences in democratic processes – play a vital role in their work. [Visit the event page for more on the panelists and their work.](#)

This panel is part of the McGillicuddy Humanities Center's 2021-2022 Annual Symposium: "Humanities: Impact in Real Life"

Global Perspectives for Humanities Explorations Fund

[The Global Perspectives for Humanities Explorations Fund](#) was established at the University of Maine Foundation in 2018 for the benefit of the University of Maine students with a gift from Tracey Graffam-Dickson '93. Tracey found her experience studying abroad at the New England Universities of Salzburg – Study Abroad Program to be life changing, and in creating this fund, she wanted to highlight the importance of modern language, cultural exploration and the global exchange of ideas, innovation and experiences.

Because of COVID-19, the awarding of grants from the fund to support study abroad was suspended in 2020 and 2021. The Center is pleased to announce it is now resuming the award program in order to offer financial support to a University of Maine student in their study abroad experience in 2022. The deadline for students to apply is **November 12, 2021**. [Application instructions can be found on our website](#).



Fall Poetry Pop Up Event in Orono

The McGillicuddy Humanities Center sponsored a Fall Poetry Pop Up, held outdoors at the Orono Village Green amphitheater, on Saturday, October 23, 2021. The event welcomed several poets from the Bangor-Orono community, and the University of Maine, to share their work. The diverse poems proved powerful, witty, moving, and memorable. They relayed themes of both immediate relevance and timeless universality. A video of the of the event has been [uploaded to the Center's Youtube page](#), and we encourage you to enjoy the wonderful performances.

[Image: Wyatt Oglesby reads a poem at the Fall Poetry Pop Up, Orono, Maine]

Introducing the Center's Work to the Rotary Club of Bangor



On October 12, 2021, MHC Director Michael Socolow spoke to the monthly meeting of the [Rotary Club of Bangor](#) at Wellman Commons on the campus of the Bangor Theological Seminary. He discussed the Center's mission and the "[Maine Remembers the Coronavirus Project](#)" at the hybrid meeting, which included members present in-person and those who joined via Zoom.

University of Maine Humanities Events

Climate Change Exacerbates Inequality, but does Inequality Exacerbate Climate Change?

Dr. Cindy Isenhour, Associate Professor of Anthropology and Climate Change

Part of the Socialist and Marxist Studies Series

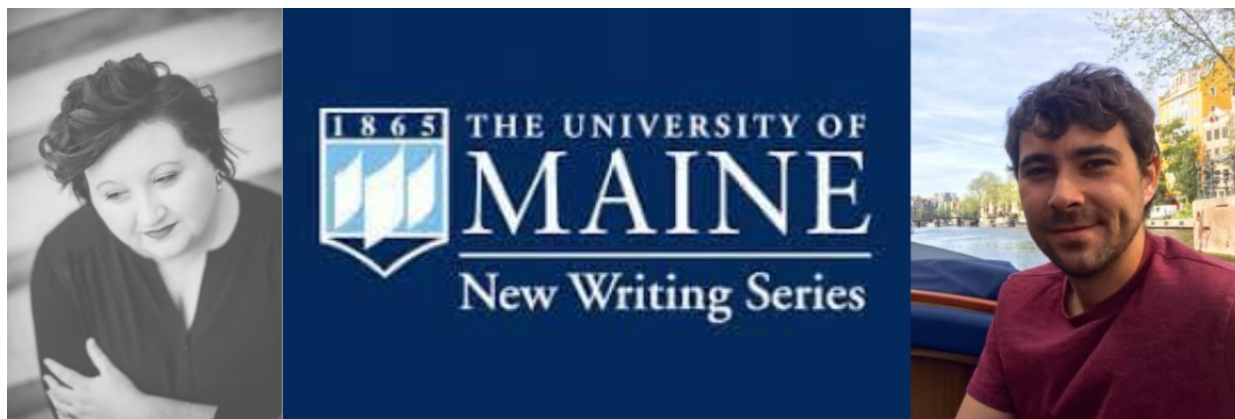
November 4, 12:30 p.m.

Virtual event



Drawing on interdisciplinary literature on anthropogenic climate drivers and potential emissions reduction, Isenhour argues that while we've long recognized the need to pay attention to issues of power, equity, and justice when planning climate adaptation programs, these issues have been neglected in discussions about mitigation. We'll consider linkages between inequality and emissions on various scales, from local to global, for addressing inequality as a means to design mitigation policies for addressing the climate emergency. Part of the Fall 2021 Socialist and Marxist Studies Series.

Go to umaine.edu/SocialistAndMarxistStudiesSeries for the Zoom link to join all programs and for more information about the Fall series

**New Writing Series -- Katie Lattari and Morgan Talty**

Thursday, November 4, 4:30 p.m.

104 Stewart Commons, IMRC

Fiction writers Katie Lattari and Morgan Talty are featured in the fourth event of the fall 2021 New Writing Series, held select Thursdays at 4:30 PM in 104 Stewart Commons (IMRC). The event, which is free and open to the (masked) public, is co-sponsored by the Honors College as part of their Honors 180: Cultural Odyssey.

[Morgan Talty](#) is a citizen of the Penobscot Indian Nation. His story collection *Night of the Living Rez* is forthcoming from Tin House Books (2022). His work has appeared in *The Georgia Review*, *Shenandoah*, *TriQuarterly*, *Narrative Magazine*, *LitHub*, and elsewhere.

[Katie Lattari](#)'s first novel, *American Vaudeville*, was published in 2016, and her short fiction has been published in journals nationwide. Her newly published debut thriller *Dark Things I Adore*, was an Apple Books best book of the month pick for September, and was recently featured in the Crime & Mystery section of the New York Times Book Review.

For full bios of the featured writers, and more information on this event, visit:

<https://english.umaine.edu/event/fiction-reading-by-katie-lattari-and-morgan-talty>

Feminist Media History: Women Journalists at War

Department of Communication and Journalism Fall Colloquium

Monday, November 8, 12:00 p.m.

Virtual ([Zoom link](#))



The Department of Communication and Journalism presents a panel with two media historians who research the experiences of women war reporters and women journalists during wartime. Dr. Carolyn Edy (Appalachian State University), author of *The Woman War Correspondent, the U.S. Military, and the Press: 1846-1947* (2017) and Dr. Jeannine Baker (Macquarie University [Australia]), and author of *Australian Women War Reporters: Boer War to Vietnam* (2015), will reflect on their historical scholarship and its subjects, and some of the methods, approaches, and challenges involved in conducting feminist, women's and media history.

The event is co-sponsored by the Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Program and the McGillicuddy Humanities Center.

“Radicals Cannot be Scholars”: Scholar-Activists, Academic Freedom, and Harvard University, 1933–1939

Dr. Nathan Godfried, Department of History, University of Maine

Part of the Department of History's annual symposium

Monday, November 15, 3-5 p.m.

Virtual ([Zoom link](#))



As the dual forces of economic depression and fascism threatened U.S. society during the 1930s, a debate raged about the value of social activism in the “ivory tower.” While giving lip service to the concept of academic freedom, administrators, trustees, and conservative faculty held firm to the “positivist” assumption that objective research and social advocacy were incompatible. Activists, on the other hand, urged scholars to become directly engaged in social justice issues. Nowhere was this debate more evident than at Harvard University. In 1937, officials dismissed two adjunct instructors who had been deeply involved in radical politics and activities on campus and in the broader community. This talk will situate the Harvard controversy within the context of scholar-activism during the interwar era, the contested concept of academic freedom, and the evolution of the corporatized university.

Socialist and Marxist Studies Series

Double Header with Nathan Godfried and Lisa Neuman

Thursday, November 18, 12:30-1:45p.m.

[Zoom link](#) for all Fall programs in the Socialist and Marxist Studies Series

ACTIVIST SCHOLARS AND SOCIAL UNIONISM: THE MEANING OF THE WALSH-SWEEZY CASE AT HARVARD UNIVERSITY, 1935-1938 Nathan Godfried, Professor of History, University of Maine

ACADEMIC FREEDOM, DUE PROCESS, AND RIGHTS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MAINE Lisa Neuman, Associate Professor of Anthropology and Native American Studies, University of Maine

Professor Godfried will describe the controversial "Walsh-Sweezy case" at Harvard and how this case raises significant questions today about academic freedom, faculty governance, faculty unions, and the role of activist scholars in addressing contemporary social, economic, and political problems. Professor Neuman, UMaine AFUM Chapter President, will relate some of Prof. Godfried's presentation to current union issues at the University.

UMaine Humanities Scholars in the News

[Amy Fried](#), professor of Political Science, co-authored a piece published on October 12, 2021, in the *Washington Post's* [Made By History](#) column titled "[Conservatives have long stoked distrust in government — and now we're paying for it.](#)" Fried and co-author Douglas Harris wrote "only by recognizing and countering this weaponization of distrust in government can we begin to safeguard American institutions that are the bulwarks against these threats. Yet so potent is the rhetoric of distrust that engaging in such efforts is difficult for Trump-critical Republicans, as disagreement with the 'big lie' now ignites massive backlash from the party's base."

On October 19, [The Bangor Daily News](#) published an op-ed from [Michael Haedicke](#), associate professor in the Department of Sociology, about Question 3 on the Nov. 2 election referendum ballot. Haedicke wrote that "by framing the right to food primarily in terms of individuals' freedom of choice, Question 3 sidesteps some important issues that are currently facing the state."

[Jessica Miller](#), health care ethics consultant, [professor of philosophy & associate provost for Academic Affairs and Faculty Development](#), appeared on Maine Public's "[Maine Calling](#)" radio program on October 26, 2021. The program was titled, "How Legal and Ethical Issues Apply to Vaccine Mandates," and it can be listened to at [the Maine Public website](#).

[Brian Pitman](#), assistant professor in the Department of Sociology, was interviewed for [a Maine Public segment](#) about a recent police shooting in Augusta, Maine. The sister of the man shot by police says he had Asperger syndrome, which affected his ability to communicate. Pitman explained that community supports must be in place so those with mental illness get treatment before their actions incite a police response. "We know that if we invest in communities, healthcare, jobs and people's overall wellbeing that these incidents would happen less, that crime would happen less," he said.

The [Maine Edge](#) interviewed [Rosalie Purvis](#), Libra Assistant Professor of Theatre and English, about the UMaine School of Performing Arts's collaborative production of Naomi Iilzuka's "Anon(ymous)." The production, co-directed by Dr. Purvis and Dr. Debaroti Chakraborty of Presidency College in Kolkata, featured filmed actors in India performing alongside live actors in the Cyrus Pavilion Theatre at UMaine. "Anon(ymous)" was performed several times between October 15 and October 24, 2021.

Funding Opportunities in the Humanities

Below are a number of winter deadlines for NEH funding opportunities. Contact Karen Sieber at mhc@maine.edu or Dr. Saul Allen in the Office of Research and Development, to discuss these and other research funding support and grant opportunities in the arts and humanities.

NEH Scholarly Editions/Scholarly Translations Grants Proposals due December 1 2021

The Scholarly Editions and Scholarly Translations program provides grants to organizations to support collaborative teams who are editing, annotating, and translating foundational humanities texts that are vital to learning and research but are currently inaccessible or are available only in inadequate editions or translations. Typically, the texts are significant literary, philosophical, and historical materials, but other types of work, such as musical notation, may also be the subject of an edition.

The program supports continuous full-time or part-time activities during the periods of performance of one to three years. Projects must be undertaken by at least two scholars working collaboratively.

[More information about this opportunity is available here.](#)

NEH Public Scholars Grants Proposals due December 15, 2021

NEH Public Scholars grants supports the creation of well-researched nonfiction books in the humanities written for the broad public. It does so by offering grants to individual authors for research, writing, travel, and other activities leading to publication. Writers with or without an academic affiliation may apply, and no advanced degree is required.

[More information, including a NOFO, can be found here.](#)

NEH Collaborative Research Grants Proposals due December 1, 2021

The NEH Division of Research Programs is accepting proposals for collaborative research projects that feature two or more scholars, drawn from one or more institutions. International collaborations, collaboration between the humanities and the sciences, and partnerships between different types of institutions is encouraged.

Proposed projects must aim to result in tangible and sustainable outcomes, such as co-authored or multi-authored books; born-digital publications; themed issues of peer-reviewed journals; a series of peer-reviewed articles; or open-access scholarly digital resources. All project outcomes must incorporate collaboration and interpretation to address significant humanities research questions.

The program includes four project categories: Planning International Collaboration, Conference, Manuscript Preparation, and Scholarly Digital Projects. The categories support different project types or stages and have

different performance periods and award ceilings. Applicants must specify only one project category for support.

[More details can be found here.](#)

NEH Public Humanities Grants

Drafts accepted through December 8, 2021

Final proposals due January 12, 2022

The Public Humanities Projects program supports projects that bring the ideas of the humanities to life for general audiences through public programming. Projects must engage humanities scholarship to analyze significant themes in disciplines such as history, literature, ethics, and art history. Awards support projects that are intended to reach broad and diverse public audiences in non-classroom settings in the United States. Projects should engage with ideas that are accessible to the general public and employ appealing interpretive formats. Funding is offered in three program categories (Exhibitions, Historic Places, and Humanities Discussions), and at two funding levels (Planning and Implementation); The selection committee welcomes humanities projects tailored to particular groups (families, K-12 students underserved communities, veterans). Applicants are advised to consider developing partnerships with other institutions, broadcast media stations, cultural heritage centers, state humanities councils, veterans' centers, and libraries. [More information about funding limits and the different requirements for Planning and Implementation grants, can be found here.](#)

In Memoriam

In recent weeks, the University of Maine arts and humanities community has lost several scholars and teachers who made lasting impacts on our students, contributions to our community, and left important legacies on our campus. We mourn their loss and remember them here.



Marcia Joy Douglas passed away Oct. 11 after a short illness. Born in California and raised in Colorado, she was a theatre educator for over 40 years at universities in the Midwest and Maine. In 1999, she joined the UMaine faculty, specializing in acting. She taught movement, voice and speech, and dramatic literature, to countless UMaine students, directed many plays and musicals for the School of Performing Arts, and served two terms as chair of the Division of Theatre and Dance. She was a dedicated and engaging teacher who often met with students for hours at a time out of a genuine interest in their development as actors and as

people. Douglas, who retired Sept. 1, 2021, was known for directing plays that challenged student actors and audiences. She believed in the ability of theatre to teach empathy and to safely explore the darker themes of the human condition. Douglas' students remember her as a teacher who cared about helping them develop and grow as whole humans; she touched the hearts and minds of countless students through her advising, teaching and directing. She will be deeply missed by colleagues, students, friends and family.

More on Professor Douglas's life and career [can be found here.](#)



Michael Lewis joined UMaine's Art Department in 1966. A Brooklyn, New York



native, Lewis said in a 2016 interview prior to his retirement that he and his wife, May, came to Maine never intending to stay — they just never found a reason to leave. He was instrumental in helping set the foundation for UMaine's professional Department of Art as a vigorous place to learn from artists and scholars.

During his time at UMaine, Lewis not only taught painting and drawing courses, but also mentored students and faculty alike, and served as department chair and associate dean. As an artist, he created an innovative, ever-evolving body of paintings and drawings exhibited in Maine and beyond. His paintings are in private collections and museums across the country and in far corners of the world. He touched the hearts and minds of countless people through his art and teaching, and he will be deeply missed by his colleagues, students and family. In 2016, upon his retirement, the Professor Michael H. Lewis Art Scholarship Fund was created at the University of Maine Foundation with gifts from colleagues, admirers, former students and friends in celebration of his distinguished career..

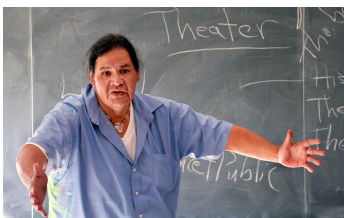
More on Professor Lewis's life and career [can be found here](#).



Owen Smith, the University of Maine Art Professor who established the Intermedia Master of Fine Arts Program, and led the team that created the Innovative Media Research and Commercialization Center (IMRC), died on October 14, 2021. Over the course of his 30-year career with UMaine, Smith brought "an innovative, unconventional, multidisciplinary approach to the creative process to the classroom and studio, changing the lives of countless young artists and creative people at UMaine," [reported the Bangor Daily News](#).

A native of Seattle who received his Ph.D. in art history at the University of Washington, Smith was an internationally respected scholar of Fluxus, an experimental international art movement in the 1960s. Students and colleagues remembered Smith as an inspiring and generous mentor, who went out of his way to encourage them to think deeply and differently about their artistic process, and who brought warmth, good humor and a devoted work ethic to everything he did. Among his many awards, Smith received UMaine's Presidential Outstanding Teaching Award in 2000 and the Presidential Research and Creative Achievement Award in 2009.

More on Professor Smith's life and career [can be found here](#).



William S. Yellow Robe, Jr., a playwright, director and University of Maine educator who explored the racial, cultural and emotional faultlines of Native American life through his more than 45 published plays, died on July 19, 2021.

[Credit: Credit: Bob DeLong / BDN]

Yellow Robe was an enrolled member of the Assiniboine Tribe of the Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes of the

Fort Peck Indian Reservation in Montana, where he grew up. Starting in the mid-1980s, Yellow Robe was a prolific writer of both full-length and one-act plays, as well as essays, short stories and poems. His connection to Maine dates back to 2004, when at the invitation of English Professor Margo Lukens, Yellow Robe completed a 10-week Libra professorship in UMaine's English department. His play "Better-n-Indins" was staged at the Cyrus Pavilion Theatre, with a cast composed mostly of community members from Indian Island and Old Town. Several of Yellow Robe's other plays have been produced at UMaine over the years, including "Rez Politics" in 2009, and "Wood Bones" in 2016. He taught a number of undergraduate and graduate classes at UMaine, and developed close mentorships with young artists from the local Penobscot tribe.

More on Professor Yellow Robe's life and career [can be found here](#).

[Please note: these remembrances are excerpted from profiles originally published by *UMaine News*, a publication of the Department of Marketing and Communications, and *The Bangor Daily News*]

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