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## McGillicuddy Humanities Center Newsletter\_December 2021

University of Maine McGillicuddy Humanities Center

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Matthew Revitt <matthew.revitt@maine.edu>

## McGillicuddy Humanities Center December Newsletter

1 message

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

Wed, Dec 1, 2021 at 9:11 AM

### McGillicuddy Humanities Center Newsletter [December 2021]

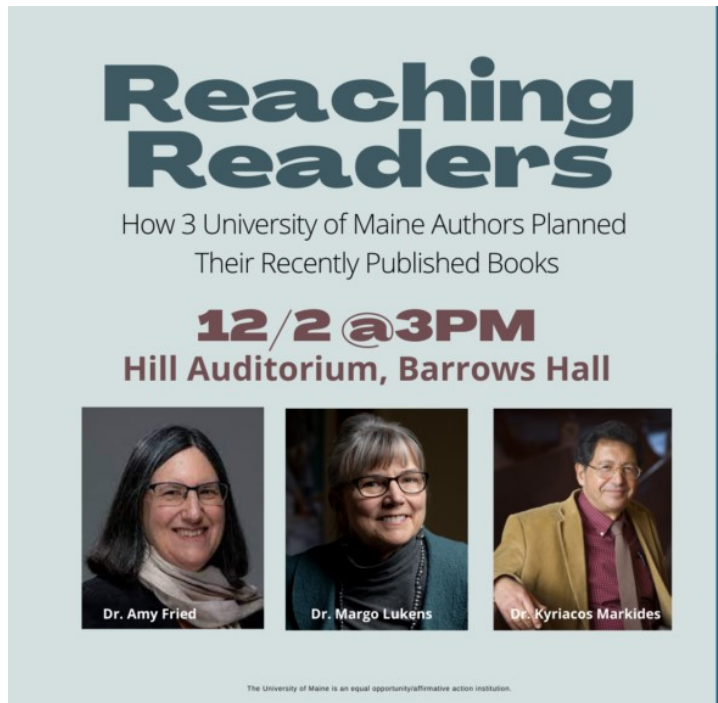


December means we've reached the end of the calendar year, and the midpoint of the academic year. The early sunsets, cold evenings, and holiday lights promise joy and reflection as the new year approaches. Here at the McGillicuddy Humanities Center we've enjoyed a successful 2021 despite the pandemic's challenges, and we're looking forward to 2022. There will be many changes - we're saddened to say goodbye to Humanities Specialist Karen Sieber, who has done so much to raise the Center's public profile and mentor our undergraduate fellows. We're looking forward to celebrating the Center's 10th anniversary next year, and we wish you a wonderful holiday season, and a very Happy New Year.

We'll see you next on February 1, 2022.

[Image: A Lord Hall gallery guest views artwork by MHC Fellow Haley Santerre on November 19, 2021. Credit: Karen Sieber]

## McGillicuddy Humanities Center Events & Updates



**Reaching Readers**

How 3 University of Maine Authors Planned  
Their Recently Published Books

**12/2 @3PM**

**Hill Auditorium, Barrows Hall**

Dr. Amy Fried      Dr. Margo Lukens      Dr. Kyriacos Markides

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



Humanities: Impact in Real Life MHC Symposium, 2021-2022

Professor of Political Science Amy Fried (co-author)  
***At War with Government: How Conservatives  
Weaponized Distrust from Goldwater to Trump***

Professor of English Margo Lukens (co-author)  
***"Still They Remember Me"*  
*Penobscot Transformer Tales, Volume 1***

Professor Emeritus of Sociology Kyriacos Markides  
***The Accidental Immigrant:  
A Quest for Spirit in a Skeptical Age***

## Reaching Readers

December 2, 2021 3:00 pm - 4:00 p.m.

Hill Auditorium, Barrows Hall

[and remote [via Zoom](#)]

Understanding how best to make a topic, subject or theme relevant to non-specialized audiences is a skill that takes years to master. This roundtable event brings three nationally recognized University of Maine scholars together to discuss the process of planning, researching, and composing their new books, and how they were able to gain the interest of the publishers who eventually supported and published their projects.

Professor of Political Science Amy Fried's new (co-authored) book, titled ***At War with Government: How Conservatives Weaponized Distrust from Goldwater to Trump***, was published by Columbia University Press, Professor of English Margo Lukens's new (co-authored) book, titled ***"Still They Remember Me" Penobscot Transformer Tales, Volume 1***, was published by University of Massachusetts Press, and Professor Emeritus of Sociology Kyriacos Markides's new book, titled ***The Accidental Immigrant: A Quest for Spirit in a Skeptical Age***, was published by Hamilton Books. All three books appeared this year (2021), and all three authors employed tools drawn from the humanities – historical inquiry, thoughtful reflection, and understandings of perspective and connection – to develop their ideas and complete their projects.

The event is part of the McGillicuddy Humanities Center's 2021-2022 Annual Symposium: **"Humanities: Impact in Real Life."**

## PARTICIPANT BIOGRAPHIES:

[Amy Fried](#) is John Mitchell Nickerson Professor of Political Science at the University of Maine. She is the author of *Muffled Echoes: Oliver North and the Politics of Public Opinion* (Columbia, 1997) and *Pathways to Polling: Crisis, Cooperation, and the Making of Public Opinion Professions* (2012).

[Margo Lukens](#) is a scholar of Native American literature who has long collaborated with the Penobscot nation. She is a Professor of English at the University of Maine, and the former Director of the McGillicuddy Humanities Center.

[Kyriacos Markides](#), Professor Emeritus of Sociology at the University of Maine, has written several books on Christian mysticism for academic publishers including Yale University Press, and trade publishers like Doubleday.

## Fellows Updates

**Sarah Penney** (MHC Fellow '20) will be moving to Washington D.C. soon to begin a new job in communications at the [Sabin Vaccine Institute](#). The Sabin Vaccine Institute is a leading advocate for expanding vaccine access and uptake globally, advancing vaccine research and development, and amplifying vaccine knowledge and innovation. The Institute carries on the legacy of Dr. Albert B. Sabin, best known for his creation of the oral polio vaccine in the 1950s, which was used in the global effort to eradicate polio.



**Nola Prevost** (MHC Fellow '21) published the poem "All the girls in the woods" in the October issue of the literary magazine [Beyond Words](#). The poem is from a collection of feminist fairy tales Prevost composed during her fellowship in 2020-2021. The edition of *Beyond Words* can be purchased [here](#).

**"Overture"** - The University of Maine Department of Art 2021 Senior Capstone Exhibition, opened on Friday, November 19, 2021 with a reception featuring the artists and their artwork in Lord Hall Gallery.

The artistry of two current McGillicuddy Humanities Center fellows was featured.

The work of **Delaney Burns** explores the intersection of art and science. Burns, a fourth-year student from Gorham, Maine, is double-majoring in Studio Art and Marketing with minors in Art History and Graphic Design. **Haley Santerre**, the inaugural Richard and Karin Anderson Undergraduate Fellow, presented a series of colorful paintings capturing a variety of experiences, feelings, and moments in time.

"Overture" runs through January 28, 2022 in the Lord Hall Gallery



2021 Senior Capstone Exhibition

# overture

Opening at Lord Hall Gallery  
Friday, Nov. 19th 5:00-7:00 PM  
Refreshments & Cash Bar





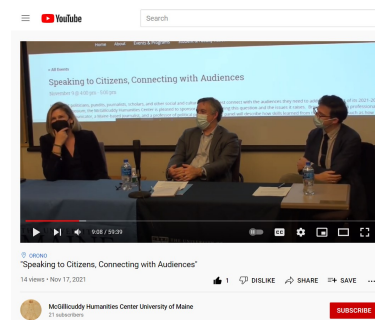
## With Gratitude, We Bid Farewell To Karen Sieber

The McGillicuddy Humanities Center, over the last two years, enjoyed unprecedented growth and success. Much of the credit for the Center's achievements must be attributed to the hard work, expertise, and commitment of Humanities Specialist Karen Sieber. Karen joined the Center in 2019, and within six months covid-19 forced several alterations to the Center's plans. Yet whether it was the Center's strategic planning initiative, the expansion of the undergraduate fellows program, the inauguration of this newsletter, the NEH Wabanaki Resources Portal, the Hidden History project, or myriad other projects and events, Karen's tireless efforts insured success. We remain especially grateful for her caring and devoted mentorship of the undergraduate fellows.

Karen's last day with the Center will be Thursday, December 2nd. She leaves the University of Maine and Orono for Saint Paul, Minnesota, where she will be joining the Minnesota Humanities Center in January, 2022. We thank her for her work and wish her every success in her next endeavor.

## Youtube Channel Uploads

The [McGillicuddy Humanities Center YouTube channel](#) has recently been updated with video from this fall's events. If you were unable to attend an event that was of interest, [you can watch them at this link](#).



## University of Maine Humanities Events

### "Black Feminism and ME/Maine"

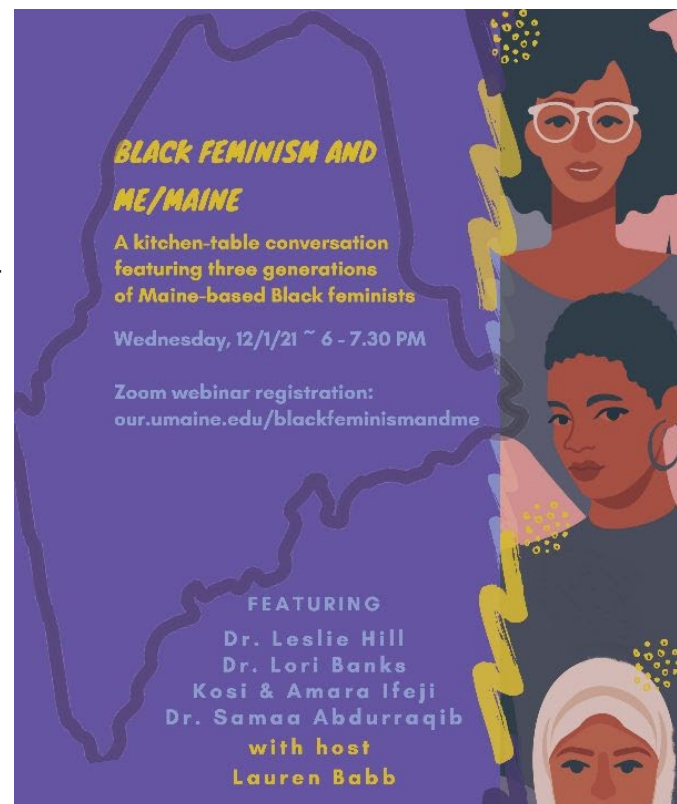
December 1, 2021 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

Via Zoom:

<http://our.umaine.edu/blackfeminismandme>.

(Registration page)

On Wednesday, December 1 at 6:00 pm, join a cross-campus group for a conversation among three generations of inspiring Maine-based Black feminist activists, academics, and community builders. Coming together to **seek the roots and trace the branches of Black feminism in Maine**, panelists will interweave themes of Black women's history, solidarity, and connections to nature, science, environmental, and social justice movements, creativity, and the arts. The conversation will be facilitated by Laren Babb, who pursued a graduate degree in chemistry from the University of Maine. Around the table will be Dr. Samaa Abdurraqib, Associate Director, Maine



Humanities Council; Dr. Lori Banks, Assistant Professor of Biology, Bates College; Dr. Leslie Hill, Professor of Political Science, Bates College; Amara

Ifeji, Director of Youth Engagement and Policy, Maine Environmental Association and National Geographic Young Explorer; and Kosi Ifeji, Bangor High School student and Youth Hub Coordinator, Maine Environmental Education Association. Register for this event at <http://our.umaine.edu/blackfeminismandme>.

with generous support from the Alton '38  
and Adelaide Hamm Campus Activity Fund



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### **"Reconciling the One and the Many, On the Possibility of Fragmentation and Perception in Virginia Woolf and the New Physics"**

**Michael Swacha**, lecturer in English and Philosophy  
Maples room 116 (Weisz Room)  
December 3, 2021 3:00 p.m.

On Friday, December 3 at 3:00 pm in the Maples room 116 (Weisz Room), the **Department of Philosophy Colloquium Series** presents a talk by **Michael Swacha**, lecturer in English and Philosophy, titled "Reconciling the One and the Many, On the Possibility of Fragmentation and Perception in Virginia Woolf and the New Physics." In this talk, Swacha explores the epistemological affinities between Virginia Woolf's 1931 novel *The Waves* and new discoveries in physics during the early twentieth century, all in order to posit the potential that modernist notions of fragmentation and perception hold for opening and imagining new ways of knowing, existing, and relating to one another.

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### **Yuletide Celebration**

**UMaine School of Performing Arts Division of Music**  
Saturday, December 4, 7:30 p.m.  
Collins Center for the Arts

The University's major choral ensembles will collaborate with small instrumental ensembles to perform an evening of festive music and fun for the whole family! Nearly 200 singers are expected to take part in the performance that will feature University Singers, Collegiate Chorale, Black Bear Men's Chorus and the Oratorio Society. Conductors include School of Performing Arts faculty: Francis John Vogt, Danny Williams and Molly Webster. [Tickets are \\$12, including fees.](#)

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### ***UMaine Humanities Scholars in the News***

The [Bangor Daily News](#) published an op-ed from **Jordan LaBouff**, an associate professor in the **Department of Psychology** and Honors, titled "Why representation matters, from Sesame Street to Main Street." LaBouff is a member of the Maine chapter of the national Scholars Strategy Network, which brings together scholars across the country to address public challenges and their policy implications. Labouff writes, "When children and young adults see people like themselves in positions of power, it can reinforce their potential to achieve those positions, and more. We should all work together to make sure both our Sesame Streets and our Main Streets avoid entrenching harmful stereotypes, and instead represent the power of the rich diversity of humanity in our communities."

The [Portland Press Herald](#) highlighted the University of Maine Raymond H. Fogler Library's "Native American Studies: Wabanaki Authorities in Fogler Library" list in an article about Native authors and their stories. The

report also noted the book "Still They Remember Me: Penobscot Transformer Tales Volume 1," co-authored by UMaine professor of English **Margo Lukens**. [Centralmaine.com](https://www.centralmaine.com) shared the Press Herald article.

**Michael Socolow**, director of the McGillicuddy Humanities Center and associate professor in the **Department of Communication and Journalism**, is the author of a piece in *The Conversation* titled "[Olympic Games are great for propagandists—how the lessons of Hitler's Olympics loom over Beijing 2022](#)." Socolow writes: "It's now less than 100 days from the opening ceremony of the 2022 Beijing Winter Olympics, and therefore it's time for an honest discussion about the ethics of sport journalism and the morality of American media's complicity with authoritarian regimes that hide the active repression of their citizens." Socolow appeared on [770 CHQR radio in Calgary, AB, Canada](#) to discuss the piece, where he was interviewed by *Calgary Herald* columnist Rob Breakenridge about the Beijing Olympics and the possibility of a boycott. On November 27, Socolow also appeared on the Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) Radio National program "[Sporty](#)" to discuss [sport broadcast history and the Olympic Games](#).

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## ***Funding Opportunities in the Humanities***

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Below are a number of winter deadlines for NEH funding opportunities. Contact 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.

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### **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.](#)

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### **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.](#)

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### **NEH Digital Humanities Advancement Grants**

## Final proposals due January 15, 2022

These grants support the creation or enhancement of experimental, computationally-based methods, techniques, or infrastructure that contribute to the humanities. Grantees should be pursuing scholarship that examines the history, criticism, and philosophy of digital culture or technology and its impact on society, or conducting evaluative studies that investigate the practices and the impact of digital scholarship on research, pedagogy, scholarly communication, and public engagement. For a more detailed description and instructions for applying, visit:

<https://www.neh.gov/grants/odh/digital-humanities-advancement-grants>

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## NEH Summer Seminars and Institutes for Higher Education Faculty Proposals due February 11, 2022

The one- to four-week professional development programs allow participants to explore recent developments in scholarship, teaching, and/or curriculum; Seminars provide a focused environment in which sixteen participants study a specific humanities topic under the guidance of established scholars (not visiting faculty), and create sustained interaction through discussion of common readings and conversations about scholarship, teaching, reflection. Some time is reserved for work on individual or collaborative projects. For more information on this opportunity, visit:

<https://www.neh.gov/grants/odh/digital-humanities-advancement-grants>

### *In February's Newsletter*

- We'll introduce the new cohort of MHC undergraduate fellows with short biographies and descriptions of their projects.
- We'll announce the fall, 2021 faculty grant awardees, and their projects (for completion in spring-summer, 2022).
- We'll name the recipient of the 2022 [Global Perspectives for Humanities Explorations](#) Fund award and tell you about their study abroad plan.
- We'll be introducing our plans for 2022, with a special focus on events celebrating the McGillicuddy Humanities Center's 10th anniversary.

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