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Office for Diversity and Inclusion Newsletter, Oct. 11, 2021

Robert Jackson

Office for Diversity and Inclusion, University of Maine

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Reflecting on Indigenous Peoples Day

1 message

UMaine Office for Diversity and Inclusion <robert.jackson@maine.edu>

Mon, Oct 11, 2021 at 8:59 AM

Reply-To: UMaine Office for Diversity and Inclusion <robert.jackson@maine.edu>

To:





We, the staff of the Office for Diversity and Inclusion, would first like to acknowledge that we sit on Penobscot Land. The Penobscot Nation is one of four tribal nations (along with the Passamaquoddy, Micmac, and Maliseet) that make up the Wabanaki Confederacy. Even as we acknowledge that many injustices, particularly related to land and water, continue today, we also are aware that we benefit directly from being on this land and from the exploitation of the people who were here first.

October 11th is the day we center and honor the original dwellers of the United States of America. Historically, Indigenous history, experiences, contributions, wisdom, heritage, language, culture and actual bodies have been erased, silenced and forgotten. Today we push back on this invisibility. This day gives us a chance to take some time to remember this fact while also finding ways to reconcile our past oppressive habits to current education and informed actions. For this, we must first acknowledge that most of our systems (educational, media representation, history, access to start business, be protected by law enforcement, have parks etc) are set up specifically to benefit certain folx and keep the rest out. This “way of life” has become such an insidious part of who we are now that it makes dismantling oppressive and racist systems very hard. If we think about education, access to land and water, addictions, missing and murdered women and girls and so much more, within Native narratives, the result of decisions and actions made by non-Native folx.

We continue to live within these systems that perpetuate these harm.

So what now?

Where do we go?

What do we do?

I have a checklist of things you can do!

- Recognize that we are on Indigenous land! Understanding why we are doing this as our intention communicates our integrity. In collaboration with the Wabanaki Confederacy, UMaine has adopted this one: <https://umaine.edu/about/university-of-maine-land-acknowledgement/>
- Support the movement to remove and ban harmful and racist mascots utilizing indigenous imagery and language.
- Support local and other indigenous people's rights and movements.

- Contribute to the First Nations Development Institute's [COVID-19 Emergency Response Fund](#) that directly supports Native American communities (as we recognize that Native folx have been disproportionately impacted by the pandemic).
- Support the implementation of LD 291! This is a law that requires teaching of Maine Native American history and culture in Maine schools. To learn about how to do this, [check out what the Abbe Museum instructs us by clicking this link](#).
- Visit the Abbe Museum in Bar Harbor, Maine
- Residential schools are a reality here in the United States as well. See what the National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition is doing by [clicking here](#).
- Sign up to watch the Emmy Award-winning documentary film *Dawnland* and *Dear Georgina* for free by [RSVPing on EventBrite](#).
- Read, listen, learn from Indigenous voices right from your community:
 1. [New Moon Teachings: Indigenous Peoples' Day and Wabanaki Activism](#)
 2. [Maine Wabanaki Reach](#)
 3. [Wabanaki Two Spirit Alliance](#)

In solidarity,
Anila Karunakar, Director
Office for Diversity and Inclusion



Join Dawn Neptune Adams, (Penobscot) and member of the Sunlight Media Collective, Christopher Newell (Passamaquoddy) executive director and senior partner to Wabanaki Nations at the Abbe Museum, and Jennifer Kreisberg (Tuscarora) award-winning composer and singer and member of ULALI along with Dawnland filmmaker Adam Mazo. Through storytelling, song, ceremony and clips from the Emmy® -winning documentary Dawnland, the group will shine a spotlight on the hidden history of genocide and survival of Wabanaki people in particular and Indigenous people more broadly across Turtle Island and Mother Earth.

Partners: Abbe Museum, Sunlight Media Collective, Upstander Project (Dawnland)





PAINT WITH PRIDE

**OCTOBER 20TH
6P-8P
MEMORIAL UNION ROOM 312**

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



THE UNIVERSITY OF
MAINE

Student Life

Office for Diversity and Inclusion



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equal opportunity/affirmative
action institution."

JOIN US WEEKLY ON WEDNESDAYS AT 3PM ON ZOOM FOR LGBTQIA+ SUPPORT GROUP

Starts on September 29th, 2021

**SIGN UP BY EMAILING
JULIA TANER AT
JULIA.TANER@MAINE.EDU**

THIS GROUP IS IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE
OFFICE FOR DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION AND
THE UNIVERSITY OF MAINE COUNSELING
CENTER. THIS GROUP IS A PRIVATE, NON-
CONFIDENTIAL SUPPORT GROUP.



He's everywhere in a land he never knew existed, in a nation that wasn't formed for nearly three centuries after his death. How did Christopher Columbus become a fixture of American society? Why do many of us only know what we learned as children about one of the most monumental events in human history – one with consequences that are still rippling through different cultures in the US?

Winner of the Colorado International Film Festival Best Documentary Feature (2018)

Viewer discretion is advised.

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B BOLD

Black Bear Outdoor Leadership Diversified

October 23 - October 24

Maine Bound Adventure Center and the Office for Diversity and Inclusion invite you to participate in the Black Bear Outdoor Leadership Diversified (B BOLD) program, a weekend (overnight) full scholarship retreat for Students of Color. We hope to create a comfortable space where students can explore and grow in their leadership skills developed in the outdoor activities.



Scan here for the application!

Contact: beth.jackson@maine.edu or anila.karunakar@maine.edu

**This program is made possible with generous support from the Alton '38 and Adelaide Hamm Campus Activity Fund*





Water Issues at Pleasant Point
Reported by Robbie Feinberg

"It's Something That Most Americans Would Never Tolerate." Maine Public Radio's Robbie Feinberg travels to the Passamaquoddy Tribe at Pleasant Point, Maine to

examine the years-long struggle to provide safe drinking water to it's people.



Thursdays 6-7PM at The Wilson Center
67 College Ave. in Orono

please bring a mask
all are welcome, beginner and expert

RSVPS APPRECIATED - ZOOM OPTION AVAILABLE BY REQUEST
WILSONCENTERORONO@GMAIL.COM

THE ROBERT TALBOT CIVIL RIGHTS SPEAKER SERIES

PROMOTING DIALOGUE AND ENGAGEMENT
TO ADVANCE EQUALITY AND JUSTICE

Co-hosted by
**The UMaine Alumni Association
and the Greater Bangor Area Branch NAACP**

**Please join us in Orono for the inauguration of
The Robert Talbot Civil Rights Speaker Series**

Thursday, October 21, 2021
Wells Conference Center, University of Maine
4:30 p.m. – reception | 5:30 p.m. – program



FEATURING
Fighting Time co-authors
Amy Banks and Isaac Knapper



Register at our.umaine.edu/talbot or call 207.581.1146.
Admission is free. *This event is supported by a generous grant from Bangor Savings Bank.*




All guests 12 years and older are required to present proof of full vaccination against COVID-19 or a qualifying negative COVID-19 test to gain access to this event. See registration page for more details.



About *Fighting Time*, by co-authors Amy Banks and Isaac Knapper

In 1979, 16-year-old Isaac Knapper was wrongfully convicted and sentenced to life in prison for the murder in New Orleans of UMaine History Professor Ronald Banks. However, Knapper was freed 13 years later after it was revealed that prosecutors had suppressed evidence that cleared Knapper of the crime.

Professor Banks' daughter, Amy Banks, was also 16 years old at the time of her father's murder. Twenty-six years later, she and Knapper met and began working together to process the horrific circumstances of the murder and judicial failures.

Now close friends and advocates for racial justice and reform, the two have collaborated on *Fighting Time*. As reviewer Jennifer Thompson wrote, "*Fighting Time* is not just a book about the injustice of a wrongful conviction, but a love story of the capacity of human beings to find power in the pain and healing in the harm."

Fighting Time will be published on November 5th. Advance copies of the book will be available for sale at Banks and Knapper's October 21st presentation and at The Briar Patch bookstore in Bangor.

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Please join us in Orono for the inauguration of the Robert Talbot Civil Rights Speaker Series, featuring co-authors of "Fighting Time," Amy Banks and Isaac Knapper. The event will be held on Thursday, October 21, 2021 at Wells Conference Center from 4:30 to 7:00 pm. Registration available here: our.umaine.edu/talbot.



SOLIDARITY MEETING

A SAFE PLACE TO FIND SOLIDARITY! A PLACE TO
SHARE AND SUPPORT EACH OTHER AS
STUDENTS OF COLOR AT UMAINE



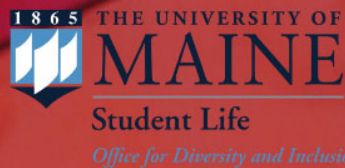
MEETING WILL BE HELD BI-WEEKLY
STARTING 9/15/21 AT 2PM
SIGN UP VIA ATTACHED LINK

*This meeting is offered online for the time being. Students must be
physically in Maine to attend.*



The University of Maine is an equal
opportunity/affirmative action institute
Students should request accommodations a
week in advance





THE UNIVERSITY OF MAINE
OFFICE FOR DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION
PRESENTS

MAKE YOUR OWN PRIDE FLAG BUTTON

Everybody is welcome!
October 12 & 14
COE Room 11:30a-1:30p

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK: UMAINE OFFICE FOR
DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION
OR ON INSTAGRAM: UMAINEODI

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Remember me
(Remember me)
When the Sun comes up in the morning Sky
There I will be
(There I will be)
Soaring with the Eagle so high
Feeling free
Remember me
Down the road
Hand in hand
You and Me

AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE CLUB

MONDAYS 6PM-7PM

WHATS OUR PURPOSE?

The purpose of American Sign Language (ASL) Club is to get club members comfortable with signing an introduction of who they are/where they come from in order to feel prepared to engage in conversation with deaf or hard of hearing people. Students will be a part of bridging the gap between hearing and Deaf cultures; they will gain new perspective. This preparedness will also come through learning about Deaf culture and the proper use of ASL.

WHERE?

We are currently meeting in front of the bear statue (on the opposite end of the library). When it gets too cold, we will relocate inside!

CONTACT:

Please direct any questions to our President, Morgan Oehler, or Vice President, Shanna Scribner: Morgan.oehler@maine.edu, Shanna.scribner@maine.edu



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



Fall 2021
Hebrew
Year 5782

Weekly Meetings

Wednesday @ 5pm at the
Multicultural Student Center
3rd Floor, Memorial Union

- Holiday Events and Services
- Jewish Cooking
- Resources and Support
- Shabbat Dinners
- Fun and Games
- Volunteer Opportunities

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To learn more
contact our president at
sarah.meyerwaldo@maine.edu
or message us on facebook
or on instagram @umainehillel





Asian STUDENT ASSOCIATION

6 - 7 PM every other Friday at Room 312,
Memorial Union

WHO WE ARE

We are a student organization who welcomes **everyone** from different backgrounds to join us for our events.

WHAT WE DO

Join our general meetings for fun games, movie nights, cooking and study sessions. Have fun and make friends along the way!

CONTACT

annapurna.leung@maine.edu
anna.bishop@maine.edu
abigayl.novak@maine.edu

FOLLOW US

Facebook: University of Maine Asian Student Association
Instagram: @asa_umaine



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THE UNIVERSITY OF
MAINE

2021 Geddes W. Simpson Lecture

Decolonizing Botany

by Banu Subramaniam, Ph.D.



Thurs., Oct. 14, 2021

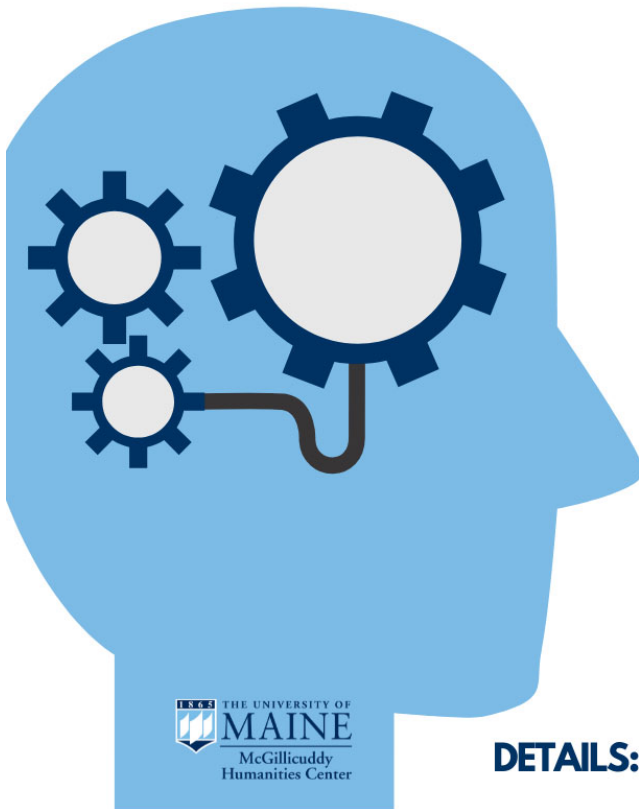
1:00 p.m. EST

Buchanan Alumni House

or via YouTube



Apply to become a
MCGILlicuddy HUMANITIES CENTER
Undergraduate Fellow



Earn \$8,000
over two semesters
during Junior or Senior year

Work on independent
research or creative projects
in the arts and humanities

**Grow your
scholarly
community**

PROPOSALS DUE
OCTOBER 17

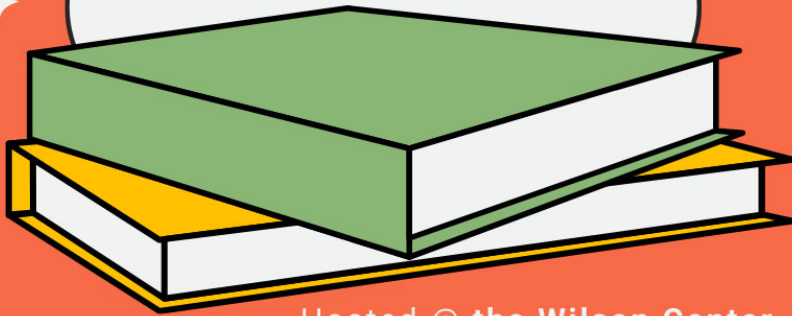
FOR SPRING THROUGH FALL 2022
FELLOWSHIP CYCLE

DETAILS: www.umaine.edu/mhc/

Tired of paying hundreds for textbooks and selling them back for pennies?
Check out UMaine's new **student-to-student**

FREE TEXTBOOK LIBRARY!

TAKE A BOOK - LEAVE A BOOK - PAY IT FORWARD



Hosted @ **the Wilson Center**
67 College Ave. in Orono
Donation bin on the front porch

Are you passionate about spiritual
exploration and multifaith dialogue?

Join the UMaine Interfaith Group!

—
MONDAYS @ 6PM
WILSON CENTER, ORONO

Email dominique.dispirito@maine.edu with
questions! We hope to see you there!

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This email was sent to kimberly.sawtelle@maine.edu

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UMaine Multicultural Student Life · 5748 Memorial Union, 3rd Floor, Room 312 · Orono, Me 04469 · USA

