The Approaching Spring

Conditions compel me to note that this month's newsletter is being published in a time of enormous geopolitical tension. We must particularly acknowledge, in this moment, the vital role history plays in understanding, contextualizing, and addressing the current violence in Ukraine. The immediate relevance and applicability of the humanities are now evidenced daily by the ways in which leaders in Russia, Ukraine, the United States, the United Kingdom, and elsewhere, are appealing to history and culture in order justify their actions. We now live in a world where history unfolds daily before our eyes, and therefore learning histories, languages, literatures, and cultures, has never been a more
I also want to note that the month of March begins spring, when the sun stays above the horizon well past five o'clock and there's a hint of reawakening in the air. The McGillicuddy Humanities Center, and our wider humanities community at the University of Maine, have a terrific series of events planned. We're producing and co-sponsoring numerous in-person events in March, such as the Alan Miller Fund Visiting Journalist Program, and the Guerilla Opera residency, that we hope will help further the restoration of campus vitality. That's really what spring is about - the hint of warmth, more time spent outside, and thawing from the darkness and chill. We invite you to join us this month at one of our activities, and once again I'd like to remind you of the 10th Anniversary Celebration of the McGillicuddy Humanities Center, scheduled for April 10, 2022, at the IMRC on-campus as part of Maine Impact Week. We're proud of our history, and look forward to continuing our support for wonderful faculty projects and promising undergraduate fellows in the future.

[Image: Flood waters photographed in March, 1900, in Riverton Park on the Presumpscot River in Portland. Credit: Maine Memory Network, A Maine Historical Society website.]

McGillicuddy Humanities Center News

Spring, 2022 Faculty Grant and Fellows Program Awards Cycle

Deadline for MHC student and faculty funding is March 17, 2022

MCGILLCUDDY HUMANITIES CENTER
UNDERGRADUATE FELLOWSHIPS AND FACULTY GRANTS

STUDENTS
$4000 per semester to work on independent projects in the humanities

*for two consecutive semesters during your junior or senior year

FACULTY
Up to $5000 to support faculty research, community and classroom engagement

Deadlines March 17 and October 17 annually
FACULTY
Now is the time to conceive and plan a research project that the MHC might help support over the summer and/or into Fall, 2022. The deadline for Faculty funding is **March 17, 2022**, and instructions can be found here.

STUDENTS
The McGillicuddy Humanities Center Undergraduate Fellows program offers juniors and seniors the opportunity to work on independent research or creative projects of their own devising in the humanities. Fellowships last two consecutive semesters (fall/spring or spring/fall) to create overlap, and Fellows receive $4000 each per semester, or $8000 in total for their research work. Applications are due **March 17, 2022** for fellowships running fall 2022 through spring 2023.

More information can be found here, including instructions for crafting a strong proposal, finding a faculty advisor, or learning more about what our current Fellows are researching for inspiration.

We're happy to answer any questions students or faculty members have about the process. Just drop us an e-mail at: mhc@maine.edu.

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**2022 Alan Miller Fund Visiting Journalist Program**

The Intersection of Local Campaigns and National Politics: Reflections on Political Reporting in Maine

A talk by Michael Shepherd, Bangor Daily News

2022 Alan Miller Fund Visiting Journalist at the University of Maine

**Time:** Thursday, March 31, 2022 at 4:00 p.m.

**Location:** Arthur St. John Hill Auditorium, Barrows Hall, University of Maine (and remote access via Zoom)

Thursday, March 31, 2022 at 4:00 p.m. in Arthur St. John Hill Auditorium, or via zoom for remote access:

[https://maine.zoom.us/j/85307508600?pwd=bEN5NVZqWFpYb096RHhpUendHRXVHUT09](https://maine.zoom.us/j/85307508600?pwd=bEN5NVZqWFpYb096RHhpUendHRXVHUT09)
Michael Shepherd is the politics editor at the Bangor Daily News, where he leads coverage of state government and political campaigns. His reporting on recent campaigns, such as the Sarah Gideon-Susan Collins 2020 Senatorial contest, has drawn national attention. Shepherd won the Bob Drake Young Writer's Award from the Maine Press Association while working as a reporter for the Kennebec Journal from 2012 to 2015. A Hallowell native who lives in Augusta, he graduated from the University of Maine in 2012 and has a master's degree from the University of Southern Maine’s Muskie School of Public Service. He joined the Bangor Daily News in 2015 and he writes the BDN's Daily Brief, a must-read newsletter in Augusta.

Sponsored by the McGillicuddy Humanities Center, the Department of Communication and Journalism, and the Department of Political Science.

Part of the 2021-2022 Annual Symposium: "Humanities: Impact in Real Life"
Richard Macksey National Undergraduate Humanities Research Symposium 2022

10 Minute Oral Presentation
National Networking
Get Published

Open to all original humanities work and all institutions (2 year or 4 year)

Virtual Conference April 8-10

Take advantage of a prestigious research opportunity virtually

Deadline Extended: March 11
Rolling Review Underway

https://krieger.jhu.edu/macksey-symposium/
Early Registration ($175) March 4
Regular Registration ($205) March 18

Johns Hopkins University
Virtual Conference April 8-10
https://krieger.jhu.edu/macksey-symposium/

The deadline for application by submission of abstracts for the Richard Macksey National Undergraduate Humanities Research Symposium has been extended to March 11, 2022. If you are a faculty member teaching or advising an undergraduate student with a humanities project...
The McGillicuddy Humanities Center is excited to sponsor University of Maine humanities undergraduates who qualify and would like to present at this prestigious national conference. For more information about this opportunity, please e-mail the Center.
On Tuesday, March 1 at 5:15 pm in Lord Hall 100, the Department of Art and the Littlefield Gallery present a talk by visiting artist Celeste Roberge titled “Moving Thoughts Through Objects.” Roberge was born in Maine and received her art education at the Maine College of Art, the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design, and the Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture. She is Professor Emerita, after twenty-two years as Head of Sculpture, at the School of Art + Art History, College of the Arts, University of Florida.
Guerilla Opera Residency at the University of Maine
March 3 - March 5, 2022

The University of Maine School of Performing Arts Division of Music presents the Guerilla Opera Residency, March 3-5, 2022, featuring performances, panel discussion, and a masterclass. The residency will prepare for a Boston premiere of Beth Wiemann's work "I Give You My Home" in June, 2022. This residency is a collaboration between Guerilla Opera, UMaine's School of Performing Arts and Women’s, Gender and Sexuality Studies units, and the Nichols House Museum of Boston, and is based on the life of suffragette and peace activist Rose Standish Nichols.

This residency includes a presentation by Artistic Director Aliana De La Guardia on contemporary opera (March 4, 1PM), a vocal masterclass open to the public by Ms. De La Guardia (March 4, 4PM) and a public performance of Wiemann's piece (March 5, 7:30PM in Minsky Recital Hall). These public events will follow Covid Protocols in place, and are presented free of charge. There will also be masterclasses with saxophonist Philipp Stäudlin on extended techniques and percussionist Mike Williams (March 4, 4PM in Percussion Studio).

In addition to the Guerilla Opera events, The Music Division will also host composer Jessica Meyer in a panel presentation (with Laura Artesani and Beth Wiemann) on campus on March 3rd at 11AM in Minsky Recital Hall, in a collaboration with the Bangor...
the Arts. Both the Guerilla Opera and BSO events are part of the division’s Women’s History month.

The Guerilla Opera events and Prof. Siegel's visit are being funded by UMaine’s Cultural Affairs Fund, the McGillicuddy Humanities Center, the UMaine Arts Initiative, and the Hamm Campus Fund.

More info on the development of the chamber opera, and demo videos - https://guerillaopera.org/rose-standish-nichols

"Family Surveillance"
The 2022 Howard B. Schonberger Peace and Social Justice Lecture

Professor Dorothy Roberts, George A. Weiss University Professor of Law and Sociology and the Raymond Pace and Sadie Tanner Mossell Alexander Professor of Civil Rights

Monday, March 7, 2022
6:00 pm
Zoom link: https://maine.zoom.us/j/89944443134

On Monday, March 7 at 6:00 pm, acclaimed scholar Dorothy Roberts will deliver annual the Howard B. Schonberger Peace and Social Justice Lecture via Zoom. Howard B. Schonberger was esteemed professor of history at UMaine and a founder of the Socialist and Marxist Studies Lecture Series.

Roberts’s major books include Killing the Black Body: Race, Reproduction, and The Meaning of Liberty and Fatal Invention: How Science, Politics, and Big Business Re-create Race in the Twenty-first Century.

Her Schonberger Lecture, part of History Department Colloquium Series, is based on her forthcoming book, “Torn Apart: How the Child Welfare System Destroys Black Families — and How Abolition Can Build a Safer World.” She argues that the U.S. child welfare system is a state apparatus that investigates, supervises, and terrorizes Black families to control them, not to protect their children. She describes how warrantless home investigations,
monitoring of families by state agents, civilians deputized to report on parents, and coerced compliance with agency dictates reflect carceral logic with parallels in the criminal punishment system.

Zoom link: [https://maine.zoom.us/j/89944443134](https://maine.zoom.us/j/89944443134)

Go to [umaine.edu/SocialistAndMarxistStudiesSeries](https://umaine.edu/SocialistAndMarxistStudiesSeries) for more information about the Spring series.

Part of the University of Maine History Symposium Series, Spring 2022

Co-sponsored by: Maine Scholars Strategy Network, Center for the Arts and Humanities at Colby College UMaine’s Women’s Gender, and Sexuality Studies, UMaine School of Social Work, UMaine Department of Sociology, University of Maine School of Law.

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**UMaine Student Symposium: Research & Creative Activity**

**Abstract Submission Deadline: March 7, 2022**

The annual [UMaine Student Symposium](https://umaine.edu/umss) provides an opportunity for the public to interact one-on-one with UMaine and UMaine Machias students as they present their research and creative work. Projects are showcased through virtual video and in-person presentations. UMSS is free and open to the public and is part of [Maine Impact Week](https://umaine.edu/umss).

The Center for Undergraduate Research, Student Government, and Graduate Student Government invite the submission of student research and creative activities abstracts from all disciplines to be presented at the [2022 UMaine Student Symposium](https://umaine.edu/umss). All presentations will be submitted electronically and posted on the UMSS website for viewing and judging ([umaine.edu/umss](https://umaine.edu/umss)). Students are also highly encouraged to present a poster at the in-person event on **April 15th, 2022**. To submit an abstract for the 2022 UMaine Student Symposium, please use the on-line form linked here. The deadline for submission is **March 7, 2022**.
Faculty 2022 Department of Art Faculty Exhibition
Lord Hall Gallery

The Department of Art is pleased to announce that this year's faculty exhibition, Faculty 2022, is running now through March 18 in Lord Hall Gallery. The exhibition is curated by Susan Smith and features works by Susan Groce, James Linehan, Ed Nadeau, Greg Ondo, and Ellen Roberts, as well as artwork by the late Owen Smith.

Lord Hall Gallery is open 9:00 am to 4:00 pm Monday through Friday.

The Making of Revolutionary Feminism in Insurgent El Salvador

Wednesday, March 9, 2022
2 p.m. • Barrows 119 | Zoom (Tentatively)
On Wednesday, March 9 at 2:00 pm in Barrows Hall 119 (and online via Zoom), Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies presents 'The Making of Revolutionary Feminism in Insurgent El Salvador" a talk by Dr. Diana Sierra Becerra.

Dr. Diana Sierra Becerra is an Assistant Professor of History at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. She is a historian of women and gender in Latin America and specializes in social movements and revolutions. She received her PhD from the University of Michigan and was a Postdoctoral Fellow and Lecturer in the Departments of History and Latin American & Latino/a Studies at Smith College before joining the faculty at UMass. Sierra Becerra worked with scholars Jennifer Guglielmo and Michelle Joffroy, and organizers from the National Domestic Workers Alliance (NDWA) to create “Putting History in Domestic Workers’ Hands.” This project uses history as an organizing tool to mobilize domestic workers and features a digital timeline, political education curriculum, biographies, portraits, and resources for educators in 5 languages (English, Spanish, Tagalong, Nepali, and Haitian Creole).

Sponsors: Cultural Affairs/Distinguished Lecture Series, Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Program, University of Maine College of Liberal Arts and Science

Contact umaine.wgs@maine.edu for more information and the Zoom link.

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**UMaine Humanities Scholars in the News**

**Caroline Bicks**, the Stephen E. King Chair in Literature in the Department of English, is the author of the humor piece "[Common App Essays by Shakespeare Characters](https://www.mcstweeney.com/internet-tendency/common-app-essays-by-shakespeare-characters)" on the website McSweeney’s Internet Tendency. "To be, or not to be?," asks Hamlet, "That is the question that has captivated me for the past ten years as a philosophy student at Wittenberg University, where I am working with what is now the sixth iteration of my faculty committee on a thesis-in-progress entitled 'The End: Or Is It?'"

**Amy Fried**, professor in the Department of Political Science, co-authored a [letter to the editor in the New York Times](https://www.nytimes.com/). Fried and Douglas B. Harris write “Aided by media outlets that curate outrage, Republicans have employed distrust in policy battles and election campaigns, and in efforts to shift power from institutions they don’t control to ones they do, as well as to build and maintain their organizations and coalition. While skepticism is a democratic virtue, weaponizing distrust has harmed our republic and our public health.”
Jesse Melanson, who studied New Media at the University of Maine, was profiled in Tahoe Quarterly for his bold and striking murals in cities across the country. “While his work is bold,” the author explains, “Melanson is quiet and humble. The occasional smudge of brightly hued acrylic paint on his work pants is the only sign of the captivating images that spill from his mind and onto huge, sprawling walls throughout the region and the country.”

Michael Socolow, associate professor in the Department of Communication and Journalism and director of the Clement and Linda McGillicuddy Humanities Center, authored an opinion piece in the Washington Post about propaganda and the Beijing Olympic Games. He also wrote an article for Slate about the 2022 Winter Olympics viewership. Socolow said that “it’s possible that the 2022 Olympics will be one of the most-watched events in U.S. history,” but that viewership is misrepresented as low because “we’re watching on our phones and in our browsers.” WGN Radio spoke with Socolow about his Slate essay.

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### Funding Opportunities in the Humanities

**Scholarship Application Workshop**  
March 2, 2022  
Williams Hall 219

The Office of Major Scholarships will be holding a Scholarship Application Workshop on Wednesday, March 2nd, from 12:00 - 1:00 p.m. in Williams Hall, Room 219. This workshop will teach undergraduate students to find relevant application components for a scholarship, to consider whether the scholarship is a good fit for them, and to prepare a plan and timeline for an application. Please register in advance to attend this in-person event. You can register here: [registration link](#).

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### National Endowment for the Humanities
Humanities Initiatives Grant Opportunity

College faculty & staff are encouraged to apply for a Humanities Initiatives grant to strengthen the teaching and study of the humanities at their institution of higher education by developing new humanities programs, resources (including those in digital format), or courses, or by enhancing existing ones.

Projects can last from 1-3 years, and can request up to $150,000 total. NEH welcomes applications for projects that are modest in scope, duration, and budget, as well as applications for expansive, long-term projects. Get feedback from NEH staff by submitting an optional draft by 3/28/2022, and submit your final application by 5/9/2022.

Projects must be organized around a core topic or set of themes drawn from such areas of study in the humanities as history, philosophy, religion, literature, and composition and writing skills. This program supports a wide range of activities, from curriculum and faculty development, to student enrichment, partnerships, and more.

Learn more about this grant program at:

- Humanities Initiatives at Tribal Colleges and Universities
- Humanities Initiatives at Historically Black Colleges and Universities
- Humanities Initiatives at Hispanic-Serving Institutions
- Humanities Initiatives at Community Colleges
- Humanities Initiatives at Colleges and Universities

University of Maine Office of Research Development Funding Opportunities Website

The University of Maine Office of Research Development maintains a regularly-updated grant funding opportunity website:

https://sites.google.com/a/maine.edu/funding-opportunities/?pli=1

Please note: this website is internal to the UMaine research community, and updated weekly with a curated list of grant solicitations. The site also contains instructions on how individuals can
access PIVOT, UMaine's subscription grant-seeking database, to customize searches based on individual research and scholarship interests. Bookmark the page so that you can easily check each week for new relevant opportunities!

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