McGilliculdy Humanities Center Newsletter_April 2022

University of Maine McGillicuddy Humanities Center
"No man is an island," begins John Donne's most famous poem, and its subject emphasizing the interconnectedness of all humanity has never been more timely. Both the COVID-19 global pandemic, and the war launched last month by Russia's invasion of Ukraine, have ignited widespread philosophical and existential rumination that seemed far less common before 2020. The type of questions we're all asking these days are deeply rooted in the humanities - even if we don't actually label them as such - when we're conversing with friends, writing in our journals, leading or participating in class discussions, or publishing our work. There's an immediate resonance to the news that arises from the confluence of history, literature, language and culture, that's now encouraging people to stand for what they believe in. Fogler Library in Orono, Maine, sits over 4,000 miles from Kyiv, Ukraine, yet the student pictured above clearly felt personally connected with occurrences on the other side of the globe. Modern telecommunication facilitates this immediacy, but it's not really about technology. After all, John Donne published his poem in 1624, and over the centuries generations of students have read and
McGillicuddy Humanities Center News

The McGillicuddy Humanities Center Celebrates Its First Decade
April 10, 2022

Sunday, April 10, 2022 5:00 p.m.
The Fernald Adaptive Presentation & Performance Environment [Black Box Theater]

Innovative Media Research and Commercialization Center (IMRC)
University of Maine, Orono, ME

On April 23, 2012, the President's Office announced the official funding for the University of Maine Humanities Center, as part of an internal grant competition intended to enhance excellence in research and the arts at the University of Maine.

This month marks ten years since the announcement, and five years since the Humanities Center received (in 2017) the transformational naming gift from Clement (class of 1964) and Linda McGillicuddy that allowed the Center to fully establish itself on campus, and in the community, as a vital component of a world-class University. For more on the Center's first decade, please see this UMaine News feature about the Center's origin and development since 2012.

On Sunday, April 10, at 5:00 p.m. at the IMRC on campus in Orono, the Center will celebrate its tenth anniversary with a reception serving as the kick-off event for "Maine Impact Week." Come celebrate with our undergraduate fellows, our faculty, our patrons and friends. The reception is open to the public, and will feature the artwork of current MHC Fellow Delaney Burns and the Richard and Karin Anderson MHC Fellow, Haley Santerre.

of the specific and the universal, and where the local and the global meet. When history occurs, we're all reminded of our interdependence.

We look forward to connecting with you at this month's events!
University of Maine (as of March 26 "face coverings will be optional for students, faculty, staff and visitors in non-classroom facilities on campus... regardless of vaccination status").

We look forward to seeing you!

The McGillicuddy Humanities Center Welcomes New Humanities Specialist: Brian Jansen, Ph.D.

The Center is pleased to announce that our new Humanities Specialist will be Brian Jansen, Ph.D. Brian is currently working as a Communication Specialist and Marketing Coordinator for the University of Maine College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and School of Performing Arts, and he is also a part-time lecturer in the Departments of English and Communication and Journalism. A former technical writer, copywriter, editorial assistant, and community college faculty member, Brian holds degrees in English Literature, Creative Writing, and Professional Communications.

Brian’s scholarly interests focus broadly on contemporary American literatures and cultures, with particular interest on aesthetic production at the intersection of labor and capital. His work—addressing figures such as David Foster Wallace, George Saunders, Jeffrey Eugenides, and Vladimir Nabokov, as well as topics ranging from Young Adult literature to professional wrestling—has appeared in journals including *Comparative American Studies*, *the Canadian Review of American Studies*, *Orbit: A Journal of American Literature*, *the Journal of Popular Culture*, *The European Journal of American Studies*, and other venues. The Canadian Association for American Studies awarded Jansen the 2020 Redekop Prize for the best essay in volume 50 (2020) of the *Canadian Review of American Studies* for his article "'It's Still Real to Me': Contemporary Professional Wrestling, Neo-Liberalism, and the Problems of Performed/Real Violence."

Brian will begin working in the Center on April 18, 2022.

Colby College Museum of Art Tour and Lunch Sponsored by McGillicuddy Humanities Center
April 9, 2022
Saturday, April 9, 10:30 a.m.
meet at the museum, or arrange transportation through MHC (see below).

The Center will sponsor a tour and lunch for students and faculty interested in visiting the [Colby College Museum of Art](https://www.colby.edu/artmuseum) on Saturday, April 9. Arranged by Professor of History Liam Riordan, the group will enjoy guided tours of two current exhibits. Everyone must get to the museum on the Colby College campus in Waterville on their own (free admission and free parking, [directions here](https://www.colby.edu/artmuseum/visitors)).

The first twenty students to sign-up will get a free lunch courtesy of the McGillicuddy Humanities Center at UMaine. To register for the trip, or obtain more information about it, or to coordinate carpooling, please email Professor Liam Riordan (riordan@maine.edu).

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**The History of The McGillicuddy Humanities Center**

**Featured in UMaine News**

The "UMaine Moment" published by UMaine News for the week of March 28 - April 1, 2022, is titled, "**McGillicuddy Humanities Center Celebrates a Decade of Supporting Award-Winning Scholarship and Creative Endeavors.**"

Published on March 30, 2022, the feature recounts the history of the Humanities Center's development over its first decade.

“Deconstruction in the Classroom: The Yale School and the post-Golden Age of American Higher Education”
Gregory Jones-Katz
(Chinese University of Hong Kong, Shenzhen)

Monday, April 4, 2022  3:15 pm
Zoom link: https://maine.zoom.us/j/89944443134

Gregory Jones-Katz is an American historian based at the Chinese University of Hong Kong, Shenzhen. He earned his MA from the University of Maine and his PhD from the University of Wisconsin- Madison. Greg works in the fields of American intellectual and cultural history, the history of higher education, and the global history of the humanities. His first book Deconstruction: An American Institution was published in 2021 with the University of Chicago Press. Greg’s scholarly work has also appeared in History and Theory, Analyse & Kritik, and Modern Intellectual History. He is committed to public-facing scholarship and has written for the Los Angeles Review of Books, The Chronicle of Higher Education, Merkur, Schweizer Monat, and the Boston Review.

Part of the University of Maine History Symposium Series
Spring 2022
Friday, April 15, 2022
9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
University of Maine New Balance Field House and Memorial Gym

The 2022 University of Maine Student Symposium will highlight research and creative activities being produced by both undergraduate and graduate students at the University of Maine. Sponsored by the Office of Research, the full schedule of events can be seen here. Admission is free to the public, and registration information can be found here.

2022 Keynote Speaker: Sascha Deri.

Mr. Deri grew up in Maine, earning a degree in Physics from Earlham College and a second degree in Electrical Engineering from the University of Southern Maine. In 1999 Mr. Deri co-founded the altE Store, a national renewable energy product distribution and light manufacturing company, where as CEO he is responsible for setting the company’s market and product development strategy for the $35M/year organization.

In 2014 Mr. Deri founded bluShift Aerospace. The company made history on January 31, 2021 with the first commercial rocket launch powered by bio-derived fuel in the world, using a proprietary modular hybrid rocket engine that is also unique to the aerospace industry. Their series of small rockets will be able to lift 3100-kilogram payloads suborbitally to space and then to low Earth orbit for academic research and commercial customers.

Mr. Deri will deliver his talk, “Boldly Venturing to Space, the Maine Way,” beginning at 1:30 pm in the New Balance Field House and Memorial Gym during the in-person portion of the 2022 UMaine Student Symposium.
The Delta of Maine chapter of Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society will welcome Dr. Marta Tienda, Maurice During Professor of Demographic Studies, Sociology, and Public Affairs, Princeton University, April 19-20 as its 2022 Phi Beta Kappa Visiting Scholar. As part of her visit, Tienda will participate in two events:

April 19, 2022 4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.: Professor Tienda will deliver a public lecture, "Higher Education as Integration Policy," in Buchanan Alumni Hall.

April 20, 2022, 4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.: Professor Tienda will be part of a roundtable discussion with CLAS faculty Amy Fried, Lisa Neuman, Brian Pitman, and Nick Micinski on "Is Demography Destiny? Diversity and Its Discontents," in Hill Auditorium, Barrows Hall.

The events are open to the public, and sponsored by The Delta of Maine chapter of Phi Beta Kappa, a national scholastic honor society, that received its charter at the University of Maine in Orono in 1922. The purpose of the honorary society is to recognize and encourage scholarship, friendship, and cultural interests.
April 27, 2022

Sounds from Silence:
Rescuing Music Suppressed by the Nazis

A presentation by
Professor Phillip Silver

on his research rescuing music suppressed by the Nazis with Performance by the Silver Duo (Phillip and Noreen Silver).

Reception to follow.

April 27th, 7:00 pm
Minsky Recital Hall

Sponsored By:
UMaine Judaic Studies, UMaine Religious Studies, UMaine History, UMaine Philosophy, UMaine School of Performing Arts, Clement & Linda McGillicuddy Humanities Center, UMaine Hillel, Congregation Beth El (Bangor), Congregation Beth Israel (Bangor), Bangor Public Library, the Holocaust and Human Rights Center of Maine, and the Jewish Community Endowment Association (JCEA).

Minsky Recital Hall
April 27, 2022, 7:00 p.m.

Join us on Holocaust Remembrance Day also known as Yom HaShoah

Remembrance Day (Yom HaShoah) for a presentation by Professor Phillip Silver, on his research rescuing music suppressed by the Nazis with performance by the Silver Duo (Phillip and Noreen Silver). Reception to follow.

UMaine Intermedia Arts and Humanities in Medicine Graduate Certificate Program Accepting Applications

The University of Maine Intermedia Arts and Humanities in Medicine graduate certificate program is accepting applications for fall 2022. The program, offered in partnership with...
The 15-credit program, designed to be completed in a year, focuses on the role and function of arts and humanities in helping support and promote well-being for health care providers and, indirectly, their patients. The program is also an opportunity for arts-based practitioners interested in the role of health and well-being. Students in the arts, humanities and medicine collaborate to fathom what it means to live a full, well life and the creative approaches to health for professional development that can inform their human-centered work.

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**UMaine Humanities Scholars in the News**

The University of Maine Division of Marketing and Communications published an article about the first decade of the Center in *UMaine News* titled, "McGillicuddy Humanities Center Celebrates a Decade of Supporting Award-Winning Scholarship and Creative Endeavors" on March 30, 2022.


**Sarah Harlan-Haughey**, associate professor in the Department of English, has a review of *The Taill of Rauf Coilȝear*, edited by Ralph Hanna, published recently in *The Medieval Review*. As Harlan-Haughey writes: “This ‘ballad-romance’ finally got the edition it deserves, thanks to the meticulous labor of master editor Ralph Hanna, a scholar at the height of his powers who is clearly enjoying the work.”

**Nicholas Micinski**, Libra Assistant Professor of Political Science and International Affairs, wrote an article for *The Washington Post* about the European Union granting Ukrainian refugees temporary protection in a departure from their response to past migrant crises. Micinski wrote, “The Ukraine crisis shows that the E.U. can and does cooperate on migration when it wants to — however, this is shaped by internal politics.”

**Kristin Vekasi**, associate professor of political science and School of Policy and International Affairs, wrote an article for *East Asia Forum* addressing concerns about Chinese rare earth consolidation in the form of a “megafirm” announced in January 2022 called China Rare Earth Group, that will control up to 70% of Chinese rare earth production, and 30–40 percent of global supply.
Michael Socolow, associate professor in the Department of Communication and Journalism and director of the McGillicuddy Humanities Center, wrote an article for *The Conversation* about the impacts of stressful news. The article, which examined "Headline Stress Disorder," was republished widely, including in the *Maine Sunday Telegram* Insight section as "The news is wearing us out," on March 13, 2022. Socolow was also quoted in the Polish journalism magazine *Press* about President Joe Biden's media strategy.

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**Funding Opportunities in the Humanities**

**NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES**

**NEH Humanities Initiatives at Colleges and Universities**

[Humanities Initiatives at Colleges and Universities](https://www.neh.gov/program/humanities-initiatives-colleges-and-universities) strengthen the teaching and study of the humanities at institutions of higher education by developing new humanities programs, resources (including those in digital format), or courses, or by enhancing existing ones.

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.

NEH welcomes applications for projects that are modest in scope, duration, and budget, as well as applications for expansive, long-term projects.

Application due **May 9, 2022**.

For more information, see this website: [https://www.neh.gov/program/humanities-initiatives-colleges-and-universities](https://www.neh.gov/program/humanities-initiatives-colleges-and-universities)
interpretive research projects that require digital expression and digital publication. To be considered under this opportunity, an applicant's plans for digital publication must be integral to the project's research goals. That is, the project must be conceived as digital because the research topics being addressed and methods applied demand presentation beyond traditional print publication.

**NEH - Mellon Fellowships** provide recipients time to conduct research and prepare digital publications. Successful projects will likely incorporate images, video, audio, and/or other multimedia materials or flexible reading pathways that could not be included in traditionally published books, as well as an active distribution plan.

Anticipated products must be published in digital form and include, but are not limited to, monographs, peer-reviewed articles, websites, virtual exhibitions, translations with annotations or a critical apparatus, or critical editions. Projects may be at any stage of development.

Application due **April 20, 2022**.

For more information, see this website: [https://www.neh.gov/grants/research/neh-mellon-fellowships-digital-publication](https://www.neh.gov/grants/research/neh-mellon-fellowships-digital-publication)

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**Fulbright Scholars Program Opportunity Portal Open for 2023-2024**

The [Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program](https://fulbright.cies.org.US-Scholar-Awards) offers over 400 awards in more than 130 countries for U.S. citizens to teach, conduct research and carry out professional projects around the world. College and university faculty, as well as artists and professionals from a wide range of fields can join over 400,000 Fulbrighters who have come away with enhanced skills, new connections and greater mutual understanding.

We are now accepting applications for 2023-24. **The application deadline is September 15, 2022**.

Interested faculty and professionals are encouraged to consider the awards and opportunities listed at the CIEE - Fulbright website here:

[https://cies.org/us-scholar-awards](https://cies.org/us-scholar-awards)
Funding Opportunities Website

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

https://sites.google.com/a/main.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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mhc@maine.edu

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