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## Fitchburg State University Today

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### University observes Women's History Month in March

Fitchburg State University observes Women's History Month in March with a series of presentations and events that includes a timely look at the experience of migrant mothers.

Amherst College Associate Professor Leah Schmalzbauer will present "Motherhood, Migration and 'Illegality' in the Rural American West" at 3:30 p.m. **Tuesday, March 7** at Presidents' Hall in the Mazzaferro Center, 291 Highland Ave. Admission to the Nancy Kelly Memorial Lecture is free and open to the public.

In her lecture, Schmalzbauer will draw on six years of ethnographic research to explore the daily life experiences of undocumented Mexican mothers who live in southwest Montana, one of the "whitest" and most rural new immigrant destinations in the United States. Using the framework of legal violence, the talk will highlight the ways illegality impacts the well-being and aspirations of migrant mothers, particularly as they try to manage their gender roles within their families. Whereas the fear of deportation may be present in both urban and rural destinations, and among men and women, Schmalzbauer suggests that specifically where and how migrants' fears of deportations are manifested varies by context and gender. Her work also draws attention to the paradoxical partnering of marginalization and belonging that can exist as migrant mothers seek to protect themselves and their children.



Leah Schmalzbauer

Schmalzbauer is associate professor of sociology and American studies at Amherst College. An ethnographer interested in the intersections of gender, family and international migration, her classes focus on immigration, globalization, gender and Latino studies. She is the author of two community-based ethnographies, *Striving and Surviving: A Daily Life Analysis of Honduran Transnational Families* (Routledge 2005), and *The Last Best Place?: Gender, Family and Migration in the New West* (Stanford University Press 2014). She is also a co-author, with Cecilia Menjivar and Leisy Abrego, of *Immigrant Families*, which was published by Polity in 2016 as part of their *Immigration & Society* series. The lecture is sponsored by the university's Economics, History and Political Science Department, Women in Today's Society, and Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies.

Other Women's History Month events include a performance by singer Lauren Light at 7 p.m. **Thursday, March 2** in the Falcon Hub at Hammond Hall, 160 Pearl St. Light's performance is sponsored by the Fitchburg Activities Board.

There will be a panel talk about the challenges facing women across the globe in the 21st century at 3:30 p.m. **Wednesday, March 8** at the main lounge of Hammond Hall, 160 Pearl St. The talk, held in conjunction with International Women's Day, is co-sponsored by the university's Office of

The events continue with a celebration of women in the arts at 4 p.m. **Thursday, March 23** in Kent Recital Hall in the Conlon Fine Arts Building, 367 North St. The presentation is sponsored by Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies. The month will close with the second annual Lead(h)ership Conference from 2 to 5 p.m. Friday, March 31 at the main lounge of Hammond Hall, 160 Pearl St. The conference is co-sponsored by Feminist Conversations and Women in Today's Society. Please contact [femcon@student.fitchburgstate.edu](mailto:femcon@student.fitchburgstate.edu) for more information or to register for the conference.

## Communications Media lecture series launches Wednesday

Fitchburg State's Ruth Butler Communications Media Lecture Series continues this spring with presentations from noted professionals in graphic design, documentary filmmaking and photography.

The 2017 series begins **Wednesday, March 1** at 3:30 p.m. in the Ellis White Auditorium in Hammond Hall, 160 Pearl St., with a presentation by graphic designer and Northeastern University Professor Thomas Starr. He will present poster and book cover designs and

campaigns he produced within the design collective Class Action. The public art included billboards and poster programs against domestic violence, gun violence and AIDS, emphasizing the intersection of graphic design and freedom of speech.

Starr's work has been featured in The Boston Globe, The Washington Post, and ID Magazine. His posters have won international awards and are in collections such as the Library of Congress and the Zurich Design Museum.

The series continues on **Tuesday, March 28** at 3:30 in Randall Lecture Hall in the Antonucci Science Complex, 333 North St., with a presentation by documentary filmmaker Mary Jane Doherty. Doherty will talk about her filmmaking and screen her feature length documentary film, *Primaria* (2016), about children growing up within the Cuban ballet system.

Doherty, who teaches film at Boston University, trained under cinema verité inventor and filmmaker Ricky Leacock in the legendary MIT film/video program. She freelanced for documentary film companies such as Blackside, Inc., acquiring national and international film credits as editor, cinematographer, and sound designer.

She has worked on films such as *Make It Just Right*, featuring former Vice-President Al Gore and *Ten Thousand Shovels*, a film on land use changes in China. Her work has been shown in such festivals as Toronto, Venice, the Boston Museum of Fine Arts, Women in the Director's Chair and the National Poetry Workshop Festival.

This year's series will conclude at 3:30 p.m. **Tuesday, April 18** at Randall Lecture Hall in the Antonucci Science Complex, 333 North St. Legendary photographer Marie Cosindas will talk about her



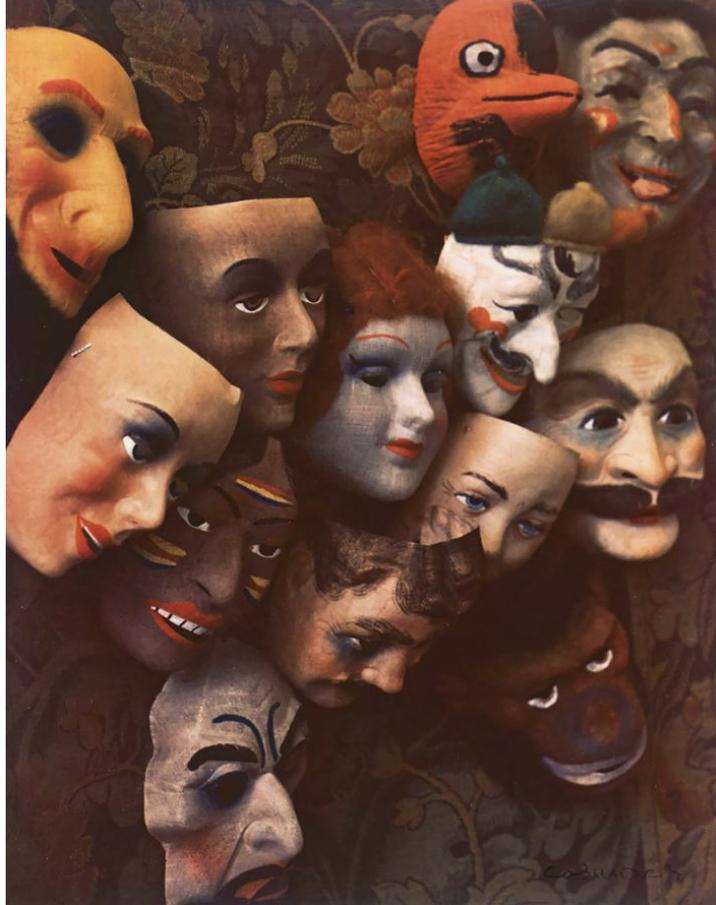
One of designer Thomas Starr's billboards.



A scene from *Primaria* by Mary Jane Doherty.

career as a pioneering woman in photography and present some of her extraordinarily rich portrait and still life color photographs including some of the photographs she made for celebrated feature films such as *Glory*, *The Sting*, *Oklahoma Crude* and *Scrooge* (the musical) among others.

Cosindas was born in Boston in 1925, studied painting at the Museum School and worked as a textile designer until the early 1960s, when she began to explore black and white photography. She studied with Paul Caponigro, Minor White and Ansel Adams. She joined the Carl Siembab Gallery in Boston. In 1962 Dr. Edwin Land and the Polaroid Corporation invited her and about 10 other photographers to try Polaroid's new, still experimental, instant developing color film. She began then to work exclusively in color and developed a unique style using natural light. She cofounded the Association of Heliographers, a New York photographers' cooperative that included some of the most influential American art photographers of the 1960s.



"Masks" by Marie Cosindas.

Cosindas' work played a major role in establishing the importance of color in fine art photography. Her 1966 solo exhibition at the Museum of Modern Art was among its first to feature color photography. She became a master at manipulating exposures using available light and color filters, as well as the film development process. Novelist Tom Wolfe, in writing the introduction to her 1978 monograph *Color Photographs*, said her work had "a glow and a creamy richness quite unlike anything that had been seen in color photography," and "Marie Cosindas simply travels on into her fantasy of color as if by astral projection."

She has had more than 25 one woman exhibitions and been in many more group exhibitions. Her work is in many permanent collections of institutions such as the MOMA, New York, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, The MFA, Boston, the International Museum of Photography, The Art Institute of Chicago, and has been featured in many articles about her work.

The lecture series is curated by Associate Professor Stephen Goldstein of the Communication Media Department.

## Harrod Lecture series presents look at Bolivia on Feb. 28

The Harrod Lecture series continues **Tuesday, Feb. 28** when Professor Joshua Spero presents "Bridging South America's Divide: Indigenous Ruling Bolivia" in Presidents' Hall in the Mazzaferro Center.

The historic election of Bolivia's first indigenous Indian president that democratically swept Juan Evo Morales Ayma to power witnessed a critical juncture in the country's foreign policy from 2006-2009. The lecture presents an overview of the first presidential term's crucial juncture broadly by Morales and

his small team who created Bolivia's pivotal middle power status regionally.

To understand Bolivia's nascent pivotal middle power role, the lecture explores how the Morales Administration re-framed Bolivia's foreign policy in the heart of South America and geopolitically redefined ties to Bolivia's two stronger, domineering major power neighbors - Brazil and Argentina - building transformative "bridging" foreign policy, shifting Bolivia away from its historically subjugated state to longer-term regional middle power player.

## BRIDGING SOUTH AMERICA'S DIVIDE:



Indigenous Ruling  
Bolivia 2006-2009

Tuesday, Feb. 28  
at 3:30 pm  
PRESIDENTS' HALL

Presented by:  
**Dr. Joshua Spero**  
PROFESSOR OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

HARROD  
LECTURE  
SERIES

FITCHBURG STATE  
UNIVERSITY

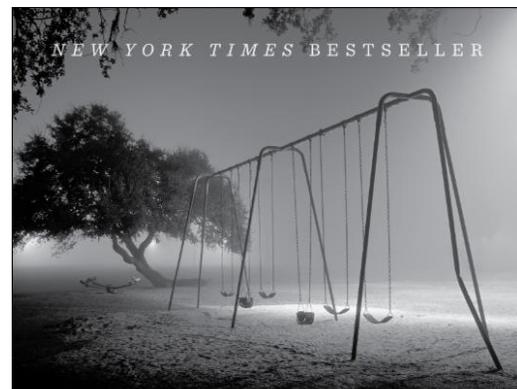


## Community Read events resume this week

The spring's [Community Read](#) events exploring themes in author Robert Putnam's *Our Kids: The American Dream in Crisis* continues with a movie marathon starting at 11 a.m. **Saturday, March 4** at the Leominster Public Library, 30 West St., Leominster.

The Mount Wachusett Community College Humanities Project will present the films *Modern Times* (1936) and *The Devil and Miss Jones* (1941). The films will be introduced by Fitchburg State Professor Joseph Moser, who will also lead a post-screening discussion. Lunch will be provided and registration is required. Visitors may register by visiting the library website or by calling 978-534-7522. This event is co-sponsored by the Community Read and the Leominster Public Library.

*Our Kids: The American Dream in Crisis* is a New York Times bestseller and "a passionate, urgent" (The New Yorker) examination of growing social inequality in the United States. Putnam's volume offers a personal and authoritative look at a new American crisis where a growing "opportunity gap" has emerged over the past 25 years. The crisis challenges the traditional assumption that Americans who have talent and try hard will succeed.



# OUR KIDS

The American Dream  
in Crisis

ROBERT D. PUTNAM

author of *Bowling Alone*

There will be a community discussion of the book at 6:30 p.m. **Wednesday, March 8** at the Fitchburg Public Library, 610 Main St. Another discussion will be held at 3:30 p.m. **Wednesday, March 22** at the Lunenburg Public Library, 1023 Massachusetts Ave., Lunenburg, co-sponsored by the library and the Lunenburg Council on Aging, led by Fitchburg State Professor David Weiss.

Author Robert Putnam will present a keynote lecture at 7 p.m. **Tuesday, April 4** at Hammond Hall, 160 Pearl St. Admission is free and open to the public.

Throughout the Community Read, which began last fall, the campus and wider audience is invited to explore Putnam's book and the topics it raises. All of the Community Read events are free and open to the public.

The university recently received a grant for \$3,000 from Mass Humanities to support its Community Read programming. Mass Humanities grants inspire considered thought, conversation and action through the humanities. See more about the work Mass Humanities does to improve civic life in Massachusetts at [masshumanities.org](http://masshumanities.org).

## University speaker series resumes March 6

The university's speaker series continues **Monday, March 6** with a talk by Professor Monica Maldari (Exercise and Sports Science) on "Taking the 'Hell' out of Being 'Healthy': What FSU Students Gain from Taking Health & Fitness." The talk will be given from 12:30 to 1:45 p.m. in the Center for Teaching and Learning in the library, and refreshments will be served.

## CTL hosts Celebration of Teaching week March 20-24

The Center for Teaching and Learning (located in room 212 of the Amelia V. Gallucci-Cirio Library) has announced the full schedule of events for its Celebration of Teaching Week, being observed March 20-24. Throughout the week, several classrooms will be open to visitors, and there will be a teaching and learning poster session in the library. Additional events include:

- On Monday, March 20 at 3:30 p.m., CTL Co-Coordinator Kisha Tracy will facilitate an advising advice session in the CTL.
- On Tuesday, March 21 at 3:30 p.m., the CTL will host a teaching and learning hour entitled "Open Educational Resources: Putting your Learning Outcomes (and Students) First." The session will explore the integration of materials that are free of any copyright or license restrictions into the classroom and how they allow faculty an opportunity to move away from traditional textbook-based instruction. The presenters are Lindsey Gumb, instructional technology librarian, and Linda Beith, director of the Center for Scholarship, Assessment, Learning, Teaching and Technology at Roger Williams University.
- On Wednesday, March 22 at 3:30 p.m., the library archives on the ground floor of Hammond Hall will host "Past, Present and Future in the University Archives," presented by librarian Asher Jackson.
- On Thursday, March 23 at 12:30 p.m., the CTL hosts "Chronicle Conversations - What's in your Toolbox?" CTL Co-Coordinator Kate Jewell will facilitate this session, where practitioners can discuss their pedagogical toolboxes. At 2 p.m., there will be a library instruction lab entitled "Fighting 'Fake News' with Information Literacy," presented by librarians Renee Fratantonio and Asher Jackson. The day will conclude with a formal poster session and reception starting at 3:30 p.m.
- On Friday, March 24, Hammond Hall hosts the second annual Medieval Studies Workshop for Middle and Secondary Educators. Registration is required for this event, which is free for undergraduates. The workshop runs from 8 a.m. to 2:45 p.m., though there will be a poster session on "Tolkien and the Medieval" outside the main lounge, with a formal discussion on the topic from 10:45 to 11:45 p.m.

A comprehensive schedule of Celebration of Teaching Week, including open classrooms, can be found [online](#).

## 12th annual drag show to raise scholarship funds March 30

Place article copy here. Be sure to make the articles short and concise as people tend not to read much more than a couple of paragraphs.



## CenterStage and cultural events

### On the Conlon Hall Media Wall: Dave Fischer, On Copper Wings

The abstract video art of Dave Fischer will be on display at the Conlon Hall Media Wall through Wednesday, April 17. There will be a wall talk with the artist at 3:30 p.m. **Wednesday, March 29** with a reception to follow.

"On Copper Wings" is described as a film made by insects. No individual insects are listed in association with it - it is thought that hundreds of millions of insects worked on this production. The movie tells the story of the insect creation myth, which involves the



insect development of science and technology, insects time traveling to 450 million years ago to rescue the early proto-insects from the Ordovician-Silurian extinction event, and genetically modifying them to be more competitive.

Dave Fischer is an artist from Providence, Rhode Island. He creates videos using a combination of algorithmically processed video, still photographs, and pure geometry. He writes all his own software for manipulating and editing video, and maintains a cluster of high-end late-90's servers for running the batch-mode computations.

### In the Falcon Hub: Puglia, a Dinner with Fred Plotkin, April 7 and 8

Fred Plotkin returns to campus this April to enlighten the

community about the history, culture and, perhaps most importantly, cuisine of the Southern Italian region of Puglia. An authentic menu of specialty dishes will set the stage for the renowned author and gourmand's verbal tour of the region. A cash bar featuring regional wines will also be offered.

This popular annual event sells out quickly. Seatings will be held at 6:30 p.m. **Friday, April 7 and Saturday, April 8** in the Falcon Hub at Hammond Hall, 160 Pearl St. Tickets for this reserved seating event are \$35 and can be ordered [online](#) or by visiting the Weston Box Office inside Weston Auditorium, 353 North St. The box office is open from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. Thursday and Friday and can be reached at 978-665-3347.



Fred Plotkin

Come experience the traditions of Puglia through this delightful culinary and cultural adventure. Plotkin's talk is sponsored by the Sandro and Lillian Clementi Lecture Fund and the Center for Italian Culture at Fitchburg State University.

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