



Fitchburg State University Today

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"I was accused of being the Marathon bomber"

Just days after the Boston Marathon bombing, then 16-year-old Revere High School student Salaheddin Barhoum saw himself and a friend pictured on the front page of the New York Post under the giant heading, "Bag Men," with a headline proclaiming "Feds seek this duo pictured at Boston Marathon."

Barhoum is now a student at Fitchburg State, studying business. He will discuss the case, its repercussions and lessons we can all take from his experience in a presentation at 3:30 p.m. **Thursday, Nov. 5** at Ellis White Lecture Hall in Hammond Hall, 160 Pearl St. Admission is free and open to the public.

Barhoum had moved with his family from Morocco a few years prior to the marathon bombing. He said he had found his adopted community a tolerant and welcoming place. But when his picture was making the rounds of social media even before landing on the front of one of the country's largest newspapers, Barhoum felt vilified.

"That day was the worst," he said. "I wanted to go back to Morocco."

Authorities released likenesses of the real bombers later the same day of the New York Post cover, yet Barhoum was already traumatized by the experience. Barhoum and his friend in the photo sued the New York Post, a case that was settled last year under confidential terms. In the months after being falsely identified, Barhoum's grades suffered and he felt himself retreating from his life. In time, he said, he realized he couldn't give in to his negative feelings.

"Just because you're having one obstacle doesn't mean you can stop dreaming," he said. "You have to look beyond it. I want people to have hope and face their fears. I'm a hopeful person."



Barhoum's talk is sponsored by the Fitchburg State University Entrepreneurship Association.

University observes International Month in November

The university observes International Month in November with food, films, poetry and discussions over the next several weeks.

The observances start **Tuesday, Nov. 3**, when Holmes Dining Commons will be presenting Spanish cuisine during dinner.

On **Thursday, Nov. 5** at 7 p.m., the Center for Italian Culture presents Canti E Cantici: Cent'Anni di Musica e Cultura Italiana (A Hundred Years of Italian Music and Culture) at Kent Recital Hall. Admission is free.



There will be a talk on "How American Rock is Cognizant of World Cultures" by Alan Pearlmutter at 3:30 p.m. **Monday, Nov. 9** at the Center for Teaching and Learning in the Amelia V. Gallucci-Cirio Library.

Sigma Tau Delta presents a short story workshop featuring "Girl" by Jamaica Kincaid and Dr. Steven Edwards at 10 a.m. **Tuesday, Nov. 10** in Hammond Hall, room 314.

At 3:30 p.m. **Thursday, Nov. 12**, the Office of International Education will present "Study Abroad is Easier than you Think" in the Hammond Hall main lounge.

Faculty member Aruna Krishnamurthy will present "Mahabharata in the Western Imagination" at 3:30 p.m. **Monday, Nov. 16** at Miller Oval.

The third annual International Poetry Slam and Potluck will be held from 4 to 6 p.m. **Tuesday, Nov. 17** in the Falcon Hub at Hammond Hall.

On **Thursday, Nov. 19**, Yuki Komine will present "New England, Japanese Style" from 11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. in Hammond Hall, room 214. Following that there will be an Indian Film Festival with Aruna Krishnamurthy from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. in the Randall Lecture Hall in the Antonucci Science Complex.

The events conclude at 3:30 p.m. **Monday, Nov. 23**, with "Gathering the Stories of Female Entrepreneurs: A Study of Women from Five Cultures" with faculty members John Chetro-Szivos and Renee Scapparone at the Center for Teaching and Learning.

Main Stage theater production "Noises Off" in November

The manic slapstick of the acclaimed farce "Noises Off" will be the Fitchburg State University main stage fall production in November.

How many things can go wrong backstage during a performance of a sex farce? Chaos

ensues when a cast's off stage love interests wreak havoc with the performing of a bedroom comedy. Michael Frayn's play, a farce within a farce, has been called the funniest comedy to play on both sides of the Atlantic in decades.



"The most dexterously realized comedy every about putting on a comedy," raved The New York Times. "A spectacularly funny, peerless backstage farce. This dizzy, well-known romp is a festival of delirium."

The production is directed by Professor Richard McElvain and includes cast members Charlie Barbera, Shaun Downey, Shani Farrel, Hannah Guselli, Coty Markee, Sara Prygocki, Angela Renzi, Tyler Rost, Samantha Wheatley and Charles Baxter. The technical crew includes students Jason Cook, Jen Goldstein, Marissa Mallas, Gregory Mason, Nick Robinette, Brian Paradis, Zach Picard, Kaitlyn Ramsey, Stephen Hogue and Lisa Nguyen.

"Noises Off" will be performed at the Wallace Theater for the Performing Arts at the McKay Complex, 67 Rindge Road, Fitchburg. Performances will be at 6 p.m. **Thursday, Nov. 12** and **Thursday, Nov. 19**; 7:30 p.m. **Friday, Nov. 13**, **Saturday, Nov. 14**, **Friday, Nov. 20** and **Saturday, Nov. 21**; and 2 p.m. **Saturday, Nov. 14**, **Sunday, Nov. 15**, and **Saturday, Nov. 21**. Admission is free but donations to the theater program will be accepted at the door.

Speaker Series continues on Nov. 2

The university's Speaker Series is held the first Monday of the month from 12:30 to 1:45 p.m. in the Center for Teaching and Learning in the Amelia V. Gallucci-Cirio Library, with refreshments served. Upcoming speakers include:



- **Elisabet Takehana** (English Studies) will present "Baroque Aesthetics in Contemporary Literature" on Monday, Nov. 2.
- **Helen Obermeyer Simmons** (Communications Media) will present "Home on the Range: The Story of the Nokota Horse" on Monday, Feb. 1.
- **Eric Boehme** (Economics, History and Political Science) will present "Race and Mass Incarceration: The New Jim Crow or the Same Old Capitalism?" on Monday, March 7.
- **Bruce Duncan** (Earth and Geographic Sciences) will present "Cosmology Since 1901" on Monday, April 4.
- **James Colbert** (Emeritus, Humanities) will present "Intranquilitas Ordinis, St. Augustine on War and Peace" on Monday, May 2.

Learn about MBA offerings at free webinar on Nov. 4

Learn about the variety of options for pursuing an MBA at Fitchburg State University through a free, 30-minute [webinar](#) on **Wednesday, Nov. 4** at 1 p.m. Whether looking for an on-campus,

online or hybrid MBA program, Fitchburg State has it covered.

Attendees will learn about:

- Fitchburg State's online (complete in 17 months) and on-campus programs, including requirements and curriculum
- Admission and application requirements
- Tuition, fees and payment plans
- Financial aid and scholarship opportunities



Interested parties who aren't available for the live webinar may register now and will receive a recording later. All are encouraged to tweet along during the event using the hashtag #fitchburgmba.

"I thought going back to school would feel like a chore, but I am really enjoying my time in the MBA program at Fitchburg State," said current MBA student Ashley Walters of Leominster. "I was drawn to the program because of the flexibility it offers in taking evening, weekend and online courses. However, the opportunities to learn from faculty who are truly interested in seeing me succeed and collaborate with classmates from such diverse backgrounds has enriched my experience and continues to exceed my expectations."

Visit fitchburgstate.edu/gce/webinars/mba2015 to learn more or to register.

Center for Italian Culture celebrates 15 years with music, talks

The Center for Italian Culture at Fitchburg State celebrates its 15th year with a host of events in October and November, including a concert celebrating Italian music from the past 100 years - and the 100th birthday of Frank Sinatra.

The celebration, dubbed *Canti e Cantici: Cent' Anni di Musica e Cultura Italiana* (A Hundred Years of Italian Music and Culture), culminates in a free concert at 7 p.m. **Thursday, Nov. 5** at Kent Recital Hall in the Conlon Fine Arts Building, 367 North St. The concert will include rarely performed music by modernists such as Alfredo Casella, Goffredo Petrassi, and Giacinto Scelsi, and the premiere of a short new piece by Professor Michele Caniato for baritone, piano, violin, and horn on a text by Giacomo Leopardi.

The second half of the concert will celebrate the 100th birthday of Frank Sinatra, joining celebrations and exhibits around the country in paying homage to Ol'Blue Eyes and his musical legacy. Sinatra would have loved the stellar singer Dominique Eade, and her equally extraordinary pianist Tim Ray.

The free concert is a designated Music for Food event, in which donations will be collected at the door to benefit local food pantries.

Canti e Cantici

Cent'Anni di Musica e Cultura Italiana
—A Hundred Years of Italian Music and Culture—










15th Anniversary of the
Center for Italian Culture

*Twentieth Century
Italian Music
and a Celebration of
Frank Sinatra at 100*

Thursday
Nov. 5 at 7 pm

KENT RECITAL HALL
FREE ADMISSION

All events on Wednesdays in Kent Recital Hall
FREE ADMISSION

October 14, 2:30 p.m.

Screening of the film "The Man with the Golden Arm".
Dr. Wayne Munson will lead the screening and presentation
of director Otto Preminger's movie starring Frank Sinatra
and Kim Novak.

October 21, 2:00 p.m.

Faculty Talk "The Reluctant Migrants—Italians in
America" Dr. Teresa Feva Thomas will discuss migration
from northern Italy to central Massachusetts as well as their
WWI experiences in Italy and America.

October 28, 3:30 p.m.

Faculty Talk on Italian Poetry by Dr. Rals Diskite. Discover
some of the most beautiful Italian poems of the modern era.

Artwork—Giacomo Balla—Girl Running on a Balcony, 1912





FITCHBURG STATE UNIVERSITY

CENTER FOR ITALIAN CULTURE

With the participation of the Consulate General of Italy in Boston

For more information

978-665-3276

Internship scholarships available

The university has once again received funding designed to increase internship opportunities for our students. [Scholarships](#) are now available for the upcoming academic year. The deadline to apply for the spring is **Friday, Nov. 27** and for the summer is **Friday, April 8, 2016**.

The State University Internship Incentive Program (SUIIP), operated through the university's financial aid office, is funded by the Fitchburg State University Foundation and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The scholarship is available to current full-time day undergraduate students who are Massachusetts residents, have earned a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.7 and have a valid 2015-2016 FAFSA on file with the Financial Aid Office.

All majors will be considered but priority will be given to STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) and business/finance majors. Scholarships are available for 3-12 credit internships and amounts will range from \$500-\$5,000.

For more information and a link to the application, visit www.fitchburgstate.edu/scholarintern.

GCE details winter, spring offerings

The Office of Graduate and Continuing Education has posted its winter and spring schedules. All the course offerings can be viewed on the seats list through the Registrar's office.

The GCE [winter session](#), run completely online, runs from Monday, Dec. 28 through Sunday, Jan. 17, 2016.

The GCE [spring semester](#) runs from Wednesday, Jan. 20 through Monday, May 16. Course registration begins Monday, Nov. 2.

GCE students may also use [this link](#) to contact their advisors; undergraduate day students should contact their regularly assigned advisors.

CenterStage at Fitchburg State

Olio D'Oliva Cena: Gather, Discover, Enjoy

Imagine a small hilltop village in Montaperto, Sicily. The land covered with trees of ripening olives and overlooking the glistening Mediterranean Sea. That's where the Taibi family's long history of making cold-pressed, single-state olive oils started.



Fourth-generation olive oil producer Giuseppe Taibi will share his ancestral story and describe the history of olive oils from Italy's various regions to start *Olio D'Oliva Cena* at 6 p.m. **Saturday, Nov. 7** at the Falcon Hub at Hammond Hall.

From there we enjoy a lovely five-course olive oil-infused meal, developed and prepared by renowned Fitchburg State University Chef Mark Clark, while live entertainment and community fellowship sets the stage for this memorable night out.

Tickets are \$35, inclusive of tax and tap, and advance purchase is required. Tickets may be purchased at the Weston Box Office inside Weston Auditorium, 353 North St. The box office is open 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. Thursday and Friday and can be reached at 978-665-3347. Tickets can also be ordered [online](#).

Sponsored by the Center for Italian Culture

In the Galleries

The Conlon Hall Media Wall inside 316 Highland Ave. will feature Listening by George Peet. The exhibition runs through November 12. George Peet is a Houston, Texas-based photographer with extensive experience in documentary photography. On a road trip with friends in the early 70s, Peet wandered for hours without taking a single photograph. Quite concerned, he discussed the situation over dinner. The solution presented was to simply push his concerns aside and just listen to the rocks and the trees until they began speaking to him.

Starting **Friday, Nov. 13**, the media wall feature an exhibition of old and new work by faculty member Sally B. Moore.

Vulnerability: situations sitting on edges, beings pushed to the brink of non-being, architecture falling through in search of a more possible place. Assistant Professor Sally Moore uses her work to sort through obstacles and anxieties in her own life and, by extension, situations in the world.

Moore will present a wall talk on her work on **Wednesday, Dec. 9** at 3:30 p.m. in Conlon Hall.

Faculty Show

Art and Communications Media faculty have been creating new works in photography, sculpture, design, painting, drawing, film, video and mixed media. The biennial exhibition highlighting some of their best and recent works will run from **Wednesday, Nov. 4** through Wednesday, Dec. 16 at the Hammond Hall Art Gallery. There will be an opening reception at 5:30 p.m. **Wednesday, Nov. 18** at the gallery.

A Holiday Performance--Alpin Hong performs in December

Music is in the air for the Fitchburg State University CenterStage holiday performance featuring acclaimed pianist Alpin Hong on **Saturday, Dec. 12** at 7 p.m. in Weston Auditorium, 353 North St.

He's been called "Victor Borge, Horowitz and Billy Joel all in one" thanks to his unique combination of stunning technique, emotional range and amazing sense of humor.

Hong is a pianist for all ages, a spectacular showman who captivates with ease. Join us on this most merry of nights for a festive mix of traditional holiday tunes and classical selections that will bring audiences young and old to their feet.



Alpin Hong performs Saturday, Dec. 12.

Tickets are \$28 for adults, \$25 for seniors, Fitchburg State alumni and staff; and \$5 for students. The Weston Box Office, located at Weston Auditorium, 353 North St., is open



The photography of George Peet will be on the Conlon Hall Media Wall through Nov. 12.

Thursday and Friday from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. and can be reached at 978-665-3347. Tickets can also be ordered [online](#).

Faculty Notes

Charles Sides (Communications Media), series editor for Baywood's Technical Communications Series, reported the publication of a new volume, *The Other Kind of Funnies: Comics in Technical Communication* by Han Yu. The book refutes the mainstream American cultural assumption that comics have little to do with technical communication - that the former are entertaining (in a low-brow sense) and juvenile, whereas the latter is practical and serious (to the point of stuffiness). The first of its kind, this book demonstrates the exciting possibilities of using comics in technical communication.

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