

Fitchburg State University Today

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Celuzza to be honored at Winter Commencement Jan. 25



David Celuzza will accept the President's Medal on Jan. 25.

Fitchburg State will hold its [117th commencement exercises, winter ceremony](#), Friday, Jan. 25 at 6:30 p.m. in the campus Athletics and Recreation Center. More than 600 undergraduate and graduate degrees will be awarded during the evening, which will also include presentation of the President's Medal to restaurateur and philanthropist David Celuzza.

President Antonucci will deliver the commencement

address.

Celuzza, owner of Slattery's Restaurant in Fitchburg, has been an engaged citizen and entrepreneur for decades, devoting his talent and energy to countless organizations and community projects.

Celuzza managed Slattery's for 12 years before taking ownership in 1984 and transforming the local pub into a full-service restaurant. The establishment, which employs 70 people, has been named one of the top 500 independent restaurants in the United States by "Restaurant & Institutions" magazine.

After graduating from Fitchburg High School, Celuzza earned a bachelor of science degree from Fitchburg State. He was a member of the staff of the student newspaper *The Cycle*, whose editors took the administration to federal court in a civil rights/freedom of speech battle that garnered national attention.

A former member of the U.S. Army Reserve, Celuzza currently serves on the board of directors of IC Federal Credit Union,

where he chairs its supervisory committee, as well as the board of directors for Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School Foundation. In addition, he is past chairman of the North Central Massachusetts Chamber of Commerce, and the Massachusetts Restaurant Association, where he also chaired the educational foundation.

Celuzza is a longtime champion of education. He founded Slattery's Turkey Trot, one of the largest and most successful road running events in the state. The race, which celebrated its 32nd running in 2012, awards thousands of dollars in scholarships each year to six local high schools, with nearly \$180,000 donated over its history. Celuzza has also served on the board of directors of the Fitchburg State University Foundation and chaired its development committee.

In 2009, he was named Citizen of the Year by the Multi-Service Center and made an honorary lifetime member of the Massachusetts Restaurant Association Board of Directors. In 2010, he was presented with the Distinguished Citizen Award by the Nashua Valley Council of the Boy Scouts of America.

Celuzza and his wife, Donna, and their son, Liam, live in Lunenburg.

Third Thursday film series resumes in January with *Baby Face* on Jan. 17

The Third Thursday film series - bridging the campus and the city - continues in January when Prof. Laura Baker (Economics, History and Political Science) presents *Baby Face* (1933). The community is invited to join Fitchburg State faculty and staff members for free monthly film screenings and discussions at the Fitchburg Public Library.

Each film is presented at 7 p.m. in the library auditorium, introduced by a member of the university's faculty or staff. The films touch on issues or events that will resonate with today's audiences. A discussion follows each screening.

Baby Face is a 1933 Pre-Code film that tells the story of a young woman (Barbara Stanwyck) who uses sex to advance her social and financial status. Marketed with the salacious tag line, "She had it and made it pay," the film's frank depiction of a sexually-active, independent woman made it one of the most notorious films of the Pre-Code era and an enduring example of the sexual politics of classic Hollywood films. *Baby Face* features a powerhouse performance from Barbara Stanwyck, already a Hollywood icon at the age of 26.



Fitchburg State offers free FAFSA help Jan. 27

Fitchburg State University will join more than 25 other institutions offering free help on the free application for federal student aid (FAFSA) for college-bound students on FAFSA Day Massachusetts on Sunday, Jan. 27 at 1 p.m. Fitchburg State's financial aid professionals will offer assistance at the Hammond Campus Center, 160 Pearl St.

Every high school senior, college student, and adult-student who will be attending college during the 2013-2014 academic year needs to complete the FAFSA in order to apply for federal, state and institutional financial aid. FAFSA Day Massachusetts, a College Goal Sunday program, provides free help statewide to students and families looking to complete the FAFSA. The ninth annual FAFSA Day Massachusetts is being held Sunday, Jan. 27 at 1 p.m. at over 25 locations, with additional locations available on different dates and times. Families are encouraged to visit <http://www.FAFSADAY.org> to register, and to view locations, dates and times.

The services are free and available to anyone entering college in 2013; low-income, first-generation students are especially encouraged to attend. Many locations will have services available in various languages.

FAFSA Day is staffed by volunteer financial aid and higher education experts available to provide families one-on-one assistance. FAFSA Day is a non-profit program sponsored by Massachusetts Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators, MEFA, American Student Assistance, and USA Funds. Over 10,000 students have been served during FAFSA Day events.

To register at Fitchburg State, visit http://www.fafsaday.org/registration.php?site_code=14 . For more information on FAFSA Day at Fitchburg State, contact Alcira Zadroga at azadroga@fitchburgstate.edu or by phone at 978-665-3556. For additional information, call 877-424-7627 or e-mail massinfo@fafsaday.org.

The University Project links campus to community



Fitchburg State has embarked on a two-year partnership with the Cleghorn Neighborhood Center, putting the university's resources - in skills, enthusiasm and community spirit - into action to help an organization devoted to one of the city of Fitchburg's most diverse neighborhoods.

The University Project, run through Fitchburg State's Crocker Center for Civic Engagement, will be an ongoing effort to dedicate resources to strengthen not-for-profit organizations

in the Fitchburg-Leominster area, starting with the Cleghorn Neighborhood Center. The effort will help the university meet its mission of serving the community and providing opportunities for engaged scholarship for faculty and service learning for students. The project also provides an opportunity for staff to contribute to the mission of the university to enhance the quality of life for people in the region.

"We are very excited to partner with Fitchburg State through the University Project," said Joana Dos Santos, executive director of the Cleghorn Neighborhood Center. "This project is an incredible opportunity to give real life experience to students, engage faculty and staff in the broader community, and promote civic engagement and partnerships between Fitchburg State and other organizations in the city of Fitchburg. Through the University Project, the center is gaining valuable resources and continuing to build a strong foundation to work in our communities."

Several student organizations and campus offices have already gotten involved with the center, volunteering as tutors and mentors, and assisting in seasonal events run at the center's headquarters on Daniels Street. The effort is designed to span all sectors of the Fitchburg State community, with opportunities for Fitchburg State students, faculty or staff to contribute in areas such as:

- After school and youth programming
- Adult education classes, such as ESL, citizenship preparation, wellness and computer

literacy classes

- Assistance with holiday celebrations, Get out the Vote programs, Black History Celebration, International Women's Day, May 1 march and Latino Heritage Celebration
- Public relations and social marketing assistance such as: production of a newsletter, development of a press release package, a social media plan, and the development of PSAs

For more information, or to discuss service opportunities, contact Crocker Center Director [John Chetro-Szivos](#).

Teaching opportunities in GCE for summer 2013

The Office of [Graduate and Continuing Education](#) is currently accepting requests from faculty to teach for the upcoming summer 2013 semesters. Faculty members interested in teaching should contact the appropriate department chair for approval, and the chairs will submit the schedules to the GCE office. The deadline for department chairs to submit course schedules to GCE is Friday, Jan. 18. Please feel free to contact Associate Dean [Brian Bercier](#) with any questions.

Distinguished Speaker Series continues March 13 with Dr. Steven Layne

The self-described "reading arsonist" Dr. Steven L. Layne will address educators on the topic of igniting a passion for reading when he takes the microphone at Fitchburg State University's [Distinguished Speaker Series](#) on Wednesday, March 13, 2013.

With his trademark combination of humor and heart, Layne tackles one of the most significant issues in reading instruction today: how to engage reluctant readers. Teaching the skill of reading is viewed by many educators as a major objective; teaching the will of reading is too often an afterthought. Layne's charismatic blend of anecdotes and practical suggestions for the classroom are sure to fan the flame of literacy into a raging inferno inspiring teachers as well as their students to keep the bedside lamp on just a little bit later into the night.

Educators will leave the workshop with

- Increased knowledge of literacy
- Practical strategies to engage reluctant readers
- Efficient real-world suggestions to dramatically impact school culture



Dr. Steven L. Layne

Layne serves as full-time professor of literacy education at Judson University in Elgin, Ill. His vast array of experience working at multiple grade levels in the public schools allows him a unique camaraderie with teachers and librarians and his award-winning books for children and young adults add another appealing element to his dynamic presentations. Layne is a frequent keynote speaker at large conferences and gatherings of educators and librarians throughout the world. In addition, Layne continues to do school appearances each year as a guest author and provides in-service for schools throughout the nation.

"Steven Layne is one of the most dynamic keynote speakers I have had the pleasure to listen to," said Fitchburg State University Dean of Education Dr. Pamela Hill. "His warmth, humor, and love of teaching resonate. He made us laugh and made us cry-but most of all, he inspired us."

The Distinguished Speaker Series is designed for superintendents, assistant superintendents, principals, curriculum directors, special education directors, teachers, graduate students, higher education faculty, and other interested school administrators and educators. Books by Layne will

be available for purchase, and checks, credit cards and cash will be accepted.

The registration fee of \$150 includes the workshop, luncheon and continuing education units. This program offers four PDPs for educators. Payment is by check, credit card or purchase order. Teams of three or more within the same school district pay \$125 per person and must register by purchase order. Print the invoice or registration form online to complete and mail or fax in per instructions. Payment is by check, credit card or purchase order.

Registration has begun and is open until March 1, 2013. Registrations received by Jan. 31, 2013 will be entered into a raffle for free admission.

For more information or to register, visit <http://www.fitchburgstate.edu/offices/academic-offices/gce/distinguished-speaker>.

CenterStage and cultural events at Fitchburg State



Coming in February: Lúnasa

The [CenterStage at Fitchburg State University](#) arts and culture series welcomes [Lúnasa](#) on Saturday, Feb. 23 at 8 p.m. in Weston Auditorium, 353 North St.

Lúnasa's melodic lines soar as flutes, fiddles, whistles, and Uilleann pipe capture the ancient soul of traditional instrumental Irish music-and then surge into the 21st century with the rhythmic drive of the double bass. Experience what the Irish Voice calls "the hottest Irish acoustic group on the planet." No wonder Irish Echo named Lúnasa's CD one of Top Ten Traditional Albums of 2010.

Fancy footwork and high kicks in step-dance performances by the Fitchburg State dance club and Flying Irish Dance Studio will amaze you.

The performance will be preceded by a spotlight talk at 7:15 p.m. While many Celtic bands feature a singer to carry its melodies, Lúnasa has taken a different path. Members of this band discuss how their instrumentation evokes the singer's part.

Tickets for the concert are \$28 for adults, \$25 for seniors and \$7 for students. The Weston Box Office, located inside Weston Auditorium, is open Thursdays and Fridays from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. and can be reached at 978-665-3347.

Lúnasa's performance is co-sponsored by Sentinel & Enterprise, with support from media partner WPKZ and support from Slattery's Restaurant.

In the Gallery at Sanders: ARTeries

ARTeries is Fitchburg State University Art Department's juried exhibition that showcases the strongest original

student work in drawing, painting, sculpture, and mixed-media art.

The show is held every two years and provides an opportunity for the university community to celebrate the artistic talents of Fitchburg State students. The show will run in the gallery at Sanders through Feb. 19.



On the Conlon Media Wall: "Out There!" by Adam Mikaelian



Current student Adam Mikaelian captures the world of extreme skiing in his images. "Out There!" will be featured on the media wall through Feb. 27.

Archived editions of Fitchburg State University Today can be found online at <http://www.fitchburgstate.edu/offices/administration/public-relations/fitchburg-state-university-today-archive>. For questions about Fitchburg State University Today, contact the Public Relations Office at (978) 665-4694. To submit to Fitchburg State University Today, visit the Public Relations site at www.fitchburgstate.edu/publicrelations and click on [Request for Publicity](#).

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