

Fitchburg State University Today

March 16, 2015 - Vol 5, Issue 13

In This Issue

30K Commitment unveiled

Fiorentino Foyer to be dedicated

Open forums to be held Tuesday

Women's History Month continues

Community Read continues

LeadHERship Conference March 20

Campus to observe White Ribbon Day on March 24

Violence in sports probed

Comm Media lecture series resumes

Piano recital on March 25

10th annual Drag Show March 26

Harrod Lecture to look at marathon

Speaker Series resumes

Lavoie inspires educators

ALFA offers Food for Thought on March 31

Conflict Studies address coming in April

GCE Info Session on April 16

CenterStage at Fitchburg State

Faculty Notes

Quick Links

www.fitchburgstate.edu

[Public Relations](#)

[Campus News](#)

[Campus Calendar](#)

[Graduate and Continuing Education](#)

[Fitchburg State in the News](#)

Fitchburg State co-sponsors "\$30K Commitment"

A new collaboration between Central Massachusetts' four institutions of public higher education - Fitchburg State University, Mount Wachusett Community College, Quinsigamond



Community College and Worcester State University - will guarantee qualifying students their associate's and bachelor's degrees in high demand programs for \$30,000 in four years.

The 30K Commitment was announced on Monday, March 9 at the Statehouse

The [\\$30K Commitment](#), starting this fall, is a promise from the institutions to support the career goals of Massachusetts residents; prepare students for high-demand degrees; and outline clear paths for students to complete affordable associate's and bachelor's degrees in four years. Tuition and fees will be frozen for qualifying students. The average tuition and fees for a private, four-year college education is \$31,000 a year, according to the [College Board](#), while the annual average cost of in-state tuition and fees for public institutions is \$9,139.

The program was announced at the Statehouse last Monday at an event featuring representatives from the four participating institutions, along with student speakers and state officials that saluted the effort.

The commitment aligns degree programs and allows for seamless transfer between the two-year and four-year institutions for programs including business administration, computer science, early childhood education, biotechnology, criminal justice, biology and chemistry. Students who wish to continue their studies beyond the baccalaureate level will benefit from institutions' articulation agreements with other schools. Those heading straight to their careers will be able to capitalize on internship opportunities and professional networks related to the fields of study included in the \$30K program.

Find us on Facebook 




Broadcast Yourself



[Join Our Mailing List](#)

Participating students will be expected to maintain good academic standing with full-time course loads each semester. In addition to easy transfer opportunities from the community colleges, students will be guaranteed admission to the state university programs outlined in the agreement.

"The \$30K Commitment puts students first by creating a seamless pathway for some of our most popular programs," President Antonucci said.

"The community colleges and state universities of Central Massachusetts enjoy strong collaborative partnerships, and this agreement - creating opportunities and controlling costs - is evidence of those relationships," Mount Wachusett Community College President Daniel M. Asquino said.

"The \$30K Commitment will allow motivated students to complete their associate's and bachelor's degrees for the average cost of a single year of higher education," Quinsigamond Community College President Gail Carberry said.

"The academic programs selected for this project reflect the workforce development needs of Massachusetts, and represent public higher education's ongoing commitment to the commonwealth, its students and its employers," Worcester State University President Barry Maloney said.

"I enthusiastically support this program because it locks in the price of \$30K, and can spur our students to stay on course and complete their degrees. That commitment from our students will improve retention and four-year graduation rates," said Higher Education Commissioner Richard M. Freeland. "It is my hope that the program will dramatically increase awareness of the affordability and high quality of our programs, and serve as a model for what we hope to do on a statewide basis."

Fiorentino Foyer in new science building to be dedicated on March 24

The lobby of the renovated Condike Wing of Fitchburg State University's science building will be dedicated to the former longtime faculty member and administrator Dr. Michael V. Fiorentino, Jr., and his wife Pamela.

A ceremony marking the dedication will be held at 9:30 a.m. Tuesday, March 24 in the science building at 333 North St.

Dr. Fiorentino left Fitchburg State in 2011 to assume the presidency of Lock Haven University in Pennsylvania. The naming was made possible through a generous gift by the Fiorentinos to the Fitchburg State University Foundation.

The Fiorentino Foyer looks out on the



Pamela and Michael Fiorentino

campus quadrangle and bridges the university's science facilities and its administration building.

"Mike and Pam Fiorentino served the Fitchburg State community with distinction for many years," Fitchburg State President Robert V. Antonucci said. "Even though they are enjoying a fruitful tenure at Lock Haven University, we are honored to commemorate their ongoing relationship with Fitchburg State."

"Fitchburg State will always hold a special place in our hearts," said the Fiorentinos, who still maintain ties with North Central Massachusetts. "It was where we began our professional journeys, and the experiences and relationships forged there will last forever. We are honored to support Fitchburg State in its continuing march forward."

President Antonucci hosting open forums on March 17

President Antonucci has scheduled a pair of open forums for **Tuesday, March 17**, at 10 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. in Kent Recital Hall in Conlon Hall. He will discuss a variety of topics and, as always, take questions from the audience.

Women's History Month continues

Fitchburg State University's observation of Women's History Month continues with a series of film screenings and talks and that promise to highlight the contributions of women to history and contemporary society.

The campus will welcome Donna M. Cole, PhD, MPH, MEd, for the Nancy Kelly Memorial Lecture on **Wednesday, March 18** at 3:30 p.m. in Presidents' Hall in the Mazzaferro Center, 291 Highland Ave. Cole will present "My God Has Not Spoken:" The Experiences of African-American Women Living with HIV." Cole is visiting research fellow at Yale University's Center for Interdisciplinary Research on AIDS. Admission is free.

On **Thursday, March 19**, at 4 p.m. at the [Fitchburg Public Library](#), 610 Main St., Fitchburg State faculty member Patricia Arend (Behavioral Sciences) will introduce the Oscar-nominated *Far From Heaven* (2002) and lead a discussion after the screening. *Far From Heaven* is also being presented as part of the university and library's Third Thursday Film Series, as well as the [Community Read](#). Admission is free.

Back on campus, the Women's History Month film series concludes with *Love Jones* (1997) on **Monday, March 30** at 3:30 p.m. in Ellis White Lecture Hall in Hammond Hall. The film, about the relationship between two young African-Americans in Chicago, has enjoyed a cult following since its debut nearly 20 years ago.

The university's observance of Women's History Month is sponsored by the Center for Diversity and Inclusiveness, Amelia Gallucci-Cirio Memorial Library, Academic Affairs, Black Student Union, and Departments of Behavioral Sciences, Economics, History, and Political Science, English Studies, and Humanities.

Community Read continues with films, discussions of race and justice

Fitchburg State's year-long Community Read of legal scholar Michelle Alexander's *The New Jim Crow* continues, with the screening of *Far From Heaven* (2002) at the Fitchburg Public Library on **Thursday, March 19** at 4 p.m. Admission is free.

The events return to campus on **Wednesday, April 1** at 3:30 p.m. with a screening of the Oscar-winning film *12 Years a Slave* in Ellis White Lecture Hall in Hammond Hall. Admission is free and pizza will be served.

Solomon Northup's memoir traces his life as a freeman living in New York before being drugged, kidnapped and sold into slavery in the deep south. The acclaimed film adaptation won several Academy Awards, including Best Picture.

The Community Read programming will continue with a panel discussion on race and the criminal justice system on **Thursday, April 9** at 3:30 p.m. at the Leominster Public Library. The talk will feature faculty members Jason Nwankwo (Behavioral Sciences) and Ben Railton (English Studies). Admission is free.

Throughout the Community Read, Fitchburg State faculty and staff will join with experts and artists from this region and beyond to explore the issues raised in the book. The public is invited to add their voices to the conversation as the university seeks to create community through communication. The series is sponsored by the Carl T. Witherell '32 fund.



LeadHERship Conference on March 20 to feature Rep. Tsongas, Sen. Flanagan

U.S. Rep. Niki Tsongas (D-Lowell) and State Sen. Jennifer L. Flanagan (D-Leominster) will be among the guest speakers at Fitchburg State University's upcoming LeadHERship Conference on **Friday, March 20** in the main event space at Hammond Hall. The event runs from 12:30 to 5 p.m.

Rep. Tsongas, who represents the 3rd Congressional District, will deliver the opening keynote address, and Sen. Flanagan, whose district spans much of North Central Massachusetts, is a presenter and will also take part in the panel discussion that closes the day. Other scheduled presenters include HealthAlliance President Deborah Weymouth and Fitchburg State University Police Chief Karen Leary.

The audience for the event will consist of 40 female students who were chosen through an application process. Organizers hope the conference will empower and up-and-coming generation of female leaders to learn the skills and confidence needed to succeed in college and beyond.

FAVE observes White Ribbon Day on Tuesday, March 24

[Fitchburg Anti-Violence Education](#) will be leading the campus observance of White Ribbon Day on **Tuesday, March 24**. Ribbons and pledge cards will be available in the Recreation Center, Holmes Dining Commons and the Information Desk in Hammond Hall, and will also be sent to campus departments.

Participants are encouraged to wear a white ribbon to symbolize your pledge never to commit, condone, or stay silent about violence against women. While this international event is traditionally observed by men, all are welcome to participate in the campus observance.

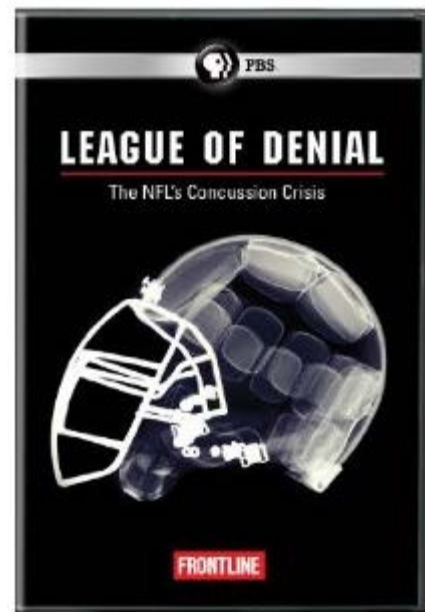


Center for Conflict Studies looks at violence in sports

The Center for Conflict Studies will present three events this spring exploring issues surrounding violence in sports.

On **Wednesday, March 25**, from 12:30 to 1:45 p.m., the Center for Teaching and Learning will host a brown-bag luncheon to discuss two articles on the phenomenon of violence in sports. The articles will be shared with the campus community as the event nears.

On **Wednesday, April 8** at 3:30 p.m. there will be a screening and discussion of the film *League of Denial* in the Randall Lecture Hall in the Condikey Wing of the science center. The film looks at the National Football League, a multibillion-dollar commercial juggernaut presiding over the national pastime. But the NFL is under assault as thousands of former players and a host of scientists claim the league has tried to cover up how football inflicted long-term brain injuries on many players. Faculty member Joseph Moser (English Studies) will lead the post-film discussion.



On **Monday, April 27** at 3:30 p.m. in Ellis White Lecture Hall there will be a panel discussion exploring the question of whether football should be banned. Panelists will include Fitchburg State Athletic Director Sue Lauder, Instructor Monica Maldari (Exercise and Sports Science), Assistant Professor G.L. Mazard Wallace (Behavioral Sciences), David Svolba (Humanities) and Kisha Tracy (English Studies).

Admission is free.

Communications Media Lecture Series continues on March 25

Fitchburg State University continues its Communications Media Lecture Series this spring with presentations from noted

professionals in the fields of photography, design and documentary filmmaking.

The series continues in March with a presentation by designers Nancy Skolos and Tom Wedell on **Wednesday, March 25** at 3:30 p.m. in Ellis White Lecture Hall in Hammond Hall, 160 Pearl St. The husband and wife pair work to diminish the boundaries between graphic design and photography-creating three-dimensional collaged images influenced by cubism, technology and architecture. They balance their commitments to professional practice and teaching at the Rhode Island School of Design, where Skolos is interim dean of Architecture + Design and Wedell is a senior critic in Graphic Design. The studio's work has received numerous awards and has been widely published and exhibited. Skolos/Wedell's posters are included in the graphic design collections of the Museum of Modern Art, The Israel Museum, Jerusalem and the Museum für Gestaltung, Zurich, Switzerland. Skolos is an elected member of the Alliance Graphique Internationale.



Skolos/Wedell's poster design for Cambridge, Mass. typographer and type designer Matthew Carter's 2010 lecture.

The series concludes **Thursday, April 16** at 3:30 p.m. with a talk by filmmaker, teacher and film programmer Jeff Silva. Based in Boston, Silva's recently completed projects include *Ivan & Ivana* (2011) and *Balkan Rhapsodies: 78 Measures of War* (2008), which have been exhibited at festivals, and museums internationally, including: MoMA's Documentary Fortnight, The Viennale, Visions du Reel, Valdivia, Flahertiana, and DocAviv. *Ivan & Ivana* explores the attraction as well as the ambivalence to the glitz and glamour associated with Hollywood's depiction of the USA by juxtaposing the hardships, successes and the humorous escapades of the young immigrant couple.



Filmmaker Jeff Silva will speak on April 16.

From 2006-09, Silva was a teaching fellow at Harvard University where he helped develop the Sensory Ethnography Lab curriculum with Lucien Taylor. The SEL is a practice-based program of visual anthropology exploring the interstices of art, anthropology and documentary film. Currently, he is a professor of film at the Massachusetts College of Art.

This semester's lecture series began in February with a presentation by photographer Bruce Myren, an artist and photographer based in Cambridge.

The lecture series, now in its fourth year, is organized by Professor Stephen Goldstein and presented with support from Fitchburg State's Ruth Butler Grant.

Humanities Department presents piano recital Wednesday, March 25

The Humanities Department will present a visiting artist recital featuring pianist Pei-yeh Tsai on **Wednesday, March 25** at 7 p.m. in Kent Recital Hall in the Conlon Fine Arts Building, 367 North St. Admission is free.

The recital will feature Russian music of the 20th century, including Anatoly Liadov's Music Box and Barcarolle, Nikolai Medtner's Four Fairy Tales, and Sergei Prokofiev's Five Selected Pieces from Romeo and Juliet, Op. 75. The second half of the recital will feature Franz Schubert's late Sonata in C minor D 958.

Pei-yeh Tsai appears frequently as a soloist, chamber musician, and orchestra musician throughout New England. Her repertoire ranges from classical to contemporary computer music. She is a founding member and manager of the electro-acoustic group Bleep-Blop. To learn more about the artist, visit her [website](#).

Gay Straight Alliance hosts benefit Drag Show on March 26

The Gay Straight Alliance at Fitchburg State University will present the tenth annual drag show **Thursday, March 26**, at 7 p.m., an event designed to entertain and enlighten the community.

"The Dragged Up Dolls: Decade of Drag Drag Show" will be held at the university's Recreation Center, 130 North St. Proceeds from the show will support the Waltham House.

This year's show is a homecoming reunion event and will feature dancing and cabaret-style performances by 14 stage performers like Rainbow Frite, Lady Sabrina, Mizery, Destiny, Miss Kris and Diamond Dunhill to name a few, with Raquel Blake to be the hostess for the evening. DJ Scotty P will spin the tunes for the show.

"I am very proud of the young men and women of GSA for putting on such a fantastic show," said Associate Director of Student Development Shane Franzen. "Many months and hours upon hours go into putting this show together. I never dreamed that 10 years ago the students were creating such a lasting event that has become one of our most anticipated events of the university year."


Tickets for the show are \$5 for students and \$10 for the public. Tickets may be purchased at the Hammond Hall Information Desk or online at www.MKTix.com/fscosd. Mail orders can be sent to GSA Drag Show, Student Development at Fitchburg State University, 160 Pearl St., Fitchburg, MA 01420. Please make checks to Fitchburg State University/GSA.

For more information, contact Franzen at (978) 665-3164, or sfranzen@fitchburgstate.edu.

Harrod Lecture on April 1 to look at Boston Marathon bombing


Assistant Professor Katherine Jewell (Economics, History and Political Science) will present the Harrod Lecture "Worlds Collide: The Boston Marathon Bombing, Digital History and the Public Scholar" on **Wednesday, April 1** at 3:30 p.m. in Presidents' Hall in the Mazzaferro Center, 291 Highland Ave. Admission is free.


Worlds Collide
THE BOSTON MARATHON BOMBING,
DIGITAL HISTORY, AND THE PUBLIC SCHOLAR



Wednesday, April 1 at 3:30pm
PRESIDENTS' HALL | FREE

Presented by:
Dr. Katherine Jewell
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF HISTORY

 **FITCHBURG STATE UNIVERSITY**

 **HARROD LECTURE SERIES**

Speaker Series continues in Center for Teaching and Learning

The Fitchburg State University Speakers Series has resumed for the academic year. All the talks will be held from 12:30 to 1:45 p.m. in the Center for Teaching and Learning and refreshments will be served.

On **April 6**, Rob Carr, Jon Krasner and Randy Howe (Communications Media) will discuss "Human-Technology Interactivity and Agency in Media Environments."

And on **May 4**, Susan Wadsworth (Humanities) will discuss "Rocks and Ruins: An Artist's Sabbatical in the Southwest."

Lavoie talk inspires educators

Celebrated educator and Fitchburg State alumnus [Richard Lavoie](#) '72 returned to campus last week to present "Strategies that don't work with kids who struggle-- and some that do," part of the university's annual Distinguished Speaker Series.

Speaking to a crowd of area teachers, Lavoie described the challenges and rewards of working with students with special needs. He challenged some conventional techniques to deal with children who are acting up, criticizing tactics like taking away prized objects or



Rick Lavoie spoke in Hammond Hall.

calling a timeout. Those approaches are punitive without creating benefits.

ALFA Food for Thought Lecture looks at U.S. immigration history

The history of U.S. immigration policies will be the topic of Fitchburg State University's [Adult Learning in the Fitchburg Area](#) (ALFA) Food for Thought lecture on **Tuesday, March 31** at 2:30 p.m. in Ellis White Lecture Hall in Hammond Hall, 160 Pearl St. Admission is free.

The talk will be given by Fitchburg State Associate Professor of English Benjamin Railton, who coordinates American Studies at the university.

Railton's talk frames the federal government's current struggles with immigration reform through the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882, allowing us to see how such policies can profoundly influence our national narratives of immigration, diversity, community, and identity.

Railton is committed to producing works of public scholarship, through channels including his recent book, *The Chinese Exclusion Act: What It Can Teach Us about America* (2013); his daily [American Studies](#) blog; his contributions to sites such as We're History and The Conversation, among others. In addition, Railton is vice president of Northeast MLA, a member of the Scholars Strategy Network and the New England American Studies Association Council, advisor for the American Writers Museum, and Editorial Board member of the Encyclopedia of American Studies.



Benjamin Railton

This program is free and open to the public. Attendees are encouraged to park at the Wallace Civic Center, 1000 John Fitch Highway, and take the free shuttle to Hammond Hall.

Teaching opportunities in Graduate and Continuing Education

The Office of [Graduate and Continuing Education](#) is currently accepting requests from faculty to teach for the upcoming fall 2015 semester. Faculty members interested in teaching should contact the appropriate department chair for approval. The deadline for departments to submit course schedules to GCE is **Friday, April 3**. Please feel free to contact [Brian Bercier](#), Associate Dean, with any questions.

Retired general and diplomat to deliver Conflict Studies Keynote on April 15

The challenges and opportunities in modern Russia will be the focus of Fitchburg State University's 2015 International and Conflict Studies Keynote Address in April. U.S. Army Brig. Gen. Peter Zwack (retired), formerly the U.S. defense attaché in the U.S. embassy in Moscow from 2012 to 2014, will deliver the address at 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, April 15 at the John Randall Lecture Hall in the university's science center, 333 Highland Ave. Admission is free with public parking in the Weston lots on North Street.

Gen. Zwack served in the U.S. Army for 34 years in command and staff tours across several continents, including warzones, in Russia, Afghanistan, South Korea, Serbia and Germany. He served as the senior U.S. defense official in Moscow from 2012 to 2014, and completed tours of duty in intelligence command positions in Afghanistan and Kosovo, Serbia. He has served and advised military commanders at the 4-star level, ambassadors, and cabinet-level government leaders.



Brig. Gen. Zwack

The talk will be introduced by Fitchburg State faculty member Joshua Spero, associate professor of international politics and coordinator of the International Studies Minor.

"We have a very important opportunity to host a very prominent member of our country's military and diplomatic corps, Gen. Zwack, who served recently as the senior U.S. defense official and Defense Attaché in Moscow during an especially challenging time historically between the U.S. and Russia, and Russia and Europe," Spero said. "Our International and Conflict Studies Keynote Address by Gen. Zwack is a great open and free lecture for our community to experience."

The event is co-sponsored by the Department of Economics, History and Political Science, the Office of Academic Affairs, the International Studies Minor Program, the Center for Conflict Studies, the Career Services Office, the Office of International Education and the Political Science Club.

Graduate and Continuing Ed to hold info session April 16

Learn about the educational opportunities available at Fitchburg State University when the Office of Graduate and Continuing Education (GCE) hosts an information session on **Thursday, April 16** at 5 p.m.

The free session, where attendees will have the opportunity to speak with advisors, financial aid representatives and register for classes, will take place in Hammond Hall, 160 Pearl St.

GCE at Fitchburg State offers more than 45 graduate and undergraduate degree and certificate programs. Take the first steps toward achieving your educational goals and register for the information session today.

There will be special information sessions beginning at 5:30 p.m. for the LPN to BS in nursing bridge program, online RN to BSN, online MBA, Master of Science in Nursing (forensic); graduate special education (moderate, severe, guided studies, reading specialist and BCBA), now available in online/hybrid delivery; education (early childhood, elementary and middle school); counseling; and educational leadership and management (a revised, Department of Elementary and Secondary Education-approved program meeting the latest state leadership standards and performance educators).

Those who attend the information session who haven't yet applied for admission to Fitchburg State can have their \$25 admissions application fee waived for summer or fall 2015 (applications must be received by May 16).

Visit fitchburgstate.edu/gce/infoession to register for the information session or call (978) 665-3182 for more information.

CenterStage at Fitchburg State University

The work of award-winning photographer Frank Armstrong, highlighting "social landscapes" by mixing human presence and natural settings, will be featured as part of the Fitchburg State University [CenterStage](#) cultural series through **Wednesday, April 8**, in the Hammond Hall Art Gallery in Hammond Hall, 160 Pearl St.

The exhibit, "Often in a Different Landscape," proves landscape is not necessarily defined by its scope and size; it can be defined by its relevance to its usage.

Armstrong will discuss his work in a gallery talk at 3:30 p.m. **Thursday, March 19**. A reception will follow.



"Sharp County AR" (2012) by Frank Armstrong is among the works on display in the Hammond Hall Art Gallery.

"I have been photographing for more than 50 years," Armstrong said. "For the first decade and a half, I worked as a photojournalist working for the University of Texas, Austin, mostly supplying illustrations for various in-house and national publications."

Armstrong began his teaching career at the Austin campus and went on to lead workshops throughout the Southwest. He currently teaches digital and analog photography at Clark University. Armstrong was awarded the Dobie-Paisano Fellowship for a portfolio of central Texas social landscapes, and his monograph *ROCK, RIVER & THORN, The Big Bend of the Rio Grande* was published by Scotia-Waterous of Canada.

Armstrong has exhibited widely across the U.S. and his work is featured in a number of permanent collections, including the University of Texas at Austin, Houston Museum of Fine Art, Worcester Art Museum, Amon Carter Museum of Western Art, and the Museum of Modern Art.

Hub Series welcomes Anne Heaton on Saturday, April 25

Fitchburg State University CenterStage welcomes acclaimed singer-songwriter Anne Heaton to the Falcon Hub in Hammond Hall on **Saturday, April 25** at 8 p.m.

Heaton's sound is described as a simply lovely blend of soft pop,

smooth blues and porch folk, and the classically trained pianist's songs have been called "tender, barbed and spiritual" by the Washington Post. Known for the infectious energy of her live performances - the Seattle Times called her "a natural performer with a rich, soaring voice"-her graceful, vulnerable and sometimes humorous pop-folk songs will capture your imagination and soul.



Anne Heaton performs April 25.

Tickets are \$28 for adults, \$25 for Fitchburg State alumni, staff and seniors, and \$5 for students. Admission is restricted to those 18 and over. The Weston Box Office, located inside Weston Auditorium at 353 North St., 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](#).

About the CenterStage Hub Series

Having the unique opportunity to experience national acts in a local, intimate setting is what the CenterStage Hub Series is all about. With just over 150 seats, the Hammond Hall Falcon Hub offers a relaxed, coffeehouse-style room with comfortable seating, cash bar and a very cool atmosphere.

The CenterStage Hub Series is 18-plus and general admission. Doors open at 7 p.m. Tickets reserve you a space at a table, but not specific seats. Please note that most Hub tables seat four people. Because of room size, advance ticket purchase is encouraged.

About Anne Heaton

Heaton has amassed awards and praise from critics, fellow artists and fans. Her graceful, vulnerable, and sometimes humorous pop-folk songs have captured audience imaginations for over a decade.

Heaton has played the Sundance Film Festival, Lilith Fair (2010), and was a featured artist on the New York Times Music Podcast. Heaton has played numerous times on NPR and has shared the stage with some of her favorite artists including Sarah McLachlan and jazz drummer Max Roach. In 2012, she was invited to perform on The Cayamo Cruise as part of Winterbloom (featuring Antje Duvekot, Meg Hutchinson and Natalia Zukerman) with artists such as Keb 'Mo and The Civil Wars.

Heaton has toured throughout the U.S. since 2001 playing acoustic venues, outdoor theaters, rock clubs, and festivals. In 2005, she won Soul City Cafe, a national competition of live performances and online voting to choose Jewel's opener for her West Coast Tour. In addition to Jewel's tour, Heaton has toured as an opening act for Melissa Ferrick and HEM, as well as opened for/performed with Chris Trapper, Jill Sobule and Jonatha Brooke.

On the heels of her most recent album, *Honeycomb*, Heaton releases *Dora*, a collaborative album of poems-turned-songs with poet Claire Clube. These poem-songs- visceral, ethereal, and set to a mix of singer-songwriter pop, classical and jazz/blues-explore a woman's relationships with her world and the emotions of divorce. Tragically, in summer 2013, not long after sponsoring a young child in Kenya and just before this album was to be released, poet and collaborator Clube died in a plane crash with her daughter, Bess.

"I know she wanted to share these songs with people, and she was a person who lived her life so fully and fearlessly that's what I'll take with me," Heaton said.

Heaton studied at the University of Notre Dame, writing her senior thesis on Debussy's piano works, and then enriched her musical training by studying composition and jazz vocals at The City College of New York. Always a fan of Peter Gabriel, the Indigo Girls, and Tori Amos, she also became fascinated by early American spirituals while living in New York, and sang in a Harlem gospel choir.

Conlon Hall Media Wall features photography of alumna Cate Brown

At the Conlon Hall Media Wall, photographer and Fitchburg State alumna Cate Brown's work will be displayed through **Wednesday, April 1**. Through her photography, Brown draws viewers into a world defined and surrounded by sandy beaches and salty ocean waters. Brown will present a wall talk at 3:30 p.m. **Wednesday, March 25** and refreshments will be served.



Alumna Cate Brown's work will be on display through April 1.

In the Gallery at Sanders in the Sanders Administration Building, 300 Highland Ave., an exhibition of paintings and drawings by Maine artist Robert Sullivan is now on display through Tuesday, March 31. Admission is free.

"Representation and Allusion: Paintings and Drawings by Robert Sullivan" features works by the artist using representational imagery as an exploratory tool. Through his work, he looks to open up vectors of meaning beyond the expected conventions of mere semblance.

Faculty Notes

Michael Greenwood (Business Administration), pictured at right, delivered the keynote address at Gardner Square Two, Inc's annual meeting and awards ceremony at the Gardner Ale House on March 10. Greenwood presented, "What Makes the Entrepreneur Different."



Greenwood and **Luis Rosero** (Economics, History and Political Science) have also been invited to present their research on local business and economic trends to the Montachusett Regional Planning Commission on March 24.

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](#).

[Forward email](#)



This email was sent to mbruun@fitchburgstate.edu by mbruun@fitchburgstate.edu | [Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Rapid removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).



Fitchburg State University | 160 Pearl Street | Fitchburg | MA | 01420