Students view the work of Native American Artist, George Longfish at the October 6th opening of his exhibition "Indian on Indian" at the USM Art Gallery.

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From the Dean

Students, faculty, friends, and alumni of the College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences at the University of Southern Maine, we would like to invite you to explore our college through our winter newsletter. Highlighted within are the many public events organized by our faculty and academic programs. In the classroom and into the public sphere, our academic programs are engaged with the issues that define our democracy: technology and civic expression; race and democracy; criminal justice and lethal violence; globalization and the environment; immigration and the refugee experience; language, gender, and implicit bias; and the relationship between native peoples and the state.

This December, USM installed its not-so-new president, Glenn Cummings. Seventeen months after his appointment, the event was put together to send a signal to the community about USM’s renewed health and stability. But more importantly, it was an opportunity for our faculty to honor many of our great students. Every faculty member was given the opportunity to name two students. I include a picture here for Theatre’s nominees, one of whom, Luis Del Valle, so inhabited his role in Professor Valentine’s recent production *The Language Archive*, that I did not even recognize him!

I would also like to encourage all current students and alumni to share their successes with us so that we can share them with the world. Our students do exceptional work. Any updates you have, please send to: cahs-dean@maine.edu

If you would like to help students like our Theatre Scholars above, please consider a donation to the CAHS Scholarship Fund. Checks can be made payable to the University of Southern Maine, CAHS Scholarship Fund, Advancement, P.O. Box 9300, Portland, ME 04104-9300. Gifts may also be made by contacting us at cahsdean@maine.edu or visiting our giving page at: http://usm.maine.edu/giving. Thanks for your support!

CAHS launches new Gaming Minor

The college is launching a gaming minor coordinated by Professor Alex Irvine. This new minor will equip students with a broad understanding of the history and theory of gaming, have an emphasis on how games are created and produced, and allow students to work in teams to build games. Different tracks in the minor will focus on programming, art and design, marketing and development, and narrative writing. On December 4th, Professor Irvine gave a lecture, “Level Up: How Game Design Skills Will Help You Rule the World,” to kick off the new program. The talk was part of the English Department Faculty series.
From the Philosophy Department

W.E.B. Du Bois Discussion with Professors Read and Rowe

On November 10th, Associate Professor of Philosophy, Jason Read and Assistant Professor of History, Leroy Rowe offered a campus discussion of W.E.B. Du Bois’s 1903 text, *The Souls of Black Folk* in the Glickman Events Room.

Professors Read and Rowe discussed W.E.B. Du Bois’s concept of double consciousness that develops a relational concept of self-consciousness, stressing how we are aware of ourselves and know ourselves through our reflections in the consciousness of others. This concept has its roots in philosophers such as Hegel and Emerson. What is unique is that Du Bois develops this concept to comprehend race, race as the constant awareness of others’, in this case white Americans’, preconceptions and prejudices. In doing so Du Bois illustrated the psychological and philosophical impact of racism.

From the Criminology Program

Guest Lecture on Lethal Violence in Sweden

The Criminology Program and the Maine School of Law and International Law Society sponsored a lecture, Lethal Violence: Developments in Sweden the Director of the Swedish National Council for Crime Prevention, Erik Wennerström on November 14th. Director Wennerström has worked on judicial questions at the European Commission and at the Swedish ministries of Justice and Foreign Affairs. His publications include a research paper, “An EU Mechanism on Democracy, the Rule of Law and Fundamental Rights,” and an article, “EU Accession to the European Convention on Human Rights — the Creation of an European Legal Space for Human Rights or the Last Stand for the Normative Supremacy of the Strasbourg System.” Director Wennerström has also served as Chairman of Government Inquiry on Cyber Security and the Administrator for Justice and Home Affairs for the European Commission.
From the Political Science Program

The Arctic: Challenges and Opportunities

On October 4-6, USM hosted a two-day symposium on possibilities for Maine's engagement in the Arctic Region. Portland was selected as host by the U.S. State Department for the Senior Arctic Officials Meeting of the Arctic Council. A panel discussion, sponsored by the Political Science Program, was moderated by Political Science Professor Francesca Vassallo. Panelists Edward Struzik, of Queen's University in Canada and Director of the Canadian Arctic Resources Committee, and Tomas Orri Ragnarsson, an Arctic Affairs Counselor in the Directorate for International and Security Affairs of Iceland’s Ministry for Foreign Affairs, spoke on the future of the Arctic.

From the History Program

Titanic artifact exhibition at the Portland Science Center

History 394: The History of Immigration to the United States

In September, Professor Eileen Eagan’s History 394 class visited Titanic: The Artifact Exhibit at The Portland Science Center. During the tour, students studied passengers of all classes on the ship, but especially in steerage, who were traveling to America to start new lives. Participants discussed the role of technology and the sea. Students also examined the exhibit and its narrative as an example of public history, that is, how the past is presented and interpreted outside the classroom. Each student received a card of an actual individual on the ship and, at the end, found out if that person had survived the voyage.
Annual O’Brien Poetry Reading

On October 14th, the English Department hosted the annual O’Brien Poetry Reading featuring visiting poet Matthea Harvey. Harvey read from her latest work, *If the Tabloids Are True What Are You?,* and participated in a roundtable discussion with students in the Glickman Events Room.

**Matthea Harvey** is the author of five books of poetry—*If the Tabloids Are True What Are You?, Of Lamb* (an illustrated erasure with images by Amy Jean Porter), *Modern Life* (a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award and a New York Times Notable Book), *Sad Little Breathing Machine* and *Pity the Bathtub Its Forced Embrace of the Human Form.* She has also published two children’s books, *Cecil the Pet Glacier,* illustrated by Giselle Potter and *The Little General and the Giant Snowflake,* illustrated by Elizabeth Zechel. She teaches poetry at Sarah Lawrence College and lives in Brooklyn.

Waking Windows/Page Burner Reading Series

On October 1st, the English Department sponsored Waking Windows/Page Burner Reading Series, a multi-venue festival organized by one of its majors, Nat Baldwin, at Monument Square in Portland. This was part of a larger event with 60 other venues and included music and comedic performances.

Poetry Slam

A Poetry Slam was featured in ENG 201, a Creative Writing class taught by Araminta "Mina" Matthews, Senior Instructional Designer with University College. Students created dynamic videos of their poetic performances and shared them on YouTube. Poems featured in this playlist include Matt Lee's "Time Flies," Evan Manois's "The Worst," Devin Page's "Untitled," Mariah MacDonald's "The Assignment," CiAnne Plummer's "Natures and Cities," Bryan Sturdivant's "The Prisoner," and Bryan Nye's "I Fell in Love with an Alpaca." Link to the class playlist: [https://goo.gl/oB4o6j](https://goo.gl/oB4o6j). Screen shots below are from some of the student work.
From the Art Department

*Its Honor is Here Pledged: Broken Treaty Quilts*

by Gina Adams

Although she is half Euro-American, Gina Adams’s art is primarily inspired by and deeply committed to the memory of her White Earth Ojibwa grandfather. The Native North American history of forced assimilation, along with the intimate process of making, drives her project of making quilts excerpting broken treaties from each of the US states. Seven quilts are featured here, including a Maine quilt referencing broken Wabanaki land claims treaties.

Gina Adams’s cross-media, hybrid artwork is exhibited extensively throughout the US and Europe and resides in many public and private collections. The internationally renowned art critic Lucy Lippard wrote the introduction for Adam’s artwork in the Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art Exhibition *Its Honor Is Here Pledged.* This 2015 exhibition gave Adams’s *Broken Treaty Quilts* prominent recognition in the contemporary art world. She is currently a Smithsonian Artist Research Fellow, a resident at Santa Fe Artist Institute Residency, and Faculty in Visual Arts at Naropa University in Boulder, Colorado.

*George Longfish: Indian on Indian*

Artist, educator, writer, and curator George Longfish (Seneca/Tuscarora) has been instrumental in shaping the field of contemporary Native American art for over forty years. After receiving his MFA from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago in 1972, Longfish served as Professor in the Department of Native American Studies at the University of California, Davis from 1973 to 2003. He was also Director of the Carl N. Gorman Museum from 1974 to 1996, where he helped to start the careers of Linda Lomahaftewa, James Luna, Edgar Heap of Birds, and others. He retired to South Berwick, Maine, in 2004.

Whether it is his overlay of the modern and the traditional, his skewing of past and present iconic images, or his employment of text, Longfish’s art draws on a sense of honor that allows truth to be pulled from all directions and the spirit to emerge from within the work in a way that heals the very wound it addresses. This exhibition shows the broad scope of Longfish’s career through the display of painting, prints, and other media from previous decades as well as new work. It also features several works from Longfish’s collection by younger artists he has mentored such as Gina Adams and Duane Slick. The gallery also commissioned a video interview of Longfish by one of his former students, filmmaker Asata Radcliffe.
October brought *Avenue Q - The Musical* to Corthell Hall.

Winner of the Tony Award(R) "Triple Crown" for Best Musical, Best Score and Best Book, *Avenue Q* is part flesh, part felt, and packed with heart.

Music and Lyrics by Robert Lopez and Jeff Marx  
Book by Jeff Whitty  
Based on an original concept by Robert Lopez and Jeff Marx  
Orchestrations and Arrangements by Stephen Oremus  
Directed by Edward Reichert

Featuring the naughtiest puppets in town, *Avenue Q* bought hilarity to life by the USM School of Music, Musical Theatre Ensemble, with a cast of 19 directed by faculty member Edward Reichert. *Avenue Q* is a Tony Award(R)-winning musical about growing up, dreaming big, and finding your purpose in life. The laugh-out-loud musical told the timeless story of a recent college grad named Princeton who moves into a shabby New York apartment all the way out on Avenue Q. He soon discovered that although the residents seem nice, it's clear that this is not your ordinary neighborhood. Together, Princeton and his new-found friends struggle to find jobs, dates, and their ever-elusive purpose in life.

The cast included Taylor Gervais of Hermon as Princeton, Rachel Grindle of Portland as Kate Monster, Samuel Allen of Harpswell as Nicky, Sean Arsenault of Scarborough as Rod, Drew Masse of Lewiston as Brian, Sarah Flagg of Hampden as Christmas Eve, Ali Sarnacchiaro of Saugus, Mass. as Gary Coleman, Matty Boyd of Medford, NJ as Trekkie Monster, Sara O'Connell of Watertown, MA as Lucy, Meg Ward of Bangor as Bad Idea Bear #1, Andrew Carney of Millinocket as Bad Idea Bear #2, and Lauren Tudor of Scarborough as Mrs. Tistletwat. Performers in the Ensemble and various other roles were: Lauren Tudor, Ricky Brewster of Lewiston, Shelby Caraway of Old Orchard Beach, Jacklyn Condon of Houlton, Chris Figaratto of Portland, Megan Mayfield of Marlborough, Mass., Tori Osman of Dixmont, and Benjamin Walker Dubay of Kennebunkport.

Filled with gut-busting humor and a delightfully catchy score, not to mention puppets, *Avenue Q* was a truly unique show that has quickly become a favorite for audiences everywhere. Although the show addresses humorous adult issues, it is similar to a beloved children's show; a place where puppets are friends, Monsters are good and life lessons are learned.
From the School of Music

Professor Laura Kargul, Pianist in Concert: Composers on the Edge

Laura Kargul, internationally acclaimed pianist and music professor, performed a solo recital, “Composers on the Edge” at Corthell Concert Hall at USM in Gorham on Friday, October 21.

The program, featuring works by J.S. Bach, Schumann, and Ravel, was inspired by Kargul’s belief that deeply held emotions have given rise to some of the most wrenching musical masterpieces. “This phenomenon is noted most often among works written by nineteenth century romantic composers, but it spans all periods of classical music,” said Kargul.

She opened her program with the Sonata in F-Sharp Minor, Op. 11 by Robert Schumann. “A state of intense longing and despair inspired this remarkable testament to obsessive love,” said Kargul. The second half opened with another rarely performed work, written by Bach when he was just 19, Capriccio on the Departure of His Beloved Brother. “This piece allows an explicit view into Bach’s emotional world, something we don’t usually find among his keyboard works,” said Kargul. The concert concluded with Ravel’s La Valse, a virtuosic showpiece depicting late 19th century Viennese decadence. Kargul calls it one of the most difficult works written for piano, not only for its technical challenges but also for the emotional commitment demanded from the performer: “It’s essentially a 15 minute run-up to one of the wildest, most over-the-top climaxes in the history of classical music, leaving the listener both exhilarated and exhausted by the experience.”

From the Department of Communication and Media Studies

Addressing Microaggressions: Transgressing the Line between Professional and Social Activism

On October 14th, Professor Maureen Ebben, Ph.D. of the Communication and Media Studies Department presented work entitled, “Addressing Microaggressions: Transgressing the Line between Professional and Social Activism,” at the Organization for the Study of Communication, Language, and Gender Conference in Chicago. The focus of this workshop was the often overlooked day-to-day wearing down of people in oppressed groups as recipients of microaggressions. The workshop comes from an intersectional feminist perspective, shining a light on oppressive behaviors tied to race, sex, gender, sexual orientation, and disability—particularly mental health, an area largely unrecognized.

College Forum on the Election

The College sponsored a panel, “The Path Forward: America After the Election,” on Tuesday, November 16th in the Glickman Events Room. The panel was designed to reflect on the recent presidential election that made history with the first woman to be honored with the nomination of a major party and, with the exception of Andrew Jackson, the first time a populist outsider captured the office. Approximately 100 people attended the forum, which was organized by Economics Professor Abid Khan in response to student concerns about the tone of the campaign rhetoric and what the election might mean for jobs, immigration, student debt, the environment, and race and gender justice. Joining Dean Tuchinsky and Associate Dean Murphy on the panel were: Professors Fuller (Sociology), Hillard (Economics), Nisetich (Honors), Welch (Law), and Wriggins (Law). The panel moderator was Mariana Cruz, Assistant Dean of Students for Diversity and Inclusion.
From the Theatre Department

On November 12th the Theatre Department hosted the Second Annual Big Band Ballroom Bash. The Portland Jazz Orchestra and the USM Jazz Ensemble provided the music. Both big bands were directed by Professor of Music, Christopher Oberholtzer and featured the students in Professor Maria A. Tzianabos’s Ballroom Dance Class.

The Language Archive, a recent play by Julia Cho, was directed by Theatre Professor Sara Valentine and was performed at Russell Hall on November 10th-13th. When George, a serious-minded linguist with a passion for preserving dying languages discovers cryptic notes hidden in his shoes and coffee cup, he begins to think his wife might be trying to tell him something. But can he decipher the enigmatic language? Through a series of encounters both poignant and perplexing, this whimsical and quirky comedy explores the nature of love, and the attempts we make to find and express it—”Even with all my languages, there still aren’t the right words.”

Dance USM!

December started with an energetic performance, directed by Dance lecturer, Maria A. Tzianabos. This concert featured student, faculty, and guest choreographers in a variety of styles celebrating life, movement, and the joy of dance!
USM’s 2016-2017 Maine Policy Scholar Announced

Elizabeth Wilson, a History and Political Science double major from Lewiston, Maine, was selected as the 2016-2017 Maine Policy Scholar from USM. The scholars work with a faculty advisor and community mentor tackling a real-life policy issue currently facing Maine. After conducting extensive research, the scholar produces a final report in the form of a memo to the Governor or appropriate policymakers that outlines the problem, the data available, and recommended policy solutions. Elizabeth’s proposed topic is to investigate the challenges to asylum seekers in Maine, especially those from central Africa.

Hannah Burgess: UROP Project

Hannah Burgess, Communication major, in conjunction with Professor Maureen Ebben, is carrying out UROP funded research. The Undergraduate Research Opportunity Programs is a scholarly fellowship that brings together diverse areas of undergraduate student research and creative activities. It is a program for student-faculty collaboration with tremendous mutual intellectual and professional development benefits. Hannah is working with Professor Maureen Ebben in the Communication and Media Studies department to analyze how users on social media add richness to online communication. The primary sources, for example, will be drawn from popular social media outlets such as Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. “My overall goal,” Burgess explains, “is to try and explain the evolution of how internet users have added value to computer mediated communication.”

Anju Roy (left in photo), a USM History major and archaeology minor, is currently spending the 2016-17 Academic Year in Japan at USM's partner institution, Kanda Gaigo University (located in Chiba, Japan). A second generation Japanese-American, Anju has traveled to Japan before and was raised in a bilingual home learning both Japanese and English. Although she learned a great deal about the Japanese culture from her mother, this was her first extended stay in Japan and she noted that one of the things she enjoyed most is “being able to study Japanese, and make so many amazing friends who can speak to me in my native language.” Based on this recent experience, Anju has solidified her plans for attending graduate school in Japan, and perhaps moving there permanently.

Daniel Del Gallo, Senior Philosophy major, continues to add to his success as a University of Southern Maine wrestler. Daniel is in the final season of what has been an exceptional college career with a perfect 8-0 season. Daniel currently holds a career record of 99-18 with two appearances at the NCAA Division III National Championships. He is ranked third in the 149-pound class in Division III by the National Wrestling Coaches Association (NWCA). Daniel has a game plan in place to achieve his ultimate goal—earning All-American honors. USM Coach Mike Morin is confident that Daniel can reach his goal.
Music Alum, MSG Sam Woodhead '96 Receives a Promotion
Hometown: Northport, ME
Joined the band: 2001

Congratulations to our 1996 School of Music alumnus, MSG Samuel Woodhead, solo and principal trombonist for The U.S. Army Band "Pershing's Own" Concert Band for his recent promotion. MSG Sam Woodhead is the solo and principal trombonist of The U.S. Army Band “Pershing’s Own” Concert Band, a position he has held since 2004, and a member of the Concert Brass. Prior to winning the position in concert band, SFC Woodhead served as a trombonist in the Ceremonial Band of "Pershing's Own". In addition to his duties with the concert band, he has performed with the Brass Quintet, Blues, Orchestra, Chorus, Herald Trumpets, and Down Range, with whom he toured Kuwait, Iraq, and Afghanistan as part of the Sergeant Major of the Army's Hope and Freedom Tour in 2006. He is also chairman of the Eastern Trombone Workshop, founder and director of the Washington Trombone Ensemble, and is currently serving on the board of advisors for the International Trombone Association. SFC Woodhead is in great demand as a freelance musician in the greater D.C. area, performing with groups from the National and Baltimore Symphonies to the Washington Symphonic Brass and musical productions at Signature Theater.

Rachel Lovejoy has published a book on living in the Maine woods. She says, “I had the great good fortune of moving to a secluded spot in the woods of southern Maine. There, I was to learn truths I might not have had I continued to live just inches from the asphalt in a small city. I would also amass a fount of impressions that would stay with me the rest of my life and that would color all my future days.”

Rachel Lovejoy has been a freelance writer for many years during which she has worn several different literary hats, one of which she donned even before receiving her degree in English literature in 1996 from the University of Southern Maine. What began during the 1980’s as frequent letters to the editor of her local newspaper evolved into a stint as a local correspondent. Later, that evolved even further into a short career as a newspaper reporter for several local papers, culminating in 2010 with a weekly nature column. The author is currently involved in other writing venues, including a blog and a semi-autobiographical novel. She lives in Saco, Maine, with her cat, Muffin. And although she no longer lives in the woods, they continue to live in her.

English Alumna and Longtime USM Lecturer Elizabeth Peavey brought her award-winning one-woman show to USM in November. Elizabeth Peavey (1983) presented her hilarious and heartbreaking show, My Mother’s Clothes Are Not My Mother, in Hannaford Hall on November 30 at 7 p.m. Following the performance, she gave a lecture about how she translated her BA in English and Theater into a lifelong career in those fields in Maine. She has taught public speaking here since 1993. In the fall semester she also taught an EYE course, Living Our Lives Out Loud, which focuses on oral narrative.

My Mother’s Clothes is performed in a series of connected monologues. For months, Peavey avoided wading through her late mother’s things. But when her mom’s condo sells, she’s forced to reckon with its contents. As she does, objects surface, triggering memories from her childhood. Possessions she once thought would be easy to chuck—the Polynesian hors d'oeuvre platter, the outdated evening coat, the milk glass and tea cups - suddenly take on epic stature, forcing the question: How do we know when to let go? My Mother’s Clothes Are Not My Mother won the 2013 Maine Literary Award for Best Drama.
Clint Fulkerson: Fluid Geometry  
January 17-March 31  
USM AREA Gallery, Woodbury Campus Center  
Opening Reception: February 2, 5-7 pm, Artist Talk 6 pm, Snow Date: February 9  
Fulkerson will create a new mural on the gallery wall and exhibit several paintings based on intricate compositions of repeating geometric shapes. Mark Wethli has written that “Fulkerson’s work parallels the generative principle of repeating forms found at all scales in the natural world—from the cosmic to the infinitesimal—to create his intricate, prolific, and visionary art.” Fulkerson has exhibited his work at many Maine venues, is represented by the Curator Gallery in NYC, and has received several public art commissions.

Discussion on public art and government artist funding  
Friday March 3, 1-2 pm, Burnham Lounge, Robie Andrews Hall, Gorham  
Visiting Artist Clint Fulkerson and Julie Horn, Visual Arts Director and Percent for Art Associate for the Maine Arts Commission.

Portals: Work by Maine Art Education Association Members  
January 25-March 2  
Closed for Winter Break February 22-24  
Opening Reception: January 28, 2-4 pm, Artist Talks begin at 2:30 pm  
This exhibition brings together the creative work of art educators from around the state of Maine to celebrate the studio practice and exploration that takes place beyond the classroom. Artists were invited to create their interpretation of the concept of portal—a gate or entrance that is especially grand or imposing; or, an entryway, doorway or threshold. The artists represented in this show teach in Maine’s public and private schools and universities and are members of the Maine Art Education Association.

USM Juried Student Selected Works  
April 6-May 1, USM AREA Gallery  
Woodbury Campus Center, Portland campus  
Opening Reception: Thursday, April 13, 6-8 pm

Visiting Artist: Krista Hoefle  
Friday, April 21, 1-2pm, Burnham Lounge, Robie Andrews Hall, Gorham  
Krista Hoefle is an artist and gamer with a creative practice aimed at revealing the underlying aspects of videogame structure. She exhibits her work nationally, and is represented by Aron Packer Projects (Chicago). Krista is an Associate Professor in the Department of Art at Saint Mary's College. Each year, four visiting artists and scholars are invited to enhance USM's artistic environment by engaging in student art critiques, demonstrations, art exhibitions, and lectures. An Artist-in-Residence (AIR) maintains open studio hours, engages students in a community artwork and strengthens the fabric of the USM and Greater Portland community.

Muhsana Ali, Artist-in-Residence  
East Bayside Community Mosaic Mural  
This mural, located on a vibrant corner in the ethnically diverse Bayside neighborhood of Portland, was designed by USM Artist-in-Residence Muhsana Ali in Fall 2016. Ali is an internationally-recognized artist based in Senegal who works in many media to create conceptual community-centered art. The project was organized by the USM Artist-in-Residence program in collaboration with the School of Social Work and Coffee By Design. Over one hundred USM students and several hundred community members participated.