
Sam Hill
University of Southern Maine

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The fate of three USM programs will stand before the University of Maine System board of trustees next Monday, but the meeting will not be held anywhere near a USM campus.

The meeting, where the board of trustees is likely to finalize the elimination of geosciences, American and New England studies and the arts and humanities program at the Lewiston-Auburn campus, will be held at the University of Maine at Fort Kent, which is a 300-mile drive from Portland.

Students for USM Future, a group that has been protesting administrative decisions since March, organized affected students, staff and faculty to tell the board of trustees to move the meeting back to USM.

“It’s about as far away from Portland as you can get without leaving the state,” said Meaghan LaSala, a senior women and gender studies major and active voice among Students for USM Future, speaks out against the board of trustees meeting’s change of location. She believes that students and faculty affected by program eliminations should have accessibility to the meeting and be able to speak on behalf of themselves.

According to Dan Demeritt, the UMS executive director of public affairs, the meeting was moved to Fort Kent back in June and had nothing to do with the programs up for elimination. The locations of the September and November meetings were swapped, so the November meeting set to be held in Fort Kent will now take place at USM.

“This decision to flip the meeting back in June is based on concerns we had about weather conditions in Fort Kent in November,” said Demeritt, noting that snowfall comes earlier in the northern part of the state.

Demeritt said that the board didn’t know what was going to be on the agenda when the meeting locations were swapped and that the meeting would stay in Fort Kent.

“There have been a lot of steps between June and now that landed this issue on the agenda,” said Demeritt. “It’s a big agenda; it covers a lot of items involving all of Maine.”

Some faculty members feel that the meeting should be immediately moved back to USM, because of how many people will be affected by the program eliminations.

“The Maine people served by the programs targeted for elimination have a right to bring their views to the board of trustees. This decision marks their failure to uphold the public trust,” said Susan Feiner, a professor of economics and of women and gender studies.

“The BoT is charged with protecting higher public education, not destroying it. The BoT must bring the meeting back to USM and hear from the people directly affected by their ill-informed decision.”

Feiner also quoted the Declaration of Independence at the press conference, reading an excerpt she felt related directly to the point. Students for USM Future is trying to make. The passage read, “He has called together legislative bodies at places unusual, uncomfortable, and distant from the depository of their public records, ...”
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Work-study awards offered to the waitlisted

The financial aid office has recently started dispersing work-study funds to students who had been put on a waitlist. There were around 200 students on the waitlist and the first 80 have been awarded funding.

According to Jami Jandreau, the assistant director of financial aid, the office will be monitoring funds and student payroll in case more awards can be dispensed in the next few weeks. Over $7 million is set to be offered, but some students still might not get it.

“Cleaning up of funds is based on students that just don’t enroll, notify us they won’t be working or, in the most common situation, decrease their amount of credit hours,” said Jandreau. “It’s a need-based fund, so it affects eligibility.”

Jandreau said that the $7 million in funds is an overestimation by more than triple what the office actually has, just to make sure the office is spending the appropriate amount when students actually start working.

Another reason for such an overestimation in the amount of money the university can award students for work-study is that a portion of the students will not end up getting a job on campus or not end up attending USM at all.

In some cases, work-study awards are given out to students that don’t end up working for them all year. At the same time, some eligible students intentionally seeking work-study have missed out on the opportunity simply by not checking off the “interested in work-study” box when asked on the FAFSA.

“Overlooking questions can certainly and have made an important experience as ‘really great,’” said Jandreau. “You need to carefully answer all questions on the FAFSA form because it’s the most important document concerning your financial aid.”

According to Jandreau how-ever, if a student is timely and proactive enough to inquire about the lack of funds, the office may be able to rectify the situation if they have the funds available.

Jandreau stressed that if you’ve already been awarded the funds, use them before Oct. 1 or risk losing them for the year.

“I would strongly encourage students to take advantage of their work-study,” said Jandreau. “It’s a useful, easy way to get employed and gain real world experience.”

Sarah Snowman, a senior sustainable business management major, has had the fulfilling work-study experience as an accounting tutor with no difficulties at all.

“The [work-study] job is self-rewarding as you are helping another Husky out,” said Shermuly. According to Jandreau, having a work-study job is a worthwhile part of the college experience and benefits students and the university as a whole. Jandreau said, “Students can earn money and gain experience while they provide valuable support and services to the USM community.”

Meanwhile, Michael Shermuly a senior international business major, has had a fulfilling work-study experience as an accounting tutor with no difficulties at all.

“I would strongly encourage students to take advantage of their work-study,” said Jandreau. “It’s a useful, easy way to get employed and gain real world experience.”

Sarah Snowman, a senior sustainable business management major, agrees. She has held the same work-study job for four years and has described the experience as “really great.”

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LePage a no-show for energy forum at USM

Sam Hill
Editor-in-Chief

An energy forum hosted at USM was supposed to be the first time Maine’s three gubernatorial candidates would speak in the same place, but come Friday morning Governor Paul LePage refused to participate.

After a continental breakfast and networking period, each candidate was given a half hour block of time to speak on their energy plans and take questions from the office. According to LePage’s campaign, he decided to leave over a disagreement with the format of the event.

“Unfortunately, staff at an event of the metropolitan university direction would not have to interact with other candidates. Jeff Marks, the executive director of E2Tech, said that the event was spelled out for candidates and the event had been planned for a long time. Candidates were supposed to belong to LePage, left the audience waiting as organizers spoke about E2Tech’s sponsors and programs at length while trying to figure out what had happened with LePage.

LePage was able to make a public appearance, but it was at the unveiling of a new, Maine-branded driver Austin Theriault in the upcoming Nationwide Series race at the Kentucky Speedway on Sept. 20. Congressman Michaud arrived just in time to speak during his time block and only mentioned LePage when discussing his energy policies. Michaud did not stay after his own remarks to listen to candidate Eliot Cutler.

“On behalf of all three candidates, I want to apologize to you for the shenanigans this morning. That’s not what democracy should be all about. It’s a disservice and frankly an insult to you as voters.”

-Eliot Cutler
Gubernatorial candidate

From MEETING on page 1 for the sole purpose of fattiguing them into compliance with his measures.

Kent Ryden, director of the American and New England studies program, spoke about his program and how he thought it fit in perfectly with how the university is headed with its “metropolitan university” direction.

“We very much fit into the model of the metropolitan university which is now being proposed for USM because with the cultural life and cultural economy of this area,” said Ryden. “Investment in this program rather than elimination of this program would not only maintain, but deepen and strengthen those links. The sorts of links USM is already known for and wants to be even more known for.”

“I certainly hope the goodwill of the students at USM will spread throughout the state. This is too important to leave in the hands of just the politicians, their good intentions notwithstanding,” said Barry Rodrigue, an associate professor in the arts and humanities program. “This has to be a call that our future is at stake and whether we will continue here as a viable economy and as a viable people.”

Rodrigue noted that Maine was ranked last on Forbes “Best States For Business and Careers” list and said that Maine would likely be left there if Mainers kept listening to the “mindless dribble” that comes from UMS administrators.

“Our administrators in the Maine System and at USM have been saying we need change. Well, the faculty and staff at USM and in the system have been begging for change for years, but it has been blocked at the top,” said Rodrigue.

“We need to invest in these programs and not cut them,” said LaSala. “As new hotels and million-dollar condos sprout up around Portland, as private money pours into this region and as Portland is consistently ranked in national media as a highly desirable place to live, we need to, as a community, assert that this region can afford a comprehensive public university that working people can afford.”

Demeritt said that those with any concerns about the meeting could contact the board of trustees in the next week through email, phone calls and sending letters.

“There’s a lot of passion on this issue. The board of trustees stand that,” said Demeritt. “These are programs that people care a lot about, but we have some tough decisions to make about the future of this university.”

sam@usmfreepress.org @SamAhill

Bruce Raymond Multimedia Editor
Last year, Lisa Belanger spoke before the Student Senate to explain the newly enforced healthcare policy across the entire University of Maine System.

Sam Hill
Editor-in-Chief

As of last Friday, there are 1,570 students at USM who have a $942 charge on their account for a new health insurance plan, but have not finished the plan’s enrollment process and are not receiving any benefits.

The insurance plan was made mandatory by the University of Maine System this past summer. Students without health insurance will have to pay the charge on their account for a new health insurance plan, but have not finished the plan’s enrollment process and are not receiving any benefits.

Belanger said that Health Services has been sending out information about the opt-out deadline through MaineStreet messaging, physical and digital postcards, emails and social media, but that it’s sometimes difficult to get information to students at the beginning of a semester.

“I think there’s a lot of information that comes to students at the beginning of the year and that, after a while, they pick it up and choose what they’re actually reading,” said Belanger. “Also, returning students might think they already know everything about our health insurance system and ignore it, even though it has been changed.”

Belanger also noted that some students could find health insurance information intimidating if they’ve never had to deal with it before, but said that enrollment and opting-out are both simple to complete. Students who opt-out are immediately re-funded the charge on their account if it was paid out-of-pocket or with financial aid.

“Some might just be putting it off because they’re expecting a complicated process, but it’s really simple,” said Belanger. “It’s just a matter of logging on and filling out some basic info. It’s very brief.”

Students have already been signed-up and billed if they meet a certain criteria: taking nine credits or more as an undergraduate and six credits or more as a graduate student. Students taking clinical courses in the school of nursing or the athletic training program, and students in the occupational therapy program have to enroll as well as a program requirement.

Enrollment and communication issues aside, Belanger said that she thought the new health insurance plan was a good move for students.

“It provides a good product for a reasonable price. There aren’t many plans that are this affordable,” she said, pointing out that it covers an entire year for less than $800 a month and that it complies with Affordable Care Act requirements.

Belanger said that the plan is a bit of a hybrid plan, but one the University of Maine System decided would benefit the most students. It doesn’t include coverage of dental or eye care and isn’t designed for students with chronic health conditions, but is geared toward preventive care and helping to pay for prescription drugs.

Details on the plan and the waiver process are available online.

Belanger said, “We just want all students to know that we can help you if they have any questions.”

Sam Hill
Editor-in-Chief
USM students and faculty receive special discounts to attend Lift360

On October 3rd, Lift360 is holding a conference at USM's Abromson Center. Lift360 is a Portland-based organization that aims to strengthen Northern New England Communities by strengthening effectiveness of organizations and leaders.

The conference is titled Together: Leading Positive Change. It is meant to inspire community-minded citizens to action. It features an impressive line up of many of you may find interesting.

USM students and faculty will receive special discounts, with the student rate at $35 using code USM_student_regular, and the faculty rate at $65, using code USM-faculty_regular. Registration takes place online.

Featured speakers include Anna (Annie) Eleanor Roosevelt, Goodwill NNE Cheryl King Fischer, New England Grassroots Environmental Fund Jennifer Hutchins, Creative Portland Craig Lapine, Cultivating Community Amber Lambke and more.

Workshops include “The Art and Practice of Container Building,” “Organizing for Change at the Grassroots,” Social Change isn’t Soup,” “The Stamina for Lifelong Leadership,” “Intentional Storycraft” and “From Grassroots to Grassroots.”

Craig DeForest, coordinator of service-learning and volunteerism, urges students to attend. DeForest said, “Come to the conference to hear success stories of leaders working together to strengthen organizations, nonprofits and communities.”

Student Support Network seeks out capable students

In recognition of World Suicide Prevention Day, Heather Monroe, administrative support specialist for student and university life, invites faculty to take a minute to share the names of any students whom they’d like to nominate for the Student Support Network (SSN) training for the fall semester.

According to Monroe, the SSN training is designed to strengthen and foster peer advocacy skills in current and emerging natural helpers or leaders. Anyone who faculty identify as a natural helper or leader would be a great candidate. Cohorts will be offered on all three campuses if demand exists.

Monroe also encourages faculty to nominate students who may benefit from being a part of the group. The training is open to anyone who is interested.

According to Monroe, it’s a great way to gain skills, and it’s an excellent opportunity to get more connected with peers and to opportunities at USM.

Over the course of six weeks, students meet once a week with trainers from Health and Counseling, the Campus Safety Project, Center for Sexualities and Gender Diversity, Office of Substance Abuse Prevention and other offices to learn essential skills for identifying and supporting peers in distress.

The training covers seven primary topics, including: core supportive skills, suicide prevention/mental health, use of alcohol and other drugs, relationship violence and sexual assault, safe zone training, helping others get help and answering the question, “What is mental health?”

The rationale for this program is research driven awareness that students are most likely to turn to peers when they are in distress, and peers often don’t know how to be helpful.

The SSN training offers a significant opportunity for students to help and be helped by one another, while simultaneously shaping the culture at USM to promote civility, caring and student engagement.

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When you get discriminated against, you have to wonder why.

Salma Hassan, Junior health science major

People tolerate mosquitoes and people tolerate their drunk uncles at Thanksgiving dinner.

Tolerance just isn’t enough.

Reza Jalili, Coordinator of the Multicultural Center

Multicultural students discuss discrimination and heritage in Maine

U.S. Census figures show that Maine is one of the least diverse states in the country estimating that 95.3 percent of Maine’s population is white. According to Reza Jalali, coordinator at the office of multicultural student affairs, Portland is slowly becoming more diverse, but that there’s still a lot of room for improvement in the city and at USM.

Maine has a very small population as it is, so we need immigrants. It’s not about whether we like it or not, it’s really an issue of survival for a state with a rapidly graying population,” said Jalali. “We need young people to come here; young professionals to start businesses, people who want to raise families.”

According to Jalali, immigration is good for the community because it brings youth and economic prosperity. He says that issues with immigration have been present in America for decades upon decades, and many Americans are taught that influxes of immigrants are bad for the economy and that it will cause racial and cultural barriers, even though it’s untrue.

“We do need to address the barrier that immigrants face when coming here, even on a smaller scale in Maine and at USM,” said Jalali. “People will tell you that language is an issue, that finances are an issue for these people and that they will live off of welfare and won’t have to pay taxes like everyone else. Sure, some are on welfare but they most certainly have to pay taxes.”

As for financial issues, Jalali said that immigrants often take the jobs that Americans ‘wouldn’t touch,’ and they are often paying for their own education and living expenses just like native Mainers. Jalali said that there is a lack of understanding about immigrants, where they come from, and the cultural and economic vibrancy that they can bring to a community.

According to Jalali, “Portland and USM need to be a part of supporting the contributions that they are bringing to the area. People, even professors here at USM, need to be educated on who these immigrants are.” Jalali believes that Portland is mostly tolerant of immigrants, but that tolerance isn’t necessarily good. “People tolerate mosquitoes and people tolerate their drunk uncles at Thanksgiving dinner,” said Jalali. “Tolerance just isn’t enough. There needs to be acceptance and engagement with foreigners to promote working and educational relationships.”

USM student Salma Hassan, a junior health science major, said that she came to the United States with her family when she was only a couple months old. She first and foremost believes that it is important for immigrants to maintain their native culture. “It’s difficult when you have parents who are having trouble understanding assimilation, but you yourself understand the culture you’re in and feel obligated to be a part of your native culture and American culture,” said Hassan. “There’s a lot of conflict between the two.”

Her friend, Hani Ali, a senior psychology major, moved to the Portland area when she was a couple years old. She explained her perspective on diversity in Portland and USM a little further. She said, “Naturally I am Somali, ethnically I am Somali, but then I’m also American because I was raised here. I have these two cultures that I have to own because they are both physically and environmentally a part of who I am.”

Both women don’t have any issues with maintaining their own culture and also assimilating to American culture, although their struggles come from balancing the two. Both said that they can only speak from their own experience, and can’t generalize with other ethnicities’ experiences with immigration here in the United States. They said that their culture differs in ways in Portland that aren’t obvious and make it clear that there needs to be a better understanding of diversity.

“When you get discriminated against, you have to wonder why,” said Hassan.

Hassan and Ali reiterate that these things can create public assumptions that Muslims have a hard time speaking English, or even that certain topics of discussion, such as immigration or sex, will make them uncomfortable because they are Muslim. They even notice this within certain classrooms.

“If I were part of any other religion, professors and other people wouldn’t be able to tell, but being Muslim is obvious because I wear a hijab,” said Ali, who goes on to explain that a hijab is the veil in that it covers her head and chest.

According to Hassan, discrimination is systematic and experienced through larger institutions such as the government. Jalali continues to explain that discrimination is passed down from these institutions and eventually trickles down to the individual.

“Knowledge of these individuals and their issues is the key. You have to learn how to handle the situation better, whether you’re a professor, a student or an average person,” says Jalali.
**Netflix Review**

**Gripping, suspenseful realism: True Detective, a Netflix series**

**Sergey Miller**

Contributor

Good television can be hard to find. Since *Breaking Bad* dominated the Golden Globes and Emmys, it’s hard to think that any television series can overcome theacting and story of Bryan Cranston as Walter White. The good news is that another television show has managed to accomplish exactly this feat of compelling acting. *True Detective* is one show that has philosophical levels of meaning, plus a story that is gripping, suspenseful and shows a level of realism that only HBO can deliver. The story concerns two detectives, Rust Cohle (Matthew McConaughey) and Matthew Hart (Woody Harrelson), on their long quest to catch serial rapists and murderers who seems to belong to a nefarious cult.

*True Detective* invites you into a world of Kafkaesque-proportions and a spine-tingling suspense that questions the world we live in and what human power can really do about it. In fact, the whole journey between Cohle’s suicidal tendencies, his sharply focused intuition and “playful” appropriation of Hart’s opposite nature, is extremely embedded into a world where the idea of progress and peace seem doomed and dreaded.

The dividing line in this series between good and evil is one that will constantly become thinner and thinner. You will see the transformations that the human subjects undergo when “looking into the abyss, and the abyss stares back into you” as the famous German philosopher, Friedrich Nietzsche, might have put it.

Man as the collector’s edition of this series states, “is the cruel-est of animals.” It is well worth the time to consider exactly what is meant by this statement in connection to the series of horrendous occurrences and events that befall detectives in this series. Both detectives are shown to be innovators of their environments and totally helpless to their in- stinctual needs and pleasures. It is not only the horror of the most evil of human behavior that shows how cruel humanity can be but its essentially individualistic and cruel moral reasoning that engenders the most evil acts to be committed. Every dualism that is so heavily relied upon to tell a succinct and moral story is radically decentereized in this series. What is one to make of the legal process when detectives go well beyond what the law allows for? Is it only when law and society prescribe detectives, or at least Cohle’s character, to go beyond when one can be called a true detective?

I invite everyone to take a leap into the abyss of this series with the frustrations of human life and ultimately what it means to be thrown into this seemingly law-less world presented in the show. Watch the series, invest your time and Walter White will look shallow in comparison.

**Sydney Donovan**

Contributor

Three years after the release of their previous album, the British rock band The Kooks released a new album on Sept. 8 titled “*Listen.*” This album is certainly a change from The Kooks’ previous album, which was more rock-oriented. Their latest album, “*Junk of the Heart,*” has been described as bland by many of the band’s listeners. Much to the audience’s surprise. “*Listen.*” explores more of gospel, R&B, electro and jazz-tones. However, this acts as a refreshing change for regular listeners.

The tracks on the album take on serious tones while contrasting with upbeat backgrounds, which brings an infectious energy to the scene.

The vocalist/guitarist Luke Pritchard wrote the song titled “*See Me Now,*” which tells the story about his father during his youth. This was a difficult topic for Pritchard, and it becomes obvious when listening because that sincerity and pain seeps through his voice. This song carries very sincere and heartfelt lyrics that beautifully express his emotions, saying, “Well I’ve been a lot of places / I learnt to tie my own tie, too / I’ve met a lot of faces / I’ve got some questions I’d like to ask you.” This gives the audience a more personal connection with the band.

“*It was London*” carries a deep contrast of his personal development into a London revolution. The song itself is about the London Riots of 2011 saying, “It was in London where we heard the revolution / A man was shot by a policeman / It was thunder, caught between love and anger / On the television the police blamed the youth for disruption / Nothing was said about the shooting, just the looting.” It talks about a dark past but uses catchy rhythms to make a heavy topic not so solemn.

Finally, another song by the band titled, “*Around Town*” explodes with a gospel choir and swells around Pritchard as he pours his heart out about how he only wants “somebody to love in the middle of the day / I need someone to love me when the chips are down.” The choir amplifies the sense of longing and the need to convey emotions through the lyrics, which makes for a very powerful experience.

You never know what you’re going to hear next in this fantastic new album. There is such a wide variety of themes in the songs, which makes this album so intriguing to listen to. It takes you on a rollercoaster ride of emotions and understanding that no other album has done before.

Although their old stuff was definitely quite ridiculous and noth- ing quite ridiculous and nothing like this in the music world is truly 100 percent original. Thank you Radio Lab.

Andy Grammer

Andy Grammer has an amazing voice and sings his heart out in the song. He has lyrics that everyone can relate to, and he knows how to carry a tune. Definitely playing this song on repeat during homework sessions.

-Kristyena Scribner

Arts & Culture Editor

Last week I learned that a scientist is teaching English to dolphins in her apartment, an electric device called a tDCS can supercharge your brains ability to learn, the French Revolution origins of weights and measures is quite ridiculous and nothing in the music world is truly 100 percent original. Thank you Radio Lab.

- Francis Filsuik

Managing Editor

*Radio Lab Podcast/ NPR*

**In Heavy Rotation**

What caught the eyes and ears of our staff this week.

**The Giver**

I know this movie came out last month, but I loved it so much I would definitely go see it again. If you haven’t read the book first, written by Lois Lowry, then that is also a must! The movie follows the book so well, and really I suggest that everyone see this film!

-Emma James

News Editor

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Irish documentarian shares success story

Krysteana Scribner
Arts and Culture Editor

When he was in college, Maurice Fitzpatrick decided he wanted to be a documentarian and fought to reach his goals despite naysayers. Now, Fitzpatrick has a documentary co-produced by the British Broadcasting Corporation, a book under his belt and said he is always looking for the next project.

Last Wednesday, Fitzpatrick visited USM to show his documentary and talk to students about film, Irish history and his own experiences as a filmmaker and author.

“My interest in creating documentaries definitely began my first year at Trinity College in Dublin. I remember telling my friend about my life goals and he couldn’t believe that I had the arrogance to want to create films for a living,” said Fitzpatrick, who believes that watching quality films as a teenager greatly inspired his love for documentaries.

Fitzpatrick was born and raised in Derry, Ireland and earned a bachelor’s and master’s degree in literature and philosophy at Trinity College, before going on to study language in Tokyo, Japan. He currently teaches English literature and language in Germany.

Fluent in seven different languages, Fitzpatrick has many areas of expertise, but most of his film work has centered around Irish history.

His most recent film, titled The Boys of St Columb’s, is a 55 minute political documentary that was co-produced with BBC. His film tells the story of the first generation of Irish children to receive free secondary education after the 1947 Education Act, which allowed for young children to become educated and have more opportunities in life.

“The idea for this documentary came about in 2007, when I first learned about the Education Act in Ireland - it was then that I thought, there must be a story here that I can share with the world. It’s just such a fascinating topic,” said Fitzpatrick.

Fitzpatrick said that his motivation for making the documentary was to educate himself on what it was like to be a part of the minority state in Ireland during the 1940s. According to Fitzpatrick, there were two distinct communities that did not live happily among one another in Northern Ireland. The country was divided by religious differences, and the school for boys was often cited as having bizarre and sadistic punishments. When British troops marched into Derry to hold back protesters who were desperate for equal economical treatment on Aug. 14, 1969, CS gas was used to control riots and hundreds of innocent people were shot.

“It was very clear to me when I interviewed an individual who grew up during those times that he was feeling bitter about the way his people had been treated,” said Fitzpatrick.

Fitzpatrick made it clear that there is so much to learn from history and that a lot of people aren’t really aware of the injustices that happened in Ireland. According to Fitzpatrick, Ireland has changed dramatically over the years.

“Education is the door to the future, and our past reveals it was once a narrow opening,” Fitzpatrick said. “We are lucky to be able to say now that the door to success is open and ready for us to explore.”

Aaron Damon / Free Press Staff

Maurice Fitzpatrick discusses his latest film, titled The Boys of St Columb’s, with a group of interested people.

“Education is the door to the future, and our past reveals it was once a narrow opening,” Fitzpatrick said. “We are lucky to be able to say now that the door to success is open and ready for us to explore.”

Aaron Damon / Free Press Staff

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Historical Walking Tour of Portland
Maine Historical Society
489 Congress St.
Starts: 1:30 p.m. / Ends: 3:30 p.m.

Tuesday, September 16
The Weeks
Portland City Music Hall
504 Congress St.
Starts: 9:00 p.m.

Wednesday, September 17
Portland Comedy Showcase
Bull Feeney’s
375 Fore St.
Starts: 8:00 p.m.

Thursday, September 18
Opening: Secrets of the Sea
USM Lewiston/Auburn Atrium/Art Gallery
51 Westminster St.
Starts: 5:00 p.m. / Ends: 7:00 p.m.

The Sense of Oneness:
The life and art of Maine artist Bernard Langlais
5 Monument Way
6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Friday, September 19
The Gold Room Comedy Show
512 Warren Ave.
Starts: 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, September 20
The Roaring Twenties
Maine Railroad Company & Museum
58 Fore St.
All Day Event

Harbor Masters of Maine Club Night
Blackstones
6 Pine St.
Starts: 9:30 p.m. / Ends: 12:30 a.m.

Sunday, September 21
Portland Comedy Co-Op
Mama’s Crowbar
189 Congress St.
Starts: 6:00 p.m.

143rd Cumberland County Fair
197 Blanchard Rd.
Starts Sept. 21 - 27: 9:00 a.m. / Ends: 9:00 p.m.

Cherryoke
STYXX
3 Spring St.
Starts: 9:30 p.m. / Ends: 1:00 a.m.

A&C Listings

Arts & Culture Recommends:
The Language Exchange and breakfast

Dora Thompson
Contributor

Looking for a way to practice your French with people passionate about the language, and perhaps sample a few pastries? “Le Petit Dîner,” is an event in Portland that offers free breakfast to all levels of French speakers. Hot coffee, tea and jam will be provided, and participants are encouraged to bring a breakfast item of their choice to share with other individuals. It should also be noted that it is strongly encouraged to bring a bakery item from Standard Baking Co. on Commercial Street in Portland.

Starting in 1996, French enthusiasts of all ages came together every Friday morning to this laid back event. The small group that usually attends discusses current events in Canada, France, Africa and even Portland. If a breakfast goer has just returned home from a trip, they will be asked to share the experience with the group. Sometimes participants simply chat about their daily lives.

“All topics are good topics as long as we discuss them in French,” says Valérie Gulliet, the director of The Language Exchange.

Gulliet founded The Language Exchange in 1992, which is a place where individuals get together to learn languages of all kinds. She is originally from France, and studied in language schools all across Europe. The Language Exchange focuses on immersion-based learning, and offers private tutoring, classes and workshops for all levels. Highly qualified teachers teach 12 different languages. The Language Exchange also focuses on cultural learning as well, and offers French movie nights and a class that centers around the news in France. If you are an language lover, Le Petit Déjeuner is a great way to get involved in this relaxed learning community.

“I just wish I heard about this sooner,” says Jesse Moreira, former psychology major at University of Southern Maine. “It would have been a really fun way to polish up on my French.” Among the croissants, there is also serious community awareness and concern for Portland’s well-being. In the past, several participants came together for an organization called “Keep Portland Livable.” This group had a representative attend the event and inform them about it in French.

If you attend this event and find that you love it, there’s good news! These breakfasts continue. The group usually meets for at least 40 weeks out of the 52 a year. The first morning is free, and if you wish to continue attending, folks are asked to pay $5 a visit, or $50 for a whole year membership (which ends up being about $1.25 a week)! The Language Exchange is located on 80 Exchange Street in Portland, and they will be meeting this week on September 19, from 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. The practice is well worth the price, so stop by The Language Exchange if you’d like to brush up on your language skills over a petit déjeuner. Bon appetit!

Dora Thompson
Contributor

arts@usmfreepress.org
@USMFreePress
Abigail Johnson-Ruscansky / Design Assistant
Our opinion: Admins and BoT need to listen to USM concerns

The atmosphere at USM is tense, and both the administration and board of trustees should seriously consider moving the September BoT meeting back to USM where it was originally scheduled.

Times are tough here and we all know that there will be cuts, eliminations and retrenchments this year. Students will lose professors, professors will lose colleagues and we’re willing to bet USM will lose some students and prestige. Last year took a toll on this university, and this year is set to be even worse.

The editors. Every student has an awful reputation last year of not listening to the questions, concerns and reactions of students, staff and faculty at USM.

Not allowing those affected by program eliminations to easily access the above discussion is not acceptable. Fort Kent is essential. A meeting location that is set to be even worse.

A main point of the meeting locations being changed for weather-related concerns is embarrassing. We’re all Mainers and can deal with whatever the weather throws at us. Last year USM students definitely wanted weathered their fair share of storms to get to class when the campus wasn’t shut down. Right now, it is only to change their meeting space once, they can do it again.

The university has a serious public relations problem, but the most troubling relationship is the one it has with its student (or customers as they’ve come to be called). The same offices that promote student work in the community and in the classroom to attract more students are the same offices that refuse to listen when the students speak up about what they want from their experiences here.

To address this problem, leaders of the administration need to take a second and listen to the concerns of students and their employees. And by listen we don’t mean simply being present in the room while people talk. We mean actually listen, taking the concerns and suggestions of people actively involved in the university and trying to work them into the university’s plan.

Our Opinion is written and reviewed by the Free Press editorial board.

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Letter from the Editor

A hunt for new editors

We’re off to a good start this year at the Free Press. We have an enthusiastic crew of new editors. A few of new writers entering the wonderful world of AP style and photographers taking the plunge into a land without an auto setting. I couldn’t be happier with how our roster magically filled-up at the start of the semester.

I am already feeling tired. Between generating story ideas, coaching writers through putting together their first stories, getting editors into the swing of things, and making sure all of our content ends up online and writing my own stories, there’s no cup of iced coffee large enough to keep me awake.

I’m just proud of myself for only missing one of my classes this past week. Well, actually two of my classes. Last past week I’ve worked to create new jobs at the paper to bring new staff on board and help lighten the load.

Last week we announced that we were done with our sports section and were transforming it into a two-page community spread. Boy, was I relieved. No longer would empty or forced sports reporting haunt me at night.

One thing I didn’t think about was how we were going to fill the community page every week. I hadn’t heard much from our interested in heading the section and we didn’t have any sort of job description for the position.

My bad.

After two weeks of working with freshmen talent to fill the void, I’ve finally found someone who can lead the section. For the next couple weeks we’ll be looking for our new Community Editor. We need someone who knows the ins and outs of community life at USM. We need someone who knows when the seasons are hosting their rashes, when the Portland Events Board is taking students bowling and when the boll fence is … baffling. We need an editor who knows what student groups are planning, thinking and doing and can find students spending their time doing interesting things. If that sounds like you, give us a call or shoot us an email so we can talk about your future here.

If you force us, we’ll learn valuable media skills, meet new people and get free pizza once a week. Free, Pizza.

We’re also on the lookout for a Web Editor to help our web prescence. As tech-savvy as we are, we are still aware of getting our content out on our website in a timely fashion. On Monday mornings we eagerly await the delivery of our print-edition and breeze through the new stories, comments, photos and pushing that content out onto our social media platforms. If it doesn’t get tweeted, it’s like it never existed.

This position would be pretty flexible and we would be able to work with the team to develop a social media strategy that works and fits our needs. Come build a system from the ground-up with us as we focus our efforts online.

Each position comes with a biweekly stipend. And did I mention we eat a lot of pizza on the weekend?

If you think you fit the bill for either of these positions, email me at samhill@usmfreepress.org and we can set up an interview.

Sam Hill
Editor-in-Chief

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Emma James

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Staff Photographer

Casey Ledoux, Patrick Higgins

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Advertising Executives

Bryan Bonin

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ADVERTISING MANAGER

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chief Copy Editor

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art & Culture Editor

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design Director

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design Assistants

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---

MULTIMEDIA EDITOR

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---

Staff Writers

Francis Flisiuk, Elle S. Davis

---

copy Editor

Emma James

---

freepress

92 BESWICK STREET, PORTLAND, maine 04101

(207) 780-4084 • editor@usmfreepress.org

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Martin Conte's senior English major currently studying in the UK.
Why Disney's Frozen melted our hearts

Sergey Miller
Contributor

Frozen is now mostly buried in the graveyard of popular culture's attention span. However, the themes of the film and its plot are worth reanalyzing for its practical meaning about what it means to exist. This movie's record breaking economic success and its deeply integrated popular cultural phenomena are significant enough to look over once again. When children eagerly bellow out the lines of “Let It Go”, what are they really singing about?

I viewed the movie Frozen as a basic retelling of the philosophical idea of opposing ideas and reestablishing themselves to create something new from what was once held to be radically opposable. As in most Disney movies, love saves the day; but in this movie it does it in a way that philosophers might call “Hegelian.”

One central connection: the characters are all isolated. In terms of this movie, that means frozen. Olaf was created without any real purpose and fantasizes about the two extremes of temperature: the extreme heat and extreme cold. Before meeting Anna, Kristoff’s relationship with his reindeer and his lack of parents render him isolated and alienated from any human relationship. Anna, as we know, is isolated from her sister and has been having strong thoughts about a relationship with someone else for a long time. Elsa sees her power and mastery over the element of ice as purely dangerous and tries to “conceal, don’t feel” as the popular song “Let It Go” tells us. The investment of living with romantic feelings in the world can lead to beautiful things being made, such as Olaf or ice castles, or dangerous events like perpetuating winter and frozen hearts. Is this not what human relationships are usually characterized as being? These extremes are mirrored in the characters themselves because of all of the change, process and progress that arises from the details of conflicts that come from these two opposing extremes. This should tell us a little something about what it means to be human or even a lovable snowman.

One must realize that to be alone, frozen and dispassionate is essentially an act of self-alienation; but the movie goes a level deeper. Isolation, even if one hides on a mountainside as Elsa did in the movie, is something that is not without a deeply social phenomenon and influence. Rather than being a testament about self determinacy, it is actually an act of allowing society and culture to deeply alienate the self. The idea that a society is both a necessary condition for one’s freedom and the limiting causes of one’s life beautifully resembles that of any human relationship to other people, places or things. In the movie, much of the opposing and self societal alienating forces that freeze the hearts of the characters is melted by the will of the characters to choose to whom they mean to be faithful.

All the main characters in the film, including Elsa, Anna, Olaf and Kristoff culminate into an understanding that opposites are resolved in their own negation of each other’s weaknesses. Olaf realizes that extremes can only bring a happy medium and only after a while, by accepting his own limitations as a snowman, he’s given his own personal snow cloud. Kristoff and Anna realize that love is something that must be included in a process of change, conflict and resolution.

The characters of Frozen melted our hearts because, as a viewer, we are thrown into a world of opposites that culminate into a series of synthesis.

Sergey is a junior philosophy and English double major.
**Weekly Horoscope**

**Aries**
March 21-April 19

Some tasks today will demand you skimp the surface and move on quickly; others will require great perseverance. Know which are which.

**Taurus**
April 20-May 20

Personal productivity and efficiency are essential today. You may begin a healthier regimen for your body; don’t be too hard on yourself.

**Gemini**
May 21-June 20

A courtship heats up. You may be a spectator or participant, but enjoy the show!

**Cancer**
June 21-July 22

A good friend offers assistance. Together, you can finish that nagging task.

**Leo**
July 23-August 22

Passions are high today—on all fronts. Channel forceful, pushy behavior toward solving problems rather than creating conflicts.

**Virgo**
August 23-September 22

Impatience with other people’s interruptions or directions on what and how to do things could dog your footsteps. Seek solitude.

**Libra**
September 23-October 22

Clearing the air is a good idea. Bring up that topic you’ve been hesitant to discuss and talk it over with the one you love.

**Scorpio**
October 23-November 21

Equality and sharing come naturally today, but competition is also possible. Seek out the people you most enjoy.

**Sagittarius**
November 22-December 21

Today’s a good day for working with the financial or business side of your career. Practicality is uppermost.

**Capricorn**
December 22-January 19

A family discussion proves enlightening and helpful. Ideas about appropriate behavior are modified to be more realistic.

**Aquarius**
January 20-February 18

Today, logic and practicality are necessary. Do some problem-solving, focusing on an area needing improvement.

**Pisces**
February 19-March 20

A beautiful setting sets a romantic mood. Candlelight, flowers, music and other lovely accessories make mutual seduction likely.

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**Sudoku**

A sudoku puzzle consists of a 9 × 9–square grid subdivided into nine 3 × 3 boxes. Some of the squares contain numbers. The object is to fill in the remaining squares so that every row, every column, and every 3 × 3 box contains each of the numbers from 1 to 9 exactly once.

**Cryptogram**

Every letter in a cryptogram stands for another letter. Use the hint to crack the code.

N KDDO FOVOHO VP FHPSVZHF SD EHNZQ SONCCVY ENUP WM NYVFVHZS.

And here is your hint:

Z = N

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At one year old the food forest garden is growing strong. While some people celebrate anniversaries with cake and festivities, Tyler Kidder, USM's assistant sustainability coordinator, was hard at work in the Food Forest Garden, trowels in hand.

Portland’s only public food forest garden celebrated its one-year anniversary on the Portland campus last Wednesday. The garden is home to a variety of plants including herbs, berry bushes and fruit trees. The food forest garden is open to the public, when fruits are in bloom students and faculty are free to take what they wish or lounge in the shade; this garden is open to all.

“The idea was to transform a busy part of campus into a sustainable landscape,” said Kidder. On the anniversary, Kidder was working in the garden with two local permaculture designers. David Homa, who designed the garden when it was created last year, and Casey Brackett, a permaculture design student were cutting back some of the more vigorous growers and weeds, using them to create a natural mulch that could be used in other areas of the garden. They also split some of the perennials in order to replant them and fill up empty spots around the garden.

Everything done to the garden falls in line with one of the central tenants of permaculture, biomimicry which means to imitate nature’s own system. It needs no pesticides or fertilizers and everything is done naturally.

The plants in the garden work together to create a closed loop system, many of the plants grown can be used to make a natural mulch leaving nothing to waste. Plants that can nourish each other are grown together, taking advantage of natural means. The system works so well that the garden itself needs very little upkeep throughout the year, it takes care of itself.

This garden is just one of many sustainability initiatives that can be found around campus. Students interested may join the group Eco-reps led by Kidder which is looking for new participants and has both volunteer and work-study available. Those interested in obtaining a plot in the community garden should send an e-mail to usmcommunitygarden@gmail.com, to be put on the list for next season.

Alex Huber  
Contributor

Community Spotlight:  
Forest Garden celebrates one-year anniversary

David Homa, local permaculture designer, who designed the garden when it was created last year, tends to the garden on its one-year anniversary.

What is your group doing on campus?  
Send us an email at editor@usmfreepress.org and let us know.
Monday, September 15
Dinosaurs at Dusk!
1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Southworth Planetarium, Portland

Tuesday, September 16
Two Small Pieces of Glass Full Dome Show
1:00 p.m. - 2 p.m.
Southworth Planetarium, Portland

Wednesday, September 17
Film Screening: Disruption - A Film About the Climate Movement
7:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.
Room 211, Wishcamper Center, Portland

1st Queer Straight Alliance Meeting of the Fall - Portland!
7:30 p.m. to 8:45 p.m.
Center for Sexualities and Gender Diversity, Woodbury Campus Center, Portland

Campus Night Under the Lights
8:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.
Hodgdon Field, Gorham

Thursday, September 18
Do It Yourself Craft Night with Student Life
4:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Woodbury Campus Center, Portland

Women’s Tennis at Thomas
4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Friday, September 19
“What Makes Life Meaningful?”
3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Room 102, Wishcamper Center, Portland Campus

Yoga Night
8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
Brooks Student Center, Gorham

240 Strings
8:00 p.m.
Corthell Concert Hall, Gorham

USM’s Got Talent
9:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.
Brooks Student Center, Gorham

Saturday, September 20
Women’s Soccer at Boston, Massachusetts
1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Women’s Volleyball at Eastern Connecticut State
2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, September 21
The Little Star That Could
3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Southworth Planetarium, Portland

For more events:
www.usm.maine.edu/events

We are looking for a Community Editor!
If you’re interested in events and activities that happen around campus, contact editor@usmfreepress.org or apply online:
usmfreepress.org/get-involved

Featured Photo:
Students and staff participated in the ALS ice bucket challenge last Thursday. USM was challenged by the University of Maine at Fort Kent and challenged UNE, UNG, St. Joseph’s College, SMCC and MECA.

Justicia Barreiros / Free Press Staff
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