



*One University. A World of Experiences.*



# StateLines

For and about FSU people

A publication of Communications and Media Relations

Volume 51, Number 14, November 16, 2020

Copy deadline: noon Wednesday, Candis Johnson at [statelines@frostburg.edu](mailto:statelines@frostburg.edu)

## FSU Announces December 2020 Commencement Speakers

FSU has selected its commencement speakers for the fall 2020 ceremony, **Matthew Maust** from the College of Business, **Abigail Burdock** from the College of Education and **Olivia Shaffer** from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. While the in-person ceremony has been postponed because of the COVID-19 pandemic, **from Monday, Dec. 7, to Friday, Dec. 11**, a Grad Week series of virtual recognition activities will be presented online.

Maust, of Grantsville, Md., graduates with a Bachelor of Science degree in business administration with a double concentration in human resources and business management. After earning his associate degree from Garrett College, Maust furthered his education at FSU, making the dean's list every semester. Maust has experience working at both Pillar Innovations and Beitzel Corp. as a business intern and inventory assistant, respectively. He has also been active on campus as a member of Frostburg CRU Campus Ministry since September 2018. After graduation, he plans to continue his career at Beitzel and pursue a master's degree. "Matthew is a strategic thinker, an innovator, a problem solver, and highly motivated," wrote Dr. Sudhir Singh, dean of the College of Business, in his nomination. "But perhaps his best qualities are his positive attitude and his ability to adapt to new situations and events."

Burdock, of Finzel, graduates with a Bachelor of Science degree in early childhood education. She is proficient in American Sign Language and has a level 5 certification to teach English as a foreign language. She was a teacher intern for second grade at Route 40 Elementary School and first grade at Grantsville Elementary, while she was a third-grade teacher assistant at Mount Savage School. She was also an academic intervention specialist for the Judy Center. Burdock has been active on campus as a member of the President's Leadership Circle, governance chair and member of the Executive Board of the Student Government Association, a student representative for the General Education Review Committee and a member of the Library Advisory Group. Other honors and awards include membership in the Phi Eta Sigma and Phi Kappa Phi honor societies, participation in the Sloop Institute for Excellence in Leadership and a consistent placement on the Dean's List.

Shaffer, of Swanton, Md., graduates with a Bachelor of Science degree in interpretive biology and natural history. She has worked at Mountain Lake Biological Research Station in the National Science Foundation's Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) program, being one of only eight students selected out of 250 applicants. Shaffer has conducted independent research through the Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program. She has done numerous presentations at events, including the FSU Research Symposium, Focus Frostburg, UMBC McNair Scholars Research Conference and Entomological Society of America National Conference. She also has numerous awards and honors, including the McNair's Scholar Fellowship, REU Travel Grant Recipient, participation in the Sloop Institute for Excellence in Leadership, Phi Sigma Eta, Sigma Alpha Pi and many merit scholarships. On campus, she has been active in Spectrum, FSU's LGBTQ+ organization, including serving as secretary.

For info about commencement activities, including the virtual Grad Week, visit [www.frostburg.edu/commencement](http://www.frostburg.edu/commencement).

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## FSU's Opera Theatre Presents an Evening of Scenes From Opera and Musical Theatre

FSU's Department of Music Opera Theatre will present a virtual performance of scenes from opera and musical theatre on **Monday, Nov. 16**, at 7:30 p.m. The concert is free to view online. Visit [www.frostburg.edu/concerts](http://www.frostburg.edu/concerts) and click this event to be directed to the FSU Localist Events page; click the red "Join Stream" button on the right side of page to join the livestream.

If you miss the livestream, the concert is available for viewing on YouTube: Frostburg Music Department.

The program will showcase students from FSU's Opera Workshop accompanied by pianist **Dr. Joseph Yungen**. It will feature selections from "The Sound of Music" and "West Side Story," as well as scenes and arias from operas by George Frideric Handel, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, Pietro Mascagni, Giacomo Puccini and Georges Bizet.

The program will open with the well-known "card trio" from Bizet's iconic opera "Carmen," in which three gypsies, including the title character, foretell the futures for Frasquita and Mercedes, which are wealth and love, but for Carmen, death. **Alana James** and **Hannah Hieronimus** sing Frasquita and Mercedes, respectively, while **Jerri Perry** sings Carmen.

The second half of the program is sure to evoke a smile with favorite songs from Rodgers and Hammerstein's "The Sound of Music." Joining the singers from the first half are **Kassidy Andris** and **Alexus Niblack**. The ensemble begins with two choral pieces sung by the nuns of the convent: the "Morning Hymn" and "Alleluia," followed by "Maria." Niblack solos with "My Favorite Things," followed by Andris and **Andrew Hartnett** singing the duet "Sixteen Going on Seventeen." The program ends on a high note with James taking the lead in singing "I Feel Pretty" from Leonard Bernstein's hit musical "West Side Story," with Andris, Niblack and Perry chiming in as the shop girls making commentary.

Because of the coronavirus pandemic, musical performances before public audiences will not be held until conditions warrant. However, the Department of Music is planning a series of online presentations. Links will be posted at [www.frostburg.edu/concerts](http://www.frostburg.edu/concerts). For info, contact FSU's Department of Music at 301-687-4109.

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## Help for Students

### Spring 2021 Advising and Registration Tools

As you begin preparing for your spring 2021 advising appointments, remember that the Center for Academic Advising and Retention (CAAR) provides many useful resources to help students graduate in a timely manner.

One of the resources you may find most helpful is CAAR's collection of suggested Eight-Semester Plans of Study for each of FSU's majors. These plans are in alignment with the Undergraduate Catalog and are designed to provide students and advisors with a quick overview of essential courses to take each semester. The library of plans is available online through the [CAAR Office webpage](#). Once at the website, select the Academic Year in which you began college to view the plans available for you.

For info, visit CAAR's [Registration Frequently Asked Questions](#) page. If you have additional questions about registration or the suggested plan of study for your major, contact your academic advisor or email the CAAR Office at [caar@frostburg.edu](mailto:caar@frostburg.edu).

### Have Issues or Concerns?

Be sure to continue to pass on your concerns to President Nowaczyk at [president@frostburg.edu](mailto:president@frostburg.edu) or, for specific academic issues, to Dr. Michael Mathias at [provost@frostburg.edu](mailto:provost@frostburg.edu). And email [COVIDtesting@frostburg.edu](mailto:COVIDtesting@frostburg.edu) for questions about COVID testing and [Fall2020@frostburg.edu](mailto:Fall2020@frostburg.edu) for general questions about the fall semester.

### Virtual Support Group for Students

FSU's Counseling and Psychological Services is hosting a weekly virtual support group on **Fridays** at noon for students through the rest of the semester. You're invited to share your challenges/concerns in a safe and non-judgmental space. Access the support group at <https://frostburg.webex.com/webappng/sites/frostburg/meeting/download/53993dc6bea8870bce54d5114a3e2c89>.

And as always, CAPS is available for individual support for students if needed. Call 301-687-4234.

### Free Online Tutoring via NetTutor

Just a reminder that online tutoring is available via NetTutor this semester. Students can ask a quick question, upload a paper (48- to 72-hour turnaround time) and/or receive live tutoring from professional tutors.

NetTutor is available 24/7.

Some of the subjects include accounting, anatomy, biology, business, chemistry, computer science, economics, literature, foreign languages, geology, history, logic, math, music, nursing, philosophy, physics, political science, psychology, sociology, student success and writing.

Students must request access to the Tutor Resources course in Canvas by emailing Mark Smith at [msmith@frostburg.edu](mailto:msmith@frostburg.edu).

## Theatre

### New Works Incubator Project at FSU Features Original Play by Alum Keenan Scott II



This artwork for the play is by New York artist Samtubia Edwards, based on model Lindsay Scott.

This November, the FSU Department of Theatre and Dance will feature a new play by theatre alum **Keenan Scott II**. As part of the New Works Incubator Project, Scott will develop his script with six FSU actors over a two-week period, culminating in a virtual reading for an online audience. Information about dates and attendance of the virtual reading will be shared later.

The New Works Incubator Project, an original idea brought to FSU by Scott, is designed to help professional writers develop new works while giving FSU students industry-level training in new-works development.

The play challenges the online experience with comedic twists by taking on the psychological effects of social media, over sensationalism and classism. The play, titled “Social Media Massacre,” features Hemsley and his best friend Jebediah, teenage prodigies who create an all-too-invasive app that rewards the capture of violence. The more violence a person captures, the higher their status rises in society. Soon, people find themselves in a world where segregation is again all too present, creating new factions between ranked and unranked people. But Ocean, a recent college graduate, is on a quest to take it all down.

Scott, from Queens, New York, is a playwright, poet, actor, director and producer of original work that has been produced at Howard University, Gala Hispanic Theatre, National Black Theater and the NYC Fringe Festival. His critically acclaimed piece, “Thoughts of a Colored Man,” had its World Premiere at Syracuse Stage for the 2019-2020 season and is now on its way to Broadway when it returns in 2021. He has also been commissioned for several pieces, including the “PLAY AT HOME” series curated by Baltimore Center Stage, Long Wharf Theatre, The Public Theater, The Repertory Theatre of St. Louis and Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company. In addition, his piece “Hashtag Me Not” was featured in a benefit for NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc., called “#WhileWeBreathe.” His latest work, “The Migration LP,” is being developed at New York Stage and Film with sights on a New York City premiere in 2021. He is also developing a series for TV titled “The New Reform.” For info, visit his website at [www.keenanscott.com](http://www.keenanscott.com).

Featured actors in “Social Media Massacre” include **Zoie Collins** (Ocean), **Christian Scott** (Jude), **Brendon McCabe** (Helmsley), **Gershawn Mason** (Jebediah), **Brian Records** (Fraser), **Dominique Little** (Debbie), **Kasey Taylor** (Mayah Lee) and **Laura Frederick** (Miss Ladi/News Anchor/Announcer). Creative team members include Scott (playwright/director), **Nicole Mattis** (project manager), **George Georgeson** (lighting/sound), **Danielle Preston** (costumes), **Nicholas Partonen** (stage manager), **Grace LaCount** (assistant stage manager/script) and **Kassidy Andris** (assistant stage manager).

“Social Media Massacre” is produced with generous partnership and support from the FSU Foundation Opportunity Grant program; University Council on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion; Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion; African American Studies; Department of Communication; and the Cultural Events Series. For info, call FSU’s Department of Theatre and Dance at 301-687-7794.

## Seminars/Webinars

### FSU Materials Engineering Special Seminar to Feature Four FSU Alums



FSU alumni Kamaron Cheatham, Amber Eure, Kimera Peterson and Taqi Robinson

FSU’s chapter of the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE) and the FSU Department of Physics and Engineering will host a virtual materials engineering seminar on **Tuesday, Nov. 17**, from 9:45 to 10:30 a.m. Titled “From Materials Engineering Capstone Project Success to a Current Career in the

Defense Industry and/or Engineering,” the special seminar will feature FSU alumni **Kamaron Cheatham, Amber Eure, Kimera Peterson** and **Taqi Robinson**.

This is great opportunity for students who are interested in studying general engineering and mechanical engineering, as well as acquiring career information about top-notch defense company, government and graduate school opportunities.

Cheatham graduated from FSU with his bachelor’s in materials engineering. While at FSU, he held positions as treasurer and vice president of FSU’s chapter of NSBE. He works at Northrop Grumman as a process engineer, producing semiconductors. Cheatham is also working toward Green Belt Certification and plans to work in R&D and production. In his spare time, he gives back to the community by participating in STEM outreach and mentoring engineering students through the College Bound Foundation.

Eure majored in engineering with a concentration in materials engineering at FSU. She participated in STEM Outreach and FSU’s chapter of NSBE, where she served as secretary. She was also a developmental math instructor and a math and physics tutor. Eure is employed with the government as an engineer at the Bureau of Engraving and Printing in Washington, D.C. She recently became certified as a quality process analyst with the American Society of Quality. Eure plans to pursue a master’s in material science and engineering.



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Peterson was a materials engineering major. She was president and a student advisor for FSU's chapter of NSBE and the chapter president of the Kappa Psi chapter of Delta Sigma Theta, as well as a member of the American Chemical Society, Lady B.U.G.S. and Black Student Alliance. Peterson also served as a peer mentor for ORIE, a developmental mathematics instructor, and a math and physics tutor. She is working toward a master's in structural engineering at Morgan State University while taking construction management courses to prepare for her PMP license.

Robinson graduated from FSU with a major in materials engineering and a minor in math. While at FSU, he was a member of the Lambda Mu chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., and FSU's chapter of NSBE and spent time modeling for the Paparazzi Perfect modeling team. Robinson is in the process of joining the U.S. Air Force. He plans to earn his master's in civil engineering and acquire a job in architecture.

For assistance in entering the virtual meeting event, contact Dr. Zhen Liu at [zliu@frostburg.edu](mailto:zliu@frostburg.edu) or Amirah Townsend at [avtownsend0@frostburg.edu](mailto:avtownsend0@frostburg.edu).

## Just in Case You Missed It

In case you missed the Department of Physics and Engineering Alumni Webinar Series event, "Double Majors in Physics and Engineering: Panel Discussion," on Nov. 9, you can check it out at this Webex video link:

<https://frostburg.webex.com/recordingservice/sites/frostburg/recording/f847ee63662441499b9e43a1f3f85e31/playback>.

Alumni *Joseph Gleason* and *Sean Black* shared their unique perspectives on why they chose the physics-engineering double major, what their experiences were completing both undergrad degrees at FSU and how the double major has benefited them in their careers.

## Exhibitions

### FSU's Roper Gallery Featuring Fall 2020 Senior Exhibition, 'Manifest'

FSU's Department of Visual Arts will host the fall 2020 senior exhibition, "Manifest," through **Wednesday, Nov. 18**, at the Stephanie Ann Roper Gallery in FSU's Fine Arts Building. This exhibition is free and open to the public.

Seniors exhibiting their work include *Najee Gordon-Moffett*, *Jamar Johnson*, *Kendall Lebherz*, *Paula Navarro* and *Ana M. Sines*.

Gordon-Moffett will graduate from FSU with a bachelor's degree in art and design; her focus studies include graphic design and illustration. After graduation, she plans to continue developing her designs and gain recognition through freelance work.

Johnson is a transfer student from Prince George's Community College. He is graduating with a bachelor's degree in art and design, with a focus on graphic design and photography. After graduation, he plans to continue freelance work and venture into the music industry.

Lebherz is graduating with a degree in art and design, with a major in ceramics and sculpture and a minor in art history. After receiving his degree, he plans to move forward with his ceramic career and open his own studio.

Navarro is graduating with a degree in art and design; they minored in art history while focusing on graphic design and printmaking. After graduation, Navarro plans to pursue their master's.

Sines is a transfer student from Garrett College where she earned dual degrees in applied science in graphic/web design and computer business applications. She will graduate from FSU with a major in art and design and a minor in graphic design. After graduation, she plans to continue her education.

The Roper Gallery is open **Mondays and Wednesdays through Fridays** from 1 to 5 p.m. and **Tuesdays** from 3 to 5 p.m. For info, contact the Department of Visual Arts at 301-687-4797.

To prevent the spread of the coronavirus, FSU follows state health guidelines requiring the wearing of masks and physical distancing from others. Visitors to campus must visit [www.frostburg.edu/checkin](http://www.frostburg.edu/checkin) for symptom monitoring before arriving on campus and be prepared to display the "Reduced Risk" badge.

## Points of Pride

### Psychology Behind Assassins, Terrorists, Conspiracies Focus of Dr. Scott Johnson's Book



FSU's *Dr. Scott Johnson*, a professor of political science, dives into the psychology behind some of America's most heinous criminals in his new book, "Political Assassins, Terrorists and Related Conspiracies in American History," being released this month.

Johnson's book is about how political assassinations and terrorism have outraged and fascinated the public throughout American history, particularly in the modern era. The book provides biographical summaries of more than 100 assassins and terrorists, offering a more complete understanding of the motivations behind violent extremism.

Johnson says that he initially developed a strong interest in the Kennedy assassination while he was in college. At FSU, he inherited a political science course from another professor where he deepened his knowledge on the psychology of assassins. Eventually with the materials from the class, he created his own interdisciplinary course, American Political Assassins.

Now, after teaching the course for seven years, he realized he had gathered enough material for a book.

“Political Assassins, Terrorists and Related Conspiracies in American History” releases on **Monday, Nov. 16**, and is available for pre-order now.

## FSU Student Tiffany Arnett Wins Z Hacks People’s Choice Award



In this year’s Z Hacks Humanity and Earth hack-a-thon, FSU student **Tiffany Arnett** walked away with the People’s Choice award and a \$100 prize. Contestants were to design and submit posters in one of three categories: social justice, environment or the pandemic.

“I chose social justice, advocating for the LGBTQ community,” said Arnett, for whom this subject is personal. “I’m bisexual, and I’m currently in a relationship with another woman. These topics are very important to us, especially during the extreme political environment we are enduring. We’re quite terrified right now about how politics is turning; we are afraid of losing our rights and afraid of being discriminated against at our jobs or in housing. So, it is an important topic for me.”

Arnett’s poster featured an image of Earth with three non-gendered people standing on top. The background has a rainbow and hearts, and the bottom says, “Love Is Love.” To see Arnett’s winning design, visit [devpost.com/software/love-is-love-20cmsf](https://devpost.com/software/love-is-love-20cmsf).

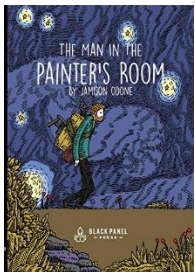
“We live in one world together, regardless of our sexual orientation and gender. We should show compassion towards each other and simply be humane towards one another,” Arnett said. “That is what I hope my poster represents.”

Arnett, a student in FSU’s school counseling master’s degree program, participated in this competition through her class, Cultural and Technological Awareness in the Context of Global Education.

Hack-a-thons by Devpost are traditionally meant for people who are talented in coding, app development and website creation. This year’s Z Hacks was more inclusive, incorporating artists, writers and painters into the competition. Creative students from around the country were able to submit projects.

For info about Z Hacks, visit <https://zhacks.devpost.com>.

## Jamison Odone’s Graphic Novel Published



**Jamison Odone**, an associate professor in FSU’s Department of Visual Arts, has a new book out. Titled “The Man in the Painter’s Room: Van Gogh in Auvers-sur-Oise,” the book is a graphic novel about the final months in the life of Vincent Van Gogh.

After his release from the Saint-Paul asylum in 1890, Van Gogh wandered the French countryside before stumbling on the Auberge Ravoux, a quaint little inn in Auvers-sur-Oise.

Although still plagued by mental illness, he found some peace there among his adoptive family, painting more than 75 works of art in just three months.

The book is based on the firsthand account of Adeline Ravoux, the innkeeper’s daughter, with whom Van Gogh shared a special bond.

This 132-page color graphic novel is meant for older kids and adults.

## Take Note

## FSU Residence Hall, Multicultural Center Names Get USM Regents Approval

**Brownsville Hall, Adams/Wyche Multicultural Center at Lincoln School Honor Displaced African American Community**



The newly built residence hall at FSU, Brownsville Hall, left, and FSU alumni and donors Sandra Wyche Adams and Tyrone Adams

Two FSU campus buildings will now honor the history and legacy of Frostburg’s African American community following approval today from the University System of Maryland Board of Regents. The newly built residence hall will be known as Brownsville Hall, and a former

school for African Americans will be named the Adams/Wyche Multicultural Center at the Lincoln School.

“We are very proud today to take these long-overdue steps to honor the legacy of Brownsville, its former residents and its descendants,” said FSU President Ronald Nowaczyk. “This is a truly powerful statement, and it brought together many voices and people to make this happen.”

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Brownsville Hall, just opened for the fall semester on the campus Lower Quad, will be named in honor of the largely African American community that was displaced between the 1920s and the 1960s as the college that became FSU grew. Brownsville was founded following the Civil War by a formerly enslaved woman, Tamer Brown, and thrived as a community for decades. The Brownsville name follows the FSU tradition of naming Lower Quad residence halls after communities.

In August, the University dedicated the Brownsville/Park Avenue Monument on the campus' Upper Quad where the Brownsville/Park Avenue community once stood.

The Lincoln School, the third school by that name to serve the Brownsville community, will be transformed into the Adams/Wyche Multicultural Center at the Lincoln School, thanks to a generous gift from FSU alumni **Sandra Wyche Adams**, class of 1986, and **Tyrone Adams**, class of 1987. Sandra Adams is also chair of the FSU Foundation Board of Directors. The gift will advance the building's internal design and renovation.

"Frostburg State University is committed to creating an inclusive space on campus that celebrates difference, culture and diversity, both on campus and in the local community, while focusing on the bonds that unite and bring us together, rather than those that pull us apart," Nowaczyk said.

"We are honored to support the development of the new Multicultural Center at the Lincoln School – a site remembered for its legacy as a schoolhouse built for the purpose of educating the residents of Brownsville who could not attend other schools in the area due to segregation," Sandra Adams said. "In this cultural moment, as millions of Americans march and demonstrate on behalf of Black lives, we believe it is our duty to highlight the importance of uplifting marginalized voices and championing the growth and educational advancement of underrepresented minorities."

The building, which will be designed to be inclusive, historically significant and student-centered, will also become home to the Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. The design process, which will also include an inclusive outdoor space, has begun, and the Adamses' gift will allow work to progress more quickly, Nowaczyk said. The building will include meeting space for the use of community and student organizations.

"As proud Black alumni of Frostburg State, we hope that the center stands as a testament to the resolve of the Black community to persevere and remains a place of fellowship and pride for all students in the years to come," Tyrone Adams said.

The Adamses previously endowed the Tyrone Adams '87 and Sandra Wyche Adams '86 Scholarship, which benefits students majoring in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, with a preference given to graduates of Baltimore City and Baltimore County public schools.

The Lincoln School building also served as the headquarters for FSU Police for many years, and for the past year has served as a temporary home to Frostburg City Police as their headquarters undergoes renovation.

Both name changes are effective immediately and will begin to be reflected in materials and on the FSU website. Formal ceremonies will be held in 2021 when conditions permit.

The University System of Maryland, which is in the process of revising its policy on the naming of buildings, requires Board of Regents approval to name buildings at its institutions.

For the complete article, go to <https://www.frostburg.edu/news/2020/11/FSU-announces-building-names.php>.

## Storybook Holiday Express 2020



Every year, the city of Frostburg is transformed into a holiday winter wonderland as local organizations come together to present Frostburg's Storybook Holiday, a festive, community celebration through children's literature. This year, the Children's Literature Centre is putting a magical twist on the original Storybook Holiday with Storybook Holiday Express!

Storybook Holiday Express will take place on **Saturday, Dec. 5**, and **Sunday, Dec. 6**, and will include in-person and virtual events, including to-go craft/STEM bags; a virtual Elf Olympics; a virtual reading from Caralyn Buehner, author of "Snowmen at Night," and a special appearance by illustrator Mark Buehner; and Deck the Meters – a chance for businesses, groups or individuals to decorate a city meter for the holidays.

Decorate a Main Street-area meter (Main, Broadway or Water Street) for the holiday 2020 season! The contest is open to families, individuals, school groups, businesses and organizations. Parking meters will be assigned after applications are received. Decorations must be installed between **Wednesday, Nov. 25**, and **Wednesday, Dec. 2**. Prizes will be awarded in three categories: Best Meter by Family or Individual, Best Meter by Business/Organization/Group and Grand Prize. The application deadline is **Wednesday, Nov. 18**, at 11 p.m.

For possible decorating ideas, visit [www.frostburg.edu/clc/storybookholiday](http://www.frostburg.edu/clc/storybookholiday). For an electronic application, go to [www.frostburg.edu/clc/storybookholiday](http://www.frostburg.edu/clc/storybookholiday) and click on "Frostburg Decks the Meters."

While supplies last, to-go craft/STEM bags can be picked up via drive-through at Mountain Ridge High School (bus lot closest to Sheetz) on **Saturday, Dec. 5**, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and **Sunday, Dec. 6**, from 1 to 3 p.m. Due to COVID, masks are required. Only cars will receive craft/STEM bags for children. No walk-ins are allowed.

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Other activities include video messages (Welcome to Storybook Holiday Express, Frostburg Fire and Police Departments and Special Storybook Holiday Friends), a holiday hero announcement and holiday read-alouds.

More info and activities can be found at [www.frostburg.edu/clc/storybookholiday](http://www.frostburg.edu/clc/storybookholiday).

And be sure to visit Frostburg during December to enjoy shop and restaurant specials, as well as free parking!

## 2021 USM Board of Regents Staff Awards Nominations

The Council of University System Staff (CUSS) is again accepting nominations for the University System of Maryland Board of Regents Staff Awards. These staff awards represent the highest honor bestowed by the regents for achievements of exempt and nonexempt employees from USM institutions, and are presented to staff members who have demonstrated excellence in one of the following categories: exceptional contribution to the institution and/or unit to which the person belongs; outstanding service to students in an academic or residential environment; extraordinary public service to the University or greater community; effectiveness and efficiency regarding an academic or administrative transformation with a savings of \$10,000 or more; or inclusion, multiculturalism and social justice.

Nominations are first considered at an institutional level before being forwarded to the CUSS USM Board of Regents Staff Awards and Recognition Committee for final selection. An internal Staff Awards Review Committee made up of the following staff employees will select nominees from FSU:

Heather Killeen, Office of Human Resources, 301-687-4107, [hjkilleen@frostburg.edu](mailto:hjkilleen@frostburg.edu)

Nancy Frost, Ort Library, 301-687-3058, [nfrost@frostburg.edu](mailto:nfrost@frostburg.edu)

Dean Bolden, Physical Plant, 301-687-7004, [djbolden@frostburg.edu](mailto:djbolden@frostburg.edu)

Rubin Stevenson, Athletics, 301-687-4086, [rstevenson@frostburg.edu](mailto:rstevenson@frostburg.edu)

Contact any of these committee members with the name of a potential candidate and why you believe that staff member to be worthy of an award nomination. The committee members then will work with you to complete a competitive nomination packet. Completed nomination packets must be submitted to FSU's Staff Awards Review Committee no later than **Monday, Jan. 11, 2021**.

## Recommended Professional Development Opportunities for Staff and Faculty

Be sure to take advantage of this professional development resource with more than 16,000 learning modules: <https://www.linkedin.com/learning>.

For November, the following diversity and inclusion training is recommended:

### Communicating About Culturally Sensitive Issues

Discussions about cultural differences can be uncomfortable. They take courage. In this course, Duke University professor Dr. Daisy Lovelace shares principles and strategies that can help you have more productive, meaningful conversations on topics related to diversity. Lovelace helps you understand that everyone has a unique lens based on their experiences, and that understanding and appreciating that difference is the first step in being able to discuss sensitive topics. She also outlines a number of techniques to help you navigate these difficult conversations.

## Are You Ready for Big Interview?

FSU now offers a free training system that features a new and innovative way to help you prepare more effectively for a job interview.

Big Interview is an online system that combines training and practice to help improve your interview technique and build your confidence. Big interview allows you to practice general, behavioral and technical questions tailored to more than 140 industries. There are also instructional videos on resumes, negotiating and your first 90 days on the job.

To set up your Big Interview account:

Go to <http://frostburg.biginterview.com> and click "Register."

Complete the registration process. (You must use your FSU email address.)

You'll then receive a confirmation email at your FSU email account. Click "Verify" in the email, and you'll be able to start using Big Interview.

If you'd rather practice in person, the Career and Professional Development Center can help. You can schedule a mock interview at any time by calling 301-687-4403.

## University Police Participating in 'No-Shave November'

This year, University Police officers are again participating in "No-Shave November" as a way of raising awareness and money to benefit 10-year-old Landen Richie, who faces a rare genetic disorder and related medical challenge.



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Though officers may look a little shaggy over the next few weeks, know that they are doing this for a good cause. No-Shave November is a national program supported by public safety officials nationwide. University Police is joining Frostburg City Police and the Allegany County Sheriff's Office in this effort.

Anyone can donate any amount of money to benefit Richie and his family. Donations can be dropped off at the University Police. Checks should be made payable to Frostburg University FOP Lodge No. 147. Last year, FSU's department alone raised \$625 for Ben Starr, a teenager undergoing aggressive cancer treatment. This year, the goal is to raise at least \$800.

For info, contact S/Cpl. Daniel L. Dunn at [dldunn@frostburg.edu](mailto:dldunn@frostburg.edu).

## December Commencement News

In a year unlike any other, FSU has had to make the difficult decision to postpone its commencement ceremonies. The December ceremony will be rescheduled at a future date when it is safe to hold large gatherings. FSU does not yet know when that will be or the details and format of that ceremony, but you will be provided with at least a month's notice when it is scheduled. FSU email accounts of graduating students will remain activated through that time, so continue to check your email for messages. FSU will also announce any further details on FSU social media and [www.frostburg.edu](http://www.frostburg.edu) and [www.frostburg.edu/commencement](http://www.frostburg.edu/commencement).

Those who cannot make it to that rescheduled ceremony, but who still want to walk in commencement, may join in any of the subsequent commencements through 2022. Your position in the 2020 graduating class will be announced at that ceremony. You only need to send a notification to [commencement@frostburg.edu](mailto:commencement@frostburg.edu), preferably a month before the ceremony you have chosen.

Beginning on **Monday, Dec. 7**, FSU will celebrate an interactive virtual "Grad Week" on social media, allowing graduates to participate in celebrating their achievements and receive congratulations from friends, family, faculty and the FSU community.

On **Friday, Dec. 11**, a special commencement site with "on-demand" ceremony features (not a live event), such as personalized slides of each graduate, will be online and available to view by the public. **December and August Graduates: Watch your FSU email for further details and instructions on this. If you've been approved to graduate, you should've already received several emails.**

**December and August Graduates:** As stated in emails sent to you previously, upon approval by the Registrar's Office, your cap and gown will be mailed at no charge directly to you from Oak Hall, to be received on or about **Monday, Nov. 16**, as long as submitted by the due date of Oct. 25. **Any orders submitted after the due date may take up to two weeks for processing and delivery.** Note: Although not required, if you'd like to have your cap and gown to wear for the slideshow photo submission mentioned above, you should order as soon as possible. If you have not done so already, order your cap and gown online at <http://bookstore.frostburg.edu>; select Graduation Tab, then Order Graduation Attire and click Let's Get Started to begin the order.

For info, email [commencement@frostburg.edu](mailto:commencement@frostburg.edu).

## Call for Presenters – 10th Annual Regional Conference on Teaching, Learning and Scholarship

The Center for Teaching Excellence at FSU is seeking presenters for the 10th Annual Regional Conference on Teaching, Learning and Scholarship to be held **Wednesday, Jan. 20**, 2 to 4 p.m., **Thursday, Jan. 21**, noon to 2 p.m. and **Friday, Jan. 22**, 10 a.m. to noon. This year presenters and attendees will participate live online. CTE's annual regional conference aims to help instructors and other educators share ideas and pedagogical strategies while strengthening partnerships within the region.

Proposals are encouraged from faculty and staff at FSU and other state and regional colleges and universities.

Proposals on the following topics are especially encouraged:

**Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in Teaching:** Teaching approaches that help underrepresented populations and students with different backgrounds and abilities feel included

**Hybrid Teaching and the Socially Distanced Classroom:** Which activities should be online and which in the classroom; how to adapt flipped-classroom, student-centered and group activities for the socially distanced classroom; and how to divide classroom activities for cohorts meeting on different days

**High-Impact Practices:** Practices that increase rates of student retention and student engagement ([www.aacu.org/leap/hips](http://www.aacu.org/leap/hips))

**Teaching With Technology:** Using technology to improve learning outcomes, teach technological fluency, provide open educational resources or make online learning more effective

**Scholarship of Teaching and Learning:** Sharing evidence-based teaching practices, or examples of turning your own classroom innovations and activities into research on teaching and learning

**Course Showcase:** Case studies demonstrating innovative classroom activities

Presentations may take any of the following formats: 30-minute presentation followed by 20 minutes Q&A, 50-minute interactive presentation or demonstration of an online activity, or 50-minute roundtable/working group discussion topic

Proposals should include a presentation title and an abstract of one to two paragraphs. Abstracts describing course showcases or class activities should include the learning objectives for conference attendees as well as for students.

Submit proposals at <https://forms.gle/AQpyZLBwtXDbhGZY7b> by **Friday, Dec 4**. Final selections will be announced **mid-December**.



For info, email [cte@frostburg.edu](mailto:cte@frostburg.edu) or contact Shoshana Brassfield at 301-687-7391.

## Winter Market Comes Back to Mountain City Traditional Arts



Mountain City Traditional Arts, at 25 E. Main St. in Frostburg, will host its winter markets on the **first and third Saturdays, November through April**, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Come out for honey, locally raised meats and eggs, baked goods and other seasonal foods. Masks are required, hand sanitizer is provided and people are asked to maintain a 6-foot distance from others.

## Registration for Intersession



Students! Be sure to make the most of your time this winter break and catch up, keep up or get ahead with Intersession.

This is a great option for those who want to get caught up without having to increase their spring workload, athletes in need of extra credits or a GPA boost to maintain eligibility, and any student who wants to start a path to early graduation.

For details and course options, visit [www.frostburg.edu/intersession](http://www.frostburg.edu/intersession).

## Toys for Tots – On-Campus Competition



The FSU Veterans Center is sponsoring a campus-wide competition to see which department or organization can collect the most toys for the Toy Thunder – the Toys for Tots Program serving Allegany County.

The winning department or organization that collects the most donations in new unwrapped toys or donations for families in the area will receive a lunch for its department/organization during finals week or at another preferred time.

The competition runs through **Monday, Nov. 16**. If you want to just donate toys without entering the competition, toys can be dropped off at the Veterans Center at any time up to **Sunday, Dec. 20**.

For info, email [vets@frostburg.edu](mailto:vets@frostburg.edu) or contact Danielle Dabrowski at [dldabrowski@frostburg.edu](mailto:dldabrowski@frostburg.edu).

## End-of-Semester Library Hours

The Ort Library is staying open later!

End-of-semester hours are as follows:

**Monday, Nov. 16, through Thursday, Nov. 19** – 8 a.m. to 11 p.m.

**Friday, Nov. 20** – 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

**Saturday, Nov. 21** – 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

**Sunday, Nov. 22** – 1 to 11 p.m.

**Monday, Nov. 23** – 8 a.m. to 11 p.m.

**Tuesday, Nov. 24** – 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For info, contact the library's Main Desk during open hours at 301-687-4395 or [circulation@frostburg.edu](mailto:circulation@frostburg.edu). Online resources remain accessible via the library's webpage at [www.frostburg.edu/library](http://www.frostburg.edu/library), and online research help is available via chat, email or individual research consultations. Visit <https://frostburg.libanswers.com> or email [libref@frostburg.edu](mailto:libref@frostburg.edu).

Check out the library's COVID-19 Response Guide for more information on services and spaces. Library staff remind everyone not to leave belongings unattended during this busy time, even if only for a short period. Also, observe the space, noise, and health and safety policies designated for each of the library's four public floors.

Second floor: Quiet floor/socially distanced group and individual study spaces/individual computer stations

Third floor: Quiet floor/socially distanced individual study spaces/individual computer stations

Fourth floor: Silent floor/socially distanced individual study spaces

Fifth floor: Group floor/socially distanced group and individual study spaces/individual computer stations/individual study rooms

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## Brady Health Conducting Flu Vaccine Clinics



Brady Health is administering the quadrivalent vaccine again this year. A quadrivalent influenza vaccine protects against four flu viruses, including two type A viruses and two type B viruses.

**Clinics will be held at Brady Health Mondays through Fridays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.** They are open to students, faculty and staff.

**You must call 301-687-4310 to schedule an appointment.**

The cost is \$20. (No insurance.)

You must be over 18 years of age. Be sure to wear short sleeves and your mask!

Even healthy people can get the flu, so don't forget to get your flu shot this year!

## Deadlines

### Withdrawal Deadline Extended

The deadline for withdrawing from any undergraduate course (15-week session or 7-week session II) with a "W" has been extended to **Wednesday, Nov. 18.**

Students are strongly encouraged to consult with their advisor to discuss possible academic implications before withdrawing from a course.

Students receiving financial aid or scholarships should also contact the Financial Aid Office ([fsufinaid@frostburg.edu](mailto:fsufinaid@frostburg.edu)) to determine what impact a "W" grade might have on their financial aid status.

Student-veterans should confer with the Veterans Services Office ([vets@frostburg.edu](mailto:vets@frostburg.edu)) to discuss possible implications for military educational benefits.

Student-athletes should consult the Athletic Compliance Officer ([emseifarth@frostburg.edu](mailto:emseifarth@frostburg.edu)) regarding possible implications for athletic eligibility.

Students can withdraw themselves from a course via their PAWS account. For assistance, contact [reginfo@frostburg.edu](mailto:reginfo@frostburg.edu).

**Note that the University will not be modifying its grading standards this semester.** The Student Government Association recently presented a proposal to adopt PC/NC grading, like last spring. SGA leadership discussed the proposal with the University's Academic Standards Subcommittee (the faculty committee charged with oversight of the University's academic standards). However, the subcommittee unanimously recommended that the proposal not be adopted in light of a number of important differences between the spring term and this fall term. The subcommittee's recommendation to maintain FSU's normal grading standards was accepted by the University's academic leadership. The extension of the withdraw deadline to the last day of classes was determined to be a reasonable response to these concerns.

## Health and Safety Messages

### To Grandmother's House or No?



Outdoor activities are safer than indoor activities. If participating in an outdoor event is not possible this holiday season, and you choose to attend an indoor event, avoid crowded, poorly ventilated and fully enclosed indoor spaces. Increase ventilation by opening windows and doors to the extent that is safe and feasible based on the weather.

Check with the event host, organizer or event venue for updated information about any COVID-19 safety guidelines and to see if they have steps in place to prevent the spread of the virus.

Bring supplies to help you and others stay healthy. Bring extra masks (do not share or swap with others), hand sanitizer that contains at least 60 percent alcohol and tissues.

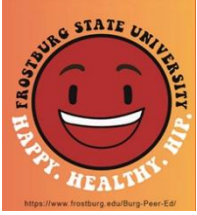
If you are planning to attend in-person holiday gatherings with people outside of your household, consider strictly avoiding contact with people outside of your household for 14 days before the gathering.

Travel by car if you can.

Get your flu shot!

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# Happy, Healthy, Hip!



Mental Health Monday Tip: Writing Meaningful Words Monday

<https://ideapod.com/6-surprising-benefits-writing-thoughts-feelings>

Tell Yourself Tuesday Tip: Transforming Thoughts

<https://youtu.be/d0AQiu4DGmY>

Wacky Wednesday Tip: Walk More

<https://www.arthritis.org/health-wellness/healthy-living/physical-activity/walking/12-benefits-of-walking>

Thankful Thursday Tip: Try New Things

<https://www.bustle.com/articles/138644-7-ways-to-be-more-open-to-new-experiences>

Fun Friday Tip: Finding Happiness

<https://zenhabits.net/happiness-within>

Social Saturday Tip: Setting Up a Movie Night

[https://youtu.be/eUnK\\_ylo1VA](https://youtu.be/eUnK_ylo1VA)

Self-Love Sunday Tip: Saying Positive Affirmations

<https://positivepsychology.com/daily-affirmations>

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## VALUES AND VISION: FROSTBURG STATE UNIVERSITY IN 2023

### CORE VALUES

Frostburg State University is a place where every student can experience a myriad of opportunities both in and out of the classroom, fostered by a sense of inclusion and close mentoring relationships with faculty and staff.

Frostburg State University is committed to developing cultural competence and cultivating understanding of and respect for a diversity of experiences and world views that encourage each person's ability to "take the perspective of the other."

Frostburg State University is committed to a system of shared governance that allows faculty, staff and students to learn about the issues the University confronts and that provides a structure for meaningful input into University decisions.

### OUR VISION FOR FROSTBURG STATE UNIVERSITY IN 2023

Frostburg State University is a regionally acclaimed and nationally recognized academic institution that provides distinctive programs to support state and regional workforce needs. Faculty, staff and students foster collaboration in a welcoming and inclusive campus culture.

Students value the opportunities open for them at FSU and form close mentoring relationships with faculty and staff, who are committed to their success and well-being. Students apply knowledge and skills learned in the classroom to internship, civic engagement, study abroad and research experiences to meet the challenges of a complex and changing global society.

The University is integrated into the fabric of the community as a valued and respected regional asset. We are committed to making changes that secure our future while celebrating the values that reflect our history.

### STRATEGIC GOALS

Focus learning on the acquisition and application of knowledge.

Provide engaging experiences that challenge our students to excel.

Expand regional outreach and engagement.

Align University resources – human, fiscal and physical – with strategic priorities.

To view FSU's Strategic Plan 2018-2023 online, visit [www.frostburg.edu/strategicplan](http://www.frostburg.edu/strategicplan).