

Welcome to UMF's Twenty-Third Symposium Day

April 21, 2021

The annual Symposium on the University of Maine at Farmington campus is a wonderful spring tradition where students, faculty, and staff pause the regular academic day to spotlight the scholarly work of students and share it with the campus and the wider world.

First held in 1999, the UMF Symposium represents the richness of academic rigor, original student research, and dedicated faculty mentoring that is a Farmington hallmark and takes place all over campus throughout the year. Though this year may have presented its challenges, it has also empowered our students to think creatively, our campus to collaborate thoughtfully, and our faculty to support the highest level of learning.

While the UMF Symposium brings together students and faculty focused on original academic research and creative expression, symposia are also a common means of interaction in the modern day professional world. Along with seminars and workshops, they help play a vital role in the dissemination of knowledge and the gaining of skills.

Similar to these professional events, Farmington's Symposium offers our students the opportunity to pursue their passion, develop a deep understanding of their work, build on their communication skills and share it with their colleagues. It is inspiring to see this wealth of student learning and how it will help prepare them for things to come.

Congratulations to all for your outstanding work, with a special thank you to the University Culture Committee and all faculty mentors and devoted staff who have committed themselves to the value of undergraduate research at Farmington.

Edward Serna, President

For more than two decades, UMF's annual Symposium has provided a singular opportunity to experience the outstanding academic work of students from across the university. The range of scholarly and creative projects is dazzling in itself, and represents untold hours of study and preparation, in addition to guidance and mentoring by faculty sponsors. No less dazzling is the commitment our entire campus makes to attending these papers, posters, and presentations, along with the showcase of Arts Night, enlivening UMF like no other day on the calendar.

As a university invested in the liberal arts and committed to undergraduate research in all disciplines, UMF proudly supports its students in the public rendering of such work. In that most celebrated of symposia, Plato's Symposium, the Greek philosopher Socrates speaks of a final "vision . . . revealed to him of a single science, which is the science of beauty everywhere." Symposium Day is truly a heralding of the "science of beauty everywhere," and a testament to the breadth and depth of all we do at this institution.

With special thanks to the University Culture Committee, to our magnanimous sponsors, and to the students presenting as part of the culmination of an extraordinarily taxing year.

Congratulations to all those who contribute to this unique day (and in 2021, to its unique deliverance) on our campus!

Eric C. Brown, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

The Michael D. Wilson Symposium reminds us that research and creative activity are never solitary adventures. Rather, scholarship and the fine arts emerge out of our community and are shared with this very community. Symposium thus speaks to the very heart of who we are as artists and knowledge seekers. Every member of our academic community is called to participate in the *generation* of art and knowledge. As such, Symposium is a celebration of engaged citizenship and an affirmation of our collective responsibility to make meaningful contributions to our shared world.

Steve Quackenbush, Associate Provost

This symposium is organized by the University Culture Committee:

Ann Bartges
Stephen Grandchamp
Misty Krueger (Chair)
Amy Neswald
Theresa Overall
Douglas Reusch

UMF Land Acknowledgement

The University Culture Committee would like to begin Symposium by recognizing that UMF sits on the traditional agricultural lands of the Abenaki people of Ameskonti, and by expressing gratitude and acknowledgment to the people and the land. We also wish to extend this acknowledgment to the Maliseet, Micmac, Penobscot and Passamaquoddy nations who, with the Abenaki, make up the Wabanaki people. We recognize and affirm the sovereignty of the Native nations in this territory and beyond.

UMF Trustee Professorship

Symposium is a day to honor the value of scholarly and creative endeavor at UMF. Toward that end, we have chosen Symposium as an opportunity, not only to showcase the work of our students, but also to bestow the university's most prestigious award for scholarship to a faculty member. The Trustee Professorship is given each year to one UMF faculty member in recognition of her/his distinguished record of scholarly or creative work. The Trustee Professor receives a cash stipend, a professional development allowance, and a half-time reassignment for an academic year in order to focus on a scholarly or creative project.

Each year at Symposium we invite the current Trustee Professor to deliver a public reading and performance. This year's Scholar is Kristen Case, Professor of English. She will join last year's Trustee Professor Steven Pane at 12:00 p.m. in the Emery Performance Space. All students, faculty, and staff are invited, but registration for this in-person event is required. Use [this form](#) to pre-register.

2020-2021 Trustee Professor

Quarry Animal Zero Fold: The Chaconne Project

Kristen Case, 2020 - 2021 Trustee Professor

Steven Pane, 2019 - 2020 Trustee Professor

April 21, 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. in Emery Performance Space. [Pre-registration is required.](#)

The final movement of *The Partita in D minor for solo violin* by J.S. Bach, the *Chaconne* has been interpreted by every age and transcribed for virtually every instrument. In this collaborative project, Kristen and Steve attempt translation of the *Chaconne* to the piano and the page.

Kristen Case will read excerpts from a writing project developed over the course of the last few months: a suite of 64 poems generated by a set of structural constraints derived from Bach's composition of the *Chaconne*. Like Bach's 64 4-measure variations, which revolve around the same four notes, the poems in this suite each revolve around the same four words. Accompanying the poems and in conversation with them is a second-person essay dealing with concepts of personhood, memory, and violence. Images from an artist-book in process will accompany the reading/performance.

Steve will perform his transcription of Bach's *Chaconne*, a hybrid of the solo violin original and the piano transcriptions by Ferruccio Busoni.

Past UMF Trustee Professors

Spring 1999: Mark McPherran
1999 – 2000: Ronald Butler
2000 – 2001: Jennifer Reid
2001 – 2002: Chris Magri
2002 – 2003: Dan Gunn
2003 – 2004: Ming-Ming Pu
2004 – 2005: David Daniel

2005 – 2006: Mike Muir
2006 – 2007: Tiane Donahue
2007 – 2008: Paul Outka
2008 – 2009: Drew Barton
2009 – 2010: David Gibson
2010 – 2011: Jeffrey Thompson
2011 – 2012: Eric Brown

2012 – 2013: Gretchen Legler
2014 – 2015: Allison Hepler
2016 – 2017: Nic Koban
2015 – 2016: Patricia O'Donnell
2017 – 2018: Jonathon Cohen
2018 – 2019: Michael Johnson
2019 – 2020: Steven Pane

Michael D. Wilson Research Fellows and Scholars

The Michael D. Wilson Scholars and Fellows represent some of UMF's best students from across all disciplines. The program recognizes UMF students' tremendous creativity and expands UMF's commitment to undergraduate research and faculty mentoring. Each student is awarded funding to help underwrite an original undergraduate research or creative project. The Program has been providing single-semester support for research, scholarship, and creative projects at UMF since the fall of 2006. It was expanded in the fall of 2007 to include full-year Wilson Research Fellow awards to support even more substantive research projects. In the years since its inception, the Wilson program has supported the investigative research and creative activities of more than 250 students at UMF. During this time UMF faculty members have developed strong mentoring relationships with individual scholars, providing guidance with proposal development, research methodology, and continuing pre-professional and post-graduate opportunities.

The awards honor UMF alumnus, Michael D. Wilson, class of 1976, an avid environmentalist, aspiring teacher, and dear friend whose untimely death in 1977 deeply saddened the UMF community. The students are nominated by a UMF faculty mentor and, after a competitive selection process, are chosen by the UMF Undergraduate Research Council.

2020 - 2021 Wilson Fellows

Hannah Binder - *The Life and Death of Orchids: a novel*
Faculty Advisors: Shana Youngdahl and Lewis Robinson

Emily Kelley - *Analysis of Human-Induced Rapid Evolutionary Change in Swift Foxes (*Vulpes velox*) Found in Agricultural Habitats*
Faculty Advisor: Donelle Schwalm

Samantha Taylor - *Moldables for Sale; Creative Words*
Faculty Advisor: Ann Bartges

Fall 2020 Wilson Scholars

Brian Tibbets - *Mapping with Python: Using Computer Science to Visualize Conflicts in East Africa*
Faculty Advisor: Chris Bennet

Spring 2021 Wilson Scholars

Allen Cherkis - *Abbott Park Forest Carbon Stock Assessment*
Faculty Advisor: Jesse Minor

Spencer Davis - *A Purer Silver: Reasons for Iroquois Trade Preferences in the Mohawk Valley*
Faculty Advisor: Anne Marie Wolf

Brandon Martin - *The Impact of Traditional Masculine Ideology on Perceptions of Gender Non-Conformity by Adolescent Male Athletes*
Faculty Advisor: Karol Maybury

Nathan McIvor - *Dorothy Richardson's Pilgrimage: Text and Context*

Faculty Advisor: Christine Darrohn

Ciera Miller - *Wildness Which No Civilization Can Endure*

Faculty Advisor: Gaelyn Aguilar

Liz Niznik - *Returning to Hilda Morley: A Digital Resource*

Faculty Advisor: Kristen Case

Sara Taylor - *Binary is for Computers! - Creative Works*

Faculty Advisor: Kate Randall

Arts Night and Arts Events

Project III & 2021 Senior Thesis Exhibition

On Monday, April 19, as a prelude to Symposium Day, Arts Night will highlight the Performance Arts Senior Projects. The evening will feature presentations of student work, a video installation, and the 2021 senior thesis exhibition *United Articles* at the Emery Community Arts Center and the UMF Art Gallery. Arts events will take place over April and May. Admission is free, and all events are open to the UMF students, faculty, and staff, but registration is required for some events.

Announcement of 2021-22 Elsie C. Grote Award Recipient

April 19, 5:50 p.m. Emery Performance Space. [Pre-register here.](#)

This competitive scholarship is awarded annually to a “full-time junior or senior female student, of meritorious academic standing, with preference given to those who have exhibited proficiency in one of the creative arts.”

A Concept OST

Samantha Taylor

April 19, 6:00 p.m. in the Emery Performance Space. [Pre-register here.](#)

Developing the sounds of a video game that doesn't exist, Samantha Taylor takes advantage of the genre of video game music to produce a large quantity of theme-based compositions. If this game were to be developed, it would closely follow the story of two characters through their journey against each other and the world around them.

For Films Sake!

Grant Forbes and Sam MacDonald

April 19, 7:30 p.m. in the Emery Performance Space. [Pre-register here.](#)

In conjunction with the exhibition, *Unusual Articles: 2021 Senior Show*, senior art majors Grant Forbes and Sam MacDonald will screen a selection of their short films. These films are ridiculous, nonsensical, and just wacky, for lack of a better word. They are easy to watch and digest mentally, while offering a unique perspective on that internal world we create for ourselves in how we interact with the outside one, projecting mentally on how we view it in different ways, from how we interact with it, to how the things within it interact with each other.

Routines of Home: Eliza Robinson

April 16 – April 23 in the Emery Community Arts Center Lower-level Lobby

Routines of Home is an installation exploring the subject of home and all of the forms that can take. This audio and visual performance piece uses technical elements in place of performers.

Unusual Articles: 2021 Senior Show

Grant Forbes, Warren Garrett, Lake France, Sam MacDonald, Samantha Taylor, Sara Taylor

April 8 – May 7 in the Emery Community Arts Center & UMF Art Gallery

Constellations

Matty Bernard

April 29 – 30, 7 p.m. and May 1, 2 p.m. in Alumni Theatre. [Pre-register here.](#)

Constellations (a staged play) written by Nick Payne deals with the theory of multiple universes and relationships. An emphasis of the open environment, and loose structure of the play, allows for Bernard's unique creative concept for experimentation within the content of existing play. Matty Bernard invites a viewing of her creative directorial version of this play.

Outdoor Tours

For the first time, Symposium Day will include a set of afternoon outdoor tours, led by UMF students and faculty, that focus on sites in the Farmington area. This year these events are reserved for UMF students, staff, and faculty (not open to the public) and pre-registration is required.

Clifford Woods Meltwater Channel

Twilight Smart-Benson and Chelsea Roy

April 21, 1:30 – 2:30 p.m. Meet at the UMF Biomass Plant. [Pre-register here](#) (UMF students, staff, and faculty only).

Discovered on LIDAR last spring, Clifford Woods records a torrential release of meltwater during disintegration of the Laurentide ice sheet. (Faculty sponsor: Doug Reusch)

Mammals

Tom Dolman and Olivia Ridley

April 21, 1:30 – 2:30 p.m. Meet in front of Ricker/Preble on the sidewalk along High Street. [Pre-register here](#) (UMF students, staff, and faculty only).

Learn about mammalian biodiversity and dietary preferences based on the results of three student research projects conducted in the Farmington area. (Faculty sponsor: Donelle Schwalm)

Salmon, Trout Lilies, and Fiddleheads on the Sandy

Hope Norton, Kiras Tavernakis, Jesse LaBrecque, and Lauren Preis

April 21, 1:30 – 2:30 p.m. Meet at the back door of Preble Hall (facing Mantor Green). [Pre-register here](#) (UMF students, staff, and faculty only)..

Explore dynamic settings along the Sandy River, discover ancient channels, and learn what sustained the region's first people. (Faculty sponsors: Nancy Prentiss, Julia Daly, and Rachel Hovel)

Local History and Architecture of Downtown Farmington

Heather Janson, Page Brown, Miranda Clark

April 21, 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. Meet at Alumni Auditorium's front door. [Pre-register here](#) (UMF students, staff, and faculty only)..

Take a trip back in time to enjoy the rich heritage of our cherished community. (Faculty sponsor: Theresa Overall)

Historic Archaeology in Abbott Park

Miles Stevens

April 21, 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. Meet in Roberts Learning Center Courtyard. [Pre-register here](#) (UMF students, staff, and faculty only).

Take a tour of recent explorations on the periphery of campus. (*Faculty sponsor: Luke Kellett*)

UMF's Brand New Prescott Field Trail System

Gina Oswald

April 21, 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. Meet at Prescott Field Parking Lot (south end of the field). [Pre-register here](#) (UMF students, staff, and faculty only).

Explore the network of trails through the beautiful habitats bordering the Sandy River.

Cascade Brook Limestone at MBMS

Kayleigh Getty

April 21, 2:30 – 3:30 p.m. Meet at the front entrance to the Health and Fitness Center. [Pre-register here](#) (UMF students, staff, and faculty only).

Visit Farmington's first deliberate geoheritage site. Beautiful new outcrops of marine limestone display clues to both its deposition and deformation plus connections to global tectonics and climate. (*Faculty sponsor: Doug Reusch*)

Carbon Inventory of UMF's Schwingmoor, Johnson Heights

Eve Fischer

April 21, 3:00 – 4:00 p.m. Meet at the far end of Lot 26 (Parking Lot behind FRC). [Pre-register here](#) (UMF students, staff, and faculty only).

Visit UMF's 4.3 acre tract of land showcasing a hilltop peat bog surrounded by hemlock forest. We will share our estimates of carbon storage based on fieldwork this winter using ground penetrating radar (GPR). (*Faculty sponsor: Jesse Minor*)

Identifying the Tree People around the UMF Campus

Thomas Dolman

April 21, 3:00 – 4:00 p.m. Meet in front of Mantor Library. [Pre-register here](#) (UMF students, staff, and faculty only).

Did you ever want to be able to tell a beech from a birch, a sugar maple from a red maple, a spruce from a fir? Here's your chance. You'll learn some basics for identifying the common trees in this part of Maine and some cool natural history about these friends. (*Faculty sponsor: Drew Barton*)

Symposium Scholar Works

Presentations and posters for the 2021 Michael D. Wilson Symposium can be accessed online via [Scholar Works](#), a free research archive hosted by Mantor Library at the University of Maine at Farmington.

The University Culture Committee would like to thank Bryce Cundick, Jessica Isler Nickerson, and Sarah Otley for their help with making these projects accessible to the public.

Wilson Scholars Session 1

[Zoom link](#)

April 21, 9:00 – 9:20 a.m.

Moldables for Sale

Samantha Taylor

Moldables for Sale is a series of creative works intended to explore digital consumerism and its impact on feminine spaces and identities. Each piece is developed with consideration of feminist art history and theory to better understand why digital spaces continue to contribute to misogyny rather than eliminate it, and to learn why digital consumerism benefits so much from the objectification of women. These creative works speak to the struggle between wanting to reject objectification despite finding pleasure within the objectified consumer identity, as well as discovering the empowerment that can come from admitting ones' vulnerabilities to generate empathy for others. (Faculty sponsor: Ann Bartges)

April 21, 9:20 – 9:40 a.m.

***The Life and Death of Orchids*: A Novel**

Hannah Binder

What does it mean to be a sister? How do we move through grief when we are so unprepared for this inevitable pain of our lives? What is lost and what is gained when we feel what once made us whole is ripped away from us? *The Life and Death of Orchids* is a novel that attempts to answer these questions. Katherine's older sister Lily is her foundation, her heart, her true-North. They plan their lives in tandem, but when Katherine goes to college, she realizes that she may want to make her own life independent of her sister's influence. In her second year, Lily dies of a heart attack. Overwhelmed by the guilt she feels for pulling away from her sister and her own grief, Katherine spirals, searching for ways to make herself whole once more now that her sister is gone. *The Life and Death of Orchids* is a careful documentation of grief and healing, displaying the most painful particulars of how we cannot move on after grief, but we can move forward into a new life. (Faculty sponsors: Shana Youngdahl and Lewis Robinson)

Environmental Policy and Planning Session 1

[Zoom link](#)

April 21, 9:00 – 9:20 a.m.

Challenges to Maine Moose and the Moose Lottery System

Melville Geisler

The state of Maine contains more moose than any other state outside of Alaska, and thus a large number of people put in their name every year for the Maine moose lottery. The twenty-nine Wildlife Management Districts (WMDs) in Maine take into consideration a number of variables when determining the annual number of tags to give out in each district, with population control a chief focus. As increased pressures from climate change and the prevalence of new parasites introduce new problems for Maine's moose, it is the interest of this study to determine if Maine's lottery system is allotting an appropriate number of tags in each district. Using results from an online survey in conjunction with outside data, we hope to bring a better understanding to the different stakeholders in the decision making process of Maine's moose hunt and learn if some areas are receiving higher than sustainable allotments for harvesting, whether because of collisions with motorists, destruction of farmland, or revenues from the hunting and outdoors industry.

April 21, 9:20 – 9:40 a.m.

Interest in Domestic Consumption of Soft Shell Green Crabs and Levels of Awareness and Concern of Them as an Invasive Species in Maine

Isabella Monbouquette

Green crabs (*Carcinus maenas*) pose a threat to coastal Maine habitats by exploiting natural resources and outcompeting native species. Studies have shown that there is viability in a fishery and market for soft shell green crabs. This study serves to evaluate the Interest in domestic consumption of soft shell green crabs and levels of awareness and concern of them as an invasive species in Maine. Questionnaires distributed via email and social media solicit fixed answers, which will be used to gather quantitative data regarding personal knowledge. Phone surveys conducted with voluntary participants will be utilized to support findings of the questionnaires.

April 21, 9:40 – 10:00 a.m.

Sustainability within the Ski Industry

Avery L. Boucher

In the era of climate change awareness, the ski industry is seeking a more sustainable future. As the effects of climate change strike the United States larger resorts have begun to invest in their future with renewable energy sources and more sustainable practices. As sustainability is in high demand eyes turn to smaller resorts across the United States as they struggle to meet the same goals as larger resorts. As a part of this research, interviews have been conducted with sustainability coordinators at resorts of different scales to address how they are approaching their sustainability goals. The strategies may surprise you.

Science/Science Education and Wilson Scholar Poster Session

[Zoom link](#)

April 21, 10:10 – 11:10 a.m.

Glacial Geology of Readfield Maine

Bryer Carlson

This poster explores the glacial geology in the town of Readfield Maine. With the use of GPR (ground penetrating radar), LiDar imaging and the State's surficial geology maps, evidence for a specific glacial feature called an "esker" was sought out and collected. (*Faculty sponsor: Julia Daly*)

April 21, 10:10 – 11:10 a.m.

Bedrock to Buildings

Bryer Carlson

This poster explores Maine's bedrock in relation to the state's infrastructure. (*Faculty sponsor: Douglas Reusch*)

April 21, 10:10 – 11:10 a.m.

The Effect of Changing Substrate on Arctic Aquatic Invertebrates Abundance

Thomas Dolman

Climate change is directly affecting tundra ecosystems in northern regions, and warming temperatures have caused discontinuous permafrost and thawing sediments across the region. This project investigates how increasing erosion and the foraging patterns of migratory snow geese may degrade habitat for aquatic invertebrates in the upper Mast River, located in Wapusk National Park, Manitoba Canada. In the past two decades, many of the important species of aquatic invertebrates have shown declines. Declining invertebrate populations are predicted to affect aquatic ecosystems and decrease the resources available to shorebirds and waterfowl, which breed and migrate through this area. (*Faculty sponsor: Rachel Hovel*)

April 21, 10:10 – 11:10 a.m.

Abbott Park Forest Carbon Assessment

Allen Cherkis

Forests are globally important carbon sinks. Using University of Maine at Farmington's Abbott Park, our research asks: 1) How much carbon is stored in Abbott Park? 2) How does carbon storage vary by species? 3) Do patterns of forest regeneration suggest that the future forest will differ in carbon storage potential? Data were collected in 150 m² belt transects in which diameter breast height (DBH) of all trees ≥ 5 cm were recorded by species. Seedlings and saplings were tallied by species. Allometric equations were used to calculate standing biomass

and total carbon. Total carbon storage in Abbott Park was found to be approximately 508,221 kg (560 metric tons). (*Faculty sponsor: Jesse Minor*)

Honors Thesis Session

[Zoom link](#)

April 21, 10:10 – 10:30 a.m.

The Ever-Present Dystopia, the Non-Present Utopia, and the Third Space: The Role of Contrasting Coterie in 20th-Century Dystopian Literature and *Parable of the Sower*

Billie Rose Newby

Most works of 20th-century literature feature three conflicting coterie with which the protagonist is connected. The Dystopic Coterie operates within and preserve the status quo of the dystopian society. The Third Space offers the protagonist a hope for escape from the oppressive social and political structures, but will be undercut by the uncertainty of the coterie's existence or its dystopic hidden qualities. Finally, the Utopic Coterie is a non-existent state that both coterie aim to embody, yet never can achieve. In this presentation, Billie Rose Newby looks at the function and features of these three coterie as they traditionally appear in most dystopian texts. Newby will then look at how these conventions are specifically utilized and broken within Octavia Butler's *Parable of the Sower* and will end by looking at how this structure allows dystopian texts to build a commentary on our relationship to society and culture within the real world. (*Faculty sponsor: Misty Krueger*)

April 21, 10:30 – 10:50 a.m.

A Concept OST

Samantha Taylor

Developing the sounds of a video game that doesn't exist, Samantha Taylor takes advantage of the genre of video game music to produce a large quantity of theme-based compositions. If this game were to be developed, it would closely follow the story of two characters through their journey against each other and the world around them. (*Faculty sponsor: Aaron Wyanski*)

Wilson Scholars Session 2

[Zoom link](#)

April 21, 1:30 – 1:50 p.m.

Land Re/cognition: The River with Plenty of Alewives

Ciera Miller

This experimental nonfiction essay discusses re/cognition of the land which UMF stands on. It began as a singular perspective piece from the eyes of a person of settler-colonial descent looking through a camera lens at native flowers and commenting on UMF's 2019 land acknowledgement, but it has since grown into an essay which also looks to and converses with the Wabanaki Confederacy, whose ancestral land UMF stands on. While it discusses Wabanaki hardship, it more importantly brings forward Wabanaki joy and what the beauty, the cultivation, and the acknowledgement of this land means to Wabanaki peoples. This essay discusses what land acknowledgement means, and what activism needs to take place after land acknowledgement in order to combat the systems which still exist to hinder Wabanaki joy and growth, so that we can have a reciprocal, healthy relationship with this land and the Wabanaki peoples. (*Faculty sponsor: Gaelyn Aguilar*)

April 21, 1:50 – 2:10 p.m.

A Purer Silver: Reasons for Iroquois Trade Preferences in the Mohawk Valley from 1740-1780

Spencer Stone Davis

This presentation will invite viewers to the world of trade in North America between 1740 and 1780. In this period of both cooperation and tense competition, I will be examining how developments shaped the preferences of Iroquois traders in the Mohawk Valley of modern New York. Placed at the nexus of Iroquois, British, French, intertribal and intercolonial relations, this study will contribute to our understanding of commercial relations in 18th-century North America. I will focus on highlighting the agency of Iroquois traders navigating a rapidly changing economic landscape. (*Faculty sponsor: Allison Hepler and Anne Marie Wolf*)

April 21, 2:10 – 2:30 p.m.

Cartography with Programming: Visualizing Climate Trends

Brian Tibbetts

This computer science project was designed as an investigation into possible links between climate change and other global trends. Research was structured around creating maps using computer programs and analysis based on trends observed in the maps. The programs narrowed down relevant data and visualized climate-related trends by creating maps from the data. Topics investigated included industrialization in the U.S. and conflicts in Africa. (*Faculty sponsor: Chris Bennett*)

Psychology, Art, and Health Session

[Zoom link](#)

April 21, 1:30 – 1:50 p.m.

Table Top Therapy: How Roleplay Games Can Positively Impact Mental Health

Lake France

Have you ever wondered what happens when someone plays too many role-play games? Be it table top or video games, role-play as a form of creative play has a basis in social development. In a short study conducted in Spring 2021, play is debated as a key developmental skill that helps children and adults learn how to cope with new life events. From skills such as job interviews to asking a friend to lunch, we find out if *Dungeons and Dragons* can really help us out.

April 21, 1:50 – 2:10 p.m.

The Power of Story

Malcolm Reynolds

Humans have been telling stories as long as we have gathered in groups: tales that helped us define our morals, our heroes, and our world. But in modern Western culture, we have begun to dismiss the collective power of story and its effect on our lives—why? This presentation explores the need we have for storytelling in finding meaning in our lives, developing a moral compass, and coming together to explain the inexplicable. (*Faculty sponsor: Amy Neswald*)

April 21, 2:10 – 2:30 p.m.

The UMF Free the T Project: Experiential Learning, Findings, and Looking Forward

Alanna Atkinson

The UMF Free the T Project is a student-led initiative that provides free tampons to all UMF students. It began with a large donation of tampons to Community Health Education students working on a class assignment. The project started by tabling tampons on campus, then expanded to increase access by putting containers in bathrooms of every building. The UMF Free the T Project has now provided over 23,700 tampons to UMF students and offered valuable experiential learning for many students across various majors. (*Faculty sponsor: Kate Callahan*)

Environmental Policy and Planning Session 2

[Zoom link](#)

April 21, 2:40 – 3:00 p.m.

Anaerobic Digestion for Small Scale Dairy Farms in Maine

James Cooke

As the dairy industry continues to decline in Maine, anaerobic digesters represent a carbon neutral and sustainable form of energy production that can potentially help small farms stay afloat. Anaerobic digestion is a process in which manure and other bio-wastes are converted into a fuel which can be used directly or used to generate electricity. Through phone interviews with multiple small farms, as well as email questionnaire responses from other experts in the field, this presentation addresses the viability of this technology for small scale dairy farms in Maine. (*Faculty sponsor: Brad Dearden*)

April 21, 3:00 – 3:20 p.m.

Impact of Outdoor Recreation on Level of Concern for Environmental Issues

Kiernan Huggins

During the Covid-19 pandemic, participation in outdoor recreational activities has soared. Meanwhile, the world continues to be faced with environmental issues and the negative consequences of climate change. Researchers have documented the importance of awareness and concern of environmental issues to increase informed decision-making and adaptive capacity. In this study, participants of outdoor recreation in the state of Maine are surveyed to identify associations between their outdoor recreation level and their level of concern on specific environmental issues, sport type, and participants' own perceived influences on their decision making of environmental issues. (*Faculty sponsor: Brad Dearden*)

April 21, 3:20 – 3:40 p.m.

Latinx Environmental Refugees & U.S. Asylum Policy

Aiden Saulnier

It's been estimated that by 2050, there will be over 250 million environmental refugees worldwide. As the U.S. is one of the most developed countries, and faces some of the least climate change induced risks, a large portion of these environmentally displaced persons will likely seek refuge in this country. Considering the political climate around Latinx immigration into the U.S., this study seeks to understand how environmental refugees from the Latin Americas and Caribbean will be handled. Research utilized includes interviews with government agencies, non-governmental organizations, and migrants themselves, as well as background policies, documents, studies, and data. (*Faculty sponsor: Brad Dearden*)

Horror Cinema Session 1

[Zoom link](#)

April 21, 2:40 – 3:40 p.m.

Self, Family, Gender: Explorations of Identity in Horror Cinema

Allison Frankenfield, Gabrielle Jolin, Jassmine Reil, and Katie Shupp

The engine of horror cinema is frequently its negotiation of culturally-explosive categories of identity. From Norman Bates' violent inhabitation of his mother's personality in *Psycho* (1960) to the protagonist's struggle with dissociative identity disorder in *Split* (2016), horror films tend to invoke fear in their audience by exploring fractures in individual personalities and family units. This panel will provide a sustained analysis through the lens of gender, class, and psychology of the variety of ways in which directors have mobilized this process. These papers call into question horror cinema's methods of inciting fear and reflecting our culture's definitions of self. (Faculty sponsor: Stephen Grandchamp)

Politics, Economics, and Education Session

[Zoom link](#)

April 21, 3:50 – 4:10 p.m.

Harvey Milk's Impact on Progressive Politics and the Gay Rights Movement

Megan Poirier

Harvey Milk was an influential advocate for gay rights. His election, assassination, and the riots that resulted from it transformed how many LGBT individuals interacted with politics, activism, and society itself. (*Faculty sponsor: James Melcher*)

April 21, 4:10 – 4:30 p.m.

Free Speech on College Campuses

Liam Brinkler

Freedom of speech in the American education system is an issue that is brought up with every generation. No matter who is near education, someone believes what is being taught is not protected by the First Amendment. It is not just professors that need to worry, as speech codes on campuses have been used against the very people they were intended to protect. It is important to note we will also be discussing the larger ripple effects that censorship in a classroom can have, as well as the effect that this censorship has on students and professors. (*Faculty sponsor: James Melcher*)

April 21, 4:30 – 4:50 p.m.

Tracking and Its Inequitable Roots

Aurora Turmelle

Across the United States one can easily see varying degrees of social class. From wealthy suburban neighborhoods to inner city neighborhoods where families are struggling to make ends meet, social class and economic injustice is a prominent issue within society. When zeroing in on the state of Maine, economic inequality is something that can be seen in all corners of the state. In particular, when comparing York County, Kennebec County, Aroostook County, and Washington County—four counties with different levels of poverty—we can see how varying levels of class can influence student academics. (*Faculty sponsor: Elyse Pratt-Ronco*)

Horror Cinema Session 2

[Zoom link](#)

April 21, 3:50 – 4:50 p.m.

Monsters Without Borders: Expanding the Limits of Horror Narrative

Spencer Arnold, Rebecca Long, and Brooklyn Miller

Citing “horror” as a genre brings to mind scary movies or popular novels in the Western world. Yet, the use of horrific features to drive narrative knows no such constraints. This panel will explore expansions of what we consider “horror” by turning its focus across genres and cultures. First, it will explore how youth films and podcasts repurpose horror to challenge audiences. Additionally, the panel will dissect how horror narratives tend to construct the feminine as monstrous by examining films that straddle cultures. Overall, this panel will challenge assumptions about the limits of horror in surprisingly generative ways. (*Faculty sponsor: Stephen Grandchamp*)

Symposium Day Schedule

April 21, 2021

9 a.m.-9:40 a.m. on Zoom	Wilson Scholars Session 1: Art and Creative Writing
	9:00-9:20 a.m. Samantha Taylor
	9:20-9:40 a.m. Hannah Binder
9 a.m.-10 a.m. on Zoom	Environmental Policy and Planning Session 1
	9:00-9:20 a.m. Mel Geisler
	9:20-9:40 a.m. Isabella Monbouquette
	9:40-10:00 a.m. Avery Boucher
10 a.m.-10:10 a.m.	Break
10:10 a.m.-11:10 a.m. on Zoom	Science/Science Education and Wilson Scholar Poster Session
	Bryer Carlson
	Thomas Dolman
	Allen Cherkis
10:10 a.m.-11:10 a.m. on Zoom	Honors Thesis Session: English and Art
	10:10-10:30 a.m. Billie Rose Newby
	10:30 a.m.-10:50 a.m. Samantha Taylor
11:10 a.m.-12 p.m.	Break
12 p.m.-1 p.m. in Emery	Trustee Performance: Kristen Case and Steven Pane
1:00 p.m.-1:30 p.m.	Break
1:30-3:30 p.m. in various locations	Outdoor Tours
	1:30-2:30 p.m. Clifford Woods Meltwater Channel
	1:30- 2:30 p.m. Mammals
	1:30- 2:30 p.m. Salmon, Trout Lilies, and Fiddleheads on the Sandy
	2:00-3:00 p.m. Local History and Architecture of Downtown Farmington
	2:00-3:00 p.m. Historic Archaeology in Abbott Park
	2:00-2:30 p.m. UMF's Brand New Prescott Field Trail System
	2:30-3:30 p.m. Cascade Brook Limestone at MBMS
	3:00-4:00 p.m. Carbon Inventory of UMF's Schwingmoor, Johnson Heights
	3:30-4:00 p.m. Identifying the Tree People around the UMF Campus

1:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m. on Zoom	Wilson Scholars Session 2: Anthropology, History, and Computer Science
	1:30-1:50 p.m. Ciera Miller
	1:50-2:10 p.m. Spencer Davis
	2:10 p.m.-2:30 p.m. Brian Tibbetts
1:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m. on Zoom	Psychology, Art, and Health Session
	1:30-1:50 p.m. Lake France
	1:50-2:10 p.m. Malcolm Reynolds
	2:10-2:30 p.m. Alanna Atkinson
2:30 p.m.-2:40 p.m.	Break
2:40 p.m.-3:40 p.m. on Zoom	Environmental Policy and Planning Session 2
	2:40-3:00 p.m. James Cooke
	3:00-3:20 p.m. Kiernan Huggins
	3:20-3:40 p.m. Aiden (AJ) Saulnier
2:40 p.m.-3:40 p.m. on Zoom	Horror Cinema Session 1
	2:40-3:40 p.m. Allison Frankenfield, Gabrielle Jolin, Jassmine Reil, and Katie Shupp
3:40 p.m.-3:50 p.m.	Break
3:50 p.m.-4:50 p.m. on Zoom	Politics, Economics, and Education Session
	3:50-4:10 p.m. Megan Poirer
	4:10-4:30 p.m. Liam Brinkler
	4:30 p.m.-4:50 p.m. Aurora Turmelle
3:50 p.m.-4:50 p.m. on Zoom	Horror Cinema Session 2
	3:50-4:50 p.m. Spencer Arnold, Rebecca Long, and Brooklyn Miller

A Tribute to Michael D. Wilson

UMF's Symposium was originally named in honor of Michael D. Wilson and sponsored by a gift from Michael and Susan Angelides.

Michael D. Wilson graduated from UMF in 1976. He loved teaching, helping children grow and develop. He reached out to help people whenever he could. He also had a deep love for the beauty and serenity of the wilderness where he felt a deep sense of connection. Michael chose to live his life in a manner that was true to his beliefs. Many people remember him as a special person and a good friend. He died in a tragic accident in 1977, just as he was preparing to begin a new teaching position in a small town in Aroostook County.