Bennington College - Communications

Sep 13, 2021

BENNINGTON BULLETIN



















National Hispanic/Latinx Heritage Month

September 15 to October 15 is National Hispanic/Latinx Heritage Month. Initially launched in 1968 as a week-long celebration of the histories, cultures and contributions of people of Hispanic origin, it has since grown into a month-long event aligned with the independence anniversaries of several Latin American nations. The holiday is currently celebrated as National Hispanic/Latinx Heritage Month as a way of representing the identities of non-binary, gender non-conforming, and gender-expansive people, while also centering the lives of indigenous, Brazilian, and other non-Spanish speaking people in the celebration.

If you identify as Hispanic/Latinx and would like to share your work, your story, or your



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On her podcast *Balance Me*, Tinashe Chiura '23 spoke with former visiting faculty member Maboula Soumahoro, whose book Chiura studied in Noëlle Rouxel-Cubberly's <u>L'Afrance</u>course. Soumahoro will return to Benningtonto <u>present</u> the translation of her book *Black is the Journey, Africana the Name* on November 18 at 7:00

accomplishments as part of BenningtonCollege's celebration, please <u>email Communications</u> for more information.

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"Herutjokro as Posthuman"

This music composition for Javanese gamelan and electronics by Dion Nataraja '22, was presented in the Prince Galyani Vadhana Institute of Music International Symposium (PGVIS) 2021 on August 27. The piece explores the ideas of Romo Herutjokro Semono, a figure of Javanese animism, in relation to the discourse of posthumanism. The piece itself is an attempt to deconstruct and build new ideas based on the Javanese idea of rasa.



When Lives are Upended

Following his work as a print editorial intern for *BOMB Magazine*, Walter Greene
'23 wrote a book review for *What Storm*, *What Thunder*, Myriam J.A Chancy's upcoming novel about the aftermath of the 2010 earthquake in Haiti.

Welcoming the Class of 2025

This fall, the Bennington community welcomed more than 250 new students to the College. <u>Visit the website</u> to see pictures from move in and orientation, and watch Convocation 2021.

Can You Compost Bicycle Components?

Not as far as we're aware, yet bicycle parts are just one of the non-compostable items that the Buildings & Grounds team has found in the compost bins on campus. Styrofoam peanuts, evening gowns, shoes, glass bottles, and aluminum cans: all of these and more have been thrown into the compost bins at student houses. Did you know that any single one of these items will cause waste handlers to reject an entire compost load, sending it directly to the landfill instead of processing it into clean compost that enriches our soils—including the Purple Carrot Farm on campus? Help Bennington College become a zero-waste campus by paying attention to signage and throwing waste into the appropriate container. These actions only take a second, but they make a huge difference. Put compost in the compost bins, recyclables in the recycling bins, and waste in the trash.

Staff Welcome: Dean's Office

Please join us in welcoming Jennifer Burg to the College. In her role as Assistant Director of Academic Services and Student Grants Counselor, Jennifer will provide academic support to sophomores, juniors, and seniors, and will be the primary contact for students developing applications to locally- and nationally- competitive grants and fellowships. Jennifer earned a

doctoral degree in English with an emphasis on Rhetoric and Composition from Washington State University. She has worked previously at the University of Hawai'i-Hilo, SUNY Potsdam, Southern Vermont College, and Southwestern Vermont Health Care.

Staff Welcome: Campus Safety

Earlier this summer, Bennington launched a national search for our new director of Campus Safety. Given the importance and urgency of this work, we hired an interim director of campus safety to lead this operation while we conduct the search. Unfortunately, our original interim director was unable to continue working due to personal reasons and had to return home. We have recently selected a replacement interim director, Gerard 'Chip' Coletta, to assist the College with leading these efforts.

Chip Coletta will be joining Bennington on September 13. Chip will be working in partnership with Christine Winget and the Student Life team, as well as other campus partners and students, to consider how Campus Safety supports our campus community, with emphasis on ensuring that our efforts are firmly centered on building community for all.

Chip brings extensive experience and a demonstrated commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion to this interim role. At his most recent appointment at Tufts University, he worked to improve department relations with community members, as well as to increase department effectiveness. Previously, Chip worked at Suffolk University, where he created a Public Safety Advisory Committee, providing opportunities for community members to give feedback on public safety issues and department relations. Chip holds a Juris Doctorate from New England Law and a BS from Northeastern University.

COVID Testing Reminder

All faculty, staff, and students should be tested on Monday, September 13 from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm and Tuesday, September 14 from 8:00 am to 6:00 pm in the Student Center.

Promoting Events

To ensure your October event is considered for inclusion in local media listings, be sure to <u>submit</u> to the online calendar by the middle of this month, noting that the event is open to the public.

Suggestion Boxes

Please share your thoughts about working at Bennington by submitting comments <u>electronically</u>or in the black boxes marked "Staff Feedback" located in Buildings & Grounds, and the staff kitchen on the second floor of the Barn. Submissions are anonymous, if you choose.

Fall 2021

Event Series

Check out the series happening this term.

September 13 CAPA Symposium 7:00-8:30 PM

The History of a Book: Hunting the Elusive Album Amicorum

Part of <u>SCT Colloquium</u>

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC | Carol Pal is a historian who works on the intellectual history of early modern Europe. A former auto mechanic and pastry chef, she now focuses on the histories of science, medicine, the Republic of Letters, and knowledge production—with an emphasis on how women were always part of the picture. More.

September 14 Virtual Event 7:00–8:00 PM **Faculty Concert**

Part of Carriage Barn Concert Series

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC | The **Bennington** College music faculty welcomes the community virtually back to campus with an eclectic Fall concert. <u>More</u>.

September 15 Virtual Event 1:00-2:00 PM Study Away from Start to Finish

CAMPUS COMMUNITY ONLY | Want to learn beyond Bennington? In this session, you'll take a look at your many options to supplement a Bennington education. <u>More</u>.

September 16 CAPA Symposium & Online 7:00-9:30 PM Witnessing January 6 and the Response from Congress

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC I The January 6 Project examines the historical, cultural, and political events that led to the attack with the goal of understanding its causes, in all its forms, in order to shed light and expose truths for an informed citizenry to act to prevent this type of assault on democracy. More.

September 18 Virtual Event 10:00 AM-1:00 PM

Virtual Fall Open House

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC | Info session, student-led virtual tour, and application & financial aid session designed for HS students interested in Bennington College. <u>More</u>.

Submit Bulletin announcement (deadline: by end of day Thursdays)

<u>Staff Resources | Faculty Resources | Calendar | Event Submission</u>
<u>Share student, faculty, and alumni stories</u>

<u>Staff Feedback | Job Listings | Campus Directory | Directory of Offices</u>

