



# BENNINGTON BULLETIN



### STARS Silver Rating

Bennington College has earned a STARS Silver [rating](#) in recognition of its sustainability achievements from the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE). STARS, the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System measures and encourages sustainability in all aspects of higher education.

### Natural Respite

Sara Nightingale Gallery in Sag Harbor is currently [hosting](#) "Natural Respite," a site-specific installation of [works](#) by Erica-Lynn Huberty MFA '95 created over the pandemic year. Rather than mourning the many losses brought about by the global health crisis, Huberty seeks to evoke joy in the viewer, drawing inspiration from the Earth's rebound during our human respite.



### Diamonds

Camille Guthrie will be reading poems from her forthcoming poetry collection, *Diamonds*, accompanied by readings from Bennington Writing Seminars alumni Barrett Warner MFA '13, Tami Haaland MFA '00, Al Abonado MFA '10, and Maya Ribault MFA '18. The [event](#) will take place at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, April 27. Guthrie has also recently published poems in journals [At Length](#) and [On the Seawall](#).

### Thrilling Scores

Akari Uchiyama '11 and Sam Tyndall '04 [have scored](#) a horror/thriller film, *Blood Conscious*, directed by Timothy Covell. The [film](#) will hit Panic Fest and other film festivals this spring, and theaters/VOD this summer.

### Transition & Send-Off

Ken Collamore, Director of Campus Safety, will be stepping away from his full-time role as of April 30, 2021 but will continue to consult and work closely with Campus Safety through the end of June. During his 11 years at Bennington, Ken has worked tirelessly to support Bennington's students, staff and faculty. We will have a Zoom gathering in June to celebrate Ken's contributions to the College and send him off with our best wishes.

### Vaccination Transportation Guidelines

As Vermont state guidelines now allow individuals 16+ to get COVID-19 vaccinations, questions have arisen regarding whether faculty and staff can transport students to appointments. Faculty/Staff should only transport students if they are an "approved college driver," meaning officially registered with the College (which requires the completion of certain forms and checks). A College-owned van can be checked out by approved drivers, or they can transport student(s) in their own vehicle. The College has excess liability insurance but collision coverage is not included, so in the case of an accident, the driver's personal automobile insurance is primary. Please be aware that the above measures are required by the College's insurance. Questions? Contact [Stephen Mathyas](#).

### Retirement Planning: Virtual Counseling Sessions

The College is offering confidential, one-on-one virtual counseling sessions with TIAA on **Wednesday, May 5**. A session can assist you with such questions as: Are my investments properly allocated? Am I saving enough to meet my retirement goals? How and from where do I draw retirement income? To register, [visit the website](#) and click "Schedule" under the "Your Employer" section, or contact TIAA directly at 800-732-8353 (Monday-Friday, 8:00 am-8:00 pm). If you are unable to schedule an appointment on May 5, individual appointments can be scheduled by emailing TIAA Financial Consultant [Michele Waite](#). TIAA also offers a host of [online retirement-planning tools](#) as well as regular webinars on a host of topics (Social Security Basics, The Power of Savings, Strategies for Staying on Track and more). Log into the [Live Webinar Lounge](#) to view upcoming webinars and register.

### Call for Poetry Submissions

Submission for the annual Academy of American Poets prize is open to all undergraduate students. The deadline to submit is **Wednesday, April 28**. See the calendar for [submission details](#). The winner and one honorable mention will be announced in May. If you have any questions, please [contact Michael Dumanis](#).

### Submissions for *Summon Spring*

An initiative called *Summon Spring* will be ongoing throughout April and May: faculty, staff, and students are invited to share reflective letters with L.E.S.S (Leaders for Environmental Stewardship and Sustainability) on the topic of what is popularly known as environmental sustainability as it relates to Bennington College's environmental sustainability initiatives. To learn more, see the [announcement](#) and [letter writing suggestion guide](#).

### Know Your Rights Presentation

Young people are most likely to be targets of police traffic stops, detention, and arrest. According to traffic stop research conducted in Vermont, the number of traffic stops increased from 2015 to 2019 for all racial groups. The Aspiring NAACP Chapter at Castleton, in collaboration with the Rutland-Area Branch NAACP, has coordinated a Know Your Rights presentation. This session, facilitated by the Vermont ACLU, will provide tools for young Vermont residents to deal with police traffic stops and offer guidance to be a good witness in tenuous situations. To attend the virtual meeting on **Tuesday, April 27**, from 6:00-7:00 pm, please [register](#).

### Brunch with President Walker

Students are invited to join President Walker for a (socially distanced) brunch to better get to know one another and to have an interactive discussion about whatever is on their mind. Please [email Shannon Howlett](#) to register. Please note, registration is limited, so sign up as soon as possible.

### Student Experience and Success Survey

The survey closes on **Friday, April 30**, if you haven't already clicked in and completed the Student Experience and Success [survey](#), please do so now! This is your opportunity to provide feedback about your experience at Bennington.

Spring 2021

#### Event Series

[Check out the series happening this term.](#)

Through May 5  
VAPA Usdan Gallery  
1:00–5:00 PM

#### Bring it Home

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC | The exhibition *Bring It Home* distributes commissioned posters by BIPOC artists to the public, inviting audiences to install works in personal spaces. [More](#).

April 17-25  
Virtual Event  
4:00–5:00 PM

#### Song Cycles

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC | Song Cycles by Bennington vocal students including works by Poulenc, Beethoven, Schubert, Schumann, and Debussy. [More](#).

April 23  
Virtual Event  
12:30–1:30 PM

#### Controls on Primary Production and Carbon Sequestration in Eastern US Forests Part of [Science Workshop](#)

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC | For this week's Science Workshop Charles D. Canham, PhD will be discussing the Controls on Primary Production and Carbon Sequestration in Eastern US Forests. [More](#).

April 24  
Bennington Campus  
7:30–8:30 AM/td>

#### SEPC Presents: Bird Watching with Faculty Blake Jones

<p>April 24 Virtual Event 2:00–3:00 PM</p>	<p>CAMPUS COMMUNITY ONLY   The Environment SEPC is hosting their biweekly Bird Watching event with faculty Blake Jones. <a href="#">More.</a></p>
<p>April 24 McCullough Mansion, East Lawn 2:00–4:00 PM</p>	<p><b>We Are Better Together Support Space</b> CAMPUS COMMUNITY ONLY   A space for students to connect with Kat Daley (MSW, Student Health Center) and Ali Tartaglia (Director for Student Health Promotions). Drop in and connect or stay the whole time! <a href="#">More.</a></p>
<p>April 25 Commons Dining Hall 11:00 AM–12:30 PM</p>	<p><b>Announcing the Adventures of Sastrugli!</b> OPEN TO THE PUBLIC   Join us on the East lawn of the McCullough Mansion for a presentation of illustrations from the upcoming children's book <i>The Search for Dragon Proof Snow</i>. <a href="#">More.</a></p>
<p>April 25 VAPA Lester Martin Theater 2:00–3:00 PM</p>	<p><b>Brunch with President Walker</b> CAMPUS COMMUNITY ONLY   Students are invited to join President Walker for a (socially distanced) brunch to better get to know one another. <a href="#">More.</a></p>
<p>April 25 VAPA Lester Martin Theater 2:00–3:00 PM</p>	<p><b>Independent Works Club</b> CAMPUS COMMUNITY ONLY   Weekly club meeting to support independent projects within the drama community. We will read plays, workshop scenes, provide a space for developing advanced work, invite professors and peers for feedback sessions and showcases, and more! <a href="#">More.</a></p>
<p>April 26 Virtual Event 6:00–7:00 PM</p>	<p><b>Vermont Alumni Coop: Food Insecurity in Vermont Webinar</b> OPEN TO THE PUBLIC   The Vermont Alumni Cooperative and faculty member Tatiana Abatemarco discuss food insecurity and rural food justice in Vermont. <a href="#">More.</a></p>
<p>April 26 Virtual Event 7:00–8:00 PM</p>	<p><b>Rajna Swaminathan</b> <b>Part of <a href="#">Music Mondays from the Carriage Barn</a></b> OPEN TO THE PUBLIC   Music Mondays presents a concert and Q&amp;A with mridangam artist, composer, and scholar Rajna Swaminathan. <a href="#">More.</a></p>
<p>April 26 Virtual Event 7:00–8:30 PM</p>	<p><b>Enter Sleep Mode</b> <b>Part of <a href="#">SCT Colloquium</a></b> OPEN TO THE PUBLIC   This talk starts from the unorthodox idea that a study of technical interactions is not just about decoding platforms but also about studying service work—call center operators, wait staff, even sex workers. <a href="#">More.</a></p>
<p>April 26 Virtual Event 7:00–8:00 PM</p>	<p><b>Open Conversation with Literature Faculty About Fall 2021 Curriculum</b> CAMPUS COMMUNITY ONLY   Come to discuss course offerings, expectations around 4000-level classes and advanced work. <a href="#">More.</a></p>
<p>April 27 Virtual Event 7:00–8:00 PM</p>	<p><b>Calida Garcia Rawles</b> <b>Part of <a href="#">VALS</a></b> OPEN TO THE PUBLIC   This week's VALS guest is Calida Garcia Rawles. Merging sharp hyper-realism with poetic abstraction, Los Angeles-based Calida Garcia Rawles paints African-American women and men submerged in glistening water; bodies are swarmed by a flurry of bubbles, ripples, and refracted light. <a href="#">More.</a></p>
<p>April 28 9:00 AM–5:00 PM</p>	<p><b>Deadline for 2021 Academy of American Poets Prize</b> CAMPUS COMMUNITY ONLY   The 2021 Academy of American Poets Prize Submission Deadline: Wednesday, April 28. <a href="#">More.</a></p>
<p>April 28 Virtual Event 3:00–4:00 PM</p>	<p><b>Covid-19 Vaccine Information Open Hour with Drs. Tartaglia and Anselmo</b> CAMPUS COMMUNITY ONLY   Do you have questions about the COVID-19 vaccines? Feel free to drop in to the weekly Zoom call for evidence-based answers from the medical experts. <a href="#">More.</a></p>
<p>April 28 Virtual Event 7:00–8:00 PM</p>	<p><b>Literature Evening with Paul La Farge</b> <b>Part of <a href="#">Literature Evenings</a></b> OPEN TO THE PUBLIC   A reading by Bennington faculty member Paul La Farge, author of <i>The Night Ocean</i>; <i>The Artist of the Missing</i>; <i>Hausmann, or the Distinction</i>; and <i>Luminous Airplanes</i>.</p>