

## UMF Offers Early Childhood Ed Bachelor's Degree Program at SMCC

FARMINGTON – UMF announces that it will begin offering classes at Southern Maine Community College in UMF's Early Childhood Education Off-Campus Bachelor's Degree Program in fall 2012.

An associate's degree in early childhood education or an equivalent, is required for admission into the program. Courses will be offered using a blend of distance learning and traditional classroom settings and will be taught at times that best meet the needs of educators, including evenings and weekends (Friday evenings and Saturdays).

Applications are available through the UMF Admission Office and can be obtained by calling 207-778-7065, or sending an e-mail to [yardley@maine.edu](mailto:yardley@maine.edu).

## USM Opens Learning Commons in Gorham and Portland Libraries

GORHAM – After a year of study, planning, and renovation, the USM libraries opened Learning Commons, a one-stop-shopping academic resource for students that combines library research consultation with



peer assistance in writing, math, technology, and other disciplines.

USM's Learning Commons in Gorham and the Glickman Family Library in Portland also feature group study rooms, seminar rooms, and comfortable furniture. Glickman also offers a small recording room where students and faculty can record and edit projects.

## UMS Board Names Dr. James Page as Next Chancellor



Associated Press photos

BANGOR – The chair of the University of Maine System Board of Trustees announced on February 16 that the board's executive committee appointed Dr. James H. Page as the System's next Chancellor.

At a press conference held on that day, Michelle Hood, UMS board chair, noted that Page's experience—both in an academic setting and in running a multi-faceted Maine business—made him an ideal choice as Chancellor.

Page is currently principal and chief executive officer of the James W. Sewall Company in Old Town, and also serves as an adjunct professor in UMaine's Department of Philosophy.

A unique characteristic which distinguishes Page from any of the other eight persons who have served as Chancellor is the fact that he was born and raised in Maine and educated at one of the System's universities—UMFK.

Page lives in Old Town, is married to Liane Judd, and they have one daughter. He grew up in Caribou.

Page, age 59, will begin work at the System on March 20. He will succeed Dr. Richard L. Pattenaude, age 65, who is stepping down, after serving as Chancellor since 2007. For more information and a video of the press event, visit [www.maine.edu/UMSChancellorsearch](http://www.maine.edu/UMSChancellorsearch).



## USM Receives Energy Grant

GORHAM – USM has received a \$135,000 competitive grant from Efficiency Maine to help fund an energy efficiency project on its Gorham campus.

USM was one of a number of businesses and institutions to receive funding for large electrical energy efficiency and distributed generation projects. The \$135,000 in grant funding, combined with \$200,000 in USM funds, allows the university to make lighting improvements on the Gorham campus that will save an estimated 676,000 kilowatt-hours per year, reducing USM's annual utility bill by more than \$70,000.

The USM project will retrofit all parking lots and campus roadway fixtures in Gorham with LED lighting. In addition, all overhead lighting fixtures in the Costello Sports Complex's Field House, Hill Gymnasium, and ice arena will be replaced with highly efficient fixtures that will provide a better quality of light.

## Chinese Delegates Visit UMPI, Discuss Partnership Opportunities

PRESQUE ISLE – UMPI officials hosted delegates from Siyuan University, located in Xi'an, China, on February 7-8 during a visit meant to strengthen connections and explore new partnerships between the two institutions.

Two Siyuan University representatives spent two days at UMPI as part of a larger, 2-week visit to the United States to meet with universities and government officials and develop educational connections.



Right now, there are about a dozen Chinese students from Siyuan University completing their bachelor's degrees at UMPI. The university's ties with this and other Chinese institutions have also helped to open doors to new learning opportunities for the local public school system.

## UMaine Nor'Easter Bowl 2012 Ocean Sciences Competition

ORONO – UMaine hosted the Nor'Easter Bowl 2012 Regional Ocean Sciences Competition, a regional ocean sciences competition, with more than 100 top-achieving math and science high school students from Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont.

The annual event is hosted by the UMaine School of Marine Sciences. In addition, students who compete successfully in regional and National Ocean Sciences Bowl (NOSB) competitions receive thousands of dollars in scholarship funds each year.

Students competed in a Jeopardy-like Nor'Easter Bowl, answering a range of questions about ocean-related biology, chemistry, geology, geography, and social sciences. The winning team was awarded an expense-paid trip to Baltimore in late April to compete in the National Ocean Sciences Bowl Competition.

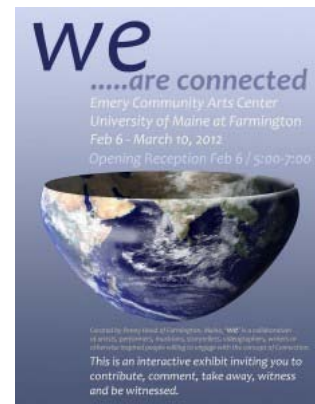


## UMF Arts Center Presents Interactive Exhibit "WE. . . are connected"

FARMINGTON – In celebration of the stories, images, ideas, and ways in which we all connect, the [Emery Community Arts Center](#) presents "WE. . . are connected," an interactive exhibition on the UMF campus.

"WE. . . are connected" brings together the work of over 20 artists, performers, musicians, storytellers, videographers, writers, and other inspired people. Their creations, including, hand-made quilts, abstract art, poetry readings, paintings, photography, sculptures, porches, games, and web-links all celebrate our shared connections.

This exhibit is sponsored by the Emery Community Arts Center. It is free and open to the public and is on display in the Emery Flex Space Gallery and throughout the center and runs until March 10. For more information, call 207-778-7880, or e-mail [jdecker@maine.edu](mailto:jdecker@maine.edu)





## UMFK's Powell Hall Obtains "Green" Certification

FORT KENT – UMFK has achieved Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification from the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) for its \$1.4 million renovation of Powell Hall; a project incorporating many energy-savings components into the 47-year-old former dormitory.



The university received credit for 29 of the 34 points it submitted for confirmation with USGBC in attaining LEED certification. LEED certification is recognized as the standard for measuring a building's sustainability. The achievement of LEED

certification is the best way to demonstrate that a building project truly is "green."

Funds for the Powell Hall renovations came from a voter-approved 2007 statewide bond issue for interior and exterior building renovations, improvements, and additions at all public university campuses.

## UMA Hosts Annual Science Program for Kids



AUGUSTA – During school vacation break, over 200 pre-school to middle school aged children attended UMA's 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Science Program for Kids.

Activities included using microscopes to observe living creatures; health and nutrition tips; a chemistry "slime-making" class; identifying skeletons; arts, puzzles, and crafts; and a special shark and whale presentation. Also this year, there was a special visit from "Dr. Physics" who made kids' heads spin and hair stand on end.

The event was sponsored by UMA's Biology program.

## UMM's Ninth Annual International Ultra-Short Competition Accepting Entries

MACHIAS – *The Binnacle*, the literary magazine of UMM, is sponsoring its Ninth Annual Ultra-Short Competition, open to writers in Washington County and around the globe.

Interested writers of short narrative under 150 words and poetry of sixteen lines or fewer are welcome to submit their works. Prizes will be awarded in May for both categories, with the total of

prizes amounting to no less than \$300. The top fifty-two entries will be included in the contest edition.

Writers should submit their works by e-mail to [ummbinnacle@maine.edu](mailto:ummbinnacle@maine.edu) by March 15. For more information, send an e-mail to [necastro@maine.edu](mailto:necastro@maine.edu), or call 207-255-1293.

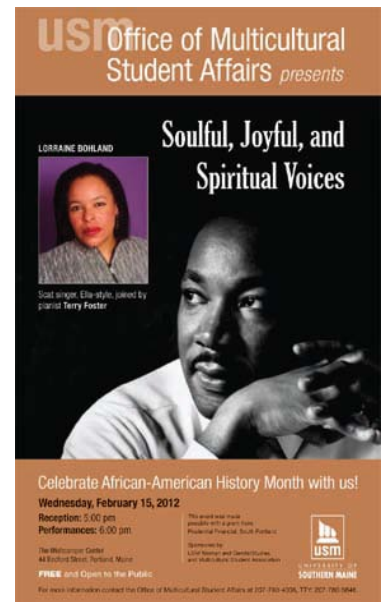


## USM Hosts Concert to Celebrate African-American History Month

PORTLAND – In celebration of African-American History Month, the USM Office of Multicultural Affairs presented, "Soulful, Joyful, and Spiritual Voices" a musical performance by Lorraine Bohland, accompanied by pianist Terry Foster.

This event was made possible with a grant from Prudential Financial of South Portland. Sponsors include the USM Women and Gender Studies Program and the [USM Multicultural Student Association](#).

For more information on other events, contact the Office of Multicultural Student Affairs Coordinator, at 207-780-5798.



## UMaine Hosts Schoodic International Sculpture Symposium

ORONO – UMaine will host this summer's [Schoodic International Sculpture Symposium](#), an event that will bring eight internationally recognized sculptors to the UMaine campus to create stone artwork for permanent display at eight locations in the Bangor area.



This year's symposium will be held July 22-August 31. UMaine will receive two sculptures that will be located on the campus, and the UMaine Foundation will receive another sculpture.

The sculptors will work during their six

weeks at UMaine from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. most days of the week in campus steam plant parking lot off College Avenue. The site is free and open to members of the public who want to watch the sculptors at work.

## UMM Students Plan Walk for Suicide Awareness

MACHIAS – Students at UMM are planning an [Out of the Darkness Community Walk](#) for Saturday, March 10, to raise awareness for suicide prevention.

The walk is sponsored by the 100% Society and Counseling Center at UMM. All funds raised will benefit the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. For more information, call 207-598-6848, or e-mail [dustin.foss@maine.edu](mailto:dustin.foss@maine.edu).

## UMFK Students' DNA Research Added to National Databank

FORT KENT – Biology students at the UMFK have added their research on soil viruses (phages) to a national DNA databank, capping a fall semester during which first-year students were engaged in a national research program.

In all, students isolated nine phages that infect a soil-dwelling bacterium from soils in Fort Kent and New Brunswick. Samples of those phages are now archived at the Howard Hughes Medical Institute in Virginia, and at the University of Pittsburgh's Bacteriophage Institute.

Students purified DNA from several phages, and the class members selected one (named "Dumbo" by the students) to send for DNA sequencing. The students also authored database entries for the phages, including photos, for an on-line database called [phagesdb](#).

## International Students Scholarship established at UMPI

PRESQUE ISLE – Through the dedicated efforts and donations of the UMPI's International Students Club, UMPI staff and friends, and a generous anonymous donor, the university's Foundation has established an International Students Scholarship and Work Program.

Both the scholarship and work program will provide International students with financial assistance for their tuition, and the work



program additionally will give these students the opportunity to gain employment experience on-campus.

The International Students Scholarship will be available to full-time, on-site International students committed to completing a degree at UMPI. Preference will be given to students who are leaders on campus and who are involved with at least one club, team, or organization on campus.

For more information or to contribute to the fund, please contact UMPI's Office of Development at 207-768-9568.

## Meet the Editor



BANGOR – This issue of *Making a Difference* was researched, designed, and edited by Whitney Tulloch of Gorham, Maine. Whitney is a UMaine senior majoring in communications with a double minor in English and public relations.

Whitney is an intern in the University of Maine System Office. She graduates in May.