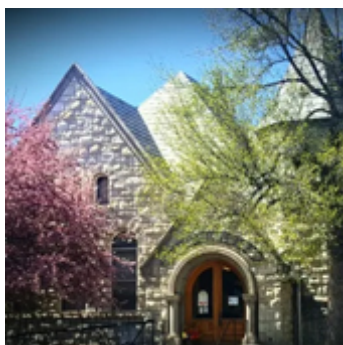


# Celebrating Japanese Culture in Western Montana, UMW Ranked in Top 20 ECE Online Programs Nationwide, and PUFFS Opens Friday! | March 23, 2023

Operations Update <operationsupdate@umwestern.edu>

Thu 3/23/2023 5:22 PM



## Community Invited to Japanese Culture in Western Montana Events

The University of Montana Western and the Dillon Public Library would like to invite the community to celebrate [Japanese Culture in Western Montana](#) with a series of events to be held March 24 and 25, 2023.

The events and activities for all ages will take place throughout the city of Dillon including the University of Montana Western, Dillon Public Library, and many local businesses.

Please join us at the Lucy Carson Library on Friday, March 24, for a Japanese Art Presentation – with a focus on Fort Missoula and the Japanese American Internment Camp that was located there. Artist Miya Hannon will be speaking in the Library Conference Room from 9 - 11 a.m. Carol Van Valkenberg and Miya Hannon will also

host a brown bag author/artist talk from 11:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. in the same space.

Thank you to the generous sponsors and contributors who have helped make this event possible. For more information, please call 406-683-4544. Event passports will be available for pickup starting March 20 at the Dillon Public Library.



## **Sexual Assault and Sex Trafficking Awareness and Prevention Events in April**

Nationally recognized detective, Guy Baker, will be hosting a [special presentation](#) on sex trafficking in Montana on April 3 at 6:00 p.m. in the Lewis & Clark room located in Mathews Hall on the UMW campus.

The [Second Annual Color Run](#) will take place on April 4 at 3:30 p.m. The event will start on the UMW Campus at the Keltz Arena and will follow a two-mile course around the Barrett Hospital & HealthCare loop. Everyone is welcome to participate in this free event with the goal of raising awareness of sexual assault and prevention.

## **Save the Dates**

Visit our [online events calendar](#) for more information and to [submit your scheduled events](#).

### **March 24**

- XDay 2023, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m., [click here to learn more and view schedule](#)

### **March 31**

- [Colt Challenge](#), 9:00 a.m. -1:00 p.m., Montana Center for Horsemanship
- [“Heart of a Dog”](#) opening reception, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m., Montana Western Fine Arts Gallery
- [Montana Western Rodeo Banquet](#), 5:00 p.m., Keltz Arena

## April 1

- [Colt Sale](#), Preview: 10:00 a.m., Lunch 11:30 a.m., Sale 1:00 p.m., Montana Center for Horsemanship

## April 10

- Block 8 Begins

## April 12

- [Life: Inside and Out Seminar](#), 3:30 p.m., Block Hall 311, Speaker: Katie M. Susong
- [Dr. Jane Helm Maddock Service Award Reception](#), 5:30 p.m., Lewis and Clark Room

## April 14-15

- Campus Research Symposium, STC Great Room

## April 19

- [On the Rocks Seminar](#), 3:30 p.m., Block Hall 311, Speaker: Dr. Bill Janus

## April 21

- Public Glassblowing Presentation & Demonstration, presented by local glass artists, Elizabeth and Michael Walters, 3:30 - 5:30 p.m., Emerick Art Studio

## April 22

- [Night of Stars Education Hall of Fame](#), 6:00 p.m., Beier Auditorium



## UMW & Bank of Commerce Performing Arts Series Presents Off-Broadway Production of "Puffs"

The University of Montana Western's Theatre Department is pleased to present "[Puffs, or Seven Increasingly Eventful Years at a Certain School of Magic and Magic](#)" to be performed March 24 – April 2. Performances will be held at UMW's Small Auditorium located in Main Hall 314. Evening shows will begin at 7:30 p.m. with matinee shows available at 2:30 p.m. on March 26 and April 2. Tickets can be [purchased online](#) and are also available at the door for \$15 for general admission, \$10 for senior, youth, military and UMW faculty/staff, and free for UMW students who present their Bulldog Cards.



## UMW Ranked Nationally in Top 20 Best Online Bachelor's Degree Programs in Early Childhood Education



Best Accredited Colleges has released their 2023 rankings, and the University of Montana Western has been ranked in the top #20 Best Online Bachelor's Degree Programs in Early Childhood Education.

Hundreds of institutions across the country were considered and 48 were ranked based on their financial aid awards, quality of education, faculty, and available resources for students.

To learn more, visit the [Best Accredited Colleges](https://www.bestaccreditedcolleges.com/) website.

## MYCA Hosts Educator Airlift Event April 12



On Wednesday, April 12, 2023, the Montana Youth Challenge Academy, in partnership with the Montana National Guard 1-189th (General Support Aviation Battalion) and the University of Montana Western, will host an [Educator Airlift event](#) throughout the business day.

Please be aware that military helicopters will be landing and taking off from UMW's football practice fields, located on the south side of campus.

To ensure public safety, it is critical that all observers stay clear of the UMW practice fields on April 12. For more information, please contact the Montana Youth Challenge Academy at 406-960-4424.



## Dr. Jane Helm Maddock Service Award Reception

The University of Montana Western will honor two outstanding community members, Dr. Glen Johnson and Alyssa Creighton, with the 2023 Dr. Jane Helm Maddock Service Award on April 12, 2023, for their extraordinary service to UMW and the Dillon community.

Dr. Jane Helm Maddock was a Professor of English at the University of Montana Western for 17 years and was recognized as Professor Emeritus of English upon her retirement. The service award is named in her honor and memory and presented to those who have performed extraordinary service to the campus and community.

To purchase tickets to the [Dr. Jane Helm Maddock Service Awards Dinner](#), please contact the Foundation and Alumni Office by calling 406-683-7306 no later than April 7, 2023. Tickets are \$25 for adults and \$20 for Montana Western students and include drinks, dinner, and dessert.



## Facility Services Project Updates

**MDT Highway Resurfacing Project:** The Montana Department of Transportation will begin a resurfacing project of Atlantic and Helena streets starting April 17, 2023, as part of its Apex & Dillon improvement project. Facility Services and Communications will keep the university informed as the project timeline is made available in the coming weeks by MDT and about any upcoming detours or other related impacts to the campus. To learn more about the overall project, visit the Montana Department of Transportation [project website](#) where you can sign up for text alerts, project updates via email, or call the project hotline: 406-447-3354.

**Student Wellness Center:** Conceptual design is now complete for the Student Wellness Center. It will be a stand-alone new build of 5,500 square feet constructed between the BARC and STC buildings. Detail design and cost estimation continues in preparation for submission to the Board of Regents meeting in May. Next week, R.E. Miller will be on campus digging test holes in the tundra where the Wellness Center will be built. These test holes are needed for soil sampling and other subsurface geotechnical work required before new buildings are constructed. The test holes will be excavated, sampled, and filled in.

**Heating Plant Renovation:** The heating plant project officially achieved substantial completion last week. This milestone sets the start date of the warranty period for all equipment, and releases final payments to the contractors. The only outstanding component of this

project is the installation of a new back-up generator which will occur in June.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact UMW Director of [Facility Services](#), Michael Brown: [michael.brown@umwestern.edu](mailto:michael.brown@umwestern.edu) or 406-683-7142.

## Submit Content to Upcoming Operations Updates

Please share your current projects, initiatives, examples of Experience One, and other updates with us so we can share them with the University Community and [let us know](#) what information you would like to see included in future updates. We'd like to hear from you!

Submit Content



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