

Canvas ELC to Open New UMW Location, Hall of Fame and Bash Announced & Alumna Works with Elephants | July 14, 2023

Operations Update <operationsupdate@umwestern.edu>

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Community & Academic Spotlight: Canvas Early Learning Center to Open New Location at UMW this Fall

Canvas Early Learning Center (ELC), a non-profit early education program in Dillon, Montana, will open a new location this fall on the University of Montana Western campus, as part of a partnership to expand licensed, quality infant and childcare in Beaverhead County through a [Childcare Innovations Grant](#).

The grant is part of a state-wide initiative directed by the Early Childhood and Family Support Division of the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services. Project partners, the University of Montana Western, Canvas Early Learning Center and the Early Childhood Coalition of Beaverhead County, along with thirty-one other childcare providers across the state were chosen to develop and implement innovative community, area, region and/or business-based strategies to expand childcare availability for Montana families. Fundamentally, the grant supports working families, employers, and the

local economy with expanded capacity to serve 16 infants and toddlers, 34 children ages 2-5, and offer after-school care.

“We are very excited for the expanded opportunities that the grant will provide that will allow us to focus even more on the needs of our community. By relocating to the University of Montana Western, the campus will naturally become part of the children's educational surroundings, allowing them to explore and learn from the world around them, inspire curiosity, and foster a love for lifelong learning,” said Aaron Cashmore, Canvas Early Learning Center Director. “As Canvas develops its new and improved center, we will concentrate on identifying and addressing local needs which could include offering programming outside of standard workday hours, implementing a sliding tuition scale, and other opportunities to reduce the expense of childcare.”

The new Canvas classroom location on the UMW campus will be in the PIMA Medical Institute building on East Poindexter Street next to Sparky's Garage. The building will house two learning spaces for children – one for ages 2-3, and the other for ages 4-5. Canvas's current space at 512 ½ N. Washington Street will become the infant and toddler program location with a multi-age classroom for older siblings. The N. Washington location will be used until the infant-toddler classroom is ready for occupancy on Montana Western's campus in September 2024.

The partnership will provide exciting collaboration opportunities for the Early Childhood Education program at Montana Western. UMW students will be able to enhance their skillsets through real-world teaching experiences at the Center. As a trusted mentor, Canvas will offer guidance and demonstrate best practices in working with young children, providing additional opportunities for students to actively engage in their field of study.

Canvas ELC would like to invite all interested volunteers to join in the Dillon Community Day of Service on August 9, 2023. From 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., volunteers are needed to help move and set up the new Canvas classrooms at Montana Western. To learn more and register, visit <https://tinyurl.com/23u9updn>.

For more information about available programs, enrollment fees, and to request registration for your children for the fall, please visit <https://www.canvaselc.com>, email canvaselc@gmail.com, or call 406-988-0008.



UMW Athletics Hall of Fame and Bulldog Bash Dates Announced

Montana Western Athletics and the UMW Foundation & Alumni Office are excited to announce the dates for the 2023 Bulldog Athletics Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony and the Bulldog Bash. This year's events are also part of the university's Fall Alumni Weekend festivities.

The Athletics Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony will be held on Friday, October 13 in the Lewis and Clark Room of Mathews Hall. A no-host social will begin at 4:30 p.m. followed by a buffet dinner to open at 5:00 p.m. We are honored to announce the induction of the following athletes into the Bulldog Athletics Hall of Fame: Trent Gibson – Football, Paul Snow – Men's Basketball, Brandon Brown – Men's Basketball, Wyatt Smith – Rodeo and the 1966-1967 Men's Track team.

The Bulldog Bash will be held the following day on Saturday, October 14 in the Keltz Arena. A cocktail social will kick-off the event at 5:00 p.m., followed by dinner and a live auction starting at 5:30 p.m.

Tickets for the Hall of Fame dinner can be purchased online at <https://tinyurl.com/UMW-HOF2023>. To reserve your tickets to the Bulldog Bash, please visit <https://tinyurl.com/UMW-Bash2023>. You can also call 406-683-7306 to reserve your tickets for either event.

Save the Dates

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

July 17 & 21

- [Bulldog Bound](#), 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., UMW Campus

August 12

- Montana Shakespeare in the Parks Presents "Three Musketeers," 6:00 p.m., Legacy Plaza & Pioneer Federal Amphitheater, UMW Campus

August 21-27

- Fall 2023 University Opening Week & New Student Orientation

More details about Opening Week events, including the Faculty Fall Conference and Opening Meeting will be provided soon.

August 24-27

- New Student Move in Day & Orientation: [Full Schedule of Events](#)

August 28

- Block 1 Begins



Montana Western Alumna Halle Broughton Travels to Thailand to Work with Elephants

This summer, [UMW alumna Halle Broughton](#), of Seward, Alaska, spent two weeks in Thailand helping animals, discovering Thai culture, and learning hands-on what it's like to be a veterinarian. Traveling with study-abroad organization Loop Abroad, Halle was part of a small team that provided care at a dog shelter and worked directly with rescued elephants at an elephant sanctuary.

The Loop Abroad Veterinary Service program brings students to Thailand for two weeks to volunteer alongside veterinarians from the U.S. and Thailand. For one week, Halle and her team volunteered at the Elephant Nature Park in northern Thailand to work hands-on with the giant animals and learn about animal rescue and conservation on a larger scale. The Elephant Nature Park is home to over 60 elephants who have been rescued from trekking, logging, or forced breeding programs. Many of them had been abused and suffer from chronic injuries or blindness.

“Going to Thailand has been a dream of mine for about twelve years, so when I found out I got accepted into this program I was over the moon with excitement. I have always had a passion for travel and culture, as well as a love and passion for animals and this trip combined both in the most magical way imaginable. The staff at ENP and Loop Abroad were so patient, accepting, welcoming, kind and knowledgeable. The experiences I had were incredible, ranging from elephant care and medicine, small animal practice and management to Thai culture and language,” said Halle.



UMW Student Rachel Marchant Honored as Newman Civic Fellow

Campus Compact, a national coalition of colleges and universities working to advance the public purposes of higher education, has named 154 student civic leaders who will make up the organization's [2023-2024 cohort of Newman Civic Fellows](#). Rachel Marchant, a student at the University of Montana Western, will join students from 38 states, Washington, D.C., and Mexico for the fellowship kickoff this fall.

The Newman Civic Fellowship recognizes students who stand out for their commitment to creating positive change in communities locally and around the world. The fellowship is named for the late Frank Newman, one of Campus Compact's founders, who was a tireless advocate for civic engagement in higher education. In the spirit of Dr. Newman's leadership, fellows are nominated by Campus Compact member presidents and chancellors, who are invited to select one outstanding student from their campus each year.

"Making an impact on my community has always been a major part of my life. When I was in high school, I immersed myself in school activities such as Speech and Debate, Drama, and Band. I also helped establish the first Gay-Straight Alliance club at my high school which supported LGBTQ students and their peers. During my college career, I continue to support my community through my work on campus as a mentor for TRIO Student Support Services, a program that facilitates student success on campus. I also work for Safe Ride, a university-funded service that helps students get home safely. I am passionate about strengthening my leadership skills and improving my community," said Marchant.

Through the fellowship, Campus Compact will provide these students with a year of learning and networking opportunities that emphasize personal, professional, and civic growth. Each year, fellows participate in numerous virtual training and networking opportunities to help provide them with the skills and connections they need to create large-scale positive change. The cornerstone of the fellowship is the Annual Convening of Fellows, which offers intensive in-person skill-building and networking over the course of two days. The fellowship also provides

pathways for exclusive scholarship and post-graduate opportunities.

“We are honored to recognize such an outstanding group of community-committed students,” said Campus Compact President Bobbie Laur. “One of the best parts of the Newman Civic Fellowships is the richness of students’ perspectives, experiences, and backgrounds—and how these varied stories all led to their passionate engagement with the social, political, and environmental issues impacting our world. These students will be the catalysts for change on many levels, and we are privileged to help empower them to create that change.”

Montana Western Foundation Announces KDBM-KBEV Radio Scholarship

The University of Montana Western Foundation is proud to announce the establishment of the [KDBM-KBEV Radio Scholarship](#), a new opportunity for students pursuing higher education. This scholarship is made possible through generous support and partnership of KDBM-KBEV, leaders in local radio dedicated to serving the Dillon community.



The \$500 award, promoting the importance and opportunities in careers for UMW graduates focused on professional communications, will be gifted annually to a full-time Montana Western student in good standing. Eligible applicants must be high school graduates from Dillon, Twin Bridges, or Sheridan, and have a minimum GPA of 3.0. Applicants must also be English majors with a desire to work in communications or radio.

The 2023-24 KDBM-KBEV Radio Scholarship recipient is Tana Campbell. Campbell is a senior majoring in English with a minor in professional writing. She is also the manager for the Women’s Basketball team and the President of the Multicultural Club on campus. Campbell has worked for University Communications for the past three years and plans to continue her education by attending graduate school.

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