Maine Heritage Lectureship

Call for Nominations

Deadline for nominations: Monday, April 3, 2023

The purpose of the Maine Heritage Lecture, delivered each fall, is to showcase research and creative work related to the state of Maine, and particularly efforts that emphasize Maine’s sense of place, history, diverse cultures, society, and policy. The fall 2023 lecture and reception are intended for a general audience.

To be eligible for the lectureship, one must be current or retired faculty, professional staff, or alumni of the University of Maine whose scholarship, creative work, or policy expertise concerns in large part the state of Maine.

Nomination process: Any University of Maine employee may submit a nomination (self-nominations also welcome), which should include the following:

1. A nomination letter (up to 2 double spaced pages) that addresses the individual’s work in light of the lectureship’s purpose and eligibility criteria

2. The title of the proposed talk, with a description (up to 300 words).

3. A CV

4. The name of an individual who will introduce the speaker, should the nominee be chosen

Please email nominations to Kelly Gilks, Office of the Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS@Maine.edu) by 4:00pm on April 3, 2023. Contact Associate Dean Gregory Zaro (gregory.zaro@maine.edu) with any questions.
Because the goal is to present the range of scholarship and creative accomplishments in the College and University, and to reveal the State’s diverse history, cultures, and policy concerns, as a general practice, the lectureship will not be awarded to individuals from the same academic department two years in a row.

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Past lectures:

2022  Margo Lukens, Professor of English, “Gluskabe in the 21st Century: How Newell Lyon’s Stories Carry the Penobscot Language” (with Carol Dana, Penobscot language carrier)

2020  Liam Riordan, Adelaide and Alan Bird Professor of History, “What do we want History to do to us?”

2019  Darren Ranco, Chair of Native American Programs and Associate Professor of Anthropology, “Protecting Wabanaki Basketmaking Traditions Threatened by an Invasive Pest: Addressing ‘Wicked Problems’ Through Collaborative Research”

2018  Kathryn Olmstead, Associate Professor Emerita of Communication and Journalism, “Rediscovering Community: Maine’s Rural Heritage as a Path to the Future”

2017  Howard Segal, Professor of History, “Becoming Modern: The Transformation of the University of Maine, 1965-2015”

2016  Stephen Hornsby, Director of the Canadian-American Center and Professor of Anthropology and Canadian Studies, “Industry’s Ocean: What Built Antebellum Maine”

2015  Pauleena M. MacDougall, Director, Maine Folklife Center, “Discovering Maine’s Intangible Cultural Heritage”

2014  Carol Toner, Director, Maine Studies Program, “Making Sense of Place in Maine” 2013 no lecture

2012  Kristin M. Langellier, Professor of Communication, “Narrating Maine”


2010  Sanford “Sandy” Phippin, teacher, author, editor, alumnus, “Stories of Laughter and Tears”

2009  Kenneth T. Palmer, Professor of Political Science, “Maine’s Paradoxical Politics”

2008  James M. Acheson, Professor of Anthropology, “The Lobster Gangs of Maine”