

OCTOBER NEWSLETTER OF THE MSU WOMEN'S CENTER

By Apryl Little

Happy Halloween and election season from the MSU Women's Center! Halloween is here, and we're excited to celebrate with all the creativity, costumes, and community this season brings. If you're heading out for some spooky fun tonight, we hope you enjoy and stay safe! Please be sure to check out our upcoming events and programs and some great reasons to vote below - we've got plenty of ways to stay connected and inspired as the semester rolls on. Have a fantastic Halloween, don't forget to vote, and take care of each other out there!



Why College Students Should Vote: A Guide for Young Voters

College is a time when you're building your future, and voting is one of the most direct ways to shape it. Whether it's about educational policies, climate justice, voter access or better and accessible reproductive healthcare, elections shape the policies that impact your life right now and long after graduation. When students and young adults don't show up at the polls, their needs and perspectives are often ignored, and some politicians are less likely to focus on issues that matter to you. By voting, you're making sure our generation's voice is part of the conversation in helping to shape the future.

How to Vote in Montana:

- Register to Vote: Montana allows late registration at your county election office right up until 8:00 p.m. on Election Day (Nov. 5th)!
- To register, fill out a registration form (you can get one online here: <https://votemt.gov/voter-registration/> or at SUB 221)
- The mail in registration has passed so you need to drop your registration and/or ballot off at your local county elections office! (For Bozeman 311 W Main St, Room 210 Bozeman, MT 59715)
- Election Day: If you're voting in person, the polls are open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.. You can check your polling place location here ahead of time so you know where to go : iwillvote.com There is also early in person voting before election day and you can check the times and places through the link above as well.
- Vote by Mail (Absentee Ballot): If you're away at college or just prefer to fill out your ballot ahead of time, you can request an absentee ballot. Make sure to request it by 12:00 p.m. the day before the election. Just don't forget to return it by 8:00 p.m. on Election Day. **It is too late to mail an absentee ballot, so be sure to return it directly to your county elections office.**

Researching what initiatives and candidates are on the ballot is an important step in making an informed decision; to start researching what and who's on the ballot [click here.](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS:

THE HEART INITIATIVE PRESENTS
**Our Community's Role
in Fighting
Human Trafficking**

DR. VERONICA SHEPP AND REPRESENTATIVES FROM HAVEN AND
BOZEMAN HEALTH WILL DISCUSS SOME OF THE ROOT CAUSES OF
HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND THE BARRIERS THEY OFTEN SEE IN
OFFERING SERVICES AND RESOURCES TO VICTIMS

Time:
TUESDAY,
NOVEMBER 12
6:30 PM



Place:
PROCRASTINATOR
THEATER
MSU SUB

CONTACT US! theheartinitiative406@gmail.com



November 12: *The Community's Role In Fighting Human Trafficking*

SUB Procrastinator Theater, 6:30 p.m.

The HEART Initiative at MSU invites you to attend a free event featuring a conversation around some of the root causes of human trafficking in our community.

Dr. Veronica Shepp, professor of Sociology at MSU will join Shalynn, Anti-trafficking Legal Advocate with Haven, and Shannon Brown, Nurse at Bozeman Health, to discuss root causes of human trafficking and the barriers in offering services and resources to victims.

Contact Person: Megan Matteoli,
theheartinitiative406@gmail.com

Please join the HEART Initiative at MSU and the MSU Women's Center for this free event!

November 13: *Travels with Will Shakespeare* **SUB Alumni Legacy Lounge, Noon - 1 p.m.**

In this seminar, Dr. Gretchen Minton, MSU Professor of English, will speak about how Shakespeare has become her constant traveling companion. Whether in England, Australia, or Montana, and whether in classrooms, national forests, or prisons, Shakespeare's words and works find a home just about everywhere. Dr. Minton will give an overview of some of these journeys, explaining how Shakespeare can be a challenging but vital companion as we negotiate the challenges of the twenty-first century, especially when it comes to environmental crises, injustice, and our deep need for connection across divides.

December 4: *Lunch with the Women We Love* **SUB Alumni Legacy Lounge, Noon - 1 p.m.**

This seminar, presented by Alycia Elfreich, Assistant Professor of Multicultural Education at MSU, introduces a new storyworlding methodology useful for both research and other types of projects to amplify and integrate those stories often not told. **Storyworlding** is a feminist, participatory methodology that utilized ArcGIS technology to narrate and disseminate culturally informed and ethnographically rich stories. We use our WomenWeLove project to illustrate how we have transformed the life stories of women through digital landscaping using ArcGIS. Those who attend the seminar are welcome to contribute their stories the WomenWeLove project.

MY INSPIRING PUBLISHING SUMMER INTERNSHIP:

By Apryl Little



This summer, I had the incredible opportunity to intern at Farcountry Publishing Press, a proudly women-owned publishing house with a reputation for producing beautiful books, primarily focused on the American West. The experience was both eye-opening and empowering, as I had the chance to work with a team of intelligent and driven women who inspired me daily.

The best part about being an intern was how many hats I got to wear across various departments.

My main focus was working under a talented marketing lead while she was working on a website redesign project, modernizing Farcountry's online presence to better showcase their publications. Hilary is a sunshine of a human being and not only extremely good at her job, but she intentionally empowers others to grow as well. That meant I got to focus and learn about the ins and outs of book marketing, social media, web design, press releases, and strategic marketing. Her mentorship and work ethic were a huge inspiration to me. But I wasn't just limited to marketing; I was encouraged to help out in other departments too, giving me a hands-on look at each stage of the publishing process. This gave me a great understanding of how all the pieces fit together, and it was amazing to watch how each person contributed their expertise to produce a great book.

One unique part of working at Farcountry was the inclusive nature of their book pitch meetings. No matter what role someone had, everyone was invited to these meetings and encouraged to weigh in on the books being considered. This meant editors, designers, marketers, warehouse staff-- everyone could offer input, leading to well-rounded feedback that made the books stronger and more marketable. For example, a salesperson may be able to weigh in better on whether their clientele would buy the book and a warehouse person may be able to weigh in better about whether or not we have room to store the book or the timeline for manufacturing. The approach showed me how much Farcountry values every perspective in the process, and I think this attitude comes down directly from the top; Linda is an amazing leader who clearly values collaboration over competition.

Outside of work, I took full advantage of having lived in Montana my entire life. On weekends, I was out camping and hiking all over the state, exploring the mountains and enjoying the couple months of the year when it's not too cold to swim! The blend of professional growth and outdoor adventure was perfect. It made for an unforgettable summer that taught me so much about myself and the leadership for an inclusive working environment that every business should strive for. The future truly is female!

THE HEART INITIATIVE- STOP HUMAN TRAFFICKING



The HEART Initiative at MSU is a registered student organization that raises awareness about human trafficking in Montana and beyond. HEART has hosted speakers such as Truckers Against Trafficking (TAT), Fight the New Drug, Penny Ronning of the Yellowstone Human Trafficking Task Force, and a law enforcement and advocacy panel.

Some of the signs to look for in potential trafficking situations include:

- Someone wearing inappropriate clothing for the weather
- Someone avoiding eye contact
- Someone speaking for another person
- A person showing signs of physical abuse or excessive fear

DO NOT INTERVENE, instead call law enforcement at 911!

HEART will be hosting a panel event to discuss some of the root causes of human trafficking on November 12th, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. in The Procrastinator Theater.

Author Feature: Isabel Allende – A Literary Force with Too Many Great Books to Count!

In this edition of the *Womanifesto*, we'd like to spotlight the extraordinary author Isabel Allende, whose recent visit to Montana State University brought a fantastic conversation full of humor and inspiration to our community. Known for her masterful storytelling, Allende's books blend magical realism, historical drama, and powerful female perspectives, making her a truly inspirational voice in literature. Her novels, including *The House of the Spirits*, *Eva Luna*, *Daughter of Fortune*, and many more, bring readers into beautiful and complex worlds with amazing plotlines that explore love, politics, and the human spirit.

Allende recently spoke at MSU as part of the second annual President's Crossing Boundaries Speaker Series, where she was clearly beloved by and inspired many in attendance. As a special contribution, she generously donated several of her works to the MSU Women's Center's library. **These donated books are now available for checkout, so be sure to visit our library and experience firsthand the boundary-crossing worlds that Isabel Allende has written for readers around the world!**



THE HEART INITIATIVE PRESENTS

Our Community's Role in Fighting Human Trafficking

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TRAVELS WITH WILL SHAKESPEARE

JOIN MSU PROFESSOR OF ENGLISH, DR. GRETCHEN MINTON, FOR THIS JOURNEY WITH WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE. DR. MINTON WILL DISCUSS HOW SHE FINDS SHAKESPEARE TO BE HER CONSTANT TRAVELLING COMPANION EVERYWHERE SHE GOES!

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2024
12 NOON
SUB ALUMNI LEGACY LOUNGE

JOIN US FOR THIS FASCINATING
WOMEN'S CENTER
SACK LUNCH SEMINAR

WWW.MONTANA.EDU/WOMEN

