



THE SOCIETY OF MUSIC PRESENTS

**matt cusson**



**SAT FEB 22nd - 7PM**  
**CHURCH ST CTR AUDITORIUM**  
**MCLA CAMPUS, PORTER ST - NORTH ADAMS**

**FREE SHOW - LIMITED SEATING**

Ticket Reservations Are Encouraged!  
 Limited Tickets Available At The Door

Ticket Reservations: [MCLATICKETS@gmail.com](mailto:MCLATICKETS@gmail.com)  
[matteusson.com](http://matteusson.com)      [facebook.com/matteussonmusic](https://facebook.com/matteussonmusic)

## News, notes & credits

Congratulations to English professor **Zack Finch**, this year's recipient of the John N. Serio Award for the best published article on poet Wallace Stevens. The award is made by the Wallace Stevens Society.

Thanks to Sociology professor **Michele Ethier**, who has created two new handbooks: A second edition of the *Portfolio Handbook* with a number of additions and a brand new *Handbook for PTR*. Both are available on the web and will be available in hard copy at the Personnel Workshops offered in the spring (to be announced).

Sociology professor **Jennifer Zoltanski** was interviewed for a *Berkshire Eagle* Health & Science article, "Happier = Healthier: studies suggest optimists live longer," January 20.

Professors **Anne Billetz** and **Sumi Colligan** attended the Association of American Colleges and Universities' (AAC&U) annual meeting Jan. 22-25 in Washington, D.C. Sumi participated in a panel discussion. This year's theme was "Quality, E-Quality, and Opportunity – How Educational Innovations will make – or Break – America's Global Future."

Congratulations to History professor **Frances Jones-Sneed**, selected as one of the 2014 honorees of the Berkshire Award, presented by the Berkshire Museum. The award celebrates the work of individuals who have made significant contributions to the region. Last week Frances was interviewed on camera. The video clip will be shown at the Berkshire Awards Ceremony March 21 at the Berkshire Museum.

**Petra Hejnova**, history and political science professor, will serve as a panel member in Washington, D.C. on Feb. 24 to help select this year's Boren Scholarship winners. Boren Scholarships are funded by the National Security Education Program (NSEP).

Women's Soccer Coach **Deb Raber** participated in a roundtable discussion on the topic of recruiting at the National Soccer Coaches Association of America (NSCAA) annual convention held earlier this month in Philadelphia.



## Mowinski to present Feb. 21 in Faculty Center

Artist, printer and professor, **Melanie Mowinski** will present "PRESS: from Pop-up to Permanent and Beyond" on Friday, Feb. 21, in the first Brown Bag Series this semester in the Faculty Center.

The presentation begins at 3 p.m. and is open to all members of the college and community. Refreshments will be served.

## Read the Chronicle at home

If you are home on a snow day or weekend and want to access *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, good news from the **Library**. Go to "For Faculty" on the Library homepage for the prompt. Use your MCLA login.

## Calendar continued

**Feb. 12—Repeat Teaching Roundtable**, Abilities and Disabilities, Faculty Center, 1–2 p.m.

**Feb. 12—Teaching Online** at MCLA, a workshop co-sponsored by Academic Affairs and the Faculty Association, Sullivan Lounge, 1 p.m.

**Feb. 13, 20 & March 6—Green Living Seminars**, Murdock 218, 5:30 p.m.

**Feb. 21—Melanie Mowinski** presents "PRESS: from Pop-up to Permanent and Beyond," Brown Bag Series, Faculty Center, 3 p.m.

**Feb. 22—Matt Cusson, singer**, songwriter and pianist performs jazz, pop and soul, Church St. Center, 7 p.m.

## Congress Takes Note

from **Inside Higher Ed**

WASHINGTON -- It's time for Congress to pay attention to the abuse of adjunct faculty members, and the way their poor working conditions impact not only them, but their students, says a new report from the House Education and the Workforce Committee.

Read more: <http://www.insidehighered.com/news/2014/01/24/house-committee-report-highlights-plight-adjunct-professors#ixzz2rnqYmeaH>



Artist-in-residence Alke Gropper-Wegener, right, and members of the Creative Arts Core domain show post-cards they made in a workshop exercise on focusing and conceptualizing course content. Gropper-Wegener led workshops in the Faculty Center on creativity and writing. From left, professors Lisa Donovan, Michael Dilthey, Ben Jacques and Melanie Mowinski.

## Mass. House bill would benefit adjuncts

*From Greg Scheckler, posted on Faculty Exchange:*

The plight of adjuncts can change, if House Bill H1086 can get out of committee.

The bill supports the option for adjunct faculty members to get health insurance, to gain seniority, to be included and gain priority in hiring when full-time jobs become available, improved pay, AND a requirement that significantly more hires be full-time.

All of these are important provisions. We all know critical and highly qualified part-time teachers who've been incredible supportive of the college and who deserve a great deal more fair treatment than current contracts allow.

Sending letters, emails, and calls to our many representatives on the Joint Committee for Higher Education could be very helpful.

The bill can be found at <https://malegislature.gov/Bills/188/House/H1086>.

For a listing of committee members, including Downing and Pignatelli, go to <https://malegislature.gov/Committees/Joint/J29>.

## Greetings from the Faculty Association.

Here are a few items to keep on your radar screens for the near future. First, bargaining is just getting underway at the state level. The MSCA is optimistic it can further refine elements of the contract that do not serve faculty well and that we can again secure salary increases. It is unclear what posture the Patrick administration will take in light of the fact that Deval may have his eyes on another political prize at the national level.

Second, the Executive Committee will look to schedule 3-4 open meetings with the administration (including Mary) that focus on issues that faculty deem to be important. Mary has also asked that some the time be used to update faculty on the frenzied political and policy climates.

Third, if you are teaching in an on-line format, or planning to in the future, you should probably attend the February 12 (1:00 in Sullivan) discussion about on-line pedagogy, training, etc. The administration is looking to require some type of certification process for faculty who teach on-line to assure a quality experience for students.

Finally, this will be my last semester as Faculty Association President and part-time Grievance Officer. These positions will need to be filled at our May elections. If you have any interest, contact me and I can go over some of the responsibilities and compensation options. I understand that many of us are hurried and/or over-worked at the moment, but we need someone who can continue to work with the administration in several areas, including conflict resolution.

Dana



*Faculty Center*

Advisory Board

- Lisa Donovan
- Michele Ethier
- Petra Hejnova
- Ely Janis
- Melanie Mowinski
- Nancy Ovitsky
- Graziana Ramsden
- Gerol Petruzella
- Dana Rapp
- Adrienne Wootters
- Jennifer Zoltanski

Ben Jacques,  
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x5468



# February at the Hairpin Turn



*Photos by  
Ben Jacques*

