



MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY
NORTHERN

Northern Network News

The Official Newsletter of MSU-Northern - April 7, 2023

Annual Awards Day Presents a Record Number of Scholarships



Last Friday (Mar. 31), the campus celebrated its annual Awards Day! The Awards Day celebration is a campus tradition where the campus announces the recipients of the student scholarships for next year and presents the Student Excellence Awards and the Golden N Awards. This year 299 academic scholarships totaling \$300,360 (\$52,875 more than last year) to 247 students were awarded. This amount does not include any federal grants or loans, state aid, or athletic scholarships.

Jay Pyette Named 2023 Commencement Speaker

Jay Pyette was born and raised in Chinook, Montana, graduating in 1985. He attended Northern Montana College earning his bachelor's degree in broadfield English with a theatre minor in 1989 and then attended the University of Oregon, earning his master's degree in theatre arts with an emphasis in Shakespeare in 1992. With two fellow graduates, Jay founded the Northwest Ensemble Theatre (NET) and began producing new works. Jay returned to Montana in 1993 and NET was officially renamed the Montana Actors' Theatre (MAT).



After teaching English and theatre at Havre High School, as well as various theatre classes at MSU-Northern from 1995 to 2014, Jay began working exclusively for MAT as its executive director. He served on the Havre City Council and is currently the Vice Chair of the Montana Arts Council and is also an accomplished playwright. His comedy, *Rugburns*, toured Montana while his drama, *The Dead of Winter*, premiered in Montana to be subsequently produced in London, England. His most recent play, *The Harvest*, premiered in Havre last year. Jay and his wife, Dana, have five adult children.

Student Excellence Awards Presented at Awards Day



Since 1982, Northern has presented Student Excellence Awards to students who have achieved personal, educational, and professional goals and who

have made meaningful and substantive contributions to our campus, local, and global communities. Student Excellence Awards recognize Northern students who have exemplified a commitment to the pursuit of high academic achievement and significant student engagement. These students hold themselves and others to a high standard, strive for integrity in all areas of their lives, and model for others a commitment to holistic learning and engagement.

Twelve students received a Student Excellence Award during last week's Awards Day celebration. The students were (L to R): Dexter Beck, Dylan Chvilicek, Brailynn DeMers, Skylee Dirden, Mychaella Hall, Abbey Morse, Hadley Plummer, Aili Subik, Jennifer Tomac, Samantha Watson, Sydney Hansen, and Mandy Nitz.

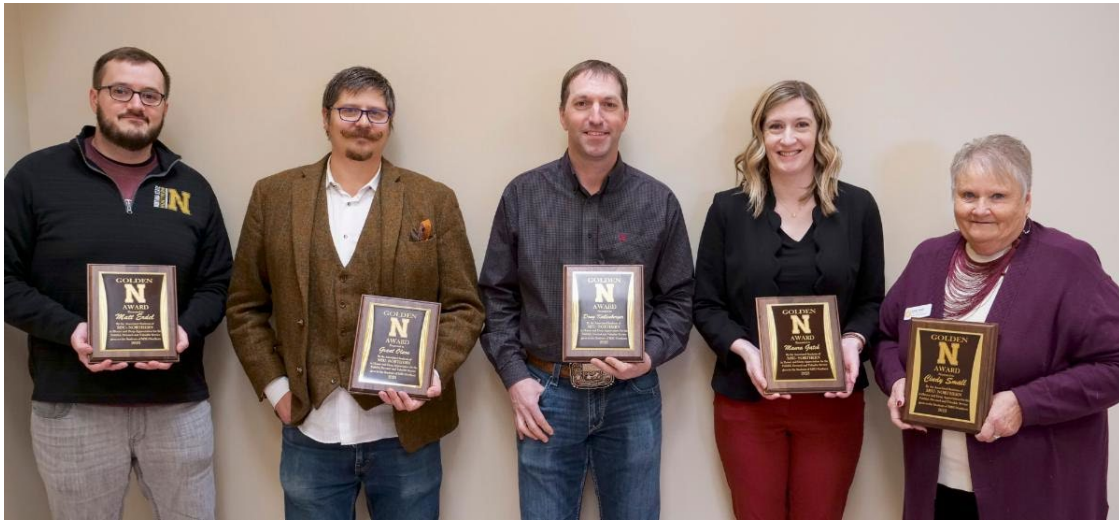
[Read more...](#)

Northern Athletes Celebrate Their Accomplishments



On Wednesday (Apr. 5), the Northern Athletic Department hosted their annual Northern Athletics Banquet. This event is an opportunity to honor each of our student athletic teams and their various individual achievements. Seniors received a watch and the athletes of the year were named. The official presentation for the athletes of the year will occur during tonight's Spring Fling.

Student Senate Names Five Golden N Recipients



Each year, the Golden N awards are presented by the ASMSUN Student Senate to honor faculty and staff members at MSU-Northern who have demonstrated a strong commitment to supporting student success. The award's prestige stems from the fact that it is entirely student-driven; winners are selected based on their overall willingness to help students achieve their goals. The Golden "N" Award is widely considered the most prestigious recognition that any faculty or staff member at MSU-Northern can receive. The 2023 recipients of the Golden "N" Award (L to R) are Matt Erdel, Dr. Grant Olson, Doug Kallenburger, Maura Gatch, and Cindy Small,

[Read more...](#)

MSU-Northern Receives a \$30K Proficiency-Based Learning Grant

Northern's Education Department, led by Dr. Amy L. Smith, was recently awarded a Proficiency-Based Learning Grant which will allow the department to better prepare pre-service teachers to implement proficiency-based learning within K-12 settings. The grant focuses on targeted professional development as the basis for transforming clinical experience courses to reflect proficiency-based learning. As Montana legislators and administration discuss the proficiency-based conceptual framework, it is necessary for Education Preparation Programs (EPPs) to be positioned to prepare our future teachers to teach within a proficiency-based learning system.



The voice that is often missing in education reform is that of the student. This grant supports three students, soon to be first-year teachers, from Northern's EPP to participate in the collaborative process. Graduating seniors Skylee Dirden, Addison Kinsella-Norstedt, and Leslie Fisher will travel with faculty to participate in a Marzano Academy conference, Transforming to a Competency-Based System. Not only will these students share their expertise as the EPP incorporates proficiency-based learning into the program, they will also be teacher-leaders as they apply and share their new perceptions and understandings of proficiency-based learning with schools across the Hi-Line. (Photo by Jason Geer)

The one-time, \$30,000 grant was awarded by the Montana State University Proficiency-Based Learning Team, spearheaded by Dr. Tricia Siefert.

Rodeo Team Hosts PRCA Extreme Bares & Broncs



MSU-Northern Rodeo Team hosted their annual fundraiser, the PRCA Extreme Bares and Broncs Challenge in Havre last weekend (Mar 31 & Apr 1).

The winners in the bareback riding were:

- First Place - Jacek Frost with 89 points - won \$3,863
- Second Place - Jayco Roper with 88.5 points and earned \$2,962
- Third Place - Cole Reiner with 88 points and earned \$2,189
- Fourth Place - Keenan Hayes with 87.5 points.
- Fifth Place - Jacob Raine with 87 points
- Sixth Place - Cooper Cooke with 85 points
- Seventh Place - Trenten Montero with 83 points.
- Eighth Place - Caleb Bennett, Richard Champion and Shane O'Connell (tied) with 82.5 points.

The Winners in the saddle bronc riding were:

- First Place - Ben Anderson with 88.5 points earned \$4,117
- Second Place - Logan Hay with 86.5 points to earn \$3,157.
- Third Place - Brody Wells with 84 points earned \$2,333
- Fourth Place - Dawson Dahm with 83 points.
- Fifth Place - Jack Bentz and Kolby Wanchuk tied with 81.5 points
- Seventh Place - Sage Newman with 80 points
- Eighth Place - Tanner Butner and Garrett Cunningham tied 79 points

[Read more...](#)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Registration for Fall Semester 2023 Schedule:

- Apr 17: New Students

No classes April 12 for All N day, offices will be open

UPCOMING EVENTS

Northern Lights Athletic & Scholarship Foundation's 18th Annual



Friday, April 7, 2023 at 5:30pm

MSU-Northern Armory Gymnasium

Table for 8: \$800.00 All-inclusive table for 8: \$1,100.00 Individual Tickets: \$75.00

Call 406-945-0249 to reserve your table today!

Spring Fling – Apr 7

Join the Northern Lights Athletic Scholarship Foundation (NLASF) for the 18th annual Spring Fling dinner and auctions. This exciting evening will be held on Friday, April 7, at 5:30 PM in Armory Gymnasium. After an amazing dinner, the NLASF presents awards of excellence to the student athletes of Montana State University-Northern. The evening is filled with games and fun and is a wonderful way to support the Student-Athletes that are on-hand to help throughout the evening. Tickets are \$75/individual tickets or \$800/\$1100 for tables of eight. For tickets contact: (406) 945-0249.

FIND YOUR FUTURE **Industry Night!**



Industry Night – Apr 11, 20 and May 18

Are you interested in a career in the technical fields? From diesel, agriculture, business and much more, Industry Night is designed just for you! Bring your parents along with you to talk with industry professionals about career opportunities in the technical field. Learn how Industry and MSU-Northern work together to prepare you for your future and your career. Each event will have representatives from Modern Machinery, Tractor & Equipment Co, and RDO Equipment Co!

Dates & Registration

April 11th from 6 pm-8 pm, in Missoula - hosted by Modern Machinery

April 20th from 6 pm-8 pm, in Billings - hosted by RDO Equipment Co

May 18th from 6 pm-8 pm, in Great Falls - hosted by Tractor & Equipment Co

[More information...](#)

All N Day – April 12

Come to the drop in advising from 10-3 in the SUB ballroom to meet with faculty from each of Northern's three colleges. This is a great way to plan your future and register for classes.

Car Show – April 12

Come to the MSU-Northern campus Car Show next Wednesday, April 12, at the SUB loop from 5-7 PM. This event is open to Northern students, alumni, faculty, and staff.

Founders Awards Dinner – Apr. 14

Join the Northern Alumni Foundation on April 14 in the SUB Ballroom at 5:30 p.m. for an excellent prime rib dinner and to officially present Kurt Johnson and Pam Veis with their Founders Excellence Awards. Tickets are \$35 per person, RSVPs are required to attend, so please call (406) 265-3711 to reserve your seat, or email alumni@msun.edu.

Havre Literary Night – April 14

Montana State University-Northern and Montana Actors' Theatre are pleased to present the Havre Literary Night on Friday April 14, at 7:00 pm, in the MSUN Little Theatre. It will be a night of fiction, poetry, & photography featuring three local and award-winning authors:

- Charles Finn – 2022 Montana Book Award Winner
- Gwen Hart – X.J. Kennedy Poetry Award Winner
- Roger Hart – McGlinn fiction contest Winner and Photographer
- Barbara Michelman – 2022 Montana Book Award Winner

This event is free and open to people of all ages. Refreshments will be available.

[Click here to download flyer...](#)

Student Art Show – April 17

The opening reception for the student art show will be held in the Vande Bogart Library on Monday, April 17, at 6 PM. Refreshments will be served. The art exhibition will run April 17-28 and will feature art projects from all the art classes and will contain all media types.

Brown Bag Lecture with Dr. Gwen Hart – April 17

Join us for the next Brown Bag Lecture where Dr. Hart will introduce her newly published volume of poetry and share some insights about her process as a poet. Title of the presentation: "Never Be the Same: Finding and Following Poetic Imagination" on Monday, April 17, 2023, at 11:00 AM-12:00 PM in the Hensler Auditorium.

WOMEN IN STEM - April 18

APRIL 18, 2023 12:05-12:55PM STUDENT UNION BUILDING (SUB)
Teresa Brockie, PhD, RN, FAAN, is an Indigenous nurse scientist and educator whose research focuses on achieving health equity through community-based prevention and intervention of suicide, trauma, and adverse childhood experiences among vulnerable populations. She is an Assistant

Professor at Johns Hopkins School of Nursing with a joint appointment in the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg Center for Indigenous Health.. Sponsored by the Office of Diversity and Little River Institute at MSU-Northern.

Retirement Reception - April 18

You are cordially invited to a MSU-Northern retirement reception on Tuesday, April 18th, 2023 at 3:30-5:00 p.m. in the MSU-Northern SUB Ballroom. We will be honoring Kevin Carlson, Margaret Christofferson, Gregory Clouse, Richard Dorcheus, Thomas Kase, R. Neil Moisey, Keith Richardson, and Cynthia Small.

Havre Dinner Theatre – Apr 21-22

Montana Actors Theatre is pleased to present, *Almost Austen or Basically Bronte: A Farce in Two Acts*. Jane Austen has writer's block. Just as she's fallen into a slump, her study is invaded by the Bronte sisters. They're all ghosts, forced to roam the world until one is deemed the greatest writer. They try to outdo each other in writing an original short story. The audience chooses the winner. The grand prize? Paradise! The resulting tales are strewn with off-color jokes, nausea-inducing puns, & the occasional appearance of an unexpected fruit. Let the best woman win!

All Dinner Theatre tickets are \$35 for one or \$65 for two. Reserved tables of 8 for \$300. Add 8 tickets to your cart and we will automatically reserve a table for you! Price includes dinner and the performance. Havre Eagles Club – April 21, 22 at 6:00 p.m.

[Click here for tickets...](#)

45th Annual Sweetgrass Society Powwow – April 28-29

The Sweetgrass Society's annual powwow is less than a month away, so if you are interested in helping to sponsor the event then contact Sweetgrass Society President Tallen Oats, or Sweetgrass Vice President Dulci Skunkcap. You can also go to the Northern Foundation website at msunfoundation.org, click on Donate Now and type Pow-wow in the other fund blank area, type in the \$ amount and use a debit or credit card to pay to sponsor or donate.

NEXT WEEK'S CALENDAR

Friday, April 07

- Spring Deferred Payment Schedule: 100% Due
- University Day (no classes, offices OPEN)
- Spring Fling – Armory Gym - 5:30 PM

Wednesday, April 12

- All "N" Day (no classes, offices OPEN)
- Car Show

Thursday, April 13

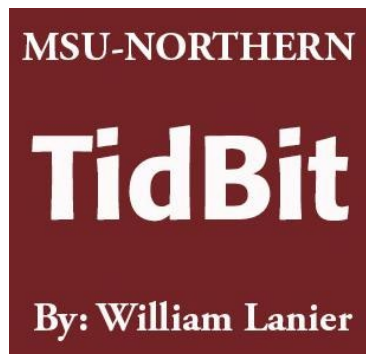
- MSUN Rodeo @ Montana State University

Friday, April 14

- MSUN Rodeo @ Montana State University
- 2023 Founders' Excellence Award Dinner –SUB - 5:30 PM
- Havre Literary Night 7:00 PM

Saturday, April 15

- MSUN Rodeo @ Montana State University



(#391) Alumni Updates

This week's NNN TidBit is going to highlight a few more Northern Alumni.

Northern Alum, Dave Peterson recently retired from the City of Havre. Dave worked for the City of Havre for 34 years and more than 20 of those years as the Director of Public Works.

[Peterson retires from helm of Havre Public Work - Havre Daily News](#)

Northern Alum, Nick Turner will be the new golf coach at Chinook High School. Nick is taking over from another Northern Alum, Mike Seymour.
[Nick Turner to Take Over as Head Golf Coach for the Chinook Sugarbeeters - The Blaine County Journal News-Opinion](#)

It was recently announced that Pam Vies and Kurt Johnson are the 2023 Northern Founders Award recipients. Check next week's TidBit for more information.

[Main – MSU-Northern Foundation \(msunfoundation.org\)](http://msunfoundation.org)



Northern Alumni, Joe Aline and Neal Cleveland were on hand at the 2023 Awards convocation to present the Aline Shumaker Endowed Scholarship. (See Photo of Neal with one of his former Northern Faculty, Chancellor Greg Kegel.)



Olivia Isakson daughter of Northern Alumni Cari Freeman-Isakson and Broady Isakson was the 2023 recipient of the Mavis Filler Farnham Memorial Scholarship. While Cari or Broady were not able to make it to the Awards Convocation, Cari was excited to see this picture! (see photo of Olivia)

If you or you know of a fellow Northern Alumni that should be featured, please send me an e-mail at wjlanier1963@yahoo.com

Visit our website

Montana State University-Northern | 406-265-3700 | www.msun.edu

STAY CONNECTED



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