

WCFM – 91.9 FM
THE VOICE OF THE BERKSHIRES
Williamstown Massachusetts

QUARTERLY ISSUES/PROGRAM LIST

January, February, March 2024

This is a sample of quarterly issues/programs presented on WCFM during the first quarter of 2024.

January 2024 – Issues/Program List:

Campus News - News supplied by the Williams Record (College Newspaper)

- **College admits 249 out of record-breaking 1,068 applicants to Class of 2028 through early decision**

Aired Jan 5th at 16:32, Jan 6th at 15:06, 18:45, 20:35, Jan 8th at 11:24, 23:09, Jan 9th at 13:49, 17:30, Jan 10th at 12:35, Jan 12th at 08:30, Jan 13th at 16:45, Jan 14th at 08:32, Jan 15th at 23:23, Jan 16th 20:43, Jan 19th at 12:32 and Jan 20 at 11:45 - 3 minutes

Issue\Need - Early decision results, Record breaking applicants lowest admissions rate in 2 years

The College admitted 23.3 percent of 1,068 early decision applicants to the Class of 2028 on Dec. 8, according to Dean of Admission and Student Financial Services Liz Creighton '01. For the second consecutive year, the early decision admission rate was the lowest in the College's history. The number of early decision applicants has now increased for four years in a row.

The College admitted 249 students, deferred 155 to the regular decision round, and denied admission to 658. Creighton noted that the College typically admits "a small number" of deferred applicants through regular decision in March. Last year, the College admitted 14 deferred early-decision applicants.

In addition to the 249 early-decision admittances, the College welcomed 11 students to the Class of 2028 through QuestBridge's National College Match program on December 1

- **College says graffiti on Israeli hostage posters called for violence, breached 'both College values and Williams policies'**

Aired Jan 11th at 19:00, Jan 13th at 14:11, Jan 13th at 15:05, Jan 18th at 21:04 - 3 minutes

Issue\Need - Campus Safety, Violence against Israelis

On Dec. 13, the College became aware that posters in Paresky Center had been defaced with graffiti that "supported violence against Israelis," violating College values and policies, President Maud S. Mandel wrote in an all-campus email the following day. College staff took the posters down. The posters had originally been put up by Noah Cape '25 and Matt Seltzer '24 to raise awareness about Israelis held hostage by Hamas.

“It crossed the line that separates honest, even passionate disagreement from threats and justification of violence,” Dean of the College Gretchen Long wrote in an email to the Record, adding that the College would not share the graffiti’s wording with the public. “When we judge that statements are hateful enough to require the extreme measure of removing them, as in this case, it’s not helpful to then amplify them by quoting them publicly,” she said.

- **Students, faculty continue advocating for Northern Tier Rail Expansion**

Aired Jan 13 at 22:34, Jan 14th at 18:20, Jan 18th at 14:55, Jan 22 at 11:28 - 3 minutes

Issue\Need - Rail Expansion, Public Transportation, Local Economy

The Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) is finalizing its report on the feasibility of the Northern Tier Rail Expansion Project, which would bring passenger rail service between Boston and Northwestern Massachusetts for the first time since 1956, with a likely terminus in North Adams, Mass.

Elain He '26 and Christopher Rodriguez '26 spent this past summer working for the Center for Learning in Action (CLiA) to advocate for the initiative, creating a website to increase awareness about its origins and purpose. The pair collaborated with Massachusetts State Representative John Barrett III and received faculty advising from Professor of Political Science James Mahon.

Rodriguez and He’s website also documents the possible economic benefits of returning train service to Northwestern Massachusetts. By attracting businesses and investors, the rail line will spur economic growth for towns along the rail corridor that have seen population declines in recent years, the website says. “If we redevelop the rail, then people from Boston will migrate out of the city,” Rodriguez said.

- **Residents of Hubbell House were told last Wednesday morning that they must relocate by Jan. 30 due to anticipated concerns with the building’s structural integrity.**

Aired Jan 25 at 10:26, 18:34, Jan 26 at 12:40, Jan 28th at 18:10, Jan 29th at 11:18, Feb 1st at 11:13, Feb 2nd at 21:58, Feb 3rd at 14:44, Feb 6th at 22:16, Feb 11th at 11:10 - 3 minutes

Issue\Need - Damage to Student Residency, Safety Concerns

Residents received an email from Assistant Director of Housing Operations Heather McCarthy informing them that Hubbell would close for the remainder of the 2023-2024 academic year to allow for “necessary repairs and improvements to enhance safety and overall living conditions.”

According to the email, the move is “proactive,” and there is no immediate threat to residents’ safety. Renovations to the building are scheduled to begin in early February, Senior Project Manager Shaun Garvey told the Record.

Earlier this month, Garvey was repairing damage from an electrical fire in Hubbell over the summer when he discovered that one of the building's chimneys was in "pretty rough condition structurally," he said. In order to make repairs, however, the maintenance team would have to shut off the building's hot water system, which vents through the damaged chimney.

Campus Happenings

- **WALLS Preview**

**Aired Jan 11th at 18:24, Jan 18th at 18:24, Jan 25th at 18:24, Jan 29 at 11:09,
Feb 1st at 18:04, and Feb 3rd at 15:08 - Duration - 1 minutes**

Issue\Need - Student Life, Cultural, Art

Calling all Ephs! Head to the museum from 2 to 3:30 p.m. for some snacks and to strategize your Pickup Day plan.

Grab a friend and come to the museum for snacks and a sneak peek of which WALLS works will be going out on Pickup Day so you can strategize your plan!

Pickup Day is Sunday, February 4, with doors opening to Goodrich starting at 6 a.m. to line up for your chance to borrow a WALLS work. First come, first choice selection starts at 9 a.m. Learn more about Pickup Day here.

- **Narcan training on campus this month**

Aired Jan 8th at 11:25 and - 2 minutes

Issue\Need - Safety, Opioid Overdose Awareness

Amalio Jusino, the campus Director of Emergency Management, will be offering free Narcan training to any students, faculty, and staff who are interested throughout the month of January.

Learn to identify signs of an opioid overdose and take home a Narcan kit. All trainings will be in Griffin 3.

Sponsored by Campus Safety Services, Berkshire Harm Reduction and the PEACe office (Prevention, Education and Advocacy in Community)

Dates are: Monday, Jan 8th at 3pm

Wednesday, Jan 10th at 3pm

- **This year WOW offers Don Giovanni by W.A. Mozart. The performances are free and open to the public.**

Aired July 20 at 18:44 - 2 minutes

Issue\Need - Student Life, Educational, Cultural

Williams Opera Workshop

Williams Opera Workshop is a project involving talented Williams student singers working together to prepare operatic scenes. This offers singers the opportunity to further develop skills in stage acting and character development while working as part of an ensemble. The workshop culminates in this final concert performance.

When: Thu, January 25th, 2024 at 7:30 pm, Location - Chapin Hall

February 2024 – Issues/Program List:

Campus News - News supplied by the Williams Record (College Newspaper)

- **New tea and boba café to open as Spring Street businesses shuffle**

Aired Jan 24th at 11:09, Feb 1st at 10:43, Feb 2nd at 12:45, Feb 3rd at 15:09, 22:45, Feb 4th at 18:29, Feb 5th at 14:33, Feb 9th at 20:16, Feb 11th at 18:06 - 3 minutes

Issue\Need - New food option, New local business, Student Life

Following the long-awaited opening of Crust pizzeria, Spring Street will see a shuffle of its businesses. A new café, Tea and Boba Lounge, will open at 76 Spring St. on Feb. 2. The A Better Community Clothing Sale (ABC), the previous occupant of the space, moved to 30 Spring St.

Tea and Boba Lounge will serve 45 variations of single and loose leaf blended tea, as well as baked goods and desserts. The shop's owner, Glory-Anne Jones, also owns a tea store in Cohoes, N.Y., and an online tea store called Chocolate is Self-Care.

The College helped move ABC Clothing Sale to a smaller location on Spring Street to make space for Tea and Boba Lounge.

The College was interested in working with Jones because of her positive attitude and strong motivation. "She is also a high-energy entrepreneur [whose] optimism is infectious and is driven to make her venture succeed; which all redounds to the benefit of students and other Spring Street consumers," Associate Provost Chris Winters wrote in an email to the Record.

Also new to Spring Street is Crust pizzeria, which opened on Dec. 18. The location on Spring Street is the second storefront for Crust founder Jim Cervone, who opened the original location in Pittsfield. A month after its opening day, Cervone reflected on Crust's success. "Business has ... exceeded expectations," he told the Record.

- **College awards tenure to 10 faculty members**

Aired Feb 7th at 15:01, Feb 10th at 17:28, Feb 12 at 14:28, Feb 20 at 09:26 - 3 minutes

Issue\Need - Academics, 10 Faculty members get tenure

The Board of Trustees approved the promotion of 10 assistant professors to associate professors with tenure at its January 2024 meeting on Jan 19 and 20: Daniel Barowy, computer science; Mari Rodriguez Binnie, art; Xizhen Cai, statistics; Amal Equeiq, Arabic studies; Galen Jackson '09, political science; Katharine Jensen, physics; Murad Khan Mumtaz, art; Anna Plantinga, statistics; Robert Rawle, chemistry; and Saadia Yacoob, religion. The promotions will go into effect on July 1.

Achieving tenure at the College is often a seven-year-long process: After a professor teaches for three years at the College, the Committee on Appointments and Promotions (CAP) considers whether they should be retained for a second term of up to four years. If retained, the CAP evaluates the faculty member again, making provisional tenure decisions that must then be approved by the Board of Trustees. According to the Faculty Handbook, CAP evaluates professors based on the quality of their teaching and scholarship, taking into consideration student feedback, peer reviews, committee members' impressions from class visits, and the quality of the candidate's scholarly research.

- **Career center adjusts ASIP to broaden access for shorter internships**

Aired Feb 14th at 15:23, Feb 19th at 20:21, Feb 20th at 17:12 - 2 minutes

Issue\Need - Changes to summer internships and funding, Academics

The '68 Center for Career Exploration will adjust the parameters of the Alumni Sponsored Internship Program (ASIP) for summer 2024, allowing shorter internships to qualify for grants and introducing a new sliding scale for the size of each grant, which will vary according to the length and format of the internship, as well as each student's financial needs.

This year, internships must be at least four weeks long and involve 140 hours of work to qualify for ASIP funding, according to Leigh Sylvia, the '68 Center's director of operations and external relations. The size of each student's ASIP grant will be determined by a formula and will range between \$2,000 and \$5,500, depending on the duration, location, and format of the internship. The funding formula will also consider a student's financial aid status and whether they will have to pay for summer housing.

- **Faculty votes to allow reversals of Pass/Fail designations**

Aired Feb 21st at 12:26, Feb 22nd at 21:04, Feb 23rd at 09:45, 10:44, Feb 24th at 14:40, Feb 25 at 00:37, 01:34 and 14:02 - 2 minutes

Issue\Need - Academics, Changes to Pass\Fail designations

Faculty voted to amend the course catalog to allow students to undo Pass/ Fail designations for previous courses until their penultimate semester at the College. Fifty-six voted in favor of the change, eight voted against, and one abstained at a faculty meeting on Feb. 14.

The new policy, brought to the faculty by the Committee on Educational Affairs (CEA), also states that reversing a Pass/Fail designation would not allow a student to designate an additional course Pass/

Fail in the future. Students may still only designate a maximum of three courses as Pass/Fail during their time at the College.

Previously, the course catalog allowed students to designate a course as Pass/ Fail up until one week after grades were due for the semester, and these designations were generally irreversible. Courses taken Pass/Fail are not factored into GPA calculations and cannot be used to fulfill divisional or major requirements, unless the course is a student's first course in the major (in which case it can count for major, but not other requirements).

Before the change, students could petition department chairs to make exceptions to the rule and allow multiple Pass/Fail courses taken Pass/Fail to count towards a major. Such requests are "not a huge number ... but there are some, and it is a bit burdensome," Chair and Professor of Economics Jon Bakija said at the faculty meeting.

Campus Happenings

- **Lyceum Dinner! Sign up Now! Dinner Will Take Place February 21st from 7:00pm - 9:30pm !**

Aired Feb 6th at 22:46 and 23:10, Feb 7th at 12:16 and 13:50, Feb 9th at 14:08, 15:25 and 19:30, Feb 19th at 20:11, Feb 20th at 13:23 - 2 minutes

Issue\Need - Student Life, Lyceum dinners with Professors, Academics

The Office of Campus Life and Dining Services proudly brings back Lyceum Dinners. Lyceum Dinners allow students to invite their professors for a meal and conversation in the Faculty House. These opportunities are meant to encourage members of the Williams community to understand each other better and the world around them. Students who complete the form will not be guaranteed an invitation to Lyceum. Incomplete or incorrect forms will not be considered. Lyceum groups should submit one application, not multiple. For questions or concerns about Lyceum, please get in touch with DaQuan Vidot (dv6@williams.edu).

- **WALLS Spring 2024 Pickup**

Aired Feb 1st at 18:05, Feb 3rd at 11:40 and 15:08 - 2 minute

Issue\Need - Cultural, Student Life, Art

Williams College students can enliven their rooms by borrowing a work of art from the WALLS (Williams Art Loan for Living Spaces) Collection.

This year we will be partnering with our friends at Goodrich Coffee where they will be serving up coffee, hot chocolate, bagels and cream cheese, and even a WALLS-inspired drink.

Just a reminder that this takes some time, so please plan accordingly. Check out the collection here or stop by the museum for a WALLS Preview on Saturday, February 3, from 2-3:30 p.m. to check out the works that will be available.

We want WALLS Pickup Day to be a fun, safe, and comfortable experience for all participants! Please reach out to Rachel Heisler (rh7@williams.edu) if you have questions, concerns, or accessibility needs.

WALLS Pickup Day is Sunday, February 4. Lineup starts at 6 a.m. in Goodrich Hall. First come, first choice selections begin at 9 a.m. Please no overnighters!

- **BHS Blood Drive 2/5 & 2/6!**

Aired Feb 3rd at 15:07, 18:26, Feb 4th at 16:14, 18:22 - 1 minute

Issue\Need - Blood Drive, Health

Do you have too much blood and want to donate some of it? The BHS Blood Mobile is coming to campus on 2/5 and 2/6 from 9am-2:30pm! Come donate! To sign up for a donation time, please call: (413) 447-2597 or email: camuso@bhs1.org.

- **Want to work in the arts this summer?**

Aired Feb 23rd at 09:30, 12:36, Feb 25th at 01:25, 14:01 and 16:34 - 2 minute

Issue\Need - Summer Art Internship, Academics

Calling all Ephs! Applications are now open for the Williams Summer Arts & Museums Immersion Program, a summer internship opportunity in the arts for Williams College students.

The Williams Summer Arts & Museums Immersion Program is a full-time, paid, nine-week internship for current Williams students. This summer living and learning program, run by the Williams College Museum of Art, will provide students the opportunity to explore what it looks like to work in the arts while living with and engaging with a cohort of fellow students. During the nine-week program, each student will work 28 hours a week at an arts institution in the Berkshires (WCMA, the Clark Art Institute, MASS MoCA, or Artist Book Foundation).

This summer, 12 positions are available. Read more about them and apply here by midnight on March 17.

March 2023 – Issues/Program List:

Campus News - News supplied by the Williams Record (College Newspaper)

- **The Town will permanently close and ban parking in the empty lot off Water Street**

Aired Feb 25th at 12:07 and 19:17, Feb 27th at 23:20, Feb 28th at 10:32, 14:33, 15:30, 16:11, Feb 29th at 13:56 and 22:44 and 00:46, Mar 1st at 12:03, 13:17, 15:16, 22:05 Mar 3rd at 11:12 - Duration 3 minutes

Issue\Need - Closing of Town Parking Lot, Public Safety

The Town will permanently close and ban parking in the empty lot off Water Street, colloquially known as the “dirt lot,” on March 1, the Williamstown Police Department (WPD) announced in a Facebook post on Feb. 22. Prior to the announcement, the Town generally did not ticket or otherwise regulate parking at the site, according to previous Record reporting. On March 1, the Department of Public Works will place a barrier around the entire site and the WPD will tow cars left in the lot at the owner’s expense, the department wrote.

Town Manager Bob Menicocci told the Record that he decided to restrict the use of the dirt lot due to general concerns over safety. After monitoring the lot last fall and winter, Menicocci identified several issues with the use of the space for parking, including mud, ice, and the absence of painted parking lines, which has led to cars being parked haphazardly and blocking others’ exits.

- **College recycling system effective but hampered by poor student compliance, Record investigation finds**

Aired Mar 6th at 10:28, 14:55, 15:17, 20:14, Mar 7th at 16:59, Mar 8th at 23:17, Mar 10th at 01:41, 14:04, 16:31, Mar 11th at 13:33, Mar 12th at 09:26, - Duration 3 minutes

Issue\Need - Recycling Concerns, Confusion over program, poor student compliance

“No one knows what Bernie and I do, except for Bernie and I,” Campus Recycling Coordinator Colin Moran told the Record. Alongside Campus Recycler Bernie Baker, Moran works daily to collect, sort, and prepare the campus’ recycling for pickup by Casella Waste Systems, the company that transports and processes the College’s recycling.

The College contracts Casella for roughly \$40,000 every year to process its recyclable waste, Custodial Manager Ricky Harrington wrote in an email to the Record.

To investigate the efficacy of the College’s recycling system, the Record spoke to the Zilkha Center, trailed the work of custodial staff, and surveyed students. The anonymous survey, which was conducted last week, was sent to 500 randomly selected students and garnered 144 responses. While respondents said they care about recycling and believe that they are recycling their own waste effectively, they also reported confusion about the College’s recycling program and estimated that recycled waste produced by students is generally contaminated. A lack of student compliance leaves Baker, Moran, and other staff members to pick up the slack, according to a series of interviews with custodial staff.

- **Small fire in Mission causes minimal damage; CSS, fire department respond**
Aired Mar 8th at 13:25, Mar 9th at 11:34, Mar 10th at 13:30, Mar 11th at 14:50, 16:11, 17:30, Mar 12th at 00:42, 17:18, 21:14, 22:42 - Duration 2 minutes

Issue\Need - Fire in dorm room, Campus Safety

Campus Safety and Security (CSS) officers and the Williamstown Fire Department extinguished a small fire in a dorm room on the second floor of Armstrong in Mission Park on Thursday, Feb. 29. The fire, caused by a cord left under a pile of clothes, damaged only the carpet of the dorm room, which has since been replaced by Facilities, Director for Emergency Management Amalio Jusino wrote in an email to the Record.

According to Jusino, CSS received notice of a fire alarm at 10:04 a.m., and Safety Patrol Supervisor David Bartels arrived at Armstrong shortly after. The fire was contained to a single dorm room, which was unoccupied when Bartels arrived, Jusino said. Bartels partially put out the fire with a fire extinguisher, closed the door of the dorm room, and then helped facilitate the evacuation of the building.

Campus Happenings

- **HOPKINS FOREST MAPLE FEST**
Aired Mar 6th at 20:20, 22:36, Mar 7th at 21:07, Mar 8th at 17:42, 18:20, 23:14, Mar 9th at 13:44 - 2 minute

Issue\Need - Student Life, Educational

Learn about the process of maple syrup making and taste maple treats at Hopkins Forest Maple Fest on Saturday, March 9th!

Pancakes, Coffee, maple treats, sugaring education, syrup sales, live music and more!

Vans leave every 15 minutes beginning at 10am from behind Paresky.

Sat, March 9th, 2024 from 10:00 am - 1:00 pm

- **Come to the Williams Inn to learn about the project to build a new Williams College Museum of Art!**
Aired Mar 3rd at 10:24, Mar 4th at 13:40, Mar 10th at 10:30 - Duration 3 minutes

Issue\Need - New College Art Museum, Tourism, Cultural

The site of the planned new Williams College Museum of Art sits at the intersection of Routes 7 and 2 in the heart of Williamstown.

Join us for the design unveil of the new WCMA museum building. WCMA leadership and the project team will present the design, project schedule, construction plans, and next steps.

The new Williams College Museum of Art is conceived to serve the college, the local community and visitors to the Berkshires. The new museum will be a space designed with students in mind, fostering a sense of belonging for campus members and the wider community, and an inclusive experience for all visitors. The building will offer substantial gallery space for showing more of the 15,000 works in the museum's collection, as well as facilities for easy access to collections for student, faculty, and visiting scholar requests, and more object study classrooms. The design will be completed by SO-IL, the fast-rising Brooklyn-based firm led by Florian Idenburg and Jing Liu.

This community forum will serve to share the schematic designs with the Williams community and provide a platform for their thoughts and feedback as important stakeholders in the process of building WCMA's new home.

When: March 11, 2024 at 6 PM LOCATION Williams Inn

- **Calling all performing artists: share your art at the DC opening ceremony!**

Aired Mar 13th at 22:21, mar 14th at 14:15 and 16:36 - Duration 2 minutes

**Issue\Need - Ceremony for new Davis Center, Performing Artists wanted,
Student Life**

The Davis Center will be hosting an opening ceremony and ribbon cutting for the new facilities on Saturday the 13th of April. All are welcome to celebrate this exciting new space which we are confident will serve and support the Williams community of leaders well.

We are looking for a diverse mix of performing artists to share their artistry and be part of the ceremony. While we are hoping for two or three groups/individuals—we are open to more! We just need to know how many slots for performers we need so we can get the ceremony agenda set up.

see google form on daily messages and sign up by April 1