

BFCC MAGPIE



DECEMBER 2025

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BFCC STUDENT FILMMAKER SHINES AFTER SUCCESS IN AIHEC FILM CONTEST

Blackfeet Community College student Melisa Trombley has achieved national recognition after her entry in the AIHEC Film Festival advanced to the Tribal College Journal Student Film Contest, where her short documentary Reconnecting with Our Ways won Best Student Film. This award opened the door for Melisa to attend and represent BFCC at the 9th Annual Pocahontas Reframed Film Festival in Richmond, Virginia.

Melisa said the experience was far more welcoming and inspiring than she ever expected.

"I expected a small turnout, but it was the complete opposite; everyone was incredibly welcoming and inclusive."

She expressed deep gratitude for festival director Bradby Brown, whose support and dedication to uplifting Indigenous filmmakers left a lasting impact.

"He was kind, encouraging, and truly dedicated to supporting Indigenous voices. His guidance made the whole experience even more memorable."

Her documentary received enthusiastic praise from filmmakers and attendees alike.

"They loved the short doc and adored the interviewees. I was encouraged to continue making films, and I fully intend to." During the festival, Melisa connected with influential creatives, including Roland McCloskey—director of The Irish and Native Americans—as well as respected Indigenous filmmakers like Shelly Niro and Lauren Waters. Their encouragement energized her commitment to continue developing her craft.

"The whole experience was motivating and uplifting. It's something I will carry with me as I continue growing on my filmmaking path."

Melisa's accomplishment is a powerful example of where opportunities like AIHEC can lead. Her journey shows that BFCC students who share their stories and pursue these competitions can find themselves on national stages—and her success is just the beginning.



BFCC NURSING PROGRAM - FALL 2026: ARE YOU READY TO APPLY?

The Blackfeet Community College Nursing Program is gearing up for its Fall 2026 cohort, and now is the time to prepare. Whether you're a first-time applicant or returning to complete your nursing journey, make sure you're ready for these important upcoming dates:

Key Dates to Remember

- **December 15:** Contact Sharleen Gilham for ATI access
- **January 11:** TEAS practice exams open
- **January 29 & 30:** TEAS Test dates
- **February 12 & 13:** TEAS makeup exams
- **February 27 at 16:30:** Nursing applications due
- **March 9 & 10:** Applicant interviews

If you're planning to apply, start early, stay organized, and reach out if you need support.

Contact for More Information

Sharleen Gilham, BSN

BFCC Nursing Department

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sharleen.g@bfcc.edu

Take the next step toward a rewarding career in nursing—your future starts here!



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BOARD OF TRUSTEES MONTHLY HIGHLIGHTS

Approved: 10/29/25

Key Actions:

- Students CARES Act Stipend Payout: Approved distribution of stipends to eligible students.
- Employee Policy & Procedure Amendments: Updates to policies were approved to improve workplace clarity and operations.

Looking Ahead:

Stay tuned for next month's meeting highlights and upcoming board actions.

HUMAN RESOURCES - NEW HIRES!

We are excited to share several staffing updates within our team. Please help us welcome and congratulate the following individuals on their new roles:

New to the Institution

- Keli Grant – Accounts Payable Accountant
 - Keli joins BFCC with extensive experience in Finance and brings valuable knowledge and skills to support the Business Office. We are thrilled to welcome her to the team.
- Misty LaFranier – Nursing Instructor
 - Misty joins our Nursing Department and brings strong knowledge and experience that will greatly support our nursing program and students. We are excited to welcome her aboard.

In-House Transfers & Promotions

- Ilona Vaile – Student Account Specialist
 - Ilona has served the college for several years as the Human Services Administrative Assistant and is now transitioning into her new role as Student Account Specialist.
- Desiree Schildt – Financial Aid Director
 - Desiree has been an integral part of the Financial Aid Office for a number of years as the Financial Aid Specialist, and we are excited to announce her new role as Director of Financial Aid.
- Christie Farmer – Human Resource Director
 - Christie has served as the Human Resource Assistant and has now accepted the role of Human Resource Director, bringing strong leadership and dedication to our HR operations.

Open Positions

We are currently recruiting for the following positions:

- Human Resource Specialist
- Financial Aid Specialist
- Human Services Administrative Assistant
- Controller

If you or someone you know is interested, please visit our website or contact the Human Resource Department for more information at <https://bfcc.edu/Human-Resource>

JOIN US FOR THE 2025 PARADE OF LIGHTS AND BFCC OPEN HOUSE!

Get ready to kick off the holiday season with the 2025 Parade of Lights! The parade is happening Friday, December 12, and everyone in the community is invited to join in the festivities.

Parade Details:

- Lineup: 5:00 PM at the Adult Detention Center (jail)
- Judging: 5:45 PM
- Parade Start: 6:00 PM down Main Street to Blackfeet Community College

Prizes:

- 1st Place: \$500
- 2nd Place: \$300
- 3rd Place: \$200
- The first 10 floats to lineup will receive \$100

After the Parade:

Floats will park at the Southwind Lodge Building on campus, and the community is invited to the Student Commons area in the Beaver Painted Lodge Building to enjoy:

- Hot chocolate & snacks
- Winner announcements & door prizes
- BFCC Open House from 6:30–8:00 PM, showcasing our programs and holiday festivities
- Bookstore Sale—shop for books, supplies, and gifts

We also invite students to help with the parade and post-event activities—this is a great way to get involved in the community and share the holiday spirit!

Register Your Float:

Participants can register online at www.bfcc.edu/BFCC-Magpie or follow the QR code provided.

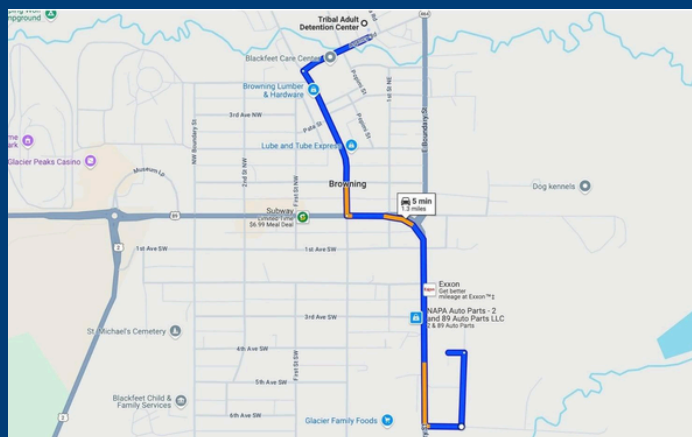
Come celebrate with us, enjoy the holiday spirit, and see the creativity of our community light up the night!

Contact:

Paula Bremner
pbremner@bfcc.edu | 406.955.1267



SCAN
TO
REGISTER



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AARON'S NATIVE BOOK HIGHLIGHTS - DECEMBER SELECTIONS AT MEDICINE SPRING LIBRARY

The library is ready to get you into the holiday spirit while exploring some amazing stories! We're thrilled to share upcoming library events and some of the wonderful books that Aaron has been enjoying.

Library Events:

- 12 Days of Christmas Ornaments: Take-and-make activities from December 1-18
- Snow Globe Making: Friday, December 5, 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
- Book Club Discussion: Monday, December 8, 4:00 - 6:00 PM
- Snowman Ornament Making: Friday, December 12, 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Aaron's Native Book Highlights:

Picture Book: Bud Finds Her Gift by Robin Wall Kimmerer

Bud doesn't know where she belongs as a little kid. Spending time with her grandma, she learns to see and interact with the world around her, discovering her own special gift.

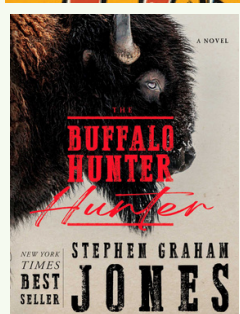
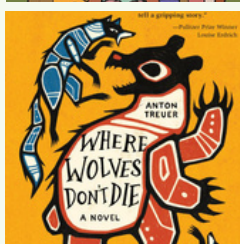
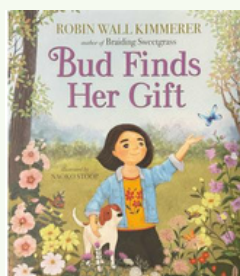
Middle Grade Book: The Ribbon Skirt by Cameron Mukwa

Finding acceptance—and self-acceptance—can be hard. With the help of spirits and friends, Anang creates a ribbon skirt to dance at the powwow in this beautiful graphic novel.

Young Adult Book: Where Wolves Don't Die by Anton Truer
Follow Ezra Cloud as he joins his grandfather on the trapline. A fast-paced, coming-of-age story that will make you fall in love with the Cloud family.

Book Club Selection: Buffalo Hunter Hunter by Stephen Graham Jones

In Miles City, a territory pastor meets Good Stab and learns a story of heartbreak, anger, and revenge. For the full experience, Aaron recommends listening to the audiobook—the voice actors bring it to life!



IMPORTANT DATES

- **DECEMBER 1-18:** ORNAMENT CRAFTS - MEDICINE SPRING LIBRARY
- **DECEMBER 5:** SNOW GLOBE MAKING - 9:00AM - 3:00PM - MEDICINE SPRING LIBRARY
- **DECEMBER 8:** BOOK CLUB DISCUSSION - 4:00PM - 6:00PM - MEDICINE SPRING LIBRARY
- **DECEMBER 8 - 11:** FINALS WEEK
- **DECEMBER 10:** CHRISTMAS BAZAAR - 12:00PM - 6:00PM - STUDENT COMMONS
- **DECEMBER 12:**
 - SNOWMAN ORNAMENT MAKING - 9:00AM - 3:00PM - MEDICINE SPRING LIBRARY
 - PARADE OF LIGHTS - 6:00PM - SEE MAP PAGE 2
 - BFCC OPEN HOUSE - 6:30PM - 8:00PM - STUDENT COMMONS
- **DECEMBER 16:** FINAL GRADES DUE
- **DECEMBER 22 - JANUARY 2:** CHRISTMAS BREAK

BFCC BOOKSTORE IS HAVING A SALE!



BFCC
PROMOTIONAL
ITEMS!



Other Gift
Items!

Happening December 12th-19th!

Open Monday - Friday 8:00AM - 4:00PM

Located in the Beaver Painted Lodge Building (near the Student Commons entrance). Open to the public. For more information cal 406.338.5441 Ext. 2217

DID YOU KNOW THAT YOU CAN ACCESS LIBRARY RESOURCES ANYWHERE? .

Take a look at our online digital archives, our card catalog, and check out meeting/study space from anywhere.

Schedule a room or a study space for your convenience when studying. Book a conference room for a meeting with colleagues!

View our online archives to discover past issues, stories, and publications from Blackfeet Community College.

Search our library catalog online to search our collection of books, e-books, and media resources.

