

MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY

BOZEMAN | BILLINGS | NORTHERN | GREAT FALLS COLLEGE

CAMPUS REPORT | Board of Regents Meeting | May 20, 2026



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On Saturday, May 2, more than 400 graduates donned regalia and walked across the stage at MSU Billings' 99th Commencement, held at MetraPark's Interstate Arena. Over 600 associates, bachelor's, and master's degrees were awarded.

MSUB has contracted with Kaleidoscope Group to engage in strategic planning to envision the future of the university. Karen Miller, a two-time graduate of MSUB and partner at Kaleidoscope Group and Michelle Williams base their work in neuroscience and have facilitated planning sessions for faculty, students, staff, alumni and community members.

The 56th annual Powwow was held on April 10 and 11 at the university campus. Titled "Igniting Living Teachings," this year's event drew hundreds of spectators as well as Native American drummers and dancers from across the region. Ruben Little Head, Northern Cheyenne, served as Master of Ceremonies.

The women's basketball team accomplished something never done before in the history of the Great Northwest Athletic Conference, becoming the first ever No. 6 seed to win a GNAC Championship with their 66-61 win over Western Washington University, collecting the second GNAC Championship crown in program history. MSUB also became the first team to defeat the top three seeds in the GNAC tournament on their way to the trophy and made the NCAA tournament for the fourth consecutive season.

Through a collaboration between the university and the [Montana Arts Council](#), *Artists Thrive*, a national initiative dedicated to improving the conditions for artists to thrive, held a statewide gathering in Billings on March 24-26. The convening was open to artists in any discipline and arts organizations of all sizes and was co-presented by the Montana Arts Council and the MSU Billings College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences.

On April 17, more than 40 undergraduate students presented art and research projects at the 13th annual Research and Creativity Symposium. Participants spoke about their projects to panels of judges and winners were awarded for each category. The keynote address was delivered by Billings Mayor Mike Nelson.

Prospective students and families were welcomed to campus for Preview Day on March 27. This opportunity showcased MSUB and helped future students feel connected to the university before they begin classes in Fall 2026. The Office of Admissions also hosted the third annual 9th Grade Visit Day on March 31.

Faculty and staff, community members, alumni, and friends of MSU Billings gathered at MetraPark on April 16 and 17 for the annual MSUB Foundation Wine and Food Festival. Over its history of more than 35 years, the festival has raised millions in scholarship dollars for MSUB students.