

September 2026

The University of Montana and the UM Foundation have created the [For Montana Scholarship Initiative](#), a landmark effort to help more Montana students access a UM education. The Griz football team will [sport a new jersey patch](#) this fall in support of the initiative.

Jeremiah Shinn, UM's 20th president, presented his first [State of the University Address](#) to help kick off fall semester. [Shinn started his tenure at UM](#) on July 1.

The University welcomed students to campus with [move-in day on Aug. 17](#). That was followed up by [Week of Welcome events](#).

UM's Lodge Dining Center recently [earned a national grand prize](#) for outstanding performance among new higher education dining facilities.

UM students are [studying western painted turtles](#) in Montana's vast outdoor classroom.

[UM music composition senior Chris Valian](#), winner of an annual music competition, had his work performed Aug. 2 during the Missoula Youth Symphony.

The UM College of Business [offered a startup workshop](#) and helped establish a downtown space for budding entrepreneurs to work on their ideas.

UM graduate Brontë Wittpenn [won a Pulitzer Prize](#) working for the San Francisco Chronicle.

Graduate student Abigail Fuesler studied the sometimes-controversial [topic of e-mountain bikes](#) and how they impact Montana trails.

UM Law graduate Ericka Camposan earned admission to [practice in every tribal court in Montana](#). It's a rare professional achievement.

UM partnered with Providence St. Patrick's Hospital to create RESOLVE, a program to [improve care for rural children](#) who have experienced abuse and neglect.

A new [UM study that examined Meagher Country](#), home of White Sulphur Springs, outlines ways to reverse economic decline, retain young people and attract tourists.

UM's Phyllis J. Washington College of Education recently earned an [A+ for its elementary teacher preparation programs](#) to teach reading.

Scientists at UM's Flathead Lake Biological Station [detected so-called forever chemicals](#) in Montana's beloved Flathead Watershed.

"The Obit Project," a new podcast from the Montana Media Lab and UM journalism school, was named to Apple Podcasts' ["Best So Far" list](#) for 2026.