Law Library Blog (May 2021): Legal Beagle's Blog Archive

Roger Williams University School of Law

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Summer Access

May 7, 2021

Taking summer classes? Doing research for Moot Court, Law Review, or an assignment? The Law Library and its resources are still available to continuing students during the summer.

Our LawGuide, Bloomberg/Lexis/Westlaw @ RWU Law: Summer Access explains details of continuing your use of these databases over the summer months.

Digital resources will also be available to continuing students who are working remotely this summer. The Digital Resources page provides easy access to all the library’s research options available in digital format for you wherever you are.

If you need assistance using our digital resources or have any research questions, the staff of the law library will be here throughout the summer to help. Contact us by phone, email, or chat.

Have a wonderful summer!!
Celebrating You – The Amazing, Resilient, Creative, and Lovely Class of 2021

Although this year’s Commencement will once again be different, what remains is that Commencement is a time for celebration. Like much of the last year and a half of your law school education, parts of this commencement will be held in a hybrid mode. We will see you virtually on Monday for the Class of 2021 Awards Program. On Friday, those of you who participate in the Grad Walk will get to see in person many of the classmates that started this journey with you and, virtually, your family and friends will be able to watch the livestreamed event. Later that day, we will join you again for the virtual commencement ceremony with the Class Valedictorian and Commencement speaker.

You had to overcome significant adversity and new challenges to get to this point. You joined us on campus--masked and socially distant, online—a bit more comfortable but always hoping that the internet did not throw us a curve ball, and some of you did a bit of both. If you were on campus, you participated in the weekly testing--mercifully self-administered, cleaned spaces after you used them, and worked with the library and others to find on campus spaces for those online classes and meetings that you could not take at home. Throughout this adversity, you showed your can-do attitude, good humor, kindness, and ability to roll with every new thing thrown at you.

Indeed, you not only met these challenges, but you showed your amazing resilience, inventiveness, and can-do spirit:
• You found new ways to connect with each other virtually--in escape room events, trivia nights, movie nights, and more.
• You performed well in virtual and in person moot court and trial competitions.
• You continued to balance your school loads with work in student groups, Law Review, interviewing, and bar prep.
• You put together extraordinary programs with world-class guests and speakers, and in collaboration with local and national bar associations.
• You gave your all to our signature events such as Women in Robes and Champions for Justice AND created new events that spotlighted RWU Law and had great participation, like the RBG Essay Contest.
• You participated in large numbers in virtual career panels and many other networking opportunities.

You also welcomed the efforts of our faculty--armed with a few more months of experience with remote instruction and new delivery methods--to provide the incomparable RWU Law education that you had enjoyed for a year and a half before the pandemic began. You demonstrated that for those who want to learn, there is no barrier that will stop them. This writer had the pleasure of having twelve of you Class of 2021 students in my first time ever synchronous online class. You and your 2L colleagues exceeded my expectations of how that class would go. I will never forget you because you showed me how the will to learn can overcome the challenges that these new technologies bring, even for the “tech savvy” professor.

We hope that we have convinced you—the AMAZING, RESILIENT, CREATIVE, and LOVELY Class of 2021—of how special you are and all that you have accomplished. We see in every one of you nothing but immense possibility and a bright future. Before you get too deep into bar study and the next steps in your careers, take some time to celebrate with your loved ones. You earned this!

Remember, the law library staff will always be here for you. We are your RWU Law librarians for life! #RWULaw2021

May 28, 2021

Outdoor Music around Rhode Island

May 28, 2021
Greetings from the Legal Beagle! The days are warming up and it is the perfect time to get outdoors and enjoy some live music. There are many options, so here’s a few to get you started!

Newport is home to the ultimate in outdoor music, the iconic Newport Jazz and Folk Festivals. Located in Fort Adams on Narragansett Bay with wrap-around views of the Newport Bridge, the location cannot be beat! NJF is regarded as the ‘grandaddy’ of music festivals and remains true to its Jazz heritage. (Tip: Newport Jazz Fest usually offers a student ticket.)

NFF is not a folksy festival. If you like NPR’s Tiny Desk, you will be in heaven. (If you don’t know Tiny Desk – check it out now!) Recent NFFs have featured everyone from Dolly Parton to Kermit the Frog, Jason Isbell to The Nude Party, Gary Clark, Jr. to Mumford & Sons – and everyone in between. The bad news is that NFF sells out in two-minutes (before they announce the lineup!) and this year was no exception. The good news is that you can get on the waitlist, Lyte, as they are expected to increase capacity and release more tickets.

Another Rhode Island festival is Rhythm and Roots. Taking place over in Charlestown over Labor Day Weekend this festival has optional camping. With Cajun, bluegrass, Zydeco and more - it is sure to get you dancing.

The Xfinity Center is a classic amphitheater – Rhode Island locals will often call this venue “Great Woods” - its original name - several names ago. Less than thirty miles from RWU, in Mansfield, MA, they have a full line-up this summer from the Black Crowes to Halsey and a heavy focus on 90’s music. You can also check out Leader Bank Pavillon in Boston where MGK and Lord Huron will be playing. Further outside of Boston, in the beautiful Berkshire Mountains is Tanglewood, summer home of the Boston Symphony Orchestra.

Rhode Island is home to its own waterfront music pavilion in East Providence, Bold Point Park. There is only one event announced so far – more are on the way!
In Bristol, the lovely Blithewold Mansion is hosting the Summer Sunset Cocktail Series. In Providence at the Waterfire Arts Center, is the TroopTop Deck with live music on Thursday nights. Reservations must be made.

Over in Wakefield is Pumphouse Music Works with a summer of concerts and open mic. Tickets or picnic tables must be purchased in advance.

An annual favorite is the outdoor free shows put on by the Rhode Island Philharmonic. There is usually one in Bristol independence Park, not yet been announced for 2021. Only the Narragansett Beach show has been announced. (Tip: show up very early to stake out your spot and don’t forget to bring a picnic. These events are wildly popular.)

There are also annual outdoor music events, many of which are free. Dates have been set for the Bristol 4th of July Concert Series, and the town of Warren’s Summer Concert Series. Other dates for annual events have not been set yet, for example Pvd Fest, and Providence’s Foo Fest. Interested in the Newport area? This 2019 Discover Newport blog post lists many in the immediate Newport area. Search the names in your favorite search engine to find 2021 dates.

Finally, a gentle reminder that while restrictions are loosening, please check with your venue for updates and Covid-19 guidelines. Happy listening!