

English Department Newsletter

7 April 2010



The newsletter is published biweekly throughout the academic year.
The next issue will appear on 21 April 2010.

MEETINGS AND EVENTS

The Playhouse of American Classics presents Paul Osborn's comedy *Morning's at Seven*, at the Buffalo and Erie Country Historical Society. Robert Paolini directs this story of four sisters, who live on the same block, love each other and drive each other crazy. Show-times are Friday, April 23, at 8 pm; Saturday and Sunday, April 24 and 25, at 2 pm; and Sunday, April 25 at 6 pm. Tickets are \$18; students, seniors and groups, \$13. For reservations call (716) 873-9644, ext. 301. For more information, contact PAC artistic director [Terence McDonald](#).



Poet Jonathan Skinner will read his work and take questions from the audience on Monday, 26 April at 4 pm in Assembly Hall. Skinner edits the journal *ecopoetics*, focused on creative-critical intersections between writing and ecology. Skinner's poetry collections include *With Naked Foot* (Little Scratchpad Editions, 2009) and *Political Cactus Poems* (Palm Press, 2005). His current project is a hybrid text on the poetics of urban open space, written in and on the major Olmsted parks.



Blas Falconer will read new poems, as well as ones from his book [A Question of Gravity and Light](#) (University of Arizona Press, 2008), on Thursday, April 29, in Ketchum 113, from 3:30 to 4:30 PM. The reading will be followed by an informal Q and A session, as well as a discussion of process and practice in the craft of poetry. Here is a [link to an interview](#) with Blas and another in [Latino Poetry Review](#).

The series *Conversations in and out of the Disciplines* will conclude on **30 April**, when Kim Chinquee will present "Flash Fiction, Prose Poetry and Men Jumping out of Windows: Search for Plot and Finding Definitions." The presentation will be held **in Ketchum 320, 3-4:30 pm**, and is open to faculty and graduate students.

The **English Department retreat to discuss the B.A. program** and curricular matters will be held on Friday, 7 May (study day), from 11 am – 4 pm (time may change; watch this space). Please let [Ralph Wahlstrom](#) know of any particular issues you would like to discuss.

The **English Department Award ceremony** will take place on May 7 (following the retreat) in Cleveland Hall 418 at 4 pm. Come celebrate our students' achievements!

DEADLINES and USEFUL INFORMATION

Students, faculty, and the community are invited to submit proposals for performances and presentations that celebrate the life and wisdom of Anne Frank and her words, "How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world." **The Anne Frank Project 2010** has been expanded to three days, September 15 to 17, and will connect with First-Year Orientation, Weeks of Welcome, and Academic Convocation.

Special consideration will be given to proposals that display originality, creativity, and a departure from typical academic conference presentations. The conference will reserve part of the schedule for student proposals, which will not compete with faculty and community submissions. Proposal information and applications are available at www.theannefrankproject.com. The submission deadline is **This Friday, April 9**.



As co-director of Project Flight, **Geraldine Bard** is helping to conduct the community-wide annual **Books for Kids drive**. Since 1995, Books for Kids has distributed more than 1.5 million books to children in poverty in Buffalo and the surrounding area. Buffalo is one of the poorest cities in the nation, with an estimated

one-third of children living in poverty. If you would like to help get books to these children, consider a donation of new books or cash during the drive which ends April 30. Drop off new books at any Wegmans or public library branch, or mail a check made out to "Project Flight/News Books for Kids" to The Buffalo News Promotions Department, One News Plaza, P. O. Box 100, Buffalo, N Y 14240.

This spring, the Burchfield Penney Art Center will host the nationally celebrated exhibition *Heat Waves in a Swamp: The Paintings of Charles Burchfield*, organized with the Hammer Museum at UCLA. In conjunction with the exhibit, the Burchfield Penney is organizing a **Heat Waves in a Swamp Art Criticism Writing Invitational** for high school and college students. Deadline for submissions to the competition is 1 May, and information is available from [Alana Ryder](#).

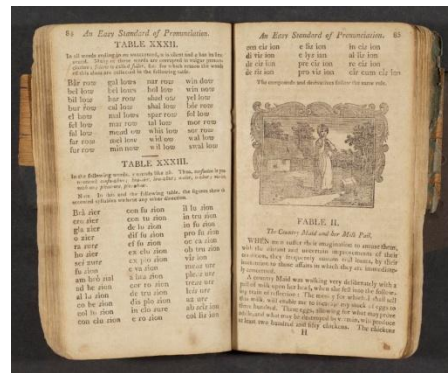
The College Partnership Development office of the Center for the Development of Human Services at BSC is seeking **faculty partnership projects** in the areas of **Proposal Writing**, and **Business Writing** for Erie County Development of Social Services. Such projects aid social service providers in delivering information and skills to clients in NYS. The project(s) would **begin immediately this semester and run through August 31, 2010**. The stipend for individual faculty partnership projects is \$1600. Partnership Grants are recognized as Faculty Service and, often, Applied Research.

Projects can be research oriented, web-based delivery, workshop description or materials, multi-media curriculum, etc. Submitting a proposal to CDHS is a very streamlined process; contact [Gail Daniels](#), Director of College Relations. For more information you also can talk to [Barbara T. Bontempo](#).

The Northeast American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies will hold its 2010 annual meeting at the Hyatt Regency in Buffalo, **21-23 October 2010**. This conference is being organized by faculty from Buffalo State (Lisa Berglund and Mark Fulk in English and Andrew Nicholls in History), together with faculty from the University at Buffalo and Canisius College. The conference theme is "Inquiry, Pedagogy, Exploration: Studying the Eighteenth Century."

Faculty and graduate students are invited to submit **abstracts for scholarly papers and roundtable discussions on any eighteenth-century studies subject**, though papers on the conference theme are particularly welcome. For more information, visit the [conference website](#).

Discounted registration is available to graduate students and to local secondary school teachers; details will be posted later this month. NEASECS offers an excellent opportunity for graduate students to gain professional conference experience. The deadline for submitting abstracts is 15 May. For information on the submitting papers, contact [Erik Seeman](#); for other information, contact [Lisa Berglund](#).



FACULTY ACTIVITIES

Lorna Perez presented her paper "Purposeful Silence: Voice and the Space-between in Ana Castillo's *The Mixquiahuala Letters*" at the College English Association Conference, March 25-27 in San Antonio, Texas.

The Equity and Campus Diversity Office at Buffalo State has awarded **Barish Ali** and **Bethe Kelley** Awards for the Promotion of Equity and Campus Diversity. The award is based on nomination essays submitted by students.

Ann C. Colley has been invited, on June 22, to give a talk to the members of the Alpine Club, London, about her forthcoming book *Victorians in the Mountains: Sinking the Sublime*. These world-class climbers will be the most challenging audience of all and, no doubt, will find fault with almost everything! This promises to be a most interesting evening. Also on May 6, Ann will be honored along with other **recently named SUNY Distinguished Professors** at a banquet in Syracuse.

At the American Society for Eighteenth Century Studies meeting in Albuquerque, 17-21 March, **Lisa Berglund** presented a paper entitled "Mrs. Piozzi Reflects on Venice," and spoke on two pedagogy panels: one on memorization and recitation as techniques for teaching early modern poetry, and one on strategies for incorporating close reading into courses on eighteenth-century biography and autobiography. Her trip was funded by an Individual Development Award.

Also, Lisa's article "Who was Hester Lynch Piozzi? Or, The Celebrity of Dr. Johnson's Mrs. Thrale" has been accepted for publication in a festschrift for the late scholar of feminism and the eighteenth-century, Betty Rizzo, to be published by Lehigh University Press; and her article "Throwing up a Straw: Chance, Order and Apocalypse in Hester Lynch Piozzi's *British Synonymy*" has been accepted for a collection of essays on late 18th century theology.



Heidi Dietz-Faletti attended the 31st Conference of the International Association of the Fantastic in the Arts from March 18-20. There, she read a paper entitled "The Fantastic Flanerie of Post-Wende Berlin in Tykwer's *Run Lola Run*" for the section, "Technologies of Vision."

STUDENT AND ALUMNI NEWS

It is with great pleasure that the English Department recognizes the following students: **John Aramini**, recipient of the English Department's Outstanding Graduate Student Award; **Michael Beck**, recipient of the English Department's Morris Scholarship; **Peter Bennett**, recipient of the English Department's Post-Bacc Award for Excellence; **Cynthia Delaney**, recipient of the Lauren Belfer Award; **Tyler Johnson**, recipient of the Dr. Joan Rosso Award; **Angela Lambrix**, recipient of the Arts and Humanities Award for Excellence, the President's Medal for Outstanding Undergraduate Student, and the SUNY Chancellor's Award for Student Excellence; and **Colleen DeLucia, Daniel Graham, Melissa Martinelli, Tom Poehnelt**, recipients of the English Department Award for Excellence; and, recipient of the English Department Award for Excellence.



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