

# English Department Newsletter

27 February 2013

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The newsletter is published biweekly throughout the academic year.  
The next issue will appear on 13 March 2013.

## MEETINGS and EVENTS

The **English Education Student Association (EESA)** will welcome new members at their inaugural meeting on **Thursday, February 28, 12:15-1:30 pm**, in KH 320. Pizza and other refreshments will be provided. The association is open to all students in, or considering, English Education as a major. EESA is focused on supporting English Education students throughout the program by bringing them together for networking, peer advisement, and professional development.

**SUNY's Office of Global Affairs has awarded Barish Ali a \$5,000 grant to develop and run a Summer Abroad program in Turkey.** Starting this summer, Barish will take at least five students to Istanbul, where he will teach a pair of courses on Turkish and Middle Eastern



literature and culture at Boğaziçi University, one of Turkey's most prestigious universities.

From among a strong SUNY-wide pool of applications, Barish's proposal was one of two that were awarded the grant even though priority was given to campuses with Turkish dual diploma programs. This study abroad program will, in fact, be the first step towards the establishment of a dual diploma partnership between Buffalo State and a Turkish partner institution. A dual diploma program "is an undergraduate program in which students spend half

of their education at a campus of the State University of New York (SUNY) and half at a Turkish university" (suny.edu.tr). Student recruitment is underway; if you have any students who may be interested in the program please ask them to contact [Barish](#) directly. An **informational session about the program, organized by the International Education Office, will take place during Bengal Pause on Tuesday, March 12 in Ketchum 200.**

This Sunday, 3 March, **Lisa Berglund will be a featured soloist** in the Chromatic Club concert "Divas Go to Hollywood." Lisa will be singing "Mad about the Boy," "Thanks for the Memory," "Arthur Murray Taught Me Dancing in a Hurry" and the showstopper "What a Movie!" from Bernstein's opera *Trouble in Tahiti*. The concert (\$7/\$5) will begin at 3 pm at the Montante Cultural Center (Main Street in Buffalo, between Glendale and Eastwood). For more info, call 884-4887 or 876-4125.

**Conversations in and out of the Disciplines Lecture Series**  
**The Buffalo State College English Department**



**Presents a talk by**  
**Professor Kimberly A. Blessing**  
Department of Philosophy and Humanities

**"Theistic and Atheistic  
Theories about the  
Meaning of Life"**

**Time: Friday, March 15  
3:00-4:30 p.m.**

**Location: Ketchum Hall 320**

**These talks are open to faculty, graduate students, and interested undergraduates**

## REMINDERS and USEFUL INFORMATION

The **Estelle M. Engel Memorial Scholarship** is a \$1,250 award for English, English Education, Writing, TV and Film Arts, and Journalism majors; applications are due to the dean's office by 1 April. Students need three writing samples and a letter of support from a faculty member. Encourage your best writers to apply!

Deadlines are approaching for various **Undergraduate Research Opportunities**. The Small Grants program deadline is 20 February; abstracts for the Student Research and Creativity Celebration are due 19 March (this program is also open to graduate students); and applications for the Undergraduate Summer Research Fellowship are due on 2 April. More information and application forms are available at [www.buffalostate.edu/undergraduateresearch](http://www.buffalostate.edu/undergraduateresearch).

It's time to start thinking about **the National Endowment for the Humanities summer seminars and institutes**. Among the topics for 2013 are Brazilian literature, reassessing British Romanticism, early modern manuscripts and printed books, African-American

struggles for freedom and civil rights, American material culture in nineteenth-century New York, translation studies, African-American poetry, and Transcendentalism and social action. For a complete list of the 20 seminars, plus eligibility requirements and contact information, visit the [NEH website](#). The Summer Programs are tuition-free.

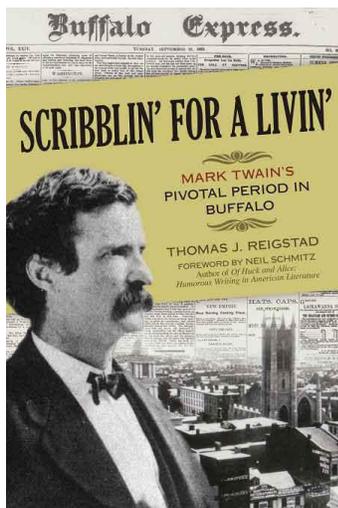
Participants receive stipends of \$1,200-\$3,900 to help defray travel and other expenses for these one- to five-week residential programs. Or consider **directing a summer program yourself**—apply for 2014! The deadline is March 25.



## IDEAS about TEACHING

The [Buffalo State Record](#) has a story on the **new after-school digital writing workshop** for West Side youth at the Buffalo State Community Academic Center. **James Cercone** is heading the program, which will provide teaching and tutoring opportunities for Buffalo State education majors. West Side students, grades 4-8, will work closely with Buffalo State students on producing short films about the children's life experiences.

## FACULTY NEWS and ACTIVITIES



Jeff Simon's rave review of **Tom Reigstad's** new book *Scribblin' for a Livin': Mark Twain's Pivotal Period in Buffalo* (Prometheus Press) appeared in last Sunday's *Buffalo News*. Simon writes: "Inside the book is the exhaustive, extraordinary history of Mark Twain in Buffalo that so many have wanted for so long. To call it definitive at this particular moment may well be understatement. As University at Buffalo professor Neil Schmitz quite rightly observes in the book forward, 'this is it. There isn't any more to be said about Mark Twain in Buffalo. If you want to think about the subject or write on its issues, this is the book that is open before you.'" Read the rest of the review [here](#) or visit the [book's website](#).

**Karen Sands-O'Connor's** poem "First Night Sled -- Delaware Park" was the *Buffalo News's* Poem of the Week on Sunday, February 17.

**Angela Fulk** will present at the NeMLA Convention in Boston next month in a session called "Using and [Re]Fusing the Bible: Revision and Parody in Medieval Britain." Her presentation is entitled "Earthly and Heavenly Kings as War Leaders in the Old English *Genesis* Poem."

"Unlikely Places," a flash fiction by **Kim Chinquee**, was published in [New Orleans Review](#) and her flash fiction, "Maid of the Mist," will be published there next week.

**Heidi Dietz-Faletti** attended the Southwest/Texas Popular Culture and American Culture Associations 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference in Albuquerque, February 13-16. In the session "Alfred Hitchcock: Alfred Hitchcock 1: Hitchcock and His Style," Heidi read a paper entitled: "The Caligarian Cabinet of Norman Bates in *Psycho*."

## STUDENT and ALUMNI NEWS

Writing Major **Kayla Collins** was accepted into the 2013 Summer Writing Program at New York University.

Congratulations to **Keely Backes, Steven Grzelewski, Megan Koller, Brian Rich, Joseph Doherty, Rebecca Kazmierski, Erin McDonough** and **Joanna Reed**, who earned their MS.Ed. this past December:

Alumni!—We want to share your news! Send updates and web-links to [Lisa Berglund](#) or [Maureen Lougen](#).

## AND FINALLY

Did you see the editorial in the [New York Times](#) on 19 February, entitled “The Trouble with Online College”? Very interesting stuff, but don’t read just the editorial—make sure you browse through the comments section, too.

A propos of our initial discussion in last week’s Forum, about the higher education and the humanities, check out the American Historical Association [Roundtable of Links on the Value of the Humanities](#) (I know, I know, at Buffalo State history isn’t in the humanities... you can take it up with the AHA).



And as proof that Shakespeare can enrich your life, here’s Ian Frazier’s wonderful exposé (in iambic pentameter, mostly) of [why Richard III ended up buried in that parking lot in Leicester](#).

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