

English Department Newsletter

7 September 2018

Vol. 12, No. 1



The newsletter is published six times per semester. Past issues may be found on the department website.

UPCOMING EVENTS



African-American studies scholar and poet **Aldon Lynn Nielsen**, the George and Barbara Kelly Professor of American Literature at Penn State, will give a **reading from his latest book of poetry, *Tray*** (Make Now Books, 2017), **on Friday, October 12 at 2 pm.** (location TBA).

Trayvon Martin's death at the hand of vigilante George Zimmerman in February 2012 sparked the Black Lives Matter movement, which has gained attention over the past six years in its efforts to publicize and oppose the high number of African-American fatalities that result from unjustified public violence. Dr. Nielsen's collection gives voice to Trayvon Martin by reimagining his encounter with Zimmerman through black music and the clashes of archetypal figures. The book's overall narrative positions Martin as one of the latest participants in the centuries-long conflict over racial identity that has defined American society. The individual poems examine United States racial history both in terms of the artistic innovations it has produced and the brutality that persists.

Please encourage students to attend. **JENNIFER RYAN** also is looking for a class for Dr. Nielsen to visit on that Friday **morning**. If you teach a course with relevant material and are interested in having him come to lead a discussion, please let her know.

The 2018–2019 **Conversations in and out of the Disciplines** series begins Friday, November 2, as **Andrea Guiati, SUNY Distinguished Teaching Professor of Modern and Classical Languages**, presents "**Bob Dylan: 'The Protestiest Things He Has Protested Against in His Protest Years,'**" at 3:00 pm in Ketchum Hall 320. A Q&A and brief wine-and-cheese reception will follow. Everyone is welcome.

In the second and third talks of the fall semester, Bhakti Sharma, associate professor of art and design, will present "Honey, I Shrunk the Retail" on Friday, November 30; and Melanie Perreault, provost and vice president for academic affairs, will present "Servants, Slaves, and Unruly Mistresses: Interpersonal Violence in the Early Chesapeake" on Friday, December 7. Each talk will begin at 3:00 pm in Ketchum Hall 320.

Speakers in the spring semester will be Heather Maldonado, assistant provost for academic success; Patrick McGovern, associate professor of political science; and **MACY TODD**, assistant professor of English.

DEPARTMENT & FACULTY NEWS

BARRETT GORDON, a long time professional tutor in the Writing Center, was the May 2018 recipient of the [President's Caring Bengal Award](#).

The English Department welcomes two new fulltime faculty to the English Education program: assistant professor **KRISTEN PASTORE-CAPUANO** and fulltime lecturer **KATHARINE MACRO**.

KAREN SANDS-O'CONNOR had a busy summer. In June, she went to the UK to work on her online exhibition of Black British Children's Literature (opening soon on a computer near you) and to help the Centre for Literacy in Primary Education write their report, [Reflecting Realities: A Survey of Ethnic Representation within UK Children's Literature 2017](#). In July, she began consulting for Amnesty International UK on a project concerning Children's Rights and Children's Literature, and went to New York City to work in the Schomburg on a project on Black Panther Liberation Schools' reading material; the trip was partly funded by a Diversity Research grant from the Children's Literature Association. Finally, her article, "Punk Primers and Reggae Readers: Music and Politics in British Children's Literature" appeared in *Global Studies of Childhood's* August/September issue.

New poems by **JOEY NICOLETTI**, including one about Buffalo's Gypsy Parlor, have been published in [Green Hills Literary Lantern](#) and [Cacti Fur](#), and new nonfiction in [Ovunque Siamo: New Italian-American Writing](#).

Special Guests

• Lorna Pérez
Julio Valentin

September 20th
Ketchum 302
12:15-1:30pm

for more information
contact Maureen
lougenm@buffalostate.edu

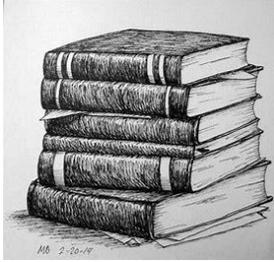
**THE
DROP
HAMMER
STUDENT
READING
SERIES**

Free and Open to the Public

TIM BRYANT published an essay, "Free Play and the Prescriptive End Games of Orson Scott Card," in *Children's Play in Literature: Investigating the Strengths and the Subversions of the Playing Child*, a volume in Routledge's series *Studies in Childhood, 1700 to the Present*.

KIM CHINQUEE'S fiction collection *Shot Girls* has been released. Her publisher, Ravenna Press, will publish her sixth book, *C'mon*, in Fall 2019. She has an author interview up at [Coffin Bell Journal](#) and her short story, "The Cookie Room" will appear in the first print anthology of *Coffin Bell Journal*. Her flash fiction "C'mon" will appear in *NOON's* 20th Anniversary Issue (March 2019); this is **KIM's** 18th consecutive appearance in *NOON*. Twelve of her flash fictions will appear in the third anniversary issue of [Jellyfish Review](#) on October 14; three in the inaugural print issue of [Faded Out](#); and two—"I Was On the Second Floor" and "No One Was With Him"—in the Norton Anthology [New Micro: Exceptionally](#)

[Short Fiction](#), edited by James Thomas and Robert Scotellaro. [KIM](#) also is chairing two panels at the AWP Conference in Portland, OR next year.



On August 28, [AIMEE LEVESQUE](#) hosted a panel at the WNEC studio as part of [The Great American Read](#). The topic, "What makes a book a classic? Is it how many generations read it in high school? Can we call the Harry Potter series a classic now, or is it too soon?" was presented via Facebook Live. [KIM CHINQUEE](#) also was interviewed for WNEC/WBFO's *The Great American Read: What Makes a Great Book?* documentary screening.

[MARK FULK](#) completed two projects this summer: four critical introductions to relatively obscure eighteenth-century novels that are being reproduced in a database of all eighteenth-century fiction (forthcoming from Cambridge University Press) and an essay on May Sarton (and others, including Ellen Corby) and the representation of stroke for an upcoming collection in Disability Studies to be published by Gale University Press.

INFORMATION FOR FACULTY

Eligible employees may **self-nominate** for a Discretionary Award by completing a Nomination Form and submitting it to their department chair, director, or associate vice president or other direct supervisor by **September 11, 2018**.

- 2018 UUP Discretionary Award Process Outline: <http://hr.buffalostate.edu/2018-uup-discretionary-award-process>
- 2018 UUP Discretionary Award Schedule: http://hr.buffalostate.edu/sites/hr.buffalostate.edu/files/uploads/Documents/schedule_2018.pdf
- 2018 UUP Discretionary Award Nomination Form: http://hr.buffalostate.edu/sites/hr.buffalostate.edu/files/uploads/Documents/nomination_2018.docx

STUDENT AND ALUMNI NEWS

Four Writing Center tutors, including English BA and MA students [JOHN CHADDERDON](#), [JILL CUSTODI](#), and [FELICIA DELIBERO](#), together with Writing Center Director [MAGGIE HERB](#) will give a panel presentation entitled "Creating knowledge across positions and generations: A study of peer and professional tutors building a writing center community" at the International Writing Centers Association conference in Atlanta, GA in October.

RECOMMENDED READING

Here's something scary from *The Washington Post*: [Teacher: Why I don't want to assign Shakespeare anymore.](#)