

# English Department Newsletter

14 February 2020  
Vol. 13 No. 5



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

## ENGLISH DEPARTMENT EVENTS

**THE  
DROP HAMMER  
STUDENT READING  
SERIES**

**Special Guest:  
Peter Ramos**

Peter Ramos' poems have appeared in the following journals: Colorado Review, Portland Fall, Redburn House Quarterly, Stone, Tanager, Indiana Review, and More Word Writing, among others.  
His recent fiction has been featured in the following journals: Colorado Review, Portland Fall, Redburn House Quarterly, Stone, Tanager, Indiana Review, and More Word Writing, among others.  
His recent full-length collection, *Lord Baltimore*, is forthcoming from Redburn Press. Ramos' book of criticism, *White Crayons in the American Rembrandt: Bridger (2019)*, is now available from Redburn Press.  
An associate professor of English at Buffalo State College, he teaches courses in nineteenth- and twentieth-century American literature.

**February 19th | 12:15-1:30pm**  
**Ilene R. Fleischmann**  
**Writing & Publication Suite**  
**Ketchum 302**

for more information  
chinquik@buffalostate.edu

The Spring 2020 series **Conversations in and out of the Disciplines** kicks off Friday, February 28, as Fiona Beckett, assistant professor of Art Conservation, presents "A Closer Look at School of Rembrandt's *Portrait of a Young Man in an Armchair* at the Memorial Art Gallery." The talk, followed by a brief Q&A, will begin at 3:00 p.m. in Ketchum Hall 320. A wine and cheese reception will follow. Everyone is welcome.

Mark your calendars for the second and third talks of the spring semester. On April 24, **KRISTEN PASTORE-CAPUANA**, assistant professor of English, will present "Crossing Boundaries: Educators and Students as Community Change Agents." On May 1, Jevon Hunter, Woods Beals Endowed Chair for Urban Education, and Interim Chair of Social and Psychological Foundations of Education and Adult Education, will present "#BlackBoyJoy . . . All Day, E'erday: Learning from the Literate Lives of Buffalo's African-

American Adolescent Males - With Appreciation, Gratitude, and Love."

**JOEY NICOLETTI** has work in *Lo-Fi Poetry Anthology Poet Sounds: Poems inspired by the Beach Boys' Pet Sounds*, just released, and has published a new creative nonfiction essay in the most recent issue of [Ovunque Siamo](#). **JOEY is having a release party for his latest collection, *Boombox Serenade*, on Saturday, February 22, at The Gypsy Parlor.** The party starts at 6:30 pm, with an hour-long reading starting at 7:15 pm. Copies of *Boombox Serenade* will be available for sale and for signing; food will be served, and the event will end at 9:00 pm. Poems from this collection ("Poem Where I Become a Fan of *The A-Team*," "Noise Rock," and "Encouragement") have been nominated by poet and critic Anis Shivani for Pushcart Prizes.

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS

SUNY's Thayer Fellowship in the Arts is a \$7,000 award given to one individual or divided among up to three students who exhibit talent, achievement, and potential as professional artists. The Patricia Kerr Ross Award of \$1,000 is given to one or two applicants who

demonstrate excellence, originality, and promise. Seniors in the arts (**including creative writing**) who plan to make a career in the arts are eligible; the awards are not for students going on to graduate school. The application and instructions are available at: <http://www.suny.edu/systemartprograms/>. The deadline for applications is February 21, 2020. Contact Joe Hildreth ([joe.hildreth@suny.edu](mailto:joe.hildreth@suny.edu)) or Sara Saplin ([sara.saplin@suny.edu](mailto:sara.saplin@suny.edu)) if you have questions.

March 1, 2020 is the earliest application deadline for the 2020 UUP Undergraduate Scholarship awards; other deadlines continue into the spring semester. Eligible candidates are full-time undergraduate students at a state-operated campus of SUNY who demonstrate a tireless quest for academic and personal excellence; and who have completed at least 18 credit hours at any SUNY campus with a grade point average of at least 3.75. More information is available at <https://uupinfo.org/awards/>.

The \$500 Steve Street award is given to an undergraduate student or group of undergraduate SUNY students who have created any paper or documented any project related to social justice issues or topics. The deadline is May 1. The Steve Street Award is named for our late colleague who died of cancer in 2012. **STEVE STREET** was an officer for contingents at Buffalo State, a delegate and member of the statewide Contingent Employment Committee, and a 2010 recipient of UUP's Faye Samuel Award for Courageous Service by Part-Time Academic and Professional Faculty. Download the application at: <https://uupinfo.org/awards/pdf/SteveStreetAwardApplication.pdf>.

Nominations are sought for the Graduate Student Association Executive Board; the deadline is March 11. For more information: <https://gsa.buffalostate.edu/gettinginvolved>. Also, the Graduate Student Research Fair will take place on Friday, May 8, 4-7 p.m. in Campbell Student Union. Information is available at <https://gsa.buffalostate.edu/research-fair>. Registration is open until April 19, 2020.

## USEFUL INFORMATION



Buffalo State's literary journal, *ELJ (Elm Leaves Journal)*, edited by **KIM CHINQUEE** and students in her Literary Publishing Class (ENG 327), has announced its next theme: The WEIRD Edition. Please visit the website ([www.elmleavesjournal.com](http://www.elmleavesjournal.com)) for further details and direct any questions to [eljbuffalo@gmail.com](mailto:eljbuffalo@gmail.com).

## FACULTY NEWS

**AIMEE LEVESQUE** has been awarded a Business First inaugural IDEA (Inclusion Diversity Equity Awareness) Award for her work with Inclusive Theater of Western New York. According to Business First, "19 people and eight organizations were chosen from 65 nominations for championing diversity and inclusion. They will be honored at a dinner on February 26 at Salvatore's Italian Gardens. While diversity represents demographic differences such as race, religion, gender, sexual orientation and disability, inclusion means

a feeling of belonging and how well employees are valued, respected, accepted and encouraged to participate in an organization.”

**MARK HAMMER, MICHELE NINACS** and **AIMABLE TWAGILIMANA** are among the faculty celebrating their 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary at Buffalo State this spring.

**CHARLES BACHMAN** is proud to announce the birth of his twin granddaughters, Arya & Amara, born to his daughter Victoria & son-in-law Micah. The babies came six weeks early but they’re home now (and tiny).

**MARK FULK** was a contributor to the volume *Disability Experiences: Memoirs, Autobiographies, and Other Personal Narratives*, ed. G. Thomas Couser and Susannah B. Mintz (Macmillan Reference USA), which received an honorable mention from the American Library Association at their annual meeting in 2020, and came in second place for the prestigious Dartmouth Medal.



## STUDENT & ALUMNI NEWS

**ARIEL COOK** (BA '19) has enrolled in the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee’s online Library and Information Science program with a concentration in Archival Studies.

Having earned her PhD at Stony Brook University, **JOELLE MANN** (MA & BA) is now a lecturer for the Writing Initiative at Binghamton University. She has published articles on contemporary literature and writing pedagogy, most recently in *Critique: Contemporary Studies in Fiction* and *The Encyclopedia of Contemporary American Literature*, and has an article forthcoming in *Callaloo, A Journal of African Diaspora Arts and Letters*.

## FURTHER READING...

“Student drug dealers spared jail as judge says he was impressed by the grammar in their text messages”—‘nuff said: <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2019/01/03/student-drug-dealers-spared-jail-judge-says-impressed-grammar/>