

# English Department Newsletter

22 February 2021  
Vol. 14 No. 4



Past issues of the newsletter are available on the department website.

## LATEST NEWS & UPCOMING EVENTS

The English Department will be partnering with other departments to support new certificates and degrees. These proposed programs, **Theater Directing for Teachers** and the **BFA in Art and Design with Concentration in Design History**, will include at least one English course as a requirement or an elective.

Late last year, Buffalo State officially became the home of the **Western New York Writing Project**, thanks to generous contributions from the Schools of Education and Arts and Humanities. Their philanthropic support continues in 20221 as we look to building a new and thriving program.

The National

Writing Project, funded by the US Department of Education, supports a network of over 200 local sites, including the Western New York Writing Project (WNYWP), The WNYWP, led by **KATHIE MACRO**, **MAGGIE HERB**, and **HILARY LOCHTE**, provides online and face-to-face professional development in the teaching of writing for P-12 teachers across the Western New York area, creating a strong local network of teacher-leaders who can then share their expertise with their peers.

The WNYWP hopes to assume a central, visible role in creating partnerships with local schools and community organizations, applied learning experiences for teachers and teacher candidates, and other opportunities for community engagement. The WNYWP's first workshop in fall 2020 focused on helping teachers navigate the teaching of writing in online environments, introducing them to best practices and new technologies to help them give effective feedback. It connects us to the local community through the professional development we can provide to teachers and students alike; and it will be an effective platform to reach teachers at all levels. The WNYWP also has the potential to

OF THE DISCIPLINES LECTURE SERIES

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT  
BUFFALO STATE  
The State University of New York

CONVERSATIONS IN AND OUT

### #BlackBoyJoy . . . All Day, E'erday:

Learning from the Literate Lives of Buffalo's African-American Adolescent Males – With Appreciation, Gratitude, and Love

**Dr. Jevon D. Hunter**  
Woods-Beals Endowed Chair for Urban Education,  
School of Education, and Chair of Social and  
Psychological Foundations of Education and Adult  
Education

**Friday, February 26, 3:00pm**  
Zoom Meeting ID:  
876 5348 3462  
Join Zoom Meeting:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87653483462>

connect our campus with other Writing Project sites across the country and generate positive national press about the work we do here at Buffalo State College.

We look toward an exciting future of new programming and interaction with the community at Buffalo State and the WNY region at large. If you are interested in supporting the WNYWP please contact Kathie Macro at [macrokj@buffalostate.edu](mailto:macrokj@buffalostate.edu)

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS



UUP offers scholarships for which all SUNY students may apply. The application deadline for the UUP College Scholarship Fund scholarships is March 1, 2021. Applications are on UUP's website, at <http://www.uupinfo.org/awards>.

The Undergraduate Research [Small Grants Program](#) provides up to \$400 to assist undergraduate students in carrying out a research, scholarly, or creative activity during the academic year (up to \$600 may be requested for a single project that involves two or more students). Funding is intended to help defray the cost of supplies and other materials necessary to conduct the project and is currently limited to non-travel expenses. Award recipients will be required to participate virtually in the [23rd annual Buffalo State Student Research and Creativity Conference](#) (Digital SRCC 2021), to be held asynchronously in May. The spring application deadline for submission of the student portion is Wednesday, February 24; faculty mentor approval is due by Friday, February 26. For more details, please visit the online application portal on the [Undergraduate Research website](#).

The University of Michigan's Ready for Rackham program ([R4R](#)) is now accepting applications for July 2021. The one-month residential program at the University of Michigan is designed to support undergraduate students' preparation for doctoral study.. The program is designed to support students earlier in their undergraduate careers; rising sophomores and students from diverse backgrounds are encouraged to apply. The program covers all expenses and includes a \$2,000 stipend. Dates, eligibility requirements, contact information, and more program details are on the Ready for Rackham [website](#). (NB the program is planned to be in-person but may go online if conditions warrant.)

In order to continue our [Drop Hammer Reading Series](#), in lieu of in-person readings, the Writing Committee would like to present (on the English Department's webpage) **videos of students and faculty reading their original works of fiction, nonfiction, or poetry**. Please send videos of your own work to **KIM CHINQUEE** and encourage interested students to do the same. You can watch the videos on the Department's YouTube page here:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCyLN2bEErvgwvr6RgyTb2Tg>.



## OPPORTUNITIES FOR FACULTY

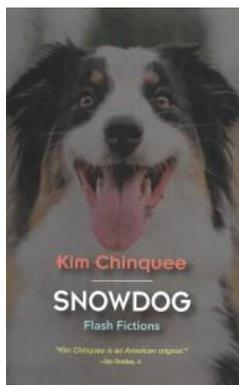
The SUNY Office of Library and Information Services, SUNY Center for Professional Development, and SUNY Press are organizing an online gathering **Friday, March 26, 2021 from 1:00-2:30 p.m.** to showcase digital pedagogy in the humanities at SUNY. The format will be a series of 5-10 minute presentations by SUNY faculty highlighting one course activity that utilizes digital pedagogy. Registration is open at: <https://sunycpd.eventsair.com/QuickEventWebsitePortal/dphc20/dphc>. If you are interested in presenting, complete the proposal form **no later than March 1, 2021**: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/6NVZ7GK>. If you have questions, contact Chris Price ([chris.price@suny.edu](mailto:chris.price@suny.edu)).

## FACULTY NEWS

**LORI ANN WOODS** has completed her PhD at Indiana University of Pennsylvania in Composition and TESOL.

**DAVID BEN-MERRE** has been promoted to the rank of Professor. His book *Super Schoolmaster: Ezra Pound as Teacher, Then and Now* (cowritten with Bob Scholes) was published in January by SUNY Press (<http://www.sunypress.edu/p-7000-super-schoolmaster.aspx>). David also has been appointed to the SUNY Press Editorial Board.

"Immigrant Song," a poem by **PETER RAMOS**, was published in the [Buffalo News](#) on February 14.



On February 19, **PETER RAMOS** and **KIM CHINQUEE** hosted a Zoom reading and book launch to celebrate their respective books *Lord Baltimore* and *Snowdog*, released on January 15 from Ravenna Press. *Snowdog* has received a rave review in [Medium](#); there's another review in [The Literary Review](#). Kim's flash fictions "Fine with Everything," "She Would Never Use," "Minty," "To Not Forget," and "You're Not on Vacation" appear in the recent issue of *Gargoyle* <http://www.gargoylemagazine.com>; her flash fiction "I Was New" was published in the recent issue of *Linea*: [https://simianpress.site/linea-launch-vol-2/?fbclid=IwAR0eJ4yCoUSxdYVLa6haglt-cGR1tWOOERR1\\_1fXgtOIVCqzxNM1J-kcBGM](https://simianpress.site/linea-launch-vol-2/?fbclid=IwAR0eJ4yCoUSxdYVLa6haglt-cGR1tWOOERR1_1fXgtOIVCqzxNM1J-kcBGM).

Buffalo State College's Mock Trial Team competed in the nationally recognized "Friar Faceoff" tournament that St. Bonaventure University hosted online January 30 and 31. The team's 11 students achieved four wins over the weekend, one of their best records in years. **DAVID BEN-MERRE** is the team's coach. (Here's the [full story](#).)

On February 11, **LORNA PEREZ** was in conversation with Palestinian American novelist Susan Abulhawa, author of *Mornings in Jenin*, *The Blue Between Sky and Water*, and most recently *Against the Loveless World*. The event is part of the opening of SHELTER, an exhibit by Lisa Kerr, at the Burchfield Penney.

ED TAYLOR's chapbook *The Plane Comes Down in a Vacant Lot* was scheduled for release on Valentine's Day from [EMP Books](#).

ANGELA FULK is quoted at length in this Buffalo State [news story](#) on the erotic and gory origins of St. Valentine's Day.

New poems by JOEY NICOLETTI appear in the latest issues of *Ovunque Siamo* (<https://bit.ly/3tyfjJw>), *Wild Violet* (<https://bit.ly/2YRBLcf>), and in the inaugural issue of *Book of Matches* (<https://bit.ly/3az2rUo>). Joey's next book, *Fan Mail*, will be published by Broadstone Books in November.

GERALDINE BARD reports that Project FLIGHT is busily operating out of the Buffalo and Erie County Library, although it is closed to the public due to COVID restrictions. Their contribution to the Buffalo News Neediest drive was the organization's 24th annual donation to that campaign.

## STUDENT and ALUMNI NEWS



ADRIANNA AVILES '20, now the accessibility coordinator for the Writing Center at Michigan State University, has shared news of MSU's Accessibility Speaker Series, which runs February 4 through April 8. More information is available [here](#). Also, a [profile of Adrianna](#) appeared in the Buffalo News Daily on December 16.

JAMES SPEAKER is pursuing a research project on Michel Foucault's *Discipline and Punish*, and its connections to modern

technology and social media. The paper, "**Maximum Sociability: Foucault and the Technological Imprisonment of our Future**," has been accepted for presentation to the National Conference on Undergraduate Research and Eastern Michigan University's Philosophy Conference this spring.