



# UNDERGRADUATE ENGLISH LIT. ASSOCIATION

## NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2020 • ISSUE 7



### SPRING 2021 REGISTRATION

Registration is just around the corner!  
Make sure you've spoken to your advisor  
and solidified your plan for next semester!  
Need more course recs? Check out page  
2!

### WHAT'S INSIDE

Check out our list of  
Indigenous Owned  
Bookstores!

November Charity Spotlight

Class Controversy?

### UELA ANNOUNCEMENTS:

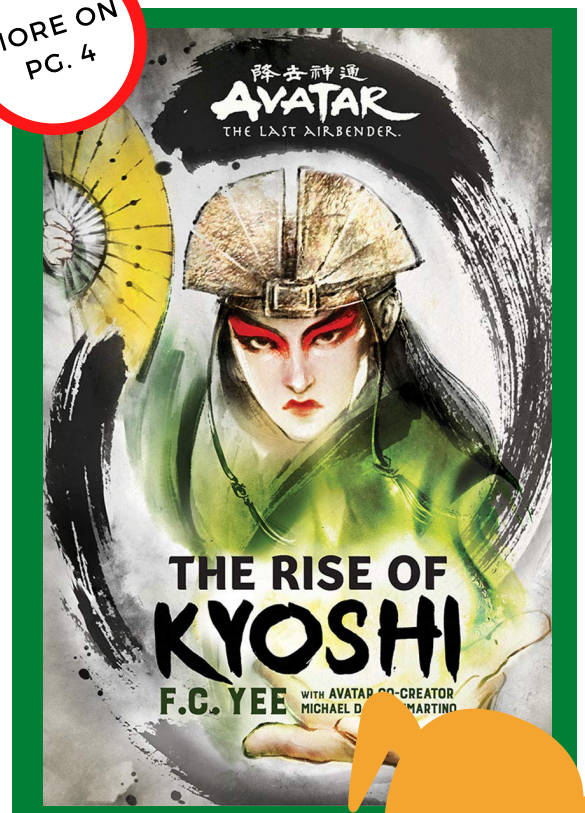
#### CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS!

- Want to be in the next newsletter?  
Send us an email  
([englishA@bu.edu](mailto:englishA@bu.edu)) to be featured!  
We're looking for:
  - Poetry, recipes, creative  
projects, club advertisements,  
book reviews, book  
recommendations, events, etc.

#### WEAR A MASK!

- COVID-19 is still an ongoing issue in  
this country!
  - Wearing a mask protects not  
only yourself, but those around  
you.**

MORE ON  
PG. 4

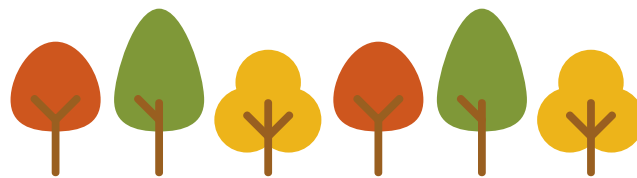


# A Look Ahead : Spring 2021 Courses



## AFAM INITIATIVES

Last June, BU's Center for the Humanities published a statement committing to, among other actions to fight against systemic racism, funding an initiative to develop more courses in African-American humanities areas. They have just released a list of 5 additional courses to support this initiative. The courses are to be taught across the Spring 2021, Fall 2021, and Spring 2022 semesters. Next semester, English Professor Maurice Lee will be teaching "Resistance, Revolution and Slavery in African American Literature" and Postdoctoral Associate Trent Masiki in the Kilachand Honors College will be teaching "The Afro-Latino Memoir." This is part of a wider project to support BU's African-American studies program in its transition from a program to a department, as well as allow more students to enroll in a wide range of related courses across many different departments at BU.



## EN 364 Class Review By Sharon Zhang

Over the summer, I took Shakespeare II (EN364) with Professor Liam Myer. As someone who viewed Shakespearean literature as one of the most complex types of text in high school, Liam's passion and knowledge really instilled in me an appreciation for it. Within six weeks, we read six Shakespearean plays (King Lear, Richard III, The Merchant of Venice, Measure for Measure, and Cymbeline). Although the workload was a bit intense, I always looked forward to hearing Liam speak. I never imagined to learn so much about the vice figure, the beauty of diction in the Elizabethan era, and the social economic history that impacted the literature of this time. Liam's classes were always very structured and well-planned out, and I loved the flashcards that he would make to help us comprehend certain symbols and images better. I definitely recommend taking a class with Liam if you can! 10/10

## Controversial Class (TW)

By Angie Izquierdo



On November 1st, a post was made on the @campus.survivors Instagram page regarding a new English class being offered for the Spring 2021 semester. This class analyzes the works of Roman Polanski, a film director accused of multiple cases of egregious sexual misconduct in the U.S. alone. The students' concerns in their posts were brought to the English Department's attention immediately. Just a few days after the post was made, the department held an open discussion forum for students to express their worries. The department promised to speak to the faculty member in charge of the class, providing vague but promising results. Days after the discussion, the class was officially canceled for the spring semester.



## UELA ELECTIONS!

Like the UELA? Want to get even more involved?

Two positions on our Executive Board are now open!

Check your emails for more info later this month.

### VICE PRESIDENT:

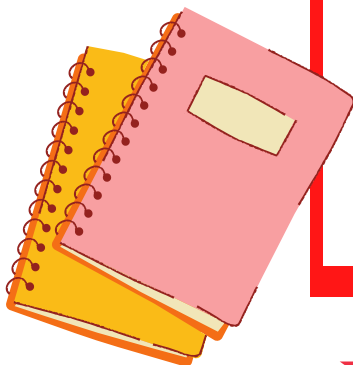
Assists the President with their tasks.

Will assume the role of President when the President is absent.

### EVENTS COORDINATOR:

Organizes events/fundraisers

Creates and distributes flyers/positions



# CHARITIES TO CHECK OUT DURING THE GIVING SEASON

BY EMILY YODER

As we enter the colloquially known “season of giving”, now (and always!) is an excellent time to donate your time, funds, or goods to these local organizations. Also, consider organizing a drive to raise funds or collect clothing and sanitary products in your dorm building! As the COVID-19 pandemic reaches devastating new numbers here in the United States, Americans should give to each other as much as they are able.

## 1) ABCD Coat Drive

As I am sure readers are well aware, Boston’s winter weather is quite frigid. Help families in need by donating coats, scarves, boots, gloves, mittens and any other winter gear to ABCD’s Coat Drive! <https://bostonabcd.org/service/coat-drive/>



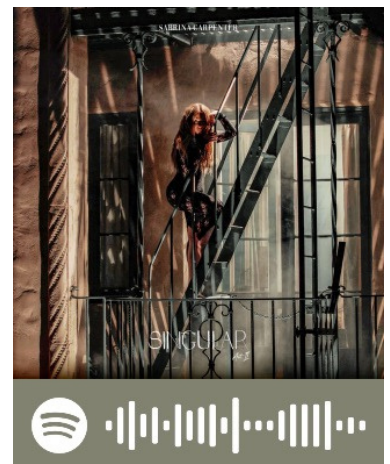
## 2) Greater Boston Food Bank (GBFB)

In 2019, more than 35 million Americans struggled with hunger. While the GBFB is not currently accepting walk-in donations, monetary contributions are more than welcome. <https://www.gbfb.org/get-involved/food-and-fund-drive/>

## 3) Dignity Matters

Two-thirds of US women will be unable to afford menstrual products this year. Dignity Matters is a non-profit organization that donates menstrual products and undergarments to women in need “in order to help them stay healthy, regain self-confidence, and live with basic dignity.” <https://www.dignity-matters.org/>

SONG OF THE MONTH:



## RISE OF KYOSHI: BOOK REVIEW

By Anna Rafferty

The Rise of Kyoshi is a must-read for any fan of “Avatar: The Last Airbender,” and as the events of this novel predate the show by several hundred years, it is able to be entirely understood and enjoyed by someone who has no prior knowledge of the Avatar universe. As someone who recently became interested in the series due to the Netflix-sponsored “Avatar Renaissance” of the day, I could not get my hands on this novel fast enough. As opposed to the graphic novels written about the television series itself,

The Rise of Kyoshi is presented in the form of a classic novel and written by fantasy author F.C. Yee with content consultation from series creator Michael Dante DiMartino. This novel tells the full story of the legendary, earth-bending Avatar Kyoshi, revealing details about her childhood, her relationships, and the journey she undertakes as she goes from being an orphan to assuming the role of the world’s peacekeeper. Additionally, something many fans have come to love about The Rise of Kyoshi is the representation present throughout it; not only is the plot rich with references to the many cultures of East Asia, but (without giving any spoilers) you can also expect to see some LGBTQ+ characters as well. If you end up enjoying The Rise of Kyoshi, the next book in the series, The Shadow of Kyoshi, was published this summer and is just as incredible!

## UNCUT GEMS: MOVIE REVIEW

BY EMILY YODER



During the hectic time of the pandemic and election season just passing, it may feel like there is no knowing what lies ahead. To escape this feeling, go and watch Uncut Gems, a movie that takes the same sense of anxiety and amplifies it, as it thrives in its unpredictability. Directed by Josh & Benny Safdie (BU albums!), Uncut Gems stars Adam Sandler, an actor familiar for his family-friendly roles, by providing him a darker, more dramatic role to round out his repertoire of characters. While less than suitable for younger audiences—given its R rating—this movie has a unique way of keeping mature viewers on their toes and actively seeking resolution throughout. Watch it now on Netflix.



# INDIGENOUS OWNED BOOKSTORES IN NORTH AMERICA

## IN THE U.S.:

### Birchbark Books

Minneapolis, MN  
Instagram:  
@birchbark\_books

### Bird Cage Book Store

Rapid City, SD  
Instagram:  
@birdcage\_bookstore

### Red Planet Comics

Albuquerque, NM  
Instagram: @redplanetbnc



## IN CANADA:

### Massy Books

Vancouver, BC  
Instagram: @massybooks

### Raven Reads

Vancouver, BC (subscription box shipping)  
Instagram: @raven\_reads

### Theytus Books Publishing

Syilx territory on the Penticton Indian Reserve, BC  
Instagram: @theytus\_books



### Barely Bruised Books

Ottawa, Ontario  
Instagram:  
@scott\_mackillop

### Iron Dog Books

Vancouver, BC  
Instagram:  
@irondogbooks

### Goodminds

Brantford, Ontario  
Instagram:  
@goodmindsindigenous books

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