

Boston University Center for the Humanities

ANNUAL NEWSLETTER

Volume 16 | 2023-2024



**BE
HUMAN**



725 Commonwealth Avenue, B02
Boston, Massachusetts 02215
bu.edu/humanities





The Center for the Humanities supports the work of humanities scholars and students at Boston University through fellowships, awards, and, as of fall 2023, three new initiatives. The Center promotes dialogue between humanities disciplines and public constituencies in ways that are vital to civic life.



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Staff 2023-2024

Juliet Floyd, director
Daniel Abramson, associate director (on leave)
Margarita Guillory, associate director
Kurt Cavender, managing director (2024)
Tamzen Flanders, administrator (2023)
Ashley Mulcahy, senior administrative coordinator
Cheryl Lai, student staff
Kathryn Lakin, student staff

Executive Committee 2023-2024

Paula Austin, History
Victor Coelho, Musicology
Yuri Corrigan, World Languages & Literatures
M. David Eckel (2023), Religion
Sarah Frederick, World Lanagues & Literatures
Maurice Lee, English
Neil Myler, Linguistics
Daniel Star, Philosophy
Michael Zell, History of Art & Architecture

From the Director



Juliet Floyd, director

My first year as director was devoted to voicing the crucial importance of the humanities in our rapidly evolving world. Everywhere we look, from ChatGPT to dating apps to environmental history and sound art, we see human questions about meaning and myth, about what really matters, rising to the fore. What is the space of the human (and the other than human)? What is sense, and what is nonsense? Far from fading away into irrelevance, these questions take center stage in current research, exciting our students and the public.

The rapidity of change around us tests the very ideas of past, present and future, echoing the many drifts and changes in different forms of life across generations. The humanities are here to make sense of these friction-ridden realities, to keep our conversations and institutions alive, no matter our fields of specialization. The humanities serve to bridge time, disciplines, conversations, and the world. Our Center continues to support this bridging through a tradition of high-

quality programming and fellowship support, thanks to our endowment. We also continue Summer Internships in the Humanities programs in which undergraduates and graduate students affiliate with important area institutions. We are especially grateful to the Sabanci Foundation for their continued support of experiential learning, expanded this year by a generous \$1 million dollar gift. This expression of commitment to the humanities at BU enriches and deepens BU's specific history, which, from the very beginning, has been making high-caliber humanities and scientific research accessible to all with the aim of impacting and bettering the world.

In 2023-2024, we launched three initiatives outlined in our 2023 Charter. Last December, **the Leadership Initiative** gathered the Directors of all Boston-area humanities centers to begin a collective discussion of our future, sparking needed conversation about Boston's humanities infrastructure in research and public outreach. BUCH also joined the New England Consortium of Humanities. This initiative aims at making our Center a hub for efforts to develop the humanities' potential for impact, seeding leaders in and outside of academia. **The Digital Humanities Initiative** brought together students, faculty, and library staff to spark conversations about humanizing digital technology, laying the groundwork for a laboratory that will produce new forms of creativity and voice. We are especially eager to involve our undergraduates here, as they are forging new paths for new technologies. **Humanities in the World, our Global Initiative**, responds to transnational patterns of humanities funding and research and the importance of diasporic experience in a world where technology creates common problems world-wide, generating the need for local solutions. With the aid of funds from the Norwegian Research Council, the Center organized "Mathematics with a Human Face," a conference where mathematicians, art historians, computer scientists, and philosophers confronted some of the many humanities questions raised by the automation of human language and proof production: the poetics, history and politics of mathematical language, the cognition and aesthetics of mathematics, the future of AI and emotion. We also hosted visiting scholars from Turkey, Germany, Brazil, and Portugal.

Our Center wound up its summer humanities program, The One and the Many, funded over three years by the Teagle Foundation and spearheaded by my predecessor Professor Susan Mizruchi. A small group of low-income high school students from greater Boston who are the first in their families to be college-

BUCH Initiatives

bound were mentored on college admissions and college life while residing on campus, immersed in the humanities, and mentored in reading, writing, the archives, as well as community life. This too seeds the future of the humanities.

We will pursue grants in the near term to support the extension of our activities. The groundwork for this has already been laid in my work with Associate Director Professor Margarita Guillory and our new managing director, Dr. Kurt Cavender. Activities are planned over the next two years that will unify our campus's pedestrian space by way of the humanities and the arts, confront the challenges of humanities education in a world of AI, and give subsequent generations new food for thought and feeling. The humanities are for all of us, each in our own way.

This has been one of the most exciting intellectual years in my academic life, and I look forward to our continuing expansion of our Initiatives and the activities of the Center in academic year 2024-2025. I am most grateful to the administrators, faculty, students and alumni who have guided me through such an inspiring year.



Juliet Floyd
Borden Parker Browne
Professor of Philosophy

The primary mission of the Boston University Center for the Humanities is to expand the visibility, impact, and support of humanities research and teaching among faculty, staff, and students while also building bridges for new local, national, and international collaborations. Each of the Center's three Initiatives aligns with this mission through strategic programming.

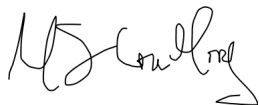


Programs linked to **the Humanities Leadership Initiative** widen interconnections between the humanities and leadership in and outside the academy.

Programming through **the Digital Humanities Initiative** provides faculty and students with opportunities to critically engage intersections between emerging digital technologies and the humanities, humanizing the digital.

The Humanities in the World Initiative fosters international collaboration in research through events, co-sponsored grants, and interdisciplinary symposiums, addressing transnational, transcultural and diasporic challenges and experiences.

Collectively, these initiatives open new paths of thought, channeling creativity and rearticulating the relevance of the humanities while making BUCH more integral across campus, national, and international geographies. They are meant to brilliantly illustrate that the “humanities matter” in the 21st century.



Margarita Guillory
Associate Professor of Religion

Center Staff



Cheryl, Tamzen, and Kathryn at the Center's Building Bridges event

Though small in number, the Center staff contributes a wide range of humanistic interests and experiences, both within and outside of academia, to the daily running of the Center. These contributions make for thoughtful programming, creative problem-solving, and a lot of fun.

In January 2024, the Center bid farewell to Administrator **Tamzen Flanders**, who retired after seven remarkable years at the Center. Her sunny disposition and patience made her an ideal colleague. She is sorely missed by the many CAS faculty and staff members with whom she built relationships. A self-defined “generalist,” Tamzen’s eclectic interests and

her people skills allowed her to engage with BU humanists in many fields. With a deep knowledge of the Center’s history, resources, and responsibilities, Tamzen positioned the Center to sail into the future. She was instrumental in overseeing a smooth transition in directorship. A former teacher, Tamzen was an exceptional mentor to the Center’s administrative coordinator and student staff. Tamzen remains a close friend of the Center, and we are grateful for her many contributions.

The Center is delighted to have hired **Kurt Cavender** (PhD in American Literature 2018, Brandeis) as Tamzen’s successor and its new managing director. Kurt’s task is to oversee the day-to-day running of the Center and to help us expand BUCH’s activities. Building on his experience as the former proposal and grants administrator in the physics department, where he oversaw over \$30 million of grants, Kurt has a keen interest in developing external sources of funding for the Humanities. He is poised to help BUCH build out its three current initiatives.

Ashley Mulcahy joined the Center staff in 2019 and has provided institutional continuity during a period of change in leadership with wide-ranging knowledge of our humanities faculty and staff members. Outside of her part-time work at the Center, Ashley is a professional musician and frequently conducts humanistic research as co-director of Lyracle, an early music chamber ensemble. Ashley’s engagement in the arts and humanities makes her a valuable resource in planning and strategic thinking.



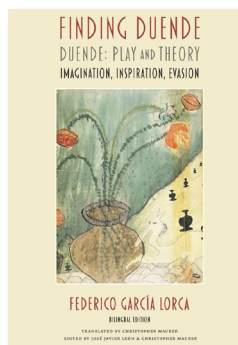
Kurt and Ashley

Keeping the center in touch with BU’s undergraduate population and media channels are our student staff members, **Kathryn Lakin** and **Cheryl Lai**. Kathryn and Cheryl are the force behind many of the Center’s most public-facing projects, including our portfolio of faculty and student interviews, podcast, and new TikTok channel. With a keen eye for design, Cheryl adds a communications finesse to the Center’s outward face. An articulate speaker and writer, Kathryn traveled to Washington D.C. in March 2024 to represent the Center at the National Humanities Alliance annual meeting and advocacy day.

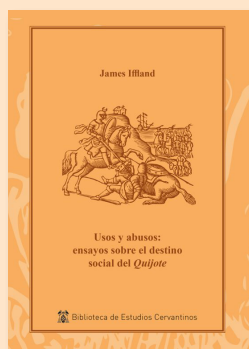
Funded Publications 2023-2024



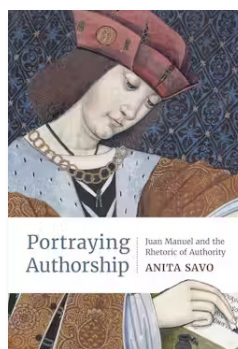
Jim Carter
Romance Studies
Ecologia e lavoro
Dialoghi interdisciplinari



Christopher Maurer
Romance Studies
Finding Duende
Duende: Play and Theory
Imagination, Inspiration, Evasion



James Iffland
Romance Studies
Usos y abusos: ensayos
sobre el destino social
del *Quijote*



Anita Savo
Romance Studies
Portraying Authorship
Juan Manuel and the
Rhetoric of Authority



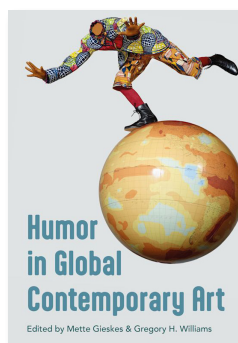
Margaret Litvin
World Languages &
Literatures
Russian-Arab Worlds
A Documentary History



Andrew Shenton
Musicology and
Ethnomusicology
Olivier Messiaen's
Turangalila-symphonie



Cathie Jo Martin
Political Science
Education for All?
Literature, Culture and
Education Development
in Britain and Denmark

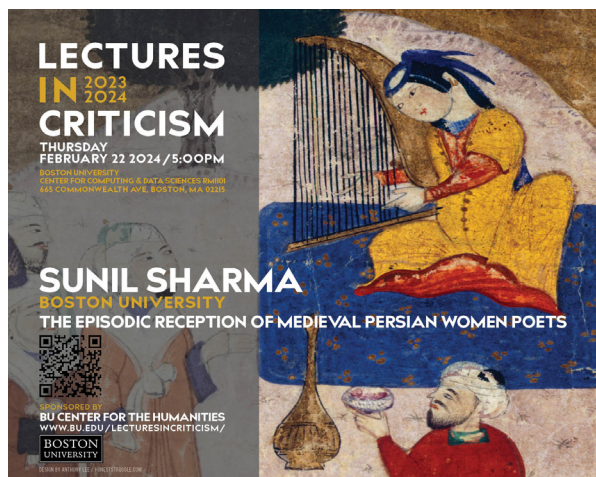


Gregory Williams
History of Art &
Architecture
Humor in Global
Contemporary Art

Humanities Programming

The Center provides financial and administrative support for events throughout the academic year that bring humanities perspectives to bear on a wide range of subjects that are central to contemporary society. The **Lectures in Criticism** series and **Conversations in the Arts & Ideas** are two such programs that represent the Center's dedication to public-facing programming curated to engage a non-specialist audience.

Lectures in Criticism

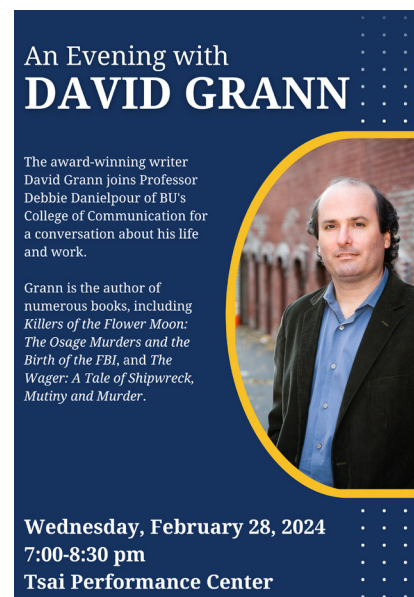


For over forty years, the Lectures in Criticism (LIC) series has invited renowned scholars in the humanities to BU. In its second academic year since assuming oversight of the series, the Center hosted **Professor Sunil Sharma** (WLL) whose lecture, "The Episodic Reception of Medieval Persian Women Poets" drew an interdisciplinary audience of scholars and students. In his talk, Professor Sharma connected episodes in the reception history of Persian women poets, providing examples of several poets who were later memorialized in nineteenth-century anthologies created by male interpreters. In tracing this history, Sharma challenged the way this millennium-long poetic tradition is studied, forging a path for today's readers to "respect the way pre-

modern readers read poetry." The Center is honored to have the Lectures in Criticism series under its wing and is dedicated to continuing its legacy of excellence.

Conversations in the Arts & Ideas

The Center is a sponsor of Conversations in the Arts & Ideas, which brings a major public artist and thinker to campus each year to discuss questions of essential relevance to the humanities. This year's guest was the award-winning writer **David Grann**. Grann joined **Professor Debbie Danielpour** (COM) for a well-attended public conversation about his life and work that attracted wide-ranging members of the BU community as well as Bostonians with no BU affiliation. Much of the conversation centered on the writing and research of Grann's award-winning novel, *The Killers of the Flower Moon*, which has recently enjoyed increased visibility through a highly-acclaimed film adaptation. Speaking about his novel, Grann emphasized the confluence of creative and archival research that enabled him to respectfully fictionalize marginalized histories and bring them into the public consciousness. The following day, Grann attended a breakfast seminar with undergraduates from the Kilachand Honors college to discuss his new book, *The Wager*.



To read the full articles by Dina Famin and Margot Rashab on which these summaries are based, visit bu.edu/lecturesincriticism and bu.edu/artsandideas/

Digitizing the Humanities | Humanizing the Digital



Professor Menegon and students enjoy the reception

BU is already home to many students and faculty working at the intersection of humanistic inquiry and digital technologies. Their projects demonstrate the foundational role of the humanities as we confront unprecedented challenges driven by the computational revolution.

In AY 23-24, the Center piloted two new programs under its **Digital Humanities Initiative (DHI)** to support BU's digital humanists and to elevate the digital humanities on campus.



Humanists converse about their projects

In the fall semester, the Center officially launched the DHI with a meet and greet event designed to connect digital humanists across BU. Faculty and student attendees at **“Building Bridges: Connecting the Humanities and Technology”** represented many departments, programs, schools, and colleges. They enjoyed lively conversation about digital humanities projects that span disciplines and methodologies.

In the spring semester, the Center piloted a new opportunity for undergraduates designed to increase the visibility of the excellent work in the digital humanities that many BU students have already undertaken. Adjudicated in four categories, the first annual **Digital Creators Award in the Humanities** celebrates projects that creatively bridge the humanities and emerging digital technologies.

2024 Digital Creators Awardees

Audio Category

Nicole Ratmiroff, CAS '27

Nicole's podcast, *The Idealist*, addresses mental health and wellness through media trends.

App Category

Cheryl Lai, COM/CAS '26, Public Relations, Religion minor

Cheryl's app, “Grow Your Spirit,” gamifies the process of building consistent rituals in users' lives.

Visual Category

Iris Ren, CAS '27, Computer Science

Iris's comic draws connections between Kehinde Wiley's painting, *John, 1st Baron Byron*, and literature that Iris studied through the Core Curriculum.

Web Category

Ki Hang Cheung, COM '24, Advertising, Japanese minor

Ki Hang's website explores the enduring literary legacy of Japan's Asakusa Rokku theatre district as depicted in Japanese literature.


To view the awarded Digital Creators projects, visit the Center's

Digital Creators Page:

tinyurl.com/mrydvx6t



Mathematics with a Human Face



**MATHEMATICS
WITH A
HUMAN FACE**

Schedule & Participants

Part I: Mathematics: Concepts, Languages, Arts and Cultures

10:00am - 10:55am
"Mathematical Concepts"
Sorin Bangu (Bergen), Introduced by Jeffrey Schatz (Bergen/Yale)

11:00am - 11:50am
"Max Dehn and Mathematical Late Modernism"
Philip Ordling (Sarah Lawrence)

12:00pm - 1:00pm
Lunch
Catered in Barrister's Hall

1:00pm - 1:55pm
"Mathematical Hygiene"
Andy Arana (Archive Henri Poincaré)

2:00pm - 2:55pm
"The Technological Sublime"
Juliette Kennedy (Helsinki)


Part II: Automating Mathematics
Moderator Assaf Kfoury (BU)

3:00pm - 3:45pm
Paper (circulated in advance)
David Mumford (Brown & Harvard)

3:45pm - 4:30pm
Comments
Michael Harris (Columbia)

4:30pm - 5:00pm
Closing discussion

Monday, April 22 | 10am-5pm, Barristers Hall, BU Law School
BU Center for the History of Philosophy and Science
Co-Sponsored by the University of Bergen's Dept. of Philosophy and the Norwegian Research Council Grant



In April 2024, BUCH organized an interdisciplinary conference funded through a University of Bergen Norwegian Research Council Grant, **Mathematics With a Human Face**, co-hosted by BU's Center for the Philosophy & History of Science. Eminent mathematicians and computer scientists joined philosophers, historians, and art historians for a one-day discussion of the importance of the human element in mathematics, sparking public discussion amongst members of the STEM and humanities communities.

Presenters discussed cultural and hermeneutic elements of automation and mathematics's role in shaping language, human history, and artistic practice over time. Do programming languages, like the very writing of mathematical proofs, have their specific aspects of beauty, poetics, and narrative? How do the quotidian drawings of humans doing mathematics – drafting drawings for buildings, representing conceptual structures, working with marginalia and doodles in notebooks – figure in the communication and development of mathematical thinking and spaces? Are the psychologies of infants numerical from birth, or are number concepts inculcated through practice? Does mathematics affect the 'hygenization' and uniformization of language in a culture? The day culminated in a discussion about whether human

emotion can ultimately be expurgated from the design of AI. The audience consisted of alumni, students, and faculty from CAS, CDS, COM, LAW, and other parts of the BU Community.

In an age of AI we increasingly face the automation of proof, language, and image production in everyday life. This increasing imbrication of automation is not only reshaping mathematical culture, but the very infrastructure of education. AI raises a series of challenging questions that touch upon the very core of humanities inquiry – What is it to be truly human in the face of the non-human world? What should learning and education be? How can the university serve the development of human flourishing and creativity? Humanities research, reflecting society's preoccupations, will in the near future focus more intensively on the development, value, and nature of human forms of life, our capacities for feeling, empathy and thought, as well as the values of truth and evidence to knowledge and communication. BUCH will continue to support this interdisciplinary conversation about the humanistic dimensions of STEM fields and artistic practice. Stay tuned.

**To view a recording
of the conference,
visit: [tinyurl.com/
bdh47bnf](https://tinyurl.com/bdh47bnf)**



The One and the Many at Boston University 2023



Ammisha Dascelin at the final banquet

Thanks to a generous three-year grant from the **Teagle Foundation**, in July 2023, the Center ran the third year of **The One and the Many at BU (O&M)**, a humanities-based summer program for low-income high school students from greater Boston who are the first in their families to be college-bound.

The Center welcomed the third cohort of students to campus for a residential learning experience. Students became an engaged community of learners taught by BU faculty: **Professor Paula Austin** (History) and **Marisa Milanese** (Writing Program). Faculty designed and led academic seminars that introduced students to different humanistic disciplines and explored fundamental questions about identity, ethics, and representation through media including literature, documentary film, and primary source materials housed at BU's Howard Gotlieb Center and at the Boston Athenæum.

"Our students demonstrated the kind of intellectual risk-taking that we hope all undergraduates will engage in, posing challenging questions, initiating lively debates, and offering new perspectives. We would be lucky to teach them in our college classes."-Marisa Milanese

O&M Associate Directors **Maya Atakilti** and **Kimber Chewning** carefully integrated the students' coursework with co-curricular and mentorship programs designed to reinforce their academic studies, build relationships, and facilitate personal growth.

The co-curricular program transformed learning into practice by providing opportunities for students to develop themes and materials from class in creative group activities that emphasize self-expression, social bonding, and fun. Highlights included workshops on urban farming with educator Sabrina Pilet-Jones and with the spoken-word performing duo Adobo Fish Sauce. Throughout the program, students received academic and personal support from mentors with similar backgrounds. Current BU undergraduates, the mentors served as near-peer role models. Mentors met with students in pre-program sessions and built on the trust they established to help the students in their first encounters with a college environment.

O&M students benefit from the program's emphasis on individual development and the power of community. In keeping with BUCH's mission to cultivate new generations of humanities leaders, they ended the summer with a stronger understanding of the power of humanistic tradition to interpret and shape the world they live in.



Students at the Boston Athenæum



Students, staff, and Sabrina Pilet-Jones

BUCH Fellows 2023-2024

Jeffrey Henderson Senior Research Fellows

Deborah BURTON, Associate Professor, Music Theory
Puccini's Last Act: the Finales of Turandot

Daniel ERKER, Associate Professor, Linguistics & Spanish
Spanish in Boston: Contact, Change, and the Social Meaning of Linguistic Variation

Herbert GOLDER, Professor, Classical Studies
Sappho's Erotica: Dark Glow of the Heart

Leah KRONENBERG, Associate Professor, Classical Studies
Lesbia's Sparrow: Sexual Allegory, Personification, and Poetics in Catullus

Brendan MCCONVILLE, Professor, History
In the Season of Revolution: The Transformation of American Politics in the Era of Upheaval, 1774 to 1794

Anthony PETRO, Associate Professor, Religion
Provoking Religion: Sex, Art, and the Sacred in the Modern U.S.

Michael PRINCE, Professor, English
Missing from Mimesis: Deism and the Genesis of the Novel

Michael ZANK, Professor, Religion
Maimonides and his Modern Readers

Junior Faculty Fellows

Victor KUMAR, Associate Professor, Philosophy
How to Think about Moral Progress

Anita SAVO, Assistant Professor, Romance Studies
Speaking Algarabía: Language Anxiety in Medieval Castile

Graduate Dissertation Fellows

David W. GRANSTON III, History of Art & Architecture
"Like it Grewed There": Resort Architecture and the New England Landscape, 1875-1915

Marie LE BLEVENNEC, Philosophy
Reproductive Technologies, Disabilities, and the Ethics of Selection

Grace MCGOWAN, American & New England Studies
"Venus Worked in Bronze": African-American Women Writers and the Classical Tradition

Katherine MITCHELL, History of Art & Architecture
Photographic Currents in U.S. River Culture

BUCH Fellows AY 2024-2025

Jeffrey Henderson Senior Research Fellows

Robert CHODAT, Professor, English
Experts and Encounters: Knowledge and Aesthetics After Wittgenstein

Joanna DAVIDSON, Associate Professor, Anthropology
Singing Wives & Silent Widows: Essays on Marriage, Naming, and Death

David FRANKFURTER, Professor, Religion
Ritual and the Enemy Body: Reconceptualizing Acts of Atrocity

Paul KATSAFANAS, Professor, Philosophy
Aggrieved Identities

Jonathan KLAWANS, Professor, Religion
Seductive Discoveries: The Academic Authentication of Biblical Finds and Forgeries

Petrus LIU, Professor, World Languages & Literatures
Value-Form Queer Theory

Alexis PERI, Associate Professor, History
“Goodwill Makes Good Politics:” Pen-Friendship between Soviet and American Women

Ana María REYES, Associate Professor, History of Art & Architecture
To Weave and Repair: Aesthetics in Colombia's Peace Process

Junior Faculty Fellows

Andrei MAMOLEA, Assistant Professor, International Relations
Unbounded Empire: Sovereignism & International Law in US Foreign Relations, 1881-1945

Graduate Dissertation Fellows

Ying GONG, Linguistics
The Syntax and Semantics of Degree Constructions in Ersu

Constanza ROBLES, History of Art & Architecture
What's in a name? Visualizing Latin-, Hispano-, Ibero-, and Pan-American Alliances at International Expositions, 1901-1929

Henry TONKS, History
Don't Stop Thinking About Tomorrow: Remaking American Liberalism in an Age of Crisis, 1972-1992

Holly WIEGAND, English
Bold Devotion: Female Religious Authority and Transatlantic 19th-Century Fiction

Funded Summer Internships

Summer Internships in the Humanities constitute an important component of the Center's **Leadership Initiative**, creating opportunities for BU undergraduates and graduate students to apply their humanistic training to public-facing institutions that serve Greater Boston.

Our two internship programs are supported by the great generosity of **Demir Sabanci** (CAS '93), whose devotion to the humanities ensures the longevity of these internships. Mr. Sabanci, a leading Turkish entrepreneur and philanthropist, was inspired by a philosophy class in which he studied Kafka's "Before the Law," going on to found major corporate ventures in his own country and beyond. He represents in his life and work an ideal application of humanities ideas.

In addition, the summer 2023 internships were made possible by substantial support from the Office of the Associate Provost for Graduate Affairs, the Office of the Associate Provost for Undergraduate Affairs, the Office of the Dean of Arts & Sciences, the Anthony & Mary Vigna Summer Internship Fund, and an anonymous donor.



Summer 2023 PhD Interns

"A unique combination of library, museum, and cultural center," the **Boston Athenæum** is home to a world-class collection of books, manuscripts, maps, and visual

art. The Athenæum holds an annual workshop for K-12 educators on teaching with primary sources. As the Athenæum's Education Intern, Caryne Nicholas (HI) selected the theme History of Queer American Resistance for the 2024 Workshop and developed a syllabus and activities that draw from the Athenæum's collection.

What most concert-goers don't know is that the **Boston Symphony Orchestra** manages an



impressive archival collection that chronicles this flagship institution's over one hundred forty year history. At the BSO, Toni Armstrong (HAA) digitized a cassette tape collection that consists of interviews with former orchestra members and created a finding guide for these oral histories.



Boston's **Institute of Contemporary Art** aptly self-describes as "a museum at the intersection of contemporary art and civic life." At the ICA,

Catherine Lennartz (HAA) helped adapt the museum's exhibition, *Forecast Form: Art in the Caribbean Diaspora, 1990's-Today*, which came to the ICA from Chicago, for Boston audiences.

"After engaging with different departments at the Athenæum, I hope to work in a museum or library setting."

—Caryne Nicholas, 2023 PhD Intern

Massachusetts
Historical Society
Founded 1791

Founded in 1791, the **Massachusetts Historical Society** collects and communicates materials and resources from America's past to promote understanding of the history of Massachusetts and the nation.

At the MHS, Anne Boyd (AMNESP) created a new source set focused on the Reconstruction period for the MHS's online resource, *History Source*, which draws from MHS collections to promote and guide learning in US history and civics at every grade level.



In 2023, the **New England Historic Genealogical Society** launched its ambitious 10 Million Names project, dedicated to recovering the names of the estimated 10 million people of African descent who

in the Humanities

were enslaved in pre- and post-colonial America (specifically, the territory that would become the United States) between the 1500s and 1865. Intern Henry Tonks (HI) advanced the goals of this project by researching and writing about artifacts in the NEHGS's collection.



An institution that embraces “the distinction of being the oldest continuously operating and collecting museum in the United States,” the **Peabody Essex Museum** boasts a vast collection that spans over four hundred

years and nearly every continent. As an intern, Hannah Jew (HAA) cataloged new acquisitions, helped adapt a touring exhibit to be shown at PEM, and assisted with records augmentation for an exhibition related to her own dissertation research in Dutch Baroque art.

Summer 2023 Undergraduate Interns



Beacon Press is an independent publisher of serious non-fiction with a reputation for publications that promote social justice. At Beacon Press, Saskia den Boon (EN) applied her writing skills and love of literature to her work

in the editorial and marketing departments.

“My co-workers challenged me to think critically and discuss the most fundamental issues of today: race, gender, sexuality, environment, education, relearning, and more.”

—Saskia den Boon, 2023 Undergrad Intern



The mission of the **Brattle Film Foundation** is to “celebrate film as a popular and fine art form with cultural and historic importance that excites, educates, and inspires community.” The Foundation

operates Cambridge’s unique Brattle Theatre. As an intern, Alexandra Mascarello (PH) spent her summer grant writing and creating a movie program related to her philosophy major.

“I walked into the Globe’s office with little knowledge about the field and walked out three months later with skills that will help me for the rest of my life.”

—Emma Obregon Dominguez, 2023 Undergrad Intern



With a local and national reputation for high-quality journalism, the award-winning **Boston Globe** pursues an unwavering commitment to the truth. As an intern reporter for the Globe’s Metro and Health

sections, Emma Sophia Obregon Dominguez had the opportunity to pitch, draft, and polish stories under the mentorship of the Globe staff.



The Marketing and Communications department at BU’s School of Public Health is “responsible for school-wide internal and external

communications, marketing initiatives, and brand positioning.” Bridging an interest in public health and the research and writing skills that are baked into humanistic training, intern Emma Grier (HAA) saw four pieces published during the course of her internship under the mentorship of MARCOM Director of Editorial Content Michael Saunders.

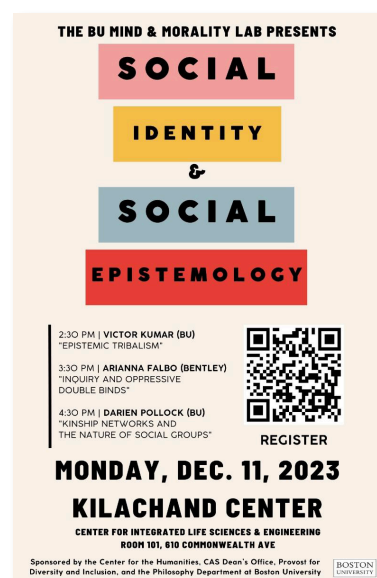
Sponsored Events 2023-2024

Felice AMATO
CFA Visual Arts
Women and Masks Project

Paula AUSTIN
History
Blurring the Color Line

Michael BIRENBAUM
QUINTERO
Musicology and Ethnomusicology
New Yor-Uba Residency

Alisa BOKULICH
Philosophy
Researching Values
and Valuing Research



Japonica BROWN-SARACINO
Sociology
Gentrification Symposium

María DATEL
Romance Studies
Conference on Second-
Language Learning & Disabilities

James CARTER
Romance Studies
Italian Film Festival

Robert CHODAT
English
BU Colloquium on Literature,
Philosophy & Aesthetics

Daniel DAHLSTROM
Philosophy
Boston Phenomenology Circle
Symposium

Nathan DAVIS
Boston Playwrights' Theatre
Massachusetts Young
Playwrights Project 2024

Nathan DAVIS
Boston Playwrights' Theatre
Theatre Marathon XXVI

David DECOSIMO
School of Theology
Institute for Philosophy &
Religion Lecture Series

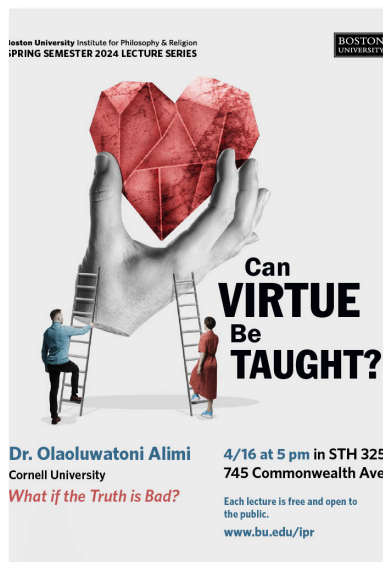
Anna Elliot
World Languages & Literatures
Fitzgerald Translation Prize

Sarah Frederick
World Languages & Literatures
"Nails and Eyes"

Aaron GARRETT
Philosophy
Journal of Modern Philosophy

Aaron GARRETT
Philosophy
Early Modern Philosophy and
Slavery Workshop

Samia HESNI
Philosophy
Manuscript Workshop



Satoru ISHIKAWA
World Languages & Literatures
22nd Boston Area Colleges
Japanese Language
Presentation

James JOHNSON
History
Conversations in the Arts &
Ideas

Paul KATSAFANAS
Philosophy
The Nature of Devotion

Jonathan KLAWANS
Religion
Editorial Assistance:
Journal of Ancient Judaism

Victor KUMAR
Philosophy
Identity Politics

Victor KUMAR
Philosophy
Philosophy and Social Justice

Margaret LITVIN
World Languages & Literatures
Big Fat Books Symposium

Margaret LITVIN
World Languages & Literatures
Kurdish Writer Bachtyar Ali Visit

Lida MAXWELL
Political Science
Melvin Rogers Talk

Sandra McEVOY
Political Science
The Good Friday Agreement
25 Years On

Rebecca MOORMAN
Classical Studies
Black Classicism Speaker Series:
Sonia Sabnis

Robert MUROWCHICK
Archaeology
Asian Cultural Heritage Forum

Erin MURPHY
English
Folger Institute Membership



Ayse PARLA
Anthropology
Fact and Fabulation

Joseph REZEK
American & New England
Studies Indigenous
Studies Working Group

Joseph REZEK
American & New England
Studies
American Studies for the Future

Catalina RODRIGUEZ
Romance Studies
Rivera Montes Visit



Jeffrey RUBIN
History
Seeing and Not Seeing Seminar

Sally SEDGWICK
Philosophy
How Does Spirit Relate to Nature? Hegelian Perspectives

Sunil SHARMA
World Languages & Literatures
Global Medieval Studies
Activities

Merav SHOHET
Anthropology
Writing with Silence

James SIEMON
Editorial Assistance:
Shakespeare Studies Journal

Garreth Dylan SMITH
Music Education
Conversations at the Drums

Daniel STAR
Philosophy
BU Ethics Seminar

Margaret TYLER
CGS Humanities
Poetry Reading Series

James UDEN
Classical Studies
New Approaches to Classics
Lecture Series
James UDEN

Classical Studies
Graduate Student Conference

James UDEN
Classical Studies
Women's Literacy in Afghanistan
Panel

Keith VINCENT
World Languages & Literatures
Faculty Gender and Sexuality
Study Group Activities 23-24

Robert WELLER
Anthropology
Haunted Silences

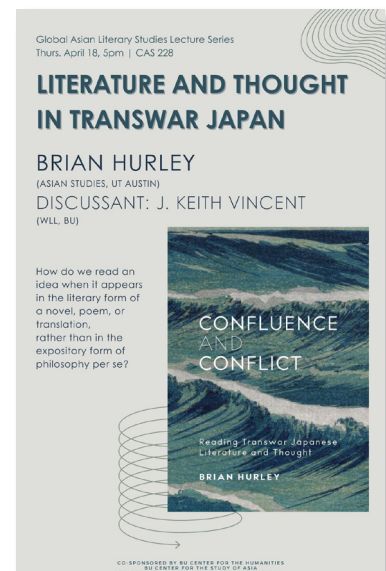
Yoon Sun YANG
World Languages & Literatures
Global Asian Literary Studies

Yoon Sun YANG
World Languages & Literatures
K-Pop: A Century in the Making

Catherine YEH
World Languages & Literatures
Chinese Translation Prize

Jeremy YUDKIN
Musicology and
Ethnomusicology
Conference: 200th Anniversary
of Beethoven's 9th Symphony

Michael ZELL
History of Art & Architecture
HAA Guest Lecture Series



BUCH Student Awards

Each year the Center recognizes outstanding students in the humanities through awards and fellowships.

We are grateful to current and foresighted donors who have funded these awards over the years. Award and fellowship recipients were honored at a ceremony on May 14, where their family, friends, and mentors joined in celebrating their accomplishments.

Undergraduate Student Awards

The Dean Elsbeth Melville Latin Prize
John Griffin, Classical Studies



Undergraduate Brennan awardees

The John Oddy Memorial Award
Sophia Fruehauf, Classical Studies & Archaeology
Sydney Jessup, Classical Studies
Eleanor Moran, Classical Studies & English
Emily Yoder, World Languages & Literatures

The Alice M. Brennan Humanities Award
Xóchitl Aguirre, English
Naomi Alexander, Anthropology
Alara Balcisoy, Linguistics
Yi Du, Philosophy
Birdie Gile, Anthropology
Wenshu Li, Musicology and Ethnomusicology
Poppy Livingstone, Anthropology

Photos by Vishvakishore Venkatesan



Katrina Tronco with her parents

The Alice M. Brennan Humanities Award
Grace Rohde, Linguistics
Gisele Sanchez, World Languages & Literatures

The Edwin S. and Ruth M. White Prize
Jessica Buckley, Archaeology
Madison Keefer, Romance Studies
Hayley Stock, World Languages & Literatures
Katrina Tronco, Anthropology

The Robert E. Yellin Award
Paloma Bauwens, English
Alice El-Ouazzane, Philosophy
Shengyi Huang, Religion
Ryan Servaites, Philosophy



Awardees and their friends enjoy the reception

Graduate Student Awards

The Alice M. Brennan Humanities Award

Nicholas Covaleski, Religion
Colleen Foran, History of Art & Architecture
Felix Kpogo, Linguistics
Gabriel Quick, History of Art & Architecture
Karina Sembe, Romance Studies

The Helen G. Allen Humanities Award

Leyla Jafarova, Anthropology
Kuizhi Wang, Philosophy



Graduate student Brennan awardees

The Clarimond Mansfield Award

Sarah Hopkinson, English
Ena Ozaki American & New England Studies
Elizabeth Walters, American & New England Studies

The Edwin S. and Ruth M. White Prize

Gabriel Paxton, Religion
Erin Tatz, Political Science



The BUCH staff



Ceremony attendees enjoy the reception

Graduate Dissertation Fellowship

The highest honor that the Center bestows on students, Dissertation Fellowships are awarded to graduate students who are about to enter their final year of study.

The Dissertation Fellowship provides a semester's stipend, affording recipients the opportunity to focus on finishing their dissertations. Dissertation Fellows participate in the Center's Fellows Seminar, where they receive valuable feedback on their work from an interdisciplinary group of scholars.

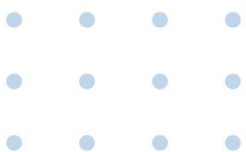


Holly Wiegand, Ying Gong, and Henry Tonks

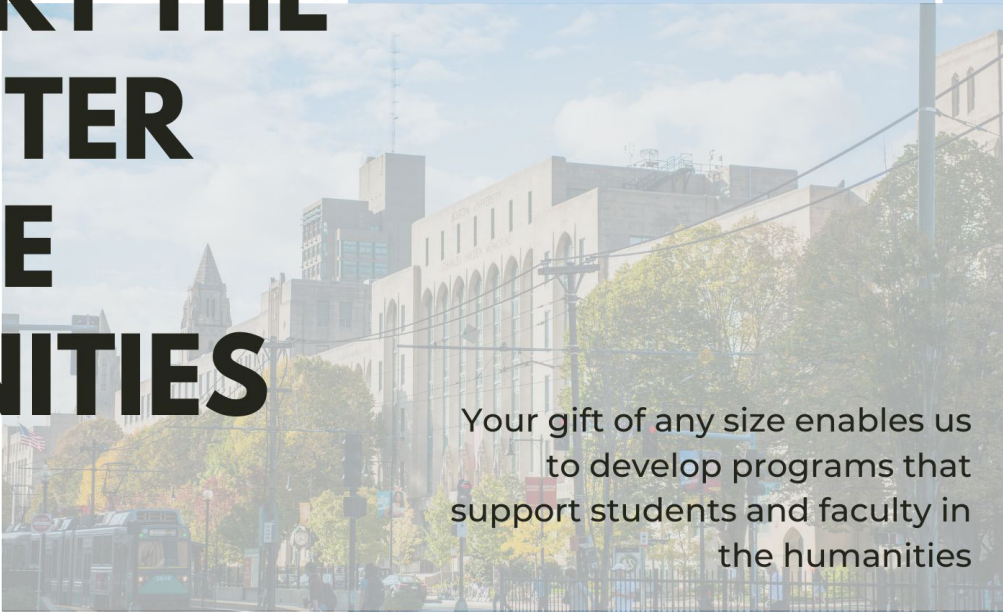
2024-2025 Graduate Dissertation Fellows

Ying Gong, Linguistics
Constanza Robles, History of Art & Architecture
Henry Tonks, History
Holly Wiegand, English

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A background image showing a city street scene. In the foreground, a green tram is visible on the left. The street is lined with trees and buildings. In the background, a tall building with a spire is visible. The sky is blue with some clouds.

Your gift of any size enables us
to develop programs that
support students and faculty in
the humanities