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Message from the Center

Dear Friends of the Center,

We write to you following a year defined by upheaval, struggle, creativity, and change. As always, we remain dedicated to creating a space where the arts and humanities may continue to flourish and push the boundaries of scholarship and engagement. While the past year has left us with much to reflect upon, we look forward to continuing to dive into new partnerships, creative activities, scholarship, and collaborations.

Beginning in the fall with a lecture and classroom visits by Washington State Poet Laureate Claudia Castro Luna, the Center for Arts and Humanities (CAH) kicked off a series of virtual programs that sought to offer opportunities for students, faculty, staff, and community members to gather, learn, and share together. November 2020 saw a focus on food and culture, including a Culturally Responsive Food Pantries panel where experts in the field gathered to share their experiences and advice with other organizations across Washington state. As we moved programming to a virtual platform, we took the opportunity to expand our offerings. Spring saw our partnership with the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum blossom, as well as a wide variety of additional programming with departments across WSU.

What began as a year defined by uncertainty quickly became much more than that—an opportunity to think outside of the box. Looking ahead to the upcoming year, we are continuing the theme of embracing and celebrating change. We welcomed our new Director Trevor Bond and Associate Director Keri McCarthy in May of 2021, and would like to extend our sincere thanks to our outgoing director Todd Butler for his fantastic contributions to the center.

When asked about the future of the center, Bond stated, “We are excited to build upon the solid foundation established by Dean Butler and appreciate the varied programs he established. Our vision is to expand the impact of the center by supporting and highlighting the creative and performing arts, research, and public engagement of WSU faculty. We plan to increase opportunities for WSU students and alumni to engage with the center and are looking forward to collaborating with partners across campus, the community, and beyond.”
Introducing the CAH Team

**Trevor James Bond**, CAH Director, Associate Dean for Digital Initiatives and Special Collections, Codirector of the Center for Digital Scholarship and Curation

Trevor received his master’s in library and information science with a specialization in archives and preservation management and a master’s in ancient history at UCLA. He joined the WSU Libraries’ faculty in 1998 and in 2017, completed a PhD at WSU in the Department of History. Trevor received the Washington State Historical Society’s 2018 Charles Gates Memorial Award for his article “Documenting Missionaries and Indians: The Archive of Myron Eells.” His book *Coming Home to Nez Perce Country: The Niimíipuu Campaign to Repatriate Their Exploited Heritage* was published in May by the WSU Press.

**Keri E. McCarthy**, CAH Associate Director, Professor of Oboe and Music History

Keri has been active as a performer and researcher throughout Southeast Asia. She is a cofounder of the Pan Pacific Ensemble, a chamber ensemble committed to performing and commissioning music of contemporary composers from Asia and the United States. In spring 2014 she spent three months in Singapore, and gave concerts in Yangon, Myanmar; Bangkok, Thailand; Hanoi, Vietnam; and Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. In 2011, she was a Fulbright Scholar in Bangkok, Thailand, researching connections between Thai traditional and contemporary musics, commissioning Thai and Malaysian composers, and performing new works with professional oboists in the Philippines, Thailand, and Singapore. She also completed a 2008 solo tour of Southeast Asia, performing commissioned works by composers from Vietnam, Indonesia, Thailand, and Malaysia. She has premiered works by American and Southeast Asian composers at International Double Reed Society Conferences in 2006, 2007, 2010, 2014, and 2015. Her albums *Shadowplay* (solo), *Feng*, and *Iron Horses* (Pan Pacific Ensemble) are commercially available.

**Toria Messinger**, CAH Graduate Assistant, Doctoral in Candidate Cultural Studies and Social Thought in Education

Toria is a doctoral candidate in cultural studies and social thought in education. Her research focuses on arts-based practices and poetic discourse analysis within the field of prison abolishment and the roles of education in the context of reimagined public health and safety. This will be her third year as the graduate assistant for the Center for Arts and Humanities. Toria obtained her undergraduate degree in Spanish literature, language, and culture from the University of Puget Sound and her master’s in criminal justice from Western Oregon University. She is a recipient of the Laurence J. Peter Memorial Graduate Fellowship in Teacher Education (2021–2022), Arthur J & Elizabeth Ritch Scholarship (2021), Lawrence Peter Scholarship (2020–2021), Lonny & Marcia Suko Educational Endowment (2019–2020), Coulter Viola Vestal Fellowship (2018–2019), and the Kassebaum John and Loella K. Scholarship (2018–2019).
Diana Alonso, CAH Undergraduate Promotion Specialist, Digital Technology and Culture

Diana, majoring in digital technology and culture with a minor in comparative ethnic studies currently holds a fellowship with Humanities on the Palouse (HOP), where she works to create access and opportunities for undocumented students and other marginalized groups to attend college, pursue graduate school, and find career pathways in art and humanities. She also works with the Center for Arts and Humanities, specifically focusing on design and outreach. Diana is the current president of Lambda Theta Alpha Latin Sorority, Incorporated, Zeta Sigma Chapter at Washington State University and the executive vice president and vice president of standards for the Multicultural Greek Council.

2021–2022 Theme

Examining our roles as we research past practices, synthesize concepts, and generate new scholarship, performances, and artistic products, Create and Recreate celebrates our engagement with past, present, and future ideas in our pursuit of humanistic and artistic illumination. What is original? What is redesigned? Come (re)create with us as we ponder these questions at upcoming WSU Center for Arts and Humanities programs.

If you have an event or opportunity that you feel resonates with this theme, please reach out to us at arts.humanities@wsu.edu.
Looking Back: Event Overview

In shifting to online delivery, the Center for Arts and Humanities was able to offer an enriching and varied set of event opportunities across both fall and spring semesters. Ranging from faculty fellow events to a partnership with the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum on their annual Meyerhoff lecture series, programming sought to bring relevant and timely discussions to the WSU community and beyond.

- Classroom Visits and Reading by Washington State Poet Laureate Claudia Castro Luna
- Culturally Responsive Food Pantry Panel Discussion and Q&A
- "Recipes and Race"
- The Lost Apple Project
- Half Off Happy Hour
- "Coyote Path: Place, Race, and the Elson S. Floyd Cultural Center"
- Meyerhoff Lecture Series with Susan Neiman
- "Freedom Songs: Black American Music as Protest"
- "Fanfare for the Unheard: A Voice for Emerging Stars in Music"
- "Reclaiming Right Relationships: Decolonizing the Ensemble"
- "Reimagining Chamber Music and American Gig Culture" Panel Discussion
- Colleagues in Conversation Monthly Discussions

In addition to larger events, the center also hosts a monthly Colleagues in Conversation where participants come together to discuss a wide range of topics and interests. This tradition continued into a virtual format, allowing for participation across campuses, and resumed in fall of 2021. Those interested in attending are encouraged to email us at arts.humanities@wsu.edu to be added to our listserv where future meetings and connection information will be announced.

“The CAH-sponsored School of Music lecture series Music: A Mosaic of Experiences provided a wide array of educational and cultural opportunities. Over 550 students, faculty, staff, and live-stream audience members participated. These guests allowed students and faculty to explore topics of decolonization, equity in music programming for ensemble and solo performers, and Black American music as protest. These conversations, discussions, and idea generating sessions provided our communities with necessary, integral, and timely experiences that will impact their perceptions and performance of music.”

—Dean Luethi, School of Music
USHMM Partnership

The Center for Arts and Humanities was thrilled to partner with the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum (USHMM) to help bring programming to the Pacific Northwest. Part of a multi-institutional collaborative forum, CAH was able to host the annual Meyerhoff Lecture Series featuring a keynote by Susan Neiman as well as both a panel discussion and Q&A event. Exploring topics of memory and memorialization both in Europe and the Pacific Northwest, the programming offered opportunities for students, faculty, staff, and community members around the world to virtually connect and examine these issues. The center plans to remain active in the planning of future events and looks forward to sharing with you upcoming opportunities hosted by partner institutions and campuses.

“
It pays to play hooky! In summer 2019 I abandoned a teachers' conference in Washington, D.C. for a half-hour meeting with Kierra Crago-Schneider, who directs academic outreach programs at the USHMM. This first encounter led to WSU becoming the initial host institution for several years of intensive programming in the Pacific Northwest. The 2021 Meyerhoff lecture series reached an audience of more than 2,500 viewers, from WSU to D.C. to Berlin and beyond. The faculty network that we are building among regional institutions involves dozens of educators and will provide a strong basis for years of collaborative initiatives in teaching and public engagement.”

—Raymond Sun, Department of History
Highlights from Past Faculty Fellows

CAH faculty fellows tackled a wide variety of engaging topics spanning numerous research areas. Highlighted below are several examples of the generative power of these fellowships, with testaments from faculty surrounding how the center has impacted their work.

Raymond Sun’s (Department of History) WSU Fallen Cougars Project was featured by Washington State Magazine. To learn more about the work, please visit: https://youtu.be/cqUB_4H7U3c to view an informational video.

As a CAH Fellow, I had the phenomenal opportunity to connect with colleagues from around the university and engage in monthly conversations about our research. One of these conversations provided fresh perspectives on my ongoing work, which I was able to further at a fall symposium called “Coyote Path: Place, Race, and the Elson S. Floyd Cultural Center” that featured academics and professionals from around the country, and brought practitioners and an audience of more than 80 students, faculty, and staff to discuss matters of social equity and justice in the campus built environment. I am ever grateful to CAH for this opportunity.”

—J. Philip Gruen, School of Design + Construction

Through the Center for Arts and Humanities Fellowship program, musicians from renowned chamber ensembles in the United States anchored a panel discussion “Reimagining Chamber Music and American Gig Culture” this March. Together, panelists, faculty, and students discussed strategies for branding and promotion, following one’s passion, and succeeding in the freelance economy. This event fostered impactful perspectives on how music brings people together, and ways musicians and artists can connect more meaningfully with local, national, and international communities.”

—Keri McCarthy, School of Music
Incoming CAH Faculty Fellows & Catalyst Grant
Faculty Fellows 2021

Laurie Mercier  
Claudius O. and Mary W. Johnson Distinguished Professor  
Department of History

The fellowship will support the completion of research for a book project about gendered occupational segregation in the US and Canadian Wests, 1930–2020.

Troy Bennefield  
Director of Athletic Bands, Associate Director of Bands, and Associate Professor  
School of Music

The project seeks to explore and publish information on the life and works of Dutch composer Julius Hijman, whose career was interrupted by the Nazi regime. The team also intends to produce the first-ever recordings of his important compositions.

Jacqueline Wilson  
Assistant Professor of Bassoon  
School of Music

This project endeavors to create, for the first time, an album of Classical works by Indigenous composers for solo bassoon utilizing a decolonized approach.

Jeffrey C. Sanders  
Associate Professor  
Department of History

Funding will support travel and archival research as well as the development of a book proposal for a cultural and environmental history of strontium 90.

Martin King  
Associate Professor  
Horn and Music Education  
School of Music

This project will commission a new horn, tuba, and piano trio; record an album of music for this ensemble; and give performing tours of this music to expand and diversify the repertoire and promote this ensemble.

Melissa Nicolas  
Associate Professor and Director of Composition  
Department of English

This project seeks to create an open-access digital archive of personal narratives about living through the COVID-19 pandemic.

Avantika Bawa  
Associate Professor of Fine Arts and WSUV Commissioner

This project is part of an ongoing series of installations reflecting the artist’s interest in responding to the built and natural environment, through the language of drawing and construction.

Dennis DeHart  
Associate Professor  
Lens Based Media  
Department of Fine Arts

Confluences is an interdisciplinary, lens based series of works focused on the Columbia River drainage basin and more specifically, the Snake River. Funding will support the photography and an exhibition, in collaboration with the WSU Department of Manuscripts, Archives, and Special Collections.

Catalyst Grant

• Ruth Gregory, Assistant Professor, Career Track & Director of Undergraduate Studies, Digital Technology and Culture Program

• The DTC Community Americorps Program (CAP): Closing the Equity Gap in Internship Experiences

• This catalyst grant will support the pursuit of multiple grant proposals to the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Spencer Foundation. The proposals will seek support to provide paid internships for community engaged humanities students.

Highlight of Online Workshop “Remedying the Leaky Pipeline for Women in STEM”

• In November 2020, CAH cosponsored the virtual workshop “Remedying the Leaky Pipeline for Women in STEM,” an international online event to facilitate the professional development of women trainees interested in STEM careers. The workshop consisted of a plenary talk, group discussion, and breakout room mentoring pods: guest speaker Seema Nanda (Leora Trust, Bangalore, India) delivered “My Journey as a Mathematician and Social Justice Entrepreneur,” followed by a discussion of challenges faced by participants that need to be overcome to take the next step in their career development, and the event closed with small mentor-mentee groups of 4–5 to strategize on overcoming obstacles and networking. Participants and mentors joined from WSU as well as 12 different countries from fields ranging from math to humanities to business. The event was organized and led by Associate Professor Elissa Schwartz, who is an affiliate of the Program in Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, with home departments in math/statistics and the School of Biological Sciences.
In 2021, the College of Arts and Sciences moved five humanities scholarships to the Center for Arts and Humanities. Trevor Bond chaired a committee with Keri McCarthy (CAH and Music), Linda Bathgate (WSU Press), Donna Campbell (English), Jolie Kaytes (Design and Construction), and Troy Bennefield (Music). With guidance from Lauren Jasmer, the committee members reviewed 148 applications blind (student names hidden). Each application was reviewed by two committee members. We awarded a total of $47,000 divided among 19 scholarships. Scholarship recipients included Jarely Aragon-Ramirez, Cameron Barton, Michele Carson, and Amy Trammel (Burgess Brothers Memorial Scholarships); Scott Anderson (James Humanities Scholarship); Jasmine Carringer (Kruegel Humanities Scholarship); Savannah Reid Brown, Brianna Flores, and Danika Jensen (Nunemaker Humanities Scholarships); Jacob Berreth and Mariah Johnson (Pollart Arts and Humanities Scholarships); and Emily Banaszynski, Anthony Bland, Alecia Burgett, Lauren Cornwell, Claudia Jacobo, Cierra Kinlow, Stepheny Lopez, and Malea Loukides (Potter Scholarships).
Publicly Engaged Fellows Program

The Publicly Engaged Fellows (PEF) program continued last year. The program brought together a cohort of graduate students from multiple departments for a seminar that started late fall and continued into the spring semester. According to English graduate student Kathryn Manis, “the Publicly Engaged Fellows program provided me with an opportunity to engage with other graduate students in other departments whom I would not otherwise have met.” PEF provided summer stipends for fellows to develop a community project. Last summer, Sherwin Sales (PhD Rhetoric and Composition) partnered with Associate Professor Ka’imi A. Sinclair to create instruction videos for Sinclair’s Strong Men, Strong Communities diabetes prevention intervention for American Indian men. This project was part of the work of the Institute for Research and Education to Advance Community Health (IREACH).
Dean **Todd Butler** and Assistant Director of Extension **Michael J. Gaffney** have begun reimagining the land-grant mission by drawing attention to and strengthening connections between the arts and humanities, extension, and community partners. With support from a Spencer Foundation grant, they brought together teams of faculty, administrators, students, and community partners from more than 12 universities for multiple conference sessions and local meetings over two months. Together, participants studied how to develop equity-minded public research projects and internal policies and professional expectations that can sustain them.

Moving forward, the organizers will seek to nurture ongoing research-based community partnerships being built with the grant’s support in Nevada, Michigan, and Washington. At the same time, they also hope to expand their work to incorporate more participants from rural and underserved communities, as well as to work more closely with both state humanities councils and native leadership and peoples. Ultimately they seek to build the foundation for a network of institutions dedicated to extending the work of humanities scholars directly into communities nationwide, and to encouraging in turn the needs and voices of those communities to change the academy.

‘’
Together we realized that we need to put relationships with each other and our communities first, and then the research and programs will follow.”

—Dean Todd Butler, College of Arts and Sciences
Advisory Council & University Partners

The efforts of the center are made possible by the generous and thoughtful support of numerous partners across the WSU campuses including but not limited to the College of Arts and Sciences, Office of Research, the Graduate School, the Office of the President, and WSU Libraries. The network of involvement in center activities is sprawling and we are thankful for the continued contributions and collaborations that are shared with us.

CAH Advisory Board

- Donna Campbell, professor, Department of English
- Geeta Dutta, assistant vice president, Office of Research Advancement & Partnerships
- Lawrence Hatter, graduate studies director and associate professor, Department of History
- Erin Hvizdak, humanities librarian, WSU Libraries
- Becky James, proposal manager, College of Arts and Sciences
- Joel Kaytes, professor and landscape architecture program head, School of Design and Construction
- Dean Luethi, director and associate professor, School of Music
- Vilma Navarro-Daniels, assistant director of undergraduate studies and distinguished professor, School of Languages, Cultures, and Race
- Sue Peabody, distinguished professor, Department of History
- Ayad Rahmani, associate professor, School of Design and Construction
- A.G. Rud, distinguished professor, College of Education
- Reza Safavi, digital media coordinator and associate professor, Department of Fine Arts
- Nishant Shahani, associate professor, Program in Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies
- Matt Stichter, associate professor, School of Politics, Philosophy, and Public Affairs
Looking Ahead

To submit an event to the CAH newsletter and calendar, please email us at arts.humanities@wsu.edu! We are excited to spread the word surrounding events across WSU that resonate with our Create and Recreate theme for the 2021–2022 school year.

Center for Arts and Humanities Events

Throughout fall of 2021, the CAH is honored to partner with various departments and individuals from across WSU.

- WSU Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art Events: Opening Reception, Exhibition Tour with Alison Saar, and Black Lives Matter: An Intergenerational Discussion
- Coming Home to Nez Perce Country: Reading and Presentation by Trevor Bond
- Teaching the Holocaust with Professor Theresa Jordan
- Editing Edith Wharton in a Digital Age with Matthew Kollmer, Nazua Idris, Randal Houle, Jana Argersinger, Jessica McCarthy, and Donna Campbell
- Colleagues in Conversation Series

Continuing involvement from last year’s programming with the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, WSU Tri-Cities hosted The Holocaust, Neo-Nazism, and White Supremacy, a panel with Robert Bauman, Washington State University Tri-Cities; Rebecca Erbelding, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum; Kristine F. Hoover, Gonzaga University; and Richard King, Columbia College Chicago.

Oregon State University will host the event Battles for Belonging: Race, Citizenship, and Exclusion in the Pacific Northwest and Nazi Germany in November. For additional information about Meyerhoff event programs, please visit our website at cah.wsu.edu/meyerhoff-annual-lecture-series.