

Dear English Department Students,

We hope you are all enjoying a restorative Spring Break. Below is this week's English Department newsletter of announcements and weekly digest of literary opportunities, events, and funding/volunteer opportunities for you to consider.

If you have any items you wish to include in our weekly newsletter, please email english@hunter.cuny.edu.

Departmental Announcements

Please see our [Fall 2025 Course Descriptions for Undergraduate and Graduate Courses](#). Enrollment begins Monday, April 21.

Please also follow the department on [Instagram](#) for news and updates!

Events

The Turkish Jewish Community: Short Film and Panel Discussion

Monday, April 21, 6:00-7:00pm

Room 214 HW

THE TURKISH JEWISH COMMUNITY: SHORT FILM AND PANEL DISCUSSION

**Join us for a short film and panel discussion on
the Turkish Jewish community, with a focus on
culture and the Ladino language.**

Hosted by: Shounak Reza

Panelists:

- Dr. Samuel Torjman Thomas (Adjunct Assistant Professor, Jewish Studies, Hunter College)
- Ethan Marcus (Managing Director, The Sephardic Jewish Brotherhood of America)

April 21, 2025

6 PM to 7:30 PM

**Room 214 Hunter West
Hunter College**

RSVP here:



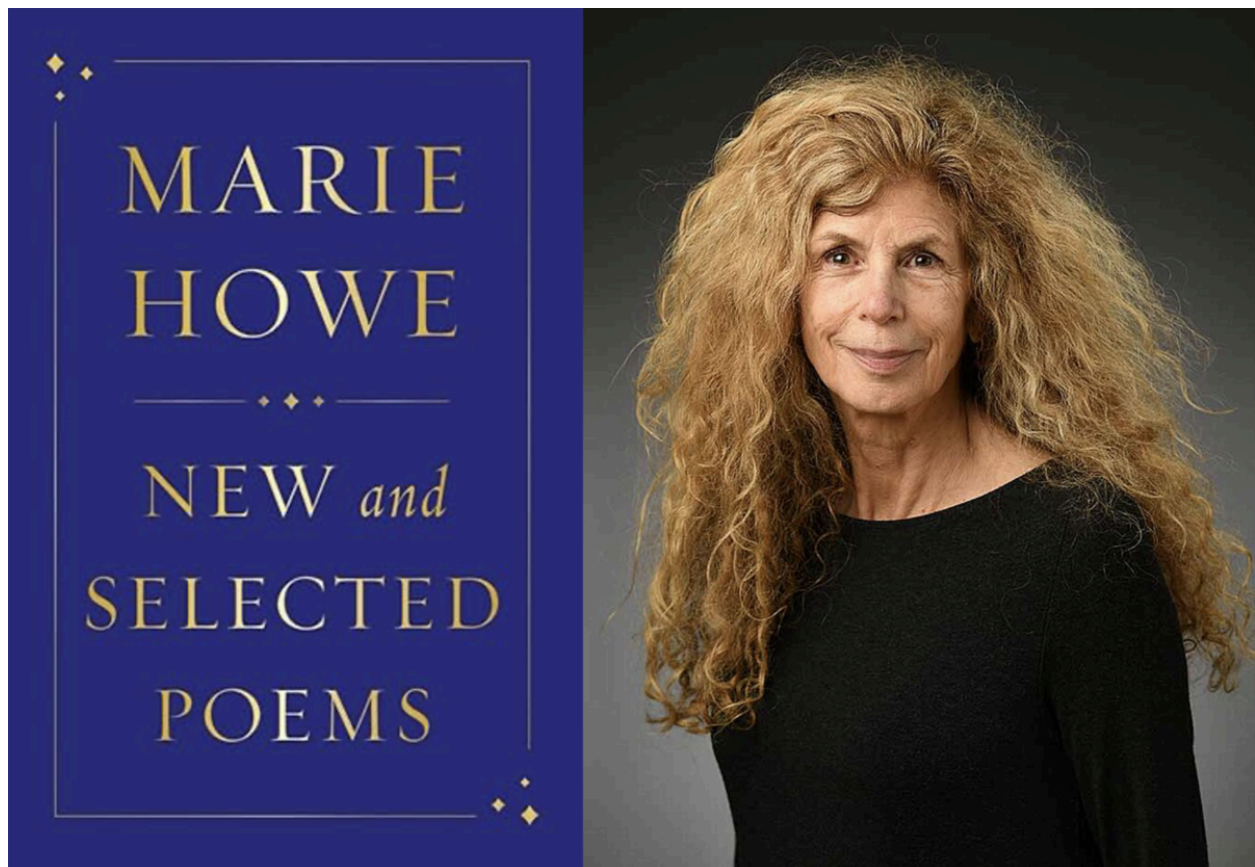
**Supported by the Mellon Public Humanities Program & The Thomas Hunter
Honors Program**

Distinguished Writers Series: Marie Howe

Tuesday, April 22, 7:30pm

8th Floor Faculty Dining Room

From 2012-2014, Marie Howe served as the Poet Laureate of New York State. Currently, she is the poet in residence at The Cathedral Church of St. John the Divine, and a chancellor of the Academy of American Poets. Stanley Kunitz writes that her "poetry is luminous, intense, and eloquent, rooted in an abundant inner life. Her long, deep-breathing lines address the mysteries of flesh and spirit, in terms accessible only to a woman who is very much of our time and yet still in touch with the sacred." Her collections include *The Good Thief*, which was chosen for the National Poetry Series by Margaret Atwood, *What the Living Do*, praised by Publishers Weekly as one of the five best poetry collections of the year, *The Kingdom of Ordinary Time*, and *Magdalene*. Howe has taught at Sarah Lawrence College, Columbia University, and NYU; received fellowships from the Bunting Institute at Radcliffe College, National Endowment for the Arts, Guggenheim Foundation, Academy of American Poets, and Fine Arts Work Center in Provincetown. She lives in New York City.



Is Law School Right for Me? Informative Event

Tuesday, April 29, 5:45pm

Hemmerdinger Hall, Room 706E

The English Department is co-sponsoring an event with the Pre-Law Program (and other departments): IS LAW SCHOOL RIGHT FOR ME? HUMANITIES & THE LAW

This fun and informative event will feature English alumni (and good food)! Whether you are exploring different paths or set on a legal career, this event will help you understand how your skills will serve you well as an attorney. Come connect with English alumni lawyers!

Schedule:

5:45 - 6:30 PM - Panel

6:30 - 7:30 PM - Reception & Networking (including great food!)

RSVP [Here](#).

We The People: A Forum on Working Class Artists in America

Thursday, May 1, 9am - 1pm

Frederick Loewe Theatre

WE THE PEOPLE

A Forum on Working Class Artists in America

This groundbreaking forum will explore barriers faced by artists from working class backgrounds, addressing their critical lack of representation in the arts and proposing solutions towards a more economically inclusive culture that reflects the full breadth of the American experience in the twenty-first century.

Thursday, May 1, 9am-1pm

Frederick Loewe Theater, Hunter College
930 Lexington Avenue

Register at workingclassartists.splashthat.com

Hosted by

OFFICE OF THE ARTS **HUNTER**

The City University of New York

This event is made possible by the generous support of Susie Sainsbury

Opportunities

Through the Dark CALL FOR PAPERS: Annual City College of New York Graduate English Conference

Abstract Submission Deadline: April 18th, 2025

Bertolt Brecht once wrote, “In the dark times / Will there also be singing? / Yes, there will also be singing. / About the dark times.” Today, as we witness the rise of far-right governments, the erosion of democratic norms, and the assault on basic human rights across the world, Brecht’s words resonate with renewed urgency. These are dark times,

but they are not unprecedented. Literature has long documented moments of oppression and resistance, offering both cautionary tales and a window into imagined—and not imagined—ways of fighting back. In the spirit of Brecht, we seek to create a space for critical dialogue, collective reflection, and hope. Let us sing, and write, about the dark times, not only of being in them but also of moving beyond them.

For the 2025 CCNY English Graduate Conference, we invite papers that think with and through darkness. We welcome submissions that engage with both the theme of resistance and beyond. How can literary texts help us understand the current political and social moment? How can they inspire us to imagine new ways of confronting the challenges we face today? Darkness, of course, invites broader resonances, such as the Gothic, the unconscious, ecological disaster, and more. We look forward to work spanning a variety of contexts, genres, and periods.

This year's conference will feature keynote speaker Dr. Kandice Chuh, a professor of English at the CUNY Graduate Center. An acclaimed scholar, she is the author of *The Difference Aesthetics Makes: On the Humanities "After Man"* (2019) and *Imagine Otherwise: On Asian Americanist Critique* (2003).

Possible proposal topics include, but are not limited to:

Resistance

- Writing as resistance and rebellion
- Narratives of survival and revolution
- The aesthetics of dissent

Utopia & Dystopia

- Speculative fiction
- Alternative world orders
- Cosmopolitanism and the planetary

Postcolonialism, Decolonization, Anti-Colonialism

- Imperial history and violence
- The aftermath of Western colonialism
- Borders, occupation, and opposition

The Gothic & Horror

- Ghosts and haunting
- Monsters and wild animals
- Dark affects

- Psychological turmoil

Climate & the Anthropocene

- Climate change in literature
- Eco-futurism & eco-socialism
- Natural disasters

Surface & Depth

- Psychoanalysis and the unconscious
- Obscurity, light, and shadow
- Narratives of mental illness
- Taboos

Please submit proposals (150-250 words) to ccnygradconference@gmail.com by Friday, April 18th, 2025. We welcome both critical and creative presentations. Possibilities include the reading of an academic paper, a scholarly reflection, a poetry reading, a soundscape, a panel discussion, and more. Submissions may be co-authored. All graduate students are welcomed to submit, including those pursuing their MA, MFA, and PhD.

Center for Fiction Internships

Deadline: April 21st at 9am

The Center for Fiction is the only nonprofit literary organization in the U.S. solely dedicated to celebrating fiction. In February 2019, we opened the doors to our new building in Downtown Brooklyn, creating a home for NYC's literary community. We're known for our special literary events, including our innovative panels, performances, lectures, and conversations, and we need interns to help them run smoothly. We are seeking students or recent graduates who are passionate about the literary world and who want to participate as a team to ensure the programs here are of the highest possible quality for all involved.

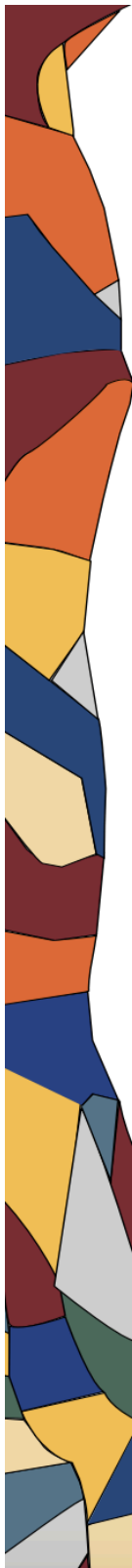
This is a great opportunity to practice literary citizenship, learn more about the literary world, and to get hands-on experience that could translate to work in publishing, arts programming, and independent bookstores.

Apply for the [Event Production Internship](#) or the [Event Photography Internship](#).

[Submit your materials here.](#)

NYCHA-CUNY Resident Scholarship Program

Application Period: April 15th 2025 - June 24th 2025



\$ 1,000 SCHOLARSHIP FOR NYCHA RESIDENTS

Apply for a NYCHA-CUNY Scholarship today!

The **NYCHA-CUNY Resident Scholarship Program** is a collaboration between the New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) and The City University of New York (CUNY) to help low- and moderate-income New Yorkers realize their full potential through higher education. Annually, the Resident Scholarship Program awards \$1,000 scholarships to eligible NYCHA residents who are enrolled at CUNY colleges.

Applicants must:

- Be an authorized NYCHA resident or NYCHA Section 8 resident
- Be a currently enrolled **full-time** undergraduate or graduate CUNY student
- Have a minimum of 24 credits in an associate or baccalaureate degree program
- Have a minimum 3.0 GPA
- Submit a 750-word essay
- Additional criteria may be applicable

Application Period: April 15, 2025-June 24, 2025

Apply online: on.nyc.gov/nycha-cuny



Making Work Visible—A Labor Arts Contest (CUNY Students only!)

Submission Period: April - November 15

This contest is about work and workers. Written entries need to include a link to an illustration (there are many choices). Keep in mind that paid work and labor unions are only part of the story—entries about unpaid work, immigration, family, and community are also encouraged.

When? Entries accepted starting April 2025. The **deadline** is November 14, 2025.

Who? Open to CUNY undergraduates.

What? Three categories – Fiction, Non-Fiction, and Art

Prizes in EACH category – First place \$1,000, Second Place \$500, Third Place \$250

Written entries need a link to an image related to the themes in the writing. The image can be one of the images below, OR one of the images from the LaborArts [gallery](#), [exhibits](#), or [collections](#) OR you can provide your own image.

Visual art entries need a paragraph (100–250 words) explaining how the work shares the Labor Arts spirit. The statement must include information about the medium (painting, collage, sculpture, etc) and the artistic tradition in which you are working.

Judging? Entries are judged according to originality, content, and style, by professors who teach undergraduates at CUNY. Successful entries show thoughtful, original work on subjects relevant to work, to the experiences of working people, and to the labor movement.

Questions? Contact Patrick Kavanagh at mwv@brooklyn.cuny.edu

More information [here](#).