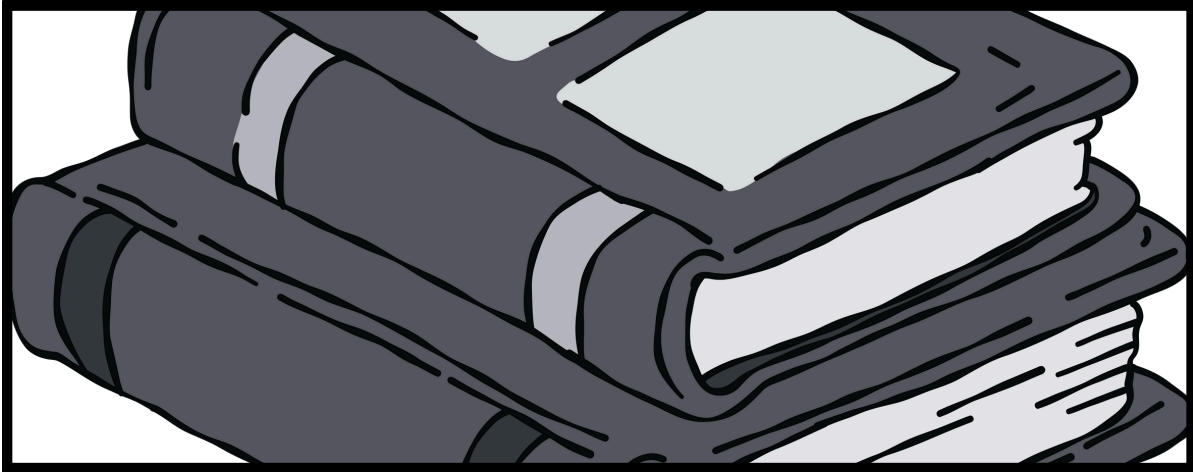


# The Interlocutor

HUMANITIES & TEACHER  
EDUCATION NEWSLETTER



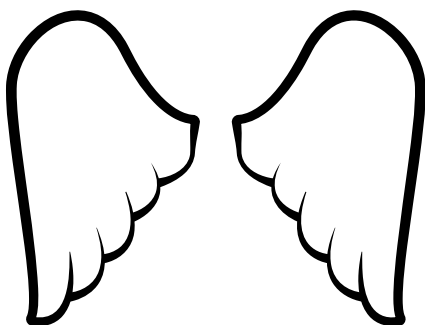
Fall 2024 & Spring 2025



## THE YEAR OF FREEDOM

**“Where the spirit  
of the Lord is,  
there is freedom.”**

~2 Corinthians 3:17



In this newsletter,  
you can expect:

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Dean's Note

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Program  
Highlights

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Features

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Favorite Reads

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Awards &  
Publications

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Editor's Note

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## DEAN'S NOTE



Our 2024–2025 academic year was marked by extraordinary challenges. Two historic wildfires devastated our coastal communities, and road closures turned commuting into a daily test of patience and endurance for faculty and staff traveling from Santa Monica, Los Angeles, and Orange County. And yet—we still showed up.

With a determined, positive, encouraging, and compassionate spirit, we pressed on in the midst of trials. We continued to pour into our students and into one another, ensuring that the mission of Seaver College and the heart of our Humanities and Teacher Education Division never wavered.

The outstanding work of our faculty, staff, and students—highlighted in this newsletter—is a testament to the excellence, resilience, and faith that define this community. Even when circumstances were difficult, our commitment to teaching, scholarship, and service remained steadfast.

As the Apostle Paul reminds us, “I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus” (Philippians 3:14). That has been our story this year—we pressed on.

Bravo, HUTE Division! Bravo for pressing on!

With deep gratitude,

Dr. Stella Erbes  
Divisional Dean, Humanities and Teacher Education

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## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

### Creative Writing



Senior Hunter Holt arrives to class in a kilt to demonstrate his Renaissance Fair enthusiasm.



Natalee Borum reads her work at the *Expressionists* presentation.



**“‘Hope’ is the thing with feathers -  
That perches in the soul -  
And sings the tune without the words -  
And never stops - at all -”**

**~Emily Dickinson**

## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

### Creative Writing (cont'd)

In the spring, Julie Quarles' advanced playwriting class hosts professional actors to read scenes from students' plays before an audience. (photos by Jacob Erbes)





## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

### Creative Writing (cont'd)



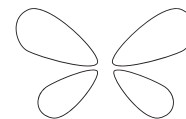
Graduating seniors celebrate with creative writing director Dr. John Struloeff at the HUTE Reception.

## Congratulations, writers!

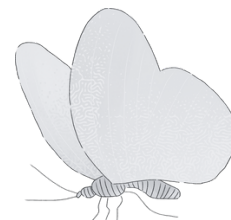
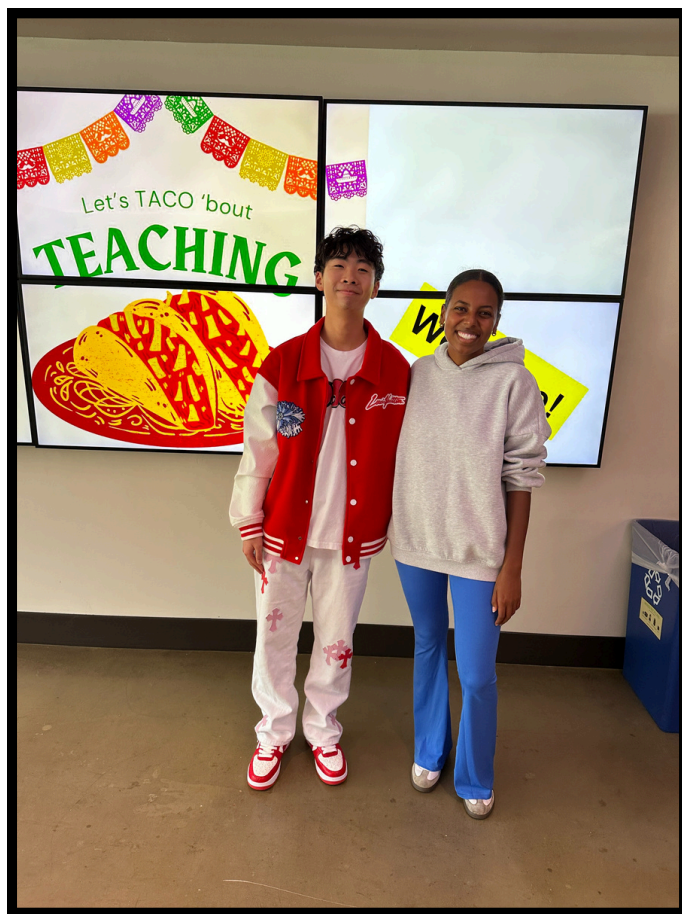


## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

### Teacher Education & Liberal Studies for Education



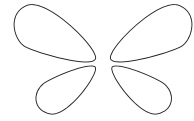
On September 19, the program hosts “Taco ‘Bout Teaching,” an event encouraging students to “spice up their major” by adding a teaching credential. Attendees enjoy build-your-own nachos, succulent planting, bracelet making, and reflections from current teacher candidates.





## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

### Teacher Education & Liberal Studies for Education



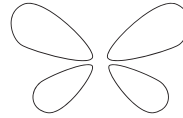
Education faculty Dr. Carrie Birmingham has an upcoming publication in *International Christian Community of Teacher Educators Journal*. An abstract is below. Congratulations, Carrie!

### "The Experience of Being a Christian Public School Teacher"

This research asks, "What is the experience of being a Christian teacher in a public school?" Analysis of semistructured interviews with 16 Christian public school teachers revealed that, while this experience is highly variable and contextualized, teachers experienced four common concerns, making visible how teachers' religious identity shapes their purpose for teaching, their interactions with supports and oppositions, their values for themselves and for their students, and their perspectives on Christian witness and teaching in their public school settings.



## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS



### Teacher Education & Liberal Studies for Education (cont'd)

**Dr. Terrelle Sales**, Associate Professor of Teacher Education, serves on the Board of Directors for the California Council on Teacher Education (CCTE) and is named President Elect of CCTE, beginning fall of 2026. Terrelle also works as an expert consultant for the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing, providing implicit bias training for all CalTPA, CalAPA, and CalFTPA evaluators. Congratulations on your accomplishments, Terrelle!



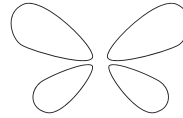
Seaver liberal studies for education major and multiple subject teacher graduate, **Cora Lau**, is selected as one of five finalists in the 2024 Teachers Test Prep “Pass the Torch” Teacher Scholarship contest.

Also this year, teacher education graduate (2022) and music teacher, **Benjamin Miller**, is honored as Rookie Teacher of the Year by Dr. Rolando Espinosa K-8 Center in Miami-Dade County Public Schools. He reflects: “Using strategies I had learned from my program and various mentor teachers, I thrived and am so grateful.”

Congrats, Cora and Benjamin!



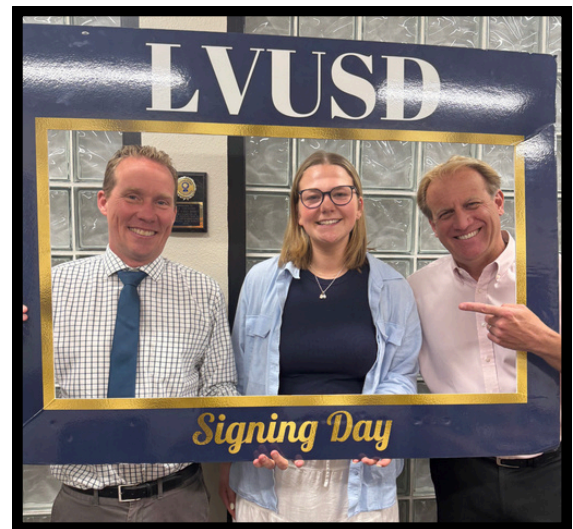
## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS



### Teacher Education & Liberal Studies for Education (cont'd)

Several of our 2025 Teacher Education graduates have already secured jobs! **Helena Mekuanint** will teach at White Oak Elementary in Westlake Village. **Katherine Feldmeth** will teach at Lupin Hill Elementary in Calabasas. **Ella Reisser** will teach at Oaks Christian in Thousand Oaks. **Crystal Yoon** will teach at Community Magnet Charter School Los Angeles. **Manét Ensley** will teach math at Christian Unified Schools of San Diego. **Cora Lau** will teach fifth grade at Lincoln Elementary School in Honolulu. **Grace Teague** will teach at St. Jude the Apostle School in Westlake Village. **Alvina Wang** will teach at Dos Amigos Elementary School in the Washington Heights neighborhood of New York City. **Chandler Flowers** will be attending grad school in creative writing at the University of San Francisco.

*(Helena and Katherine are pictured below on signing day.)*

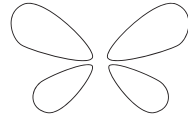


“The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character – that is the goal of true education.”

~Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



# PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS



Teacher Education & Liberal Studies for Education (cont'd)

## Congratulations, educators!





## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

### English



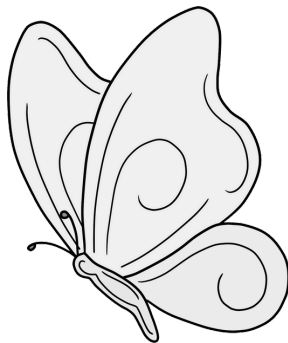
Dr. Katie Frye mingles with students at the fall Holiday Scrabble and Bananagrams Extravaganza.



English students and faculty deep in a game of Scrabble at the Extravaganza.



Dr. Heather Thomson-Bunn hosts English students as guests in her home.



## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

### English (cont'd)



English faculty dr. chad duffy, Dr. Lisa Smith, and Dr. Rachel Gould mingle with admitted students on campus.



In the spring, English literature graduate Nicole Fashaw receives the Loqui diversity award. Congrats, Nicole!



**“Literature was the passport to enter a larger life; that is, the zone of freedom.”**

**~Susan Sontag**

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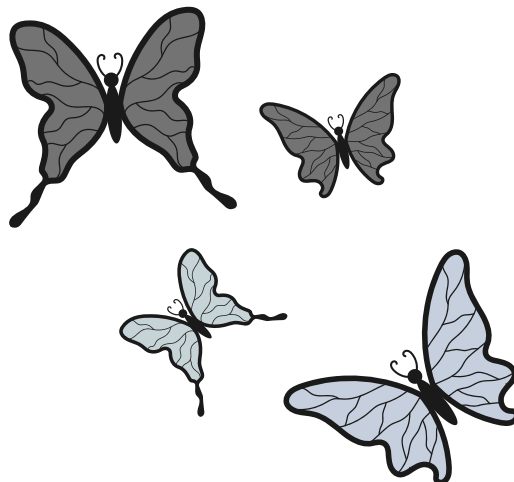
## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

### English (cont'd)

Dr. Kate Bonnici and Dr. Martin Premoli celebrate with spring Sigma Tau Delta inductees.



dr. chad duffy presents Sigma Tau Delta cords at the ceremony.





## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

### English (cont'd)

English faculty and students enjoy Seaver graduation.





## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

English (cont'd) 

# Congratulations, English scholars!



## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

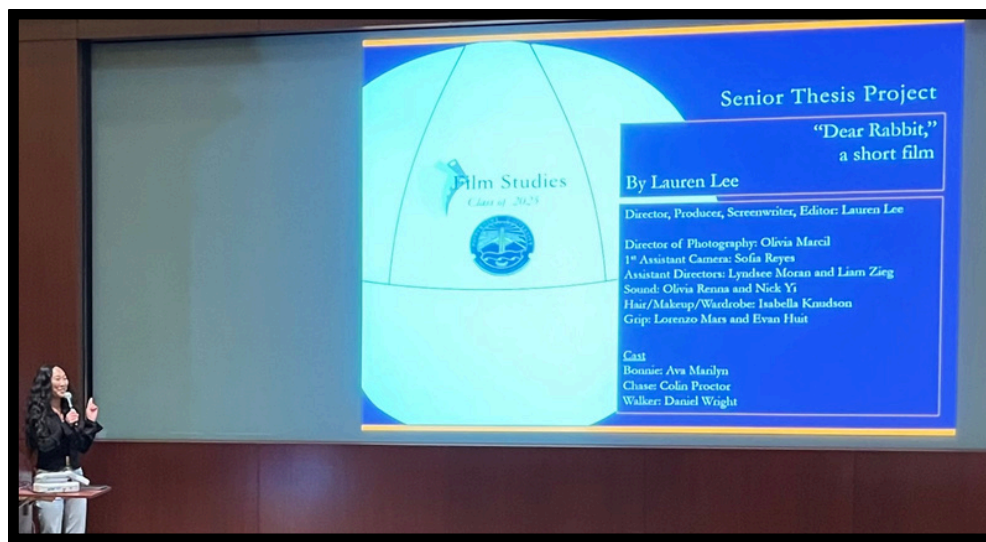
### Film



*In the spring, film major Lauren Lee reflected on her journey at Seaver. An excerpt from her essay is offered below, along with a photo of Lauren at the Senior Thesis Exhibition. Congratulations, Lauren!*

## Discovering My Film Language

by Lauren Lee  
BA Film Studies '25



I have spent four years studying film studies with an emphasis in production at Pepperdine University. Throughout my time here, I have undergone social, cultural, and intellectual growth. As a film studies major, I have been committed to creating art that is true to me and impactful to others. Pepperdine's mission is to strengthen students' purpose, service, and leadership. I feel that my time in film has aligned with this mission statement, as I have been supported by my professors and peers to succeed. My senior thesis project is a short film that is a culmination of techniques I have learned, skills I have developed, self-discovery, and my social critiques. It encapsulates my four years of growth at Pepperdine. I have been pushed intellectually and artistically to originate ideas that challenge myself and others within this major. I have taken many courses in film that have prepared me to enter the industry after graduation.

## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

### Film (cont'd)

#### Film in the New Seaver Core

The Film major is pleased to share that they now have courses that fulfill the Connections portion of the Seaver Core curriculum:

- Creative Arts (CA) – FILM 200 Intro to Film
- Global Perspectives (GP) – FILM 321 World Cinemas which also fulfills the cultural competence (CC)
- Diverse Perspectives (DV) – FILM 431 African American Cinema, FILM 441 Women and Film
- Historical Thinking (HT) – FILM 301 History of American Cinema
- FILM 451 Religion and Film fulfills REL 300 Foundations course

#### Spring 2025 | Senior Thesis Exhibition

Senior film students gather in Elkins during and after the Senior Thesis Exhibition. 2025 is a small graduating class following a large 2024 graduating class last year, and these images capture just a portion of this year's students.





## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Film (cont'd) 

Film majors with director Dr. Joi Carr at the HUTE Reception.

# Congratulations, film scholars!





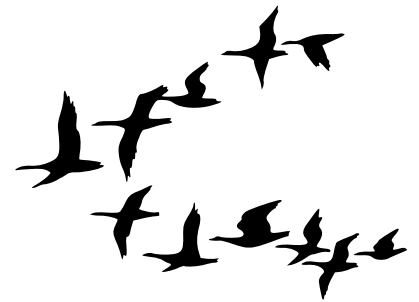
## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

### Great Books



#### September 17, 2024 | Annual Great Books I Trip to the Getty Villa

Students and faculty congregate after watching a matinee play. Five students pose beside Villa statues.





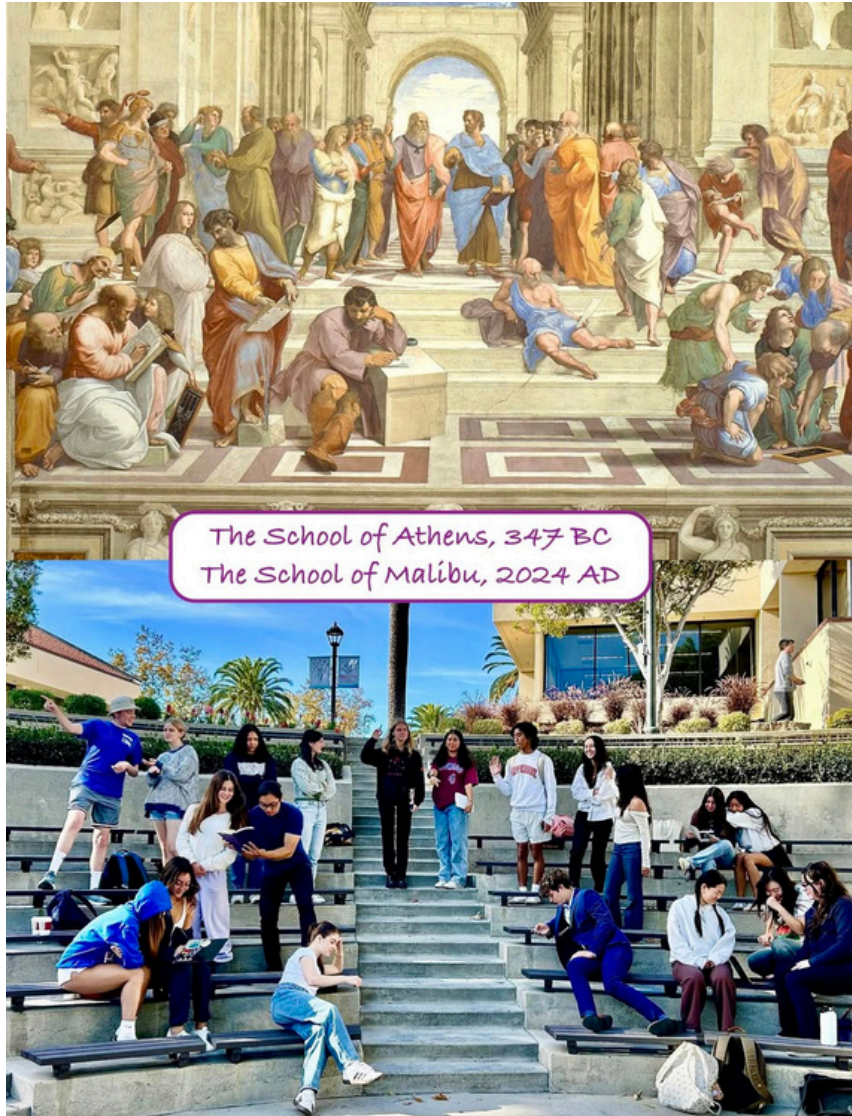
## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

### Great Books (cont'd)



**December 6, 2024**

Great Books I students recreate “The School of Athens” on the last day of classes.



“With freedom, flowers, books, and the moon, who could not be perfectly happy?” ~Oscar Wilde

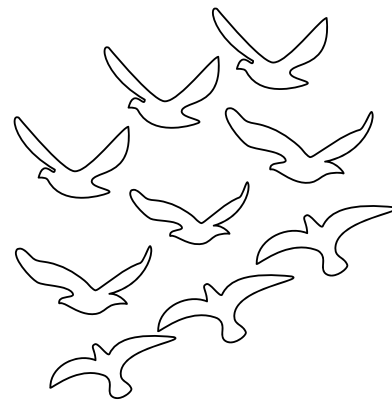
## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

### Great Books (cont'd)



#### March 22, 2025 | Great Books undergraduate conference Enduring Questions

The program hosts online student-faculty panels and an in-person lunch.





## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Great Books (cont'd)



# Congratulations, Great Books scholars!





## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

### History



#### August 2024

The program hosts its annual History Program BBQ at the Lighthouse Patio.



History faculty and majors enjoy game night in the CAC lounge.



#### October 9, 2024

Dr. Nicole Gilhuis' Modern African history class prepares a Ghanaian feast. The incredible Delali Young and her family lead the class through a number of delicious traditional Ghanaian dishes, and the event includes special guest appearances from Dr. Joi Carr and Dr. John Taden.





# PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

## History (cont'd)

Dr. Darlene Rivas serves as a faculty in residence at the London IP, where she teaches HIST 492 - Liberty, Citizenship, Loyalties in Modern Europe. The class makes some incredible connections between class content and their local excursions. Students attend a production of *Les Miserables* at the Sondheim Theatre and visit the Imperial War Museum, where they explore exhibits on World War I and the Holocaust.



In November 2024 and March 2025, Dr. Sharyl Corrado's classes take tours of the Holocaust Museum. Their docent, Harry, escaped the Holocaust as a baby. In the photo, he is holding a book containing photos and research he has done on the people who rescued him. What a powerful testimony.



In March, students from Dr. Kendrick's HIST 326 class visit the historic Los Angeles Plaza. The class participates in a collaborative walking tour as students give short presentations about local historical landmarks. In stories ranging from LA's original Chinatown and the city's first efforts at historic preservation, to infrastructural projects such as water and transportation, they learn about the many groups who have created community and culture in the historic center of Los Angeles.



## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

### History (cont'd)

#### January 2025 | Phi Alpha Theta Biennial Conference

Congratulations to **Alec Fergison**, **Lilian Fong**, and **Kat Johnston**, three of our history majors, who have the opportunity to present their research at the annual conference in Washington, D.C. for Phi Alpha Theta, an honors society that promotes the study of history among students and professors.

The titles of their presentations are "The Palestinian Revolt and Its Causes" (Alec), "From the City to the Mountains: Chinese Civilian Experiences in Japan-Occupied Hong Kong" (Lilian), and "Reserving a Space: The Impact of Genocide on Women's Rights in Rwanda" (Kat).



**"We must be free not because we claim  
freedom, but because we practice it."  
~William Faulkner**



## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

History (cont'd) 

# Congratulations, history scholars!

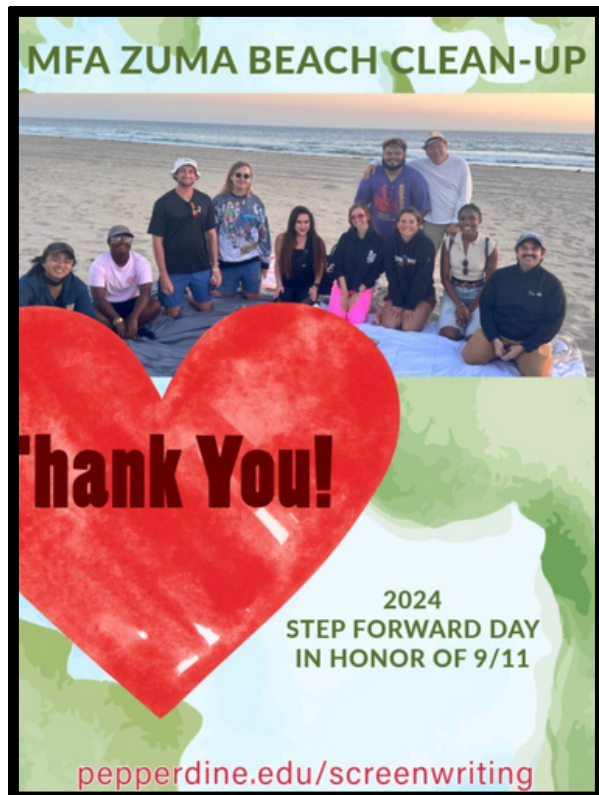




## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

### MFA in Screenwriting

In the fall, MFA students volunteer to clean up Zuma Beach.

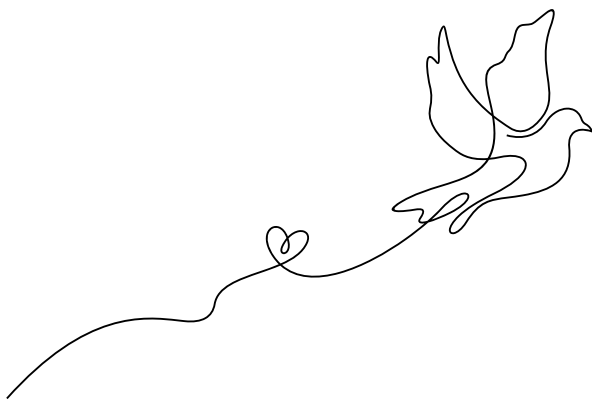


Undergraduate screenwriters enjoy live readings of their scenes in the amphitheater for Scriptfest.



**“I have to remind myself that some birds aren't meant to be caged. Their feathers are just too bright.**

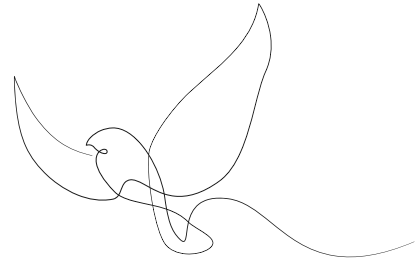
**~Ellis,  
'The Shawshank  
Redemption'**



## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

### MFA in Screenwriting (cont'd)

Students attend Austin Film Festival Writers Conference and enjoy a private conversation with super-producer Lauren Shuler Donner.



Students and Dr. Leslie Kreiner Wilson attend Christian Windrider Summit x Sundance in Park City Utah, where they get to hear from such luminaries as Makoto Fujimura (Art + Faith, Culture Care)



## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

### MFA in Screenwriting (cont'd)

The program celebrates faculty and alumni achievements:

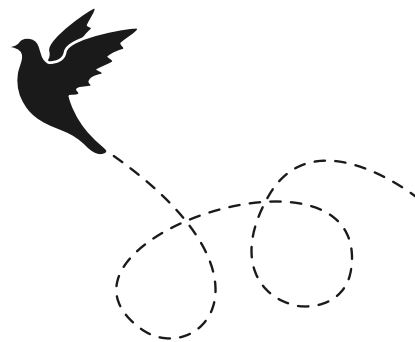
Alumna **Andrea Baltazar** has received tenure and now directs Film Studies at Weber State University in Utah. (image from Weber State)



Alumnus **Michael Waldron** has a new show coming out on Hulu called 'Chad Powers,' starring Glen Powell. (image from ClutchPoints)



MFA instructor **Sheryl J. Anderson** is currently showrunner on the Netflix hit show 'Sweet Magnolias' (image from Navigating Hollywood)





## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

### MFA in Screenwriting (cont'd)

The year culminates with both DIFF: A Film Festival for Community and Belonging and the MFA Showcase. **Peyton Nebens** wins Best Picture at DIFF, and **Diamond-Unique Benjamin** wins Best Staged Reading at the Showcase.



# Congratulations, screenwriters!

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# Feature 1:

## Attendance Selfies for Dr. Corrado

**Dr. Sharyl Corrado springboards an exciting concept for attendance in her Hum 313 class this year. Please read below for her reflection on the exercise, and see the photo collage capturing lovely student attendance selfies.**

From Dr. Corrado:

"In the Spring, a lot of students seemed to be getting to class a few minutes late, and it was getting worse as the semester progressed. I thought about deducting points for being late, but was worried about student morale. Ultimately I decided on the opposite strategy, rewarding students who arrived a few minutes early. Any student who was in class, took a selfie, and emailed it to me 2 minutes before class started got extra credit. It was only a tiny amount of extra credit, and there were other extra credit options they could do instead. So it probably didn't impact anyone's grade. But it was much more fun than deducting points. There were unexpected benefits as well, such as helping me learn names and putting students in a good mood at the beginning of class. (Or at least they pretended to be for the camera.) I think I'll do this again next semester."



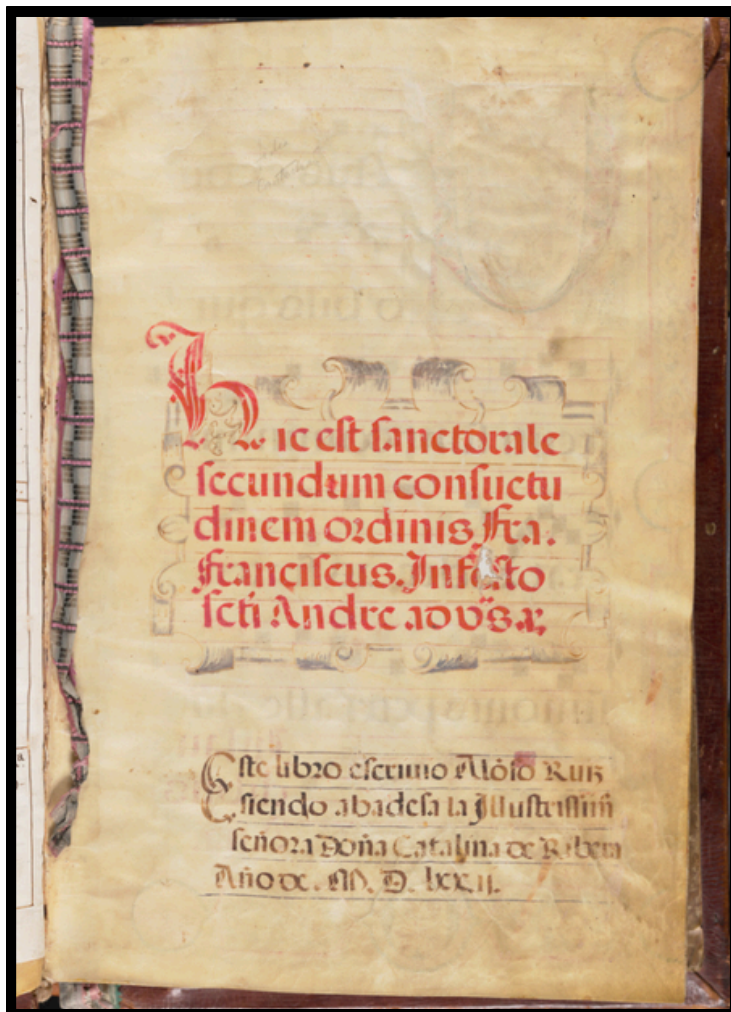


## Feature 2: Calligraphy with Dr. Koch

**Dr. Jonathan Koch develops an exciting project for his Introduction to Digital Humanities course in collaboration with the Natural Science Division. Catch a glimpse of some transcriptions from the project below.**

From Dr. Koch:

"In Spring 2024, the ENG 205 (Introduction to Digital Humanities) course collaborated with Dr. Jane Ganske and the Chemistry Program to make a dozen different inks from 16<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup> century recipes. Although the fires disrupted this year's ink-making session, the ENG 205 students used one of the recipes – for iron gall ink – from last year to practice handwriting with hand-cut quills. These quills and ink would have been very similar to the materials used to prepare the 16<sup>th</sup> century Franciscan antiphonal that the ENG 205 students digitized over the course of the semester. By practicing the letter forms used in the antiphonal, students became more familiar with the challenges and delights of late medieval and early modern handwriting."



# Feature 3:

## Creative Writers Reflect on the Fires

*This feature includes the work of creative writing majors who reflect on the experience of the fires from the past year.*

**Below is a piece by Amber Allyene, a junior creative writing major with an emphasis in screenwriting and an English minor. Thank you, Amber!**

### What I Didn't Expect

When I moved to Malibu from the East Coast, I expected sunshine. I didn't expect fire.

The first time I saw embers falling, I didn't recognize what they were. They glowed like something celebratory, like sparklers at a Fourth of July picnic. It wasn't until someone said, "It's from the fire," that the air changed.

What strikes me now is how quiet it was. The sky turned a strange kind of orange, and we all stood around watching like the end of the world had arrived politely, without knocking.

There was no siren. No announcement. Just stillness. A quiet that didn't calm, but pressed in. We didn't know if we should stay or run. We didn't know where the fire was, or how close. All we could do was watch the glowing flecks fall and try to guess what came next.

That was the hardest part, the not knowing. Not knowing where was safe. Not knowing what the wind might carry in. Not knowing if what looked beautiful might, a few minutes later, become something else entirely.

Even now, that moment lingers. The silence. The stillness. The way the ordinary world felt suddenly unfamiliar. It taught me that fear doesn't always come with noise, it can arrive quietly, in warm colors and soft edges. Sometimes, the danger isn't what you see, but what you can't yet name.

FEAR  
DOES'T  
ALWAYS  
COME WITH  
**noise**

## Feature 3:

# Creative Writers Reflect on the Fires

*This feature includes the work of creative writing majors who reflect on the experience of the fires from the past year.*

Below is a piece by Hannah Duffee, a junior double-majoring in English and creative writing. Thank you, Hannah!

### A Perfectionist's Take on the Franklin Fire

I barely looked up from my laptop when the power first went out. In fact, the dorm room I lived in when the Franklin Fire hit had had electrical problems all year. This was nothing out of the ordinary.

I remember letting out a hefty, dramatic sigh. I probably rolled my eyes. Of course. Of course the power was going to go out in the middle of the night during finals week. I turned back to the page I was editing for my Intermediate Fiction portfolio and stayed there for a long time as orange flames began to creep over the hills.

Looking back on that night, I find it silly now how obsessive I became over my school work. I had to find an outlet for my laptop to work on my periodical project for Nineteenth Century American Literature. I fought with my parents over whether or not to evacuate because what if finals were still happening the next day? What if I didn't make it back in time? After my roommate and I eventually made it to my house, I stayed up because I hadn't finished a paragraph for a Great Books essay yet. The reality of the Franklin Fire was so close, yet so far from my mind. Only a day or two after we evacuated did I find myself taking a pause, snapped out of whatever finals week craze my mind had been determined to occupy.

THERE WAS A FIRE!

When finals came around the next semester and months had passed of knowing my friends, professors, and school were all okay, I felt lighter than I had the previous three semesters. Still stressed and exhausted from close deadlines and little sleep, but also at ease. So what if a sentence wasn't perfect or an essay needed to be rewritten? Annotated bibliographies? Unfinished presentations? Tests?

There were worse things that had happened during finals week.

SO WHAT  
IF A  
SENTENCE  
WASN'T  
**perfect?**



## Feature 4:

# Dr. Carr's Multicultural Theater Project Celebrates 25 Years

*This year, Dr. Joi Carr, creative director of the Multicultural Theatre Project (MTP), orchestrated a twenty-five-year anniversary celebration at Seaver. The celebration began on Friday evening with a Seaver community event, "Sankofa," which featured reflections from alumni and a special performance by a 25th Anniversary vocal ensemble. The evening concluded with a reception, where guests were serenaded by a live jazz trio. Saturday offered a more intimate setting, including an alumni retreat, lunch, and a dinner program. Below, in an interview with Interlocutor editor (and proud MTP alumna) Prof. Julie T. Quarles, Joi shares a bit about the impactful journey of the Project and offers a glimpse of what is to come.*

*(all photographs by Moises Barba)*

*The featured photo includes Dr. Carr and MTP alumni at the retreat event.*



**Julie T. Quarles (JTQ): Congratulations on twenty-five years! What a huge accomplishment. Can you please share a bit about the initial inspiration for MTP?**

Dr. Joi Carr (JC): Of course. In 2000, two Pepperdine Seaver faculty and one Student Affairs' administrative staff member met in the HAWC. They hoped to create a space where all students could potentially explore the arts beyond the traditional mainstage theatre opportunities. They knew that I had a background in theatre, and asked me if I would direct the first play.

**JTQ: What a blessing.**

JC: It was. I produced and directed a staged reading of August Wilson's *The Piano Lesson*.

## Feature 4:

# Dr. Carr's Multicultural Theater Project Celebrates 25 Years (cont'd)

*The featured photo includes the vocal ensemble at the opening night event.*



### **JTQ: Not my favorite playwright August Wilson?**

JC: Yes, we received a letter from Wilson allowing us the license to use his play for free. I was elated! Can you believe it? So kind and generous. He loved the concept of what we were trying to create. *The Piano Lesson* featured an all-Black cast with a mix of undergraduate and graduate students. The first production was well received.

### **JTQ: Beautiful. How has the Project evolved over the years?**

JC: MTP's productions immediately shifted to original works after the first year. Students who were eager to participate, open to being stretched creatively, and able to follow directions were selected. I typically identify a central theme and arc for the show in advance. During the auditions, I gauge the range of talent present. I draw on historical and literary texts to develop the script for the production. Beyond the productions, MTP over the years has become a center for arts and rich dialogue at Seaver, offering masterclasses by award winning artists, distinguished guest speakers and performers, and panel discussions.



## Feature 4:

# Dr. Carr's Multicultural Theater Project Celebrates 25 Years (cont'd)



*The featured photos include alumna speaker Erin Collins Obileye on opening night and various alumni at the retreat.*

### **JTQ: What has been the impact of MTP on Seaver?**

JC: Students who participate in MTP persist and graduate. They develop community at Seaver and stay more connected to the university. Students gain confidence and become leaders on campus and their focus on academics intensifies because of the discipline required for the rehearsal schedule and productions. Seaver benefits from their joy and transferable skills they gain from the MTP experience.

### **JTQ: What about the impact of the Project on you, professionally and personally?**

JC: Professionally, it has become a central part of my scholarship, a transdisciplinary, arts-based, critical pedagogy and the subject of my first monograph. Personally, I have developed life-long friendships.

### **JTQ: What is your favorite MTP memory?**

JC: During 'Love is...Candie's Cafe,' we had multiple performances. I loved to draw on songs from R&B, pop, blues, etc. and use them in the blackout transitions for thematic purposes. Some students came to all four shows, and during the blackouts, they sang along to the songs. I enjoyed experiencing their bliss. They were paying for the tickets then!

### **JTQ: Amazing. What was the purpose of the anniversary celebration this year?**

JC: To celebrate the momentous twenty-fifth year and give the community an opportunity to reflect on this life-affirming pedagogy. To share, reflect, celebrate. Several alumni returned!

# Feature 4:

## Dr. Carr's Multicultural Theater Project Celebrates 25 Years (cont'd)

**JTQ: It was wonderful! What was a significant outcome of the celebration?**

JC: What I learned from alumni is that this space is meaningful—life affirming, they want to stay connected, and it has been a gift. They return to the experience when they feel at a loss. Something about the experience reminds them of their best selves and of their power in a collective.

**JTQ: What are your future plans for MTP?**

JC: I want to continue doing the work. I hope to use MTP to create space for students to explore their artistic voice, develop relationships with their peers, and gain insight from distinguished guests. This work has been an incredible blessing.

*The featured photos include the opening night jazz trio, vocal ensemble, and alumni speakers Seheri Swint and Marcus Cooke.*





## Feature 4:

# Dr. Carr's Multicultural Theater Project Celebrates 25 Years (cont'd)

**A note from Julie:** *My twin sister Jessica and I were bashful introverts with zero theatre background when Dr. Carr invited us to audition for MTP as Seaver sophomores in the early aughts. We did it not because we saw a future in acting by any means. Rather, we tried out simply because we had formed a strong bond with Joi, one of the only faculty of color on campus at the time. We were cast, and what we never could have anticipated was how deeply impactful the Project would be. Decades later, we are still bonded to the cast of 'Voice.' There's something about the experience of working on MTP, particularly as non-actors, that makes it a life-altering moment. We don't collaborate with many casts a year, like professional actors often do. For most of us, this is a one-time encounter with the rigor of rehearsals and live performance, and paired with the expectations of a top-notch education, it's something you cannot easily forget (I think I pulled my first all-nighter during the MTP days).*

*For me personally, watching Joi go through the process of writing and arranging the script was one of the most impactful experiences of my young-adult life. I was so inspired that I decided to delve into playwriting myself, and what followed has been an education and a career in doing just that. It is such a joy to see that the Project lives on, an honor to be part of the MTP family, and a tremendous pleasure to witness its offering of a safe space and a foundation for young students like it was for me. Congratulations, Joi! You are more than deserving of a celebration.*

*The featured photos include Julie and her twin sister, Jessica, at the retreat.*



# FAVORITE HUTE READS

***HUTE faculty and staff share their favorite books and essays from the past year.***

## Kate Bonnici: “Eros the Bittersweet” by Anne Carson

From Kate: With omnivorous incorporation of textual material and in defiance of generic constraints, Carson essays to understand Eros in ancient Greek literature and philosophy, carrying her readers' "yearning hearts from over here to over there" (171).

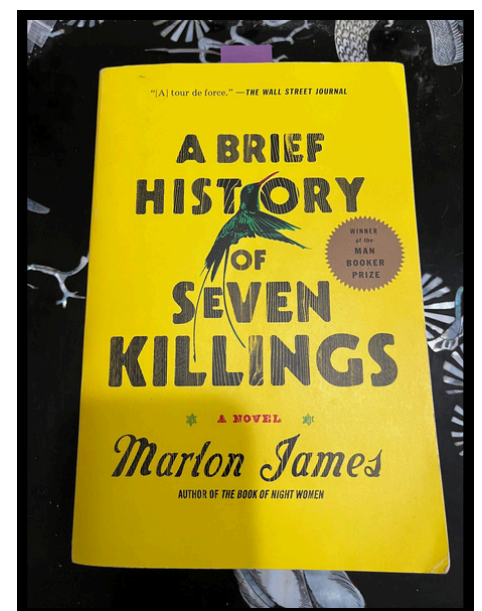
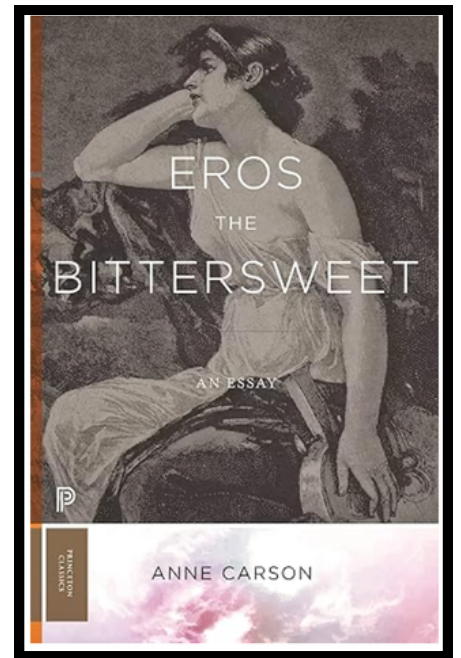
A quote: "Stationed at the edge of itself, or of its present knowledge, the thinking mind launches a suit for understanding into the unknown" (71).

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## Colin Enriquez: *A Brief History of Seven Killings* by Marlon James

From Colin: In addition to offering a creative biography of Bob Marley, one of the most globally influential (and yes, a personal favorite) musical artists of the 20th century, the novel weaves commentary on Jamaican culture, American political destabilization in the Caribbean, Black Caribbean gender roles, Jamaican Creole, aspects of magical realism, the American drug crisis of the 1980s, and Jamaican diaspora. In my opinion, the book is something of a Ulysses or a *Midnight's Children* of Jamaica.

A quote: “But in another city, another valley, another ghetto, another slum, another favela, another township, another intifada, another war, another birth, somebody is singing Redemption Song, as if the Singer wrote it for no other reason but for this sufferah to sing, shout, whisper, weep, bawl, and scream right here, right now.”





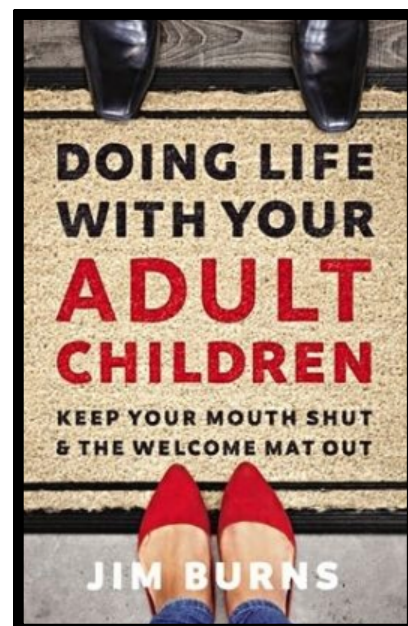
## FAVORITE HUTE READS (CONT'D)

**HUTE faculty and staff share their favorite books and essays from the past year.**

### **Lee Jackson:** *Doing Life With Your Adult Children: Keep Your Mouth Shut & The Welcome Mat Out* by Jim Burns

From Lee: I really enjoyed this because it deals with navigating relationships with your children as they move into adulthood, which is something that I am currently experiencing.

A quote: "Since all children are different, there is no template for a new job description for parenting adult children. You may have to redefine your role differently for each of your kids. But before you can create that new job description, or better yet a new kind of relationship with your adult children, there is one important thing you need to do. You must love them enough to let them go."

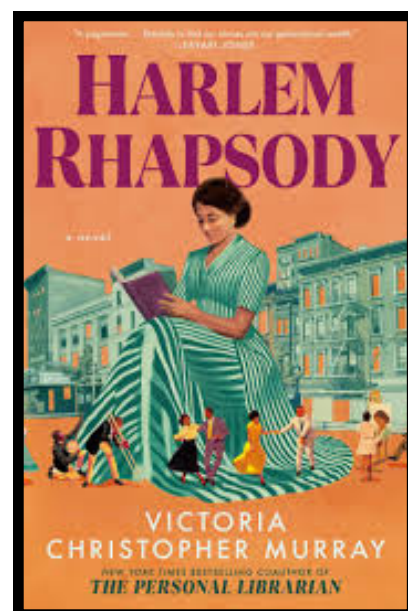


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### **Genny Moore:** *Harlem Rhapsody* by Victoria Christopher Murray

From Genny: I found this book to be incredibly deliberate in maintaining historical accuracy, which only made it even more impactful beyond just reading it.

A quote: "Dr. Du Bois theorizes that while white folks can simply be American, Negroes cannot. Because of the way America treats its Negro citizens, we must live separate as Negroes first, and then as Americans. It is a dual existence. And because the two identities cannot coalesce, we are left to live two lives, have two minds of thought and...two souls."



# FAVORITE HUTE READS (CONT'D)

**HUTE faculty and staff share their favorite books and essays from the past year.**

## **Terrelle Sales:** *Practicing The Way: Be With Jesus, Become Like Him, Do As He Did* by John Mark Comer

From Terrelle: I truly enjoyed the simplicity of the book. It took the concept of discipleship and made it digestible, practical, and applicable to the life of the believer.

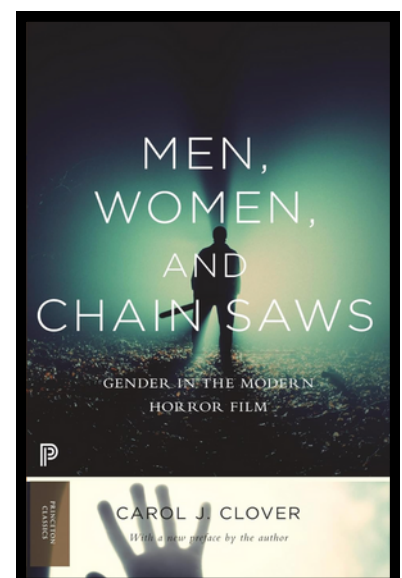
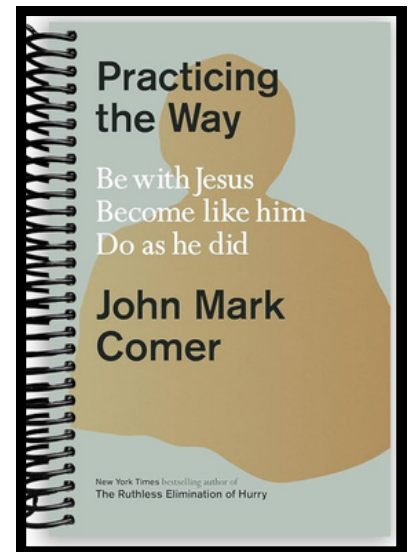
A quote: "Disciple is a noun, not a verb...Jesus' model of apprenticeship was a far cry from our Western educational system...To follow Jesus, then, meant to walk alongside Him in a posture of listening, learning, observation, obedience, and imitation. For Jesus' first apprentices, the goal wasn't to pass a test, get a degree, or receive a certificate to frame on your office wall; it was to master the art of living in progress into the kingdom of God."

...

## **Mike Stock:** *Men, Women and Chainsaws: Gender in the Modern Horror Film* by Carol Clover

From Mike: The lasting significance of this book cannot be understated -- to horror studies, feminist film theory, and even contemporary pop culture. (If you've seen *Stranger Things* you've no doubt heard of the "Final Girl" -- a term first coined and explored in this pioneering 1992 book!)

A quote: "One cannot quarrel with civilization, but it is sometimes useful to look past its comforts to see the stories we tell ourselves, as a culture, for what they really are" (151).





# Hute Award

**MFA in Screenwriting faculty member  
Elisabeth Seldes Annacone  
receives a Writers Guild Award for her  
HBO script ‘The Great Lillian Hall’**

Congratulations, Elisabeth!



Photo from Millbrook School.

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## Faculty Publications



- Kate Bolton Bonnici**, "A WORLD of Wonders," *Tupelo Quarterly* 33 (2024).  
 —. "Death, Love, and the Long Repeat: Repetition's Burden in Lady Jane Lumley's *The Tragedie of Euripides called Iphigenia translated out of Greake into Englisshe*." *Philosophy & Rhetoric*, vol. 57, no. 4, 2024, pp. 435-61.
- Paul Contino**, "Alice McDermott: The Radiant Vision of Someone," in *Women of the Catholic Imagination: Twelve Inspired Novelists You Should Know*, edited by Haley Stewart (Word on Fire Press, 2024).
- Nick Cumming**, "'Oliver Cromwell is a Devil!': Religious Radicalism and Political Turmoil in Geneva during the English Civil Wars," *The Seventeenth Century* 39.4 (2024): 559-577.
- Colin Enriquez**, "'Slavery Was a Long Slow Process of Dulling': Octavia Butler's *Kindred* as a Medium for Teaching Empathy, Social Justice, and Antiracism," in *Teaching Black Speculative Fiction: Equity, Justice, and Antiracism*, edited by KaaVonia Hinton and Karen Michele Chandler (Routledge, 2024).
- Philip Freeman**, *Two Lives of St. Brigid* (Four Courts Press, 2024).
- Michael Gose**, *Great Books: Everyone's Inheritance* (Rowman & Littlefield, 2024).
- Nicole Gilhuis**, "Colonial Ghosts in Indigenous-British Conflict: A Revisiting of Two 1726 Piracy Trials," *Acadiensis: Journal of the History of the Atlantic Region / Revue d'histoire de la region atlantique* 53.1 (2024): 37-77.



## Faculty Publications (cont'd)



**Tuan Hoang**, "Conciliar, Postconciliar, and Postcolonial: Vatican II, Paul IV, and the Church in South Vietnam," in *The Legacy and Limits of Vatican II in an Age of Crisis*, edited by Catherine E. Clifford, et al. (Liturgical Press: 2025), pp. 201-218.

—. Introduction to Special Issue: *Postwar Music in Vietnam and the Diaspora*.

—. "Lost, Mourned, and Retrieved: Exilic Nostalgia in the Music of Vietnamese Refugees," *Rising Asia Journal* 4:3 (Autumn 2024).

—. "The Vietnamese Diaspora," in *The Cambridge History of the Vietnam War*, vol. 3, edited by Pierre Asselin and Lien-Hang Nguyen (Cambridge University Press, 2024).

**Jessica Hooten Wilson**, *Flannery O'Connor's Why Do the Heathen Rage? A Behind-the-Scenes Look at a Work in Progress* (Baker Publishing Group, 2024).

—. "The Power of the St. Thérèse's "Little Way" in Walker Percy's *Love in the Ruins*," in *Good News Resounding: Essays in Honor of Ralph C. Wood*, edited by Rachel Toombs (Baylor University Press, forthcoming in 2025).

—. "Prophets and Poets at the Apocalypse: Writing as a Hopeful Educational Practice," in *Habits of Hope: Educational Practices for a Weary World*, edited by Todd Ream et al. (IVP Press, 2024).

**Loretta Hunnicutt**, "Selina Campbell: Fellow Soldier and Bridge Leader in the Cause of Restoration," *Stone-Campbell Journal* 26 (Fall 2023): 163-183. (Published in 2024).

**Megan McLeod Kendrick**, "Kevin Starr's California Dream and the Creation, Destruction and Redemption of California Landscapes," in *Redemptive Dreams: Engaging California Starr's California*, edited by Jason S. Sexton (New York: Routledge, 2024).

## Faculty Publications (cont'd)



**Jonathan Koch**, four pieces in *The Pulter Project: Poet in Making*, edited by Leah Knight and Wendy Wall (2024):

- Amplified Edition of “Phalaris and the Brazen Bull,” by Hester Pulter (Poem 115).
- “Phalaris and Perillus in Early Modern Print” (Curation, Poem 115).
- “Procrustes, Sciron, Termerus, and Sinis in Early Modern Print” (Curation, Poem 115).
- “Pulter and Jamaica,” (Curation, Poem 115).

**Maire Mullins**, “Building the House that Serves Him Longer”: A History of Walt Whitman's Tomb,” *Walt Whitman Quarterly Review* 41.1/2 (2024): 1-34.

**Julie Taiwo Quarles**, *The Woodingale Puppet Show with Host Mr. C, as Constructed by Mr. Asinine with Calculations and Articulations of the Genius Sort*, in *Golden Tongues: Adapting Hispanic Classical Theater in Los Angeles*, edited by Barbara Fuchs et al. (Bloomsbury and Methuen, 2024).

**Jonathan Riddle**, “The Long History of Personal Responsibility: From Cholera to COVID-19,” *Fides et Historia* 55.1/2 (2023/2024): 84–89.

**Lisa Smith**, *Hammer and Fire: Lessons on Spiritual Passion From the Writings and Life of George Whitefield* (Square Halo Books, 2024).

—. *This Is My Beloved: Embracing the Bridal Love of Jesus* (Wipf & Stock, 2024).



## Faculty Publications (cont'd)



**Jennifer Smith**, "A rhetorical consideration of the {XE "embedded"} index," *Computer and Composition* 74 (December 2024).

—. "Teaching the Embedded Index: Tagging in MS Word," *Journal of Interactive Technology and Pedagogy* 24 (2024).

**Michael Stock**, "Body Horror Behind the Wheel: Mapping the Aesthetics of the Driving Safety Gore Film in Horror," in *Horror and Philosophy: Essays on Their Intersection in Film, Television and Literature*, Ed. Fernando Gabriel Pagnoni Berns and Subashish Bhattacharjee (Jefferson, NC: McFarland & Company Press, 2024): 250-266.

—. "Pain Index, Plain Suffering, and Blood Measure: A Victimology of the Driving Safety Gore Film in Mid-Century America," in *Reimagining the Victim in Post-1970s Horror Media*, Ed. Madelon Hoedt and Marko Lukic (Amsterdam: Amsterdam University Press, 2024): 171-190.

—. "'What Goes on in the Windshield': Rear-Projection and On-Screen Automobility," *JCMS: Journal of Cinema and Media Studies* 64.1 (Fall 2024): 141-167.

**Carrie Wall**, "Educator secondary traumatic stress in the pandemic's wake: Buoying teacher holistic health," *Journal of Loss and Trauma*, 29.4 (2024): 438-453.

**Leslie Kreiner Wilson**, "Emerald in the Rough: Teaching Social Justice, Community, and Belonging Through the Life and Films of Ida Lupino," *Americana: The Journal of American Popular Culture* 23:1 (2024).

# Letter from the Editor

## Fires, Faith, & Freedom

Congratulations on the culmination of another year, HUTE colleagues! This one was a tough one for me, and I am sure that I am not alone. We faced multiple fires, rainfall, the profound devastation of our city, and increased cultural tension in various arenas. Yet, we all traveled (or Zoomed) to work each day, determined to offer the top-notch education for which we are known.

As I started this letter and reflected on the many challenges of this past year, I was honestly at a loss for how I might incorporate the theme of freedom. It just seemed so far away from the experience that I had personally encountered this year. However, as the many kind people who contributed to this edition began sharing the joys of their programs, I was again reminded that freedom is in the bones of Seaver, and that it is certainly foundational to the HUTE division. Pepperdine is a space of faith, and in such a space, there is always hope.

Hope brings freedom.

When we face the obstacles of the world, we can always rely on our faith to keep us grounded. The world was watching as Malibu and our neighbors fought the fires, and the world saw us come together to support each other amidst crisis. The world was (and is) watching as the country faced increased political tensions, yet the content amidst these pages offers an indication that amidst such strife, Seaver is inhabited by a new generation inspired to make things better.

The hope of these pages offers freedom, and it was a honor to spend this season in such a space.

Have a restful summer, and see you next year!

*Julie T. Quarles*

Julie T. Quarles  
Editor

