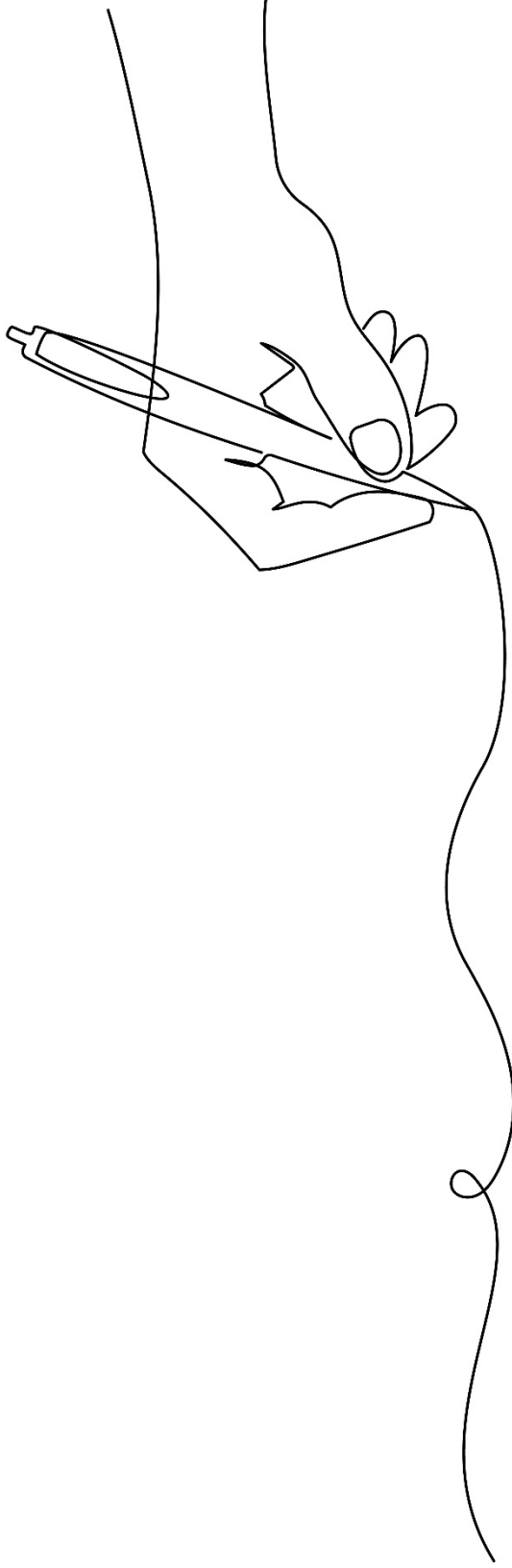




Syracuse University

Humanities Center

Year-End Report
2025-2026

Our mission: The Humanities Center showcases the humanities as a public good, building community around diverse forms of research and engagement.



From the Director

Vivian M. May, Ph.D.

Director, Syracuse University
Humanities Center

Director, Central New York
Humanities Corridor

Professor, Women's & Gender
Studies

The Humanities offer tools to understand ourselves and each other—to reason, question, create, and collaborate across difference. Through cultural, historical, and philosophical inquiry, they help us pursue a more just world, explore new ideas, and grapple with life's enduring questions. In short, the humanities are central to a rigorous liberal arts education, solving real-world problems, and sustaining a democratic, inclusive society.

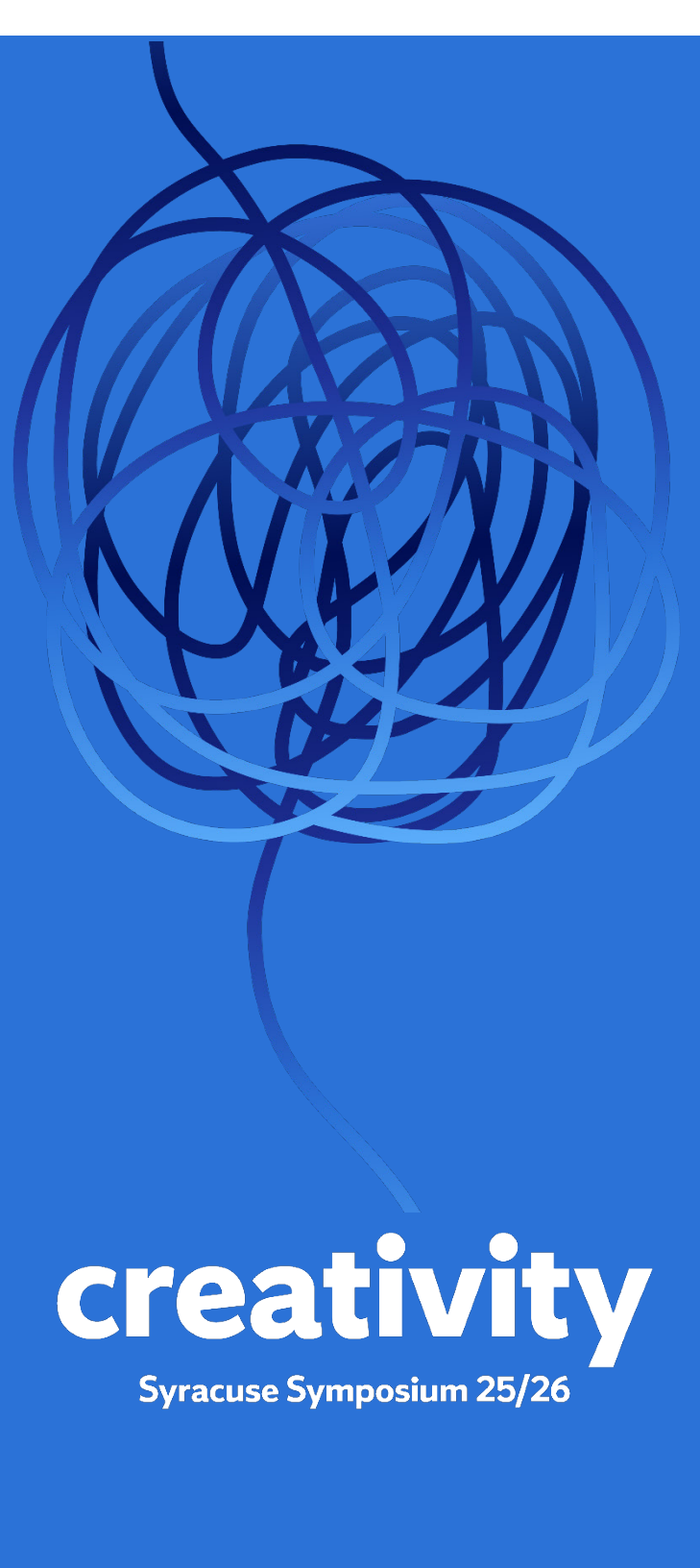
In 2025-2026, the [Humanities Center](#) brought people together, advanced faculty and student research, and fostered public engagement. The Center's foundational initiatives, focused on building community and sustaining inquiry, remained at the heart of our work. The [Syracuse Symposium](#) public event series, our Dissertation, Postdoctoral, and Faculty [Fellowships](#), and annual [Books in the Humanities](#) tradition convened scholars and community members around vital issues, from environmental concerns to new artistic visions.

We deepened our commitment to advancing humanities scholarship, particularly faculty research support, through new and expanding partnerships. With the [Office of Research](#), we ushered the Writing and Publishing ("[WRAP](#)") grant program into its second year and supported "[Draft Dash](#)" writing circles. Alongside the [College of Arts and Sciences](#), and the [Maxwell School](#) we connected faculty to [editorial support](#) services, [book manuscript workshops](#), and Laura Portwood-Stacer's "[Book Proposal Shortcuts](#)." Our first year as a member of the [National Humanities Center](#) brought immediate results: Professors Gail Bulman and Dorri Beam earned places in the prestigious [Scholarly Writing Institute](#) and Cary Peñate was selected for the [Summer Residency program](#).

The Humanities Center is committed to opening meaningful pathways for humanities researchers to thrive, by offering fellowships, seed grants, writing retreats, and participating in competitive national programs. The following pages demonstrate what the Humanities Center makes possible: **community**, **collaboration**, **discovery**, and **care** for the questions that matter most. We are proud to offer a strong, sustaining presence—in the College, across the University, throughout our communities, and across the region.

We welcome your thoughts and questions at humcenter@syr.edu.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Vivian M. May".



creativity

Syracuse Symposium 25/26

Syracuse Symposium awardees partner with us in substantial ways to create an annual slate of programs that enrich curriculum and invite the public to join in. This year's theme, "[Creativity](#)," prompted participants to re-imagine what's possible and to seek ways to spark positive change in our world.

2025-26 Symposium partners hailed from more than a dozen host departments / units / community organizations and often involved additional interdisciplinary collaborators at the table and behind the scenes:



Art and Music Histories department
Center on Disability and Inclusion
College of Arts and Sciences
College of Visual and Performing Arts
Hendricks Chapel Quilters
Institute for Veterans and Military Families
La Casita Cultural Center
Mathematics / Math Education
Office of Research
School of Education
School of Information Studies (iSchool)
Syracuse University Art Museum
Syracuse University Press
Urban Video Project
Writing Studies, Rhetoric, and Composition department



Visit our [News Blog](#) for a vibrant look at Symposium season highlights:

[An Invitation to Imagine](#)

[Creativity for Healing and Transformation](#)

[Is Writing Enough?](#)

[The Art of Translation](#)

[Syracuse Symposium Celebrates 'Creativity' with Renowned Quilters](#)

[Veterans Find Voice and Connection at Writing Workshop Weekend](#)



Books in the Humanities is our annual showcase of humanities scholarship and creativity. As it has for eleven years and counting, this spring's celebration highlighted individual scholarly accomplishments across Syracuse University Schools and Colleges, from researchers publishing cutting-edge works that encourage us to envision our shared futures and invite us to unpack the past in new ways.

This University-wide spring event, in partnership with the University's Office of Research, is an important tradition where our community joins together to recognize this significant research outcome!

The © 2025 showcase featured:

44 books by...

43 authors / editors / illustrators in...

22 different departments or programs across...

11 Syracuse University Schools, Colleges, or Divisions.

[Read more about this year's collection](#) and [see the full list online](#).

Our partners at the Syracuse University Libraries cataloged these new titles within their digital [Research Guides](#), each year expanding the archive of 'Books in the Humanities' output.

Current Syracuse University faculty, students, or staff releasing books (including monographs, edited volumes, translations, creative writing, or scholarly handbooks) in the humanities within the current calendar / copyright year are encouraged to share the details with us via [the Book Survey at our Forms page](#).



HC Fellowships offer scholars building blocks to advance book projects, independent research, and collaborations. Challenging static assumptions through new frameworks was a common line of inquiry this year. Each project title below hyperlinks to a brief explanation about each fellow's area of research.

Spring 2026 Humanities Center Faculty Fellows

READ MORE! [Four Faculty Fellows Chart New Ground in Humanities Book Projects](#)



Chris Hanson - Associate Professor, English | A&S
[*Changing the \(Video\) Game: Adventure's History and Legacy*](#)



Margaret Innes - Assistant Professor, Art and Music Histories | A&S
[*Collective Forms: Socializing Photography in the Era of American Communism*](#)



Denisa Jashari - Assistant Professor, History | Maxwell
[*Spatial Conflicts: Producing the Urban Poor in Santiago, Chile, 1872-1994*](#)



Marcia Robinson - Assistant Professor, Religion | "Symposium" A&S
[*"Out over 70,000 Fathoms" with the Lilies and the Birds: Kierkegaard on Religion*](#)

2025-2026 Humanities Center Dissertation Student Fellows

READ MORE! [Dissertation Fellows Chart New Ground in Philosophy and Pedagogy](#)



Kellan D. L. Head - Ph.D. Candidate, Philosophy
[*Epistemic Value and Epistemic Goods*](#)



Abigail Long - Ph.D. Candidate, Composition & Cultural Rhetoric
[*\(Re\)Composing Friction: Writing Beyond the Seams*](#)

HC Fellowships - continued

In partnership with the [Engaged Humanities Network](#), [Office of Research](#), and [College of Arts and Sciences](#), the HC supports two postdoctoral scholars who advance publicly engaged research, programming, and curriculum while in residence. Our inaugural [Engaged Humanities Postdoctoral Fellows](#) – Lauren Cooper and Miryam Nascimento – recently completed their two-year appointments (AY24-AY26).



Lauren Cooper (Ph.D., English)

An expert in British and Irish Romantic literature, Cooper's research explores influences of colonialism, class, gender, landscape aesthetics, and early discourses of environmental justice.

Cooper mentored EHN undergraduate researchers as well as youth writers in Syracuse, partnered with Environmental Storytelling of CNY, and developed an innovative new course focused on poetry and social justice. Cooper's residency helped her land a new position at the College of Holy Cross as Visiting Assistant Professor (2026-2028).



(Pictured: Cooper mentored high school participants in the "Write Out" program.)

Beyond publishing articles—for *English Literary History* and a forthcoming book review for the *Wordsworth Circle*—Cooper was named Program Chair of the John Clare Society of North America and presented papers at numerous conferences:

- 2025 Wordsworth Summer Conference
- 2025 Association for the Study of Literature and Environment (ASLE)
- North American Society for the Study of Romanticism (NASSR)
- 2026 Modern Literature Association (MLA)
- 2026 Keats Conference (keynote presentation)

HC Fellowships - continued



Miryam Nacimiento (Ph.D., Cultural Anthropology)

Nacimiento built relationships with community partners at the Skä•noñh Center and Salt City Harvest Farm, among others, which offered new ways of connecting her research to broader societal concerns, particularly within agrarian and environmental studies.

She also offered public workshops on participatory and feminist research methods, helped create learning guides for Environmental Storytelling of CNY, and wrote pivotal community stories and profiles tied to EHN's South Side Stories initiative.

Other highlights of her fellowship included:

- Fieldwork in Colombia and Peruvian Amazon to advance her two book projects
- Receiving SU's Vice President for Research's [Postdoctoral Award for Excellence in Research and Creative Work](#)
- Presenting at the Second International Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ICARRD+20) in Cartagena, Colombia
- Numerous articles published by [Wiley Library](#), [Journal of Peasant Studies](#), and [Cultural Politics](#), Duke University Press



(Pictured: Nacimiento facilitated a workshop in Cauca, Colombia, collaborating with the National Agrarian Coordinator, a peasant organization navigating agrarian struggles and cultural identity.)



Research Support

The 2026 Jeannette K. Watson Distinguished Visiting Professor in the Humanities was [Linda Infante Lyons](#) (Alutiiq/Sugpiaq), a painter and multimedia artist whose work engages themes of Indigenous sovereignty, cultural resilience, and environmental sustainability.

Students, faculty, and community members [engaged with this residency](#) in multiple, layered ways through Native American and Indigenous Studies, Geography and the Environment, and fine arts, via the SU Art Museum. [Chie Sakakibara](#) (NAIS, Geography and the Environment) and [Timur Hammond](#) (Geography and the Environment) were faculty co-hosts for Infante Lyons' two-week campus residency, thematically titled, "[Visions of Resilience: Sacred Art & Storied Landscapes](#)."

Beyond classroom visits and public talks, Infante Lyons painted two new works specifically commissioned for the [Syracuse University Art Museum's](#) permanent collection, deepening its holdings in Indigenous art. The pieces, [unveiled April 7](#), each depict Alaskan Native women dressed in *kuspiks*, in Infante Lyons' signature style blending traditional and contemporary iconography and Indigenous designs, to unpack legacies of settler colonialism and foreground Indigenous women's role in sustaining sovereignty.

"Students engaged through seminars and close looking exercises that connected Infante Lyons' work to broader questions in Indigenous studies and comparative geographies," Sakakibara explained. "These exchanges helped students move beyond interpreting artworks as static objects and instead understand them as part of ongoing relationships, responsibilities, and lived practices."

Sakakibara's own research and book project were advanced and strengthened by the Humanities Center's "Watson Professor" support. *Sovereign of the North: Linda Infante Lyons* will be published by the University of British Columbia Press in Fall 2027.

PHOTOS (courtesy of Chie Sakakibara):

- A close look at *Isuwiq Sua/Spirit Of The Seal* by Linda Infante Lyons, 2026
- Faculty hosts Timur Hammond and Chie Sakakibara present Infante Lyons (center) with a certificate to commemorate her Syracuse visit.





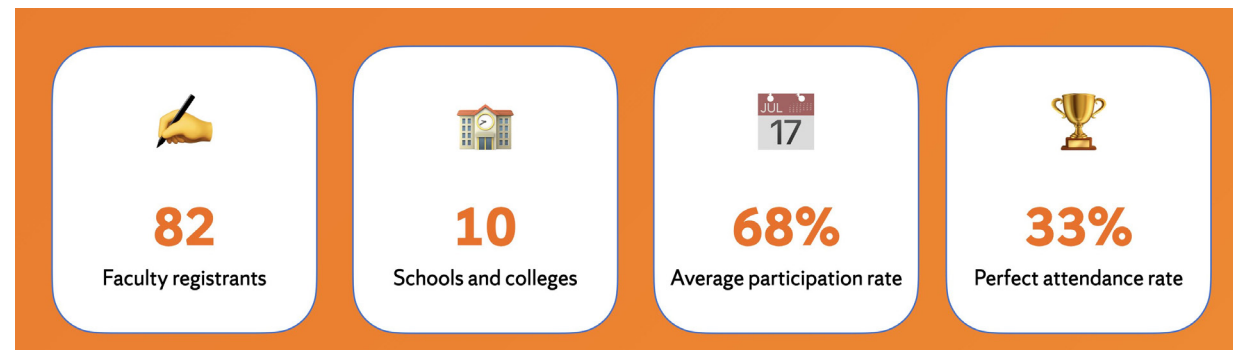
Research Support

Office of Research collaborations with the Humanities Center widen access and deepen opportunities for campus humanists. According to [Sarah Workman](#), Director of Research Development for the Arts & Humanities, “leveraging the support of the Humanities Center, whether to develop and disseminate internal funding opportunities to best meet faculty needs, or offer joint programming, enables the Office of Research to build stronger, collaborative, and more robust humanities research infrastructure across campus.”

Faculty book projects saw big boosts through jointly supported Writing and Publishing (“[WRAP](#)”) grants, awarding an average of \$4,500 to more than a dozen authors. We also teamed up to cover tuition for seven faculty to enroll in Laura Portwood-Stacer’s highly effective “[Book Proposal Shortcut](#).”

With the College of Arts and Sciences and Maxwell School, we connected faculty to essential [editorial support](#) services and high impact [book manuscript workshops](#). “Reviewers gave me invaluable feedback,” Sascha Scott noted, “which has dramatically strengthened the book. Not only did the workshop keep me on track to complete the manuscript by my goal deadline, but the feedback I received and the adjustments I made will hopefully result in a smoother peer review process.”

To meet faculty interest in and need for sustained writing support, the HC also co-sponsored a new “[Draft Dash](#)” writing challenge—a two-week series of meet-ups complete with prize incentives and a closing party—spearheaded by Sarah Workman and Liz Lance from the [Office of Research](#):



“Having time on the calendar each day and community to write with really made a difference,” said Draft Dash participant, Lauren Woodard. “I submitted an article and started a Wenner-Gren (grant) application during the 10 days.”



Campus-wide Resource

Co-Sponsorships are just one way the Humanities Center extended our financial support, networking know-how, and publicity pipelines to more than 100 humanities-related campus activities in AY 2025-2026. Since a typical academic year includes around 150 instructional days, the humanities figured prominently on our [campus calendars](#), offering ample opportunities for students, faculty, and community members to engage with fascinating scholars, artists, and writers on an array of subjects. Presenting partners included:

College of Arts & Sciences

- African American Studies
- Art and Music Histories
- Black Arab Relationalities Initiative (BARI)
- Community Folk Art Center
- English
- Engaged Humanities Network
- Health Humanities
- Languages, Literatures, and Linguistics
- LGBTQ Studies
- Philosophy
- Project Mend
- Ray Smith Symposium
- Tolley Professor's lecture series
- Women's and Gender Studies
- Writing Studies, Rhetoric, and Composition

College of Visual and Performing Arts

- Communication and Rhetorical Studies
- Music Education

Falk College of Sport and Human Dynamics

Maxwell School

- Anthropology
- Global Premodern Studies
- History
- Moynihan Institute of Global Affairs
- South Asia Center

Newhouse School

- CODE^SHIFT
- Television, Radio, and Film
- Visual Communications

Office of Cultural Engagement for the Hispanic Community

- La Casita Cultural Center
- Punto de Contacto Gallery

Office of Research

- Lender Center
- Research Development

School of Education

SU Libraries Special Collections Research Center

Greater Syracuse:

- Environmental Storytelling CNY (SUNY-ESF)
- YMCA of CNY-Arts & Education



CNY Humanities Corridor

Seed grants that advance innovative humanities research, teaching, and programming are core to the [Central New York Humanities Corridor](#)'s purpose. Administratively housed at Syracuse University's Humanities Center, this dynamic regional consortium links 11 universities and colleges.

In AY26, the Corridor awarded just over **\$280k** to support **57** Working Groups involving **253** faculty and staff Organizers, a **15.8% increase** over last year. Notably, our seed grants have **increased 27%** over the past four years. Transdisciplinary, multi-institutional Working Groups hosted **152** activities across all **11** Corridor campuses. They engaged over **3,700** participants from **115** colleges, universities, K-12 schools, religious organizations, non-profits, publishers, booksellers, and museums from at least **25** states and **17** countries.

Nearly **25%** of this year's Working Group Organizers were from Syracuse University, **29** from Arts and Sciences, **17** from Maxwell, with others from VPA, SU Libraries, Professional Studies, Newhouse, the SU Museum, and Education.

Working Groups value and build scholarly community, noting how:

- Cross-institutional mentorship benefits faculty and graduate students alike.
- Interdisciplinarity (including with the sciences) leads to energized events and new research.
- Practical workshops impact research and deepen writing practices.
- Invited guest-presenters often become integral to a group's community of scholars.
- Artificial intelligence potentially affects pedagogy, humanities methods, and analytic skills.
- Public humanities and community engagement lead to fulfilling outcomes but may not be adequately recognized in traditional T&P guidelines.

"Attributed to Confucius: 'When three people walk together, there is always something I can learn from them' and this is something we've found in our collaboration. We have become one another's mentors on specific research topics and have complemented one another's strengths."

-HS12 Working Group: [China in the World, Past and Present](#)

"[T]hese cross-institutional relationships are vital for not just preserving the humanities at our institutions but ensuring that they thrive."

-HF8 Working Group: [Curating the Middle Ages](#)

Writing Retreats are a hallmark of the Corridor’s annual research support programs. In October 2025, we brought 28 humanities faculty to Minnowbrook for an [intensive, facilitated writing retreat](#). Freed from teaching, service, and household demands, scholars drafted book chapters, completed overdue revisions, and revived stalled projects. One participant wrote 25 pages over the weekend. Prepared meals, flexible schedules, and immersion in nature proved essential, as did professional development from writing coaches Jennifer Ahern-Dodson and Monique Dufour, whose techniques gave scholars tools they can use in perpetuity. Beyond productivity, the retreat built interdisciplinary community among faculty from different institutions.

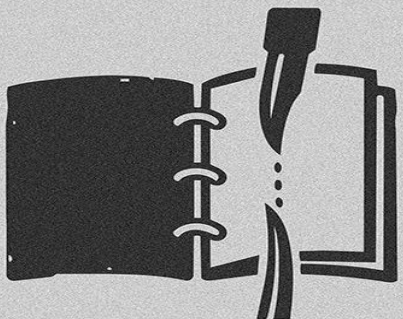
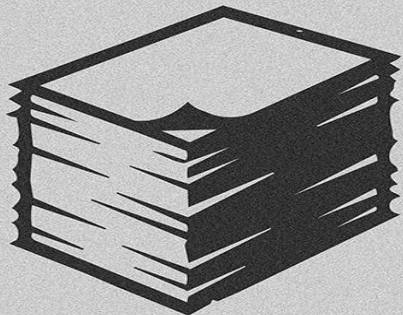
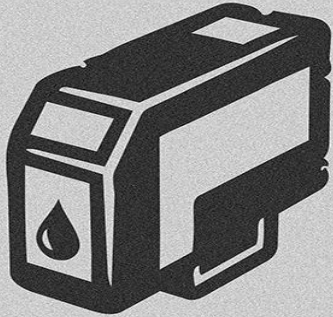
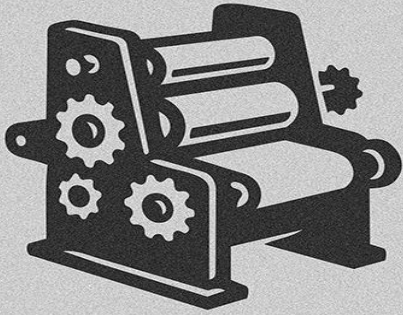
As our writing retreat alumni community grows, the Corridor seeks new ways to support these cohorts. In July 2025, we piloted an unfacilitated Minnowbrook “alumni” retreat one participant described as “magical.” Scholars drew on strategies from their first retreat (e.g., goal setting, “parking on the down slope,” dedicated writing blocks), while meals, hikes, and swimming deepened cross-institutional connections. Writers reported major breakthroughs on long-stalled chapters, completed journal articles, and new collaborations. Several noted the familiar setting alone helped them recall prior workshop lessons without prompts.

Building on this momentum, the Corridor offered an online half-day retreat in January, inviting alumni from across all Minnowbrook cohorts to reconnect with the same facilitators for guided writing sessions. Strong demand for this virtual follow-up confirmed faculty benefit from ongoing support to sustain their writing.

The Corridor's expanding retreat model demonstrates how consistent institutional research investment and support empowers humanities scholars to thrive at every career stage: with uninterrupted time, supportive community, and freedom from daily obligations, faculty make substantial scholarly progress and experience meaningful professional renewal. In short, the Corridor’s retreats are models for advancing humanities research and well-being regionally.

“These informal exchanges helped me form a new, organic writing support network.”

“It was SO great! I had time to really digest some tough feedback I’d gotten and craft a plan for going forward.”



Professional Development opportunities represent another facet of our commitment to nimbly address scholars' evolving needs. Each year, [Aimee Germain](#) (Corridor Program Manager) and [Sarah Workman](#) (Director for Research Development, Arts & Humanities) work closely to develop opportunities to connect our colleagues with leading experts.

In 2025-26, they co-led the [Corridor Futures and Initiatives \(HF4\)](#) Working Group to build faculty capacity in demonstrating the humanities' relevance and reach, offering a pair of workshops thematically focused on writing for wider publics:

[Translating your Humanities Scholarship to Expand Reach and Recognition](#) partnered with the [Center for Humanities Communication](#) to bring Anke Finger (University of Connecticut) in conversation with Kath Burton (Radically Hopeful). Humanities faculty learned techniques and rationales for telling compelling stories about why their work matters.

[Scholars to Storytellers: An Introduction to Trade Publishing](#) with author, historian, and former journalist John Ghazvinian walked humanities faculty through the basics of commercial vs. academic publishing, helping scholars identify pathways to reaching wider audiences with their work.

These workshops provided tools for faculty to describe their research in terms non-specialists can recognize, essential for deepening ROI impact, expanding humanities' visibility, and making the case for external funding and for humanities investments more locally.

Thoughtful partnership with the Office of Research Development, combined with the power of the Corridor's pooled resources at Syracuse, Cornell, and the University of Rochester, elevates the humanities, builds community, and bolsters research across the region.

Website | Social Media and other avenues of community exchange have always been important to the HC's growth and vibrancy. We increased strategic use of our digital channels—[Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), our [Events](#) page and [News Blog](#)—to support and advocate for humanities research and programming as vital to our civic and scholarly lives. We contributed local content to the [#TalkAboutHumanities](#) social media campaign launched in April by [ACLS](#).

We amplified dozens of students' and colleagues' achievements in the humanities and circulated announcements about research support opportunities. The sustained, consistent campus outreach of our *This Week at the Humanities Center* [e-newsletters](#) reinforced the HC as an inclusive, welcoming space for collaborative exploration and intellectual exchange.



Surveys invited our collaborators to share insights and outcomes from their HC-supported efforts in AY26—from departmental co-sponsorships to [Syracuse Symposium](#) partnerships (see p. 3) and major support for the [Jeannette K. Watson Distinguished Visiting Professor](#) residency (see p. 8).

- **75%** said their offerings engaged the greater Syracuse community, beyond those within their immediate campus circles;
- **63%** cited regional, national, or international participation.

“I deeply appreciate the opportunity to engage with a broad range of faculty from Arts and Sciences and other schools around the university through Humanities Center meetings and sponsored programs,” Anneke Herre said. “There really isn’t another forum like it.”



HC Spaces extend our inclusive, accessible ethos, hosting a number of community-building opportunities through AY2026:

- Campus-wide Fall [Open House](#)
- Local participation in the National “[Douglass Day](#)” Transcribe-a-Thon
READ MORE! [University Honors Douglass Day by Helping Preserve Black History | Syracuse University Today](#)
- EHN meetings with affiliated faculty, community, and program leaders
- “Meet the Scholars Coffee Hours” featuring HC fellows and guest scholars
- “Tolley Professor”-led activities
- writing retreats and workshops
- administrative and academic roundtables
- workspace and resources for HC Dissertation and Postdoctoral fellows, and EHN undergraduate research

Students across disciplines continued to take advantage of the calm, quiet Sainsbury Library (Tolley 300) as a study spot between classes or to page through a good book. [Fun fact: our library’s shelves contain volumes from all eleven iterations of ‘Books in the Humanities’ -- see p. 4!]

HC Advisory Board members contribute to our scope as one of six [Research Institutes](#) that serve the University as a whole from our home within the College of Arts and Sciences. Representing the humanities broadly conceived, advisory board members gather several times a year to help shape the Center's initiatives and advance our mission.

Board members served on panels to select proposals for Syracuse Symposium and to award our competitive Faculty and Dissertation Fellowships for next year. In addition, they developed the next theme for our upcoming Syracuse Symposium public event series. We also asked members to circulate relevant information with their departments and to freely bring questions and ideas to us, which helps the HC identify and address timely needs within our scholarly community.

Meeting highlights included conversation with Brice Nordquist (EHN) and Glenn Wright (Graduate School) to increase awareness about the [Engaged Humanities Network's](#) new [Public Scholarship Certificate](#) (PSC) opportunities, co-developed with our Postdoctoral Fellows. Colleagues from Syracuse University Press and SU Libraries updated us on the latest developments in Open Access Publishing. And we created space for frank dialogues on "humanities crossroads" facing us locally and beyond, providing a critical sense of solidarity and community along the way.

Our thanks to [2025-2026 board members](#):

Kristen Barnes, Dorri Beam, Lori Brown, Catherine Cocks, Lauren Cooper, Nicolette Dobrowolski, Hamid Ekbia, Eric Grode, Anneka Herre, Kate Holohan, Azra Hromadžić, Jeanette Jouili, Annie Laver, Courtney Mauldin, Wendy Moy, Miryam Nascimento, Brice Nordquist, Hille Paakkunainen, Tere Paniagua, Srivi Ramasubramanian, Erin Rand, Romita Ray, Chie Sakakibara, Martin Shanguhya, Danielle Smith, Scott Stevens, Harvey Teres, Sarah Workman

Colleagues expressed what the Humanities—and the Humanities Center—mean to them...

Humanities Advance Knowledge



I appreciate the Humanities Center's range of offerings and support of knowledge-making across campus! The humanities animate the "why" behind everything we do, not just in academia or the workplace, but in the world.
– *Abigail Long*

I truly value the work you do in highlighting new publications in the humanities at SU—it is an important initiative that brings well-deserved visibility to our scholarship.
– *Odlanyer Hernandez De Lara*

The (HC Faculty Fellows) Coffee Hour provided a generative forum for discussion and illuminated some themes in my work I had not previously considered.
– *Maggie Innes*

I attended the workshop on navigating change. It helped me to see that conditions change, and I have some agency in naming the challenges and finding a way around them.
– *Minnowbrook retreat participant*

Although we may be working in different pockets of the humanities, we engage larger questions of representation and meaning-making, from ableist institutional structures to the inequity and power dynamics integrated in dominant worldviews.
– *Karisa Bridgela*

I'm thankful for the HC Dissertation Fellowship's generous research funding, which allowed me to present at (three!) conferences where I otherwise would not have been able to participate.
– *Kellan Head*

The Humanities Center has been great! I have felt fully supported through their generous feedback and resources.
– *Theo Cateforis*

Humanities Foster Belonging

The Humanities Center makes connections possible, brings people together who would not otherwise be in the same room, and creates space for sustained attention and dialogue across disciplines and communities.

– Chie Sakakibara

We cannot try to reduce the value of the humanities to quantifiable data legible to a spreadsheet. The humanities transforms how scholars and students interact with their communities and see the world and one another.

– Joseph Wilson

People can feel very siloed at SU. The Humanities Center serves a vital purpose on this campus connecting students, staff and faculty to broader initiatives that strengthen and support creativity and culture.

– Karly Grifasi



A huge thank you for the HC's Syracuse Symposium support for our Veterans Writing Weekend at the National Veterans Resource Center. Some of the vets are already emailing each other with reading lists and ideas for staying in touch.

– Eileen Schell

The Corridor's structure ... [and] funding has helped maintain genuine intellectual exchange across four institutions. Without your support, we would be essentially islands unto ourselves.

– Theorizing Italy (PCT11) Working Group member

Our (Syracuse Symposium) event was excellent. And despite arctic cold, the gallery was full, there was a lot of warmth and positive energy. THANK YOU for all your support.

– Miso Suchy

Humanities Matter

At a time of spiraling changes in technology, politics and public policy, skills fostered through the humanities—critical thinking, empathy, creativity, historical understanding, interpretation, and effective communication—are more important, not less. The humanities create spaces for reflection, dialogue, creativity, and human connection that cannot be replaced by technical or transactional forms of education.

– Tere Paniagua

The humanities and the arts are essential to our wellness and survival as a species. It helps us understand, heal, grow, connect, and build.

– Rochelle Royster

Just as prisons and their impacts extend across Central New York, so too does the need for humanities programs that (serve) individuals and families affected by the criminal legal system. Through partnerships with community organizations, public-facing programming, and outreach efforts, we seek to create spaces where people from different backgrounds can engage in meaningful dialogue about art, storytelling, justice, and social change.

– Incarceration and Decarceration (LLC5) Working Group member

Humanities cannot be just for the elite or rarified higher education institutions: it's necessary for every field and vocation to be able to think, critique, question, and appreciate what makes us human.

– Beth Ferri

Where many projects teach us that we need to relentlessly scale up and make ourselves legible to increasingly big metrics, humanistic scholarship and teaching insists that we be accountable to the places, people, and specificity of the world around us.

– Timur Hammond

The Humanities Center is one of the best units on campus. I want you to continue doing what you're doing.

– Patrick Berry



Acknowledgements

The Humanities Center team for AY26:

Vivian M. May

*Director, Humanities Center and CNY Humanities Corridor;
Professor, Women's and Gender Studies*

Diane C. Drake

Assistant Director, Humanities Center

Aimee A. Germain

Program Manager, CNY Humanities Corridor

Miguel J. Rodriguez

Budget Associate, Humanities Center and CNY Humanities Corridor

Jacquelyn L. Ladnier

Administrative Specialist, Humanities Center

Additional Credits

- Stock images appeared in various *This Week at the Humanities Center* e-newsletters throughout the year.
- Miscellaneous event photos used courtesy of HC staff or event partners.
- Testimonial quotes acquired via feedback surveys and correspondence with project partners and participants.
- "Creativity" Symposium artwork developed by **Joanna Giansanti** of GiansantiDesign.
- Select News Blogs articles written by **Colette Goldstein** (MA '25).

