

THE CITY COLLEGE OF NEW YORK

HISTORY NEWSLETTER DEPT.



2021

JUNE 2021

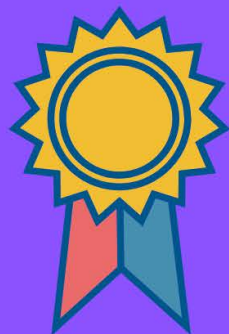
History Department Newsletter 2021

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The City College
of New York



From the History Department Chair

Congratulations class of 2021!!!

Congratulations to our History BA's!

Congratulations to our largest-ever graduating class of History BA/MA's!

Congratulations to our History MA's!

All of you deserve an extra cheer for completing your degrees under extremely difficult conditions. I sometimes think: could I have done what you did? I honestly don't know.

Please take a moment or 2 or 10 or 1000 to be proud of yourselves. College is hard. Graduate school is hard. But you made it thought during the most challenging of times in recent memory-- during a global pandemic and economic hardship, not to mention virtual learning-- that is *a lot* to do deal with! I speak for all the history faculty in saying we stand in awe of you.

Now. Go out into the world and use your experience at this storied institution. Draw on the historical knowledge of the tragedies and triumphs of the human experience to improve your life and your world. And know that we will always be here for you.

Since this second inaugural newsletter also serves as a substitute for our awards luncheon this year, let me also offer a special thank you to our donors:

Thank you to our most recent donors: **Michael Colucci** and **Dr. Mark Stoler** for the **Colucci-Stoler Scholarship** for a student wishing to pursue a career in teaching.

Thank you to **Sandi E. Cooper**, a distinguished alumna of City College and a professor emerita at CUNY, for the **Sandi Cooper Prize**, which goes to a current History major attending a history graduate program.

Thank you to the **Judith S. Stein** estate for the **Judith S. Stein Scholarship for BA/MA Students** and the **Judith S. Stein Prize in the History of Political Economy**, both of which are funded with the Stein family's generous annual gift.

Thank you to the **Oscar Zeichner** family for the **Oscar Zeichner Prize** in Early American History.

And thank you to all the other donors who have endowed prizes over the years and to our alumni who I know would be with us if we were holding our annual awards celebration.



Anne Kornhauser, Chair



On behalf of the entire History
Department:

Congratulations!

STUDENT AWARDS & PRIZES

Oscar Lloyd Meyerson Medal for outstanding honors essay by a senior history major: **Shira Nabatian**, “The Minority Rights System in Twentieth Century Europe as Seen Through The Bernheim Petition (1933)”

Leslie Steigman Bayor Award for senior history major in American history: **Kai Mora**, “Revising American Abolitionism: A Review of Richard Newman, *The Transformation of American Abolitionism*”

I was joyfully surprised and honored by this award. Sending a huge thank you to Professor John Blanton for making American History compelling, actively seeking and fostering student voices and ideas, and consistently supporting me whenever I reach out.



Joan Kelly Award for best paper in women's/feminist/gender history: **Antonio Rodriguez**, “Women and Trade in the Littoral Societies of West Africa”

Arthur Teidemann Awards for two outstanding undergraduate papers: **Pablo Aguilar**, “Paternalism in the 20th Century” & **John Papageorgiou**, “Collective Memory: Why Homosexual Persecution was Utilized by Early Gay Rights Movements”



I'd like to thank Professor Killen for nominating me and the prize committee for awarding me with this honor. I would also like to say thank you to all the professors I've had since switching my major to history. The education I've received from them has been invaluable and inspired me to enroll in BA/MA program. I am looking forward to furthering my education and bringing the skills I've learned at City College to law school and beyond. - John Papageorgiou

The Tremain Prize for outstanding paper on the Civil War Era: **Emily Grimes**, “The Verb *Marroner*: American Maroons in Flight”

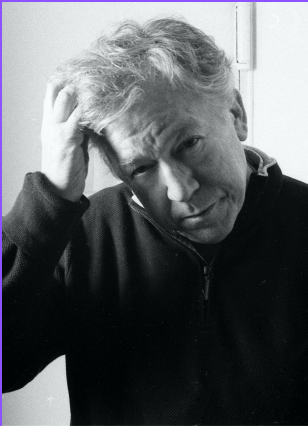
The Paul Aron Award for high standard of academic achievement and best undergraduate research paper: **Eric Fuentes**, “The Colonization of Mayan Same-Sex Relations”

I was surprised to hear about winning an award for my work but I'm grateful that CCNY pushed me to be the best that I can be. I would like to thank Professor Felber-Seligman and my peers in LGBTQ World History, who helped me along the way!



Ward Medal for excellence in an introductory course: **Jacinta Moore**, “Winning Respect and Recognition with Fashion”

Sidney Pomeranz Award for outstanding essay in urban history: **Don Macleod**, “The New York Ladies Are No Longer in Waiting”



I am quite honored to receive such a prestigious award. I would like to express my appreciation to Prof. Matthew Vaz who was kind enough to nominate the paper, as well as my gratitude to Professors Alexandra Stern, Andreas Killen and James LePree for their outstanding classes and unstinting dedication to their students. I am in their debt.

Faculty Award for outstanding paper by a BA/MA student: **Willem Taghon**, “Mapping Concepts of Space and Imperialism in Ibero-America”

Sidney Ditzion Prize for outstanding paper in social history: **Hannah Kolsch**, “The Falsified Golden Age of Lesbianism: The Nature of Romantic Friendships Between Women from the 1890s through the 1920s”

I would like to thank the History Department Prize Committee for selecting my paper for this award. I am grateful to Professor Felber-Seligman and the City College History Department for helping me improve my skills in historical research and writing. I look forward to continuing my academic development as a history student at City College.

Judith S. Stein Prize for outstanding paper in history of political economy: **Ricardo Colon-Medina**, “A Sortie into the Role Played by Anti-Eurocentric Historical Narratives in the Naturalization of Capitalism”

I'd like to thank every one of my professors, each of whom helped me improve immensely as a student. And a special thanks to Professor Lale Can for helping me with the Judith S. Stein prize. I would also like to note how proud I am to have participated in City College's History program. I commend CUNY and CCNY for providing such high-quality education for the New York City community.



Oscar Zeichner Prize for outstanding paper in Early American history: **Abby Annaccone**, “Art Not Without Ambition!: The Lasting Impact of Ira Aldridge on American Theatre”



I am truly honored to have been selected for the Oscar Zeichner Prize for Outstanding Paper in Early American History. I would like to deeply thank the committee for their selection, as well as Professor John Blanton for his consideration of my work. History and Theatre both hold my heart, and this assignment was a wonderful opportunity to combine the two.

Faculty Award for MA paper for best research paper by an MA student:
Jenni Rein, “Saltwater History and Settler Colonialism: New Perspectives
on North American Indigenous and Environmental Histories”

I am honored to receive this award and am extremely thankful to the Prize Committee, as well as the incredible History Department faculty. I have learned so much in every course I have taken, both from my Professors and fellow students. I am especially grateful for Professor Blanton’s support and encouragement of my work.



Selwyn Schapiro Memorial Award for outstanding paper in European history: **Kevin LaRose**, “Negotiating the Mediterranean”

Being a student at City College was a wonderful experience and allowed me to be a member of an amazing community of students and professors. Each one of my courses was a joy to take and the professors shared a wealth of knowledge. I will miss this community dearly as I graduate this Spring.

Robert Buckman Prize for most contribution to life in the History Department:
Timea Nick



The History Department at CCNY is a welcoming place to share my love for history with students and the wonderful faculty. It is a great experience to complete my BA/MA and to learn so much from our professors. Additionally, being part of the History Society Club allowed me to enjoy history not just as a subject but as a hobby too.

Sandi E. Cooper Prize for graduating students going to history graduate programs: **Kiran Baldeo & Lance Parker**

I had a truly memorable and impactful time as a student of history. I am grateful for the faculty who guided me throughout the semesters, as well as, the friendships o created along the way. - Lance Parker



Junior history major **YuJin Lee** has received summer funding from the **Opportunities in Research and Creative Arts (ORCA) Program** to conduct historical research connected to the upcoming centennial of the Tulsa Race Massacre. She will be working to excavate the origins of personal and family wealth that made the creation of Black Wall Street (Tulsa's Greenwood District) possible, with an emphasis on the economic benefits of allotment for the descendants of the Five Tribes' freedpeople. Prof. Alexandra Stern will advise the project.

History graduates **Lance Parker** and **William Vasiladiotis** were both awarded the **Helen and Sydney Jacoff Scholarship**, a \$10,000 scholarship awarded to CCNY Humanities and Arts graduates pursuing masters or doctoral degrees in the humanities and arts.

Abby Annaccone received the **Kaye Scholarship** for 2021-2022

Bryce Cristiano & Kai Mora were accepted into the **City College Fellowship** beginning in Fall 2021.

Graduate School Acceptances

Lance Parker will be attending the PhD program in history at the University of Hull (UK).

Kiran Baldeo will be attending the PhD program in history at Rutgers University with a concentration in Caribbean Studies.

William Vasiladiotis will be attending the Master's program in history at the University of Edinburgh.

Updates from former History Department students



Fidel Tavarez, who graduated in February 2011, is now a tenure-track assistant professor at Queens College.

Susan Evans, who graduated in June 2020, will have her undergraduate thesis, "'They Say the Girls Want It': Sexuality and Coercion at Columbia University and Barnard College in the 1920s," published in the *Columbia Journal of History's* Winter 2021 issue. She is also the History Department's new office assistant.



SELECTED FACULTY AWARDS & PUBLICATIONS, AY 20-21

Professor Beth Baron published “Of Fistulas, Sutures, and Silences” a “Roundtable on De-Centering Egyptian History.” *International Journal of Middle East Studies* 53:1 (2021): 133-37

Professor Baron also received a Mellon Sawyer Seminar grant with her colleague Mandana Limbert on Race and the Middle East/North Africa, for 2020-22.



Professor Lale Can received an NEH Summer Stipend award. She will also begin a residential fellowship at the Koç University Center for Anatolian Civilizations (ANAMED) in Fall 2021.

Professor Can published *The Subjects of Ottoman International Law*, co-edited with M. Christopher Low, Robert Zens, and Kent Schull, Indiana University Press, 2020, as well as, “On Empire and Exception: Genealogies of Sovereignty in the Ottoman World.” In eds. Lale Can and Aimee M. Genell, *Comparative Studies of South Asia, Africa and the Middle East* 40, 3 (2020): 468–473.



Professor Yaari Felber-Seligman published “Painting in Turbulent Times: House Wall Art, Culture, and Commentary in Colonial East Africa” in *African Arts* 53, no. 2 (Summer 2020): 54-65.





Dr. Hamideh Sedghi published “Conflictual Identities: The State and Feminist Women in Iran” in *Hawwa, Journal of Women of the Middle East and the Islamic World* 18, no. 1 (May 2020). https://brill.com/view/journals/haww/18/1/article-p96_6.xml.

-- “Trumpism: The Geopolitics of the United States, Middle East and Iran” *Socialism and Democracy* 31, no. 3 (November 2017). <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/08854300.2017.1388039>

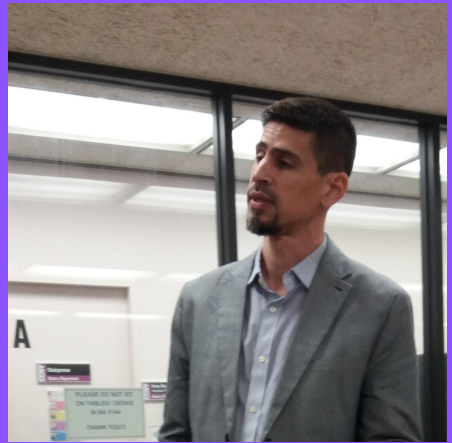
Professor Darren Staloff published “The Philosophical Politics of Jefferson and Adams” in *Rival Visions: How Jefferson and His Contemporaries Defined the Early American Republic*, eds. Dustin Gish and Andrew Bibby. University of Virginia Press, 2021. -- “Beyond Creed: American National Culture.” In *Academic Questions* 33, (2020), 544–550.



Dr. Alexandra Stern published “The Reconstruction Origins of Black Wall Street” in *Black Perspectives*, the peer-reviewed blog of the African American Intellectual History Society, 2021.

https://www.aaihs.org/the-reconstruction-origins-of-black-wall-street/?utm_source=rss&utm_medium=rss&utm_campaign=the-reconstruction-origins-of-black-wall-street

Professor Matthew Vaz published an op-ed in the New York Daily News: “Make a Stink about Sports Betting: Put it to the people of New York, as it Violates the State Constitution” <https://www.nydailynews.com/opinion/ny-oped-the-over-under-on-mobile-sports-betting-20210207-5b7gvtk7tvcdbie2gkr5onkrj4-story.html>



Professor Laurie Woodard published “‘A Free America for All Peoples...’: Fredi Washington, the Negro Actors Guild, and the Voice of the People” in *Journal of African American History* 105, no. 3 (Summer 2020): 452-78.

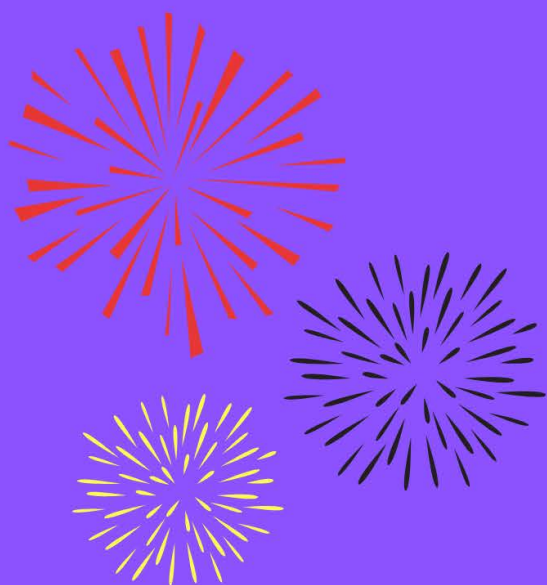
DEPARTMENTAL NEWS



Phyllis Hubbard, the History Department's stalwart administrative assistant for more than two decades (23 years!) and a 36-year veteran of CCNY, retired at the end of 2020.

We will miss her very, very much and we send her our best wishes for a peaceful life in retirement.

Thank you for everything, Phyllis, and congratulations on your retirement!!!



Anne Kornhauser, Chair
akornhauser@ccny.cuny.edu

History Department Office
history@ccny.cuny.edu

Advising Information

Undergraduate:

Summer 2021 + Fall 2021-
Spring 2022:

Prof. James Lewis
jlewis@ccny.cuny.edu

Prof. John Blanton
jblanton@ccny.cuny.edu

Graduate:

Summer 2021:
Prof. Barbara Naddeo
bnaddo@ccny.cuny.edu

Fall 2021-Spring 2022:
Prof. Seiji Shirane
sshirane@ccny.cuny.edu