

BARD

Undergraduate Faculty Newsletter
Annandale, February 2026
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from the **Dean of the College**

Deirdre d'Albortis

Welcome back to Annandale and thanks to all the dedicated colleagues who supported student learning and engagement this January--whether in the Opera Workshop and Architecture's Open Practices Workshop or through BardWorks 2026. We are grateful to those who returned the week before term for First-Year Seminar Orientation, the Faculty Leadership Institute, and Transfer L&T.



Special kudos to all our community members who have been showing up for curling at Stevenson Athletics Center on these cold winter nights!

Please show your appreciation for all the Bard folks who battled Storm Fern on a particularly memorable first day of term, supporting our students' safe return to campus in spite of the snow--especially Environmental Services, B&G, Security, Residential Life, and Parkhurst employees (many of whom bunked on campus through the worst of the blizzard).

This semester, I look forward to supporting our colleagues in History, Philosophy, Film and Electronic Arts, and Psychology with searches currently underway and I am delighted to announce the successful conclusion of searches in Sociology, Data Analytics, and Computer Science. Please watch for announcements of upcoming candidate talks this spring and get involved as we search for future members of the faculty.

Dance, Classical Studies, Computer Science, and Anthropology all completed successful program reviews in the fall. On behalf of the Curriculum Committee, I would like to thank Sherry Gildersleeve in particular and administrative colleagues in each of the divisions/programs who gracefully managed every aspect of planning and organization for the external reviewers' visits to campus.

Members of the FERC (Professors Aberth, Cullinan, Encarnacion, Moynahan, and Romm) are to be thanked for their painstaking and discerning work last semester, as are all the DEs and divisional chairs who dedicated long hours to the work of evaluation in a very busy pre-tenure review season in the fall. The CEC (Professors Minin, McLaughlin, Secunda, Touloumi, Blake, Perron, and Sadowski) completed its parallel work with equal focus and care. As always, Rachel Price manages every aspect of faculty evaluation with consummate professionalism and attention to detail: do not hesitate to reach out to her with any query, large or small, as we embark on evaluations in the spring semester.

Program directors, please contact new colleagues now to schedule time to review CAFE forms and offer assistance with contextualizing student evaluations. Early career faculty are reminded to avail themselves of the opportunity informally to visit senior colleagues' classes, attend CFCD workshops, and seek confidential counsel in Bard's group mentoring program overseen by Katherine Boivin and Eric Trudel.

Difficulty in the workplace or in your classroom can be disconcerting and hard to address. Both faculty and staff members of the Bard community may benefit in such situations from private consultation with our Dispute Resolution + Peace-Building point of contact, Hector Escalante (<https://www.bard.edu/drp/>).

I want to thank Director of Visa and Immigration Services Carmen Smith and Dean for Student and Employee Matters, Compliance, and Counsel for Student Affairs Lauren Gretina for their wisdom and guidance as we learn together how best to support our students and colleagues in responding to changing federal regulations. Their commitment to meeting regularly with faculty to share resources and updates is more important now than ever before. As specific challenges and concerns arise, please know that my door is always open and the DoC team is eager to hear from you: email us at either doc@bard.edu or dalberti@bard.edu.

Please note: Faculty Activities and Accomplishments can be found at the end of this newsletter.

Reminder for the spring semester!

Controller/Risk Manager Jennifer Brown is the person to consult if you are planning to take students off campus for any kind of field trip. She will provide you with a waiver customized for your specific course (whether you plan one or multiple forays outside of the classroom). If you plan to take students off campus in connection with coursework, she recommends that you include language in your syllabus reminding enrolled students that, *"This course may have a field trip component. If that is the case, you will be required to fill out a waiver, if you are under 18 it must be signed by a parent or guardian."*

Questions or concerns? Jennifer is standing by to help (jbrown@bard.edu) as are we here in the Office of the Dean of the College (doc@bard.edu).

SPRING FACULTY MEETINGS

Faculty Meetings – Wednesdays 1:20 p.m. (held in the Multipurpose Room of the Bertelsmann Campus Center): **February 4, March 11, April 22 (faculty-led), and May 20**

Executive Committee – Wednesdays 3:15 p.m. – 4:45 p.m. (Ludlow 301)

Curriculum Committee – Thursdays 8:30 a.m. - 9:45 a.m. (Ludlow 301)

Planning and Appointments Committee – Mondays 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. (Ludlow 301)

Faculty Senate Meetings – held on the first Tuesday of every month from 8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.
February 3, March 3, April 7, May 5 (Hegeman 204A)

From the Planning and Appointments Committee Call for Proposals

In the spring semester, the Planning and Appointments Committee (PAC) will consider proposals for tenure-track positions or replacement positions instigated by resignations, tenure denials or denials of reappointment. The deadline for submission of proposals in the spring will be Wednesday March 25.

Positions are not automatically approved. Both new and replacement positions require substantive proposals and should be discussed and endorsed by the relevant program(s) and division before submitting to the PAC.

For information about what to include in your proposal, and to submit electronically, please visit:
<https://tools.bard.edu/tools/pac/>.

Please also note that all search committee members must be up-to-date with inclusive search training (i.e. at the time of the search, they will have participated in the last three years). Please mark your calendar for the next session, “Best Principles of Inclusive Searches,” on Thursday April 30, 5-6.15pm (on Zoom), and RSVP to Sherry Gildersleeve (gildersl@bard.edu).

Any questions? Please reach out to Lauren Curtis (lcurtis@bard.edu, Chair, L&L), Jackie Goss (Secretary, goss@bard.edu, Arts), Caitlin Levenson (cleverson@bard.edu, SMC), or Sean McMeekin (smcmeeki@bard.edu, SSt).

Common Courses Call for Proposals Deadline February 23, 2026

The Common Courses are a suite of multidisciplinary Common Courses, part of the Second Year Experience. Second-year students are given priority in registration prior to moderation in their fourth semester.

Cohort-building and liberal arts learning are integral to Common Course offerings. These courses are specifically geared toward second-year students (also first-year students as room allows) and focus on collaborative learning.

The Curriculum Committee and Dean of the College invite the faculty to submit new proposals for (or to participate in existing) common courses supporting the general mission:

- (1) in bringing together **teams of 3 to 4 faculty** to offer a course that will engage a theme/question of contemporary relevance with multidisciplinary perspectives, enabling students to fulfill two distribution requirements, and
- (2) to emphasize cohort-building and collaborative learning.

Every faculty team will design shared elements of the course and smaller group (12-15) experiences throughout the semester. This allows for innovative curricular development in each course and continuity of instruction across all common course offerings. Although common courses have adopted, to date, various formats (e.g. independent classes with common texts, classes meeting with different instructors over the course of the semester, etc.), all courses must (1) feature shared elements as well as smaller group experiences, and (2) **give equal weight to two distribution areas** and their respective disciplinary approaches.

Further details:

- team leaders (in a group of 3 or 4) who take on responsibility for organizing the common elements of the course and oversight of the design process will be compensated with a course release--n.b. the course release is only for a teaching team of 3 or more;
- all members of the team who teach will receive full course credit;
- funds of \$2000 for materials and events will be set aside for each course: estimated budget should accompany new proposals;
- Each common course will emphasize sustained dialogue around at least one core transformative text.

Proposals for Common Courses for the 2026-27 academic year should be submitted to the Curriculum Committee and Dean of the College at doc@bard.edu.

Faculty Evaluation

Community Testimony for Faculty Evaluations

Who can submit? All members of the Bard community are encouraged to participate in the faculty evaluation process by submitting written testimony. Faculty members, staff, students, and alumni all have valuable perspectives that help carry out a more thorough assessment of the people up for review.

Format? Testimony may be submitted in many ways -- as a memo; as a letter; as a few lines of comment; even as a quick post. The important thing is that the readers get a sense of your experience with, or assessment of the works of, the person being evaluated. The testimony should be signed and sent to the Office of the Dean of the College; it cannot be submitted anonymously.

Content? Testimony should respond to the three categories of evaluation: teaching, research, and service to the community.

Who reads testimony? Testimony goes into what is called the “closed file.” Letters are confidential and will not be read by the evaluatee. Readers do include the Divisional Chairs and Divisional Evaluators, faculty members who make use of community testimony, among other documents, for a report that summarizes the content of the open and closed files. The authors of any testimony quoted are not identified. This report is distributed to the faculty in the division with which the person evaluated is affiliated. The Faculty Evaluation Review Committee (FERC), the College Evaluation Committee (CEC), the Dean of the College, and the President of the College also read the original materials in the closed files, where the testimony is kept.

Call for Testimony for Spring 2026 Evaluations

All members of the College community, and especially tenure-line and regular non-tenure track faculty members in the immediate programs of a faculty member being evaluated, are invited and encouraged to submit signed written testimony concerning faculty members being evaluated.

The dean of the college solicits written testimony from all segments of the Bard community and requests that all such testimony be sent to the Office of the Dean of the College. Evaluatees should not solicit testimony on their own behalf from current or former members of the Bard community.

If you would like to submit a letter to the evaluation file of a faculty member scheduled to be evaluated this semester, it should be signed and sent campus mail to the Office of the Dean of the College or via e-mail as an attachment with electronic signature to doc@bard.edu by **Wednesday, February 11**.

NON-TENURE-TRACK EVALUATIONS

Andrew Atwell, SST/Religion

Matthew Greenberg, SMC/Chemistry

Kwame Holmes, SST/Human Rights

Elena Kim, SST/Human Rights and Psychology

Gabriella Lindsay, L&L/French Studies

Oleg Minin, L&L/Russian and Eurasian Studies

Joseph O'Neill, L&L/Written Arts

Julia Weist, ARTS/Studio Arts

SENIOR REGULAR NON-TENURE-TRACK EVALUATIONS

Jeff Jurgens, SST/Anthropology

SENIOR EVALUATIONS

Lauren Curtis, L&L/Classics

Christopher Gibbs, ARTS/Music

Susan Merriam, ARTS/Art History and Visual Culture

James Romm, L&L/Classics

Samuel (Shai) Secunda, SST/Religion

Karen Sullivan, L&L/Literature

**Non-tenure-track evaluation testimony is read by the divisional evaluators, the division chair, the College Evaluation Committee (CEC), the associate dean of the college, and the president.

***Senior evaluations are generally scheduled every seven years after tenure or a CEC evaluation or in accordance with contractual agreements, and materials are read by the program director, the division chair, the dean of the college.

from the Registrar

Peter Gadsby

What is FERPA?

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) is a federal law that protects the privacy of student education records.

A few key components of the law include:

- College students must be permitted to inspect their own education records
- Once a student begins attending a university, the rights transfer from the parents having the right to inspect and review a student's record to the college student.
- School officials may not disclose personally identifiable information about students, nor permit inspection of their records, without written permission from the student, unless such action is covered by exceptions permitted by the Act. A notable exception is disclosing information to school officials determined by the institution to have a legitimate educational interest.

As a faculty or staff member, you have a legal responsibility under FERPA to protect the confidentiality of student education records in your possession. You have access to student information only for legitimate use in the completion of your responsibilities as a college employee. You may not release lists or files with student information to any third party outside the College. Student education records are considered confidential and may not be released without the written consent of the student. Student information stored in electronic format must be secure and available only to those entitled to access that information. If you're in doubt about a request for student information, contact the Office of the Registrar via email (registrar@bard.edu).

The Office of the Dean of the College offered the Webinar: *FERPA for Faculty: Practical, Easy-to-Understand Guidance That Arise In Faculty Settings* on January 29. If for any reason you missed it, please reach out to Sherry Gildersleeve (gildersl@bard.edu) for access to the recording, and/or materials or documents available post-webinar.



**Save the Dates for Spring 2026
Faculty Celebrations**

**February 11, 2026 from 5-7pm
Social Studies Division &
L&L Division**

**April 1, 2026 from 5-7pm
Arts Division &
Science, Math, & Computing Division**



Spring 2026: Attention @ Bard



As digital technologies continue to expand and the influence of generative AI grows, the **Bard Reading Initiative** offers analog practices and sanctuary spaces that protect and strengthen one of our most fundamental modes of attention: reading. This spring, we will explore these ideas through a series of events in partnership with the Strother School of Radical Attention (SoRA), a non-profit organization dedicated to Attention Activism: the movement to push back against the commodification of human attention by digital technologies.

SoRA Faculty Workshop at Blithewood – Friday, February 20th

This event will include an 11:30 AM keynote address by co-founder **Leonard Nalencz** who will introduce SoRA's multifaceted approach to the study of attention. The keynote will be followed by small-group workshops that will provide reading-focused activities and pedagogical practices designed for use in the classroom.

To register contact Sherry Gildersleeve (gildersl@bard.edu)

Attention Sanctuary at Stevenson Library

Opening event – Tuesday, March 3rd 4 - 6 pm

Stevenson Library has created an Attention Sanctuary, a community space on the 2nd floor that invites students, faculty, and staff to experiment with alternative modes of attention. At this opening event, Dean of Libraries Heather Topcik will introduce some attention practices and invite participants to read in community at the library.

Reader Bot: A Book Talk with Naomi Baron

Friday, April 17th at noon RKC 103

Scholar **Naomi Baron** will discuss her latest book, *Reader Bot: What Happens When AI Reads and Why It Matters* (Stanford UP, January 2026). Drawing on her extensive research across print, screen, and audio formats, Baron will examine what we stand to gain and what we risk losing as we delegate the deeply human activity of reading to machines, and why approaching this shift with intention matters more than ever.

IWT annual conference on “Attention and Distraction in the Classroom”

Friday, April 24 11:15-12:30pm in Olin Auditorium

Keynote lecture: Henry Charles Lea Professor of History at Princeton University, D. Graham Burnett is co-editor of *Attensity! A Manifesto of the Attention Liberation Movement* (Penguin Random House, January 2026). All are welcome!

The Michèle Dominy Award for Teaching Excellence

The Michèle Dominy Award for Teaching Excellence honors outstanding teachers who exemplify Bard College's commitment to distinction in undergraduate liberal arts and sciences education. The annual award recognizes demonstrated intellectually rigorous and challenging teaching, creativity in course design and the application of innovative teaching concepts and methods, and energetic engagement within and outside of the classroom.

All full-time, tenured members of the faculty with at least five years of service are eligible for the annual award. Nominations are invited from students, faculty, and alumni. The selection is made by the president upon the recommendation of the dean of the college, the faculty fellows of the Center for Faculty and Curricular Development, and the prior recipient. The recipient receives an award of \$2500, which is announced at the final faculty meeting of the year.

Nominations by students, alumni/ae, and faculty for the 2024 awards will be accepted through **March 15, 2026**.

The nomination information form can be found on the Dean of the College website at: <http://www.bard.edu/doc/teaching/>.

Please contact the Office of the Dean of the College at doc@bard.edu with any questions.

The Michèle Dominy Award for Teaching Excellence was established in 2015 by the faculty and administration of the College to honor Professor Dominy's fourteen years of service as dean of the college. Past winners include: Matthew Deady (2016), Laura Battle (2017), Yuka Suzuki (2018), Christian Crouch (2019), Eric Trudel (2020), Li-hua Ying (2021), Franz Kempf (2022), Susan Merriam (2023), Dinaw Mengestu (2024), and Katherine Boivin (2025).

Stuart Levine Award for Leadership and Collegiality

The Stuart Levine Award for Leadership and Collegiality honors faculty members who advance Bard College's commitment to distinction in undergraduate liberal arts and sciences education in and outside the classroom. The annual award recognizes those who demonstrate extraordinary dedication to the institution and its mission. Through distinctive contributions to the life of the College, award recipients foster and help to realize values of curiosity, excellence, integrity, and mutual respect among all members of the Bard community.

All faculty members with at least five years of service are eligible for the annual award. Nominations are invited from students, faculty, staff, and alumni/ae. The selection is made by the president upon the recommendation of the dean of the college and chairs of the four divisions of the College. The recipient of this award is announced at the final faculty meeting of the year.

The Stuart Levine Award for Leadership and Collegiality was established in 2021 by the faculty and administration to honor Stuart Levine, professor emeritus of psychology and dean emeritus, who joined the Bard faculty in 1964 and devoted 56 years of continuous service to the College. Past winners include: Brooked Jude (2021), Swapan Jain (2022), Nicole Caso (2023), Phil Pardi (2024), and Daniella Dooling (2025).

Nominations by students, alumni/ae, staff, and faculty will be accepted through **May 14, 2026**. The nomination information form can be found on the Dean of the College website at: <http://www.bard.edu/doc/teaching/>. Please contact the Office of the Dean of the College at doc@bard.edu with any questions.

From the **Director of Safety and Security**

Pete Verdesi

There will be an Active Shooter response lecture today, February 4th, 2026 at 4:00pm at Weis Cinema at the Bertelsmann Campus Center (south).

Topics covered will include:

- Profile of an active shooter and how to recognize potential workplace violence
- How to respond to an active shooter situation
- What to expect of law enforcement and medical assistance when they arrive
- How to interact with law enforcement and what information to provide
- Expectations of College employees during an active shooter situation

There will be a Q&A after the lecture if you have any questions. I will be presenting this lecture the first Wednesday of every month until May. If there is demand for additional presentations I can make arrangements to facilitate that.

from the **Dean of Students**

Kay Shirley

The Dean of Student Affairs Office (DOSA) is a collaborative team that works closely with faculty to support student success and uphold community standards. We provide direct holistic advising and student support across the College, including referrals, advocacy, and continuity of care, in addition to programming to support student success.

Meet the DOSA team:

Dean of Students – Kay Shirley

Currently advising sophomores-seniors whose last names begin with T-Z

Senior Associate Dean of Students – Dorothy Albertini

Currently advising sophomores-seniors whose last names begin with K-S

Associate Dean of Students – Garrett Fitzgerald

Currently advising sophomores-seniors whose last names begin with A-J

Assistant Dean of Students – Pamela Serota

Currently working with First-Year students

Office Manager – Beth Bettigole

Student Support & Academic Concerns: Faculty play a critical role in identifying students who may benefit from additional support or follow-up. In addition to direct outreach, the Dean of Student Affairs Office offers two key referral tools:

[CARES Referral Form](#) – Use this form to share concerns about a student's well-being, behavior, or significant changes in engagement. CARES referrals allow the DOSA staff, in collaboration with campus partners, to coordinate outreach, to connect students with appropriate campus resources, and monitor ongoing concerns. Please note that the form is not monitored outside of business hours; for urgent safety or security concern, contact Security's emergency line at 845-758-7777 or call 911.

Academic Integrity Concern Form – Use this form to flag concerns about suspected violations of Bard’s Academic Integrity policies. Submissions initiate a structured review process and ensure consistent, equitable handling of academic integrity concerns. The Dean of Student Affairs office collaborates closely with the Dean of Studies in reviewing and addressing academic integrity concerns.

Both forms are available on BIP and are reviewed by the Dean of Student Affairs Office, which partners closely with faculty, advising, and student support offices. Questions about whether or how to make a referral, or how to consult about a student concern, are always welcome. Faculty are encouraged to reach out to the Dean of Student Affairs Office at any time.

With best wishes for a successful return to Spring classes. We can be reached at dosa@bard.edu or 845-758-7454, or feel free to stop by our offices in Sottery Hall for coffee, tea, candy, or a chat. We look forward to continuing our work together.

from the **Center for Faculty and Curricular Development (CFCD)**_____

The Center for Faculty and Curricular Development (CFCD) works to support the professional and pedagogical development of Bard faculty. This semester, we are delighted to welcome John Burns as our new faculty fellow (Spring 2025-Fall 2025 term). John will join co-directors Yuka Suzuki and Nicholas Lewis, current faculty fellow Chiara Pavone and program associate Antonio Ortiz. Please visit cfcd.bard.edu to learn more.

The CFCD will be offering the following events this semester (stay tuned for dates and details):

- Pursuing Our Research & Writing During the Semester
- Bard-Exclusive 14-day Writing Challenge
- What To Do When Students Are in Trouble
- Disability @ Bard
- How To Frame Course Evaluations for Students
- Eat Drink Be
- Book Publishing Panel
- Pre-Tenure Evaluation

If you have questions about the CFCD, please reach out to Yuka Suzuki (ysuzuki@bard.edu) and/or Nicholas Lewis (nlewis@bard.edu). If you have topics to propose for faculty workshops or ideas for reading and/or writing groups, please be in touch. We look forward to hearing from you!

from the **Director of the Bard Learning Commons (BLC)**_____

James Keller

The Learning Commons is Bard’s writing and learning center – home to writing support, the college writing program, one-on-one writing consultation, learning strategies and senior project tutoring, subject-specialized tutoring, and English language support (especially for international students). Tutoring is offered in seat, but ask us about our online offerings as well. We have extended our connected tutoring and signature collaborative tutor training methods to the Bard Baccalaureate program, Bard NYC, BPI, MAT, OSUN, Hubs, BHSECs, Bard microcolleges, and the communities whom we and these groups serve. On campus, we provide trained peer writing, research, and reading support as well as discipline-specific and academic skills mentorship. Our tutors support Bard seniors one-on-one writing their projects;

last spring, we worked with more than 25 senior project writers consistently. Last year, we offered more than 80 total hours of one-on-one writing tutor support, workshops, in-class presentations, and study room sessions for seniors.

Learning Commons tutors delivered over 6,000 hours of peer learning support in all subjects this past year, and we added several weekly study and resource rooms to our list of community-building learning spaces. Trained peer writing consultants talk about course readings, use informal writing as a tool for discovery, help students reflect on their learning process, and think through ideas for essay topics, as well as rethink their choices regarding LLMs. Tutors also help their peers revisit writing that merits revision, generate research questions, develop written arguments, and take written drafts to the next level. Students may make appointments, learn about study rooms, or arrange subject tutoring at a time of their convenience by contacting us at blc@bard.edu. This past spring, our Learning Strategies program provided an unprecedented number of mentorship hours to Bard students – in taking effective notes; engaged reading; evaluating, integrating, and using sources ethically; determining personal learning styles and keeping organized; time management; study strategies; etc. – all in the context of academic assignments.

BLC faculty field 16 sections of credit-bearing courses each AY – in college writing; composition pedagogy; public speaking; “exploring the hidden curriculum”; information literacy; and college writing. Among our developmental courses are those in math and English as a second language. Learning Commons courses remain open to all Bard students. Since October of 2022, we have provided guidance for faculty and students writing and reading in the context of large language models. We also host virtual international tutor training for GHEA affiliates and courses – pairing tutors in Annandale with students and tutor peers from Africa, South America, Central Asia, and across the Bard-Network. The Learning Commons dedicates our well-known writing fellows to classes by faculty request (78 last AY); these highly trained peer writing tutors work with all students in the class one-on-one during the semester. Writing fellows are happy to collaborate with faculty to provide course and program-specific workshops and support, too. If you are interested in having a writing fellow dedicated to your course or learning more about this program, please contact Director Jim Keller at keller@bard.edu.

All BLC services are free. We may be reached at x7812 or blc@bard.edu. Also, visit our website at <https://www.bard.edu/learningcommons/>. See you in the BLC!

News from Stevenson Library

Heather Topcik and Alexa Murphy

This fall, we saw continued progress toward our goals to reimagine the library spaces, highlight our collections, and engage with the Bard community through programming, displays, and educational offerings. Over the break, we moved even closer to our goals with the realization of a new music listening space on the second floor, additional student-friendly soft seating (bean bags!), and a redesigned library classroom.

Space updates:

Music listening space open for business!

We’re delighted to share that our new music listening space is now open and ready to use on the second floor. Designed to welcome independent study as well as teaching, the space offers equipment to listen (with headphones only) to vinyl, compact disks, and cassettes, and houses our collection of LPS, CDs, and scores. Thanks to music faculty Angelica Sanchez and Luis Chavez for collaboration with us to design the space. We are planning to celebrate this new space later in the semester.

Attention sanctuary

Next to the listening space, we have a newly designated “attention sanctuary,” which we hope will be a space conducive for tech-free activities. In addition to the opening event on March 3, we hope to host community “reading labs” and other attention programming in this space.

Spring events:

We have many events in the works this semester; here are a few to mark your calendars. Keep an eye on your email and our website for more.

Author visit: Nikkya Hargrove '05

February 4 5:30-7 pm

Join us on February 4 at 5:30 p.m. for a reading and discussion about Hargrove's memoir, *Mama: A Queer Black Women's Story of a Family Lost and Found* (Algonquin Books, 2024). Nikkya will be in conversation with fellow Bard alumni Miguel Castillo. This event is cosponsored by Stevenson Library, the Dean of Inclusive Excellence, and the Center for Indigenous Studies.

Attention Sanctuary Opening

March 3, 4-6 pm (Second floor)

We have created an *Attention Sanctuary*, a community space on the 2nd floor that invites students, faculty, and staff to experiment with alternative modes of attention. At this opening event, Dean of Libraries Heather Topcik will introduce some attention practices and invite participants to read in community at the library.

Library and Archives Careers Panel

Wednesday, March 4, 4:30-6:30 pm (First floor)

In collaboration with the Career Development Office, we are hosting a panel for students considering a career in libraries or archives. Students will hear from library professionals about the diverse career paths available in the field of library and information science, from public librarianship to archives and special libraries.

CFIS / Library Symposium

March 9-10

This March, we're thrilled to collaborate with the Center for Indigenous Studies to bring you a symposium, *An Invitation to Interconnectedness: Indigenous Approaches to Information, Knowledge, Justice, and Belonging*, March 9 & 10. The symposium will bring two days of programming, with a focus on Indigenous taxonomies in libraries, archives and museums. We have seven wonderful speakers coming who will lead panels, workshops, discussions and lectures. We hope you will be able to join us!

Support for your spring courses:

Our program liaison librarians are here to support Bard's academic programs, including assisting with collection requests, research instruction for your courses, and research support for you and your students. Please reach out to your [liaison librarian](#) to start a conversation.

Key Library Contacts

Collection requests – Contact Jordan Boyajian-Torres or use [the collection request form](#) to request specific items be purchase for the library's collection.

Course reserves – Use the [course reserves form](#) or the [course reserves purchase form](#), and contact Hannah Cremo with questions.

Digital Commons – Contact Palash Bosgang for questions about the collections housed in our institutional repository, Digital Commons.

Events – if you'd like to collaborate on an event, exhibit or display in the library, contact Alexa Murphy.

Archives and Special Collections – Contact Helene Tieger or use the [archives request form](#) to request access to items in our [archives](#).

Montgomery Place Collections and visual resources – Contact Amy Herman.

Library policies– If you have questions about library policies, contact Heather Topcik and Alexa Murphy,

Electronic resources – If you're having trouble using our electronic resources please email librarytech@bard.edu or contact Melanie Mambo.

Library instruction – For general questions about the library's instructional program, contact Jeremy Hall. To request library instruction for a class, please contact your liaison librarian..

Interlibrary loan – Email ill@bard.edu or contact Carl Hoyt.

Room reservations – To reserve a meeting room in the library, please use Bard's space management system at space.bard.edu.

Updates from The Center for Civic Engagement

Erin Cannan, *Vice President for Civic Engagement*

January proved to be a busy month for students who opted to stay at Bard between semesters and participate in a new initiative led by the Center for Civic Engagement. The Intersession Internship program matched over 20 students with local internship or volunteer sites across the region for micro internships at places like Ramapo for Children, the Center for Photography Woodstock, Red Hook Village Judge, Ulster Immigrant Defense Fund and more! The Intersession Internship expands micro opportunities available during breaks like March Match, a spring break internship opportunity that helps students explore work, make connections and gain experience. In many cases, students find mentorship and support which leads to more long term work including summer internships. Look for the Community Action Award application opening in February. This is a fund to help support summer internships. For more information contact Jacqui Cook, jacook@bard.edu or Elena Sniezek, esniezek@bard.edu

Over twenty classes have been identified as Engaged Liberal Arts and Science (ELAS) courses where faculty are connecting curriculum to community work in at least one assignment. Courses range from Studio Arts to Politics to Architecture. The Center for Civic Engagement provides resources and support for faculty interested in exploring creative ways to expand options for experiential learning. Look for class highlights and reach out to Erin Cannan, cannan@bard.edu to explore ideas for your class. ELAS classes are included under Course Initiatives in the Coursebook.

This semester students can stop by Manor Gatehouse CCE for open door hours every Tuesday, 3:30 - 5:00 pm to talk about opportunities and find community. Our students teams organize a range of events and activities. Look for Volunteer Corps, STEM Outreach, Civic Ambassadors, SCALE and Election@Bard and refer your students who are looking to find ways to connect. Monthly *In the News* talks, For the *Love of Community* dinners and pop up discussions will touch on current events with an emphasis on how to take action. Interested in connecting with these or other events, searching for a local partner? Connect with Cicily Wilson at cwilson@bard.edu.

CCE remains committed to access to higher education. This is first and foremost on the Bard campus, through support for displaced students through the [Sanctuary Fund](#), which currently has 88 students from countries including Afghanistan, Democratic Republic of Congo, Haiti, Myanmar, Russia, Somalia, South Sudan, Syria, and Ukraine. Since its inception, more than \$1.2 million has been raised to ensure these students have access to a Bard education. In 2025 alone, faculty, staff, community members, and friends of the College raised \$250,000.

A recent article by Jonathan Becker and Zarlisht Sarmast reframes displaced and refugee students as important potential civic actors. The article, which appears in the journal *Internationalisation of Higher Education – Policy and Practice*, and served as the basis for a piece in *The Times Higher*, emphasizes that universities and international organizations must view displaced students not as burdens, but as contributors whose civic work bridges cultures and strengthens democratic values. Using extensive survey data and in-depth interviews with forcibly displaced and refugee students, Becker and Sarmast argue that participation in civic engagement activities can have a salutary effect on the students' sense of agency, feeling of connectedness, psychosocial health, and academic and professional development while making them better prepared to contribute to society, including the new societies in which many have resettled. "Our findings also show that when displaced students are given the opportunity to engage civically, they not only strengthen their own resilience and sense of purpose, but also enrich the communities around them," said Sarmast. "These students are far more than recipients of aid or passive participants in education, they are leaders, educators, and changemakers whose experiences and insights offer valuable lessons to all of us in higher education and beyond."

This year, Bard College held the annual BardWorks student conference on January 20th - January 23rd, 2026. The theme of the conference was “*Connecting the Liberal Arts to the Workplace*”. This conference was held both on the Bard College campus and in New York City.

The BardWorks 2026 program combines career exploration with the development of career readiness skills, helping students connect their education to potential pathways through self-reflection and guidance from alumni/ae, field experts, and Bard College staff. Students engaged in mind mapping exercises to reflect on their own unique skills, interests, and values, and learned how these talents can be transferred to the workplace. Through interactive programming, panels, workshops, professional conversations, and mock interviews, students expanded skill-building and enhanced their self-confidence by asking questions, engaging with peers, and learning from experts and professionals.

BardWorks offered students the opportunity to practice their networking and relationship-building skills by through two separate “Building Your Community” networking receptions, one held on campus with community partners, local employers and alumni/ae and the final reception was held in New York City where students had the opportunity to practice newly learned skills with alumni/ae, parents and families working in a variety of fields in the New York metro region.

This year, close to 50 students participated in this three-and-a-half-day conference with approximately 50+ alumni/ae and guest speakers, panelists, and professional staff all participating in the programmed events. In addition, there were over 60 alumni/ae, parents, and community partners who attended both the Annandale and New York City receptions.

BardWorks is a collaborative effort on behalf of the Career Development Office (CDO), Office of Development and Alumni/ae Affairs (ODAA), and the Center for Civic Engagement (CCE) to support Bard students with career exploration and preparation for post-graduate life.

Updates from the Office of Development and Alumni/ae Affairs

Endowment Challenge Successfully Met

With great pleasure and gratitude we start the new year with the Endowment Challenge Campaign completed and the Open Society Foundations fulfilling its pledge. Many thanks to the more than 1,000 donors who gave to this historic campaign and to all who helped the college reach this milestone.

Office of Institutional Support

The Office of Institutional Support (OIS), one of three offices within the Office of Development and Alumni/ae Affairs, manages the College’s fundraising efforts from foundations, government agencies, corporations, and other entities to support College-wide needs and maintain the College’s ability to raise and receive funding. The Office of Prospect Research (OPR), situated within OIS, researches and identifies potential sources of funding and individual donors for the College and recommends outreach efforts. We work with undergraduate and graduate faculty and programs to identify funding for a wide range of projects that support Bard’s mission and its vital role in the community.

OIS also manages an in-depth online Resource Center for those interested in applying for grants. Please visit <https://www.bard.edu/institutionalsupport/resources/> for more information about accessing grant funding, both institutional and individual.

Join us for our Spring Semester Office Hours!

As classes resume, you may be thinking about ways you could secure external grant funding to support your operations, programming, or research. Members of our team will continue to be present on the main campus for you to come and ask your grant-related questions. Office hours will be announced soon.

Below are just a few highlights of the grant awards received by the College and its programs since the last Newsletter. Congratulations to all of the faculty and project directors on their new grant awards!

Annandale-Based Program Support

Bard College received several grants supporting Annandale-based projects, including:

- \$3,000,000 from the Robert and Jane Toll Foundation to establish and endow the Robert and Jane Toll Scholarship Fund
- \$2,000,000 from the Waverley Street Foundation to support Bard's continuing sustainability efforts, including the Center for Environmental Policy and to ensure LEED certification for the soon-to-be-completed Performing Arts LAB designed by Maya Lin.
- \$1,000,000 from E&V ProArte Fund to promote the music of 19th-century German composer Friedrich Gernsheim.
- \$500,000 from the Mellon Foundation in support of the Ralph Ellison Center.
- \$300,006 from the US Department of Energy to support Assistant Professor of Physics Abhinav Prem's research to develop new methods that make quantum computers more stable and reliable.
- \$200,000 from the Fast Retailing Foundation to expand Bard's Refugee Higher Education Access Program.
- \$11,000 from Bettina Baruch Foundation for the purchase of a double bass and two gougiers for the Conservatory program.
- \$7,500 from the Ascienzo Family Foundation in support of Sister2Sister.
- \$7,500 from Greater Hudson Heritage Network to the Bard Library for conservation of a flag commemorating St. Stephen's College Veterans who served and died in World War I.

Support for the Fisher Center and the Bard Music Festival

The Bard Music Festival received \$15,000 from the Marstrand Foundation to support general operating expenses, as well as \$5,000 from the Thendera Foundation.

Support for the Center for Curatorial Studies

The Center for Curatorial Studies received \$175,000 from Marieluise Hessel Foundation for the Hessel Collection Catalogue, and repair and conservation of Franz West sculpture. The Parsons and Rayner Foundation awarded CCS \$100,000 for publication of Betty Parson: An Artist with a Gallery exhibition catalogue.

Support for Brothers@

Brothers@ was awarded \$363,143 by JP Morgan Chase Foundation to expand the Fellowship Initiative and Brothers@ Ambassador program.

Support for the Early Colleges

The Bard High School Early College (BHSEC) Bronx was the recipient of a \$215,000 investment from New York State to support its growth and expansion. The Bard Early Colleges were also awarded \$250,000 by the Hewlett Foundation to implement a series of Engaged Liberal Arts and Sciences courses in conjunction with the Center for Civic Engagement, as well as \$37,500 from the Wholeschool Mindfulness in support of the BHSEC Brooklyn Mindfulness Director position.

Support for the Bard Prison Initiative

The Bard Prison Initiative received \$5,000,000 from the Mellon Foundation to establish an endowment for the NYC Microcolleges and endowed Harlem Chair for the Study of History & Culture, as well as \$600,000 from the Schustermen Foundation to expand its national engagement, a \$1,000,000 grant from Low Road Foundation, and a \$250,000 grant from the Dune Road Foundation, among others.

Office of Alumni/ae Affairs

The 12th Annual BardWorks happened at the end of January in Annandale and NYC. 60 students registered and over 100 alumni/ae participated as panelists and attendees. There were alumni/ae panelists who had attended BardWorks as students and were now giving their own advice and experience to the next generation. This successful program is led by the Career Development Office with collaboration from Office of Alumni/ae Affairs and the CCE. Thank you to all faculty and staff who were part of it. Please remind any rising sophomores and juniors to think about attending next year. BardWorks is an annual event in the last week of the January break before students return to classes.

Over 350 alumni/ae in total gathered together for the 10 annual fall Cities Parties across the country which were held in Annandale, Atlanta, Boston, Brooklyn, Los Angeles, New Orleans, Philadelphia, Portland, Santa Fe, Seattle and Springfield

The Alumni/ae News Digest was launched to all alumni/ae, faculty, staff and students in October. This weekly digest is compiled from public online sources and highlights work and events by alumni/ae. If you know about any alumni/ae news or events you would like to add please email alumni@bard.edu.

Do you have alums visiting your classes or participating in events, panels, performances and exhibitions this semester? Please make sure to let us know. We will be happy to collaborate and always want to say hi and give them a gift. alumni@bard.edu

Office of Development

Alumni/ae Giving

Thank you to all of the alumni/ae, faculty, and staff who supported the college at the end of the year and a special thank you to those who assisted with our end of year fundraising by reaching out to alumni/ae personally. Your outreach helped us achieve a 20% increase in participation by alumni/ae compared to last year.

Recent Collaborations

We have been working with faculty colleagues on new funds, like the Robert Koblitz Human Rights Award, the R. Cole Heinowitz Prize in Literature, and the Barbara Ess Fund for Artistic Expression in Photography as well as with the Athletics Department on the locker room renovation and others.

Inspiring words from a donor:

As one donor wrote us this December:

“There are many worthy nonprofit institutions today working to keep the lights of culture, inquiry, and civic understanding alive at a time of growing darkness. I can think of few, however, that pursue this mission with the imagination, rigor, and moral courage that Bard brings to the task of educating its students and informing the broader public about the ideas and ideals that sustain a free society and make the world a more humane and hopeful place.

It is a privilege to be able to support this work, and I do so with deep admiration and gratitude.”

Thank you for your good work, it helps inspire our donors.

March 26, 2026

We are currently working with cochairs, Roland Augustine, Board of Trustee member and James Cox Chambers, Chair of the Board of Trustees, on the upcoming **Bard Gala**. This fundraiser for the College is a celebration of the last 50 years of Bard’s innovation and excellence and will honor President Botstein’s leadership.

To learn more about the event, you can visit, bard.edu/gala2026 or speak with Debra Pemstein, VP of Development and Alumni/ae Affairs, pemstein@bard.edu.

From Raahim Waqas & The TEDx Bard Team

We are pleased to announce that applications for the third TEDxBard event will open to all Bard stakeholders and community networks on February 1st.

TEDxBard is a student-led event geared for students, faculty, staff and members of the college community. Following the format of a TEDx conference, we will bring in speakers from all areas of Bard College who will each deliver a talk on their area of interest. Talks will be focused for a collegiate audience and will cover a broad range of topics including the arts, humanities, sciences, etc.

The theme for 2027: *Changing the Narrative*

We are especially interested in ideas that challenge assumptions, reframe familiar conversations, and elevate voices that aren’t always given the spotlight. What does it mean to *Change the Narrative* at Bard College and beyond?

To view talks from the 2023 and 2025 events, please visit: <https://tedx.bard.edu/archive/>

Application:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd_C2mZ5FJMiATXI8wKSQR51HFe9IAW0WZeQIN-rqE5YK4UQ/closedform

Questions: tedxbardcollege@gmail.com

For updates follow us on instagram @tedxbard

from the **Director of Horticulture & Arboretum**

Amy Parrella

Bard Arboretum Launches New Landscape Studies Course Initiative

Starting in the Fall 2026 semester, a new course initiative called *Landscape Studies* will be launched in the Bard course catalog. Sharing environmental lessons of the land and learning about landscape history, sustainability and social justice through teaching about plants, people, and place will help shape our future leaders and landscape. Bard is fortunate to be the steward of over 1100 acres of diverse landscape resources including woodlands, meadows, wetlands, old-growth forest, glacial ravines, riverfront property, working agricultural farms, Hudson River tributaries, formal gardens, and nationally historic landscapes. Bard’s Arboretum is a living laboratory for teaching and research. It is an outdoor classroom where students gain experience with real specimens, living data and field methods that cannot be replicated in a traditional lab. It offers experiential and interdisciplinary learning and increases environmental literacy and stewardship. *If you will be teaching about any related topics starting this fall semester or interested in using the*

campus landscape for your class, please contact the Arboretum Office to get listed as an affiliated Landscape Studies course. The Arboretum staff is available to assist with in-class campus tours, lessons, projects, etc.

Possible Landscape Studies course topics may include: campus biology, botany, ecology, forestry, environmental science, landscape architecture, land planning, climate science, phenology, carbon sequestration, invasive species, nature-based art, site-specific art, place-based writing, human-nature interaction, outdoor pedagogy and sustainability, climate change, plant diversity, water/soil/air health, biodiversity, ecosystems, land-based public policy, stewardship and related service learning projects.

from the **Business Office**

New and continuing program directors are encouraged to (re)acquaint themselves with the Business Office's many online resources: <https://www.bard.edu/budgetoffice/about/>. Questions about budget management? Go to FAQ for quick answers (<https://www.bard.edu/budgetoffice/faqs/>) or contact the Business Office via email (budget@bard.edu). Please keep an eye out for emails regarding budget submissions for the 2025-2026 fiscal year.

Faculty Research Support:

As outlined in the Faculty Handbook, the Faculty Research and Travel Fund supports professional work by faculty members (6/13ths time and above). This fund provides reimbursement of up to \$2,000 for professional work during that academic year. Up to \$500 of your allotment can be used toward the purchase of books, memberships and subscriptions. Documentation of the activity, original receipts, and an itemized list and total of expenses for which reimbursement is being sought should be submitted to the appropriate administrative support staff for submission to the Dean's Office up to three times per year (please review the [full guidelines](#) for eligible expenses, reimbursement procedure, and other helpful information regarding this funding). Any questions regarding balance of funds or eligibility can be directed to Rachel Price, rprice@bard.edu.

Important Dates for 2025-2026

One check request per semester with all allowable expenses and documentation will need to be submitted to the appropriate administrative support staff for submission to the Dean's Office by the following deadlines:

Fall Deadline: December 31, 2025	Check mailing date: January 31, 2026
Spring Deadline: May 31, 2026	Check mailing date: June 30, 2026
Summer Deadline: August 31, 2025	Check mailing date: September 30, 2025

Research activity that takes place after May 31, 2026 will fall within the 2026-2027 fiscal year.

Call for Bard College (Annadale)-Bard College Berlin Faculty Exchange Fall 2026/Spring 2027/Fall 2027/Spring 2028

In Spring 2026, Bard College (Annandale) and Bard College Berlin are launching a semester-long Faculty Exchange Program. The goal is to foster longer-term cooperation between individual scholars with overlapping teaching and research interests and between departments and programs in Annandale and Berlin more generally. In addition to

increasing overall knowledge about and sense of connection between the two campuses, this exchange should enable a circulation of innovative practices in teaching and research as well as contribute to the harmonization of approaches and standards currently overseen by the FEOC committee.

Faculty exchange participants will, as a rule, be expected to do the following:

- Pursue a research project, or a pedagogical, campus or civic engagement initiative to be implemented on return to home campus, that is enabled or enriched by the exchange semester
- Teach one course, determined in consultation with the relevant personnel at the hosting campus
- Offer a public lecture to the Bard College or Bard College Berlin community
- Engage in 1-2 student-focused events related to campus cooperation and student exchange, for instance a Bard Abroad Info/Study Abroad Info Sessions or Admissions session (for Begin in Berlin)
- Participate as needed in senior thesis/senior project advising and moderation or senior thesis boards
- Be available for additional ad-hoc engagements

Faculty members will be paired with an academic program which will serve as their academic “home” for the duration of the exchange period, and will also be allocated an administrative contact for general College orientation.

To apply for an exchange semester, the following should be provided to the Deans of both Colleges, Professor Deirdre d'Albertis in Annandale and Professor Catherine Toal in Berlin:

- Current CV
- Motivation statement including research and/or teaching/engagement activities to be pursued (500 words)
- List of 2-3 potential courses
- Desired semester for exchange (currently open: Fall 2026; Spring 2027; Fall 2027; Spring 2028)
- List of any specific needs (disability accommodations, family members accompanying you, etc)

The deadline for this round of applications will be April 15th, 2026. Please send applications as one PDF to both of the following email addresses: doc@bard.edu; c.toal@berlin.bard.edu

from the Faculty Grants Officer

for undergraduate faculty from the Arts, Languages and Literature, and Social Studies Divisions

Sue Elvin

Faculty Recognitions: Honors, Distinctions, Awards, Prizes, Fellowships, Grants, and Residencies: Sept. 6, 2025 to January 30, 2026.:

I am delighted to share the following faculty recognitions: each one a testament to how Bard College undergraduate faculty thinking radiates outward: into studios and archives, performance spaces and research centers, libraries and public discourse. These honors mark those electric moments when sustained scholarly and creative work finds both the resources and recognition it deserves.

If you are wondering how to secure support for an individual professional project that has been brewing, or you are ready to propel an idea into its next iteration, then I would be genuinely glad to work with you. My role is to help the undergraduate faculty across the arts, languages and literature, and social studies divisions at Annandale-on-Hudson to translate the complexity and ambition of their work into strong, compelling competitive funding applications, drawing on what I have learned from national and international funding opportunities landscapes.

As undergraduate faculty, across ranks, appointments, and stages of academic and creative practice, and wherever you are in your academic or creative practice, you are very welcome to reach out to me as you consider what comes next for your professional work.

Honors and Distinctions (Conferred):

Recipients	Organization	Recognition Type	Purpose	Support
<p>Franco Baldasso, Associate Professor of Italian; Director of Study Abroad Program in Italy</p>	<p>American Academy of Rome, Rome, Italy.</p>	<p>Elected as a member of the Society of Fellows Council: Membership and Initiatives (2025-29)</p>	<p>Through this election, Franco joins the Society of Fellows Council, an elected body established in 1973 and composed of Rome Prize and Italian Fellowship recipients. As one of nineteen members (nine officers and ten additional representatives), he will represent Fellows' interests, advise Academy leadership, and help to oversee the Society's programs.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>Anne Hunnell Chen, Assistant Professor, Art History and Visual Culture, Experimental Humanities.</p>	<p>International Wikimedia Foundation, San Francisco, CA.</p>	<p>2025 Outstanding Professional Award for Advancing Open Access to Cultural Heritage, Wikimedia, in memory of Effie Kapsalis</p>	<p>The Wikimedia Awarding Committee said: “Anne Chen’s work is worthy of the highest recognition, by the advanced use of LOD methods, the sheer scope of collaboration between the digital humanities and across Wikimedia projects, and the focus on an immensely important and underrepresented cultural geography like Syria. It is standard-setting work that shows what Wikimedia as ‘essential infrastructure for the ecosystem of free knowledge’ can look like. It is also particularly relevant to recognize this work at this moment, when the organizations that helped fund this work are currently being severely defunded. We believe that Anne’s experience on shared curatorship and her work training other students and professionals makes her an incredible ally of the Wikimedia movement.”</p>	<p>Fully supported participation in the Global GLAM Wiki Conference</p>

<p>Michael E. Martell, Associate Professor of Economics</p>	<p>American Economic Association, Nashville, TN.</p>	<p>Appointed Co-Chair, Committee on the Status of LGBTQ+ Individuals in the Economics Profession (beginning 2025)</p>	<p>This national leadership role recognizes Michael's professional standing and contributions to advancing equity within the economics profession, in service of the committee's mission to support LGBTQ+ economists and LGBTQ+ focused economic research.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>Lothar Osterburg, Artist in Residence, Studio Arts</p>	<p>National Academy of Design, New York, NY.</p>	<p>National Academicians: Class of 2025—the 200th Class: as one of 27 individuals who join the more than 2,400 artists and architects elected to the National Academy since its founding in 1825.</p>	<p>This peer-elected, lifetime national honor, conferred by fellow artists and architects, recognizes Lothar's sustained and influential contributions to contemporary American art, including his artistic practice, mastery of copperplate photogravure, and dedication to education.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>Adam Shatz, Visiting Professor of the Humanities</p>	<p>The Robert B. Silvers Foundation, New York, NY.</p>	<p>2026 Silvers-Dudley Prize Winner: Grace-Dudley Prize for Art Writing</p>	<p>In recognition of Adam's outstanding achievement in critical writing in the fine and performing arts or on cultural history.</p> <p>As noted by the Silvers Foundation judges, "To read Adam Shatz's essays on music is to experience the most passionate—and diverse—listening. Whether he is writing on minimalism, sound performance, or modern jazz, his criticism is searching and soulful, and always generous."</p>	<p>Amount not publicly disclosed.</p>
<p>Kathryn Tabb, Assistant Professor of Philosophy</p>	<p>DeWitt Wallace Institute for Psychiatry, Weill Cornell Medicine, New York.</p>	<p>Affiliate Faculty in the Department of Psychiatry</p>	<p>This invited affiliation recognizes Katie's scholarly expertise and will involve collaboration with the Institute's research community in psychiatry and mental health.</p>	<p>N/A</p>

Awards, Prizes, Fellowships, Grants, and Residencies (by Application or Nomination):

Recipients	Organization	Recognition Type	Purpose	Support
<p>Mara Baldwin, Visiting Artist in Residence, Studio Arts</p>	<p>New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA), With additional support of the Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature.</p>	<p>NYSCA Support for Artists Grants: for 2026: with this statewide program supporting 607 individual artists with \$6,070,000 in total funding.</p>	<p>To support Mara’s development of a new installation for a May - June 2026 exhibition at The Garrison Art Center, NY, where she has been selected as a visiting artist, as well as the production of two related artist publications. Her project explores the figure of the “Rover,” drawn from a Girl Scout camp song of the same name that, for Mara, evokes the pull between conflicting desires for connection to oneself and community, through drawing, collage, and papier-mâché sculpture.</p> <p>The sponsoring organization for this project is The Garrison Art Center, which seeks to connect and enrich lives by cultivating an open environment for the creation and appreciation of art.</p>	<p>\$10,000</p>
<p>Tania El Khoury, Distinguished Artist in Residence; Associate Professor in Theater and Performance; Director of the Center for Human Rights and the Arts</p>	<p>Creative Capital Foundation, New York, NY</p>	<p>2026 Creative Capital Award: comprising \$2.6 million in grants supporting 49 new works by 109 artists selected from 4,546 applicants nationwide, across visual arts, film, dance, theater, music, literature, and multidisciplinary practices.</p>	<p>To support Tania’s project, <i>A Choreography of State Violence</i>, is an installation performance that examines state violence from a choreographic perspective, exploring how what are perceived as incidental and individualized cases of violence perpetrated by the state are, in fact, conceptualized and rehearsed with calculated dramaturgy.</p> <p>The sponsoring organization for this project is The Play Company, an award-winning off-Broadway theatre that has brought a global perspective to American stages for over twenty years, introducing New York City audiences to some of the world’s most vital playwrights.</p>	<p>Up to \$50,000 of unrestricted funding to help finance project work and build a thriving artistic career</p>

<p>Tania El Khoury, Distinguished Artist in Residence; Associate Professor in Theater and Performance; Director of the Center for Human Rights and the Arts</p>	<p>New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA), With additional support of the Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature.</p>	<p>NYSCA Support for Artists Grants: for 2026: with this statewide program supporting 607 individual artists with \$6.07 million in total funding.</p>	<p>To support Tania's development and presentation of <i>Mise en Abyme</i>, an intimate interactive installation staged within public libraries. Guided by sound, scent, and touch, the work invites participants to encounter excerpts of books and traces left by previous readers, exploring how literature shapes culture and the histories of banned and censored books. It is a love letter to public libraries, daily acts of resistance, and to knowledge shared as a public resource.</p> <p>The sponsoring organization for this project is The Play Company, an award-winning off-Broadway theatre that has brought a global perspective to American stages for over twenty years, introducing New York City audiences to some of the world's most vital playwrights.</p>	<p>\$10,000</p>
<p>Miriam Felton-Dansky, Associate Professor of Theater and Performance; Director of the Theater and Performance Program</p>	<p>Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, New York, NY.</p>	<p>2025 Art Writers Grant: awarded \$1.04 million to 31 individuals, with grants ranging from \$15,000 to \$50,000, honoring excellence in writing about contemporary visual art.</p>	<p>To support Miriam's research and writing for the article "<i>Vetting Regimes: The US Politics of Artist Visas from the Berlin Wall to the Muslim Ban.</i>" This work examines the history and evolution of United States artist visa classifications for international performing artists, drawing on archival materials, immigration policy analysis, and case studies from the performing arts sector to explore how the O and P visa systems have shaped which performers are able to enter the United States to present work on American stages and how these administrative processes have developed over the past three decades.</p>	<p>Amount not publicly disclosed</p>

<p>Jacqueline Goss, Professor of Film and Electronic Arts</p>	<p>New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA), With additional support of the Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature.</p>	<p>NYSCA Support for Artists Grants: for 2026: with this statewide program supporting 607 individual artists with \$6.07 million in total funding.</p>	<p>To support Jacqueline’s development of a short experimental narrative film that was inspired by a 1970s conceptual artist. The project engages with larger questions of artistic life, visibility, and the uneven recognition of artists and artistic forms, situating these themes within the social and cultural landscape of the late 1960s and early 1970s.</p> <p>The sponsoring organization is Light Industry Cinema Projects, a venue for cinema in all its forms, developed and overseen by Thomas Beard and Ed Halter.</p>	<p>\$10,000</p>
<p>Sarah Hennies, Assistant Professor of Music</p>	<p>Civitella Ranieri Foundation, New York, NY.</p>	<p>Civitella Ranieri Music Fellowship for 2026 or 2027: the <i>Composers</i> cohort: one of 25 awardees selected through a highly competitive jury process from a pool of 119 candidates.</p>	<p>Sarah will participate in a residency of four-to-six weeks (with six weeks typical) at the Civitella Ranieri Center, a 15th-century castle in Umbria, Italy, providing dedicated time for her to conduct her creative work alongside an international cohort of fellows in music composition, visual arts, and writing. She has agreed to defer her Fellowship residency until Fall 2028.</p>	<p>Travel, private apartment and studio, and daily meals (except Sundays)</p>

<p>Gwen Marie Laster, Visiting Artist in Residence, Music</p>	<p>New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA), With additional support of the Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature.</p>	<p>NYSCA Support for Artists Grants: for 2026: with this statewide program supporting 607 individual artists with \$6.07 million in total funding.</p>	<p>To support Gwen Marie's creation of new music for <i>Is My Black Still Beautiful: Reflections on a Childhood in Detroit</i>, a mixed-media staged work combining original music, storytelling, dance, and projected visuals. The project explores the global complexities of colorism through the lens of a Black girl coming of age during the post–civil rights movement in Detroit, with music spanning various genres from contemporary classical to Motown, blues, soul, R&B, and jazz—both free and traditional.</p> <p><i>Is My Black Still Beautiful</i> will premiere in late fall 2026 and early 2027 at the Philipstown Depot Theater and Mabou Mines, NYC, with the Philipstown Depot Theater serving as the sponsoring organization, dedicated to strengthening the cultural fabric of the Hudson Valley through theater, music, dance, film, and education programs that inspire human connection.</p>	<p>\$10,000</p>
<p>Gwen Marie Laster, Visiting Artist in Residence, Music</p>	<p>The Recording Academy, Santa Monica, CA.</p>	<p>The 68th GRAMMY Awards 2026: Nominations.</p> <p>The 2026 GRAMMYS were held on Sunday, February 1, 2026 at Crypto.com Arena in Los Angeles, CA.</p>	<p>Nomination in the category of <i>Best Large Jazz Ensemble Album</i></p> <p>For Lights on a Satellite recorded with Sun Ra Arkestra under the direction of NEA Jazz Master Marshall Allen. The album was recorded at Power Station Studios, New York, and released by IN+OUT Records, bringing together musicians from four generations to honor and extend the legacy of Sun Ra's music. Gwen is featured on violin as a member of the ensemble.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>Isabelle O'Connell, Artist in Residence, Piano</p>	<p>Culture Ireland, Dublin, Ireland.</p>	<p>Culture Ireland Grant: over 20 years supporting Irish professional artists, arts organizations and international presenters to present work by Irish artists at significant international venues and festivals.</p>	<p>To support Isabelle performing a Solo Piano Recital at Johanneskirche Schlachtensee in Berlin on November 29, 2025.</p> <p>The recital included works as follows: - Claude Debussy – <i>Images</i>; - Caroline Shaw – <i>Gustave le Gray</i>; - Jane O'Leary – <i>Breathing Spaces</i>; - Claude Debussy – <i>Estampes</i>.</p>	<p>800 Euros toward travel and travel related expenses</p>

<p>Isabelle O’Connell, Artist in Residence, Piano</p>	<p>Fulbright Commission in Ireland, Dublin, Ireland.</p>	<p>2025–26 Fulbright Alumni Project Fund Awardee: competitive project grant supporting Fulbright alumni projects with an Ireland–U.S. focus, with priority given to arts, heritage, and culture.</p>	<p>To support Isabelle performing <i>Transatlantic Currents: New Music for Piano and Electronics</i>: a concert presentation and lecture-demonstration, to be held on April 10, 2026 at 7pm, in the Bito Conservatory Performance Space at Bard College, showcasing 21st-century works for solo piano and electronics by leading Irish and American composers.</p> <p>The program includes works by Irish composers: - Donnacha Dennehy; - Gráinne Mulvey; - Chris Cerrone; - Matt Sargent.</p> <p>It will feature the U.S. premiere of Mulvey’s <i>Sun of Orient Crimson</i> with <i>Excess of Light</i>, fostering transatlantic creative exchange.</p>	<p>1,000 Euros to support the proposed event</p>
<p>Bryson Rand, Visiting Assistant Professor of Photography</p>	<p>The Ellis-Beauregard Foundation, Rockland, ME.</p>	<p>Ellis-Beauregard Residency: a member of the inaugural cohort selected from a pool of 518 applications, valuing innovation, experimentation and creative risk-taking in all genres, known and as yet to be discovered.</p>	<p>To support Bryson’s full-time one-month residency in Rockland, ME, in June 2026, advancing his ongoing body of work, <i>A Need to Leave the Water Knows</i>, through a new photographic project that builds on his long-exposure night work and explores coastal and inland landscapes through site-responsive and experimental image-making.</p>	<p>\$2,000 stipend, private apartment and studio, shared facilities, exhibition and workshop access</p>
<p>Drew Thomson, Associate Professor of Africana and Historical Studies; Associate Professor, Bard Graduate Center</p>	<p>Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, New York, NY.</p>	<p>2025 Art Writers Grant: awarded \$1.04 million to 31 individuals, with grants ranging from \$15,000 to \$50,000, honoring excellence in writing about contemporary visual art.</p>	<p>To support Drew’s book project, <i>Coloring Surveillance through Polaroids: The Poetics of Black Solidarity and Sociality</i>, which examines Black artists’ use of Polaroid photography to understand its role in Black life, as lived through everyday practices of labor, activism, and artistic expression across African and African-American histories.</p>	<p>Amount not publicly disclosed</p>

<p>Julia Weist, Visiting Artist in Residence, Studio Arts</p>	<p>MacDowell: Artist Residency Program, Peterborough, NH</p>	<p>MacDowell Fellowship: for the 2026 summer residency: awarded to artists by seven discipline-specific panels—<i>Architects,</i> <i>Composers, Film/Video</i> <i>Artists, Interdisciplinary</i> <i>Artists, Theatre Artists,</i> <i>Visual Artists</i>—who make their selections based on applicants’ vision and talent.</p>	<p>In the category of <i>Visual; Arts:</i> To support Julia’s editing of video documentation of <i>Questioning</i>, her live theater work debuting at New Theater Hollywood in July 2026.</p>	<p>Access to need-based stipend, travel grant, private studio, three meals a day, and lodging</p>
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These all recognize the individual faculty member and their personal and/or professional contributions, rather than the institution.

Faculty Grants Officer: Sue Elvin: email: selvinco@bard.edu: or phone: 845.758.7120

Office Hours by Appointment: Spring 2026: Tuesdays, Thursdays (10am-Noon) Room 202, Stevenson Library.

**Please visit the DoC website www.bard.edu/doc/
for numerous links and resources for faculty and staff**

Faculty Handbook (hardcopies available upon request in the Dean's Office)

Faculty Highlights & Accomplishments past and present

Faculty, Divisional, Senate, and Program Meetings schedule

Faculty Committee meeting minutes

Faculty Meeting minutes

Faculty Evaluation lists and schedules

Faculty Governance Resources

Faculty Committee List

Program Directors List

Faculty Search information

Faculty Transition List

Faculty Guidelines, Higher Education Resources and Support Network information

Faculty Accessibility Guidelines (link to Bard SensusAccess)

Bard Policies for Faculty

Volume 21, Number 2

This letter is intended by the Office of the Dean of the College to make information for faculty more accessible and available in an easy format. Where information is available on-line at our campus website

<http://www.bard.edu/doc>

you will be directed to that page. Please make use of the website; suggestions for posting of information and data are very welcome. The newsletters will be archived on the website. If you have questions or comments about this newsletter, please contact doc@bard.edu.