

Hello/Hola/Salut from the Department of Language, Literature, & Cultural Studies!

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### 1) GRADUATION CELEBRATION



On December 14, the Department of Language, Literature, & Cultural Studies celebrated the graduation of three students:

**Ahmari Carrigan – BA in English**

**Joseph Sampugnaro – MA in English**

**Rawan Alqhtani – MA in English**

**Xxavier Boone**, a Creative Writing Major, and **Laura Neal**, a Creative Writing Alumna, regaled us with their original poetry. **Professor Prince Thorpe's** French students sang a French song and one of **Professor Kala Richardon's** Spanish students recited a Spanish poem for us. You can read Laura's poem, "Hold / Whole - What Could Have Been Has Not Yet Appeared" here: <https://burnaway.org/magazine/naudline-pierre-dma/>

## 2) ALUMNI ACCOMPLISHMENTS



BSU Alumna and former English Major **Araba Maze** gave away over 3,000 brand new books to children living in Baltimore's book deserts! Over the past year, her organization made stronger connections with publishing companies and secured a contract with the YMCA to launching a free book vending machine at a local Y this month.

Araba thanks everyone for the support and kind words that helped her get to this point. She is also excited to share that she was recently accepted to be a part of the [Camelback Ventures Fellowship Program](#). Araba welcome BSU undergrads who would like to intern for her program.

## 3) ENGLISH MAJORS LUNCH: FEBRUARY 14

Join your fellow English Major on Tuesday, February 14, at 12:30 pm in MLK 253 for a pizza-and-cookies lunch. This is a chance for you to hang out with your fellow majors, meet professors, and network. This is the perfect opportunity for you to plan activities for Sigma Tau Delta, start a book club, plan an Open Mic event, or join Raíces – BSU's Latino Affinity Group.

## 4) 10<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL READ-A-THON: FEBRUARY 21

Join us for the 10th Annual BSU Black History Month Read-A-Thon on February 21, 12:30-2:00 pm, in MLK 253 as we celebrate the power of language, public speaking, and oral storytelling. Sign up for a ten-minute slot wherein you can read from a literary work of your choice: a novel, a short story, a set of poems, song lyrics, a play, or your own creative work. In celebration of Black History Month, we strongly encourage that you read the work of a Black author from the US or abroad.

Please be prepared to read or speak for approximately ten minutes. Participants will receive BSU swag courtesy of the Department of History & Government.

Sign-up for a reading slot here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a054fa9aa29aa8-10th#/>

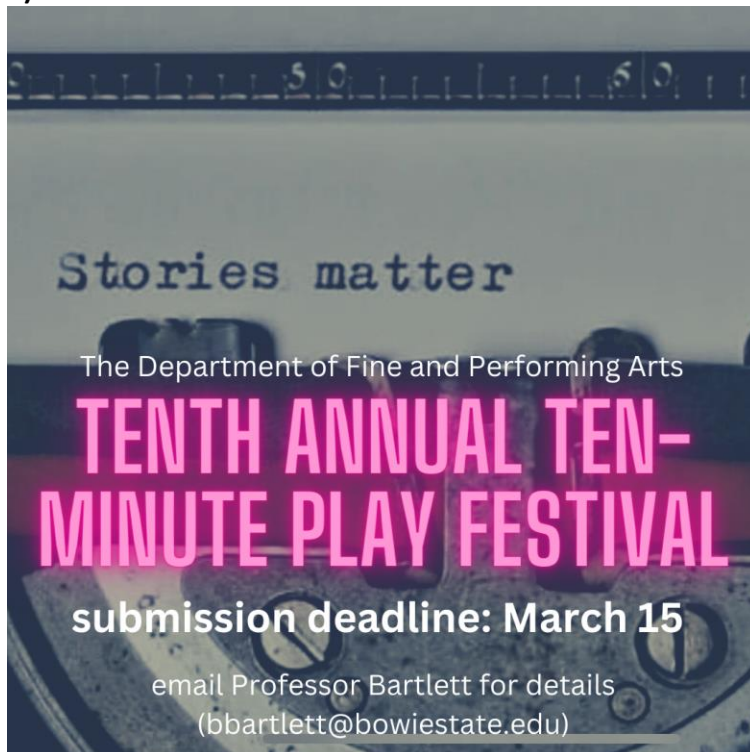
## 5) TEACH ENGLISH IN JAPAN PRESENTATION: FEBRUARY 28



**Teach English in Japan Info Session**  
February 28 - 11:00-12:00  
Sponsored by Language, Literature, and Cultural Studies  
<https://bowiestate.zoom.us/j/99105260711>  
Featuring officials from the Japanese Embassy, JET Program officials, and JET Program Alumni

Come learn about the JET Program, which provides recent graduates with a paid opportunity to teach English in Japan. We will speak with a representative from the Embassy of Japan and two alumni of the JET Program. Zoom link: <https://bowiestate.zoom.us/j/99105260711>

## 6) SUBMIT YOUR WORK TO BSU'S TEN-MINUTE PLAY FESTIVAL



Stories matter

The Department of Fine and Performing Arts

**TENTH ANNUAL TEN-MINUTE PLAY FESTIVAL**

submission deadline: March 15

email Professor Bartlett for details  
(bartlett@bowiestate.edu)

Please submit an original ten-minute play that responds to the following:

- the play features characters who change/grow and realize a truth about themselves and/or the world
- the play explores a challenging idea
- the play explores the theatrical imagination
- the play has three or fewer characters
- the play happens in one location

## 7) PRATT LIBRARY POETRY CONTEST



**ENOCH PRATT** *free* LIBRARY  
your journey starts here

*free* TO BMORE  
#atthep Pratt



# Poetry Contest

Maryland poets, this FREE contest  
is for YOU!

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### CONTEST RULES

- Entrants must be Maryland residents, 18 or older.
- Paid or volunteer staff of the Enoch Pratt Free Library and *Little Patuxent Review* and their immediate families are not eligible, nor are previous Pratt Library Poetry Contest first-place winners.
- Please send only one original poem, on any theme and in any form, for consideration.
- Your entry must be unpublished, either in print or online, including personal blogs, Facebook, or Twitter. It cannot be currently under review for possible publication.
- Your entry must not exceed 100 lines.
- Submit your typed entry as a Microsoft Word attachment by email to [contest@prattlibrary.org](mailto:contest@prattlibrary.org) or by mail to:  
Poetry Contest, Fiction & Humanities Dept.  
Pratt Library, 400 Cathedral St.  
Baltimore, MD 21201-4484
- All entries must be received by **Wednesday, March 1, 2023.**

*The free educational and cultural programs at Pratt libraries are made possible by the generous support of donors to the Enoch Pratt Free Library.*

- Please submit your name, address, phone number, and a brief biography on a separate page. Please do not put your name, address, phone number, or biography on the entry itself. Our judges will see only the poem.
- Confirmation of receipt and comments on your entry will not be provided, nor will your entry be returned to you.

These rules are also available on the contest page, where an announcement of the winner will be posted in mid-April:

[prattlibrary.org/poetry-contest](http://prattlibrary.org/poetry-contest)

The **winning poem** will be published in *Little Patuxent Review* and celebrated at a public reading hosted by the Pratt Library and *Little Patuxent Review*. It may also be displayed at the Central Library or turned into a collectible broadside.

Questions? Email [contest@prattlibrary.org](mailto:contest@prattlibrary.org) or call 410-396-5484.

prattlibrary.org



## 8) PAID INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITY: MPSSP



**MARYLAND PUBLIC  
SERVICE SCHOLARS**

# PAID SUMMER INTERNSHIPS

**MAY 30 - AUGUST 11, 2023**

Governor's Summer Internship Program  
Sondheim Nonprofit Leadership Program  
MDOT Fellows Program

Open to rising college Juniors and Seniors  
\*and current graduate students for SNLP  
Must be attending a Maryland school  
OR be a Maryland resident attending any school

gain experience • grow your network  
meet other Maryland college students  
leadership & professional development  
opportunities

FELLOWS ARE PAID A **\$3500** STIPEND

**Apply by March !!**  
(priority deadline February 1)  
[publicservicescholars.umbc.edu](http://publicservicescholars.umbc.edu)

The [Maryland Public Service Scholars Program](http://publicservicescholars.umbc.edu) has a **paid** summer 2023 Internship opportunity for your students! The MPSS program is administered through the Shriver Center at UMBC. Each summer a cohort of students are selected to participate in the MPSS program. These fellowships provide students the opportunity to develop their skills, network, serve in the public service realm, and become better future leaders in Maryland's public and social sectors.

Here is the link to **directly apply** on our website: <https://publicservicescholars.umbc.edu/apply-to-fellowships/>

Here is the link to find out **more information** about the 2023 MPSS program: <https://publicservicescholars.umbc.edu/>

If you have any questions, please email [publicservicescholars@umbc.edu](mailto:publicservicescholars@umbc.edu)

## 9) DRIFTERS EMERGENCY STUDENT GRANT

The Drifters Emergency Student Grant is a \$10,000 grant awarded annually to degree-conferring institutions whose student enrollment is primarily comprised of students from underrepresented backgrounds. These grants have been given to numerous colleges and universities to help students to continue their studies. BSU was awarded the grant at The National Drifters, Inc. 63rd national Convention in August 2019. As a result, Juniors/Seniors in the Department of Language, Literature, & Cultural Studies experiencing an emergency need for tuition assistance, housing assistance, course materials, meal planning, or transportation



assistance are eligible to apply. Please Contact Professor Lane (alane@bowiestate.edu) or Dr. Basena (dbasena@bowiestate.edu) for an application form.

## 10) SIGMA TAU DELTA



Sigma Tau Delta welcomes new members.

### Membership Requirements:

- Candidates for undergraduate membership must have completed a minimum of two college courses in English language or literature beyond the usual requirements in freshman English. The candidate must have a minimum of a B or equivalent average in English and in general scholarship and must have completed at least three semesters or five quarters of college course work. Candidates for undergraduate membership need not be majoring or minoring in the discipline of English.
- Candidates for graduate membership who did not hold undergraduate membership must be enrolled in a graduate program in English or one of its specializations, have completed six semester hours of graduate work or the equivalent, and have a minimum grade point average of 3.3 on a 4.0 scale.
- Lifetime Membership Fee: \$80. \$40 goes to the Nu Nu chapter, which will bestow you with Honor Cords and a Medallion at your Induction Ceremony that you can wear during graduation. The other \$40 goes to Sigma Tau Delta's national office, which will supply you with your Sigma Tau Delta society pin and certificate. **LLCS can help pay for your membership fees.**

To learn more about Membership Benefits, please click here: <http://english.org/members/benefits.shtml>

If you are interested in becoming a member, please e-mail [hsierra@bowiestate.edu](mailto:hsierra@bowiestate.edu)

Newsletters are archived here: <https://bowiestate.edu/academics/colleges/college-of-arts-and-sciences/departments/language-literature-and-cultural-studies/newsletter.php>

Peace,

Horacio Sierra, PhD

[Department Chair](#) - Department of Language, Literature, & Cultural Studies  
Bowie State University - Maryland's First HBCU