

An overhead view of a group of students sitting around a wooden table. They are looking at two framed historical documents or maps. The students are wearing casual clothing, and the setting appears to be a classroom or library. The text "THE HEART OF THE LIBERAL ARTS:" is overlaid in white, bold, sans-serif font.

THE HEART OF THE LIBERAL ARTS:

HUMANITIES

AT CARLETON

THE HUMANITIES CENTER AT CARLETON

“The study of the humanities engages us in deep explorations of the cultures of both the past and the present. We use critical analysis to seek to understand the past as it was lived, and the present as it is represented through literature and the arts. As such, the humanities form the basis of a liberal education.”

—Susannah Ottaway '89

Ottaway is the David and Marian Adams Bryn-Jones Distinguished Teaching Professor of the Humanities and the 2011-14 director of Carleton's Humanities Center.

Carleton's Humanities Center is dedicated to cultivating the intellectual and cultural life of the college. In support of that mission, the center supports innovative research and interdisciplinary collaboration among faculty members and students, sponsors diverse programs and guest lectures on campus, engages students in the practice of the humanities, and encourages the campus community to analyze the relationships between humanistic study and artistic, ethical, and political issues in the contemporary world. The center's work stretches beyond campus as well through its projects in public scholarship.

Initially made possible by a New Directions Grant from the Mellon Foundation in 2005, the Humanities Center's work is currently funded by a gift to Carleton from David and Marian Adams Bryn-Jones and by discretionary funding from the dean of the college. Additional funding would allow the center to increase its burgeoning programs to make an even greater impact on Carleton and the surrounding community. We invite you to be a part of this exciting venture by making a gift in support of the center. Call 800-492-2275 to speak with a development officer about supporting the humanities at Carleton.

HERE BY POPULAR DEMAND

A faculty-driven initiative from its inception, the Humanities Center has served members of every department in the humanities and social sciences. The center regularly sponsors popular events and discussions that bring together faculty members and students from a variety of departments, as well as members of the Northfield community.

To date, more than 40 faculty members have participated in the center's faculty research seminars, and the center has funded more than 70 student research assistantships. Even so, the center has been unable to meet the demand for research assistance, and the faculty advisory board hopes to be able to fund more projects in the future.



MEET THE BOARD

The Humanities Center's success is due largely to the ingenuity and dedication of its faculty advisory board. The following faculty members have served on the board to date:

- **Palmar Alvarez-Blanco**, Associate Professor of Spanish
- **Deborah Appleman**, Hollis L. Caswell Professor of Educational Studies
- **Jenny Bourne**, Professor of Economics
- **Jorge Brioso**, Associate Professor of Spanish
- **Carol Donelan**, Associate Professor of Cinema and Media Studies
- **Ross Elfline**, Assistant Professor of Art History
- **Andrew Fisher**, Associate Professor of History
- **Roger Jackson**, John W. Nason Professor of Asian Studies and Religion
- **Susan Jaret McKinstry**, Helen F. Lewis Professor of English
- **David Lefkowitz '85**, Associate Professor of Art
- **Silvia López**, Professor of Spanish
- **Anna Moltchanova**, Associate Professor of Philosophy
- **Louis Newman**, John M. and Elizabeth W. Musser Professor of Religious Studies
- **Susannah Ottaway '89**, David and Marian Adams Bryn-Jones Distinguished Teaching Professor of the Humanities
- **Lori Pearson**, Professor of Religion
- **Diethelm Prowe**, Laird Bell Professor of History, Emeritus
- **Timothy Raylor**, Professor of English
- **George Shuffelton**, Associate Professor of English
- **Ruth Weiner**, Class of 1944 Professor of Theater and the Liberal Arts and Professor of English
- **Cathy Yandell**, W. I. and Hulda F. Daniell Professor of French Literature, Language, and Culture





Adeeb Khalid, the Jane and Raphael Bernstein Professor of Asian Studies and History, led the 2013-14 faculty research seminar *In Search of the Secular*. Participants included (from left) Khalid, religion professor Lori Pearson, English professor Peter Balaam, chaplain Carolyn Fure-Slocum '82, history professor David Tompkins, and French professor Scott Carpenter

SUPPORTING SCHOLARSHIP

FACULTY RESEARCH SEMINARS

Carleton professors are both talented teachers and dedicated scholars. The Humanities Center’s faculty research seminars not only support faculty development, but also deepen connections among faculty members and create bridges across disciplines. These yearlong multidisciplinary seminars give small groups of faculty research fellows the chance to work with their peers to develop individual projects and discuss new ideas and perspectives that enrich both their teaching and research. The center chooses one seminar leader each year based upon his/her proposed seminar topic, and the leader helps choose the research fellows who will participate in the seminar.

The fellows meet biweekly to discuss theoretical and critical readings, present on their research progress, and solicit ideas and feedback from other group members. Fellows also frequently teach courses related to the theme of the seminar, which allows them to explore discussion points with their students. Following each seminar’s conclusion, fellows collaborate with Humanities Center staff to design and participate in a public forum or symposium around their topic. Each symposium is unique and may include such diverse elements as lectures from visiting scholars; music, dance, or theater productions; multimedia presentations; and/or exhibits.

THE PLAY’S THE THING

English professor Nancy Cho was at a crossroads in her research project on Ntozake Shange’s play *For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide When the Rainbow is Enuf*. Then she heard about the 2012-13 faculty research seminar: *Varieties of the Public Humanities*. “Shange’s play attracted a lot of public recognition and interest because it was a surprise smash hit on Broadway,” says Cho. “But scholars have mostly ignored how the play went from a grassroots feminist project to the Broadway stage. I had done much of the research already, but the seminar really helped me focus the project.”



English professor Nancy Cho

Participating in the seminar was “very freeing and intellectually rich,” says Cho, who enjoyed feeling like a student again. “We talk about wanting to learn from our colleagues, but it’s not easy to do without the institutional support to make it happen, and this seminar provided that. It was exciting to have colleagues from different departments come together around a common question.”

Cho appreciated working with an interdisciplinary group—from history, religion, sociology, French, music, and art—because she wanted her research to be able speak to a broad audience. “All faculty members get feedback at places like professional conferences, but it was different to get such wide-ranging feedback in an informal setting,” she says. “I was surprised by how quickly conversation took off and how comfortable and invigorating it was.”

The seminars demonstrate to Cho and her colleagues that Carleton supports both their teaching and their research and creative work. “It’s essential that the college recognizes that our research is important because it informs our teaching,” says Cho.

INTERDISCIPLINARY MORALITY

Psychology professor Ken Abrams was venturing beyond his usual academic focus—psychopathology—and into the realm of philosophy with his research project on the moral responsibility of sex offenders. That’s why he found it especially helpful to team up with colleagues from other disciplines in the 2011-12 faculty research seminar: *Dimensions of Mind*. “We had people in our group from economics, environmental science, chemistry, and religion, and because of the interdisciplinary nature of my topic, I really appreciated their varying perspectives.”



Psychology professor Ken Abrams

Abrams also enjoyed the intellectual challenge of contributing to his colleagues’ projects. “It felt like a worthy endeavor,” he says. “The seminar is a low-risk environment, where I felt comfortable pushing the boundaries of topics that weren’t my particular area of expertise.” In the end, Abrams and his colleagues were able to combine intellectual enjoyment with research progress. “We all made more advancements on our individual projects than we would have in the same amount of time if we had been pursuing them alone,” Abrams says.

The group gave public presentations on their work the following year, and Abrams was heartened by the high attendance at his talk. “It felt fulfilling to share with this audience the wisdom of the group, gleaned from a year of discussions,” he says. “In class I teach from my areas of expertise, so I was less comfortable in a public forum covering something that was closer to moral philosophy, but I’m really glad that I did it.”

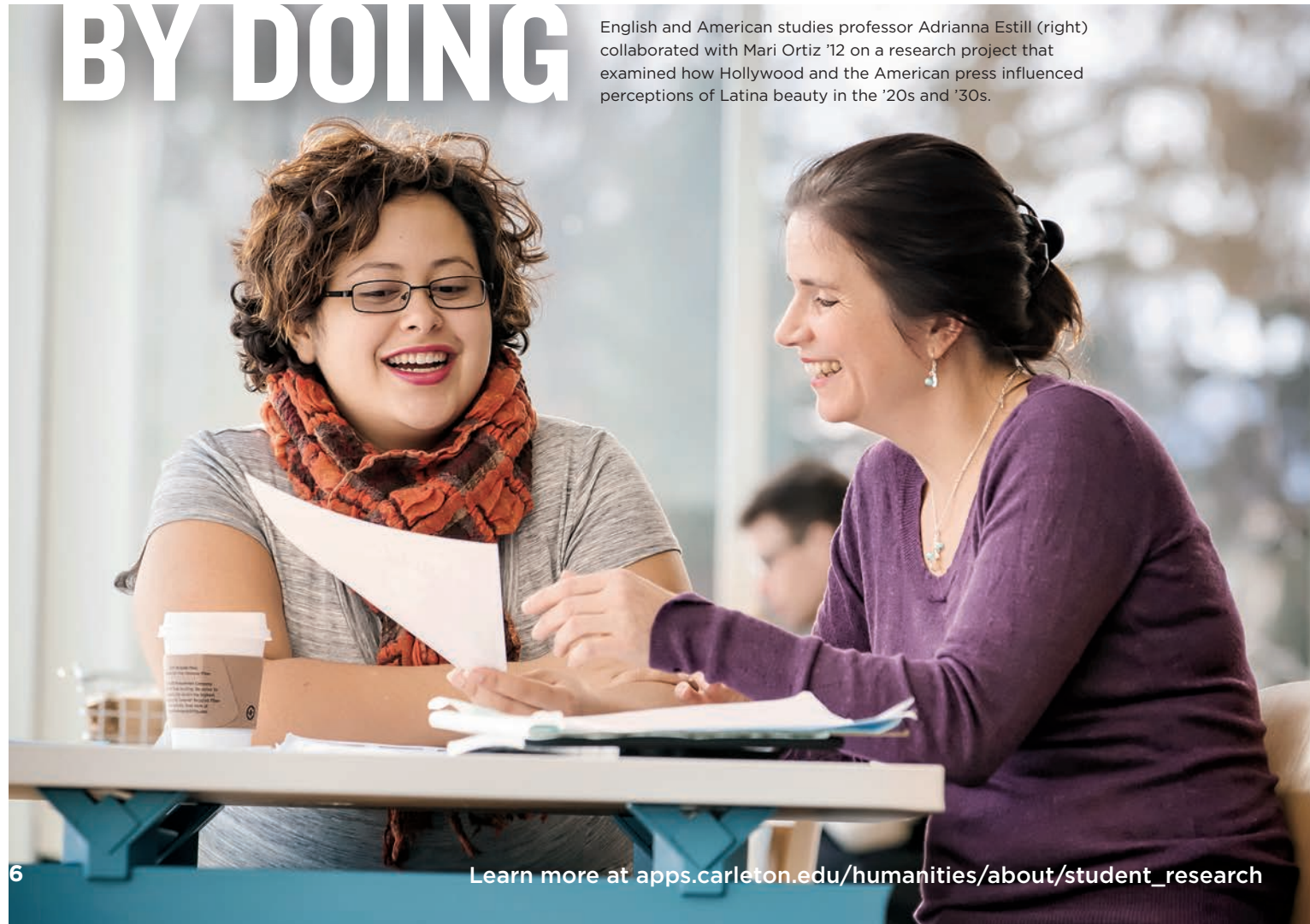
STUDENT RESEARCH ASSISTANTS

One of the Humanities Center's primary goals is to expose students to the practice of humanistic research. The center's student research fellowships give students opportunities to develop their skills and help faculty members advance their projects. Since 2009 more than 70 students have held research assistant positions through center funding during winter and summer breaks. "These students are gaining valuable experience that enhances their academic life at Carleton and prepares them for both careers and graduate school," says Humanities Center director Susannah Ottaway '89.

Although faculty-student collaboration has been a hallmark of a Carleton education for many years, research opportunities had been more commonplace in the sciences than in the humanities. Now, with the support of a gift from Alison von Klemperer '82 in honor of Diethelm Prowe, the Laird Bell Professor of History, Emeritus, the number of student research assistants in the humanities is growing. The Humanities Center has been able to fund student researchers to work in 20 different disciplines. However, many more faculty members apply for research assistants each year than can be accommodated with current funding. As a result, the Humanities Center advisory board seeks to raise funds to meet the popular demand of this program and to give more students an opportunity to do research at Carleton.

English and American studies professor Adrianna Estill (right) collaborated with Mari Ortiz '12 on a research project that examined how Hollywood and the American press influenced perceptions of Latina beauty in the '20s and '30s.

LEARNING BY DOING



TRACING CULTURAL CONNECTIONS

During his second visit to China, Harry Williams, the Laird Bell Professor of History, was introduced to the historical figure Hai Rui, a Ming Dynasty minister who stood up for the people at a time of great government corruption. A Chinese colleague bestowed the nickname Hai Rui on Williams, who decided to learn more about his new namesake. Upon returning from his third visit to China in 2012-13 on a Fulbright Fellowship, Williams undertook a research project on the play *Hai Rui Dismissed from Office* and its links to the Chinese Cultural Revolution. Carleton history major Jay Shen '15 (Liaoning, China) served as Williams's student research assistant.

"My job was to write annotations for Professor Williams's bibliography on the play," says Shen. "I learned to make connections across the readings and to read from a broader perspective that considers the author's life and how that might have affected his or her opinions." Shen found himself reading at a deeper level than he had done for class, even scrutinizing footnotes to determine whether quotes had been taken out of context. "I discovered that I am capable of critiquing professional historians, and making an argument myself and finding the evidence to support it," says Shen. "I have the potential to be like those historians."

"I cannot think of a better person than Jay to work with me," says Williams. "He was not only interpreting and compiling English language sources, but he also found and translated Chinese language sources."

The now-complete bibliography is the first step toward Williams's goal of staging a reading of the play on campus and writing an essay to help guide postperformance discussions. "I want to teach students to be critical readers of history," says Williams, "and I think that's a lesson Jay has learned through this project."



UNCOVERING NEW ARTISTS

When the Northern Clay Center in Minneapolis invited art professor Kelly Connole to curate an exhibition on sexual politics and gender identity in honor of the 40th anniversary of feminist artist Judy Chicago's *The Dinner Party*, she was hesitant. "I was interested in the topic, but it wasn't my primary focus by any means," Connole says. "I knew that the project would require a lot of research to identify contemporary artists." Connole didn't want to just stick to the same artists whose work on this topic had been displayed for decades; she wanted to include younger artists and current voices, so she turned to the Humanities Center for help.

The center gave Connole the funding she needed to hire art major Ellen Kwan '15 (Pleasanton, Calif.) to help with her research. "The work was a bit intimidating at first," says Kwan. "Publications on ceramics are limited, so I had to do a lot of digging."

Kwan started her research by consulting books on well-known ceramic artists, searched online for those artists' more recent shows, and researched other artists who had appeared in exhibitions with them. She perused art magazines, read exhibition catalogs, and listened to recordings of lectures on related topics. Ultimately, Connole and Kwan identified 60 relevant artists and created a shortlist of 12 artists to contact about the Northern Clay Center exhibit.

"The Humanities Center gives students the chance to do an intense amount of study in a particular topic," says Connole. "Sharing my research with a student like Ellen who's really interested in the topic is the best possible kind of teaching."

Top: History professor Henry Williams and Jay Shen '15

Second from the top: Ellen Kwan '15 and art professor Kelly Connole

PUTTING TECHNOLOGY TO WORK



Since 2012 students in classics professor Kathryn Steed's courses on the Roman Republic have been able to explore a virtual Roman Forum to help them put their studies into a visual context. Steed (left) partnered with Caitlin Staab '12 to create the virtual Forum using SketchUp, a 3-D modeling program.



DIGITAL HUMANITIES

Today's scholars are exploring how new technology can expand their teaching and research opportunities. The Humanities Center supports a wide variety of digital humanities projects, as faculty members put technology to work in their research methods, to preserve source materials and make them more accessible, and to communicate the outcomes of humanistic research. "The digital humanities are changing the questions we ask in the humanities, as well as shaping the answers we can formulate," says Susan Jaret McKinstry, the Helen F. Lewis Professor of English and the Humanities Center's 2013-14 associate director for digital humanities.

Before her work as a founding board member of the Humanities Center, Jaret McKinstry served from 2009 to 2012 as co-director for the successful Visualizing the Liberal Arts (VIZ) initiative. "The digital humanities are the perfect next step," says Jaret McKinstry. "Like VIZ, they start with a model of collaborative work that cuts across disciplinary divisions; faculty, staff, and student roles; and teaching and research projects."

In 2012 Carleton, Macalester, and St. Olaf received a \$100,000 collaborative planning grant from the Andrew Mellon Foundation to support their work in the digital humanities. The Humanities Center has used Carleton's share of the money to provide seed grants to faculty members for an increasing number of digital humanities projects, including creating online modules for Carleton courses, programming interactive websites, and analyzing large sets of data using sophisticated software. The Mellon grant also funds annual workshops among the three colleges that give faculty members and students a chance to pursue common interests in the digital humanities, learn more about technology, and present on the work they have completed so far.

MAPPING FAITH

Inspired by Harvard University's Pluralism Project on America's changing religious landscape, Carleton religion professors Michael McNally and Shana Sippy have undertaken their own project on religious diversity in Minnesota. As a proponent of academic civic engagement at Carleton, McNally was especially interested in the public scholarship aspects of the project. Specifically, he wanted to help Minnesotans understand their neighbors' varying religious affiliations. "There's a lot of conversation about racial and class difference, but we want to talk about Minnesota's rich religious culture, too," says Sippy.

McNally and Sippy applied for and received funding from the Humanities Center for summer research assistants, who will work with data gathered by students in Sippy's "Global Religions in Minnesota" course, as well as through independent study or comps projects. The center also provided a seed grant to help McNally and Sippy learn about the sophisticated technology they would need to create the interactive and user-friendly website they had envisioned. Finally, McNally led a faculty research seminar on public scholarship at the center, through which he was able to explore the issues involved in making research accessible and useful to broad audiences outside of academia.

"The Humanities Center has been invaluable in making this project happen," says Sippy. "We believe that having this information accessible on the Internet will help people develop greater sensitivity when they encounter people of other religions. For example, this site could be a great resource in the event of a disaster, in which case responders will need to know how to treat bodies with proper respect, or when school administrators are trying to understand their legal obligations around student prayer."

From left: 2013-14 digital humanities associates, Erin Winter '15 (Nashville, Tenn.), Kailyn Land '15 (Evergreen, Colo.), Gordon Loery '15 (Redding, Conn.), and Sahree Kasper '16 (Northfield)

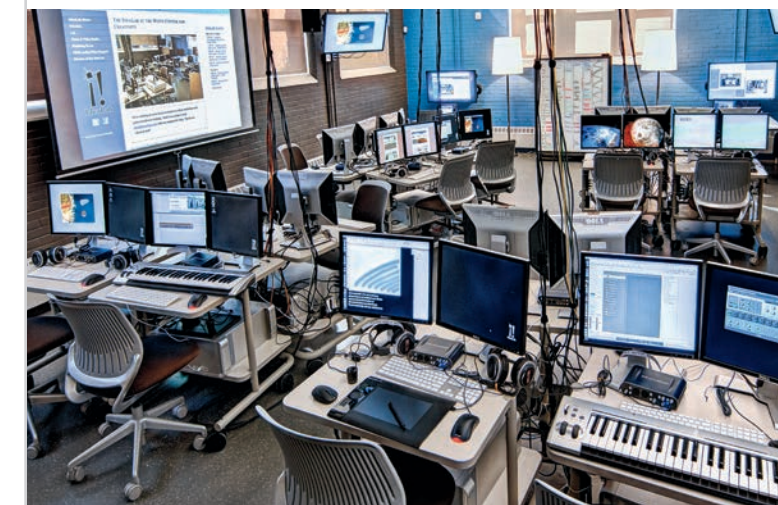
WORK-STUDY AT ITS FINEST

"I love my campus job because I get to use technology and principles of computer science to look for creative solutions to problems," says Gordon Loery '15 (Redding, Conn.). A computer science major and one of six interdisciplinary digital humanities associates, Loery spent his first weeks on the job learning web design languages and ArcGIS (mapping software) to create an interactive tour of an epic poem. "I'm gaining new perspectives on computer science, technology, the humanities, and how they all relate," says Loery.

"It's not a typical student job," says Heather Tompkins, reference and instruction librarian for the humanities and the students' supervisor. "They have a lot of autonomy, and their assigned tasks are very broad and changing. They have to be self-motivated, and they're learning a lot of skills that they're going to need later in the workplace."

For example, the students get hands-on experience with project management and humanistic research techniques, and they receive training throughout the year on a variety of topics from exhibit planning and web publishing to using advanced software and properly managing large digital media files. They also give presentations to each other on what they've learned in the course of their individual projects. "We try to create a collaborative and supportive work environment," says Tompkins. "I've been impressed with their willingness to teach each other."

"Bringing new technology to the humanities creates so many possibilities," says Kailyn Land '15, a history and Russian double major from Evergreen, Colorado. "I'm learning so much about what humanities work looks like, and how it is changing and evolving in the digital world."



Learn more at go.carleton.edu/humanities

BEYOND THE BALD SPOT

Students from religion professor Shana Sippy's "Global Religions in Minnesota" course worked with Faribault High School students on issues surrounding religious and cultural difference. In an effort to sooth tensions within the school community, the students worked together on an exhibit titled *Hearing the Voices: Celebrating Diversity at Faribault High School*. "Carleton students find fulfillment in helping to promote greater understanding of religious diversity and contributing to a project that has value beyond the classroom," says Sippy.

PUBLIC HUMANITIES

Founded in 2012, Carleton's Center for Community and Civic Engagement has brought increased institutional support to public scholarship and academic civic engagement. The Humanities Center contributes to these efforts by supporting collaborative projects with community partners, public-focused scholarship, and efforts to share faculty research with broad audiences.

"Engaged scholarship, community-based research, and technology offer new ways to wed our passion for research with our dedication to teaching," says Michael McNally '85, religion professor and 2012-13 Broom Fellow for Public Scholarship. "Academic knowledge is often limited by its own particular situation and can benefit from civic engagement," says McNally, who was leader of the Humanities Center's 2012-13 "Varieties of Public Humanities" faculty research seminar.

The Humanities Center's support for public humanities projects allows faculty members to make a greater impact on the community and encourages students to get off campus and apply their studies in new ways. The center's student research assistants have been able to collaborate on community-based faculty research from Minnesota to Burma (Myanmar). "At a residential liberal arts college, learning is everywhere. It happens on campus and in the wider world," says Carleton president Steven Poskanzer. "We want to ensure that our students have a broad range of opportunities to apply their studies in practical ways."

That's one reason religion professor Shana Sippy assigns students in her "Global Religions in Minnesota" course to conduct research on the religious identities of people in nearby

neighborhoods. She uses the students' work in a collaborative web-based project on Minnesota religions, which the Humanities Center supports through digital humanities seed grants and student research assistantships. "This type of work helps students to develop both practical and scholarly skills, cultivating an understanding of the ethical challenges, opportunities, and complexities of representing others in our work," Sippy says. "They realize that Minnesota is home to rich diversity and that there are a host of global communities and cultures in our midst." Sippy also values the bridges between college and community that civic engagement builds. "These types of projects enhance and deepen Carleton's relationship with our neighbors, allowing us to give back to our community as we learn from it."



POETRY TO THE PEOPLE

In celebration of National Poetry Month, the Humanities Center promoted National Poem in Your Pocket Day on April 18, 2013. Faculty members carried their favorite poems with them throughout the day to share with colleagues and students, and also posted them on the Humanities Center's website for everyone to enjoy.

SPEAKING UP

In March 2013 history professor Serena Zabin and Humanities Center director Susannah Ottaway '89 traveled to Washington, D.C., to meet with staff members from the offices of Senators Amy Klobuchar and Al Franken and U.S. Representative John Kline. With funding from the Humanities Center, the Carleton professors were there to lobby on behalf of the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). Zabin spoke about the importance of protecting humanities programs in the face of budget cuts. "Federal funding for the humanities has been slashed dramatically over the past 20 years," says Zabin. "In fact, in 2013, funding for the National Endowment for the Humanities was just 40 percent of what it was in 1994. While serving on an NEH panel to award grants to documentary projects, I read 25 proposals, at least 20 of which were truly excellent. However, the NEH can only afford to fund 14 percent of eligible projects," she adds. "We were trying to rank projects to preserve the papers of Albert Einstein, Abraham Lincoln, Dolly Madison, Martin Luther King Jr., Emma Goldman, and George Washington, among others. These projects are so important and I want to make our legislators aware of what the NEH actually does."

JOINING FORCES

Carleton's Humanities Center joined with humanities leaders at Haverford, Smith, Wellesley, and Wesleyan Colleges in 2013 to design a seminar exploring innovative humanistic approaches to liberal arts scholarship. Funded by the Mellon Foundation through the Alliance to Advance Liberal Arts Colleges (AALAC), the two-day workshop will help faculty members adapt to a small liberal arts setting the successful humanities laboratories currently found at large research universities such as Duke, Harvard, and Stanford. Following the seminar, the Humanities Center will pilot a humanities laboratory at Carleton and compare results with the other participating colleges in the 2015-16 academic year. The faculty partners across all five institutions anticipate that this project will help them raise awareness about interdisciplinary humanities laboratory practices at all 22 AALAC institutions.

GOING BACK TO OUR ROOTS

Inspired by the PBS series *Constitution USA with Peter Sagal*, Carleton's Humanities Center is partnering with the Minnesota Humanities Center and Twin Cities Public Television to host a Northfield community conversation about the nature and importance of the U.S. Constitution in everyday life. The event is one of several such conversations being held across the state on Constitution Day in September 2014. "We are talking with the Minnesota Humanities Center about several potential collaborations," says center director Susannah Ottaway '89, "This is just one example of the great work we can do together."

LEARNING FROM THE BEST

CAMPUS EVENTS IN THE HUMANITIES

The Humanities Center maintains a busy schedule of activities each term, from faculty symposia and film screenings to performances and lectures by distinguished guests. By bringing experts to campus and giving Carleton faculty members a platform to share their research and expertise, the center gives professors, students, and members of the Northfield community a chance to learn from the nation's best teachers on a variety of topics. "This is an important way that we can cultivate the intellectual and cultural life at the college," says director Susannah Ottaway '89.

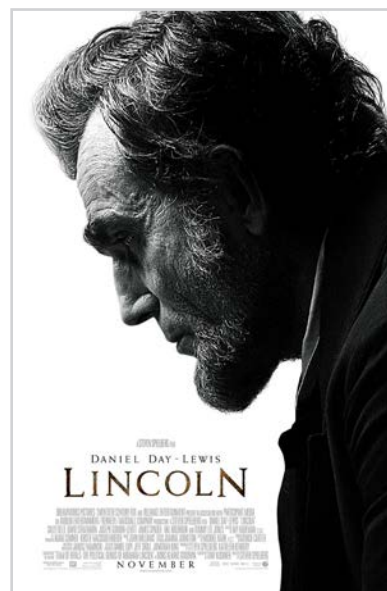
The Humanities Center has a central role in both initiating programs and coordinating supplementary events like reading groups or seminars to supplement public lectures. Thus, distinguished guest lecturers are often able to meet with dozens of faculty members in seminars sponsored by the Humanities Center in addition to giving a public address.

The Humanities Center publishes a calendar of events each term; see a current schedule at apps.carleton.edu/humanities/events.



CONFRONTING CENSORSHIP

Carleton welcomed award-winning novelist Sir Salman Rushdie to campus in October 2013 to deliver the annual Lucas Lecture in the Arts. He spoke to a crowd of 2,300 people about censorship issues, the importance of free speech, and the controversy surrounding the release of his 1988 novel *The Satanic Verses*. Rushdie also participated in a Q&A session in the Weitz Center for Creativity theater moderated by English and South Asian studies professor Arnab Chakladar. In addition to cosponsoring these events, the Humanities Center celebrated Rushdie's visit with a *Satanic Verses* reading group and a faculty symposium on censorship.



HISTORY ACCORDING TO HOLLYWOOD

The Humanities Center partnered with the Departments of African and African American Studies, Economics, and History to sponsor a screening of Steven Spielberg's 2012 film *Lincoln* and a subsequent panel discussion of the history and politics that surrounded emancipation and their representation—both accurate and otherwise—in the film. The discussion featured guests Spencer Crew, the Robinson Professor of American, African American, and Public History at George Mason University; Nikki Taylor, associate professor of history at the University of Cincinnati; Paul Finkelman, the President William McKinley Distinguished Professor of Law and Public Policy at Albany Law School; and Henry Chambers, professor of law at Richmond School of Law.



OVERCOMING RELIGIOUS INTOLERANCE

In preparation for a convocation address by Martha Nussbaum, the Ernst Freund Distinguished Service Professor of Law and Ethics at the University of Chicago, the Humanities Center sponsored a reading group on her recently published book, *Political Emotions*. At Convo, Nussbaum spoke about the necessity of overcoming the politics of fear and the resulting religious intolerance. The center also cosponsored two talks by Omid Safi, professor of Islamic studies at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, about Islamophobia, the unfortunate perils of speech in opposition to political powers, and the intersections between the Middle East, Islam, and the American empire.



SPOTLIGHT ON FACULTY SCHOLARSHIP

The Humanities Center provides Carleton faculty members with many opportunities to share their scholarship with the Carleton and Northfield communities. The 2012–13 academic year featured a rich array of faculty presentations from across the humanities. French professor Chérif Keïta screened *Cemetery Stories: A Rebel Missionary in South Africa*, a documentary he produced that has appeared in film festivals worldwide; art professor David Lefkowitz '85 gave a talk on quasi-fictional places in conjunction with a Northfield Arts Guild exhibit on Nirthfolde, a fictional parallel town that Lefkowitz co-created; and anthropology professor Jay Levi presented on the language of the Holocaust.

THE HUMAN FACTOR

YOUR SUPPORT MAKES A DIFFERENCE

“The founding of the Humanities Center is one of the most exciting developments at Carleton since I arrived more than 30 years ago,” says Cathy Yandell, the W. I. and Hulda F. Daniell Professor of French Literature, Language, and Culture and the first director of the Humanities Center (2008–2011). “From the outset, the center’s founders believed so strongly in its mission that we decided to follow the axiom ‘build it, and they will come.’ We have now built it, and they are coming in droves. We are convinced that we have an excellent model, but with sufficient and sustainable funding, we will be able to offer so much more.”



Harry Williams, Laird Bell Professor of History



By supporting the humanities, alumni and friends will strengthen the core of Carleton’s liberal arts mission. “The humanities involve the study of what makes us human: history, thought, and productions such as art, literature, and music,” says Yandell. “Our studies invite us to take different perspectives and to imagine lives and ideas beyond our own. The humanities encourage students not only to analyze critically and to write convincingly, but also to think capaciously and, ultimately, to live meaningful lives.”

The Humanities Center expands the ways faculty members and students experience the humanities at Carleton by enhancing interdisciplinary exchange and providing opportunities for humanistic practice through research. “We’re giving students invaluable experience and an edge on their résumés, an advantage that Carleton students in the sciences have enjoyed for years,” says Yandell.

Carleton depends upon the support of donors like you to keep the Humanities Center and its innovations going strong for years to come. Learn more at go.carleton.edu/humanities.

To discuss a gift in support of the humanities, please contact a development officer at 800-492-2275.