



The
Aldus
Society

Celebrating Books!

Aldus Society Notes

Fall 2025

Volume 25, No. 3

The Aldus Society Board of Trustees 2025-2026

The By-Laws require that the Board of Trustees consist of seven and not more than twelve Trustees. Trustees serve up to three two-year terms with a possible one-year extension. The Board of Trustees approved the following candidates for two-year terms as trustees, and all were elected by acclamation of the Aldus attendees present at the May 2025 annual meeting.

STEVEN ANDERSSON

To serve the first year of his first two-year term.

M.A., Classics, University of Wisconsin. M.Ed., Education Administration, Ashland University. Instructor of Humanities at Columbus State. Docent at Thurber House.

JOLIE BRAUN

To serve the first year of her third two-year term.

Associate Professor & Curator of Modern Literature and Manuscripts, Rare Books and Manuscripts Library, The Ohio State University.

TOM BREDEHOFT

To serve the first year of his first two-year term.

Book seller and former member of the University of West Virginia English Faculty. Holder of Ph.D. in English from The Ohio State University.

DAVID BRIGHTMAN

To serve the first year of his third two-year term.

Publishing professional.

EMERSON GILBERT

To serve the first year of his second two-year term.

Chair, Hannah News Service. Ph.D. in Adult Education, The Ohio State University.

MADISON GOOD

To serve the first year of her first two-year term.

Operations and Public Services Assistant at Ohio State Thompson Library Special Collections. Graduate of Valdosta State University and The Ohio State University.

TRICIA HERBAN

To serve the first year of her third two-year term.

Board member: Older Wiser Lifelong Scholars. Ph.D. in English Literature, The Ohio State University.

DAN JENSEN

To serve a one-year extension beyond his third two-year term.

Professor Emeritus, Fisher College of Business, The Ohio State University.

THE FOLLOWING ARE CONTINUING MEMBERS OF THE BOARD:

TOM METZ

Serving the second year of his second two-year term.

Content developer, web geek, production editor.

JACK SALLING

Serving the second year of his third two-year term.

Owner, Morocco Bound Books.

Aldus Society Meetings

*Regular meetings of the Aldus Society are held at 7:30 p.m. on the second Thursday of the month between September and May. Meetings are held at **Thurber Center, 91 Jefferson Avenue, Columbus, Ohio** (unless otherwise announced). Socializing at 7:00 p.m. Free parking on Jefferson or behind Thurber House and at State Auto rear parking lot (between 11th St. and Washington).*

The Aldus Society

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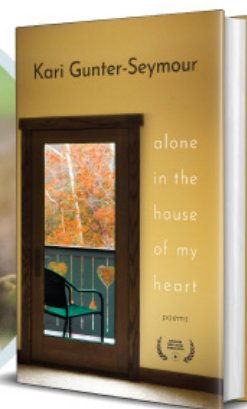
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Program Recap: May 22, 2025

Kari Gunter-Seymour

“Where I Come From It’s Pronounced ‘App-A-Lach-A’”

On May 22, 2025 at the Thurber Center we were entertained by the Poet Laureate of Ohio, Kari Gunter-Seymour, dramatically reading and talking about her poetry, which is inspired by and reflects her home and ancestry. She observed that many people forget that Ohio consists partially of 32



Appalachian counties nestled within the western foothills of the Appalachian Mountains and the Appalachian Plateau, characterized by rough, irregular hills and hollows, formed by the terminal edge of a glacier thousands of years ago. Ms. Gunter-Seymour discussed her own writing and her efforts to encourage and include other writers.



Upcoming 2025-2026 Aldus Programs



Image credit: "The Librarian" by Guiseppe Arcimboldo

Thursday, September 11, 2025: Scholars from the OSU English Ph.D. Program

Scholars from The Ohio State University English Ph.D. program present "Short Talks on New Book History Research." Join the Aldus Society for five short talks by these young scholars on their recent research. The presentations will include: Jessica Crabtree on an 8th-century manuscript in Ohio; Sabrina Durso on James Thurber's vision loss; Eileen A. Horansky on heraldry, print, and authorship in sixteenth-century London; Shaun Russell on the evolution of Shakespeare's sonnets in print; and Samantha Trzinski on marginalia in a copy of *The Mysteries of Udolpho*.

Thursday, October 9, 2025: Sarah Peters Kernan

Sarah Peters Kernan discusses "Manuscript Recipe Books in Early Modern Europe."

Thursday, November 6, 2025: Ann Woods and Bob Tauber

Ann Woods and Bob Tauber present "The Logan Elm Press and the Art of the Book."

Thursday, January 8, 2026: Aldus Collects

Join us for Aldus Collects, a sampler from the in-home collections of Aldus members.

Thursday, February 12, 2026: Tom Bredehoft

Tom Bredehoft discusses "A Table-Top Fine Press from Ohio: Charles C. Bubb's Clerk's Press (1908-17)."

Thursday, March 12, 2026: Caitlin McGurk



Image credit: Brooke LaValley

Caitlin McGurk presents "Tell Me a Story Where the Bad Girl Wins: The Life and Art of Barbara Shermund." In the deeply researched, beautifully written *Tell Me a Story Where the Bad Girl Wins: The Life and Art of Barbara Shermund*, Billy Ireland's curator

of comics and cartoon art shines more light on a once-forgotten artist.

Thursday, April 9, 2026: Thora Brylowe

Thora Brylowe discusses "Early Southern State Passports and the Paper They're Printed On: A Little-Known American Story."

Thursday, May 14, 2026: Ron Shaull



Image credit: Ron Shaull

Ron Shaull presents "A History of Paper, From Pulp to Pixel." Ron Shaull is a central Ohio hand papermaker, paper artist, bookmaker, and writer. He's a member of the Morgan Conservatory, Pyramid Atlantic Art Center, North American Hand Papermakers, and the

International Association of Papermaking Artists. He has studied under master papermakers throughout the United States and Italy. His work in pulp painting, paper weaving and bookmaking has appeared in several group exhibitions. Ron uses discarded fabric and locally sourced natural fibers such as maiden grass, lake reeds, corn husk, day lily and iris leaves in his papermaking. He recently retired from a decades-long career in communications and marketing.

Special UFO October Events

October 22 & October 28

“Out of this World?: Science Fiction & UFOs in Mid-Twentieth Century America”

In the late 1940s following World War II, both science fiction and UFOs entered the mainstream in unprecedented ways: in 1946, the first significant sci-fi anthologies were released by major publishers, and a year later, the first widely documented UFO sighting was recorded. Amidst the Cold War and the Space Race of 1950s and 1960s, both the popularity of science fiction and the fascination with UFOs exploded. By reflecting the optimism and anxieties of the era, they became fundamental parts of the American popular imagination.

Drawing from the Rare Books & Manuscripts Library's (RBML) collections, this pop-up exhibit explores



**Flying saucer endpapers from a bound collection of
Amazing Stories, PZ1.Z9 A45 v.3:no.1-4**

the parallel worlds of science fiction and UFOs during the middle of the twentieth century, including moments at which they sometimes converged. Attendees will have a chance to see a range of unique materials, such as sci-fi pulp magazines, fanzines, and paperbacks, UFOlogy publications, mainstream periodicals, Star Trek scripts, and more.

This event is a collaboration between Thompson Library Special Collections and the Mansfield Campus's Bromfield Library and Information Commons. It will be hosted at Thompson Library on October 22 and the Bromfield Library on October 28. Full details are below.

Columbus campus event:

Date: Wednesday, October 22

Location: Thompson Library, Room 150 A/B

Time: 3:00-6:00 pm

Mansfield campus event:

Date: Tuesday, October 28

Location: Bromfield Library and Information Commons, Conard Hall

Time: 12:30-1:50 pm

Poetry by John M. Bennett

mud diary

in a circled pit I grabbed a burning
stick it's forgotten window streaked
with sleep . saw my leg & hair , saw my
wind ~ blown back word , a crumpled
tree leafless in its journal , where a text
is charred



the river clothed

I was under named I was slathered
with a greasy book's slit pages ,
bound with hands & ants , a title
streamed ≈ with rain's gagged
branches , a table where my bread
sliced slept . "your laundry flo

wed down the up slope"

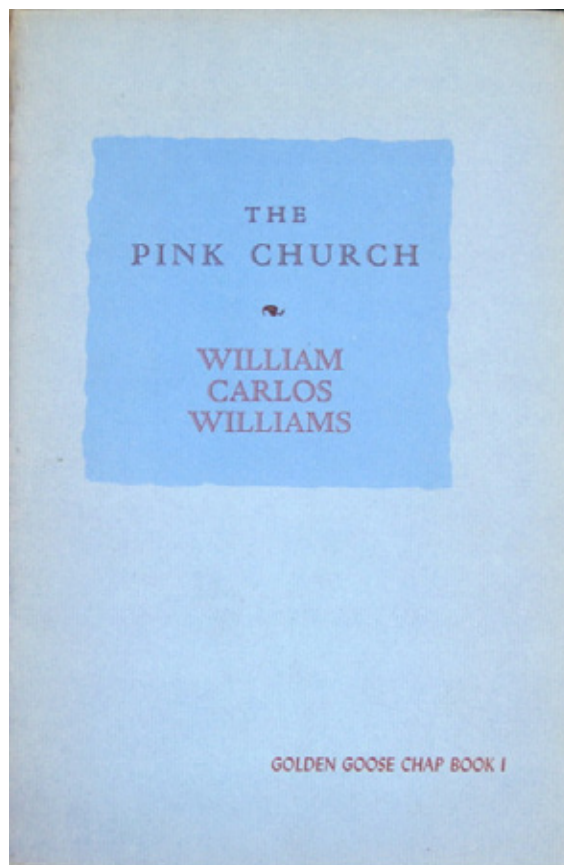


Rare Ohio Books: The Golden Goose Press

By Tom Bredehoff

With over two centuries of printing history, Ohio has been the home of some notable rare books, and while I have never actively collected books just because they were printed in Ohio, an Ohio book has often been doubly welcome if it also fits into one of my collections. One of those collections has been literary books with small print runs (I usually think of that as a hundred or fewer copies), and I have picked up a few Ohio books over the years that were issued in such limited editions, including a couple from the Golden Goose Press.

The Golden Goose Press—a publishing enterprise mostly driven by a poet named Richard Wirtz Emerson—seems to have been a small operation (some sense of their history can be gleaned online from the Heritage Auctions catalogue of their archive, which sold in 2014). They began printing in Columbus, it seems, in 1949, moving to Sausalito, California, in 1952 or 1953, before shutting down completely in 1954 or 1955. Mostly they issued poetry chapbooks, either by a single author or else in the format of an ongoing journal. A forward-looking press, Golden Goose eventually published poet Robert Creeley's first book; this alone would have been enough to guarantee a place in literary history, but a number of other poets also published with the press during its run.



Some of the earliest chapbooks issued from Columbus were printed in only 250 or 400 copies, and at least some of those items were simultaneously issued in signed limited editions of as few as 25 copies. Naturally, a book issued in only 25 copies is a rare book, and I've been fortunate to come across two of these Golden Goose rarities for my collection: Henry Rago's *The Travelers* (Golden Goose Chapbook 4) and William Carlos Williams's *The Pink Church* (Golden Goose Chapbook 1). Since Williams is by far the more famous poet, *The Pink Church* is a far more collectible book, and the two books together make a fine example of how rarity alone is only part of what makes a rare book into a "rare book." As limited signed editions issued simultaneously with an unsigned edition, these books have a kind

of artificial rarity—but for collectors of William Carlos Williams, the signed version of *The Pink Church* is surely a very difficult item to secure.

Since these early Golden Goose books were published and printed right here in Columbus, it is absolutely possible that undiscovered or underappreciated copies of early Golden Goose Press titles might be lurking still on local bookshelves. Finding one might well be the equivalent of finding the goose that lays golden eggs.

The Crime of Calixtus

By J.R. Salling

Florence, February 7, 1497. A single folio leaf, separated from its binding, hovers like a wayward osprey above a crackling pyre of burning books. For a moment, it glows—scripture revealed to a neophyte prophet—then vanishes into ash. But if anyone imagined something sacred lost, they dared not speak it, not before Savonarola's zealots, not before this bonfire of the vanities.

Books have long been consigned to both real and proverbial flame, a popular sport, even today. Yet, amid these theatrical rituals of Renaissance destruction, subtler bibliocrimes passed without outcry—quiet affairs easily

committed when the culprit wore a papal ring. And the victim was not the texts themselves but—painful though it is to contemplate—their bindings.

Bibliophiles such as myself rarely forget such violations. Our case history begins a half-century before Savonarola, on the eve of Gutenberg's press, in the Rome of Pope Nicholas V. An avid collector of rare manuscripts who organized Cosimo de' Medici's library (arguably the finest of its time), he sought to surpass it after ascending the throne of St. Peter in 1447. His efforts laid the foundation for what would become the

Vatican Library, formally established in 1475 by Sixtus IV.

Building on an inherited trove of 350 Latin codices, plus several in Greek and Hebrew, Nicholas employed book scouts to comb scattered collections for rare and neglected volumes. He also assembled many of the era's finest translators and humanist scholars, commissioning them to produce authoritative Latin versions of Greek classics.

Estimates range from 600 to 9,000 volumes amassed by his death in 1455. A postmortem inventory lists 807 Latin manuscripts with a total number of volumes estimated between 1,100 and 1,500, stored in eight large chests, perhaps to discourage theft.

Nicholas revered not only the texts of antiquity but the physical book itself. He insisted that all commissioned manuscripts be copied on parchment by expert calligraphers and bound in crimson velvet with silver clasps and bosses. To him, the physical book carried a sanctity that words alone could not bear.

Renaissance historian Georg Voigt wrote: "It was his greatest joy to walk about his library, arranging the books and glancing through their pages, admiring the handsome bindings, and taking pleasure in contemplating his own arms stamped on those that had been dedicated to him."

The ideas thrilled him as well. According to Stuart Murray's *The Library: An Illustrated History*, while the Vatican Library was still being planned, Nicholas kept his rarest books in his bedroom, with others close by. Meals were often accompanied by passages read aloud. Books became his refuge as the Catholic world faced an existential crisis. In 1453, Constantinople fell to the Ottoman Turks. Nicholas called for a new crusade, but little came of it before his death.

His successor, Alfonso Borgia, crowned as Calixtus III, shared none of his predecessor's bibliophilic passions. War against the infidel was his consuming objective. Though the Hungarians checked the Ottomans at Belgrade in 1456 with some papal aid, Calixtus lacked the resources to take the offensive.

To raise funds, he resorted to unprecedented measures, at least in scale. He sold indulgences, cardinalates, annulments, and grants of papal territory. He imposed taxes, setting precedents that would come back to haunt the Church in the next century. Then he began to empty the Vatican itself, selling off its gold, silver, and artwork. The library did not escape.

The most damning testimony came from Francesco Filelfo, the outspoken humanist scholar. He accused Calixtus of taking an immediate dislike to the library's matching bindings.

"Instead of commending the wisdom of his predecessor," he wrote, "he cried out as he entered the library, 'See now, where the treasure of God's Church has gone!'"

Filelfo claimed he dispersed them among friends and allies.

In his exhaustive 19th-century *History of the Popes*, Ludwig Pastor challenged Filelfo's contemporary account—if only, he noted, because most of the books acquired by Nicholas remain today in the Vatican. A few may have been given away or loaned, he suggested, but these were exceptions.

Yet what Pastor confirmed is heinous enough: Calixtus ordered the bindings stripped from the text blocks and sold.

Covers vanished. Scraps melted down. Pawned. Sacrificed for swords and bribes, mercenaries and messengers. Most of the manuscripts themselves at least appear to have survived, depending upon what original number one accepts, but ghostlike, flayed of their splendor. They now bear the later protection of paper wraps, crude leather, or rough wooden boards hastily stitched or nailed.

It was a crime. As a collector of fine bindings, I can almost hear the silence breaking as the first silver boss was pried loose, a clerk's knife slicing through velvet. I feel a gut-jolt, like the moment a roller coaster drops.

A room once filled with candlelight and reverence became a scene of quiet desecration.

The Vatican Library began to recover a few decades later and today boasts an incredible collection with over 1.6 million books, manuscripts, and incunabula. But the wound remains, felt perhaps by the few scholars permitted in its underground vaults, as they gently turn the pages of one of Nicholas's surviving acquisitions, such as Lorenzo Valla's translation of Thucydides or Theophrastus's *De plantis*, ashamed, perhaps, of an imagined beauty stripped away.

Throwback: December 2015 Holiday Dinner

Left: Roger Jerome

Right: George Bauman



Author in Our Midst: Sam West

By Emerson Gilbert

The motorcycle roars as poetry flows from this issue's "Author in Our Midst." Sam West, a longtime member of the Aldus Society who can, if you ask, regale you with stories of his adventures on his Moto Guzzi and Bimota motorcycles, often told through his poetry. You know him, the quiet gentleman who told us of his collection of books and movies on motorcycles at the 2017 "Aldus Collects" program, and who poses poignant questions for Aldus presenters.



Sam West wrote in an earlier issue of *Aldus Society Notes*, "I have studied philosophy, religion and addiction, and of course, the human condition. I have been a mechanic, a counselor, a race team owner, and a fabricator of carbon fiber parts. My back hurts. I am tired and grumpy. Young women are bemused when I flirt. I know what a cup of coffee costs, as I do the price of whiskey."

His love for "the road" began at the age of eighteen, when a friend introduced him to the world of cycling and he quickly developed a love for riding. "It is a totally sensual experience because it involves all your senses in order to know exactly where you are on the road in relation to everything around you. You even notice the change in temperature from the top of the hill to the bottom and the exhilarating feeling when you enter a curve too fast and make it through. You can tell how a curve develops by the way telephone lines converge or don't, as do the edges of the road. Overall, I love the sense of freedom, the acceleration and the onslaught of the unpredictable."

He has ridden Honda, BMW, Bimota, Ducati, and



Moto Guzzi motorcycles on the back roads of every state East of the Mississippi River, often composing his next poem over the soft sounds of the Guzzi and roar of the Bimota. Riding a motorcycle, Sam says, and writing a poem are similar experiences, involving both body and mind. He prefers riding alone, taking time to talk with folks he meets along the way.

Sam graduated from Jackson Memorial High School in Massillon, Ohio, and has a BA degree in philosophy from Marietta College and a master's degree in alcohol and drug abuse ministry from the Methodist Theological School in Delaware, Ohio. He says he had intended to continue his education and interest in psychology at the University of Chicago until a lady stole his heart and kept him in Columbus; that was in 1989.

Sam began writing poetry in high school. He likes writing minimalist poetry, using the fewest words possible. He continues to write, drawing from his personal experiences, observations, and new insights.

In 2017, he wrote and published *The Biker and the Babe*, a book of his poems which he says is a composite of the women he has known and "is a biker's eye view of the world held in a time where god may or may not exist; where the defining existential elements are the aches, pain, the open invitation to the ride, and the solitary willingness to travel."

Sam was owner of an American Motorcycle Association Road Racing Team, which competed in Superbike competition, and has been a prevention specialist and alcohol and drug counselor. He has made carbon fiber automobile parts, was an antique dealer and a field agent for the Department of Commerce. He has lived in Canton, Kent and Plain City, Ohio; East Greenwich, Rhode Island; Holly Springs, Mississippi; and now, Columbus.

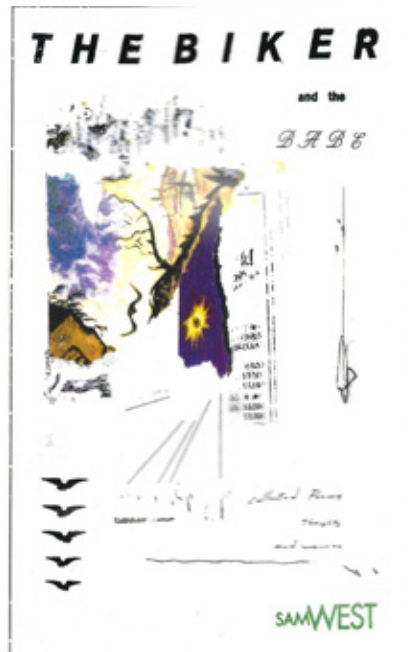
Sam composes poetry at his desk at home in 3x5' notebooks "that fit in my shirt pocket," writing with pencil while listening to classical music, writing as inspiration strikes, sometimes while reading, sometimes

in bed, “wherever I happen to be.”

Sam collects both books and art. “My parents were hoarders,” he said, “and many of the items in my collection came from them, but now I tend to get rid of excess, keeping only things that make me smile,” though he says he has too many books, including a small collection of erotica.

His interests are broad and beyond books; at one time he had fifteen motorcycles, shotguns, rifles, Alfa Romeos, and pistols. He owned horses but found it was the tack that was expensive so with his last horse, he sold the tack and gave the horse with it.

Currently, Sam is writing poetry and prose on a variety of topics, but mostly with erotica themes, and riding his 2004 Moto Guzzi throughout central Ohio. He intends to publish his next poetry book this year.



are you having fun
does your work bring a smile
to your face
and make the heart
happy?
that is the question
for the biker
and the babe

From *The Biker and the Babe*, by Sam West

Inverted Insults

By Donald Tunnicliff Rice

I’m not sure how or when it started, but at some point years ago I realized there was a category of words that were coined as insults, but which eventually became standard terms and sometimes even compliments. After I recognized their existence, they started popping up here and there. Three recent examples are *queer*, *nerd*, and *geek*.

Politics has long been a good source of inverted insults. Clinton’s Ditch, Seward’s Icebox, and Bush’s War are three examples of the way in which politicians’ opponents have tried to stigmatize them by attaching their names to programs or policies expected to fail. In the end DeWitt Clinton and William H. Seward were honored by having been given ownership of the Erie Canal and the territory of Alaska. No such luck for George H. W. Bush who, I’m afraid, will forever own an unpopular war, but in time only historians will recognize the meaning.

Portmanteau words are another method of incorporating a politician’s name into a new term, Gerrymander, Reaganomics, and Obamacare being three well-known examples. Elbert Gerry’s namesake will always have a negative connotation, and the insult remains *uninverted*; melding Ronald Reagan’s name with economics was first done by an admirer, and whether it’s an insult or a compliment today depends wholly on who’s saying it; the same currently holds true for Barack Obama’s attachment to health care. According to Elspeth Reeve, writing in *The Wire*, “Obamacare” was

first uttered publicly by a politician on May 30, 2007, and the speaker was Mitt Romney. He did not intend it to be complimentary. If the Affordable Health Care Act should ultimately prove to be a failure, *Obamacare* will fade away as a sort of nonce-word, much as *Reaganomics* is destined to drop out of general use. But should the Act succeed, *Obamacare* might very well join other inverted insults such as *baroque*, *cockney*, and *Quaker* as standard terms. I offer them and a few other examples below:

Balloon Frame

In the 1830s a Chicago carpenter devised a relatively simple method of constructing a home out of 2 X 4s, 2 X 8s and 1 X 10s. It was derided as *balloon construction* by established house builders, suggesting that such a home would blow away in the first storm. They didn’t, of course, and it took almost no time at all for the term to become the established way of referring to such construction.

Baptist

According to Henry C. Vedder, a respected Baptist historian writing in 1907, the name Baptist “was not chosen by themselves, but was applied to them by their opponents.” He went on to write that the name “seems to have been first publicly used by one of the body in 1654.” And they’ve been Baptists ever since.

Baroque

The word derives from the Portuguese term *pérولا barroca* that was used to describe irregular pearls. In May of 1773 a French music critic flippantly described Rameau's *Hippolyte et Aricie* as "du barocque" as a way to indicate its misshapen and complicated form. In some instances the word still carries a pejorative connotation, but it has long been the standard term for music composed between 1600 and 1750.

Clinton's Ditch

Many people had seen the advantages of a canal connecting Lake Erie with the Hudson River, but its construction was connected more with DeWitt Clinton's name than any other. Thus, its opponents, hoping to destroy Clinton's career and the canal with one thrust, made the mistake of naming the effort Clinton's Ditch. The Erie Canal was a success and, as a direct result, Clinton was elected governor of New York.

Cockney

No one knows for sure the etymology of the word *cockney*, but both Shakespeare and Chaucer intended it to mean something along the lines of *idiot*. Today it refers to those who speak a particular kind of English generally found among people born and reared in London's East End and those so named don't consider it an insult at all.

Hell's Kitchen

According to one version, a rookie cop said of a particularly rough slum in New York City, "This place is hell itself," to which an older veteran replied, "Hell's a mild climate. This is Hell's kitchen." Wherever its source, it was obviously not a developer's marketing term. Indeed, developers have tried to change it, even though it no longer connotes, as one reporter put it in 1881, "probably the lowest and filthiest [section] in the city." Today it merely denotes an area between 59th Street to the north and 34th Street to the south, bounded on the east by Eighth Avenue and on the west by the Hudson River.

Big Bang

Fred Hoyle first used the term in 1949 as a pejorative for a theory in which he never believed; however, many other scientists believed then—and still do today—that was how our universe began and found the term useful. In 1993 *Sky and Telescope* ran a contest to find a better name. A panel of judges (Carl Sagan, Hugh Downs, and Timothy Ferris) after wading through 13,099 suggestions decided that none of them was superior to *Big Bang*, and so it remains.

Impressionism

A French art critic, unfavorably comparing Monet's painting, *Impression, soleil levant*, to "embryonic wallpaper," in his 1874 review, "The Exhibition of the Impressionists," intending the title to be an insult. Monet and his fellow artists were happy to adopt the term.

The Nation's Attic

Back in the late 1800s when Spencer Fullerton Baird, the second secretary of the Smithsonian, was amassing boxcar-sized collections of material, critics snidely referred to the institution as "the nation's attic." Today it's the world's largest collection of collections, and the folks who run the place have embraced the sobriquet.

Quaker

Arrested after disturbing a religious meeting, George Fox, founder of the group, told the judges at his trial that they should quake before the Word of the Lord. Picking up on this, one of the judges derisively referred to Fox and his followers as *quakers*. They rejected the name, preferring to call themselves Friends, but the term stuck and today is universally used.

Seward's Icebox

In 1867, the Senate approved by only one vote Secretary of State William Seward's negotiated price of \$7.2 million (about two cents an acre) for the purchase of Alaska from the Russians. They did so in spite of the deal's being derided as "Seward's Icebox" and "Seward's Folly." He died only five years later, not having lived long enough to see his vision proved to be spot on, but long enough to see it generally accepted as a good move.

Suffragette

A journalist for the London *Daily Mail*, Charles E. Hands, first used the term *Suffragettes* in 1906 to ridicule a militant group of women agitating for the right to vote. The members of the all-female WSPU (Women's Social and Political Union) quickly adopted the term to distinguish themselves from the *suffragists*, who preferred parliamentary methods over direct action.

Tory

In mid-seventeenth-century Ireland, the word *tóraidhe* was a synonym for outlaw or robber. In its shorter form it was used to identify those who backed James, the Catholic Duke of York as the rightful

successor to the English throne. The Tories evolved into opponents of religious tolerance and foreign entanglements, eventually becoming the Conservative Party, but still referred to as Tories, which has become a standard term.

Yet a few more...

Here are another eight common terms that have equally interesting histories. How many would you have recognized as inverted insults? Blue Stocking, Cowboy, Gothic, Methodist, Muckraker, Puritan, Whig, and Windjammer.

And last but not least...

My favorite assortment of inverted insults comes from linguists, a contentious lot who never hesitate to show their disdain for one another's theories. They're at their most entertaining, I think, when ridiculing what they believe are faulty theories concerning the beginnings of language. In many cases they're probably right to criticize, but their insults have eventually become the standard terms. I'll mention some of the more popular: Bow-wow, Ding-dong, Ha-ha, Sing-song, Pooh-pooh, Yo-he-yo, La-la, Ta-ta, Ma-ma, and Pa-pa. These were obviously coined by people who know their way around words. [Snickers.]

Just a Word...

By Tricia Herban

Hope

Hope looks forward—for you can't redo the past. Hope is like a child, waking slowly from an afternoon nap—the recollection of morning faint in her head and the opportunity of the afternoon just within grasp of outstretched hands. Hope opens its eyes, searching for the good, the caring, the potential in life. Hope believes in the possibility of abundance—in a world, a place, a time, when there is enough for everyone. Seen through a child's eyes, hope is the yellow brick road, a path forward in safety. Hope offers the surprise of unanticipated discovery. Like the old game Twenty Questions, hope includes “animal, vegetable, and mineral.” Hope can be held in little fingers and the palm of an old man's hand. An acorn, a winged milkweed seed, a pearl, a shell, or a firefly—all offer the hope of new life, of shelter, of ineffable beauty. As fragile as cottonwood seeds or as strong as a thread of silk unwinding from a cocoon, hope harbors the potential in nature and in our hearts. Hope offers life, and life—our lives—offer hope to each other and the world.

Fall 2025 Programs at Thurber House

Register at thurberhouse.org



Grades 9-12
In-Person & Virtual



Five New Instructors!
In-Person & Virtual



With Bo Kaprall (*Laverne & Shirley*) – Virtual



Joyful Self-Care & Stress Relief (Ages 14 to Adult)



October 8: Social Mixer for Book Lovers



October 11: FREE Family-Friendly Halloween Activities



October 18: Halloween Murder Mystery & Spooky Social



November 13: Essayist Sarah Chihaya (Co-Presented by OSU)



November 19: New Yorker Cartoonist Tom Toro



Who are we?

OWLS began its unique lifelong learning opportunities in 1995. Our mission is to provide engaging courses for lifelong learners ages 55 and up.

Fall 2025 Courses

Course Name	Instructor	Dates
Caribbean Culture	Dr. Spencer Dew and Dr. Maria Ramirez	October 3 and 6
Lift Every Voice	Dr. Robert Bode	October 9 and 10
History and Impact of Trains on our Society	Dr. Patrick Allit and All Aboard of Ohio	October 13 and 14
How to View and Appreciate Great Movies	Dr. Eric Williams	October 18 and 23
Exploration of the Role of Women in Christian, Muslim, Jewish and Hindu Faiths	Dr. Linda Mercadante, Nicol Ghazi, Preeti Machanda, Dr. Yohnatan Nativ	October 17 and 24
Indigenous People Today - Culture, Challenges and Celebration of Identity	Chris Weller and guests	October 20 and 21
Tariff Tango	Dr. Stephen Hills Dr. Ian Sheldon Steve Stivers	October 27 and 29
Demystifying Cryptocurrency	Dr. Takeshi Tsuyuguchi	October 31

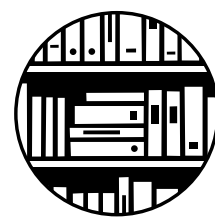
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**The OWLS school operates the entire month of October each year
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