
AHEA Newsletter: November 2023

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American Hungarian Educators Association <aheanews@gmail.com>

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November 2023 Newsletter

President's Corner

Dear Members and Friends of AHEA,

As we navigate these transformative times together, I am energized by the programs and opportunities that lie ahead. First, instead of spending the day shopping on Black Friday, I encourage all of you to join our online conference on Friday, November 24. We have a fantastic line-up of papers and the discussions that follow are sure to inspire new connections. Registration is free, but you need to [click on this link](#) to receive the zoom invitation.

Also, please remember to plan early and submit your abstract for next year's conferences. All information [is on our website](#). This year, I encourage you to try to maximize your conference attendance by collaborating with colleagues. Try to propose thematic clusters, roundtables, and innovative program ideas. Special thanks to Zsolt Máté, who compiled a starter list of archives close to Rutgers, so that you can combine your conference attendance with research in [one of these rich collections](#). This is particularly important for scholars who may travel from far away and may need to seek funding to do research. If you know about other libraries or research centers close by, please let us know and we will add them to the list.

Read on to find a wealth of information, and please reach out to me personally if you have any suggestions or ideas about AHEA and our upcoming programs: hl4@stmarys-ca.edu.

Thank you for your ongoing support!

Warm regards, üdvözlettel,
Helga Lenart-Cheng

Food and Friendship: AHEA's Fulbright Outreach

A report by **Andrew Lee**, AHEA Membership Development Committee & former Fulbrighter



On the warm, stormy evening of Saturday, September 9, Enikő Basa kindly invited Fulbright awardees and members of the Hungarian diaspora to her home for an evening of hearty food and enjoyable conversation. Enikő, a tireless supporter of AHEA dating back to its founding, has been stalwart in her efforts to connect Hungarians with America through her work in the Washington, DC metro area. Enikő hosted a superb multi-course dinner that concluded with desserts and coffee that kept guests engaged over more than three hours (though understandably, little ones seen in the picture above were not able to make through the entire evening).

In addition to AHEA, Fulbright, and diaspora communities, Enikő was especially honored to welcome a new member of the Hungarian diplomatic corps, Zsuzsanna Fekete, who started her posting at the Washington, DC embassy only in March and is tasked with promoting connections amongst the members of the Hungarian diaspora.

This event served as a continuation of Enikő's hospitality towards Hungarian scholars and students to the DC area since exchange activities have resumed at the end of COVID. Whether it be hosting dinners, sending welcoming emails, or planning DC-area activities, Enikő's important work has warmly welcomed Hungarians to Washington. It is hoped her outreach may also serve as a model for other regional or urban outreach efforts to warmly welcome Hungarians to America visiting through exchange programs.

Online Poetry Reading Memorial for Paul Sohar

The late poet and AHEA member **Paul Sohar** will be remembered on **Sunday, November 19** at 2PM (EST)/8pm (CET) in an online gathering. The event is organized by Ellen Foos (Ragged Sky Press, Princeton) and Alan Britt (poet). Fellow members and friends are invited to [attend via Zoom using this link.](#)

Member Spotlight

AHEA is a scholarly organization connecting a diverse set of educators, researchers, professionals, independent scholars and academics who come from many walks of life. Each month we highlight the academic and professional career of a different AHEA member.



This month's featured member is **Dávid Szolláth**,
Senior Research Fellow at the Institute for Literary Studies, Research Center
for Humanities, in Budapest

Please tell us a little bit about your career arc, especially what led you to become a scholar of Hungarian literature.

Maybe I just followed a family model? Both my parents were teachers (Dad: history and literature; Mom: art history). I was an only child so I grew up among my parents' books. I was a typical bookworm kid. I remember I looked for some profession where reading whole day long is considered legal. And of course I was lucky with my teachers from elementary school up to university. My years at the University of Pécs were decisive; I had the best teachers one could ask for. We cannot emphasize enough the role of teachers today in Hungary. But my teaching career was rather short, and after some years of being an assistant lecturer at Pécs and later at the University of Theatre and Film Arts, Budapest, I became a full-time researcher. Which I love also, so I have no complains. I can do what I love the most: read and write about my readings.

How did you find out about AHEA, and what brought you to join?

First I was a humble reader of *Hungarian Cultural Studies* so I felt really honored when Louise O. Vasvári invited our little Department of Literary Theory at the Institute of Literary Studies, Budapest, to publish a cluster of papers in *HCS*. (It was volume 10 from 2017, with guest editors György C. Kálmán and Zoltán Z. Varga.) It was also Louise who introduced me to the AHEA community at the 2019 Pittsburgh conference. I feel very lucky to have met many members of AHEA there. Early this year, in Hamden, CT, after a long break due to COVID, these people welcomed me as a friend. It was heartwarming.

What impact has your involvement with AHEA made on your career and/or your work?

I was always fascinated by the history and culture of Hungarian communities living abroad. When I was a graduate student, I made an Erasmus year in Paris, where I first met the strong Hungarian emigré community of the French capital at the time. It was truly an experience to meet Hungarians with so unbelievably different personal and cultural memories, different historical backgrounds. At the AHEA conferences when I hear the stories of the Hungarian-Americans I am always amazed, but at the same time I feel myself almost ashamed, since back home we know very little about Hungarian diaspora. Listening to these family stories and reading studies, memoirs etc., about Hungarian-American histories has considerably changed my view of twentieth-century Hungarian history. I think we could call this an "impact."

Tell us, please, about your current project.

My first book was about writers and literature in Hungarian Communism, the second was a collection of studies, the third was a monograph about the writer Miklós Mészöly. Now I venture to do some comparative research on Central European fiction. I know this is an old cliché, but after spending a little time in Cracow, Poland I think people of the region have so much in common. So I started to dig a little deeper into Polish, Slovakian, Ukrainian fiction to have a better view on regional self-understanding as it reflected in our novels.

Register NOW for the 2023 Online Conference on November 24

Featured on the calendar of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences!

AHEA ONE-DAY ONLINE - HYBRID CONFERENCE

Dealing with all aspects of the interaction between Hungarians and others, or Hungarians and Hungarian communities abroad.

Presentations are made by members of the American Hungarian Educators Association, academics, independent scholars, educators, and graduate students who are devoted to the teaching, research, and dissemination of Hungarian culture, history, folklore, literature, linguistics, pedagogy, fine arts, and music.

The official languages of the conference are English and Hungarian.

[Register Now](#)



More Info
<https://ahea.net/home>

AHEA presentations: Ontario Room

Crowne Plaza Cleveland Airport, 7230 Engle Rd.,
Middleburg Hts., OH 44130

Design: Eva Szabo

DEPENDENCIES AND ALLIANCES



Date
November 24, 2023



Time
9:00AM - 5:00PM EST

Concurrently with the
Hungarian Association
Conference in Cleveland, Ohio

**A 62. Magyar Kongresszus /
The 62nd Hungarian Congress**



Call for Abstracts: 2024 AHEA Conference

American Hungarian Educators Association 48th Annual Conference

May 2 – 4, 2024
Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ USA

The American Hungarian Educators Association (AHEA) will hold its 48th Annual Conference **in person** at Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ, USA. We welcome participation by academics, independent scholars, and graduate students interested in Hungarian culture, history, literature, linguistics, sociology, anthropology, political science, education, folklore, fine arts, music, and other related disciplines.

This year's conference theme is: Reimagining Boundaries: Hungary and Hungarians in a Global Context

Presentations should report the results of original research. Proposals can address a broad range of topics dealing with Hungarian culture, including interactions between Hungarians and others, as well as life in the Hungarian diaspora. We also welcome presentations on methodology and those that provide directions for future research.

Abstract submission deadline: **January 15, 2024.**

Abstracts are reviewed on a rolling basis. Presenters should expect to hear back within two weeks.

Abstracts (200-250 words) should be submitted through [this form](#).

Submission guidelines:

- The official languages of the conference are English and Hungarian. Abstracts and presentations in either language are welcome.
- Only one "Individual Presentation" per author will be considered. Roundtables, workshops, and book presentations are exceptions in that scholars participating in those can also submit an "individual presentation".
- All authors must be AHEA members. Information on joining or renewing membership may be found on the [AHEA website](#).

We invite abstracts in the following categories:

- **Individual presentations** describe original research by the author. Altogether the total time allotment is thirty minutes (15 - 20 minutes for the presentation and 10 - 15 for questions and discussion).
- **Panel discussions** are for interactive discussion of a topic among a panel of experts. Typically, a panel of two or three speakers makes introductory remarks. The audience is then invited to make comments and question the panel. Panel discussions are scheduled for 60 minutes and run concurrently with other sessions.
- **Workshops** provide training on a specific skill, technique, or process and may involve one or more instructors. Workshops are intended to emphasize learning through participation, discussion, and "hands-on" activities. Workshop organizers must specify an upper limit on attendance. Workshops are scheduled for 90 minutes.
- **Roundtable discussions** are intended for informal discussions of pressing current topics important to scholars in the field and to provide a venue to both share with and learn from each other. Each submission should have no less than three participants knowledgeable in the discipline.
- **Book Presentations:** Recently published books are invited for presentation either by the author or by an interested reader. These offer a short, max. 10 - minute synopsis of a book published within the last year and of potential interest to the members of AHEA.

Az Amerikai Magyar Tanáregyesület évente megrendezi tudományos konferenciáját, amelynek témája a magyar kultúra, történelem, irodalom, nyelvészet, szociológia, antropológia, politológia, pedagógia, néprajz, szépművészet, zene és más kapcsolódó tudományágak.

48. éves konferenciánk helyszíne a **Rutgers University**, New Brunswick, New Jersey-ben.

A konferencia témája: Újragondolt mezsgyék: Magyarország és a magyarok a nagyvilágban.

Az előadások nyelve angol, de örömmel fogadunk magyar nyelvű előadásokat is. Szeretettel várunk konferenciánkra minden kollégát, érdeklődőt. Akik a fenti témához kapcsolódva a jelzett területek bármelyikéről előadást szeretnének tartani, kérjük, hogy absztraktjukat **2024. január 15-ig online adják be.**

Contact: info@ahea.net

CfP: 2024 University of Debrecen-AHEA Joint Hybrid Conference

Call for Papers (CFP)

“Johnson-Reed 100 Years Later”: Critical Reflections on the Global Legacy of US Immigration Quotas, 1924-2024



This international conference is organized by the Institute of English and American Studies at the **University of Debrecen**, Hungary in partnership with the **American Hungarian Educators Association** to mark the 100th Anniversary of the US Immigration Act of 1924.

Date: August 22-23, 2024

Venue: Debrecen, Hungary, Main Building of the University of Debrecen

In commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the Johnson-Reed Act, we are delighted to

invite scholars, researchers, educators, and practitioners from diverse disciplines to participate in an international conference to critically reflect on the perceptions and impact of the US Immigration Act of 1924 and other restrictive measures of the time on global migration trajectories and policy. More broadly, this interdisciplinary conference aims to explore the multifaceted dimensions of migration and its complex interactions with history, literature, cultural studies, film studies, inter-American studies, and various other academic fields. We encourage submissions that offer innovative insights, historical analysis, and contemporary interpretations of the implications of migration and immigration restriction in shaping societies, cultures, and identities.

The conference will be held in person with an opportunity for participants joining from outside Hungary to present in hybrid sessions.

Confirmed plenary speakers:

1. Ashley Johnson Bavery, Associate Professor, Eastern Michigan University, USA
2. Anna A. Mazurkiewicz, Associate Professor, University of Gdansk, Poland
3. Mónika Szente-Varga, Associate Professor, Ludovika University of Public Service, Hungary

We welcome proposals that delve into a wide range of topics related to the US immigration quotas introduced in 1921 and 1924, and in more general the reasons for and impact of immigration restriction, including but not limited to:

- Historical analysis of the Johnson-Reed Act and its implications for immigration to the United States
- Impact of the American regulations on other countries in the Americas · The role of the Johnson-Reed Act in shaping European migration trajectories · Immigration to the Americas from Central and Eastern Europe after 1924
- The interplay between immigration quotas and notions of identity, race, and ethnicity
- Comparative approaches to the history of immigration and immigration restriction in the Americas and Europe
- Intended and unintended consequences of immigration restriction
- Cultural products (e.g., art, music, theater) reflecting on immigration and/or immigration restriction; literary and filmic representations of the migration experience
- The role of film in shaping public perceptions of immigration and migration policies
- Human rights perspectives on immigration quotas and their effects on vulnerable populations
- The influence of immigration quotas on transnational communities and diasporas
- Evaluations of American immigration policy and reforms

We invite proposals for:

- Individual (20-minute) papers focusing on specific research topics, case studies, or theoretical perspectives related to the conference theme
- Work-in-progress presentations by PhD students (10 minutes)
- Themed panels of three papers addressing a cohesive topic related to the conference theme
- Roundtable discussions

Submission guidelines: Submit your abstracts with a brief bio on the following website under "Abstract submission": <https://konferencia.unideb.hu/en/JohnsonReed100>

- Abstract: Provide a structured abstract of no more than 300 words outlining the key points, methodologies, and their relevance to the conference theme.
- Presenter's information: Include the presenter's name, institutional affiliation (if applicable), email address, and a brief biography of up to 150 words.

Proposal submission deadline: January 12, 2024

Notification of acceptance: January 26, 2024

Registration deadline: February 29, 2024

All participants, including presenters and attendees, are required to register in advance.

Registration Fees:

Registration fee: EUR 40

For students: EUR 20

Details on the registration process and payment will be provided at a later date. The Friday night reception is sponsored by Fulbright Hungary.

An optional conference trip to the Museum of Emigration from Slovakia to North America or to Budapest (the Open-Air Ethnographic Museum in Szentendre) will be organized for August 24 (Saturday).

Publication Opportunities: Selected conference papers will be considered for publication in a special edition of the peer-reviewed, Scopus-indexed Hungarian Journal of English and American Studies and/or Hungarian Cultural Studies, and in a peer-reviewed volume of essays to be published by an international publisher (currently under negotiation).

Additional information regarding submission guidelines and timelines will be provided later.

Contact information: for inquiries and further information, please contact Balázs Venkovits – Associate Professor, Institute of English and American Studies, University of Debrecen (venkovits.balazs@arts.unideb.hu)

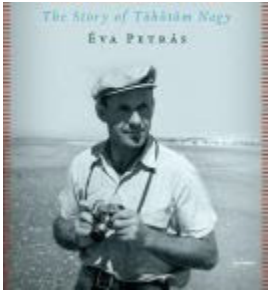
Member Publications

The listing of publications is for our members' information and does not signify endorsement by AHEA.

Éva Petrás announces the imminent publication of her new monograph, *The Many Lives of a Jesuit, Freemason, and Philanthropist* (CEU Press). From the publisher's website:



"The life of Töhötöm Nagy (1908–1979), Jesuit, Mason, and secret service agent, offers fascinating insights into interwar Hungary, the Catholic Church and Vatican diplomacy, Freemasonry, and the activities of communist state security service. As a young Jesuit



Nagy was one of the leaders of a successful Catholic youth movement in interwar Hungary. After World War II he played an important role acting as an intermediary between the Vatican, the Red Army, and the Hungarian Catholic Church. After being sent to South America, he was attracted by liberation theology, but left the Society of Jesus, joined the Freemasons, and did social and philanthropic work in the slums of Buenos Aires. However, in the late 1960s he agreed to work for the Hungarian state security service in return for his repatriation. This latter period is reconstructed from the files of the Historical Archives of State Security in Budapest.

Éva Petrás writes with empathy but with a sense of distance of the courage and restless energy of her subject. Her discussion of the limits of free choice and Nagy's intense struggle to live a meaningful life make this biography breathtaking"

Call for Submissions to *Hungarian Cultural Studies*

[Hungarian Cultural Studies](#)—the peer-reviewed, open-access scholarly journal published each summer by the American Hungarian Educators Association—is inviting submissions for our 2024 issue.

Our mission is to publish scholarly, cutting-edge content dedicated to Hungarian studies across the humanities and social science disciplines—including original articles, book reviews, and review articles.

We particularly welcome thematic clusters comprising three or more articles on a unifying theme.

Furthermore, we are thrilled to announce that AHEA and the National Széchényi Library (OSZK) signed an Agreement of Cooperation to digitally archive *HCS* in the Electronic Periodicals Archive & Database (EPA). The complete archive of *HCS* is available at <https://epa.oszk.hu/04600/04696>

January 10 is the deadline for our annual, summer issue. Don't have your article ready yet? That's alright; simply send your idea or abstract (200 words or less) to Paul Olchvary, editor in chief, at editorhungarian@gmail.com.

To find out more about the submission process, check our [website](#).

Have a New or Upcoming Publication?

We would love to help share news of the impressive and diverse work that AHEA members are doing! If you have a recent book, article, or other scholarly/artistic work you would like your fellow members to know about, send a brief description/promotional blurb and a link to further information to aheanews@gmail.com. Requests will appear in the order in which they were received and may be edited for space.

Hungarian Diaspora Scholarship

*This third-party announcement is included for the benefit of our readers.
AHEA is not directly affiliated with the program described below.*



You have Hungarian roots and thinking about studying abroad? Now you have the chance to do so with the Hungarian Diaspora Scholarship Programme!

The online application system for the 2024/2025 academic year is OPEN! The deadline for submitting the complete application package is 31 January 2024 14:00 (CET).

[CLICK HERE TO APPLY!](#)

What does the programme cover? **Tuition-free education** at the available higher education institutions, **medical insurance** and **upon request a monthly stipend, accommodation contribution** and even **travel allowance**. Choose from the **30 top-tier Hungarian higher education institutions** and nearly **1500 programmes**, covering all study fields and levels. Are you seeking **full-time** or **part time studies**, in English or Hungarian? It is your choice! Dive into our range and choose the option that suits you the best. Get an international degree while exploring your Hungarian heritage!

Reboot your roots with the Hungarian Diaspora Scholarship. For further information and guidance visit our website: <https://diasporascholarship.hu/en/apply/>



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