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November 2024 Newsletter

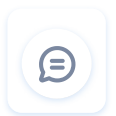
President's Corner

Dear Members and Friends of AHEA,

As fall settles in, I'm pleased to share upcoming events and new initiatives within our organization. First, here is a reminder of upcoming deadlines, please mark your calendars:

1. Our **Giving Tuesday** campaign on December 3, 2024 will focus on raising funds for scholarships
2. Abstracts for our 2025 conference are due on December 15, 2024. All information is on the [conference website](#), please bookmark it!
3. As we announced earlier, we plan to change the name of AHEA to better reflect our current mission. Keep an eye out for our poll in January 2025.

Special thanks to Kálmán Magyar and our colleagues at the University of Pécs who are working hard behind the scenes to prepare a rich conference program, including guided tours in and around Pécs. We recommend that you reserve a couple of additional days (June 22-25) to make the most of your visit. If you are coming from



research partner, remember that AHEA members can log into our website to find the contact information of other AHEA members: <https://ahea.net/>

As always, please reach out to me personally if you have any questions or suggestions about AHEA and our upcoming programs: hl4@stmarys-ca.edu.

Looking forward to hearing from you!

Warm regards, üdvözlettel,
Helga Lenart-Cheng

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.



Please tell us a little bit about your unique career arc, especially how you came study the history of Hungarian immigrants in the United States.

I started to work at Eszterházy Károly Catholic University in 2016 and I have been studying Hungarian American history since approximately the same time. Prior to this, I participated in PhD training with a Hungarian state scholarship. I was always interested in the history of the United States. In the doctoral school, however, my field of research was focused on domestic migration. After finishing my studies, my attention turned toward migration to the US, and I realized that many aspects of this topic had not been researched yet. Since 2016, I have been awarded numerous scholarships (Tempus Public Foundation, Hungary Initiative Foundation) for research trips to the US. In the past years, I had the opportunity to conduct research in New York, Philadelphia, New Brunswick, NJ and Washington, DC, where I have been collecting primary and secondary resources for studying Hungarian immigration in the New Immigration period from the late 1880s to the early 1920s. Regarding my narrower research field, I find the exploring of individual and family stories particularly exciting. These stories depict unique images from the wide scale of the history of diasporas. Personal stories reveal how contemporaries experienced historical events, bringing the understanding of an era closer to people living in the present. Learning about the common history of the Hungarian and the American nations can get our societies closer and can help support a better cooperation.

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

I found out about AHEA online, while I was looking for people with similar research interests. The reason I decided to join was the great opportunities such an organization can provide, for instance, participation in conferences, networking possibilities, etc. I think the wide network of colleagues, the regular events and the awards and scholarships can all be very helpful to facilitate my research.

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

I have not been involved with AHEA for a long time. But I did have an opportunity to take part in the May 2024 conference in New Brunswick. Simultaneously, I also organized a short research trip, during which I was able to collect further primary sources for finishing my dissertation. For this, AHEA's Research Presentation Award was very helpful, as it contributed to cover my expenses. So being a member of AHEA already impacted my professional work. I hope that I will have more opportunities to cooperate with AHEA in the coming years.

Tell us, please, what you're working on right now.

I have just finished my PhD dissertation. It focuses on a Hungarian-American family,



example, the construction industry or academia. Currently, I am working on the story of a Hungarian-American journalist, who was well-known by both the diaspora's journalistic community and, due to his shadowy businesses, the American authorities. By the way, he was also related to the Gondos Family. So basically, this is an expansion of my PhD research on a different storyline.

Watch Your Inboxes for #GivingTuesday

As we head into the American Thanksgiving season, AHEA will be joining other non-profit organizations in **Giving Tuesday** on December 3.

Please watch your inboxes for our campaign, and consider donating! Your generosity is what helps keep our activities going, now and for future generations.

Köszönjük barátainknak! Boldog Ünnepeket!

CALL FOR PAPERS: AHEA 2025 in Pécs

CALL FOR PAPERS
AHEA — American Hungarian Educators Association
49th Annual In-Person Conference
June 19-21, 2025
University of Pécs, Hungary



Conference in person at the University of Pécs in Pécs, Hungary. 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:

Transatlantic Insights: Scholarship in Hungarian and American Contexts

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 Americans, 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: December 15, 2024.

Presenters should expect to hear from the Program Committee by January 31, 2025. Applications for travel scholarships will open in January.

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. A presenter's name can appear max. twice in the program.
- 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 30 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.
- 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



- **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 members of AHEA.

MAGYAR VERZIÓ

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.

49. éves konferenciánk helyszíne a Pécsi Tudományegyetem, Pécs (Magyarország). A konferencia témája:

Transzatlanti perspektívák: a magyar és amerikai tudományosság kontextusai

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. december 15-ig [ONLINE adják be](#).

Az absztraktok elfogadásáról a szervezők **2025. január 31-ig** jeleznek vissza.

Program Committee Chair: Prof. Helga Lenart-Cheng, President, AHEA

Local Organizing Committee Chair: Prof. Mónika Fodor, Head of Department of Literatures and Cultures in English, University of Pécs

Conference Contacts:

hl4@stmarys-ca.edu

fodor.monika@pte.hu



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

Briane Turley announces that the **Appalachian Hungarian Heritage Project (AHHP)** is now online at West Virginia University at <https://appalachianhungarians.wvu.edu/>. The AHHP comprises an international team of scholars working together to explore, preserve, and share literary remains, narratives, and images regarding the important, yet largely untold, role Hungarian immigrants and their families played in the region after 1880. In association with the West Virginia and Regional History Center at West Virginia University, the AHHP has begun collecting and digitizing a wide variety of materials that, over time, will be made accessible from the website.

Hungarian Diaspora Scholarship Program

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



- Application deadline: 31 January 2025 (14:00 CET)
- Call for Applications: <https://diasporascholarship.hu/en/apply/call-for-application/>
- Website of the Programme: <https://diasporascholarship.hu/>
- Online application system: <https://apply.diasporascholarship.hu/>

Thank you for spreading the word about the new Call for Applications in your local diaspora community so that potential applicants and their families get to know about this opportunity.

- Promotional materials you can use for this (currently being updated, versions with the new dates will be uploaded in the coming days): <https://diasporascholarship.hu/hu/media/>

The new Call for Applications is for higher education studies in Hungary starting in the Academic Year 2025/26:

- undergraduate, graduate and doctoral programmes leading to a degree (years of training)
- 5-10 months exchange (partial study) programmes,
- other types of programmes, such as one-year Hungarian language preparatory courses.

Summer university courses (summer of 2025) are expected to be available for application again. Further information on this can be expected during the winter. We are happy to let you know that **the eligibility criteria are more flexible now**, compared with the previous application rounds, including:

- 5 years spent abroad before applying is sufficient (instead of the previous 10 years),
- finishing secondary school abroad is sufficient (instead of the 4 years of study abroad previously required), and
- those who only turn 18 years old after August 2025 can apply, in line with the details specified in the Call.

Save the Date! As in previous years, online information events about the new Call will be organised this year as well. Dates planned:

- for applicants and their families: 10 December 2024 and 14 January 2025.
- for diaspora organisations and other partners: 21 November 2024.

We would like to thank you in advance for all your support throughout the new application round!

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at diasporascholarship@tpf.hu.



Help us Document AHEA History!

A call for memories, materials, anecdotes, stories, trivia

As part of our celebration of AHEA's 50th Anniversary, the Membership Development Committee, with the guidance of the Executive Board, is undertaking an **institutional history project**. We hope to preserve our organization's unique past by collecting contributions from its members.

We welcome anything that comes to your mind, but in particular:

- Photos / scans of AHEA **materials** (conference programs, meeting minutes, newsletters, etc.) and photos of AHEA gatherings
- Your **memories** of AHEA conferences and other events
- **Stories** that you want to be saved for future generations
- **Recollections** of colleagues who are no longer with us

Please send everything to **Andrew Behrendt** (behrendta@mst.edu) or aheanews@gmail.com. You are welcome to use whatever medium you like: text, audio, or video. We can also arrange for physical mail!

Along with your submission, please let us know whether you'd feel comfortable letting us quote you in items that might be shared with the public.

No contribution is too small or too large. Nothing is "unimportant" or "boring." Every moment you help us archive is snapshot of AHEA history -- and the history of Hungarian studies -- that you help save from being forgotten!

AHEA Early Career Network

The AHEA Board is pleased to announce the formation of the **AHEA Early Career Network**.



challenges of publication, grant writing, job searches, independent scholarship, as well as contingent faculty positions.

We welcome PhD students and scholars **within 10 years** of receiving their PhD. Please [fill out this form if interested](#).

The network was launched at the May 2024 AHEA Conference at Rutgers University.

Questions and suggestions regarding the new group are welcome and may be directed to Sarah Lucas at sarah.lucas@tamuk.edu

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.



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