
AHEA Newsletter: October 2025

1 message

American Hungarian Educators Association
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October 2025 Newsletter

President's Corner

Dear Colleagues, Dear Friends,

I hope you are enjoying this wonderful time of the year, when leaves are falling and the nights are drawing in. This is the time to prepare for winter and for those wonderful nights filled with lights and good books.

We are very pleased to let you know that the call for papers for our 2026 conference has been announced. This year's conference theme is:

250 Years of Hungarian Contributions to the United States of America

We look forward to receiving abstracts that focus on the diverse roles Hungarians played in the shaping of the United States over the last 250 years. We believe that many facets of this contribution are known to historians of culture and science, but we also believe that the role and importance of several actors and players still deserve further scholarly attention. We look forward to receiving abstracts uncovering the work of previously unknown politicians, cultural agents or military heroes, but we also look forward to hearing about ideas that shed new light on events and processes already known and documented.

For further details, please consult our website

<https://ahea.net/conferences/2026-cleveland-state-university/call-for-abstracts>

Abstract submission deadline: **November 15, 2025.**

We look forward to seeing you in Cleveland!

With best wishes,

Zsuzsa

Zsuzsanna Varga, PhD
President, AHEA

CALL FOR PAPERS: AHEA 2026 in Cleveland, Ohio

AHEA — American Hungarian Educators Association

50th Annual Conference

April 16-18, 2026

Cleveland State University, Cleveland, Ohio, USA

The [American Hungarian Educators Association \(AHEA\)](#) will hold its 50th Annual Conference in person at Cleveland State University, in Cleveland, Ohio, 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:

250 Years of Hungarian Contributions to the United States of America

Presentations should report the results of original research. Proposals can address a broad range of topics inspired by the bisesquicentennial celebration of the United States of America, relevant to Hungarian culture, including contributions made by Hungarians that span the 250 years since the signing of the Declaration of Independence in the United States. Topics pertaining to research relevant to Hungarians, as well as life in the Hungarian diaspora and the influence of Americans on Hungary, will also be considered. We welcome presentations on methodology and those that provide directions for future research.

Abstract submission deadline: **November 15, 2025**

Presenters should expect to hear back by December 20, 2025, at the latest. Applications

for research presentation awards will open in January.

Abstracts (250-word limit) should be submitted through [this link](#).

Submission guidelines:

- The official languages of the conference are English and Hungarian. Abstracts and presentations in either language are welcome.
- One “individual presentation” per author will be considered. Roundtables, workshops, and book presentations are exceptions in that scholars participating in those may also submit an “individual presentation”.
- All authors must be AHEA members. Membership information is available 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 ask questions of 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 the number of attendees. Workshops are scheduled for 60 minutes. The learning objectives of the session should be included in the submitted abstract.
- **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 at least 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 *10-minute* synopsis of a book published within the last year that may be of interest to AHEA members.

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.

50. éves konferenciánk helyszíne a Cleveland State Egyetem, Cleveland, Ohio.

A konferencia témája:

250 év – Magyar történetek és értékek az Amerikai Egyesült Államokban

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 **2025. november 15-ig** [adják be itt](#).

The Program Committee adjudicates abstracts submitted in the following categories.

- Cultural Studies/Social Science
- Education
- History/Political Science
- Linguistics/Literature
- Music/Folklore
- Science/Economics

Conference Chair: Zsuzsanna Varga, President of AHEA

Local Organizing Committee: Klára Papp, Chair; Krisztina Fehér, Endre Szentkirályi, and Katalin Vörös

Contact: aheausa@gmail.com

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 **Éva Mathey**
(University of Debrecen) and winner of
the 2025 Helena History Press Award

Please tell us a little bit about your career arc. In particular, how did you decide on studying Hungarian-American diplomatic relations?

My interest in History and International Relations dates back to my studies at Lajos Kossuth University in Debrecen where I received my degree in English and History in 1998. Over the years, profoundly inspired by the classes taught by Dr. Tibor Glant and Dr. Csaba Lévai on the history and culture of the United States and US foreign policy at the University of Debrecen, along with the academic experiences abroad as an exchange student at Ohio Northern University (Ada, Ohio) and at the University of London, I had grown increasingly committed to expanding my horizon and doing research in the field of diplomatic relations and Hungarian American relations in particular. All aspects of the bilateral political and cultural relations between the US and Hungary fascinated me and I was clearly motivated to uncover some novel dimensions of their history. I was utterly fortunate to have had outstanding professors and mentors both in Hungary and in the US (including Tibor Frank, Peter Pastor, and Tibor Glant) who supported me in my scholarly pursuits when I started my doctoral studies at the University of Debrecen, in the framework of which my research focused on Hungarian revisionist expectations toward the United States to dismantle the terms of the Trianon Peace Treaty during the interwar period. I earned my PhD in 2012, and my dissertation has since been published both in Hungarian and in English.

A truly significant influence on my career was the Fulbright scholarship that I had the privilege to receive in 2002-2003 which made it possible for me to spend an academic year at Rutgers University, New Jersey. That has proven to be a life-changing experience in many regards. Not only had the Fulbright year facilitated the successful completion of my doctoral work, but it opened new academic and personal avenues for me and engendered professional as well as personal contacts and friendships that I still embrace and cherish to this day. It was during that year that for the first time I had the chance to attend an AHEA conference at Columbia University.

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

The first time I heard about AHEA was in 1998 when Professor Andrew Ludányi at Ohio Northern University brought it to my attention, and also when in 2002, late August J. Molnár, former president of the American Hungarian Foundation in New Brunswick, NJ advised me to follow their endeavors. In 2003, I had the chance to attend an AHEA conference at Columbia University for the first time, then, however,

only as a non-presenting participant. Following the 2005 AHEA conference at the Central European University, Budapest, I tried to participate in all the AHEA conferences organized in Hungary and secure my membership in this scholarly community that I always found and find very inclusive, inspiring, and supportive. At all the conferences I have attended so far, I received great deal of encouragement, generous advice and feedback on my research that helped me move further. I am truly delighted to be a member of AHEA where—withstanding their diverse backgrounds and scholarly interests—people always find a common ground. I also hope that the North American Studies Department and the Institute of English and American Studies at the University of Debrecen can host an AHEA conference in the future.

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

As I have mentioned above, scholars in the AHEA community have always been generous with their support for me, and the conferences provided me an excellent opportunity to share my work and exchange ideas at an international platform. I am grateful to AHEA as it was partly through their network that I could get in contact with late Professor István Deák of Columbia University, who encouraged my doctoral research and also my current project on the Kossuth Monument in New York. This summer I had the honor to have received the Helena History Press Scholarship which will impact my career significantly as the grant makes it possible for me to do research in the United States on archival sources in Washington, DC and in New York.

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

As part of a more extensive scholarly endeavor to study the public statues and memorial sites in the context of American Hungarian relations, my current research project deals with the history of the Kossuth Pilgrimage of 1928 that arrived in New York to unveil Lajos Kossuth's second statue in the United States—a memory site which reflects on distinct values, ideas, and ideals and their broader political, social, and cultural implications for American Hungarians. My research now focuses on several aspects of the pilgrimage and the statue's history that so far have not received enough attention, including, for example, the origins of the financial resources to implement the project, its procurement and approval procedure, the press coverage it received in various American dailies, among others. I hope that my current research will yield numerous scholarly as well as educational benefits, including the successful completion of my habilitation dissertation.

Conference CfP: Hungarian Studies Association of Canada

This third-party announcement is included for the benefit of our readers.

AHEA is not directly affiliated with the program described below.

Hungarian Studies Association of Canada (HSAC)

Call for Papers for the 2026 Annual Conference:

“Memories and Memoirs of Hungary, Hungarians, and the HSAC: Reflecting on the Past, Imagining the Future”

The Hungarian Studies Association of Canada invites proposals for individual papers, roundtable discussions, workshops, complete panels, and innovative presentations and sessions for our 40th anniversary conference to be held entirely online June 10–11, 2026.

In keeping with our conference theme, and in light of our association’s 40th anniversary, this year’s HSAC Conference Programme Committee seeks a wide range of proposals that examine past, present, and future issues related to Hungary, Hungarians, and the Hungarian Studies Association of Canada. We strongly encourage papers and sessions dealing with memoirs and life writing and are also interested in presentations that foreground the projects and achievements of HSAC over the last four decades.

In addition to proposals that speak to the conference theme, we also welcome presentations on any topic related to Hungary, Hungarian diasporas, and Hungarian Studies. The Hungarian Studies Association of Canada also invites creative and critical scholarly engagement within and across disciplines, as well as presentations that explore Hungary in a comparative or regional context. Online conference participants are also invited to join us for our in-person event in Toronto (June 13–14) dedicated to celebrating HSAC’s past achievements and reflecting on our future.

We especially encourage proposals from graduate students.

Proposals should include a maximum 300-word abstract and a brief 100-word bio that can be used to introduce the speaker. Since both the abstract and bio will be published online, they should be prepared in Word format using Times New Roman, 12-point font. Abstracts should be sent electronically to the co-chairs of the Conference Programme Committee, both Angela Chong (aachong@usc.edu) and Steve Jobbitt (sjobbitt@lakeheadu.ca). Proposals are preferred in English or French but will also be accepted in Hungarian if an English language abstract is also provided.

Conference presentations are no longer than 20 minutes with an additional 5–10 minutes for discussion. The deadline for submission is February 1st, 2026. We will notify presenters of the Committee’s decision no later than March 15, 2026. Conference fees will be \$50 for fulltime academics and \$40 for all others.

The HSAC Conference Programme Committee is co-chaired by Angela Chong (aachong@usc.edu) and Steve Jobbitt (sjobbitt@lakeheadu.ca). The other committee

members are: Ginny Lewis (Ginny.Lewis@northern.edu) and Sonya Di Sclafani (sdisclafani@gmail.com)

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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