
AHEA Newsletter: December 2025

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December 2025 Newsletter

President's Corner

Dear AHEA Community,

As the year draws to a close, I would like to thank you all for your support and hard work. AHEA is who we are, and it is your dedication to the common cause that makes our organization work.

It has been an exciting year for AHEA. After a ten-year hiatus of an in-person meeting in the Carpathian basin, we held our conference at the University of Pécs, which was a resounding success. We have also co-hosted a Thanksgiving Dinner for the Hungary-based Fulbrighters in Budapest in an effort to build closer ties with North American colleagues whose have already expressed a scholarly interest in Hungarian life and culture. (See the report below!) We also look forward to seeing you at our next in-person conference at Cleveland State University, Mather Mansion, Cleveland, OH, on April 16-18, 2026. We are currently making arrangements for accommodation and transport from the airport. Please watch our website for details in the coming weeks. Information about scholarships and other awards are also forthcoming. We also ask you to consider donating to support our mission using the ["Donate" button on our website](#). Your donations will offer us opportunities to support the work of upcoming scholars.

I would like to express my gratitude again for your support of the organization, and for following our work on the AHEA newsletter and in *Hungarian Cultural Studies*. Contributions to both have been invaluable, and I am now taking the opportunity to

thank the Editors.

Wishing you a merry Christmas, a happy, relaxing festive season and a happy, prosperous 2026.

Sincerely yours,

Zsuzsanna Varga

AHEA President

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Thanksgiving in Budapest with U.S. Fulbright Grantees

By **Éva Petrás**, AHEA Executive Board Member-at-Large.

With photos by **Nóra Deák**, AHEA Secretary.

The US—Hungary Fulbright Commission and AHEA held a co-sponsored Thanksgiving dinner for US Fulbright grantees in Budapest at Hotel Corvin on November 27.

Nóra Deák and I were present on behalf of AHEA, together with 30 members of the Fulbright community. We gave a presentation on AHEA's various activities including next year's conference in Cleveland, introduced *Hungarian Cultural Studies* and our Newsletter as forums of exchanging ideas, research results and information, and emphasized the importance of cooperation with Fulbright Commission. We also introduced AHEA's brand-new flyers, which the Fulbrighters could take with them as reminders.

After a toast led by Károly Jókay, the Executive Director of the Hungary Fulbright Commission, an obligatory turkey-carving ceremony was performed, and the guests enjoyed a traditional Thanksgiving dinner, sponsored by AHEA. The turkey probably seemed a small baby bird to the American eye, but a huge one for Hungarians! Everyone agreed that it was abundantly satisfactory, with its more than delicious stuffing, vegetables, and cranberry sauce, so the party honored the chef with great applause for this miracle.

Through the shared meal an informal conversation offered a good chance to make friendship and to share the atmosphere of America's most cherished festivity. Games and activities also guaranteed a cheerful Thanksgiving experience for all the participants. And if you are curious how many feathers a turkey has, just guess: one thousand or thirty thousand? (30,000 – but who has ever counted that!)





**Looking Back
on Five Years of
Member Spotlights**

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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