



Spring Conference Plans: April 26, 2025

Plan now to join us for our Spring meeting, held at Westfield State University in Westfield, Massachusetts. Many thanks to NEHA Vice President Thomas Balcerski and local arrangements chair Nick Aieta for their work organizing the conference program and handling its orchestration.

Registration is now open at:

<https://neha.wildapricot.org/event-6115317>

Pre-Registration will be \$25. Same-day registration will be \$30. Lunch Buffet: \$30.

Undergraduates attend for free, please email Executive Secretary Tona Hangen for a code at neha.execsec@gmail.com



Westfield State University Campus, courtesy Westfield State University

Preliminary Conference Program

Saturday, April 26, 2025

Ely Campus Center, 1st Floor
577 Western Avenue
Westfield, MA 01085

Conference hashtag: #NEHASP2025

Schedule at a Glance

Registration, Complimentary Breakfast	8:30 - 9:00 AM
First Morning Sessions	9:00 - 10:30 AM
Break	10:30 - 10:45 AM
Second Morning Sessions	10:45 AM - 12:15 PM
Business Meeting and Lunch & Learn	12:30 - 1:30 PM
Afternoon Sessions	1:45 - 3:15 PM
* Quiet Work / Rest / Relaxation	8:30 AM - 3:15 PM

First Morning Sessions, 9:00 am – 10:30 am

Panel 1 – Global Texts and Contexts: Hawaii, Georgia, and Brazil (Room TBA)

Chair/Comment: Thomas Balcerski, Eastern Connecticut State University

Katherine A. Hermes, Connecticut Explored

“Give Me A Ship to the Pacific:’ American Voyages of Exploration in the Wake of Captain Cook, 1780-1830”

Teresa Fava Thomas, Fitchburg State University

“Under Fire and Underway: Memories of Crew and Command of the USS Reid at Pearl Harbor”

Diego Benning Wang, Princeton University

“The Bolshevization of a Poetic Proto-Renaissance: The Sovietization of a Medieval Georgian Epic Poem and Its Mysterious Author”

Cristina Mehrtens, University of Massachusetts Dartmouth

“Gendered Metaphors: Towards a Transnational History of Female Urban Professionals in Twentieth-Century Brazil and USA”

Panel 2 – When the Personal is Political: Friendship, Affiliation, and Rivalry in 19th- and 20th-Century America

Chair/Comment: Allison Lange, Wentworth Institute of Technology

(Room TBA)

Adam Garcia, Stonehill College *

“‘The Better Judge’: Defining Women’s Education: Mary Lyon’s, Zilpah Grant, and the Women’s Seminary Movement in 19th-century New England”

Zachary Filmore, Stonehill College *

“‘Delay Is Ruining Us’: The Friendship and Disunion of Abraham Lincoln and George B. McClellan”

Olivia Perriera, Stonehill College *

“The New Bedford Woman’s Club: A Hub of Friendship & Affiliation”

Panel 3 – Secret Societies, Kinship, and Objects in Early America

(Room TBA)

Chair/Comment: Maura Jane Farrelly, Brandeis University

Jonathon Derek Awtrey, Fairfield University

“Moses Michael Hays & Freemasonry in British North America”

Robert Justice, New York University

“Making Montaukett: An Exploration of Law, Land, Race, and Kinship on Eastern Long Island”

Kate E. Benoit, Purdue University

“‘Come Listen to a Prophet’s Voice and Hear the Word of God’: Mormonism and Mass Media Missionary Work, 1922-19”

Heather Hole, Simmons University

“Now You See It: A Native American Basket in the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum”

Panel 4 – Jimmy Carter’s Presidential Legacy

(Room TBA)

Chair/Comment: Michael Neagle, Nichols College

Emma McCormack, Eastern Connecticut State University *

“Cold War Hostages: Soviet Interference in the Iranian Revolution and Carter’s Presidential Legacy”

David Evans, University of Connecticut

“Moral Values, Human Suffering, World Hunger: Jimmy Carter and the Human Right to Adequate Food”

Connor Huey, Harvard University *

“The Progressive Paradox: How the Democratic Party Won Rural Western Washington, 1976-2024”

Second Morning Sessions, 10:45am – 12:15pm

Panel 5 – Antislavery and Progressivism in American History

(Room TBA)

Chair/Comment: Nicholas Aieta, Westfield State University

Michael Dorn, Independent Scholar

“Contested Claims to Equal Rights in Literatures of Politics, Ethnology, and Popular Science After 1835”

Robert S. Wolff, Central Connecticut State University

“The Seeming Paradox of Elihu Burritt’s Antislavery Thought”

Christopher Clark, University of Connecticut

“The American Civil War and Revolutions on the Land”

Donald W. Rogers, Central Connecticut State University

“A Diffuse and Uneven Struggle: A New Look at Connecticut’s Progressive-Era Labor Movement”

Panel 6 - Engaged and Experiential History Pedagogies in the First Year Seminar

Chair/Comment: Jessica Frazier, University of Rhode Island

(Room TBA)

Kathryn Lamontage, Boston University

“Connecting High Impact Pedagogies: 1st Year Gen Ed, Study Abroad, and Field Visits”

Maria Gapotchenko, Boston University

“Learning through Historical Role-Play in First-Year Writing: A Path to Linguistic Maturity”

Charlotte Carrington-Farmer, Roger Williams University

“Engaging Non-History Majors with Roger Williams and His 17th-Century World”

Kristen Petersen and Anthony Lacina, Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences

“From Social Justice Movements to Health Policy: Lessons from a Cross-course Collaborative Project”

Panel 7 - U.S. Women, Activism, and Action

(Room TBA)

Chair/Comment: Melanie Gustafson, University of Vermont

Nicollette Heath, Boston University *

“Love or Lies?: Arabella Hunt’s Annulled Marriage”

Kelly Marino, Sacred Heart University

“Among the Best of Her Age: Augusta Lewis Troup, Catholicism, and Reform in Turn of the Twentieth-Century America”

Jillian Plummer, Sacred Heart University

“Fighting for Justice: Agnes Mary Mansour’s Conflict with the Vatican Over Medicaid Abortions in the 1980s”

Christine Charie, Providence College *

“The New Right-Wing Populist: The Blonde Mother of the Nation”

Panel 8 – Wars, Served Cold and Hot: Massachusetts, Iceland, Afghanistan, and Cuba

Chair/Comment: Erica Kelliher, Westfield State University

(Room TBA)

Josh Shanley, Independent Scholar

“Cold War Massachusetts: Infrastructure and Administration in a Transformative Era”

Caitlin Carenen, Eastern Connecticut State University

“David versus Goliath versus the United States: The British-Icelandic ‘Fish Fights’ and Intra-NATO Troubles”

Edward Hunt, Regis College

“The U.S. War in Afghanistan: A Geopolitical War for Empire, 2001-2021”

Anju Reejhsinghani, University of California, Santa Cruz

“Ten Years On: Whatever Happened to U.S.-Cuba Normalization?”

Lunch and Business Meeting, 12:30 – 1:30 pm

Afternoon Sessions, 1:45 pm – 3:15 pm

Panel 9 – Planning for the Future in New York, Massachusetts, and Connecticut

Chair/Comment: Philip Mosley, Penn State University

(Room TBA)

Robin Miller Radner, Boston College

“The Poughkeepsie Plan: How a Public-Parochial School Partnership Helped Transform the Disestablishment Movement in Nineteenth-Century America”

Samuel C. Gilvarg, SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry

“The 1887 Wildfires on Cape Cod”

Diego Benites, Saint Anselm College *

“The New Lowell Plan: Historical and Cultural Interpretations of a Deindustrialized City”

Panel 10 – Slavery and Freedom in the Public History Narrative: Community Partnerships Perspectives

(Room TBA)

Chair/Comment: Charlotte Carrington-Farmer, Roger Williams University

Cynthia Elder, Barrington Land Conservation Trust

“Beyond Family History: Uncovering New 19th-Century Histories”

Rachel Fortuna Cabral, Roger Williams University *

“Telling Thomas’ Story: New Perspectives on a 19th-Century Freedom Seeker”

Richard McGee, University of Rhode Island

“Quakers and the Question of Enslavement in Rhode Island, 1700-1865”

Makhai Pells, University of Massachusetts Amherst

“Contested Histories: Reclaiming Black and Indigenous Histories in Massachusetts”

Panel 11 – Awakenings Across Time and Place

(Room TBA)

Chair/Comment: Paul Lambert, Nichols College

Richard Maximus Strahan, University of Massachusetts Lowell

“Barbarian Emperors: Diocletian’s and Constantine’s Seizure of the Roman Empire and Their Subsequent Innovation and Establishment of the Christian State”

Colin Anderson, University of Tampa

“‘Jim Crow’ Meets ‘Billy Barlow’: Race and the Urban Geographies of Early Blackface Minstrel Sheet Music”

Mary Potorti, Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences
"Hunger, Food Insecurity, and the Racial Awakening of Malcolm X"

Brian Peterson, Shasta College
"Holiday Pops (1998): Rebranding Boston's Landmark December Tradition, 1995-1998"

* Denotes undergraduate presenter

Did you know...

That in January, 1966, four men from Connecticut and Rhode Island met at the University of Connecticut to write NEHA's constitution?

That NEHA's first president was Harvard historian Frank Friedel?

That most early NEHA Presidents were World War II veterans?

That Professor Gwendolyn Evans Jones of the University of New Haven put out the first issue of *NEHA News* in 1974?

That most of NEHA's records are stored at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst?

That while the current NEHA website was created in 2010, the organization's first website was made in 1998?

That our organization's rules require at least one member of NEHA's governing board be a public historian?

That NEHA's primary financial asset is stock in paint manufacturer PPG Industries?

That Mary Blewett, James O'Toole, and Thomas O'Connor all won NEHA book prizes for their work on Irish-Americans?

Slate for Election of NEHA Officers for 2025-2026

Our 2025 election will be conducted using online voting through ElectionBuddy. Members, watch your email inbox for details in late March. Candidate statements are provided for your consideration.

Executive Secretary: Sean Perrone, St. Anselm (sperrone@anselm.edu)

Sean Perrone is professor of history at Saint Anselm College. He holds a B.A. from Rutgers University and a Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin, Madison. His research has focused on fiscal negotiations between the Castilian Crown and the Assembly of the Clergy in the early modern period, spatial history, and the Spanish consular service in the Early American Republic. He is the author of *Charles V and the Castilian Assembly of the Clergy: Negotiations for the Ecclesiastical Subsidy* (2008) and several articles. He has been a member of NEHA since 1999. He has previously served as President (2020-2021), Vice-President (2019-2020), and Treasurer (2015-2019). He has also served on the Research Grant Committee (Chair 2023-2024), the Board of Directors (2021-2023), the Nominating Committee (Member 2006-08, Chair 2008-09), and the Book Award Committee (Member 2005, Chair 2006). Perrone was the local organizer of the spring 2018 and 2024 conferences at Saint Anselm College.

President: Tom Balcerski, Eastern CT State Univ. (balcerskit@easternct.edu)

Thomas Balcerski is Associate Professor of History at Eastern Connecticut State University and Director of the Center for Connecticut Studies. Since 2024, he has served as Editor of Connecticut History Review, the only academic journal devoted to the history of Connecticut. In addition, he serves on the Board of Trustees of *Connecticut Explored*, an independent non-profit history magazine that tells the stories that have shaped Connecticut's history, and on the Editorial Board of ConnecticutHistory.org, a state public history resource written for a diverse set of readers, ranging from students to educators to history enthusiasts. He is active as a member of the Grant Application Review Committee through Connecticut Humanities, a judge for Connecticut History Day, and an organizer of the Connecticut State University Making History Conference. He has been an active member of NEHA since 2015, and currently serves as Vice President.

A historian of American politics, Thomas teaches courses on American society and culture, Presidents and First Ladies, Connecticut history, and New England history. He is the author of *Bosom Friends: The Intimate World of James Buchanan and William Rufus King* (Oxford, 2019). He has also written articles for such popular news outlets as CNN and

the Washington Post and in such journals as *Journal of Social History*, *Civil War History*, and *White House History Quarterly*. His current project looks at the long history of the Democratic Party, America's oldest partisan organization. Thomas holds a bachelor's degree from Cornell University, a master's degree from SUNY Stony Brook, and a Ph.D. from Cornell University.

Vice-President: Michael Neagle, Nichols College (michael.neagle@nichols.edu)

Michael E. Neagle is Professor of History, Director of History & Political Science, and Co-Chair of the Terrorism Studies and Media Studies programs at Nichols College in Dudley, Massachusetts. He is the author of *Chasing Bandits: America's Long War on Terror* (University of North Carolina Press, forthcoming) and *America's Forgotten Colony: Cuba's Isle of Pines* (Cambridge University Press, 2016). His work has appeared in *Terrorism and Political Violence*, *America in the World* (Cambridge University Press, 2014), *A Companion to Woodrow Wilson* (Wiley-Blackwell, 2013), *The Journal of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era*, *Latino America: A State-By-State Encyclopedia* (Greenwood Press, 2008), and *Red Brick in the Land of Steady Habits: Creating the University of Connecticut, 1881-2006* (University Press of New England, 2006). He has won grants and fellowships from the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations, the Tinker Foundation, the University of Connecticut Humanities Institute, as well as UConn's Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies. Neagle earned his Ph.D. and M.A. from the University of Connecticut, and his bachelor's degree from the College of the Holy Cross.

Treasurer: Tona Hangen, Worcester State Univ. (thangen@worchester.edu)

Tona Hangen is Professor of History at Worcester State University, where she teaches courses in contemporary US history, historical methods, citizenship/immigration, religious history, military, and medical history. A cultural and media historian, she is the author of *Redeeming the Dial: Radio, Religion, and Popular Culture*, and of published essays in *American Quarterly*, *The Cambridge History of Religions in America*, *Routledge's Companion Volume to Religion and Popular Culture*, and *Radio Cultures*, among others. She has been an active member of NEHA since her graduate studies at Brandeis in the mid-1990s. In addition, she has been a trustworthy part of its executive leadership for more than a decade. She served NEHA as ex officio social media/ communications chair (2011-2020), three terms as NEHA secretary (2014- 2020), and most recently as Executive Secretary (2020-2025). She is committed to strengthening NEHA's financial security for the long term, as we celebrate our 60th year.

Board Members

Faculty Board Member - One Slot

Dane Morrison: In these challenging times for the humanities, the opportunity to again serve on the board of the New England Historical Association, bringing colleagues together and promoting our discipline, is one to which I would look forward. I am professor emeritus of early American history at Salem State University and have served as a president of NEHA and New England Regional World History Association. I graduated from Boston College and received my Ph.D. degree from Tufts University. My research has focused on contacts between early America and the Other, appearing in *A Praying People: Massachusetts Acculturation and the Failure of the Puritan Mission, 1600–1690* (Peter Lang, 1995); *True Yankees: The South Seas and the Discovery of American Identity* (Johns Hopkins University Press, 2014); *Eastward of Good Hope: Early America in a Dangerous World* (Johns Hopkins University Press, 2021); and the forthcoming *Yankees Abroad: Critical Themes in World History* (Hackett Press). I was also the editor of *American Indian Studies: An Interdisciplinary Approach to Contemporary Issues* (Peter Lang, 1997) and co-editor of *Salem: Place, Myth and Memory* (Northeastern/UPNE, 1995); and the *Encyclopedia of World History, Vols. 11-13, The Age of Global Contact* (ABC-Clio, 2011).

Don J. Wyatt, Ph.D. Harvard University, is the John M. McCardell, Jr. Distinguished Professor at Middlebury College, where he teaches both history and philosophy. He specializes in the intellectual history of China, with research most currently focused on the intersections between identity and violence and the nexuses between ethnicity and slavery. He is the author of *The Blacks of Premodern China* (2010) [in Russian translation as: Чернокожие Китая до Нового времени (2024)], *Slavery in East Asia* (2022), and the forthcoming *Song China and the World*, with the latter two being contributions to the Cambridge Elements Global Middle Ages series. Articles—all published in 2022-24—have appeared in *Journal of Religion and Violence*, *Mediaevalia*, *China and Asia: A Journal in Historical Studies*, *Itinerario: Journal of Imperial and Global Interactions*, and *Journal of World Philosophies*. He is general editor of the forthcoming four-volume set on ethnicity and race in Bloomsbury Publishing's The Medieval World series. He is co-executive editor of the *Journal of the History of Ideas*, immediate past chair of the Diversity and Equity Committee of the Association for Asian Studies, and a member of the Inclusivity and Diversity Committee of the Medieval Academy of America.

Non-Faculty Board Member - One Slot

Stephen A. Guerriero is Director of Education at the Charles River Museum of Industry & Innovation in Waltham, Massachusetts. He holds a B.A. in International Relations and Italian Studies from Boston University, an M.Ed. in Curriculum and Instruction from Boston College, and an M.A. in Ancient Greek and Roman Studies from Brandeis University. A historian and educator with expertise in industrial history, Classical Studies, and museum education, he develops public programs, teacher workshops, and exhibitions that connect historical scholarship with contemporary audiences.

Guerriero also serves as Educational Director of *The Examined Life: Greek Studies in the Schools*, where he leads professional development for educators and organizes study tours in Greece. He has adjunct status with both Framingham and Fitchburg State Universities. Previously, he was Chief Learning Officer at Litmus Learn and a history teacher in Needham Public Schools, where he received multiple teaching awards. His work in public history and education policy includes roles as a consulting scholar for Primary Source and the Massachusetts Department of Education, as well as serving on the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston Educator Advisory Board. His research and writing on history, pedagogy, and civic education have been published in *Education Week*, *CommonWealth Magazine*, *The Society for Classical Studies*, and other outlets. He and his husband, Ángel, live in Dedham.

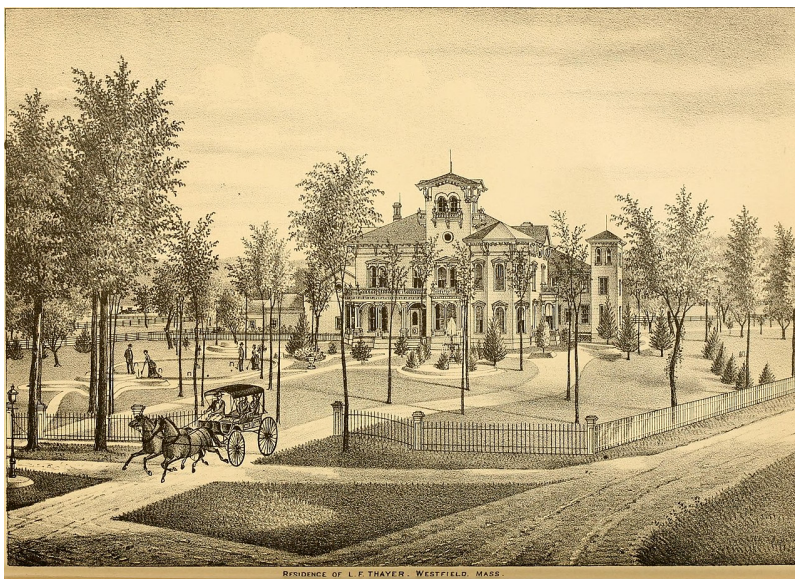
Dr. Tricia Peone works at the Congregational Library & Archives in Boston, where she is the project director for New England's Hidden Histories, a digital archive of early church records. She is also the curator of two recent exhibitions at the Congregational Library on religion in the American Revolution. Prior to joining the Congregational Library, she was a research scholar at Historic New England for the Recovering New England's Voices project and the public programs director at New Hampshire Humanities. She holds a Ph.D. in early American history from the University of New Hampshire. Her scholarship focuses on early New England, particularly the history of magic and witchcraft, and her work on these subjects has appeared in journals, books, blogs, and on radio and television.

Nominating Committee Member - One Slot

Liam Riordan is the Adelaide and Alan Bird Professor of History at the University of Maine, where he has been a faculty member since 1997. He is the co-editor of the forthcoming *What We Know, What We Wish: Maine Statehood, Historical Commemoration, and the Urgency of Public History* (University of Massachusetts Press, fall 2025). He is an early Americanist and is close to finishing a book project on loyalist opposition to the rebellion that created the United States. In 2020 he received the Maine Historical Society's Neal W.

Allen History Award as well as the Outstanding Faculty Member Award for Public Engagement from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at UMaine. He is currently vice chair of the City of Bangor's Historic Preservation Commission and is active in the National History Day in Maine program. He was the Director of the University of Maine Humanities Center (2014-2016), a Board Member of the Maine Humanities Council (2010-2017), and a Fulbright Scholar at the University of Glasgow (2012). He previously served on the NEHA Nominating Committee (2007-2010).

Ian Delahanty is Associate Professor of History in the Humanities and Social Sciences Department at Springfield College, where he teaches courses on American history, the Civil War Era, American immigration history, African American history, and public history. Ian holds a B.A. degree in History and Education from Bridgewater State College (2006) and a Ph.D. in American history from Boston College (2013). He is the author of *Embracing Emancipation: A Transatlantic History of Irish Americans, Slavery, and the American Union, 1840-1865* (Fordham University Press, 2024), which was awarded the 2024 Lawrence J. McCaffrey Award for Best Book on Irish America by the American Conference for Irish Studies. Ian has published peer-reviewed articles in *Britain and the World* (2013), *Journal of the Civil War Era* (2016), and the Essential Civil War Curriculum (2018). He served on the advisory board to the Massachusetts Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission (2011-2015) and was recently appointed by Governor Maura Healey to the Massachusetts-Ireland Trade Commission. His current research examines how New England cotton gin manufacturers influenced the expansion of forced labor regimes in the American South and British Empire during the 1800s. This project was awarded the 2023 Suzanne and Caleb Loring Fellowship on the Civil War, Its Origins and Consequences by the Massachusetts Historical Society and Boston Athenaeum.



1879 Illustration of the Mansion of L.F. Thayer in Westfield, courtesy

Wikimedia

Save the Date: NEHA Fall 2025

Please join us for our **Fall 2025** conference, at **Nichols College** in Dudley, Massachusetts, to celebrate the **60th anniversary** of NEHA's founding. Stay tuned for details on the date.

Our **Fall CFP** will open after the Spring meeting, with proposal deadline **July 15, 2025**. Send proposals and brief CV to: nehasubmissions@gmail.com

Our **Spring 2026** conference will be held on **April 25, 2026** at Stonehill College in Easton, Massachusetts.

Stay Connected

Social Media

Threads: [nehistoryassoc](#)

Bluesky: [@nehistoricalassoc.bsky.social](#)

Instagram: [@nehistoryassoc](#)

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/new-england-historical-association/>

Join or renew your membership:

neha.wildapricot.org/join-us

Website: newenglandhistorians.org

Includes latest NEHA updates, past conference programs, prize announcements, newsletter archive, guide for meeting hosting, and our bylaws.

NEHA Communications Chair is Ella Howard (Wentworth Institute of Technology), howarde@wit.edu. Please contact her with information, news, or questions about our website and social media.

Newsletter: We welcome announcements, calls for papers, fellowship notices, and news suitable for our **newsletter** or for posting to our website. If you have a submission for the Fall 2025 (November) newsletter, please send it to NEHA News editor Allen Horn (nehanews.editor@gmail.com by September 15, 2025).

Book reviews should be sent to NEHA book review editor, Thomas J. Carty (Springfield College) tcarty@springfield.edu by September 1, 2025. If you have a book you would like to be considered for a future review, mail it to Thomas Carty at: Department of Social Sciences, Springfield College, 263 Alden St., Springfield MA 01109.

Ways to Get Involved

Make a Tax-Deductible Donation. We welcome contributions to help support our programs and expand our reach! <https://neha.wildapricot.org/Donate/>

Contribute a book review for our newsletter. Contact: **Tom Carty**, tcarty@springfield.edu

Volunteer at an upcoming conference at check-in or with the local arrangements chair.

Serve on a prize committee

Book Prize: contact **Marie McDaniel**, mcdanielm4@southernct.edu.

Student Paper Prize (Grad / Undergrad): contact **Dominic DeBrincat**, ddebrincat@missouriwestern.edu

Run for office. We welcome NEHA members to run for Nominating Committee or the Executive Board; elections are held each spring. Contact us for information about becoming a candidate.

Have your institution **host an upcoming NEHA conference**; more info on our website, newenglandhistorians.org.

Welcome New Members

Nicholas Aieta (Westfield State)
Robert Allison (Suffolk University)
Timothy Alzamora (Worcester State University)
Margaret Bain
Lisa Brucken (Antioch University)
Edwin Calouro (Rhode Island College)
Zachary Collman (Worcester State University)
Thomas Cox (Southern New Hampshire State University)
Tobey Crawford (University of Maine)
Renee Dube (Salve Regina University)
Stephen Guerriero (Charles River Museum)

Emma McCormack (Eastern Connecticut State University)

Richard McGee (University of Rhode Island)

Mia Michael (Wayne State University)

Steven Pitt (St. Bonaventure University)

Mary Potorti (MCPHS)

Kim Richardson (University of South Carolina, Lancaster)

Karolina Svatonova (University of Virginia)

Robert Wolff (Central Connecticut State University)

Betsy Wood (Bard Early College)

NEHA Prizes

NEHA sponsors four annual prizes: book award, research grant, and two student paper awards.

The **James P. Hanlan Book Award** is presented to an author based in New England who has produced an outstanding work of history published in the prior year. It is awarded each fall.

2024 James P. Hanlan Book Award

winner Brooke Barbier, for *King Hancock: The Radical Influence of a Moderate Founding Father* (Harvard University Press, 2023)

Criteria: Monographs on any historical topic, time, or place published in 2024, written by an author who lives or works in New England (or who has done so in the past two years), are eligible for the annual NEHA James P. Hanlan Book Award.

The nominated book should represent the best historical writing and scholarship in any era or field of history. Award certificate and honorarium will be presented to the winner at the next Fall conference.

Any publisher may nominate one book each year by writing to **Book Prize Chair, Marie McDaniel**, Southern Connecticut State University by June 1, 2025. Other members of the committee include Lisa Edwards (UMASS Lowell), Don Wyatt (Middlebury College), and Elizabeth DeWolfe (University of New England).

NEHA Research Grant

Apply now for the New England Historical Association Research Travel Grant. We recognize how challenging it can be to obtain funding for historical research. We give one grant each year for up to \$1250 to meet the costs of travel and research at libraries, archives, museums, parks, and other historical sites. The grant will be awarded in February 2026. Those eligible to apply must be an active NEHA member for at least four years, who have not previously been awarded this grant, proposing valid academic research that requires the applicant to travel to access relevant materials (including public history projects). Current Board members are not eligible.

If you want to confirm your NEHA membership status or eligibility, please email the Executive Secretary

(neha.execsec@gmail.com). The grant should be used within the calendar year in which it is awarded. Grant recipients will be expected to present initial findings from their work at a NEHA conference within two years of conducting the research, and to acknowledge the grant in any scholarly publications resulting from it.

The next grant deadline is November 1, 2025.

To apply complete the application form at <http://www.newenglandhistorians.org/prizes/research-grant/>, plus a 500-750 word project statement, C.V., and budget for use of the grant funds.

Submit your application to NEHA Executive Secretary Tona Hangen at email: neha.execsec@gmail.com.

Student Paper Prizes

NEHA encourages the participation of students in its conferences and considers papers delivered at a NEHA conference for prizes for the **top graduate student paper** and **top undergraduate student paper**. Panel chairs may nominate papers from their sessions, or students may self-nominate.

Papers given during 2025 meetings will be eligible for the Spring 2026 award. Submit papers to **Student Prize Committee Chair, Dominic DeBrincat** (Missouri

Western State University),
ddebrincat@missouriwestern.edu.

2024 Student Paper Prizes

Undergraduate: Bridget Clossick,
University of Rhode Island for "*A Call to
Action: Addressing the Root Causes of
American School Shootings.*"

Graduate: Samuel Moore, Keene State
College for "*From Elephants to
Ecclesiastics: The Changing Imagery of
Chess and its Reflection in the Medieval
Imagination.*"

CFPs, Grants and Fellowships

The **American Academy in Rome** awards
an annual Rome Prize to 15 scholars
working in ancient, medieval, Renaissance
and early modern, or modern Italian
studies. It also awards 15 fellowships for
emerging artists (e.g. architecture,
landscape architecture, design, historic
preservation and conservation, literature,
musical composition, or visual arts).
Recipients of the prize study at the
academy in Rome. Application deadline is
Nov 1. For more information, visit
www.aarome.org/apply/rome-prize

The **American Antiquarian Society** in
Worcester offers three broad categories of
visiting research fellowships: long-term,
short-term, and fellowships for creative and
performing artists and writers. For more
information, visit [americanantiquarian.org/
fellowships](http://americanantiquarian.org/fellowships)

The **American Philosophical Society
Library** in Philadelphia offers competitive
short-term fellowships to support in-
residence research employing its renowned
scholarly collections. Applicants with a
Ph.D. or advanced Ph.D. candidates or
independent scholars may apply for the
fellowships, which carry a monthly stipend
of \$2000 for 1-3 months. To apply, visit
www.amphilsoc.org/grants/fellowships

The **Arthur and Elizabeth Schlesinger
Library on the History of Women in
America** at Radcliffe College offers a
variety of research grants to support new
scholarship on women, gender, and
sexuality. Current grants include summer
research fellowships and dissertation
research funding. For more information,
visit [www.radcliffe.harvard.edu/
opportunities-for-researchers](http://www.radcliffe.harvard.edu/opportunities-for-researchers)

The **Boston Athenaeum** offers short-term
fellowships to support use of its collections
for research, publication, curriculum and
program development, or other creative
projects. Athenaeum fellows are for a
residency of 4 weeks. For more
information, visit [bostonathenaeum.org/
library-collections/fellowships/](http://bostonathenaeum.org/library-collections/fellowships/)

The **Francis A. Countway Library of
Medicine**, an alliance of the Boston
Medical Library and the Harvard Medical
Library, offers two annual fellowships to
support research in the history of medicine.
Theirs is the largest academic medical
library in the nation, with an extensive

collection of European medical texts from the 15th to 20th centuries and many other collections. For application information, visit countway.harvard.edu/center-history-medicine/services/fellowships

Historic Deerfield in Deerfield, MA, invites college juniors and seniors to apply for its 9-week, fully-funded Summer Fellowship Program in History and Material Culture. February deadline. For more information, visit www.historic-deerfield.org/sfp

Historic New England provides \$1000 grants to small and mid-sized heritage organizations in each of the six New England states, for historic community preservation. For more information, visit www.historicnewengland.org/helpful-links/awards-programs/community-preservation-grants/

The **John F. Kennedy Library** offers various research fellowships and grants every year to support scholars who need to use the archival holdings of the JFK Library. For more information, visit www.jfklibrary.org/archives/research-fellowships-grants

The **Massachusetts Historical Society** offers short-term and long-term research fellowships each academic year. The Society is a participant in the New England Regional Fellowship Consortium. For more information and application deadlines, visit www.masshist.org/research/fellowships. Contact fellowships@masshist.org or call (617) 646-0577.

The **New England Regional Fellowship Consortium**, a collaboration of 30 major cultural agencies in our region, offers two dozen awards each academic year for a minimum of 8 weeks of research at participating institutions. For more information, visit www.masshist.org/fellowships/herfc

The **Women's Studies Research Center** invites applications to be a Visiting Scholar in residence at Brandeis University for up to a year. For more information, visit www.brandeis.edu/wsrc/scholars/index.html

Future Conferences

American Historical Association

2026: Chicago, Jan 8-11

2027: New Orleans, Jan 7-10

2028: Seattle, Jan 6-9

African American Intellectual History Society (aaihs.org)

2025: Providence, RI, March 14-15

African Studies Association (africanstudies.org)

2025: Atlanta, Nov 20-22

American Academy of Religion (aarweb.org) Concurrently held with the Society of Biblical Literature

2025: Boston, Nov 22-25

American Conference for Irish Studies

(acisweb.org)

2025: Savannah, GA, Feb 23-26

American Society for Environmental History (aseh.org)

2025: Pittsburgh, April 9-13

American Studies Association

(theasa.net)

2025: San Juan, Puerto Rico, Nov 20-23

2026: Chicago, Nov dates TBA

2026: Atlanta, April 8-11

Italian American Studies Association

(italianamericanstudies.net)

2025: Montclair, NJ, Nov 6-9

Mormon History Association

(mormonhistoryassociation.org)

2025: Ogden, UT, June 5-8

National Council on Public History

(ncph.org)

2026: Providence, RI, Sept 16-19

National Women's Studies Association

(nwsa.org)

2025: Puerto Rico, Nov 13-16

2026: Atlanta, Nov 5-8

North American Conference on British Studies (nacbs.org) in conjunction with the **Western Conference on British Studies**

2025: Montreal, Nov 14-16

Oral History Association (oralhistory.org)

2025: Atlanta, Oct 14-19

Organization of American Historians

(oah.org)

2026: Philadelphia, April 16-19

2027: San Francisco, April 1-4

Popular Culture Association / American Culture Association (pcaaca.org)

2026: Atlanta, April 8-11

2027: Boston, March 24-27

2028: Chicago, April 12-15

Social Science History Association

(ssha.org)

2025: Chicago, November 20-23

Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations (shafr.org)

2025: Arlington, VA, June 26-28

Society of Historians of the Early American Republic (shear.org)

2025: Providence, RI, July 17-21

2026: Philadelphia, July 16-19

World History Association (thewha.org)

2025: Louisville, KY, June 26-28

Opportunities for Authors

If you would like to write a book review for **NEHA News**, please contact our book review editor, **Thomas J. Carty**, Springfield College, Department of History, Springfield, MA 01109; tcarty@springfield.edu. We have books available for review or you may suggest a good new book you have in

hand. Reviews are 600 words and are due in 60 days.

The Historical Journal of Massachusetts

(HJM) seeks articles about any aspect of Massachusetts history, culture, politics, and life. HJM is a peer-reviewed journal published twice a year since 1972. HJM is especially interested in articles on the history of recent immigrant communities. Subscriptions are \$12.00 per year, and the acceptance rate is 35%. For submission guidelines see www.westfield.ma.edu/historical-journal/ or email them at masshistoryjournal@westfield.ma.edu.

The History Press (arcadiapublishing.com)

is looking for local historians and writers who are interested in publishing accessible histories of the towns and communities of New England. The History Press is a traditional, full-service press that focuses exclusively on publishing works of local and regional interest. They publish a wide range of books from brief histories of a town to collections of folklore and essays on the local culture. A typical author has strong ties to their community, and they strive to make their local history more accessible.

For more information, contact Edward Mack, commissioning editor, at Edward.Mack@historypress.net

The International Journal of Humanities and Social Science (IJHSS), an open

access, peer-reviewed and refereed journal, seeks interdisciplinary articles in humanities and the social sciences. If you

have questions about the journal, please contact its editor, **J. Sabrina Mims-Cox** (editor@ijhssnet.com).

The International Journal of Liberal Arts and Social Science (IJLASS), a newly

established, open access, peer-reviewed journal, seeks all manner of contributions, including articles about history. Send your manuscripts to the editor at editor@ijlass.org, or editor.ijlass@hotmail.com

The New England Journal of

History (www.nejh.org/) seeks articles and book reviews for upcoming issues; it is published twice yearly by the New England History Teachers Association, with rolling submission deadlines January 15 and July 15. Please send submissions or inquiries to editor Linda Morse, editors@nejh.org.

The New England Quarterly editors invite submissions for their consideration. This historical review of New England life and letters has been published since 1928. NEQ is an open forum dedicated to the exploration and discussion of New England civilization and its effects on the nation and the world. The journal is open to any historical method, and there is no restriction on the time period covered. Features also include brief memoranda, recently discovered documents, reconsiderations of historical controversies, periodic essay reviews, and approximately fifteen book reviews per issue. Manuscripts

should be sent to the editor, **Jonathan Chu**, at: jonathan.chu@umb.edu

The **Northeast Popular Culture/American Culture Association** (NEPCA) offers its annual **Peter C. Rollins Book Award** for the best book on any American culture or popular culture topic published each year by an author in New England or New York. Contact the NEPCA Executive Secretary, **Lance Eaton**, Brandeis University, lance.eaton@Agmail.com.

The Great Viking Survey

The University of Oslo has recently launched the Great Viking Survey, a wide-ranging study to explore how people across the world perceive and engage with the vikings as history and heritage, and to map the many ways in which contemporary media and academia shape these views. This online survey invites anyone, anywhere, over 18, to share their thoughts on the iconic viking warrior figure, as well as the enduring legacy and memory of the vikings in the modern world. In doing so, researchers will be able to shine an unprecedented light on the means and mechanisms that allow images and myths of the vikings to be shaped and spread in the public sphere.

The survey is part of the Making a Warrior-project, a pan-Nordic network of scholars examining the concept of viking 'warriorhood' and its representations past and present. By determining how ideas and images of vikings are shared among

different communities and demographics, the project is able to inform future outreach and cultural heritage initiatives that respond to public interest, while fostering a nuanced appreciation of the Viking Age.

The Great Viking Survey is now live at vikingsurvey.org, and remains open until mid-May 2025.



The Westfield, MA Civil War Memorial, sculpted by Melzar Hunt Mosman (1843-1923), courtesy Wikimedia

Book Reviews

Ethan Scheiner. *Freedom to Win: A Cold War Story of the Courageous Hockey Team that Fought the Soviets for the Soul of its People—and Olympic Gold*. New York: Pegasus Books, 2023.

While even the most casual of American hockey fan can recite the basic facts of the Miracle on Ice at the 1980 Lake Placid Olympics, much less known is the story of the Czechoslovakian national hockey team that shocked the Soviet team twice during the 1969 hockey world championships. Ethan Scheiner recounts the details of these contests masterfully, contextualizing his narrative within the crackdown that ensued from the August 1968 Warsaw Pact invasion of Czechoslovakia following the Prague Spring. From there, he traces the trajectory of both Czechoslovakian hockey and the everyday hardships of life in a repressive communist state through the fall of the Berlin Wall.

This is the third book and the first foray into Cold War sport for Scheiner, Professor of Political Science at the University of California, Davis. His interest in the Czechoslovakian national team's victories grew from a course he was teaching on Politics and Sport at UC-Davis in 2016. The end result of his search for non-American source material for that syllabus is an engaging account of two generations of athletes in the Holík family and some of their teammates set against the backdrop

of Czechoslovakia's struggles against Soviet oppression from the 1960s through the 1980s. Brothers Jaroslav and Jiří Holík grew up playing hockey on their local Jihlava team, eventually competing as members of the Czechoslovakian national team at multiple world championships and the Olympic Games. While Jaroslav and Jiří feature prominently throughout the book, Scheiner interweaves the experiences and frustrations of Jaroslav's children—tennis player Andrea and hockey player Bobby in the sections of the book that focus on the 1980s.

Scheiner argues convincingly that hockey offered the Czechoslovakian people a much-needed outlet for their frustrations with the increasingly repressive Soviet regime during the later decades of the Cold War. As the Soviet crackdown grew more intense in the weeks and months after the invasions, with more than 70,000 Warsaw Pact troops stationed on Czechoslovakian soil, hockey provided a means of symbolic resistance. The 1969 Czechoslovakian team's two victories against its Soviet foe during the World Championships provided a much-needed boost in national pride. Cheering for the team—while simultaneously heckling the Soviets offered an outlet for expressing frustration with Soviet oppression. Fans packed the stands during the highly anticipated Czechoslovakian-Soviet matchup and waved signs proclaiming, "Your tanks can't help you here" and other similarly creative messages (141). While beating the Soviet team twice in the tournament could not

fully compensate for the invasion and resulting communist crackdown, the victories brought a sense of hope to a people that desperately needed one.

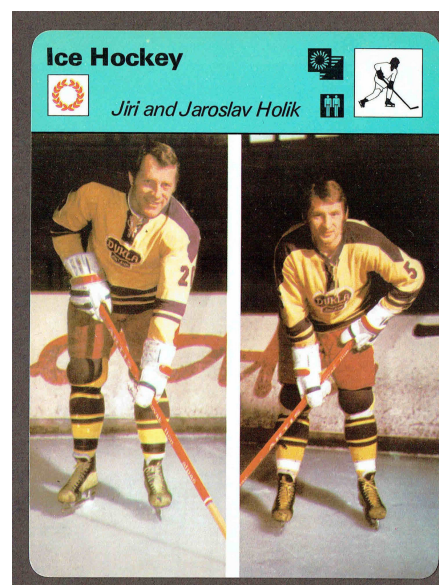
Scheiner intersperses anecdotes and details that speak to just how repressive and colorless life under communism was in Czechoslovakia. While star athletes received selectively better treatment than the average citizen (more opportunities for travel, access to better housing), the Holík brothers' experiences and selective decisions to defy the communist party demonstrate that there were limits to this immunity from the worst deprivations. Scheiner then traces the experiences of Jaroslav's children, both of whom defected to the United States, through the 1980s in the years leading up to the Velvet Revolution and the end of communism, ending with the Czech Republic's improbable hockey gold medal at the 1998 Nagano Olympics.

Scheiner organizes his work chronologically, dividing it into five well written and thoughtfully arranged parts. His clearly written descriptions of the Warsaw Pact invasion and lingering consequences for the Czechoslovakian people make this work accessible even to those without much background knowledge of Cold War era Czechoslovakia. His thorough knowledge of the Holík family comes from extensive conversations with Jaroslav's son Bobby, who defected in 1989 after the Hartford Whalers NHL team drafted him and became an American citizen in 1996,

and other living members of the Holík family. (Jaroslav passed away in 2015). Scheiner's other sources are mostly scholarly secondary works on Czechoslovakian history. As he notes, little of the existing scholarship is in English, which only adds to the complexity of this project.

Scheiner brings together storylines at both the national and familial levels in this deftly written account. His recounting of the hockey games is vividly done in a way that makes the reader feel as though they are in the stands. While this book might be a bit lengthy for an undergraduate classroom, it is a welcome addition to a growing field of Cold War sport that looks outside the bipolar US-USSR dynamic. And most importantly, he convincingly maintains his thesis throughout the work and supports it amply with colorful examples and vivid detail. This is a must-read for hockey fans and Cold War scholars alike.

Erin Redihan, Salve Regina University



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Membership is open to all persons or organizations interested in studying, teaching or writing history of any time period, subfield, or region. NEHA is a regional affiliate of the **American Historical Association**.

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Westfield River Near Woronoco Mass, as photographed by Henry E. Rees in 1908, courtesy Library of Congress
New England Historical Association - founded 1965