

Save the Dates:

Lunch & Learn Zoom

(watch for a Zoom invite)

Tuesday, February 15, 2022

12:00-1:00pm

Please join Dr. Julia Titus, of the Yale Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures. Dr. Titus will talk about her forthcoming book on the subject of “Dostoevsky as a Translator of Balzac.”

See page 2 for details.

And Mark Your Calendars!

The YUWO 2022 Annual Meeting will take place on Wednesday, May 4.

**April 4, 13, 20 and 27
Spring Lecture Series
Karyl Evans Productions**

1. *“Mabel Osgood Wright: Pioneering Conservationist”*
2. *“The Life and Gardens of Beatrix Farrand”*
3. *“Letter From Italy, 1944: A New American Oratorio”*
4. *“CT Women’s Suffrage”*
5. *“Award Videos for the CT Women’s Hall of Fame”*

Consider joining the Board!

There are several openings on the YUWO Board for 2022-2024. If you want to become more involved in YUWO and you have basic computer and people skills, please contact:
Shavaun Towers Bennett
stowers@tps-lass.com

~ or ~

Winnie Seibert
winnieseibert@gmail.com

The three following positions are elected, according to the Bylaws, in even-numbered years:

- President**
- Vice President**
- Treasurer**

See page 4 for job descriptions.



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President’s Letter to the Members of the YUWO Community

In the fall of 2021, the YUWO theme was “Hybrid.” Though the hybrid format continues, I am adding hope.

In lieu of our large Holiday Party, our interest groups enjoyed small, face-to-face December gatherings. (Photos are included in this Newsletter.) Participation in Activity Groups, Committees and Board positions brings the reward of friendship and builds a strong foundation for YUWO. Consider becoming more involved. The monthly Lunch and Learn lectures will continue on Zoom. We await Yale’s decision about the venue for our Spring/April Lecture Series.

Very best for the months ahead!

— *Mary-Jo Worthey Warren, President 2018-2022*

YUWO Monthly Book Groups – Read On!

The #2 Third Monday Afternoon at 2:00 pm on Zoom

The #2 Third Monday Book Group will discuss *The Chancellor: The Remarkable Odyssey of Angela Merkel* by Kati Marton on February 21 at 2:00 pm on Zoom. Our March 22 choice is *The Promise* by Damon Galgut.

Contact Pat Goldstein (203-535-0734) or patgoldst@gmail.com

The (First) Third Monday Afternoon at 2:00 pm (Hybrid and/or In Person)

On February 21, the #1 Third Monday Book Group will meet at 2:00 p.m. by Zoom to discuss *Normal People* by Sally Rooney. Susan Anderson will lead the discussion of this book. We will meet on Monday, March 21 at 2:00 p.m. at the Guilford Free Library to discuss *Drive Your Plow Over the Bones of the Dead*, by Olga Tokarczuk, Linda Brouard's choice of books. We hope that all members will attend. Many of us are Zoom-averse, so it has been too long since we have all been together. However, in case of more bad Covid news, Zoom will serve as our backup method.

Contact Louise Ciulla (203) 288-5195, or lciulla@yahoo.com

Second Tuesday Afternoon at 2:00 pm (Zoom)

We will be discussing *A Brilliant Solution* by Carol Berkin on February 8. Our March 8 book, *By The Sea* by Abdulraza Gurnah, was not available, so we substituted another book, *Paradise*, by the same author.

Contact Lyn Howe (203-606-0370) or lyn.howe66@gmail.com

Second Thursday Morning at 9:30 am (Hybrid)

The Thursday morning book group will meet on Thursday, February 10, at 9:30 A.M. at Judy Miller's home to discuss *Hamnet*, by Maggie O'Farrell. I am also happy to report that we have two new readers and they provided great input to our hybrid January meeting.

Contact Audrey DeFronzo (203-804-5572) or amdefronzo@gmail.com

Spring Excursion to Mark Twain House

Looking forward to this spring, I am proposing a carpool trip to the Mark Twain House in Hartford. As we did at Hillstead, we can bring picnic lunches and eat on the grounds or in a park. The house is currently closed due to Covid but will open shortly. Our book group is going to read one of Twain's books and this could be a good opportunity for interested members or other book groups to read a most cherished American author. Tentative date would be sometime in May. — *Winnie Seibert, Excursions Chair*

LUNCH & LEARN

February 15, 2022 ~ 12:00-1:00 pm on Zoom

“Dostoevsky as a Translator of Balzac”

Please join us on Tuesday, February 15 at noon, via Zoom, for a Lunch & Learn talk by Dr. Julia Titus, of the Yale Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures. Dr. Titus will talk about her forthcoming book on the subject of “Dostoevsky as a Translator of Balzac.” Dr. Titus has broad research interests including second language acquisition, heritage language teaching, bilingualism, translation studies, Russian literature and theater, and comparative literature, especially that of Russia and France. She has written extensively about the use of poetry, blogs, and online resources in language learning. Two of her books were nominated for the Best Contribution to Pedagogy award of the American Association of Teachers of Slavic and East European Languages. Although considerable research exists on Dostoevsky's novels, almost nothing has been written on his work as a literary translator. This talk will discuss young Dostoevsky's first literary publication — his free translation of Eugénie Grandet, which also was the first Russian edition of this novel.

YUWO Activities

YUWO Activity Groups have been busy! Whether meeting in person, on Zoom or with a hybrid model, groups have managed to connect, weathering the vagaries of this uncertain time with creativity, smiles (and good food!)



◀ At left, the **YUWO Luncheon Gourmet Group** met at the New Haven home of Carmen Rodriguez (center) for an “International Christmas” lunch.



▲ Above, the **YUWO Second Thursday Morning Book Group** met to choose the books for the coming year. Some of the group lingered for lunch. If you are interested in joining the group, contact Audrey DeFronzo amdefronzo@gmail.com.



▲ Above, the **YUWO French Group** celebrated the holiday season with a traditional *Bûche de Noël*. The group alternates meeting on Zoom and in person at Chestnut Fine Foods. If you are interested in joining, contact Debbie St. Thomas, debstthomas@gmail.com.

▶ At right, the **YUWO Film Group** met for a December Brunch to plan the spring season. The next film will be “Sliding Doors.” Members watch the film before an in-person or Zoom discussion. If you are interested in joining, please contact Bernie Wilcox at bernardinawilcox@gmail.com.



SPRING LECTURE SERIES

The April 2022 YUWO Lecture Series will present Karyl Evans, award winning producer of documentaries identifying the role of women in Connecticut history. We are extending our theme from the October, 2020 Lectures, to recognize the impact of women in shaping our communities, our state and the world. The dates of our lectures will be Monday, April 4, and the following Wednesdays, April 13, 20 and 27. Our plan is to be in person at the Yale West Campus Conference Center and also to offer Zoom to those who cannot attend. As of this writing, it is too early to state positively that we will be together again at the Conference Center, given the current restrictions to the Yale Campus facilities. In the event of continued restrictions, we will proceed on the Zoom platform. It is with guarded optimism that we will be able to celebrate once again together in safety and grand spirits. Further details will be in the March Newsletter. Please stay tuned for more information and set your calendars for this very engaging and important series of presentations. — *Sandra Greer*

Tell Everyone You Know About YUWO Scholarships!

We are pleased and grateful that 18 donors contributed more than \$1,000 in year-end gifts to the 2022-23 Annual Scholarship Fund, increasing our total to \$8,500.

The Scholarship Committee is now focusing on getting the word out to create a strong pool of applicants. This fall, we updated our website to dispel any misconceptions that our scholarships are designated only for women who want to attend Yale. While some applicants may plan to study at Yale, the majority of our applicants are interested in attending other two- and four-year colleges and universities, including accredited online schools.

Please tell everyone you know about our scholarships for women who need financial aid to continue their education. If a woman is a current or past employee at Yale or has another Yale affiliation (her own or that of a family member), she may be eligible for a YUWO Scholarship ranging from \$1,000 to \$10,000. Further details about eligibility may be found on our website. Applications are due March 15, 2022.

Thank you for helping us spread the word by sharing this information with friends and neighbors who may know employees of Yale University.

YUWO Board Positions 2022-2024

JOB DESCRIPTIONS (from page 1):

President: The President presides at all meetings of the organization and the governing board, selects all appointed and special officers (with board approval), and serves as an ex officio member on all committees with the exception of the Nominating Committee.

Vice President: The Vice President is responsible for filling in during the president's absence, maintaining current versions of board documents, and fulfilling additional responsibilities as requested by the president or the board.

Treasurer: The Treasurer keeps a record of financial transactions of the organization, is responsible for all deposits and disbursements, and serves as chair of the Finance Committee. Requires facility with Excel and knowledge of, or willingness to learn, Quicken.

Membership Additions and Corrections:

NEW MEMBER:

Paula McCarthy, 418 Colonial Road, Guilford CT 06437
cell phone: (203) 837-7468 ~ email: pjsmccarthy@gmail.com

CHANGES/CORRECTIONS:

Susan Leonard's new address is 14 Paddock Ln, Guilford CT 06437
Marie Kozak's cell phone number should be (203) 606-8030