



Ciruti Connect

Your monthly connection to what's happening in and around the Ciruti Center for Languages!

April-May 2026 Vol. AY25-26; No. 7

LCC News

Shout out to our graduating LCC Staff Seniors: Mari and Yeslee, both stellar supervisors! And Elizabeth, our fun loving Cross-Cultural Buddy pioneer! You will all be missed! Wishing you the best of luck!

Special Recognition: We are dedicating this final newsletter of the academic year and our **Language of the Month** board to the Russian and German programs. German is a Germanic language spoken by over 130 million people primarily in Germany, Austria, and Switzerland. German has been influential in fields like theology, philosophy, and science. Russian is an East Slavic language with over 210 million speakers worldwide and is most commonly spoken in Russia, Eurasia, and Eastern Europe. The four-year sunsetting plan for these departments has come to an end, and it is an immense loss for our Ciruti and larger Mount Holyoke communities. We will miss the wonderful faculty, staff, and students who made their languages and cultures come to life in and out of the classroom.

Language Department Events

Classics & Italian Tea

- Date: Wednesday, April 1st
- Time: 4:30 pm - 6:30 pm
- Location: Blanchard Great Room

What Can You Do With A Spanish Major? SLLAS Alum Panel

- Date: Wednesday, April 1st
- Time: 5:00 pm - 6:30 pm
- Location: LCC Lab & Lounge

Asian Studies Tea

- Date: Thursday, April 2nd
- Time: 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm
- Location: Blanchard Great Room

The Far Right in Latin America: A Conversation with Fernando Brancoli

- Date: Thursday, April 2nd
- Time: 5:00 pm - 6:15 pm
- Location: Dwight 101

MHC Five College Korean Speech Contest

- Date: Thursday, April 2nd
- Time: 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm
- Location: Ciruti 206

SLLAS: Celebrate the Spanish Majors!

- Date: Friday, April 3rd
- Time: 3:30 pm - 5:00 pm
- Location: Blanchard Great Room

Baking an Osterlamm (Easter Lamb)

- Date: Saturday, April 4th
- Time: 10:00 am - 2:00 pm
- Location: Creighton Kitchen

Chinese Calligraphy Contest Award Ceremony

- Date: Friday, April 10th
- Time: 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm
- Location: Ciruti 009

Korea Night

- Date: Friday, April 10th
- Time: 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm
- Location: Chapin Auditorium

Orthodox Easter Baking

- Date: Thursday, April 12th
- Time: 11:00 am - 1:30 pm
- Location: Porter Kitchen

Wild Honey: An Evening of Slavic Poetry

- Date: Sunday, April 16th
- Time: 7:00 pm - 9:30 pm
- Location: Library Stimson Room

Borders de todos lados with Alisa Slaughter

- Date: Friday, April 17th
- Time: 2:30 pm - 3:45 pm
- Location: Ciruti 202

Screening: 'Goodbye Lenin!'

- Date: Friday, April 17th
- Time: 7:30 pm - 9:30 pm
- Location: Art 220

Eastern European & Eurasian Cultures Club Ball

- Date: Saturday, May 2nd
- Time: 7:00 pm - 9:30 pm
- Location: Mandelle Ballroom

Farewell to Daniel and Katy!

- Date: Tuesday, May 5th
- Time: 5:00 pm - 7:30 pm
- Location: Shattuck Cassani Lounge

LCC Events

International Karaoke Jam

Come to our 2nd Annual Karaoke event! Songs in any language are welcome!

- Date: Wednesday, April 15th
- Time: 7:00 - 9:00 pm*
- Location: Cochary Pub (Blanchard)

NOTE: THE LCC WILL BE CLOSED FROM 7-9 PM!

Ciruti World's Fair

Check out food, crafts, performances, and more from our different language departments on **Pangy Day!**

- Date: Friday, May 1st
- Time: 3:00 - 5:00 pm
- Location: LCC Lab & Lounge

German and Russian Faculty Profiles

Daniel Brooks graduated from Hampshire College with a concentration in art history and Russian studies in 2007, and received his PhD in Slavic languages and literatures, with a focus on early 20th-c. Russian literary criticism and memoir, from the University of California, Berkeley in 2015. He was overjoyed to return to the Five Colleges in 2021.

Daniel is an avid fan of canning, pickling, and fermenting, and regularly brings his concoctions to Russian Table and many Eastern European & Eurasian Cultures Club events. (Please come to **Wild Honey**, a celebration of poetry in many languages!) He sometimes walks his loud, but lovable pitbull Kasha, around campus (you'll hear her long before you see her), and enjoys a game of pickup basketball. He's going to sorely miss the passionate, and endlessly inspiring, talented language he's had the privilege of teaching at Mount Holyoke.



Catherine McNally. I consider my time at MHC to have unofficially begun when I was about 4 years old, when my mom was here as an FP. I attended Gorse, my babysitters were MHC students, and I ran amuck in the laurel parade. I am so grateful to have returned to a place that holds some of my earliest childhood memories and for the opportunity to work with the students in German studies over the last six years. In such a small department, I have had the unique privilege of seeing German Studies students in many contexts, from first semester language courses to analyzing Weimar film, from the Brothers Grimm and witches to gender and fascism, and everywhere in between. I am bettered by having worked alongside the German Studies students, whose intellectual curiosity, creativity, and tenacity will undoubtedly carry them far.



When asked: What do you love about MHC?
Response: The students in German Studies!