

Hello/Hola/Salut from the Department of Language, Literature, & Cultural Studies!

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1) STUDENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Thanks to the generosity of internationally renowned author James Patterson, the following undergraduate and graduate students were awarded a James Patterson Scholarship for English Majors during the Spring 2025 and/or Fall 2025 semester:

Berellyn Alberca
Racquel Lee
Mikala Barber
Naila Trench-Muhammad
Sean Henderson
Kevin Lopez-Cruz
Bryanna Hurst
Faith Nwachuku-Taite
Breanne Joseph
Anuoluwatomiwa Aderibigbe
Valaun Allen
Naomi Morgan
Lynn Obianwu
Rachel Keays
Olamide Akano



James Patterson

Congratulations!

2) FACULTY ACCOMPLISHMENTS



Dr. Monifa Love

An interdisciplinary team of BSU researchers were awarded \$122,609 to study “Special History Study—The Sandburg’s Views and Roles Related to African Americans and Civil Rights including.” Prof. Gina Lewis (Associate Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences and Professor of Fine and Performing Arts), **Dr. Monifa Love (Professor, Language, Literature, and Cultural Studies)**, Dr. Tamara Brown (Professor, History and Government), Dr. Carmen Walker (Associate Professor, History and Government), **former BSU English Professor Dr. Sheneese Thompson (Howard University, Department of Afro-American Studies)**, and doctoral candidate Damita Green (Morgan State University) are investigating Carl and Lilian Sandburg’s relationship to the African American community and the Civil Rights Movement for the U.S. National Park Service’s Carl Sandburg Home National Historic Site.

The team will review materials held by the National Park Service (NPS) and those in US special collections devoted to the Sandburg-Steichen family and provide its insights to the NPS. Co-PIs Lewis and Love and the team members aim to contribute to Sandburg scholarship as it relates to material culture, American poetry and politics, cultural influence, the Civil Rights Movement, Sandburg-Steichen activism, and representation of the Sandburgs in African American publications.

The two-year long project, *Special History Study – The Sandburgs' Views and Roles Related to African Americans and Civil Rights*, will culminate in a public sharing of findings as well as a final report for the NPS.

3) FALL COURSE: LITERATURE OF THE CARIBBEAN

MWF
1PM
FALL
2025

LITERATURE OF
THE CARIBBEAN

✓MUSIC


✓FICTION

✓FOLKLORE

✓POETRY

✓DIGITAL
STORYTELLING

✓GUEST SPEAKER,
"DR. SOCA"



VOICES OF
CARIBBEAN
LIT

DR. KIM EVELYN
KEVELYN@BOWIESTATE.EDU

Students who are still looking for a course to add to their Fall 2025 schedule should consider **Dr. Kim Evelyn's** ENGL 326: Literature of the Caribbean. Dr. Evelyn has just returned from a research sabbatical focused on Caribbean literature that was funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

4) OSCAR- AND TONY-AWARD WINNING GUEST SPEAKER BRUCE COHEN: SEPTEMBER 15

The poster is yellow and features the following elements:

- Text at the top: "Bruce Cohen – Film, TV, & Theater Producer", "Oscar-Award Winner (2000, *American Beauty*)", and "Tony-Award Winner (2021, *The Inheritance*)".
- A black and white portrait of Bruce Cohen.
- Text below the portrait: "September 15" and "12:00-1:00 on Zoom".
- A row of four movie posters: *American Beauty*, *Big Fish*, *Milk*, and *Rustin*.
- The Bowie State University logo.
- Text: "Scan QR Code to join the Q&A".
- A QR code.
- Text at the bottom: "Moderated by Dr. Horacio Sierra" and "Sponsored by the Department of Language, Literature, & Cultural Studies".

Join students in **Dr. Horacio Sierra's** ENGL 250: Introduction to Film class as they have a conversation with Bruce Cohen, a film, TV, and theater producer who won an Oscar Award for Best Picture (*American Beauty*, 2000) and a Tony Award for Best Play (*The Inheritance*, 2021) on Monday, September 15, 12:00-1:00 on Zoom.

Bruce will discuss what being a producer entails with a special focus on films such as *American Beauty*, *Rustin*, *Milk*, and *Silver Linings Playbook*. Bruce has also worked on films such as *The Color Purple*, *Hook*, *Arachnophobia*, *The Flintstones*, *To Wong Foo*, and *Big Fish*. Sponsored by the Department of Language, Literature, & Cultural Studies.

Zoom Link: <https://bowiestate.zoom.us/j/99105260711>

5) *THE TORCH*: BSU'S CREATIVE WRITING JOURNAL

You can read the Spring 2025 issue of *The Torch*, BSU's Creative Writing Journal, by picking up a physical copy in the Department of Language, Literature, & Cultural Studies' Office Suite on the 3rd floor of the MLK Building or by clicking here:

<https://bowiestate.edu/academics/colleges/college-of-arts-and-sciences/departments/language-literature-and-cultural-studies/the-torch/spring-2025/>

6) CREATIVE WRITING OPPORTUNITY: MADISON JOURNAL OF LITERARY CRITICISM



A Call for Submissions to the Madison Journal of Literary Criticism for the Fall 2025 Endurance Edition

Categories: We welcome submissions that mix mediums and hope to display work that inspires us, not work that conforms to specific constraints. Please submit your work to the category you feel is most suitable.

Poetry: free verse, rhyming, etc. (up to 3 works)

Fiction: flash fiction, fictionalized accounts, short stories, etc. (under 10 pages)

Nonfiction: creative nonfiction, journalism, interviews, personal essays, reviews, listicles, etc. (under 10 pages)

Academic: class papers, reports, traditional literary criticism, analytical essays, rhetorical arguments, etc. (under 15 pages)

Click her to learn more about the journal and submit your work by October 6: <https://mjlc.squarespace.com/>

7) SIGMA TAU DELTA



Sigma Tau Delta welcomes new members.

Membership Requirements:

- Candidates for undergraduate membership must have completed a minimum of two college courses in English language or literature beyond the usual requirements in freshman English. The candidate must have a minimum of a B or equivalent average in English and in general scholarship and must have completed at least three semesters or five quarters of college course work. Candidates for undergraduate membership need not be majoring or minoring in the discipline of English.

- Candidates for graduate membership who did not hold undergraduate membership must be enrolled in a graduate program in English or one of its specializations, have completed six semester hours of graduate work or the equivalent, and have a minimum grade point average of 3.3 on a 4.0 scale.

- Lifetime Membership Fee: \$80. \$40 goes to the Nu Nu chapter, which will bestow you with Honor Cords and a Medallion at your Induction Ceremony that you can wear during graduation. The other \$40 goes to Sigma Tau Delta's national office, which will supply you with your Sigma Tau Delta society pin and certificate. **LLCS can help pay for your membership fees.**

Email Dr. Kim Evelyn for more information: kevelyn@bowiestate.edu

To learn more about Membership Benefits, please click here: <http://english.org/members/benefits.shtml>