

SHEVCHENKO SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2020



COVID-19 Notice

In compliance with the government's policy [New York State on Pause](#), the main office of the Shevchenko Scientific Society in the United States has suspended all scheduled face-to-face events, effective of March 14, 2020. The main office will be closed until further notice.

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UKRAINIAN AMERICAN ORGANIZATIONS SUPPORT STUDENTS AND ARTISTS AFFECTED BY THE PANDEMIC

The Shevchenko Scientific Society in the United States, Razom for Ukraine and the Coordinating Committee to Aid Ukraine have recently awarded stipends to 31 Ukrainian students and artists who currently reside in the United States and experience financial hardships due to the pandemic.

The [Stipend for Ukrainian Students and Artists in Need](#) (SUSAN) provided merit-based scholarships and need-based grants. SUSAN awardees came from diverse backgrounds, representing different parts of the United States, various levels of education, and different forms of arts.

On behalf of participating organizations and award recipients, the SUSAN Selection Committee thanks donors for their generosity, which enabled an increase in the total stipend fund to some \$30,000.

For more information, click [here](#)

УКРАЇНА У ПЕРЕДДЕНЬ ВИБОРІВ В АМЕРИЦІ

Online Webinar



**Адріан
Каратницький**
політолог, науковий співробітник
Атлантичної ради



Олександр Мотиль
політолог, професор Ратгерського
університету



Микола Рябчук
політолог, Почесний президент
Українського ПЕН-клубу

**UKRAINE ON THE EVE OF US
ELECTIONS: A WEBINAR**

On 10 October 2020, Shevchenko Scientific Society in the United States kicked off the 2020-2021 event series with a webinar on Ukrainian politics and US elections. [Adrian Karatnycky](#), a senior fellow with the Atlantic Council's Eurasia Center and managing partner of Myrmidon Group LLC, [Alexander Motyl](#), professor of political science at Rutgers University-Newark, and [Mykola Riabchuk](#), honorary president of the Ukrainian PEN Centre, commented on voting preferences of Ukrainian Americans and implications of the 2020 presidential elections for US-Ukraine relations. The webinar was moderated by Vasyl Makhno, Shevchenko Scientific Society's Program Director.

Among other things, webinar participants discussed the 2020 elections in Ukraine and Belarus. The speakers concurred that the local elections in Ukraine would be of greater significance than before due to the redistribution of power in the wake of recent decentralization reforms. In addition, speakers commented on ongoing protests against the regime in Belarus. As noted by Riabchuk, Ukrainians rediscovered Belarussian culture and became more aware of linguistic similarities between the two languages as a result of increased flow of information from Belarus.

For details, view the webinar [here](#)



UKRAINIAN HISTORY THROUGH THE EYES OF KHARKIV RESIDENTS: A DOCUMENTARY

On October 21, 2020, the [Ukrainian Film Club at Columbia University](#) (UFCCU), jointly with the [Harriman Institute](#), held a screening and online discussion of [The Long Break](#). The documentary was directed by [Katya Soldak](#) who was born in the city of Kharkiv and currently lives in New York City. Soldak works as an editorial director for *Forbes Magazine's* international editions. [Yuri Shevchuk](#), UFCCU founder and director, moderated the event.

The Long Break provides an account of Ukrainian history through the eyes of Soldak's family and friends in Kharkiv, located approximately eighteen miles from the Russian border.

For further information, click [here](#)



YARA ARTS GROUP SPECIAL VIRTUAL SERIES ON ZINOVIIY SHTOKALKO

In the fall of 2020 [Yara Arts Group](#), in collaboration with the Ukrainian Museum, held a special virtual series on [Zinoviyy Shtokalko](#), a virtuoso bandura player. First, the series revisited the history of the bandura and its styles. Next, the series examined Shtokalko's development of narrative tales and showcased his performance of Ukrainian epic songs (*dumas*).

Hosted by Dmytro Hubyak, Julian Kytasty and [Virlana Tkacz](#), these live-streamed events featured special guests from US, Canada and Ukraine.

For further information, click [here](#)



Kazimir Malevich. *Floor Polishers*. 1911. Collection Stedelijk Museum Amsterdam

UKRAINIAN MODERNISM, 1900-1930: A REAPPRAISAL

On November 18, the [Ukrainian Research Institute](#) at Harvard University will hold a roundtable on Ukrainian modernism, 1900-1930. Following a series of [publications](#) and conferences on the topic, speakers will reexamine modernism's interface with socialist realism, the interplay of visual art and poetry, the Hylean futurism of David Burliuk, and the artistic legacy of Alexander Archipenko.

George G. Grabowicz, Dmytro Čyževskij Professor of Ukrainian Literature at Harvard University and founder and editor in chief of the Kyiv-based journal and publishing house [Krytyka](#); **Myroslava M. Mudrak**, professor emerita in the Department of History of Art at Ohio State University; **Vita Susak**, art historian and member of the Swiss Academic Society for East European Studies, will provide a reappraisal of Ukrainian modernism. **Michael S. Flier**, Oleksandr Potebnja Professor of Ukrainian Philology, Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures, Harvard University, will make opening remarks, and **Halyna Hryn**, editor of [Harvard Ukrainian Studies](#) and President of the Shevchenko Scientific Society in the United States, will moderate the event. For more information on the [HUS special issue on Ukrainian modernism](#) featuring these and other authors, please see [here](#).

The event will be live-streamed on YouTube [here](#)



ASEEES 2020 VIRTUAL CONVENTION

This year, the Annual Convention of the [Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies](#) (ASEEES) will be held virtually on November 5-8 and November 14-15.

The Shevchenko Scientific Society in the United States will have a strong presence at the convention, with a large number of its members participating in paper panels, roundtables, and book discussions. In addition, the Shevchenko Scientific Society in the United States will sponsor the roundtable “The 30th Anniversary of the Granite Revolution in Ukraine” and the panel “The Public and the Hidden Role of the Greek Catholic Church in Ukrainian Political and Religious Life.” The Shevchenko Scientific Society is an affiliate organization of ASEEES.

For a short list of ASEEES paper panels and roundtables, featuring the society's members, click [here](#).



MEMBER OF THE MONTH: CHRISTINE EMERAN

Hometown: St. Louis, MO

Current Position: International Programs Officer,
American Council of Learned Societies

Professional Interests: Democracy, civil society
development, global social movements,
Ukraine/Europe/US

I was invited to join the Society by a member, Myron Stachiw. He was the former director of the Fulbright Ukraine program when I first made his acquaintance. We have maintained contact and I kept him informed of my professional trajectory since I completed my fieldwork and published its results. I value the intellectual exchanges and rich contributions of each member deeply involved in Ukrainian culture, history from past to present.

My interest in Ukrainian politics and culture has allowed me to engage in global studies on transnational social movements, including the U.S. and Europe. This perspective grew from my research on the transnational activism present in my studies of Ukraine's Orange Revolution.

For a full profile, click [here](#)

MEMBER NEWS

[Oksana Berezovska](#), Associate Professor of Neurology, Harvard Medical School, has the co-authored article, “Visualization of PS/γ-Secretase Activity in Living Cells,” forthcoming in *iScience*. Using the Förster resonance energy transfer-based biosensors, they uncover that PS/γ-secretase activity is heterogeneously regulated among live neurons.

[Rostislav Grigorchuk](#), Distinguished Professor in the Department of Mathematics, Texas A&M University, published the article, “On the Question “Can One Hear the Shape of a Group?” and a Hulanicki Type Theorem for Graphs” (with Artem Dudko), in the *Israel Journal of Mathematics*. They show that it is not possible to determine a finitely generated group G up to some notion of equivalence from the spectrum $\text{sp}(G)$ of G .

[Melania Nynka](#), Research Scientist at the Kavli Institute For Astrophysics and Space Research, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, published the co-authored article, “A Deep CFHT Optical Search for a Counterpart to the Possible Neutron Star–Black Hole Merger GW190814,” in *The Astrophysical Journal* (June 2020).

[Oksana Lutsyshyna](#), Lecturer at the University of Texas-Austin, was awarded the [2020 UNESCO City of Literature Prize](#) for her book *Ivan and Phoebe*, offering a nuanced account of the last years of the Soviet rule and the first years of Ukraine’s independence.

[Vasyl Makhno](#), Shevchenko Scientific Society’s Program Director, was awarded the [2020 Encounter: The Ukrainian-Jewish Literary Prize](#) for his novel *Eternal Calendar*, providing a panoramic narrative about the lives of Ukrainians, Poles, Jews, and Armenians from the seventeenth century to the present day. He was named the prize winner during the opening ceremony of the 27th Lviv International Book Forum, held on 16 September 2020. Founded in 2020, Encounter: The Ukrainian-Jewish Literary Prize is awarded annually to the most influential work in literature and nonfiction (in alternate years) that fosters Ukrainian-Jewish understanding, helping solidify Ukraine’s place as a multi-ethnic society.

Vasyl Makhno’s collection of short stories, *The House in Baiting Hallow*, was translated in German. *Das Haus in Baiting Hallow* will be published by [Leipziger Literaturverlag](#).

[Olena Nikolayenko](#), chair of the communications committee at the Shevchenko Scientific Society in the United States, was promoted to the rank of full professor in the Department of Political Science at [Fordham University](#) (effective September 2020). Her recent article, “The Significance of Human Dignity for Social

Movements: Mass Mobilisation in Ukraine,” was published in [East European Politics](#) (2020).

[Anna Procyk](#), Professor Emerita in the Department of History, Philosophy, and Political Science at Kingsborough Community College, City University of New York, received the [Kovaliv Award](#) for her book, [Giuseppe Mazzini’s ‘Young Europe’ and the Birth of Modern Nationalism in the Slavic World](#) (University of Toronto Press, 2019). Established in the 1950s by Petro and Lesia Kovaliv, the award is administered the [Ukrainian National Women’s League of America](#).

[Valeria Sobol](#), Associate Professor and Head of the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, is the winner of the 2019-2020 prize for the Best Article in the field of Ukrainian history, politics, language, literature and culture annually awarded by the [American Association for Ukrainian Studies](#). Her article, “’Tis Eighty Years Since: Panteleimon Kulish’s Gothic Ukraine,” was published in [Slavic Review](#). Her recent book, [Haunted Empire: Gothic and the Russian Imperial Uncanny](#), (Northern Illinois University Press, 2020), shows that Gothic elements in Russian literature frequently expressed deep-set anxieties about the Russian imperial and national identity.

[Kathryn Vasilaky](#), Assistant Professor at the Department of Economics, Orfalea College of Business, [California Polytechnic State University](#), published the co-authored article, “Power(ful) Guidelines for Experimental Economists,” in the [Journal of the Economic Science Association](#) (2020). This paper serves as a reference for experimental economists on power calculations.

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