



Robert L. Hess

SCHOLAR-IN-RESIDENCE PROGRAM

WINONA LADUKE

*Robert L. Hess
Scholar in Residence
2020*

BROOKLYN COLLEGE
The City University of New York

The Robert L. Hess Scholar-in-Residence Program, established by Brooklyn College, is supported by the Robert L. Hess Fund. The program serves as a permanent tribute to the scholarly commitment of Robert L. Hess, exemplified during his tenure as President of Brooklyn College. It represents the ideal of the educated individual—knowledgeable, thoughtful, inquiring, alive to the shared purposes and concerns linking all intellectual pursuits. More particularly, it evokes the scholarly and academic virtues embodied in the core curriculum at Brooklyn College, values that endure, no matter our circumstances.

The purpose of the program is to invite to the campus each year a distinguished individual representative of an academic discipline at the college, with the selection of such scholars being rotated through the disciplines. The distinction of the scholars in residence is based on their accomplishments and stature, not on their affiliation; they may be drawn from the academy, from the professions, or from public life. They must be able to speak to issues of their disciplines as well as significant issues of concern to the entire Brooklyn College community.

The scholar in residence engages in a variety of activities appropriate to the discipline, whether public lectures, performances, master classes, or guest lectures in undergraduate courses; participates in panels or symposia; and meets informally and socially with members of the faculty, students, alumni, and friends of Brooklyn College. Due to precautions against the novel coronavirus pandemic, all 2020 Hess Scholar-in-Residence events will take place online.

The scholar in residence is chosen by a committee composed of representatives of the Hess family, representatives of the major disciplines at the college, and such additional members as the college president may select. The committee is appointed by the Board of the Ethyle R. Wolfe Institute for the Humanities.

The Brooklyn College Library has received the Ethiopian and African history collection from the library of Robert L. Hess. A portion of the Robert L. Hess Fund is set aside for the conservation and enhancement of this collection.

Tax-deductible contributions to the Brooklyn College Foundation, Inc./ Robert L. Hess Fund may be sent to the Brooklyn College Foundation, Inc., 2900 Bedford Avenue, Brooklyn, New York 11210-2889.

For more information about the Hess Scholar in Residence or the Wolfe Institute, email wolfeinstitute@brooklyn.cuny.edu.

Monday, September 21

Native/Indigenous Studies, Here & Now: Conversation with Jaskiron Dhillon and Winona LaDuke

Preceded by a Land Acknowledgement and Blessing by Indigenous elder George Stonefish. An introduction to the Native peoples in the New York region and Indigenous Studies in the 21st century with undergraduate students in PHIL 3309: Environmental Ethics (Michael Menser) and HIST 2001W: Historian's Craft: Theory & Method (Michael Rawson).

11 A.M.–12:15 P.M.

Office hours with Student Activists

1–2 P.M.

Tuesday, September 22

The I in BIPOC: Racial Justice and Indigenous People

Class visit with undergraduate students in SOCY 1101: Introduction to Sociology (Namita Manohar); ANTH 1100: Culture & Society (Rhea Rahman); AFST 3120: African American History through 1865 (Prudence Cumberbatch); and AMST 1010: American Identities (Esther Ritiau).

9:30–10:45 A.M.

Office hours with The Women's and Gender Studies Program and The Women's Center

12:30–1:30 P.M.

Civil Rights and Resistance: Uprisings for Planetary Justice

Panel discussion with anthropologist Christopher Loperena and sociocultural anthropologist Rhea Rahman, with undergraduate students in CLAS 2109: The Self and Society (Brian Sowers); WGST 3420: Gender and Society (Namita Manohar); ANTH 1100: Culture & Society (Naomi Schiller); ANTH 3120W: Ethnography (Rhea Rahman); and HIST 3472: American Dreams & Realities (Jocelyn Wills).

2:15–3:30 P.M.

Wednesday, September 23

Food Sovereignty & Public Health

Roundtable with *Bowing to No One* filmmaker Sarah K. Khan, East New York Farms! Market Manager & Outreach Coordinator Tiana Rainford, and Margrethe Horlyck-Romanovsky, Department of Health and Nutrition Sciences, and with undergraduate students in ANTH 2140: Anthropology of Food (Colin Pitet).

11 A.M.–12:15 P.M.

The Citizen Artist: Performing Resistance

Organized by Laura Tesman, Department of Theater, a panel addressing how theater artists address environmental and social issues in their work. Featuring theater faculty and alumni discussing the process of collaborative research and developing original short plays pressing social issues. With undergraduate students in PRLS 3315: Caribbean Literature (Rosamond S. King)

2:15–3:30 P.M.

Countering Colonialism in the Classroom

A panel featuring CUNY faculty with cultural anthropologist Victoria Stone-Cadena and sociologist Lawrence Johnson, moderated by Naomi Schiller.

6–7:30 P.M.

Thursday, September 24

Sustainability in the 21st Century

Roundtable discussion with sociologist Tammy L. Lewis, and director of the Science and Resilience Institute at Jamaica Bay Brett Branco, on what sustainability is, why it is crucial, and different strategies being used to address it, with undergraduate students in SOCY 2201: Sociology of the Environment (Daniel Shtob).

11 A.M.–12:15 P.M.

Lighting the 8th Fire, Economics for the 7th Generation

Robert L. Hess Memorial Lecture

5–6:30 P.M.

Friday, September 25

Where Does Culture Belong? Indigenous Artifacts in Museums and Universities

Discussion with Nekole Parton Alligood, cultural anthropologist and member of the Delaware Nation of Oklahoma, and undergraduate students in ANTH 1400: Digging the Past, Introduction to Archaeology (Kelly Britt) and ANTH 4635: Seminar in Museum Techniques (Kelly Britt)

11 A.M.–12:15 P.M.

Office hours with Students in the Urban Sustainability Program

1–2 P.M.

Additional Programming Information

THE AMERICAN INDIAN COMMUNITY HOUSE

The American Indian Community House (AICH) was founded by Native American volunteers as a community-based organization in 1969, mandated to improve the status of Native Americans, and to foster inter-cultural understanding. Its mission is to improve and promote the well-being of the American Indian community and to increase the visibility of American Indian cultures in an urban setting.

AICH membership is currently composed of Native Americans from 72 different tribes. Native American migration between urban centers and reservations demonstrates the inter-relatedness of all Native Americans, and from this reality emerges the recognition that our issues and concerns are truly shared.

AICH.ORG

Winona LaDuke

Winona LaDuke is a rural development economist and author working on issues of Indigenous Economics, Food, and Energy Policy. She lives and works on the White Earth reservation in northern Minnesota, and is the Executive Director of Honor the Earth (HtE). She co-founded HtE with the Indigo Girls as a platform to raise awareness and money for Indigenous struggles for environmental justice. She works nationally and internationally on the issues of climate change, renewable energy, and environmental justice alongside Indigenous communities. In her own community, she is the founder of the White Earth Land Recovery Project, Anishinaabe Agriculture Institute, and Akiing: 8th Fire Project. She also runs Winona's Hemp and Heritage Farm. Globally and nationally, LaDuke is known as a leader in the issues of cultural-based sustainable development strategies, renewable energy, and sustainable food systems.

LaDuke's work on food systems includes: the creation of Native Harvest, the protection of wild rice (manoomin), and the promotion of food sovereignty for reservation communities. On her farm in northern Minnesota, she grows traditional varieties of corn, beans, squash, Jerusalem artichokes, melons, herbs, and tobacco. Her work on the restoration of traditional corn varieties has received significant support from the USDA Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education and a number of private foundations. She is one of the leaders in the work of protecting Indigenous plants and heritage foods from patenting and genetic engineering.

In 1994, LaDuke was nominated by *Time* magazine as one of America's 50 most promising leaders under 40 years of age. She was awarded the Thomas Merton Award in 1996, Ms. Woman of the Year (with the Indigo Girls) in 1997, and the Reebok Human Rights Award, with which she began the White Earth Land Recovery Project. The White Earth Land Recovery Project has won many awards, including the prestigious 2003 International Slow Food Award for Biodiversity. A co-founder and Board Co-Chair of the Indigenous Women's Network for 15 years, LaDuke maintains a significant role in international advocacy for Indigenous people. This includes numerous presentations at United Nations forums, and involvement in opposition to mega projects impacting Indigenous communities. By 2007, LaDuke was inducted into the National Women's Hall of Fame, recognizing her leadership and commitment to her community.

A graduate of Harvard and Antioch universities, she has written extensively on Native American and environmental issues. She also attended the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in the Community Fellows Program. She is the author of six books, including *Recovering the Sacred*, *All Our Relations*, *Last Standing Woman*, and her newest work, *The Winona LaDuke Chronicles*. She is widely recognized for her work on environmental and human rights issues.

EVERGREEN EVENTS

Available at brooklyn.cuny.edu/wolfe/hess

Brooklyn College Campus Podwalk

Students in urban sustainability created interactive virtual tours, a podwalk, for various neighborhoods in Brooklyn. Take a virtual podwalk and learn about the Brooklyn College campus through a sustainability lens. The website also has a downloadable map and audio for you to use on a walking tour of the campus.

Brooklyn College Student and Faculty Collaborative Research Posters

Brooklyn College students, faculty and staff collaborate on a wide spectrum of research examining the roles of food culture, nutrition education, food systems dynamics and urban food sovereignty in the health, politics and power dynamics of our world. We welcome you to peruse a virtual poster hall of a few of these projects.

HESS SCHOLAR IN RESIDENCE LIBRARY DISPLAY

An exhibit located in the main entrance of the Library featuring the works of Winona LaDuke and other Indigenous writers. Also includes archival material about Robert L. Hess, Brooklyn College President from 1979-1992, and noted scholar of Ethiopian History.

Curated by Professor and Librarian Helen Georgas

MUSICAL SELECTION FOR ROBERT L. HESS MEMORIAL LECTURE

“Wood that Sings” by Brent Michael Davids (b. 1959)

Performed by Elena Ruiz, violin, student in the Brooklyn College Conservatory of Music from the Studio of Professor Jesse Mills

Music and performer chosen by Professor Malcolm J. Merriweather, D.M.A., Brooklyn College Director of Choral Studies and Vocal Coordinator

Brent Michael Davids is an American composer and flautist. Davids is a member of the Stockbridge Munsee, Band of the Mohican Nation. He has composed for Zeitgeist, the Kronos Quartet, the Joffrey Ballet, the National Symphony Orchestra, and Chanticleer. In addition to concert music, Davids writes music for films. He composed music for the 2002 film *The Business of Fancydancing* and has composed a new score for the American 1920 film *The Last of the Mohicans*. In 2013, he was honored with a Native Arts and Culture Foundation Artist Fellowship in Music.

“Wood that Sings” is composed for solo violin with scordatura re-tuning of its low string, evoking the rhythms and refrains of the single-stringed Apache violin. The Western violin’s G string is tuned down to a low A in bass clef, creating the characteristic “buzzy” quality that spawned the Apache violin’s “buzzer” nickname. The work contains an Apache violin-like melody and the rhythms borrow from both the duple and triple beats of Indigenous songs.

TEACHING & RESEARCH RESOURCES

In order to help faculty formally integrate the Hess residency into their classes, and to enrich everyone interested in learning more about LaDuke’s work and related topics, Brooklyn College Librarian Frans Albarillo, the Writing Across the Curriculum Fellows, and the Wolfe Institute have provided a number of resources. Essays, videos, assignments, and e-books related to Winona LaDuke

and LAND, the 2019–2020 Wolfe theme, can be found at the Bibliography link on our website: libguides.brooklyn.cuny.edu/WolfeFA19SP20.

THE ROBERT VISCUSI FACULTY READING GROUP

Professor Conor Tomás Reed is leading the 2020 faculty reading group on the theme “Land, Decolonization, and the University,” focusing on Winona LaDuke’s *Recovering the Sacred: The Power of Naming and Claiming* with other selected readings. The group meets once a month, giving faculty an opportunity for informal, on-campus intellectual engagement. It will meet both before and after the Hess Scholar in Residence; to join the reading group, or to receive information about future events, email wolfeinstitute@brooklyn.cuny.edu.

In Memory of Robert Viscusi (1941–2020)

Since its foundation in 1993 through his retirement in 2019, the Robert L. Hess Scholar-in-Residence Program was chaired and organized by Professor Robert Viscusi, the late director of the Wolfe Institute. On January 19, 2020, Professor Viscusi passed away after 51 extraordinary years of service to Brooklyn College. A knowledgeable and spirited conversationalist, Bob’s colleagues and students remember him with high regard. Fondly remembered as a poet and a novelist, Bob’s publications include *An Oration Upon the Recent Death of Christopher Columbus* (Bordighera Press, 1993); *A New Geography of Time* (Guernica, 2004); the epic poem in 52 books *Ellis Island* (Bordighera, 2011); as well as his seminal contribution to the world of Italian-American Studies, *Astoria: A Novel* (Guernica, 1995); *Buried Caesars, and Other Secrets of Italian American Writing* (SUNY Press, 2006); and as editor-in-chief of the English translation, *Italoamericana: The Literature of the Italian Migration, 1880–1943* (Fordham UP, 2013).

Robert Viscusi was at the nexus of intellectual endeavors at Brooklyn College. His legacy and contributions are beyond measure, and include a never-ending list of luminaries he invited to campus. With respect and gratitude, this year’s iteration of the Robert L. Hess Scholar-in-Residence Program is dedicated to the memory of Robert Viscusi.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Brooklyn College sits on unceded territory stolen from the Canarsee and the Nyack, subgroups of the indigenous Lenape people. That ongoing theft, along with the stolen blood and work of enslaved Africans, facilitates our presence. We pay our respects to elders past, present, and future who have stewarded this land. We recognize the hundreds of Indigenous Nations who continue to resist and uphold their sacred culture. We know that this acknowledgement is neither sufficient nor complete, but is part of a process of learning to become more thoughtful and respectful. It is our wish for a deeper incorporation of Indigenous and Native American cultures, philosophies, and peoples into the curriculum, faculty, student body, and staff of Brooklyn College, in line with our mission to provide a transformative, distinctive education to the whole people of New York City.

Hess Scholar-in-Residence Selection Committee

Carl Hess
Frans Albarillo
Kelly Britt
Rosamond S. King
Sonia Murrow
Erika Niwa
Brian Sowers

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*Planning Committee*

Rebecca Boger  
Kelly Britt  
Benjamin Carp  
Chia-ju Chang  
Joseph Entin  
Namulundah Florence  
Margrethe Horlyck-Romanovsky  
Rosamond S. King, chairperson  
Michael Menser  
Malcolm Merriweather  
Rhea Rahman  
Brian Sowers  
Laura Tesman  
Emily Tumpson Molina

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Robert L. Hess Scholars in Residence

Vartan Gregorian, 1993–1994
Ann Douglas, 1995–1996
James S. Langer, 1996–1997
Daniel Miller, 2000–2001
Robin D.G. Kelley, 2001–2002
Agnieszka Holland, 2005–2006
Marc Shell, 2007–2008
Eleanor J. Sterling, 2009–2010
Sean Wilentz, 2012–2013
Thomas Frank, 2014–2015
Rob Nixon, 2015–2016
John L. Jackson, Jr., 2016–2017
Edwidge Danticat, 2017–2018
José David Saldívar, 2018–2019