

THE HUMANITIES DEPARTMENT AT COLLEGE OF DUPAGE PRESENTS

# HUMANITIES FEST IX

## TRANSLATION

FEBRUARY 25-MARCH 6, 2026

Humanities Fest IX shines a bright light on the inherent but often downplayed interdependence between disciplines and paradigms of thought. Relying on Humanists from across the campus, Hum Fest IX provides an opportunity for us to reflect on the ways knowledges are translated by us and for us into meaningful actions and ideas.

This year's presentations draw from faculty and ideas representing at least twenty-seven areas as well as from the MAC, Global Flicks, Music Fridays at Noon, and BTE. Included in this year's festival you will find programming on/from

|                             |                           |   |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|---|
| Animal Studies              | English                   | Philosophy                              |
| Architecture                | Fashion                   | Poetry                                  |
| Art                         | Film                      | Political Science,<br>Public Humanities |
| Career Services and Resumes | Humanities                | Self-Perception & Projection            |
| Civic Engagement            | Math                      | Theater                                 |
| Computers and the Arts      | Museum curation           | Women's Studies                         |
| Dance                       | Music                     | Woodworking,                            |
| Daoism                      | Mythology                 | Writing/Writing Techniques              |
| Democracies                 | Conceptions of Outerspace |   |
|                             | Pedagogy                  |   |

As the festival moves on, the overlaps and interplay between disciplines will come increasingly into view.

Join us for any and all of these discussions and encounters with Humanists from across the campus as they translate their work, their ideas, their pedagogies, and their visions for us. We believe you won't want to miss any of them.

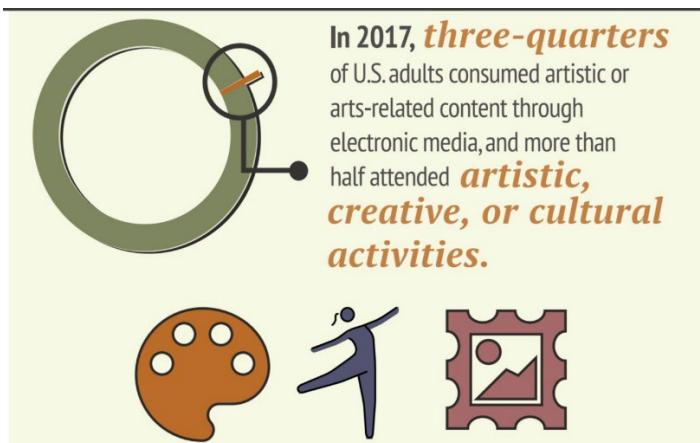
All events are free and open to the public unless otherwise indicated on the schedule.

For more information on Humanities Fest contact Tim Clifford ([clifford@cod.edu](mailto:clifford@cod.edu)), Adam Fotos ([fotosa@cod.edu](mailto:fotosa@cod.edu)),  
Julia diLiberti ([diLibert@cod.edu](mailto:diLibert@cod.edu)), or Josh Price ([pricej@cod.edu](mailto:pricej@cod.edu))

For ADA accommodations, please email [access@cod.edu](mailto:access@cod.edu) with the event title in the subject line and your accommodation request. Please email two weeks in advance.

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 25 THROUGH FRIDAY MARCH 1, 2026

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| <p>Wed 2.25<br/>1:30 &amp; 7:30 pm<br/><i>Belushi Performance Hall / FREE</i><br/>Film<br/></p>  | <p><b>GLOBAL FLICKS</b><br/><i>Anote's Ark</i><br/>Director: Matthieu Rytz<br/>Kiribati – Pacific Nation   Documentary, 2018<br/>1h, 17m   English, Polynesian, Japanese</p> <p>The idyllic Pacific nation of Kiribati will be submerged within decades due to climate change. As President Anote Tong passionately embarks upon a race against time to save his people and 4,000 years of Kiribati culture, islanders are already feeling the pressure to relocate. Set against the backdrop of international climate negotiations and the fight to recognize climate displacement as a human rights issue, <i>Anote's Ark</i> presents personal stories that serve as cautionary tales for the entire world. <b>Award:</b> 2018 Sundance Film Festival Nominee-Grand Jury Prize</p> |
| <p>Playhouse Theatre (MAC)<br/>\$43 Senior*   \$45 Adult*<br/><br/>Thurs, Fri, Sat<br/>(2.26, 2.27, 2.28)<br/>7:30pm<br/><br/>Sun 3.1<br/>3:00 pm<br/><br/>Live Theater<br/></p> | <p><b>BTE Presents: <i>Unnecessary Farce</i></b><br/>By Paul Slade Smith<br/>Directed by Kurt Naebig<br/><br/><i>Crime doesn't pay, but it sure is funny</i><br/><br/>Laugh out loud funny from start to finish! A pair of inept police officers set up a sting operation to trap an embezzling mayor meeting his female accountant...in a pair of matching hotel rooms, what could go wrong? Confusion fills the stage with doors slamming, clothes flying, and bagpipes bleating, all of which adds up to an over-the-top tale of mix-ups... who took the money, who hired a hitman and why does the accountant keep taking her clothes off?!?</p>  |



Workshop on  
Self-Perception

SunShine Ballentine – Advising – Fine & Applied Arts presents  
Top 10 Tips for Living in Translation. – Between Meaning and  
Perception. See description and times on page 8 of the program.

## TUESDAY MARCH 3, 2026

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| <p>9:30 AM<br/>SRC 2032 inside the library<br/>Humanities</p>                               | <p>Tim Clifford, Julia diLiberti, Adam Fotos, Josh Price<br/>The Humanities, Invisible but Not Unnecessary.</p> <p>Humanities: The COBOL of disciplines serving to translate paradigms of knowledge for others, the skeletal system upon which all other disciplines hang the flesh of their ideas, the chassis that allows for forward movement, the nucleus which houses the explosive ideas....Spend this session with us learning why we dare make—and believe—such claims about the Swiss Army Knife of all academic disciplines.</p> |
| <p>11: 00 AM<br/>SRC 2032 inside the library<br/>Politics, Democracy, Civic Engagement</p>  | <p>Dr. Maureen Heffern Ponicki, Dr. David Goldberg, and Dr. Melissa Mouritsen, Department of Political Science<br/>Translating Democratic Decline: Why Are Democracies Dying and What Can Be Done?</p> <p>This presentation will help our community understand why democracies are declining across the globe. Why now? What happens when democracies die? What can we do to shore up our own democracy?</p>   |
| <p>12:30 PM<br/>Board Room, SSC 2201</p>    | <p>Dr. Kelly Stokes, Humanities and Dance<br/>If It Ain't Baroque, Give It a Minuet.</p> <p>Step lively as you come to learn how Baroque dance was choreographed and what a tiktok video would have looked like in the 1700's.</p>   |
| <p>2:00 PM<br/>Board Room, SSC 2201<br/>Civic Engagement</p>                              | <p>A CR* session: Sexism is Alive and Well Even on College Campuses. Let's chat about it. A room. A conversation about Translating Sexism into Awareness. of It. A great way to start Women's History Month. Members of the Women's Studies Committee will lead the session as the realities of sexism in 2026 are shared.</p> <p>*Consciousness Raising for those born after the 70's.</p>  |

### Over *two-thirds*

of Humanities and Social Science graduates enter the **private sector**, primarily the **financial and business sectors**, followed by **wholesaling and retailing**.

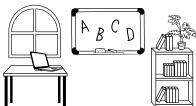
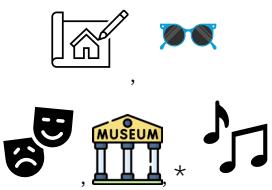


*These sectors represent some of the fastest growing areas within the economy.*

## WEDNESDAY MARCH 4, 2026

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| <p>10:00 AM<br/>SRC 2032, inside the library<br/>Music</p>   | <p>Dr. Ken Paoli, Professor of Music<br/><b>"Idea to Data to Music: Translation of An Abstract"</b><br/>A presentation of current compositional process, in which ideas find expression in the manipulation of data. This representation finds expression in the generation of music through computer manipulation. Repurposing the Interval Vector System of Allen Forte from an analysis tool to a creative approach to composition will be the focus of this presentation.</p>   |
| <p>Noon<br/>SRC 2032 inside the library<br/>Hybrid session<br/>For zoom attended, see<br/><b>Zoom link under description</b><br/>Careers and Humanities</p>  | <p>Pierre Michiels, Career Services<br/><b>Translating Your Past to Meet Employer Expectations: Crafting Your Resume</b><br/>Resumes are more than lists of experiences--they are acts of translation. How do you transform rich academic work, creative projects, and cultural insights into concise, employer-friendly language? This session explores the art of translating your story into a resume that resonates in the professional world. We will unpack how to identify transferable skills employers value and how to utilize them to create action-oriented, results-driven language. Participants will learn strategies to convert academic and creative accomplishments into compelling resume statements that align with employer expectations. By the end of the session, you will see your resume not as a static document, but as a dynamic translation of your unique perspective and abilities into the language of opportunity.<br/>Since this is a <b>hybrid session</b> those interested can either attend <b>in person</b> or <b>can pre-register for the Zoom room link:</b><br/><a href="https://cod.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_iuwHE4f7S7yRXd-h_gv-AA">https://cod.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_iuwHE4f7S7yRXd-h_gv-AA</a></p> |
| <p>2:00 pm / SRC 2032</p>   | <p>Kathy Clemmens, Humanities: <i>Art in Translations</i>: <i>See description on page 7</i>,</p>  |
| <p>3:00 pm<br/>SRC 2032 inside the library<br/>Rhetoric, Analogy, Writing</p>    | <p>Prairie Markussen, Assistant Professor, English<br/><b>Hermit Crabs: Translating Our Way to Rhetorical Awareness</b><br/>Participants are introduced to a creative nonfiction style of writing called the hermit crab. A hermit crab, coined by creative nonfiction writers Brenda Miller and Suzanne Paola in 2003, is a type of writing that takes a genre and “wears” that it to tell a personal story. Hermit crabs can be a vehicle for intra-and interlinguistic translation in the context of a writing class. As writers translate their stories into an already-existing genre, they come to realize the influence of story on genre and genre on story. Highlighting genre and rhetorical awareness, hermit crabs also help choose appropriate rhetorical moves and strategies for what writers compose. Examples of student hermit crabs will be shared, and participants will have the opportunity to write a hermit crab of their own.</p>  |
| <p>1:30 pm &amp; 7:30 pm<br/>Belushi Performance Hall<br/>(MAC) <b>FREE</b><br/>Film</p>   | <p><b>GLOBAL FLICKS</b><br/><i>Io Capitano</i>, Director: Matteo Garrone<br/>Senegal, Morocco and Italy   Drama, 2023<br/>2h, 1m   Arabic, English, French, Italian, Wolof<br/>The film follows the journey of two Senegalese teenage cousins who leave their home in Dakar, Senegal, to find a better life in Italy. Inspired by real life accounts given by African migrants, the film weaves a harrowing picture of the challenges migrants face for the chance of a brighter future.<br/>2024 Oscar Nominee-Best International Feature Film and 2024 Golden Globe Nominee-Best Motion Picture, Non-English Language</p>   |

## THURSDAY MARCH 5, 2026

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| <p><b>9:30 AM (Session A)</b><br/> <b>SRC 2032 inside the library</b><br/> Teaching, Pedagogy</p>                           | <p><b>Jim Bradley, Professor of Math and others TBD</b><br/> <b>Lost in translation – The Next Leg of a Shared Journey</b><br/> Once upon a time, sick was a bad thing, rap was something done with hands or a gavel, intelligence was not artificial, and preparatory education was anchored in three R's (Reading, wRiting, and aRithmetic) and a physical venue. Things are very different now and my teaching tradecraft continues to evolve. Following a personally challenging Fall 2025 term, I am inspired to seek meaningful pedagogy paradigm patches, thus I propose a panel of faculty colleagues and students for some interactive discussions. Attendees will be encouraged to engage actively in discussion our shared teaching and learning voyage.</p>   |
| <p><b>9:30 AM (Session B)</b><br/> <b>HSC 1234</b><br/> Humanities, Mythology</p>  *  | <p><b>Joshua Fuerst, Humanities</b><br/> <b>Translation, Transformation, and Legend: Alexander Across Civilizations</b><br/> Drawing from literature, visual culture, and religious history, this session will trace the evolution of myths of the great river valley civilizations under Greek cultural influence looking particularly at how gods and regional tales merged creating hybrid reflections of cultures: Zeus-Ammon in Egypt, Heracles-Melqart in the Near East, and Heracles-as-Vajrapani in Gandharan Buddhist art. Alexander the Great himself became a mythic figure.</p> <p>During the session, participants will engage in “translating” a deity or artifact. By the end of the session, attendees will understand how translation—linguistic, artistic, and cultural—creates new stories, hybrid identities, and lasting connections between peoples, demonstrating the lively nature of myths and the humanities.</p> |
| <p><b>10:00 AM</b><br/> <b>BIC 2465</b><br/> Woodworking, Philosophy, Literature</p>                                      | <p><b>Bob Dixon-Kolar, Associate Professor of English, Emeritus</b><br/> <b>Daoist Tales of Artists and Artisans</b><br/> Ancient Chinese Daoist stories are captivating, often charming, and endlessly instructive. Translations of these works carry their literary beauty and lessons into our contemporary Western lives. In my presentation, I will introduce you to several Daoist parables that guide my practice as a woodworker and may serve to inspire you in your creative ventures.</p>  |
| <p><b>11: 00 AM</b><br/> <b>SRC 2032 inside the library</b><br/> The whole Humanities Shebang here in this session</p>  * | <p><b>Panel Discussion: Idea Translation in the Arts</b><br/> <b>Mark Pearson, Architecture // Nelson Cantada, Fashion</b><br/> <b>Daniel Millhouse, Theater // Matt Shevitz, Music</b><br/> <b>Julia Walker, CCMA (Cleve Carney Museum of Art)</b></p> <p>It is common, in creative disciplines, to translate ideas and concepts from one source of inspiration into a creative work of art. A song might inspire a painting. A painting might inspire a building. A building might inspire a theatrical production. And so on. Idea translation, taking an idea from one thing and translating it into another, as a means of generating creative work, is commonplace in many artistic disciplines. This presentation will feature a panel discussion including a range of creative disciplines, exploring how idea translation is used in COD student projects and the ideation process of creative work.</p>                           |

## THURSDAY MARCH 5, 2026 CONTINUES

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| <p>Noon<br/>MAC 153<br/>Animal Studies and<br/>Art, Film</p>   | <p>David Ouellette, Professor and Chair, Art<br/><b>The Abyss of Non-Comprehension: Animals in Contemporary Video Art</b><br/>The art historian John Berger once described the communicative gulf between humans and other animals as an “abyss of non-comprehension”—a distance defined not only by difference, but by a fundamental unknowability. This screening and discussion will explore how contemporary artists use video to grapple with the limits of interspecies understanding.<br/><b>The program will feature Allora and Calzadilla's <i>The Great Silence</i> (2014),</b><br/>A brief 5-minute introduction will frame the artist's approach to the animal as subject, followed by a 10 to 15-minute open discussion on how these works challenge and complicate our ways of seeing—and failing to see—the animal.</p>                                      |
| <p>2 pm<br/>SRC 2032 inside the library<br/>Humanities, Art, Science</p>   | <p>Kristen Beirne, Humanities<br/><b>Chesley Bonestell-One of the Most Influential Artists of the 20th Century That You Have Probably Never Heard Of</b><br/>Throughout history humankind has fantasized the mystery and wonder of what lies beyond the earth. Astronomers studied the skies, authors penned space adventures, but only a handful of artists portrayed space. American artist, Chesley Bonestell 1888-1986 was integral and essential to creating our nation's vision of space both in film and for the future American space program. This visual presentation shares the cultural and historical significance of Bonestell's oeuvre and why he is considered "the father of space art". Likely you have experienced the brilliance of Bonestell without even knowing as his contributions to American art and architecture spans from coast to coast.</p> |
| <p>4 pm<br/>BIC 1437<br/>Film</p>   | <p>Brain Brems, Professor of English and Field Studies<br/>Film Screening: Godard's <i>Contempt</i>. The screening will start with a short introduction to the film and will be followed by a discussion and Q and A.</p>   |
| <p>5:45-6:15 PM<br/>MAC Room 117<br/>(Fishbowl)</p>   | <p><b>Pre-Show Discussion about <i>The Importance of Being Earnest</i></b><br/>Gain behind-the-scenes and on-the-stage insights about what it takes for directors, actors, and crews to translate a playwright's vision into a compelling performance from the visual to the verbal, from the unseen to the seen on stage. Discussion and Q and A with members of the crew/cast.</p>  |
| <p>7:00 PM<br/>MAC: Studio Theater (MAC)<br/>\$16 Student   \$18 Adult<br/>Theater</p>    | <p><b><i>The Importance of Being Earnest</i>, By Oscar Wilde</b><br/>Directed by Daniel Millhouse<br/>Dual identities, a domineering matriarch and a mysterious handbag spark hilarious confusion in Oscar Wilde's delightful comedy of manners. Follow the antics of two wildly eligible bachelors attempting to escape the constraints of Victorian society in their pursuit of love, marriage and happiness – though not necessarily in that order. Wilde's witty comic masterpiece is peppered with an array of deliciously eccentric characters and seasoned with his notoriously biting social commentary. Note: contains adult themes and language</p>   |

## FRIDAY MARCH 6, 2026

|   |   |
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| <p>Noon<br/>MAC 140<br/>Music, Literature</p>    | <p><b>Matt Shevitz, Music</b><br/><b>Fridays at Noon presents:</b></p> <p>The Dickinson Ensemble on. As the name implies, they perform music inspired by Emily Dickinson's poetry. At this <a href="#">link</a> you can get a preview and learn more about the ways in which the Ensemble considers how best to translate Dickinson's poems to music.</p>   |
| <p>7:00 PM<br/><b>MAC: Studio Theater (MAC)</b><br/>\$16 Student   \$18 Adult<br/>Theater</p>                                | <p><b><i>The Importance of Being Earnest</i></b><br/>By Oscar Wilde<br/>Directed by Daniel Millhouse<br/>When being Earnest is the least of their problems</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pre-show Discussion: Mar 5 at 5:45p-6:15p, MAC Room 117 (Fishbowl)</li> </ul> <p>Dual identities, a domineering matriarch and a mysterious handbag spark hilarious confusion in Oscar Wilde's delightful comedy of manners. Follow the antics of two wildly eligible bachelors attempting to escape the constraints of Victorian society in their pursuit of love, marriage and happiness – though not necessarily in that order. Wilde's witty comic masterpiece is peppered with an array of deliciously eccentric characters and seasoned with his notoriously biting social commentary.</p> <p>Note: contains adult themes and language</p> |
| <p>Friday, Mar 6   7:30p<br/><b>Belushi Performance Hall</b><br/>\$45 (B)   \$48 (A)   \$58 Gold<br/>Circle<br/>Music</p>  | <p><b>International Guitar Night</b></p> <p>Featuring Thu Le, Lucas Imbiriba, Alexandr Misko, and Taimane</p> <p>International Guitar Night returns with a dynamic lineup featuring classical guitar virtuoso Thu Le (Vietnam), rock/flamenco/classical powerhouse Lucas Imbiriba (Brazil), innovative fingerstyle guitarist Alexandr Misko (Russia), and, for the first time, ukulele master Taimane (Hawaii). These luminaries will leave you awestruck with solos, duets, and quartets that highlight the boundless virtuosity and diversity of acoustic guitar.</p>   |
| <p><b>WEDNESDAY</b><br/>March 4th<br/><b>SRC 2032 inside the library</b><br/>2 pm</p>                                      | <p><b>Kathy Clemmens, Humanities</b><br/><b>Art in Translation</b></p> <p>Art is everywhere and is one of the best ways to connect with the world around us; it evokes a variety of thoughts, concepts, ideas, and values through innovative, unique, and creative means of expression. Finding meaning in art works in conjunction with translating a work's purpose through our own interpretation of it. This, in turn, creates new understandings and engages individuals with an artwork that makes them think a little differently. Come and enjoy a piece of art and immerse yourself in something amazing.</p>  |
| <p>Information on how to access the workshop to follow but it will be available from</p>  | <p><b>SunShine Ballentine – Advising – Fine &amp; Applied Arts</b><br/><b>Top 10 Tips for Living in Translation. – Between Meaning and Perception</b></p>   |



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**TWO ADDITIONS**

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| <p>9:00 am onward for Wed March 4 and 9:30 am onward for Thurs Mar 5</p> <p>Perception and Projection of self</p>  | <p>Translation is not limited to language—it is also how identity is interpreted. This workshop explores the gap between how we see ourselves and how we are perceived by others, examining translation as the process through which inner identity becomes outward presence. Participants will consider how thoughts, values, emotions, and self-concept are translated—sometimes accurately, sometimes imperfectly—through body language, appearance, behavior, tone, and boundaries.</p> <p>The workshop invites reflection on where meaning is lost, altered, or misunderstood in everyday interactions. Through guided prompts and optional reflection exercises, participants will explore how personal transformation can be understood as a form of <i>re-translation</i>: changing how we show up in the world and how we are read by it. This session is designed to be accessible across disciplines and emphasizes self-awareness, interpretation, and meaning-making, performance, and self-improvement. Participants will leave with a deeper understanding of translation as a lived, human process—and how identity is continually negotiated between self and society.</p> |
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\*This program was put together with the help of

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