

## NYC BRANCH NEWSLETTER

# THE ENGLISH-SPEAKING UNION

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Take a look at some of our upcoming events. We have so many fun and exciting things to look forward to.

The ESU celebrates English as a shared language to foster global understanding and goodwill by providing educational and cultural opportunities for students, educators, and members



[Renew your membership or Join the ESU](#)

for more information contact [DeAndre Short](#)

## MEMBERSHIP

This holiday season, we're inviting you to [renew your membership](#) for 2025 and keep the spirit of giving alive by sharing the benefits of the ESU with someone special.

For every successful referral that joins, the referring member will be entered into a raffle for a chance to win one of three \$100 gift cards or three gift bags filled with exclusive ESU swag. Holiday referrals are a great way to introduce new members to our community. The campaign will run through January 6, 2025.

Thank you for being part of our community. We wish you a joyful and peaceful holiday season with warmth and giving.



### 2025 Honoree: Dr. E. Quinn Peeper

We are pleased to announce Dr. E. Quinn Peeper will be honored with the ESU 2025 Founders Award. Dr. Peeper's dedication to the ESU is exemplified by his progression from Local Board Member to New Orleans Branch President, and ultimately to his roles as National Board Member President and National Chair. His steadfast commitment to advancing the ESU's mission at local and national levels, while cultivating international understanding and goodwill makes him an exemplary choice for this honor.

### The Founders Award: Recognizing Excellence

Established in 1991, the Founders Award honors individuals who exemplify the vision of Sir Evelyn Wrench, the ESU's founder. Recipients are recognized for their outstanding contributions to Anglo-American relations, international friendship, and the promotion of English as a tool for global communication.



### Past ESU Founder's Award Recipients

- 1991: The Right Honorable Margaret Thatcher, OM, FRS, MP
- 1995: Hon. J. Sinclair Armstrong, OBE
- 2009: William R. Miller, CBE, KSt.J.
- 2015: Hon. Edwina Sandys, MBE & Dr. Paul Beresford-Hill, CBE, KSt.J.
- 2017: Dr. Andrew Romay & Marie Dora "Doe" Thornburg, OBE
- 2019: Robert P. Morse (posthumously)
- 2020: Dr. Laurence Morse, ESU Luard alumnus





The ESU Players in *Agatha Christie's Murder on the Orient Express*

Admission is free, but request that you RSVP by sending an email to [louisemuse4@gmail.com](mailto:louisemuse4@gmail.com).

All performances are held at  
144 East 39th Street, NYC

### SAVE THE DATE!

#### December 11

*History of Christmas Carols*

4:00 pm – 5:00 pm EST

Sponsored by ESU Central PA Branch

During this Christmas season, Christmas carolers bring the holiday season to life. Join this special Happy Hour and learn how this Christmas tradition began and changed over time. Beginning with Roman times, carols emerged from songs sung during the four seasons. Our guest speaker, Adrienne Hesketh, will perform her own carol with the Baptist Church band.



[Click here to hear some of our EIA Volunteer Stories](#)

## THE ESU PLAYERS

### SAVE THE DATE!

#### Thursday, December 12

The ESU Players are excited to invite you to celebrate the holiday season with an evening filled with carols, delicious holiday treats, and a performance of "The Games Afoot." This comic mystery unfolds on Christmas Eve, promising an entertaining and festive experience for all.

Join us for a reception starting at 6:00 PM, followed by the play at 6:30 PM.

We look forward to sharing this special holiday event with you.



#### January 8, 2025

*Happy Hour: Churchill's Citadel*

4:00 pm - 5:00 pm EST

Sponsored by ESU Charlottesville Branch

Katherine Carter, the curator of Churchill's country home, will discuss how Chartwell became the center of Churchill's anti-Nazi activities in the 1930s. Despite being politically sidelined, Churchill used his home to strategize against Nazi Germany with the help of influential allies like Albert Einstein and T.E. Lawrence.

## VOLUNTEER WITH ENGLISH IN ACTION!

Interested in making a difference in the lives of students worldwide? As an English in Action volunteer, you can help newcomers practice English and build a long-lasting relationship with them. You don't need any prior teaching experience. Be a window into U.S. life and join our community!

## ESU MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL DEBATE LEAGUES

Closer to home, over 400 middle school and high school students around New York and New Jersey are engaging in lively debates throughout December honing their critical and public speaking skills debating both sides of an issue at all-day Saturday tournaments. Topics range from “the Electoral College does more harm than good” to “this house believes that humanities education is more important than STEM education.”



For more information, go to:  
<https://www.esuus.org/what-we-do/middle-school-debate-public-speaking/>



2024 TSTP on Stage at the Globe

For applications and more information:  
<https://www.esuus.org/newyork/tlab-3/>

## INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC SPEAKING COMPETITION (IPSC)

Open the World to your high school students through Public Speaking! The IPSC brings together the best young speakers aged 16 - 20 worldwide for a week of public speaking competition, training & cultural exchange at the ESU in London May 12 - 17, 2025. The ESU US delegate will receive an all-expense paid trip.



For applications and more information, go to:  
<https://www.esuus.org/what-we-do/international-public-speaking-competition/>

for more information contact [Alice Uhl](#)



for more information contact [Karl Hart](#)

[Read more about the program at esu-arnic.org.](http://esu-arnic.org)

## THE ESU ANDREW ROMAY NEW IMMIGRANT CENTER (ARNIC)

In early November we held a lively and informative discussion on "Careers in Healthcare" for students and alumni of the ESU immigrant center. The event was part of a series of panel discussions focusing on career opportunities in different U.S. industries. The panelists spoke about job opportunities for immigrants considering a career in the healthcare sector and gave advice on how to stand out as a competitive candidate. The panelists included a retired senior hospital executive and member of the ESU Board, a physician from Burma, a hospital administrator from Russia and an ultrasound specialist from Ukraine.

## ESU NATIONAL SHAKESPEARE WRITING PROGRAM

The ESU invites you and your students to embark on an extraordinary literary journey through the **I AM Shakespeare Sonnet Competition**. This one-of-a-kind contest challenges students to craft modern Shakespearean sonnets inspired by their own life experiences. Don't miss this opportunity to bring a new level of excitement and insight into your teaching!

**Submission Deadline: Sunday, December 22, 2024**

Encourage your students to embrace the Bard's legacy while sharing their own personal stories in this unique competition.

[Click here to learn more](#)



for more information contact [Maryellen Liotta](#).



Set sail on an extraordinary journey through history aboard the magnificent Sea Cloud Spirit, retracing the footsteps of one of Britain's greatest naval heroes, Admiral Horatio Nelson. This exclusive voyage, co-hosted by the English-Speaking Union and Sea Cloud Cruises, offers a unique blend of luxury, adventure, and intellectual stimulation.

#### Highlights:

- Sail from Naples to Malta on board Sea Cloud Spirit, ranked among the best luxury passenger ships in the world. This three-mast windjammer's 28 sails are hoisted by hand for authentic sailing experience
- Exclusive lectures by renowned biographer Flora Fraser
- Visit key locations in Nelson's Mediterranean campaigns
- Experience the thrill of sailing on a tall ship in Nelson's wake
- Indulge in luxurious accommodations and gourmet cuisine

#### **The English-Speaking Union**

promotes cross-cultural understanding, and expands opportunities for students, teachers, English language learners and members through the English language.

## PATRON TOUR 2025

The English-Speaking Union

In Partnership with

Sea Cloud Cruises

Presents

2025 National Patron Tour  
Nelson on Shore and at Sea:  
A Life of the British Admiral  
With Author and Lecturer Flora Fraser

July 6-14, 2025  
Naples to Malta

Aboard Sea Cloud Spirit



#### **The ESU National Patron Tours**

enhance our Patrons' engagement with the ESU community through bespoke experiences of cultural enrichment, educational exploration, and unforgettable adventures.

contact Rossana Ivanova for more information at  
[rivanova@esuus.org](mailto:rivanova@esuus.org) or (862) 224-4244