



Dear CREES community,

An exciting semester lies ahead as we return to classes and await the spring amidst the snow, ice, and unusually cold temperatures that we have experienced in recent days. Our Spring 2024 events calendar features a diverse range of compelling events. They include lectures by leading scholars on Russian colonization, energy security, and the Soviet and post-Soviet tobacco industry, among other topics. We are also excited to announce our 2024 Security Conference, organized in partnership with Graduate Military Programs and the Intelligence Community Center for Academic Excellence, "The Russo-Ukrainian War and Global Human Security." The two-day event will look at the war's ramifications around the world and feature a keynote address by General Philip M. Breedlove, former Supreme Allied Commander Europe of NATO. We will be marking the second anniversary of Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine with a screening of the powerful documentary film, "When Spring Came to Bucha."

We will also be hosting events that highlight the vibrant and resilient cultures of Eastern Europe and Eurasia. Our popular Spring Festival returns this year as an even larger and more festive event; featuring food and live music, it will be held at Liberty Hall on Sunday, March 3. Acclaimed Ukrainian poet, scholar, and translator Oksana Lutsyshyna will

be giving our annual Palij Lecture. We also have a Ukrainian pysanky (traditional decorated eggs) workshop and a storytime series featuring children's literature from Russia, Tajikistan, and Ukraine.

As a Title VI-funded National Resource Center, CREES is connecting with new communities across the region to share our expertise. Along with the other KU area studies centers, CREES will participate in the Traveling World Languages Fair, which will journey to western Kansas with an event held in Dodge City. In addition to regular class visits by CREES Outreach Coordinator Megan Luttrell to middle schools in Lawrence, CREES will contribute to Topeka North High School's World Heritage Week, which will focus this year on the Balkans. In addition, CREES Graduate Assistant Andrii Drobko will teach Ukrainian language classes at the Douglas County Juvenile Detention Center, an innovative program that recently gained national attention by being featured in the US Department of Education's newsletter.

All these events are made possible by the wonderful team at CREES and the participation of our impressive faculty community. Below, you can read more about the great things our faculty are doing and also learn about the accomplishments of our students and alumni. Finally, in this issue we mark the passing of Peter Jarosewycz, a long-time supporter of CREES and a dedicated advocate of Ukrainian studies. Peter will be greatly missed, but his legacy lives on in the form of the Jarosewycz Family Scholarship, which has enabled dozens of KU students to pursue courses in Ukrainian language, culture, and history at KU and abroad.

All the best,

Erik R. Scott



CENTER FOR RUSSIAN, EAST EUROPEAN, & EURASIAN STUDIES

SPRING 2024 EVENTS CALENDAR

➤ **FEBRUARY**

- SUN 11** • **MULTICULTURAL STORYTIME: TAJIKISTAN**
3:30pm at the Lawrence Public Library
- TUES 13** • **"CIGARETTES AND SOVIETS: COMMUNISM, CAPITALISM, AND ADDICTION" WITH TRISH STARKS (U OF ARKANSAS)**
4:00-5:00pm in Forum D of the Burge Union
- WED 21** • **STORY TIME AROUND THE WORLD: UKRAINE**
10:00am at the Baldwin City Public Library, 800 7th St. Baldwin City, KS
- SUN 25** • **RUSSIAN LANGUAGE STORY TIME**
2:30-3:30pm at the Monticello Library
22435 W. 66th St. Shawnee, KS
- MON 26** • **FILM SCREENING: "WHEN SPRING CAME TO BUCHA"**
3:00-5:00pm in the Jayhawk Room of the Kansas Union
- TUES 27** • **"CHARLOTTENGRAD" WITH ROMAN UTKIN (WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY)**
4:00-6:00pm at the Max Kade Center

➤ **MARCH**

- SUN 03** • **SPRING FESTIVAL**
4:00-7:00pm at Liberty Hall, 644 Massachusetts St. Lawrence, KS
- THURS 07** • **"SPATIAL MODES AND CONTINGENCIES OF RUSSIAN RE(COLONIZATION)," WITH VERA SMIRNOVA (KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY) & ELENA TRUBINA (UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHAPEL HILL)**
12:00-1:00pm in Bailey Hall, Room 318

- TUES 19** • **"LITERATURE AS THE PAST AND THE FUTURE: DECOLONIZING THE UKRAINIAN PRESENT," WITH OKSANA LUTSYSHYNA (UT AUSTIN)**
4:00-5:00pm in Form A of the Burge Union.

- TUES 26** • **UKRAINIAN PYSANKY WORKSHOP**
2:00-5:00pm in Bailey Hall Room 318
*Email crees@ku.edu to sign up

➤ **APRIL**

- TUES 02** • **"THE EARTH IS AS BLUE AS AN ORANGE," WITH UKRAINIAN FILMMAKER IRYNA TSILYK**
Time and venue TBD

- THURS 04** • **NADYA TOLOKONIKOVA OF PUSSY RIOT**
6pm at Swarthout Recital Hall

- SAT 06** • **UKRAINIAN PYSANKY WORKSHOP**
10:00am-1:00pm at the Lumberyard Arts Center, 718 High St. Baldwin City, KS
*Email crees@ku.edu to sign up

- WED 10** • **KU SECURITY CONFERENCE: THE RUSSO-UKRAINIAN WAR AND GLOBAL HUMAN SECURITY**
Dole Institute of Politics

- THURS 11** • **KU SECURITY CONFERENCE: "THE RUSSO-UKRAINIAN WAR AND GLOBAL HUMAN SECURITY"**
Jayhawk Welcome Center

- WED 17** • **INTERNATIONAL JAYHAWK FESTIVAL**
3:00-5:00pm in Forum C and D of the Burge Union

- SUN 21** • **RUSSIAN LANGUAGE STORY TIME**
2:30-3:30pm at the Monticello Library
22435 W. 66th St. Shawnee, KS

- TUES 30** • **"POWERING THE WORLD: ENERGY SECURITY IN THE MODERN ERA" WITH IEVGENII SHULGA (NULES OF UKRAINE)**
12:00-1:00pm in Bailey Hall, Room 318

SIGN UP FOR THE CREES EMAIL LIST



Download a PDF of the Spring Schedule



Faculty News

Brittnee Carter (POLS) has co-authored a new book with Mariya Omelicheva titled *Covid-19 "Humanitarianism": Geopolitical Logics of Chinese, American, and Russian Assistance*. The book is forthcoming this year through [Brill](#). It examines the humanitarian aid strategies and geopolitical competition of the US, China, and Russia during the COVID-19 global pandemic.

For **Vitaly Chernetsky (SGES)**, the fall of 2023 was marked by continued public outreach efforts to the broadest possible audiences about Ukraine in the context of Russia's brutal and criminal invasion. Highlights include keynotes at the conference The Decolonization of Education and Research in Belarus and Ukraine: Theoretical Challenges and Practical Tasks held at the European Humanities University in Vilnius, at the Dmytro Shtohryn International Ukrainian Studies Conference at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, and at the conference Ukrainian Emigration after 1945: History, Society, Culture, Scholarship (University of Wroclaw, online) and a guest lecture at the School of Slavonic and East European Studies, University College London.

Winter King: Selected Poems by Ostap Slyvynsky, which Prof. Chernetsky co-translated from the Ukrainian with Iryna Shuvalova, was published in November and has been recognized as the 2023 Book of the Year in the poetry category by the Ukrainian literary website Chytomo.

Prof. Chernetsky completed his first year of service on the jury of the BBC Ukrainian Book of the Year Prize and was excited and moved by the richness and diversity of new Ukrainian writing produced in the tragic and challenging conditions of Russia's ongoing aggression.

In his role as Vice President/President-Elect of the Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES), Prof. Chernetsky organized multiple events for the association's annual convention, including two round tables and a Ukrainian film screening. Dr. Chernetsky

also chaired a panel titled "Decolonizing the Canon Through Translation," participated in a round table titled "Provincializing Russian in Post-2022 Ukraine," chaired the Vice President-Designated Roundtable "Soviet Famine or Famines (1932-1934)? a Reassessment 90 Years After the Holodomor," and chaired the Vice Presidential Roundtable "Decolonization and Liberation: Ukraine's Experiences and Implications for the Region." He is honored to serve as ASEES President for the year 2024, becoming the first KU faculty member to do so. In this role, he chose the theme for the 2024 convention: [Liberation](#). Professor Chernetsky also presented at the 150th Anniversary Inaugural Symposium of the [Shevchenko Scientific Society](#) on December 13, 2023. The panel was titled "Ukrainian Scholarship in Light of the Russian War on Ukraine." Prof. Chernetsky is the Shevchenko Scientific Society's First Vice President and Delegate to the World Council.



Professor Vitaly Chernetsky joining the BBC Ukrainian Book of the Year award ceremony held in Kyiv.

Ted Goebel (Anthropology) During Fall semester Ted Goebel and his colleagues from Japan published a paper in the journal *Science Advances*, titled "Climate Amelioration, Abrupt Vegetation Recovery, and the Dispersal of *Homo sapiens* in Baikal Siberia." In the paper, they report new evidence from archaeology and paleoenvironmental science that demonstrates modern humans first migrated into Central Asia and Siberia during a time of extremely warm climatic conditions in northern latitudes,

about 45,000-40,000 years ago. The study contributes to our understanding of when and how humans first spread out of Africa into Eurasia's more northern latitudes, and what happened to Neanderthal and Denisovan populations who had already lived there for at least a hundred thousand years. The paper is available [here](#).

Rebecca Johnston (CREES) participated in the Today in International Politics Speaker Series ([TIPSS](#)). She gave a talk titled "Social and Political Cleavages in the Russian Federation" to comparative politics high school students and educators. In November, she gave a talk titled "Culture and Knowledge in Russian National Security" to over 100 people in the Fort Leavenworth International Officer Seminar. Rebecca was also chosen for year-long internal [Digital Humanities Fellowship](#) at KU.



Dr. Rebecca Johnston at the Fort Leavenworth International Officer Seminar

Ani Kokobobo (SGES) spoke on Dostoevsky and disability theory at the XVIII Symposium of the International Dostoevsky Society at the Nagoya University of Foreign Studies in Nagoya, Japan in August.

In October, she spoke about vampires and other undead creatures in Slavic mythology at the Hall Center's [Haunting Humanities](#) event. In November, she delivered the keynote address at the 2023 Central Slavic Conference in St. Louis. Her talk was titled "Leo Tolstoy: Overcoming the State."

Dr. Kokobobo also presented a paper titled "Telling the Story of Dagestan Though *Hadji Murat*" at the 2023 ASEES National Convention in

Philadelphia. She also served as discussant for the "*Hadji Murat* and Colonial Histories: In and Out of the Classroom" panel.



Professor Ani Kokobobo and her son Lucas in Kyoto, Japan.

Megan Luttrell (CREES) presented on a roundtable titled "Engaging Eastern Europe and Eurasia: Creating Impactful K-14 Outreach" at the ASEES conference in Philadelphia this year. She will also present at the

AATSEEL conference in Las Vegas in February. She will speak on a roundtable titled "Beyond the Classroom: Ukrainian Studies through Extracurricular Activities."

Bogi Perelmutter (SGES) was one of three KU faculty members to receive the 2023 Haufler Award for KU Core Innovation. An anthology of fiction and poetry that Dr. Perelmutter edited was just released: Rosalind's Siblings - Fiction and Poetry Celebrating Scientists of Marginalized Genders. They were also a finalist for the Ignyte Awards in the Critics Award category.

Dr. Perelmutter had two English translations of stories by Hungarian Ukrainian authors (translated from the Hungarian) appear in the anthology *Embroidered Worlds: Fantastic Fiction from Ukraine and the Diaspora*, edited by Valya Dudycz Lupescu, Olha Brylova and Iryna Pasko.

Their second short story collection, *Power to Yield and Other Stories*, will be released in February 2024 from Broken Eye Books. Also, they will be one of the keynote speakers at the yearly conference of the Science Fiction Research Association, held in Tartu, Estonia in 2024.



RB Perelmutter (SGES & Jewish Studies) was one of three KU faculty members to receive the 2023 [Haufler Award for KU Core Innovation](#).

Esra Predolac (KU CREES, SGES) and her co-author Saadet Ebru Ergül (Stanford University), completed their third-year Turkish language textbook *Konuşan Paragraflar* at the beginning of the fall semester. The OER textbook was made possible by a grant from KU's Open Language Resource Center (OLRC). *Konuşan Paragraflar* is a complete curriculum for advanced Turkish that takes a process-oriented approach geared toward Anglophone learners and makes extensive use of authentic materials that encourage cross-cultural comparisons. View the book [here](#).

Erik Scott (History) was invited to speak about his recently published book, *Defectors. How the Illicit Flight of Soviet Citizens Built the Borders of the Cold War World*, at several universities and academic institutions across North America. After launching his book tour at KU this past fall, he spoke at the Harvard University Davis Center, the Columbia University Harriman Institute, and Brooklyn College in September, at the Yale MacMillan Center in October, at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in November, and gave an online talk for the American Historical Association's Washington History Seminar in December (watch [here](#)). He spoke about the book on the University of Pittsburg's Eurasian Knot Podcast (listen to the episode [here](#)) and on the New Books Network Podcast (listen to the episode [here](#)). This spring he will continue the tour, with stops at McGill, the University of California, Berkeley, and the University of Chicago.

In November, Prof. Scott gave a presentation titled, "From the Forbidden Zone to the High Seas: Soviet Borders Up Close and Far Away" at "Thinking About and Across Borders: Global Europe in the Twentieth Century," a conference held at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. At the 2023 ASEES National Convention, CREES Director Erik Scott served on a book discussion round table focused on the book *Georgian and Soviet: Entitled Nationhood and the Specter of Stalin in the Caucasus*, written by Dr. Claire P. Kaiser.

Svetlana Vassileva-Karagozova (SGES) In September Svetlana Vassileva-Karagozova gave an invited talk titled "Disease as Dissent in the Coming-of-Age Novels of Poland's Last Communist Generation" at the international conference "From Birth to Death: Age and Aging in the Postsocialist Transformation," organized by Hannah Arendt Institute for Totalitarianism Studies, September 26-8, Dresden. In November Prof. Vassileva-Karagozova participated in another international conference "Urban Narratives: Reconstructing and Re-branding European Cities from the 20th Century until Present Day," hosted by Herder Institute for Historical Research on East Central Europe, October 18-20, Marburg. Her paper was titled "Reinventing the Polish City of Wałbrzych through Film."

In 2023 she published two articles: “The Reconciliatory Potential of Objects in Stefan Chwin’s Novel *Death in Danzig*” as part of a special cluster on Polish-German Borderlands in the journal *Transit* and “Славистиката в Канзаския университет” [Slavic Studies at the University of Kansas] in the Bulgarian journal *Литературна/Literature*.

In 2023, **Prof. Oleksandra Wallo (SGES)** presented various papers related to her research on contemporary Ukrainian drama at three conferences, including an invited presentation at the international symposium Language, Media, Culture, Literature, and the War: Constructions, Representations, and Responses in Hannover, Germany. Together with colleagues from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, she co-organized the Dmytro Shtohryn International Ukrainian Studies Conference, reviving the long-standing tradition of Ukrainian Studies conferences at this institution. The conference took place in October and Prof. Wallo presented a paper on the Ukrainian dramatist Natalka Vorozhbyt’s 2009 play *The Grain Store*, which commemorates the victims of the Holodomor.

A chapter by Prof. Wallo on a different play by the same dramatist is forthcoming in an edited volume on neo-Gothic cultural productions. In March 2023, an essay co-authored by Prof. Wallo and Ukrainian colleague Anna Halas was published in *World Literature Today*, titled "Warsick: Testimonial Plays Share Ukrainians’ Experience of War."

Also in March, Prof. Wallo joined other colleagues in presenting at the KU teach-in and panel discussion “Russia’s War against Ukraine: 365 Days In” and gave a public lecture “How Russia’s War Is Changing Ukraine” at the Lawrence Public Library.

In the summer, Prof. Wallo developed and supervised a new intensive in-person course in beginner’s Ukrainian, which was successfully taught by SGES graduate students Andriyana Baran and Oksana Vykhopen to two groups of U.S. special forces personnel. In Fall 2023, Prof. Wallo greatly enjoyed teaching a newly reworked version of her SLAV 600 course on the cultural biography of Kyiv to a lively group of Slavic graduate students and advanced undergraduates. Some of her most meaningful national and international service activities in 2023 included serving as a subject matter expert in an ACTFL Standard Setting Study for the Defense Language Proficiency Test in Ukrainian and collaborating with colleagues in Europe and North America on firmly establishing the International Association of Teachers of Ukrainian.

In the fall, Prof. Wallo served on a round table the 2023 ASEES National Convention, which was titled "Neo-Gothic Geographies: From the Fall of the Berlin Wall to Imperialist Warfare."



SAVE THE DATE

CREES

Spring Festival

MARCH | 03 | 2024

Liberty Hall
644 Massachusetts St.
Lawrence, Kansas 66044

Add to calendar





It is with deep sadness that we share the passing of Peter R. Jarosewycz. Peter was a long-time supporter of CREES, a generous and caring man, and a dedicated advocate of Ukrainian studies. His passing is a significant loss to the community.

Lyudmyla Savinkova of the Kansas City Ukrainian Club said of Peter, "his passion, support for Ukrainian culture, and dedication to our community were truly inspiring. As we mourn his passing, we celebrate his rich and impactful life. Peter touched many lives within and beyond our club, and his legacy will continue to live on in our hearts and memories."

Peter established the Jarosewycz Family Scholarship in Ukrainian Studies at CREES in 2010 in honor of his late parents, Demetrius (Dmytro) and Maria, and his aunt Olha. At the time he noted, "I decided to set up the scholarship at KU in their honor because it is one of the few universities in the United States with a graduate program in Ukrainian Studies." "There are several faculty members from Ukraine, and there is a frequent exchange of students and faculty between KU and universities in Ukraine, especially Ivan Franko University, from which both of my parents received their medical degrees."

Since its establishment, the scholarship has enabled dozens of undergraduate and graduate students to take courses of the Ukrainian language at KU, including in KU's intensive summer study abroad program at Ivan Franko University in Lviv. The Jarosewycz Family Scholarship has thus played a vital role in growing the KU Ukrainian program.

PETER R. JAROSEWYCZ



Вічна пам'ять

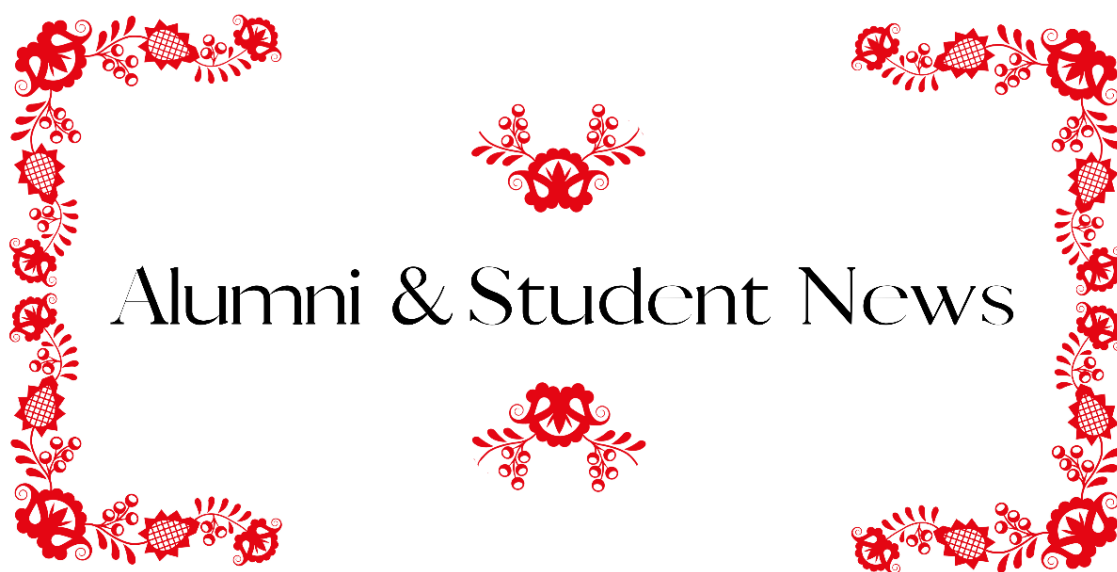
Peter R Jarosewycz, 75, passed away of natural causes Thursday, January 4, 2024 at his home in Kansas City, MO.

He was born in Schleswig, Germany August 5, 1948 to Drs. Demetrius and Maria Jarosewycz. The family came to the United States when Peter was a toddler. They settled in Alton, Illinois where the doctors practiced in the psychiatric field. Peter graduated Alton High School and studied at the University of Chicago, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, and earned a law degree at St. Louis University.

He was an administrative law judge for the Missouri Department of Employment. After retiring, Peter devoted his time to philanthropic pursuits. He had cards printed reading, “Retired guy. Will do stuff.”

He was active in the Unity Church, [Ukrainian Club of Kansas City](#), [the Greater Kansas City Interfaith Council](#), and various Ukrainian causes. Peter established [the Jarosewycz Family Scholarship](#) at the Center for Russian, Eastern European and Eurasian Studies (CREES) at KU.

Peter leaves no living relatives but he will be missed greatly by his family of friends and the many who benefited from his kindness and generosity



Alumni & Student News

Aylar Atadurdyeva completed her BA at KU in Spring 2023, graduating with honors in four majors (Slavic, German, and Eurasian Studies, Biology, Global and International Studies, and Political Science) along with two minors and three certificates. She was named "Outstanding Graduating Slavic Major" by the SGES department, and recently started working with the American Councils for International Education as a temp Program Assistant with the Inbound Secondary School Programs team. Aylar was also offered a spot in the incoming class for [Schwarzman Scholars](#) which had an acceptance rate this year of only 3%! [Check out this profile on Aylar](#) from KU Honors to learn more about her amazing achievements.

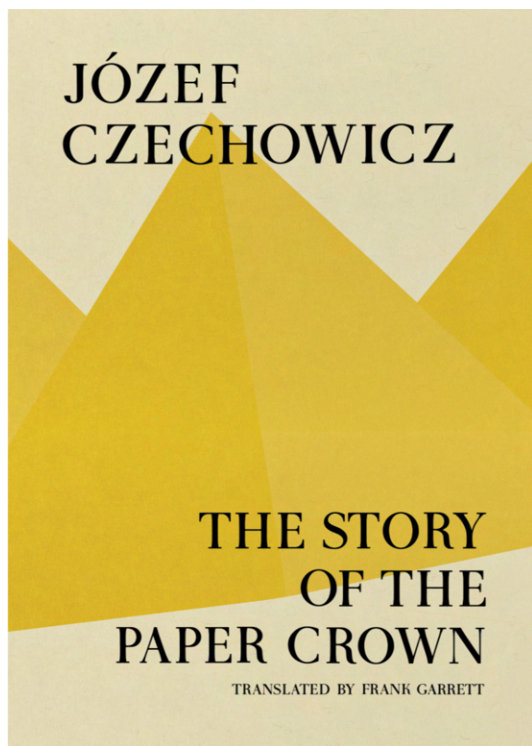


Aylar Atadurdyeva

Frank Garrett, who received a CREES FLAS in 2000 to study Ukrainian in Lviv, recently published the first [English-language translation](#) (from the Polish) of the Polish avant-garde poet Józef Czechowicz's novella *The Story of the Paper Crown*. Seattle-based Sublunary Editions published the translation on the 100th anniversary of its original publication date.

Chul Hyun Hwang presented a paper in June 2023 at the annual conference of the Slavic Cognitive Linguistics Association at Harvard University. His presentation was titled "Tošnit' vs. tošno, dušit' vs. dušno: A Corpus Analysis."

Murad Jalilov presented a paper at the 2023 ASEES National Convention in Philadelphia, PA in December. His paper was titled "Traversing Controversy and Nationalism Within Azerbaijani Folklore."



Cover of Frank Garrett's recently published translation of *The Story of the Paper Crown*. Mariia Shishmareva at the Central Slavic Conference.

Kamila Saifeeva participated in June 2023 in the annual conference of the Slavic Cognitive Linguistics Association at Harvard University. Her paper was titled “(Sure), Go Ahead, (But): Levels of Approval and Russian Imperatives.”

Mariia Shishmareva presented a paper titled "Redemption of a Fallen Woman Themes in Works of Tolstoy and Dostoevsky" at the 2023 Central Slavic Conference in St. Louis.

Jordan Zaugg gave his first conference presentation, “Home and Trauma: Understanding Chornobyl’s Elderly Women through Film,” at the Dmytro Shtohryn International Ukrainian Studies Conference, which took place in October at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

LEARN TO MAKE

UKRAINIAN PYSANKY

TUESDAY MARCH 26TH
Bailey Hall Rm. 318
2:00PM-5:00PM

CREES

EMAIL CREES@KU.EDU TO SIGN UP



Sign Up



The Center for Russian, East European & Eurasian Studies has been a national leader since 1959 and is the only federally-designated resource center on this crucial world area in the Great Plains. Special events, renowned speakers, scholarships, and study abroad opportunities are just some of the ways your donations can help us maintain the center's vitality and expand its impact in Kansas and beyond. We hope that you will contribute generously to strengthen the center's programs by sending your gift today. Your gifts are tax deductible as allowed by law. Thank you for

your support!

FOR ONLINE DONATIONS

A secure online donation can be made to CREES via the KU [Endowment website](#).

FOR DONATIONS BY MAIL

If you would like to make a donation by check or money order, please make your check payable to KU CREES and mail your donation to:

Center for Russian, East European & Eurasian Studies
Bailey Hall
1440 Jayhawk Blvd.
Room 320
Lawrence, KS 66045-7574

CREES General Fund

Supports a wide range of educational and outreach activities. Among its dedicated sponsors are the **Oswald P. Backus/Anna Cienciała Memorial Fund** for visiting lecturers in Polish Studies, the **Bramlage/Willcoxon Family Foundation Fund**, which provides scholarships to KU REES MA students who have strong connections to the state of Kansas, and the **Norman E. Saul Fund**. Named after KU History Emeritus Professor Norman E. Saul, the Saul fund supports REES students with travel grants to collections or to REES-related conferences for professional development.

Palij Family Fund

Supports visiting lecturers in Ukrainian studies, and the [Ukrainian Studies Prize](#) for an outstanding student specializing in Ukrainian.

George C. Jerkovich Fund

Supports the development of KU's South Slavic library collection; and provides [awards](#) to outstanding students with a demonstrated interest in the study of Croatian or Serbian history, literature, folklore, or culture.

Roy & Betty Laird Fund

This fund is named after the late Professor Roy D. Laird, a longtime member of the REES and Political Science faculties, and Ms. Betty Laird, whose continued support of CREES activities includes sponsoring the annual Roy & Betty [Laird Essay Contest](#). Monies donated to support this fund will primarily contribute to the advancement of Russian Studies.

Jarosewycz Family Fund

The Jarosewycz Family Fund provides [scholarships](#) for students who have shown commitment and scholarly interest in Ukraine and Ukrainian Studies.

Alexander Tsiovkh Memorial Fund

This fund is named after the late Alexander Tsiovkh, a longtime professor of Ukrainian Studies at KU. Monies donated to this fund are used to support students of Ukrainian Area Studies at KU.

SPASIBO Fund

The Gerald E. Mikkelson Fund supports and sustains the Siberia and St. Petersburg components of KU's instructional profile.

Give to CREES
