

BRANCH NEWS

Education. Scholarship. Understanding.

P.O. Box 758, Winter Park, FL. 32790-0758

Website: www.ESUus.org/centralflorida

Email: centralfl@ESUus.org

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Winter Dinner Monday, January 24



The English Speaking Union
Central Florida Branch

Winter Dinner

Monday

January 24, 2022

The Winter Park

Racquet Club

2111 Via Tuscany

Winter Park

Cocktails 6:00pm

Dinner 6:45pm

Black Tie is optional attire for the gentlemen,
while the ladies may want to don their most
elegant gowns.

Program Leader: Barbara Hughes

*The
Buzzcatz
Ricky Sylvia
and a
five piece band*

Reservations due by Monday,
January 17, 2022

Make your check for \$48 per person

Payable to:

"The English Speaking Union"

Send to:

Barbara Hughes,

246 Balfour Drive,

Winter Park, FL 32792

Any questions please call

Barbara Hughes at:

321-279-1133

*Reservation Form and Menu Included
in this Newsletter.*



President's Message

◆ Happy New Years to each of you!

A new year, a new beginning, a fresh start?
Anything is possible as we begin this year
ahead of us.

May we each look forward and perhaps...

*"One ought, every day at least, to hear a little song,
read a good poem, see a fine picture, and, if it were
possible, to speak a few reasonable words."*

*— Johann Wolfgang von Goethe,
Wilhelm Meister's Apprenticeship*

There are some compelling English-Speaking
programs to look forward to in 2022.

I hope you will join us!



The English Speaking Union
Central Florida Branch

Don't Miss
This
Fantastic
Evening!

Make
Your
Reservations!

Winter Dinner

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Reserve _____ places for me (us) for *Winter Dinner*
The Winter Park Racquet Club on Monday,
January 24, 2022

\$ _____ is enclosed (\$48 per person)

Names of those covered in this request (Please Print) _____
(person requesting)

Others: _____

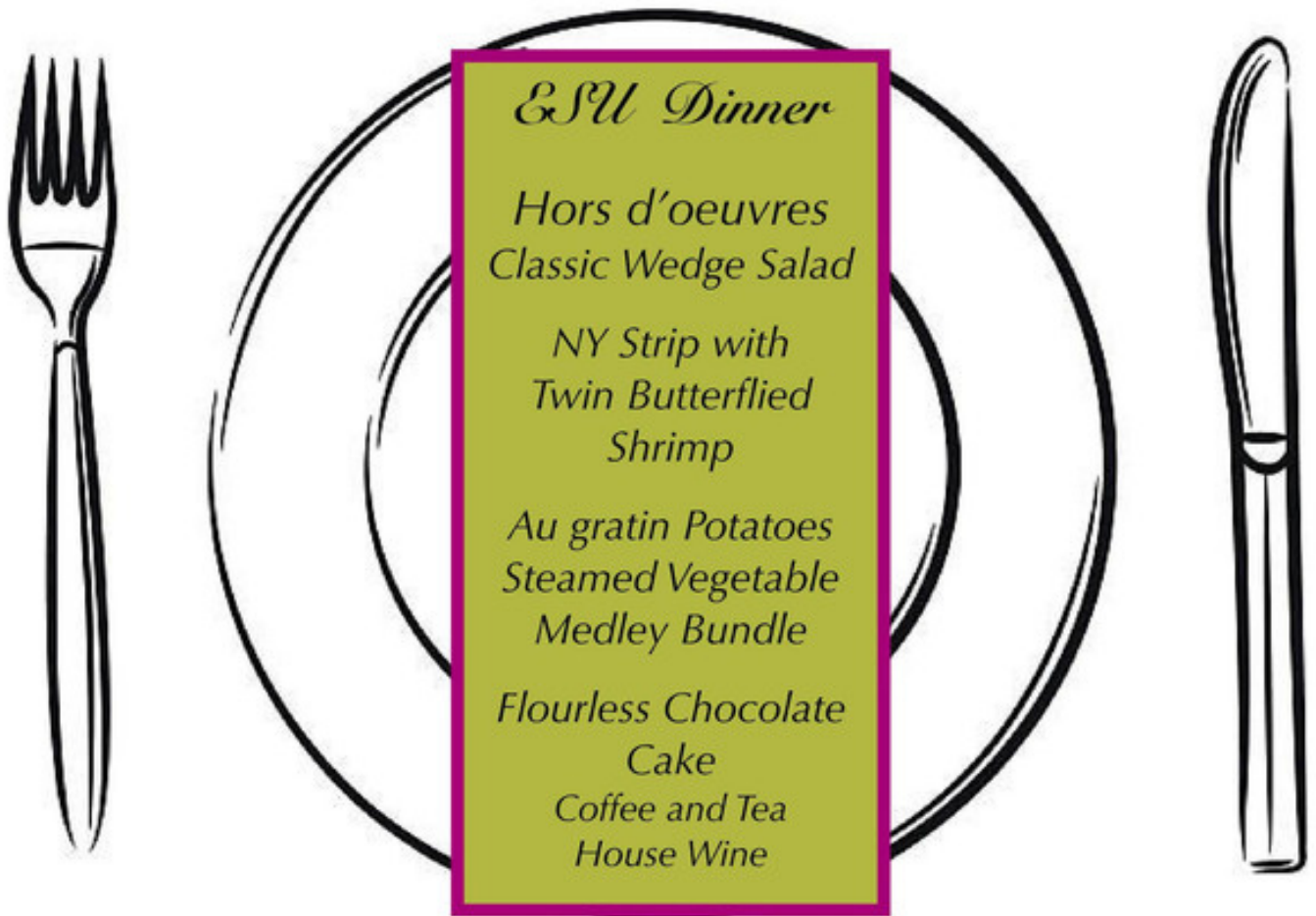
_____ **YOUR PHONE NUMBER**

Group reservations accepted up
to six per table. Checks for the
entire group should be enclosed
with your reservation request to
guarantee seats together.



Dinner Menu

January 24, 2022



ESU Dinner

*Hors d'oeuvres
Classic Wedge Salad*

*NY Strip with
Twin Butterflied
Shrimp*

*Au gratin Potatoes
Steamed Vegetable
Medley Bundle*

*Flourless Chocolate
Cake*

*Coffee and Tea
House Wine*

Make your reservations
BY JANUARY 17!

2022 ESU
Gala -
January 12



2022 ESU GALA

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 12, 2022
6:00 PM EST RECEPTION | 7:30 PM EST DINNER
THE COSMOPOLITAN CLUB
122 E 66TH ST. NEW YORK, NY 10065



**IN THE PRESENCE OF HER ROYAL HIGHNESS
THE PRINCESS ROYAL**

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE GALA AND HOW TO PARTICIPATE
PLEASE GO TO WWW.ESUUS.ORG/2022-ESU-GALA/

For more information on how
to participate in this exciting
event, please visit
[www.esuus.org/esu/activities/
2022-esu-gala/](http://www.esuus.org/esu/activities/2022-esu-gala/)

Honoring the Past – **LOOKING TO THE FUTURE**

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Special Welcoming Address by the Chairman of the English-Speaking Union of the United States
- The ESU Secondary School Exchange Program: Testimonial
- ESU Branches' Greetings
- Recognition of the 2020 Princess Royal Awardees
- Live concert performance by Dr. E. Quinn Peeper
- Unveiling of the English-Speaking Union National Shakespeare Competition Paul Beresford-Hill Trophy
- ESU National Shakespeare Competition – A Competitor Performs
- The ESU Luard Morse Scholarships – Testimonial
- The ESU Andrew Romay New Immigrant Center – A House of Immigrants

DRESS CODE: BLACK TIE AND COCKTAIL DRESS

SAVE THE DATE

Shakespeare Competition
February 21 at Orlando Shakes



NATIONAL
SHAKESPEARE
COMPETITION

Please join us on **Monday, February 21**, for the annual English-Speaking Union's Shakespeare Competition. This year we are returning to a live format for competition with events beginning promptly at 4:00 p.m. Our venue for the event is **Orlando Shakes**, and we will be complying with their COVID protocol. *Face masks are required* for all of those who enter the building, regardless of vaccination status. You must also show documentation of a recent (within 72 hours of attendance) negative COVID-19 PCR test by a medical provider/certified testing center OR proof of vaccination. Photo identification that matches all other documentation will be checked. ID must clearly show the attendee's name.

This year, 20 competitors will present their memorized monologues and sonnets as they compete for an opportunity to represent the Central Florida ESU Branch in New York. For 2022, the National Competition in New York will be held in a hybrid format. The semi-finals, as in 2020 and 2021, will remain virtual via recorded performance from our branch champions. However, the national finals will be held during a live competition in New York City on the weekend of April 23-26, 2022. Only the top 10 finalists will travel to New York City for an exclusive and fun-filled weekend.

The Central Florida ESU panel of judges for this year will be Anne Hering: Director of Education at Orlando Shakes, Donna Miller: former Program Coordinator for Orange County's Language Arts, and Dr. Maurice "Sucky" O'Sullivan: former Professor at Rollins College. Come rank your personal favorites and see how your votes compare with the judges' deliberation. Refreshments will be served in the lovely outdoor Darden Courtyard on property, under an air-conditioned tent. We wish our 20 contestants from three counties the best of luck!

Ginger Bryant, VP Shakespeare Competition

Introducing Our first Jessie Drey Memorial Scholarship Recipients

The following UCF scholars are the first ever to receive the Central Florida English-Speaking Union Jessie Drey Memorial Scholarship! These two proud graduate students will also be honored guests at our January ESU Dinner.

If you plan to attend the January dinner, be sure to drop by their table and congratulate them!



**To the sponsors of The
Central Florida English-
Speaking Union Jessie Drey
Memorial Scholarship:**

I am beyond grateful to have been awarded the Central Florida English-Speaking Union Jessie Drey Memorial Scholarship. This award will help fund my education. It will help me to foster and grow into an educator that is equipped and ready to teach the next generation. By being gifted with this award, I can continue to learn best practices and continue to shape myself into a teacher who is ready to implement these best practices. This will allow me to truly be the best teacher that I can be. I can now do this without worry and anxiety over increasing student loans. This scholarship is truly a blessing, one that will allow me to continue to pursue my education and better myself as an educator and person. Thank you again for choosing me to be the recipient of the Central Florida English-Speaking Union Jessie Drey Memorial Scholarship.

Sincerely,
Devin Johnson

Words of Gratitude:

I am extremely grateful to be one of recipients of the Jessie Drey Memorial Scholarship from the Central Florida English Speaking Union. It is an immense honor to be recognized as a former elementary teacher and a current teacher educator. Because of the wonderful, caring, and thoughtful preservice and inservice teachers in Central Florida, I have learned to be a better teacher for all students K-16 and beyond. I am elated to be able to continue my doctoral and teaching journey with the assistance of the Jessie Drey Memorial Scholarship moving towards graduation in the Spring of 2022.



Recently, I have transitioned into the final two semesters of my doctoral program. My dissertation specifically focuses on the language of students and the teaching associated with student-centered learning. I am always impressed by the dedication of Central Florida teachers in attending to the needs of each and every student. The goal of my dissertation is to elevate the student voices and provide them agency in describing their experiences. In order to do that, I have needed to purchase specific equipment to capture the rich discourse and language of learning, which up until now I have been unable to afford. These funds will immediately support my dissertation research in purchasing critical equipment needed to capture the language that students use during their learning of mathematics. I also plan to use these funds to attend several local, state, and national conferences to present research and practices detailing the truly wonderful teaching occurring in Central Florida Schools. Because of these funds, I will be able to network at conferences and other meetings with other teachers, teacher educators, and researchers. Such networking is extremely beneficial during my final year as I begin to apply for academic jobs to continue research and the instruction of future teachers.

The impact of such a scholarship is difficult to describe in words. As a recipient of the Jessie Drey Scholarship, I am not only honored but I am also humbled to be recognized as a teacher. As I conclude my doctoral journey during my final two semesters and then begin my career as a teacher educator at a university, this scholarship will make the transition easier (as I can fully focus on teaching the next generation of teachers for Central Florida schools). Because of this scholarship, I will have the time necessary to apply for academic jobs, complete manuscripts, and most importantly, finish my dissertation. I am honored to be a recipient of the Jessie Drey Memorial Scholarship, and I look forward to representing UCF's College of Community Innovation and Education as well as the Central Florida English Speaking Union during the next stages of my career.

Sincerely,
Daniel Edelen
Elementary Education
School of Teacher Education
College of Community Innovation and Education
University of Central Florida

Congratulations

**Jessie Drey Memorial Scholarship Winners,
we applaud your dedication to education!**





Member Spotlight

"I learned and retained more in one year with Ms. Kee than in a succession of English courses. Her curriculum fully encompasses the essential skills that will set students ahead of the curve, and her passion for education energizes the classroom."

When a student speaks this highly of a teacher, the world should listen. The ESU Education Committee did just that when they selected Michelle Kee as a BUSS scholar in 2015. In Kee's Exeter College, Oxford University Scholar report, she stated that lectures at Oxford, "fired synapses she didn't know she had" and energized her with an "environment which produced the kind of trust she'd always wanted to replicate in a classroom." Since returning from her transformative experience, she has carried a torch for the ESU by doing exactly what she promised: reciprocally firing neural synapses in her students and creating a classroom where she is enlisted as a key facilitator of knowledge instead of the gate keeper. Not only that, Kee has supported the ESU by teaching professional development, attending events, and introducing colleagues to the organization.

Kee has been adept at fighting the battle to enlighten minds, but last year she was burdened with a battle unlike any she had ever faced. Kee was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. Our Facebook intel informs us that recently, Kee had a celebration that we here at the ESU could not resist honoring. In the first week of December, Kee posted this entry: "It has been a journey of more than a year, but I am so happy to say that one big chapter— surgery and chemo— is officially over! The “ringing of the bell” is how my oncologist honors this milestone. I’m so grateful to everyone that’s supported me and my family through this journey. God bless each and every one of you!" The ESU is overjoyed to hear that Kee will be returning back to her Timber Creek High School classroom this month to continue adding to the list of scholars she has transformed into logophiles!

The ESU Makes an Impact!

In the introduction to her new book about teaching in Central Florida's middle schools, *Musings from the Middle* (Sea Hill Press, 2021), Genie Lindberg thanks the ESU's Drey Summer Institute at Rollins College, her ESU scholarship to a summer at the Globe Theatre, and the Orlando Shakespeare Theater for giving "me courage to instill the Bard's words into my young students."



If you missed any of the ESU National Happy Hour Online Series, please remember that they are all available at <https://www.esuus.org/esu/activities/happy-hour/previous-events/>

Also, you can view any of our recorded Central Florida Branch Programs at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCHSbTEUXk8z13quMw34MHSQ>

You can even subscribe to our channel to be informed of any new posts!

Program Schedule 2021-2022

**All programs are on Mondays at the University Club of Winter Park
unless otherwise indicated.**

Monday, January 24, 2022, 6:00-9:00 p.m. — Dinner at the Racquet Club — 6-6:45 p.m. Cocktails, 6:45-8:00 p.m. Dinner, 8-9:00 p.m. Entertainment by The Buzzcatz

Monday, February 21, 2022, 4:00-5:30 p.m. — Shakespeare Competition at The Orlando Shakespeare Theater, Margeson Stage.

Annually the Central Florida ESU sponsors a Shakespeare Competition for Orange, Seminole, and Osceola county students in grades 9-12. Each winning student at his or her own school memorizes and presents a Shakespearian sonnet a plus a twenty-line monologue from one of the plays. The Central Florida winner is then given an all-expense paid trip to New York to compete in the National ESU Shakespeare Competition. The first place winner in New York is given a scholarship to study at the British American Drama Academy the following summer.

Monday, March 7, 2022, 3:30-5:00 p.m. — Carly Collier, Royal Collection Trust, London "Victoria and Albert as Art Collectors"

Monday, April 4, 2022, 3:30-5:00 p.m. — Jana Mathews, Rollins College - "Guy Fawkes Day"

Monday, May 9, 2022, 3:30-5:30 p.m. — Professor Elizabeth Cobbs, author - *The Hamilton Affair* - Our Annual General Meeting will precede our guest speaker, Professor Elizabeth Cobbs.

Looking for something else to do in January?

Our Executive Vice President, Socky O'Sullivan, encourages all members to visit the Zora Neale Hurston Festival in Eatonville on **January 28-30**. It is always an exciting weekend of music, arts, and culture, as well as a wonderful way to learn about one of America's most celebrated writers and the historic town where she set many of her stories.

Branch Business



If you have not been receiving Branch emails, please check your spam folder. You should also add the following email address to your contacts to ensure delivery - webletters@peer360.com. If you have any email address updates or questions concerning Branch emails, please email us at esucentralfl@gmail.com.

Welcome to Our Newest Members!



Marilyn Comer

Jim and Doriana Fitch

Marie Penot

Christine Porter

Holly Small

Karen Slater

Beverly Taylor

*Follow Us on
Facebook!*

Don't forget to visit and "Follow" our organization page @

<https://www.facebook.com/cflesu>

**Evolve
education and
impact lives.
Join the ESU!**

**THE ENGLISH-SPEAKING UNION
CENTRAL FLORIDA BRANCH
Membership Application**

- ☐ I wish to become a member of the English-Speaking Union, Central Florida Branch.
☐ I wish to renew my membership of the English-Speaking Union, Central Florida Branch.

Please send a check for \$45 (single membership) or \$60 (couple membership) to the **English-Speaking Union, 144 East 39th Street, New York., NY 10016.**

Name and Spouse's Name _____

Address _____ City _____ State ____ Zip _____

Phone, Fax, and Email _____

Visit the E-SU Central Florida website at www.E-SUus.org/centralflorida for more information.

**The English-Speaking Union
Central Florida Branch**

P.O. Box 758

Winter Park, FL 32790-0758

Website: www.ESLus.org/centralflorida
Email: centralfl@ESLus.org