

SMITH CLUB OF CLEVELAND



Spring 2021 Newsletter

The mission of the Smith College Club of Cleveland is to encourage a sense of connection and continuity with Smith past, present and future, to promote an awareness of Smith in the Cleveland community, to encourage qualified students to apply to Smith and to contribute to the College's scholarship fund.

Dear fellow Smithies and friends,

I want to wish everyone a very happy spring! It feels especially sweet and well deserved this year and we should all pat ourselves on the back for weathering an especially difficult winter. As I write this letter, many of us are starting to make plans again with family and friends, re-schedule cancelled trips and see people for a coffee or a meal. It is still certainly baby steps, but we are making strides toward our old lives again. I think this pause has given many of us time to think about our old lives – and how we want our lives to look going forward. Our priorities have shifted and the lens has tightened into focus on what matters most. It is a remarkable moment to make big changes in our lives and how we fill the hours of our days, months and years. The biggest strength of our club is the smart, warm and inclusive nature of our group. That is why I am looking forward to gathering with you all again in person to catch up, learn and engage with our community again. We have so much to look forward to and I hope to see you all very soon!

Fondly,
Amy Miller '99
President

Neilson Library



Program Update by Judith Bryan '76

We had 16 in attendance at our Zoom Salon, "Smith Women Mean Business" on Wednesday, April 7. Featured were small business owners Gigi Benjamin '73, Spice-for life.com at Van Aken Market Hall; Rebecca Sweet '94, vivadancestudio.com in the downtown arts district; and Amy Miller '99 branch-bloom.com from her flower farm and home.

They shared the path that led them from Smith to entrepreneur. While their majors may not have contributed to their successes, the Smith experience and the confidence they acquired as a Smithie had everything to do with navigating the complexities of a small business. Passion, vision, resources, problem solving and re-imagining are requirements for success – especially during a pandemic when social distancing disrupted retail, partner dance and special events. We are happy to say that they made it. Let's throw some Smith support their way!

Smith Club of Cleveland Annual Meeting

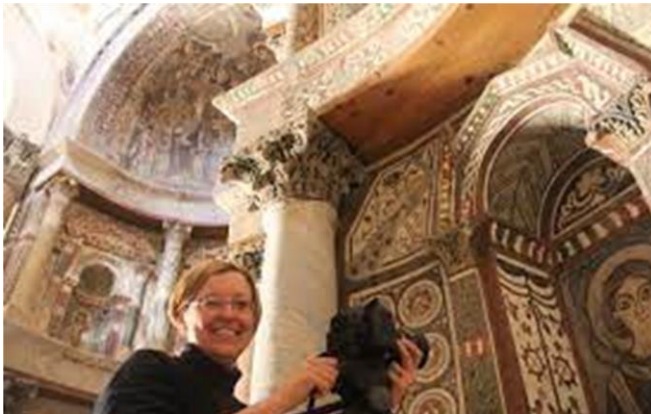
SAVE THE DATE

Saturday October 23, 2021

10:00am-12:00noon

Acacia Reservation, Cedar Rd. Lyndhurst

Please plan to join your fellow Smithies for our Annual Meeting. We will enjoy a presentation by our own Elizabeth Bolman PhD '83, a breakfast buffet and Club updates. Betsy is the Elsie B. Smith Professor in the Liberal Arts; Chair, Department of Art History and Art; Interim Chair, Department of Political Science in the College of Arts and Sciences at Case Western Reserve University. If you have heard her speak, you know we will leave enlightened and inspired.



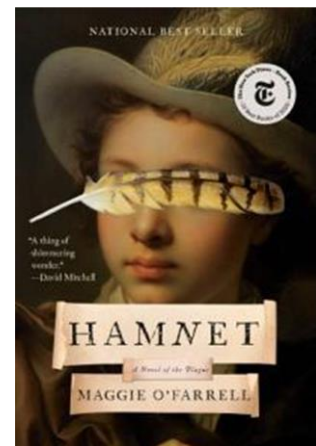
Book Club

We still have two titles left to discuss before we close out this season's book club.

Meetings are over Zoom at 7pm. Joanne Mortimer '70, Book Club Chair

May 12, 2021:

Hamnet by Maggie O'Farrell



June 9, 2021:

Tough Love by Susan Rice



Summer on the Cuyahoga Update - by Marjorie Roth '67 and Kylie Fisher PhD '13

Summer on the Cuyahoga plans are underway for a fully enrolled, robust SOTC summer 2021. A large group of Cleveland area businesses and non-profits are actively reviewing applications and hiring and we expect a great cohort of Smithies to join us in Cleveland in June. All SOTC interns will live in the dorms, whether working virtually, in person or combo.

Cleveland Smith alums are stepping up to join the SOTC Smith co-host team and we welcome new members! If you have time to connect with a Smithie once in June and once in July, please consider co-hosting this summer. Interns and hosts are paired according to career paths and interests and if you are a first time host we will pair you with a veteran host. We expect most, if not all, interns will be vaccinated before arriving in Cleveland and all hosts set their own parameters around in-person contact. Please email Marjorie Roth riroth@comcast.net or Kylie Fisher kmf109@case.edu with any questions and to sign up to host for summer 2021!





JOIN US FOR A

Smith Young Alum Spring Stroll

Open to young alums and
Smithies young at heart!

Saturday, May 8th • 1 PM
Horseshoe Lake Park, Shaker Heights

*We will meet at the pavilion off of North Park/Park
Drive.*

*Contact Natalia Perkins '19 or Sara Ramasastry '17
with any questions.*

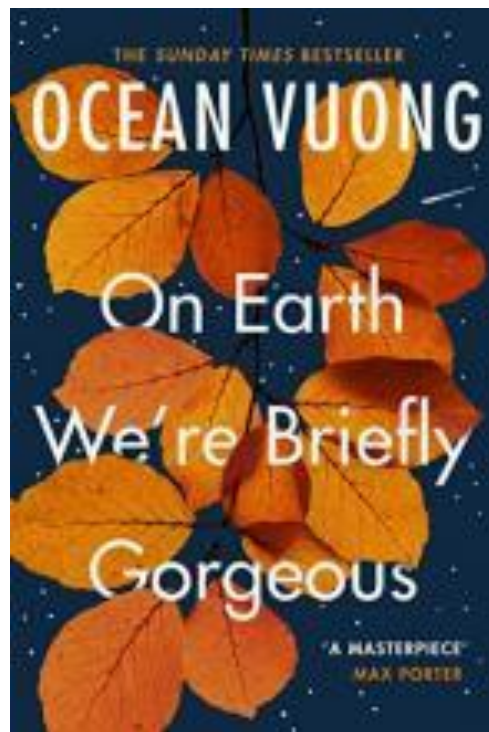
*The Case Western Reserve University Siegel Center for Lifelong Learning
Presents:*

ACE Book Discussion Day (Remote), Monday, April 19, 2021, 1-3pm

*Presenter: John McBratney, Professor of English, John Carroll University, will
give a lecture and lead the discussion on the 2021 book choice, "On Earth
We're Briefly Gorgeous," by Ocean Vuong*

Tickets are free for ACE members, \$10 for non-members

Register at: <https://case.edu/lifelonglearning/lectures/ace-book-discussion-day-remote>



In closing, I would like to thank the tireless work of our wonderful Smith College Club of Cleveland Board! We meet each month to discuss how to steer the club in the right direction and to create innovative programming that will appeal to our club members. Please email us to let us know if you have suggestions for speakers/topics! A special thank you to Lauren Richards who has deftly guided us through the pandemic as our technology czar! Please remember to pay your dues on our club website to fund the important work of our club. Be well everyone! - Amy



Smith College Club of Cleveland Board 2020-2021

President, Amy Miller '99	Past President and Nominating Chair, Mittie Jordan '75
Programs Chair, Judith Bryan '76	Corresponding Secretary, Lynn-Ann Gries '84
Recording Secretary, Su Meck '14 AC	SOTC Co-Chair, Marjorie Roth '67
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Senior Smith Co-Chair, Marilyn Langmack '67	Book Award Chair, Lisle Merriman '78
Senior Smith Co-Chair, Susan LaPine '68	ACE Liaison, Ruth Berger '58
Young Alums Co-Chair, Natalia Perkins '19	Marketing Chair & Technology Coordinator, Lauren Richards '06
Young Alums Co-Chair, Sara Ramasastry '17	Directory Chair, Laura Whay Klein '88