

New York Times Best Seller List:

Children's Books:

1. *My Mommy Hung the Moon: A Love Story*, Jamie Lee Curtis and Laura Cornell
2. *Scaredy-Cat Splat!*, Rob Scotton
3. *Lego Star Wars*, Simon Beecroft
4. *Heads*, Matthew Van Fleet
5. *The Three Little Dassies*, Jan Brett

ALLI HETIZENRATER
H&SS editor • creative writing

Internationally best selling author/illustrator team Jamie Lee Curtis and Laura Cornell recently published their ninth book, *My Mommy Hung the Moon: A Love Story*.

The book is essentially about the unconditional loving relationship a mother and her child have.

In the book, Curtis and Cornell talk about how Mommy is best at everything: She can make the best cookies, untangle kite strings, steal bases when playing baseball in the backyard, and drive her child and friends places.

But what "Mommy does best" is nothing tangible or physical. Mommy is best at lighting up any room with her unconditional love. No matter what, Mommy can make her child smile and feel special.

Curtis uses lyrical sentences and simple, end rhymes that match beautifully with Cornell's colorful and fancy illustrations.

The pair has collaborated eight other children's books available, including *Is There Really a Human Race*, *Where Do Balloons Go?*, and *It's Hard to Be Five*.



photo from ghead.com
My Mommy Hung the Moon by Jamie Lee Curtis and Laura Cornell

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Music professor awarded promotion

MATT DEFUSCO
H&SS writer • creative writing

Longtime music professor Gary Viebranz was promoted this semester to a position as Senior Lecturer.

Doctor Gary Viebranz, who is the Director of Instrumental Ensembles and a professor at Behrend, teaches classes such as Intro to Western Music, Evolution of Jazz, Pep Band, Concert Band, Jazz Ensemble, and has also done independent studies.

Viebranz received his undergraduate degree in Music Education from Ohio State University.

He then went to graduate school at the University of Cincinnati where he earned his masters in Tuba and Conducting.

In addition, he also became a Doctor of Musical Arts in Conducting. His doctorate was also earned at the University of Cincinnati.

Viebranz says that the world of musical art has always resonated

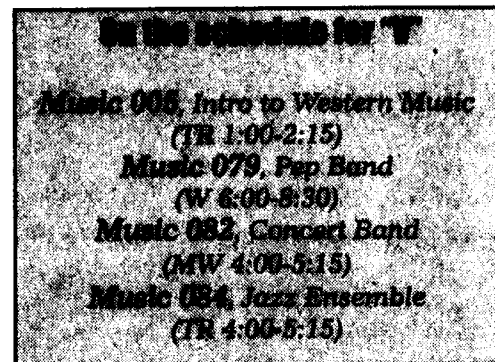
deeply with him. When he was presented with the option of starting a formal music program at Penn State Behrend, he did not hesitate at all with the chance to have a clean slate.

Before he taught at Behrend, Viebranz was a professor at Hiram College in Hiram, Ohio. He also taught for ten years in public schools.

After teaching at Behrend for ten years and applying for the promotion in Spring 2010, Viebranz was rewarded with a promotion to Senior Lecturer of Music.

"The promotion is a way of acknowledging the time and efforts that professors have put into their classes and students."

When asked about how the promotion made him feel he said with a big smile, "Relieved." Throughout his time teaching, he has published several reviews of jazz ensembles in various music journals.



Comic poet reads at Smith Chapel

EMILY RAE BROUGH
H&SS writer • creative writing

"I think that was the most beautiful introduction I ever had," said Nin Andrews, visiting poet and Smith Series reader, of Professor George Looney's lyrical introduction to Andrews' newest publication *Southern Comforts*.

Looney spoke of her intimacy with narrative and the stirring way she moved the world around us. Andrews, the most recent reader from the Smith Reading Series, spoke on Thursday, Sept. 30.

Her poetry generated many laughs and created interest in her unique methodology and in what inspired her.

"If I really don't like something than I have to do it," Andrews said. "When there is resistance you learn."

Andrews showcased her ability to fight against resistance to confessional poetry as she read to a full Smith Chapel.

Her prose poetry selections from the current book

included the poem "Powerful Magic", which recalled the days of her grandmother's knowing eye and deep southern faith as she held her granddaughter, saying, "Child...don't you know anything? You got to make a bad thing good, so sing it. Sing it with me now. Sing it good."

Andrew's reading also

"If I really don't like something, than I have to do it. When there is resistance, you learn."

-Nin Andrews

showcased her dexterity with everyday language and made use of her dual background in northeastern etiquette and southern culture, blending her poems into the vernacular

of both locales.

She described how her parent's own personal civil war at home inspired some of her poems, such as "Southern Accent", "Nonsense", "The Fight" and "Elvis".

Andrews also read from many of her previous publications. The audience heard from *Sleeping with Houdini* which included the poem "Houdini" and "Dear Confessional Poet".

The poem "Questions about Dick and Jane" came from her book *Midlife Crisis with Dick and Jane* and resulted with a great deal of laughter, especially as she opened her questions with "1."

Is this book about a particular Dick, or a universal Dick?"

Andrews' ability to reveal the serious through humor could also be seen in her reading from *Dear Professor: Do You Live in a Vacuum?*, a book that was inspired by real-life letters and e-mails to her husband, a physics professor.

Because of her writings,

Andrews' has been the recipient of multiple awards. In recent years, she received two Ohio Arts Council Individual Artist grants for her works.

Her poems have appeared in *The Best American Poetry* 1997, 2001, and 2003.

Excerpt from DEAR PROFESSOR

By NIN ANDREWS

"There should be a class for people like me.
It might be a relief for both of us.
Think about it.
You wouldn't expect very much,
and we wouldn't disappoint you."

Norwegian professor flying to Behrend to speak on WWII

ANDREW TARR
H&SS writer • political science

Dr. Sabrina Ramet, professor of Political Science at Norwegian University of Science and Technology will be speaking at Behrend Monday Oct. 11, at 7:00 PM in Reed 117.

Ramet will be speaking on "Italian Fascism and German Nazism Compared, with Special Attention to Cultural Policy."

"One of the more interesting questions about fascism is that fascism, was a totalitarianism dictatorship that varied in interesting ways in different countries," said Dr. Zachary Irwin, Associate Professor of Political Science.

"I say they're interesting because many of us who study politics, like Dr. Ramet and myself, find comparisons of fascism a serious scholarly topic."

Ramet earned her A.B. in philosophy from Stanford

University, her M.A. in International Relations from the University of Arkansas and her Ph.D. in Political Science from the University of California, Los Angeles.

"Behrend is very lucky to have Sabrina Ramet come speak to our campus," said Adam Fracassi, President of Political Science Society. "She is a world renown author, and she has a very extensive list of credentials that make her extremely qualified to do what she does."

Her topic could attract many groups of people who are interested in the World War II era, in addition to political science and history majors.

The event is going to be held Mon. Oct. 11th in Reed 117 at 7pm. It is sponsored by the Political Science Society and History Clubs and, the International Studies speaker series.

Jury duty selection process to be explained by local attorney

ANDREW TARR
H&SS writer • political science

Most everyone has been called for jury duty at least once in their lives, but few understand the process.

Attorney Joe Conti is the former Erie County District Attorney and has had experience selecting a jury.

Conti earned his B.S. with distinction from the Pennsylvania State University. He also studied at the University of Akron and Gannon University.

He was the former Erie County District Attorney from 1996 to 1999 and now works as a Private Attorney in Erie. He was admitted into the Pennsylvania Bar Association in 1983.

"He's going to give a talk about what attorneys are looking for when choosing jurors," said Robert Speel, Associate Professor of Political Science. "I've heard him do this before and it's really fascinating to find out what attorneys are

looking for both in the prosecution and defense sides when choosing jurors"

"He knows a lot about what's involved into the jury selection process, what types of jurors the prosecution wants and want kinds of jurors the defense wants and what types of cases need what types of jurors," said Speel.

"It's intended in students interested in criminal justice careers and obviously students interested in legal careers and law school who will find out a lot about what attorneys look for when choosing jurors," said Speel. "And it's interesting to the average student who might be a juror someday."

Conti will be speaking at Behrend Wednesday, Oct. 27, at 7:30 p.m. in Kochel 059.

The event is sponsored by the Crime, Psychology, and Public Policy Certificate Program.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK:

"Be glad of life because it gives you the chance to love and to work and to play and to look up at the stars."

- Henry Van Dyke

New York Times Best Seller List:

Paperback Advice:

1. *The Five Love Languages*, Gary Chapman
2. *What to Expect When You're Expecting*, Heidi Murkoff and Sharon Mazel
3. *Radical*, David Platt
4. *The Belly Fat Cure*, Jorge Cruise
5. *The No --- Rule*, Robert I. Sutton

ALLI HEITZENRATER
H&SS editor • creative writing

Gary Chapman's newest advice book, *The Five Love Languages*, is about one main point: communication.

Chapman says that if couples could learn to speak the same love language, they would be much better off and their relationship will be happier.

Dr. Chapman, a couples counselor, used his years worth of notes from his couples' sessions to teach himself to develop the five love languages, which are not languages at all. The five love languages are: quality time, words of affirmations, gifts, acts of service, and physical touch.

Chapman preaches that it is essential to the overall quality of your relationship that you learn your partner's specific love language and speak it fluently.

While the book is mostly directed towards marriages, Chapman believes that his method and his languages can help any relationship. Chapman also says that learning your partner's love language early on in the relationship will enhance the deepness of your connection.

Dr. Chapman travels the country presenting seminars about his books. He has written over fifteen books. *The Five Love Languages* has been translated

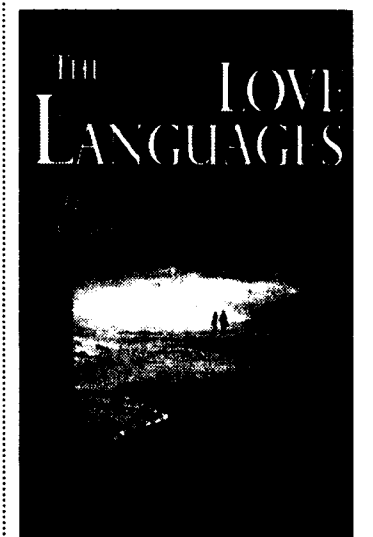


photo from bloomberg.com
The Five Love Languages by Gary Chapman

Any student within the School of Humanities and Social Sciences benefits from the Beacon. The Beacon is currently recruiting writers for Political Science, Psychology, and English. Are you waiting for? English

Communicative Writing
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To write for the Beacon, please e-mail Humanities Editor Alli Heitzenrater at ah1239@psu.edu.