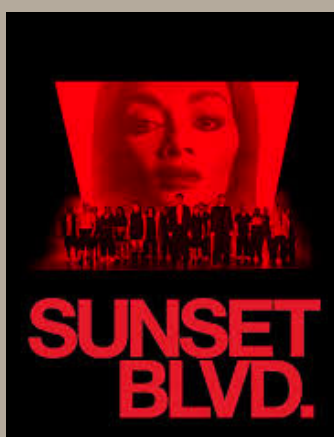


NYC BRANCH NEWSLETTER

THE ENGLISH-
SPEAKING UNION

MEMBERSHIP

Come join us on **Saturday, February 22nd** for brunch before seeing ***Sunset Boulevard*** at 11:30AM at ESU Headquarters.

Receive a **FREE REAR MEZZANINE TICKET** to the show if you become a member of the NYC Branch before the show.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Hotel accommodations are available at the Shelburne-Sonesta Hotel at a special rate for ESU members. Use this link for reservations [English Speaking Union – Shelburne Sonesta New York](#)

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

for more information contact [DeAndre Short](#)

THE ENGLISH-
SPEAKING UNION

Don't forget to save the date for our upcoming events! We have a variety of enjoyable and thrilling activities coming up that you definitely won't want to miss.

The English-Speaking Union (ESU) is dedicated to celebrating English as a universal language that promotes global unity and friendship. We strive to offer enriching educational and cultural experiences for students, educators, and members alike. Join us in spreading the joy of language and learning!



REGISTRATION IS OPEN!
Join us for the 2025 Founder's Award



We'll be thrilled to have you join us for this year's Gala Weekend!

The Founder's Award Gala
Honoring Dr. E. Quinn Peeper
Winter Park, Florida
March 14-15, 2025

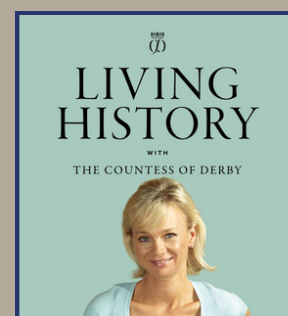
With Special Guest Caroline Emma Stanley, Countess Derby of Knowsley Hall

The Gala will celebrate Dr. Peeper's innumerable contributions to the ESU over decades, recognizing his dedication to fostering global understanding and promoting the English language as a unifying force. He is the first Founder's Award recipient to receive this distinction through his success as a Branch Board Member, Branch President, National Board Member, President and National Chair.

Adding to this extraordinary occasion, the Countess of Derby, a distinguished art historian and cultural advocate, will be joining us to honor her dear friend, Dr. Peeper.

As a special treat, the Earl and Countess of Derby are also extending an exclusive invitation to ESU members and supporters to enjoy a magical holiday weekend at Knowsley Hall November 20-23, 2025, their ancestral home near Liverpool, England. This unique experience offers a rare opportunity to immerse yourself in the history and grandeur of one of Britain's finest stately homes.

Don't miss this chance to be part of these exceptional celebrations!

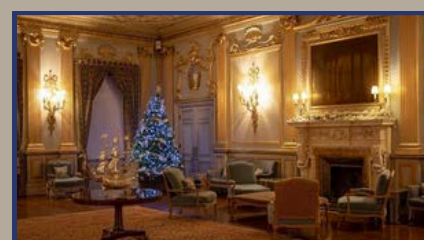


[Reserve your seat at the Gala](#)

[Learn more about Knowsley Hall Weekend.](#)



Knowsley Hall



For more information: Rossana Ivanova (862) 224-4244, rivanova@esuus.org



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

ESU NATIONAL SHAKESPEARE COMPETITION

Join us for the ESU NYC Branch Shakespeare Competition!

Come see these talented high school students compete in two Semi-Final Rounds at the **ESU at 144 E 39th St.**

- Round 1: Mon, Feb 10, 3:30–7 PM
- Round 2: Wed, Feb 12, 3:30–7 PM

The top 10 contestants will advance to the Finals at **The Players at 16 Gramercy Park South**, a historic social club for actors and artists founded in 1888 by Edwin Booth and steeped in theatre history which you can discover on curated tours of the building provided to ESU friends and members attending the NYC Branch Finals.

- NYC Branch Finals: Tues, Feb 25, 3:30–6 PM

Hope to see you there!

ESU HAPPY HOUR

SAVE THE DATE!

February 19, 2025

Happy Hour: Why I Started World Elephant Day

4:00 pm - 5:00 pm EST

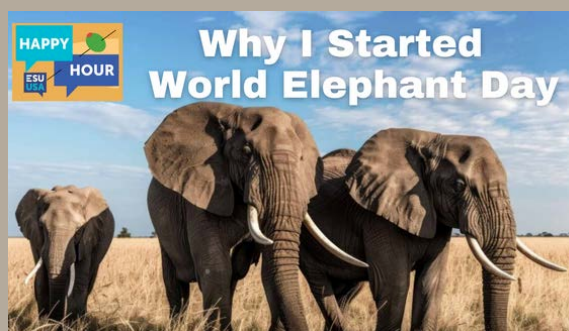
Sponsored by ESU Kansas City Branch

Filmmaker and conservationist, Patricia Sims, talks about her journey to create the annual global awareness campaign, World Elephant Day, which she founded in 2012. Through her photography of Asian and African elephants, Patricia portrays her conservation work with elephants.



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

for more information contact [Matt Hudson](#)



VOLUNTEER WITH ENGLISH IN ACTION!

At the start of this year, help our new immigrant students improve their English language skills. *Online volunteers are needed.* No experience is necessary and training is provided. It only takes two hours a week to support someone who needs it! Sign up for an information session today to get started.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OLIVIA ABDALLA, RECIPIENT OF THE 2025-26 ESU LUARD MORSE SCHOLARSHIP!

A sophomore journalism major at Hampton University with a cinema studies minor, Olivia will receive a \$30,000 scholarship for a semester of study in the UK. The ESU welcomed Olivia and 3 talented Finalists to interview in NYC: Byron Stuckey from Mississippi Valley State University, Alexis Spence from North Carolina A&T and Lauryn Shepard from Howard University.



ESU Luard Morse Scholarship Finalists

For more information, go to:
<https://www.esuus.org/luard-morse-scholarship-college-juniors/>



2024 TSTP on Stage at the Globe

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

TEACHERS LEARNING ABROAD (TLAB)

Calling all NYC Educators!

Already dreaming of summer escapes across the pond? The ESU NYC Branch offers a TLab Scholarship to middle and high school teachers for the ultimate professional development -- to continue your education this summer at Oxford, Edinburgh or Shakespeare's Globe in London! Return reinvigorated and inspired to share your knowledge with students and colleagues.

NYC Branch TLab Scholarship Applications Due March 1st!

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.

IPSC Registrations Due February 24th!



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.](https://esu-arnic.org)



The ESU Players performed a staged reading of Anton Chekhov's *Three Sisters* at the English Speaking Union

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

**Admission is free, but request that
you RSVP by sending an email to
louisemuse4@gmail.com.**

THE ESU ANDREW ROMAY NEW IMMIGRANT CENTER (ARNIC)

The ESU Andrew Romay New Immigrant Center (ARNIC) is a free program that facilitates the integration of immigrants, asylum seekers and refugees into U.S. life. We provide immigrants with the tools and resources to overcome barriers and build successful lives in the U.S. Our center offers English classes, conversation practice and career services. Learn more about the center [here](#).

In February, our immigrant students had the opportunity to visit The New York Historical, the first museum in New York City. Museum docents provided a guided tour of the museum's exhibits. Students viewed and discussed paintings depicting key moments of U.S. history. They explored the museum's vast collection of Tiffany glass and even had the opportunity to sit in a replica of the Oval Office. Participants also learned about the free U.S. citizenship preparation courses available at The New York Historical.

THE ESU PLAYERS

SAVE THE DATE!

Thursday, February 6, 2025

The ESU Players will present "*Don't Drink the Water*"

This play, written by Woody Allen, premiered on Broadway in 1966. This farce takes place inside an American Embassy behind the Iron Curtain.

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

Thursday, February 27, 2025

The ESU Players and Arnic students will present a poem/play *The Scottish Café* by Susana H. Case.

It is based on true events that took place in Lvov, Ukraine before World War II. The presentation will include sections in Ukrainian and in English.

THE ESU EVENT AND OFFICE SPACE RENTAL

The Garden Room



Discover the ideal venue for your meetings and events at the English-Speaking Union, conveniently located at 144 E 39th St, New York, NY 10016, in the historic Murray Hill neighborhood. Our Midtown Manhattan space features three elegant rooms, adaptable to a variety of events, from corporate meetings to creative workshops. Our rooms feature versatile layouts and modern A/V systems, making it perfect for corporate meetings, creative workshops, and special gatherings.

Knowledge Space



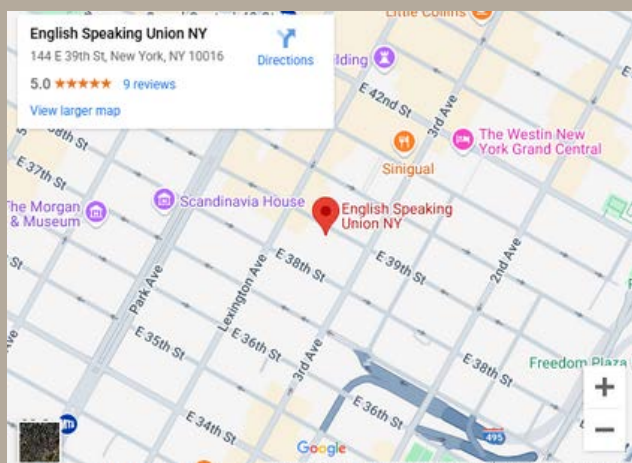
[Read more about our Flexible Event and Office Space](#)

[Click here to contact us](#)

The Horizon Room



LOCATION





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

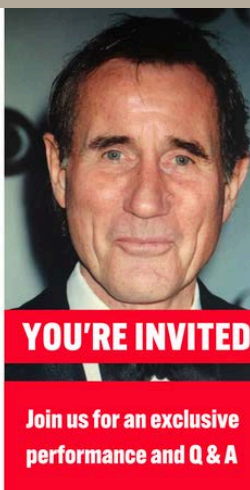
enhance our Patrons' engagement with the ESU community through bespoke experiences of cultural enrichment, educational exploration, and unforgettable adventures.

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

**SAINT
GEORGE'S
SOCIETY
NEW YORK**
EST 1770

**JIM DALE:
LIVING WITH LAUGHTER**

**February 26
6PM
Marjorie S. Deane Theater
10 West 64th Street**



ST. GEORGE'S
SOCIETY OF NEW
YORK

SGSNY's upcoming one-man performance of Tony and Grammy award winner
[Jim Dale on February 26th at The Marjorie S. Deane Little Theater.](#)

We are offering special SGSNY member pricing. Please use **SGSNY** where it says "discount code" at check-out for a \$50 ticket.

"The show is essentially Dale's telling and reenacting of his life and stage story, and how a boy worked himself up through hard training to the summits of showbiz, to Britain's beloved Music Hall and beyond it to every possible medium, including Shakespeare and Molière, displaying matchless movement, terrific timing and those oodles of charm which only inborn talent and hard work lightly worn can attain. It is impossible to impart all this through mere printed words; you must catch and experience the show first hand. What you see and hear will stay with you as a touchstone for as long as you are capable of joyous remembrance."

- John Simon, Broadway Theatre Critic

About Jim Dale:

Jim Dale started his career as a comedian at seventeen, touring British Music Halls and later becoming a pop-singing sensation. He appeared in eleven *Carry On* films and joined the British National Theatre at the request of Laurence Olivier. On Broadway, he won a Tony Award for Best Actor in *Barnum* and received numerous other nominations and awards for his performances. Dale also had significant roles in films such as Disney's *Pete's Dragon* and was nominated for an Academy Award for a song in the film *Georgy Girl*.

If you require wheelchair accessible seating, please select the Wheelchair option, otherwise select General Admission. There is no assigned seating and seating will be first-come, first-served.