"Get some sleep ... 
Contemplate everything's opposite ... 
Read and reread great books"

"How to Be Perfect," Ron Padgett, 2013

In this season of resolutions, expand your understanding at the Boston Athenæum. So much awaits: more than 20 discussion groups for readers and writers, 100s of new titles added each week, 1,000s of time-honored volumes, and dozens of programs, including concerts, a film screening, book signings, tours, gallery talks, coffee hours, poetry readings, and a martini movie night. From Fred and Ginger to cooking with ginger, our events offer something to tempt every taste. A special series explores the intersection of art and war, inspired by Proprietor Richard Cheek's recent transformational gift of WWII posters and visual materials. In 2017, resolve to spend more time at 10½. We'd love to see you!

Elizabeth E. Barker, Ph.D.
Stanford Calderwood Director

GLIMPSED AT 10½

Members enjoy current exhibition Daniel Chester French: The Female Form Revealed in the Norma Jean Calderwood Exhibition Gallery. The
exhibition runs through February 19, 2017. Don't miss it! For related programming, including curator and docent-led gallery talks and lectures, click here.

Featured upcoming events to start the New Year off right ...

**Martini Movie Night: Roberta**

**Thursday, January 5, 5:30-8 pm**  
**M Members $40**

Join us for a screening of the 1935 musical film *Roberta*, starring Fred Astaire, Irene Dunne, Ginger Rogers, and Randolph Scott.

Fun is in fashion in Roberta, the third Astaire-Rogers film. Former Harvard football star John Kent (Randolph Scott) suddenly inherits his aunt's Parisian dress shop, Roberta. Utterly clueless about the world of haute couture, John and his friend, performer Huck Haines (Fred Astaire), seek help from fashion designer Stephanie (Irene Dunne) and fiery Countess Scharwenka (Ginger Rogers), whom Huck recognizes as his small-town sweetheart, Lizzie. When John's snobbish ex-beau Sophie (Claire Dodd) arrives, he must reconsider his budding feelings for Stephanie.

Theater snacks and light fare will be served with gin and vodka martinis. The movie begins at 6:15 pm. This event is sponsored by Young Patrons.

**A Look Inside the Malcolm H. Wiener Laboratory for Archaeological Science**

**Monday, January 9, 6-7 pm**  
**M R Members $15**

The Malcolm H. Wiener Laboratory for Archaeological Science of the American School of Classical Studies at Athens (ASCSA) is an active research department dedicated to archaeological science in Greece. The building replaces the previous lab Wiener founded in 1992, and adds cutting-edge equipment: a scanning electron microscope, a portable X-ray fluorescence spectrometer, and a Fourier transform infrared spectrometer. The lab provides both American and international scholars of archaeological science in the eastern Mediterranean the tools and resources to answer a variety of scientifically-based questions in the fields of bioarchaeology, geoarchaeology, archaeobotany, and zooarchaeology.

Join Dr. Panagiotis Karkanas, Director of the Wiener Laboratory of the ASCSA, and Dr. Melinda A. Zeder, Curator of Old World Archaeology in the Department of Anthropology at the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History, as they discuss ongoing projects at the Wiener
Laboratory, including the study of more than 1,500 skeletons from one of the largest cemeteries ever unearthed in Greece: the ancient Phaleron cemetery.

ADDITIONAL UPCOMING EVENTS (click each title to read full details)

M-Members only   P-Open to the Public   R-Reception   F-Free event

THE CITY BAKER'S GUIDE TO COUNTRY LIVING
Wednesday, January 11, 12-1 pm
Book talk with pastry chef at the Union Club of Boston and novelist Louise Miller
P F Members and Non-members Free

BOSTON POETS AND THEIR PREDECESSORS: A MUSTER OF POETS
Wednesday, January 18, 6-7:30 pm
Performance in collaboration with The Poets' Theatre
P Members and Poets' Theatre Supporters $25
Non-members $30

THE REMARKABLE NATURE OF EDWARD LEAR
Thursday, January 19, 12-1 pm
Book talk with author Robert McCracken Peck
P F Members and Non-members Free

EYE OF THE EXPERT
Home and Garden: Domestic Material Culture in the Collections of the Boston Athenæum
Tuesday, January 24, 5:30-7:30 pm
Conversation about the American domestic environment with Stanley Ellis Cushing, Will Evans, and Catharina Slutterback
M R Members $35

OLD WHISKEY AND YOUNG WOMEN: AMERICAN TRUE CRIME TALES OF MURDER, SEX, AND SCANDAL
Wednesday, January 25, 12-1 pm
Book talk with lawyer Marc Kantrowitz on some of America's most notorious legal cases
P F Members and Non-members Free

COOKS' SCIENCE
Thursday, January 26, 6-7 pm
Exploration of the basic science behind cooking methods that make ingredients taste their best with Molly Birnbaum and Dan Souza, executive
BEYOND STEREOTYPE: WAR, WARRIORS, AND THE CREATIVE ARTS
Monday, January 30, 6-7:30 pm
Discussion of the role and influence of wartime experiences on culture and the arts since WWI with former US Marine Corps combat artist Michael D. Fay and cultural historian Tara Leigh Tappert
PR Members $15 Non-members $30
This event is the first program in *The Art of War*, a four-part series investigating artists' responses to war and violence from the American Revolution to today.


INTRODUCING THE RICHARD W. CHEEK WORLD WAR II GRAPHIC ARTS COLLECTION
The Boston Athenæum is honored to receive an important donation of World War II visual materials from the extensive collection of architectural photographer and Athenæum Proprietor Richard Cheek. The Richard W. Cheek World War II Graphic Arts Collection contains over 2,000 posters and war maps, 189 linear feet of books, 4,000 magazines, and approximately 6,500 pieces of WWII ephemera, including board games, playing cards, pin-ups, and postage stamps.

A transformational addition to the Athenæum's holdings, the Cheek collection complements existing strengths in Civil War and WWI-related materials (among the finest in the country), and provides an essential resource for the study of American society and culture during WWII. This extraordinary visual and textual record of the country's wartime values and beliefs will further scholarship across disciplines and intrigue the general public.

Of the collection's breadth, Catharina Slatterback, Curator of Prints and Photographs, explains that "part of its value lies in its sheer numbers." Indeed, the collection's diversity of materials "conveys, in a way that a smaller collection could not, the pervasiveness of propaganda in American society during the war." Propaganda, she adds, "was present in every aspect of American life and it both encouraged conformity of thought and discouraged dissent." The intellectual value of these materials, evidence of an era rapidly receding into the historic past, will only increase with time.
The son of a WWII veteran and the grandson of a renowned Civil War historian, Richard Cheek began collecting WWII graphic materials as a child. An exhibition of the Cheek collection is planned for 2020, to be curated by Mr. Cheek and Ms. Slutterback. A fully illustrated catalog will accompany the exhibition.

SPOTLIGHT ON CHARLOTTE EMANS MOORE, PHD
Q&A with the Atheneum's First Polly Thayer Starr Post-Doctoral Curatorial Fellow

Q: Congratulations on your fellowship appointment. Who was Polly Thayer Starr, and why is this fellowship named in her honor?
A: Polly Thayer Starr was an extraordinary modernist painter and a fierce patron of the arts (and a particularly strong advocate for women in the arts). Her works energize the spaces of the Boston Athenæum, and her Charitable Trust has made possible lectures, internships, and fellowships across New England institutions. This particular fellowship supports scholarship in American art.

Q: What will you research during the course of your fellowship?
A: In 1833, several Boston women donated Chester Harding's 1827 likeness of Hannah Adams to the Boston Athenæum. This gift of a portrait of a significant early American woman of letters was the result of a group subscription organized by her female friends and admirers. Through an interdisciplinary approach that draws upon the Athenæum's manuscript, library, print, and art collections, I will examine the role of 19th-century women as patrons, collectors, and supporters of the arts, placing this community of women and their activities in historical, biographical, art historical, and cultural contexts.

Q: How can members find out more about your research?
A: Stay tuned! At the end of my two-year fellowship, I will present on my discoveries in the Athenæum's collections, which provide an invaluable case study for understanding the historic role of women in the arts.

NEWS YOU CAN USE

- WRITERS, CONNECT! Seeking commiseration, comments, or cheer? Join the Writers' Workshop on the 3rd Sunday of every month from 2-3:30.
- **SAVE THE DATE** The Athenæum's next members trip, to Vienna, Dresden, and the Czech Lands, will take place from October 1 to 11, 2017. Call 617-720-7661 or visit our website for complete details.
- **NEW FACES** Welcome Nicole Critchley, Reader Services Intern; Adriene Galindo, Annual Giving Assistant; Sarah Grace Glover, Reader Services Intern; Tyrone Smith, Director of Security; and Makesha Udittmarian, Advancement Systems Manager.
- **STUDENT COFFEE HOUR** Are you an undergraduate or graduate student? Join Director of Education Hannah Weisman for monthly coffee breaks to meet other student members, learn about resources available to you, and offer feedback on your experiences at the Athenæum. Contact Hannah Weisman for a schedule of upcoming coffee breaks.

**WATCH & LISTEN**

**Tamara Plakins Thornton**'s recent presentation, Nathaniel Bowditch and the Power of Numbers, is available for streaming in video and podcast format, perfect for catching up during your daily commute.

Catch up on other previous book talks and lectures [here](#).

**STAY CONNECTED**

The Boston Athenæum, 10½ Beacon Street, Boston, MA 02108

SafeUnsubscribe™ {recipient's email}
Forward this email | About our service provider
Sent by membership@bostonathenaeum.org in collaboration with

[Constant Contact](https://www.constantcontact.com)

Try it free today