Speakers List

Rene Arcilla, Professor of Philosophy of Education, NYU. Recent publications include Mediumism: A Philosophical Reconstruction of Modernism for Existential Learning; “Why Aren’t Philosophers and Educators Speaking to Each Other?” Educational Theory, and For the Love of Perfection: Richard Rorty and Liberal Education.

Peter J. Awn, is Professor of Islamic and Comparative Religion in the Department of Religion and Dean of the School of General Studies (GS) at Columbia University. He has completed his sixteenth year as Dean and his thirty-fifth year as a professor at Columbia. Most recently, while remaining Dean of GS, Professor Awn served for three years as Director of the Middle East Institute and for three and a half years as Acting Dean of the School of Continuing Education. Professor Awn received his Ph.D. in Islamic Religion and Comparative Religion from Harvard University in 1978, at which point he joined the Columbia faculty. Previously he earned degrees in Philosophy/Classical Languages, and Christian Theology.

Renee Blake is an Associate Professor of Linguistics, Social and Cultural Analysis at NYU. Blake’s areas of research are urban sociolinguistics, African American Vernacular English and languages and cultures of the Caribbean. She maintains the blog, Word. The Online Journal on African American English and has published articles in such journals as English Today, Journal of English Linguistics, Journal of Commonwealth and Postcolonial Studies and Language Variation and Change. Blake received her B.SC. in Biology and her M.A. and Ph.D. in linguistics from Stanford.

Joy Gould Boyum, Professor Emerita. Boyum was a Professor of English Education and Director of Studies in Arts and Humanities Education at NYU. She taught courses in aesthetic theory, film, and the interrelated arts. Boyum has been the film critic for The Wall Street Journal, Glamour Magazine, Us and NPR’s All Things Considered, and has written for such other newspapers and journals as Rolling Stone, Newsday, The Chicago Tribune, Science Digest, and Working Mother.

her second book, *Between Mao and McCarthy: Chinese American Political Culture in the Cold War Years.*

**David Chen** is Executive Director of the Chinese American Planning Council, the first Chinese American non-profit social service, education and community development agency in New York City. It provides daycare, youth and senior citizen services, employment and training programs and community services for Asian Americans, and is one of the largest organizations of its kind in the United States, serving over 6,000 people daily through over 49 service programs throughout the city. After September 11, 2001, which threw one-quarter of Chinatown’s workforce out of work, CPC developed long-term employment and training programs for over 800 clients.

**Tim Connors** is the Senior Manager in the Law Enforcement and Security Division of CAAS, LLC in New York City. He brings more than 25 years of practical experience and theoretical study in analyzing security challenges and designing and leading organizational responses. Prior to joining CAAS, Connors managed his own consulting firm, which helped domestic and foreign clients in law enforcement, security, defense and the diplomatic sectors understand 21st century threats and adopt strategies for thwarting them. A graduate of West Point, Connors holds business and law degrees from the University of Notre Dame and is licensed to practice law in New York State. He also served as the Director of the Center for Policing Terrorism at the Manhattan Institute where he provided consulting and education services to state and local police agencies on terrorism, counter terrorism, intelligence and homeland security. His work with law enforcement is an extension of his professional study and experience as an Army officer, where his service includes a tour in Afghanistan. Connors currently commands a Civil Affairs battalion in the Army Reserve.

**Arlene Davila** is a Professor of Anthropology, Social and Cultural Analysis at New York University whose research spans urban ethnography, the political economy of culture and media, creative economies and consumption, immigration and geographies of inequality and race. Davila’s work has focused on the ethnographic study of the local, national and global dynamics of Puerto Rican and contemporary Latino/Latin American cultural politics. She received her Ph.D. in Cultural Anthropology from The Graduate Center, CUNY, her M.A. in Anthropology and Museum Studies from NYU and her B.A. in Anthropology from Tufts University. Davila’s most recent books include *Culture Works: Space, Value and Mobility Across the Neoliberal Americas* (NYU Press, 2012), *Latino Spin: Public Image and the Whitewashing of Race* (NYU Press, 2008), and *Barrio Dreams: Puerto Ricans, Latinos and the Neoliberal City* (University of California Press, 2004).


**Ralph Engelman** is the Chairman of the Department of Journalism & Communication Studies at Long Island University. He is also the Faculty Coordinator of the George Polk Awards, a journalism award conferred by Long Island University. Professor Engelman has published articles and reviews in *The Yale Review, Journalism Quarterly, Journalism History, Journalism Monographs, American Journalism, The Dictionary of Literary Biography, Television Quarterly* and the *Approaches to Learning* series of the Modern Language Association. He serves as a journalism consultant for the Interactive Encyclopedia of Television, a project of the Academy of Television Arts & Sciences Foundation, and is a former board member of the Pacifica Foundation and was the former Chairman of the Board for the radio station WBAI.

**Daniel Feldman**, Associate Professor of Public Management at John Jay College of Criminal Justice. Former Special Counsel for Law and Policy, New York State Comptroller, and Deputy Attorney General of New York and New York State Assemblyman, Feldman served as a member of the New York State Assembly from 1981 through 1998 and thereafter as a senior member of Attorney General Eliot Spitzer’s staff through 2005. In the fall he has a new book coming out, *The Art of the Watchdog: Fighting Fraud, Waste, Abuse and Mismanagement in Government*, with co-author David Eichenthal (SUNY Press, 2013), at which point he will have been the author or co-author of four books on government and one on law.

**Daniel Flamberg** was ordained as a rabbi at the Jewish Theological Seminary in 1975, and later earned a BA, MA and PhD in Political Economy at Columbia University. He began his career as an Associate Professor at Columbia, later switching to journalism and working as a senior producer for Public TV’s MacNeil-Lehrer Report. After several years Flamberg began work as a communications consultant representing the Aga Khan and the Ismaili Muslim community and *The New York Times*, American Express, The Mutual Radio Network, Metromedia and CBS. Currently Managing Director of The Kaplan Thaler Group, he previously worked as SVP, Director of Interactive Marketing at Juice Pharma Worldwide, as CMO of DuplicatePoker.com, as SVP, Direct Commerce at Everlast Boxing, as Vice President of Global Marketing at SAP, as Managing Director at Digitas in Europe and as President of Relationship Marketing at Lowe Worldwide. He has been active in Jewish affairs at the global, community and local levels. He is a practicing Jew who performs rabbinic duties occasionally.

**James W. Fraser** is Professor of History and Education at the NYU Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development. Fraser is Senior Vice President for Programs at the Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation where he is responsible for coordinating the work of the different Fellowship programs especially the Foundation’s new signature program, Fellowships for Teachers. He is also a member of the Editorial Board of the *History of Education Quarterly*. Fraser was the founding Dean of Northeastern’s School of Education. He was also a lecturer in the Program in Religion and Secondary Education at the Harvard University Divinity School from 1997 to 2004 and has taught at Lesley University, University of Massachusetts, Boston, Boston University and Public School 76 Manhattan. He was ordained
minister in the United Church of Christ and was pastor of Grace Church in East Boston, Massachusetts from 1986 to 2006.

Alyshia Gálvez is the Director of the CUNY Institute of Mexican Studies. Author of two books on Mexican immigration in New York, Patient Citizens, Immigrant Mothers Mexican Women, Public Prenatal Care and the Birth Weight Paradox (Rutgers University Press 2011) and Guadalupe in New York (NYU Press 2009; published in Spanish on Iberoamericana Puebla 2012), she is a cultural anthropologist and Associate Professor of Latin American and Puerto Rican Studies at Lehman College. Her research focuses on the efforts by Mexican immigrants in New York City to achieve the rights of citizenship. Her second book Patient Citizens, Immigrant Mothers, was awarded the 2012 ALLA Book Award (Association of Latino and Latin American Anthropologists).

Hilary Hallett is an Assistant Professor of History at Columbia University. Hallett taught at Rutgers University and Johns Hopkins University before coming to Columbia as a postdoctoral fellow in 2007. Her current research interests work within gender history, popular and mass culture, and the history of the Modern American West. In 2012, Hallett published the book, Go West! Young Women: Early Hollywood and the Rise of Sexual Modernism (University of California Press) and also won the prestigious Jensen-Miller Prize from the Western History Association for Best Article in Women’s and Gender History for her article, “Based on a True Story: New Western Women and the Birth of Hollywood,” which was published in the Pacific Historical Review. Hallett received her B.F.A from NYU (1990) and her Ph.D. from CUNY Graduate Center (2005).

Thomas Halper, Professor and Department Chair, Political Science, Baruch College, CUNY. Halper teaches constitutional law and civil liberties. He has authored four books and numerous articles, including Positive Rights in a Republic of Talk: A Survey and a Critique. He was awarded Baruch’s Presidential Scholarship Achievement Award and has presented many scholarly papers in the United States and abroad.

Richard A Harris holds a joint appointment in Political Science and Public Policy & Administration at Rutgers University-Camden Campus where he has served as Chair of both departments and as Associate Dean of the Graduate School. He is the founding Director and currently Senior Fellow at the Senator Walter Rand Institute for Public Affairs, a university-based center for applied research and technical assistance focused on policy issues facing southern New Jersey, and Rutgers’ host city of Camden. Dr. Harris’ research expertise is in American Politics with a concentration on environmental and regulatory policy, business-government relations, and the legislative process. In addition to numerous scholarly articles, he has authored or co-authored three books and is currently collaborating with Daniel Tichenor on a study of the development of organized interests in America. Their 2003 Political Science Quarterly article, “Organized Interests and American Politics” won both the Jack Walker Prize and the Mary Parker Follett Award from the American Political Science Association. They are completing a book manuscript on this project, Abiding Interests, forthcoming with Cambridge University Press.
Donna T. Haverty-Stacke, Associate Professor of History and Roosevelt House Faculty Associate, Hunter College. Haverty-Stacke teaches courses in U.S. cultural, urban and labor history. She received her B.A. in American Studies from Georgetown University and as the recipient of the Joseph L. Allbritton Scholarship, she studied at Brasenose College, Oxford University where she earned an MSt in Historical Research and an MLitt in Modern History. Afterwards, she received a PhD in History from Cornell University. Haverty-Stacke is the author of America’s Forgotten Holiday: May Day and Nationalism, 1867 – 1960 (NYU Press, 2009) and co-editor of Rethinking U.S. Labor History: Essays on the Working-Class Experience, 1756 - 2009 (The Continuum International Publishing Group, 2010). Her article, “‘Punishment of Mere Political Advocacy’: The FBI, Teamsters Local 544 and the Origins of the 1941 Smith Act Case,” will appear in the June 2013 volume of The Journal of American History. Haverty-Stacke has also published several articles on working-class and radical political culture and presented papers at numerous seminars and conferences.

Ellis Henican is a columnist for Newsday, a political analyst at the Fox News Channel and the host of a nationally syndicated weekend show on the Talk Radio Network. He is also a stand-up comedian and the voice of “Stormy” on the hit Cartoon Network series, “Sealab 2021.”

William Henning spent 30 years as a Vice President of Local 1180 of the Communications Workers of America. The local union represents 9000 members, mainly New York City government workers, as well as several prestigious private non-profit organizations including Planned Parenthood, Amnesty International USA, Human Rights Watch, Human Rights First, and the ASPCA. In addition, Henning served for twenty years as the Chairman of the Board at the New York Committee on Occupational Safety and Health and has been for 10 years the President of the Board of the Working Theater. A leader of the progressive labor movement, Henning has been outspoken on a number of issues affecting American workers, hosting for 26 years the Communiqué, which aired in New York, the longest running labor-produced radio broadcast in the country (1986-2011).

Neil Hickey, Adjunct Associate Professor, Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism, and former editor at large of the Columbia Journalism Review. He has written hundreds of articles on issues relating to the press, television, cable and telecommunications. He covered the Vietnam War, the first Persian Gulf War, the coming of glasnost, the IRA hunger strikes, and the U.S.-sponsored TV/Radio Marti of Cuba. On the domestic front, Mr. Hickey has reported extensively on presidential politics, covering several political conventions, including a four part series on the 1968 Democratic convention, and has interviewed presidents Clinton, Ford, Nixon, Carter and Johnson. He is the author of a number of books, including Adam Clayton Powell and the Politics of Race.

Roderick Hills is the William T. Comfort Professor of Law at New York University School of Law. He earned his J.D. from Yale Law School, where he was a member of the Yale Law Journal and co-editor in chief of the Yale Journal of Law & Humanities. After graduating from law school, he served as a law clerk for the Honorable Patrick Higginbotham of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit and practiced law in Boulder, Colorado. Prior to joining the law faculty at New York University Law School, Professor Hills was a member of the University of Michigan’s law faculty for twelve years. Recent publications include “Exorcising McCulloch:

**Dr. Michelle Holder** is Senior Labor Market Analyst at the Community Service Society of New York where she analyzes and writes about labor market and poverty trends in New York City. Her research also covers the issue of incarceration in communities of color as well as the impact of imprisonment on subsequent labor market outcomes.

**Alexis Karteron** is a senior staff attorney at the New York Civil Liberties Union, where she litigates civil rights and civil liberties cases. Prior to joining the NYCLU, Karteron was the White House Associate Staff Secretary. In 2009, she was a member of the White House team dedicated to winning Justice Sonia Sotomayor’s confirmation to the Supreme Court. Karteron has also completed the Fried Frank/NAACP Legal Defense Fund Fellowship, through which she was a litigation associate at Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson LLP and a member of the NAACP Legal Defense Fund’s Political Participation Group. Karteron graduated magna cum laude from Harvard University in 2001, and she received her J.D. with distinction from Stanford Law School in 2004. After law school, she clerked for the Honorable Marsha S. Berzon of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

**Carol Krinsky**, Professor of Art History, NYU. Her major interests include architectural and urban history and medieval and early Renaissance art history. She is past president of the Society of Architectural Historians and several other scholarly organizations. She has published many articles and five books on architecture, including *Rockefeller Center, Gordon Bunshaft of Skidmore,* and *Contemporary Native American Architecture: Cultural Regeneration and Creativity.* She has won a national teaching award from the College Art Association and another from New York University.

**John Krinsky** is an Associate Professor of Political Science at the City College of New York, CUNY. He is author of numerous articles on welfare and labor politics in New York City, and a book, *Free Labor: Workfare and the Contested Language of Neoliberalism* (University of Chicago Press, 2008). He has also published on social movements and is a co-editor of the journal, *Social Movement Studies.* He is currently working on a book project with Maud Simonet of the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS) on the changes in public service work as exemplified in the maintenance of New York City's parks, and is also working with a homeless activist group, Picture the Homeless, and a range of other organizations on a project to develop a citywide organization to preserve affordable housing through community-based, non-market, land-ownership.

**Karen Kupperman**, Silver Professor, History, NYU. Her major interests are in the early modern Atlantic world, colonization, and Native American history. Her most recent books are *The*
Atlantic in World History, a volume in the Oxford New World History series and an edition of Richard Ligon's True and Exact History of Barbadoes. Among her other books are The Jamestown Project, Indians and English: Facing Off in Early America, and Roanoke: The Abandoned Colony, and numerous scholarly articles and book chapters. Among her many awards are The American Historical Association Prize in Atlantic History, the Albert J. Beveridge Award of the American Historical Association for the best book in American History, including Canada and Latin America, the Binkley-Stephenson Award of the Organization of American Historians.

Jose Lugaro is a fundraising strategist, project manager and consultant. Over the last 16 years he has raised over $125 million for a variety of organizations. Most recently, he served as the Director of Development for the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Community Center of New York, the largest such center on the east coast and the second largest in the world. In his role he directed a team focused on government, private and corporate grants, corporate partnerships, special events, and individual giving. Jose has worked on projects for New York Cares and the Trevor Project and has participated in Cycle for the Cause—a 285 mile bike ride to raise money for the HIV/AIDS services at the LGBT Center. In 2012, Jose was named one of Advocate magazine’s “40 Under 40 Budding Powerhouses, Leaders in Media, Politics, Sports, and Science.”

Marilyn McMillan is the Vice President for Information Technology and Chief Information Technology Officer for NYU. She leads the delivery and evolution of University-wide services, infrastructure, policies, and plans for information technology and related activities. She has served as NYU’s first Chief Information Technology Officer since the role was created in 1998. Before NYU, she held numerous IT Leadership roles at MIT and subsequently at Stanford, with earlier IT experience in government and private industry. Marilyn has served as a member of the Board of Directors of Educause and on the Board of National Lambda Rail. She currently serves on the Board of NYSERNet, the New York State Research and Education Network and is an active participant on committees for Internet2. She is a graduate of Douglass College at Rutgers University in Political Science.

Michele Mitchell is Associate Professor of History at New York University and former North American editor of Gender & History. In addition to histories of gender and sexuality, Mitchell specializes in U.S. history, African American history, the African diaspora, and intellectual history. She served as an elected member of the National Council of the American Studies Association (2009-2012) and is currently serving a three-year term (2011-2014) on the Executive Board of the Organization of American Historians. In 2010, the Organization of American Historians appointed her Distinguished Lecturer. In addition to being a 2001-2002 Schomburg Center & National Endowment for the Humanities Scholar-in-Residence Culture (New York Public Library), Mitchell also worked as a researcher for two documentary projects: Behind the Veil: Documenting African-American Life in the Jim Crow South (Duke University) and the Martin Luther King, Jr., Papers Project (Stanford University). Mitchell is now writing a book tentatively entitled, Idle Anxieties: Race and Sexuality during the Great Depression.

Terence P. Moran is Professor of Media Ecology in the Department of Media, Culture, and Communication at the Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development at
New York University where he has been a faculty member since 1967. He is the co-editor of *Language in America* (1969), the co-author of *Selling War to America: From the Spanish-American War to the Global War on Terror* (2007), and the author of *Introduction to the History of Communication: Evolutions and Revolutions* (2010). With Neil Postman, he co-founded the M.A. and Ph.D. programs in Media Ecology and founded the undergraduate program in Communication Studies. An executive producer and writer of video documentaries, he received a 1987 New York Area Emmy Award for Outstanding Arts/Cultural/Historical Programming for *McSorley’s New York*, a history of the oldest continuing operating saloon in Manhattan.

John Pavlik, Professor and Associate Dean for Research, Northwestern University in Qatar. A recipient of the Presidential Citation for Service and Dedication as an Officer of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication, Pavlik is the author of a number of books, including *Journalism and New Media; New Media Technology: Cultural and Commercial Perspectives; Video on Demand Systems: Technology, Interoperability and Trials*; and *The People’s Right to Know: Media, Democracy and the Information Highway*.

Stacy Pies, Clinical Associate Professor, Gallatin School of Individualized Study, NYU. Stacy Pies teaches courses that explore the role of narrative and culture in texts and human relationships, as well as courses exploring poetry and poetics. She has presented papers and chaired panels at the MLA, ACLA, Nineteenth-Century French Studies Colloquium, and Twentieth-Century Literature conferences, among others and has published essays in *French Forum, Nineteenth-Century French Studies*, and *Poetry’s Poet: Essays on the Poetry, Pedagogy, and Poetics of Allen Grossman*.

Isabel Pinedo, Associate Professor in the Department of Film and Media at Hunter College. Pinedo teaches courses in the history and interpretation of various aspects of the mass media, notably television, film, journalism, and advertising. She seeks to challenge pre-existing ways of thinking and enlarge understanding of our mass mediated society. Her book, *Recreational Terror: Women and the Pleasures of Horror Film Viewing* (SUNY Press, 1997), deals with the formal dynamics, ideological effects, social functions, racial politics, and the complex relation to gender of the contemporary horror film. Similarly, her article, “Recreational Terror: Postmodern Elements of the Contemporary Horror Film,” published in *The Journal of Film and Video*, analyzes the popular appeal of the contemporary horror film in relation to its postmodern elements.

Richard Pious, Professor of Political Science and Adolph S. and Effie Ochs Chair in History and American Studies, Barnard College and Columbia University. Among his books are *Why Presidents Fail, The Power to Govern, Presidents, Elections and Democracy, The American Presidency, American Politics and Government*, and *The President, Congress and the Constitution*. He has also published numerous articles in the *Political Science Quarterly*, the *Wisconsin Law Review*, the *Journal of International Affairs*, the *Journal of Armed Forces and Society*, and *Constitution Magazine*.

Hon. Roberto Ramirez is a business and political strategist and a pioneer in New York politics, law, and business. Formerly a high-ranking member of the New York State Assembly, Mr. Ramirez is a founding partner at the MirRam Group LLC, a strategic consulting firm in New
York State, and has served as Of Counsel to McConnell Valdes LLC, one of the largest Hispanic-owned law firms in the world. During this time, Mr. Ramirez was the Founder and a Partner of the law firm Oquendo, Ramirez, Zayas, Torres and Martinez LLP in the Bronx. Mr. Ramirez has been recognized as one of the most influential personalities in New York by the New York Post and the New York Daily News, among others. He guides two bilingual community newspapers, the Bronx Free Press and the Manhattan Times. He also chaired the Bronx Democratic Party, becoming the nation’s first county leader of Puerto Rican heritage and served five consecutive terms in the State Assembly during which he chaired the Puerto Rican/Hispanic Taskforce. Mr. Ramirez has played key roles in mayoral campaigns and state-wide races, including for former-Senator Hillary Clinton. Mr. Ramirez’ successful advocacy (including a 40-day stint in federal jail for civil disobedience) helped end the U.S. bombing of the Puerto Rican island of Vieques. Mr. Ramirez advocated following the brutal shooting of African immigrant Amadou Diallo. He continues to engage in pro-bono work and advance progressive causes.

Steve Rendall is a Senior Analyst at Fairness and Accuracy in Reporting (FAIR). FAIR, the national media watch group, has been offering criticism of media bias and censorship since 1986. Rendall is the host of CounterSpin, FAIR’s national radio show. He has appeared on dozens of national television and radio shows, including CNN, C-SPAN, CNBC, MTV and Fox Morning News. He is the co-author of The Way Things Aren’t: Rush Limbaugh’s Reign of Error.

Lori Rotskoff is a cultural historian, writer, and teacher. She has taught undergraduates at Yale and Sarah Lawrence College, and currently offers seminar classes for adults at the Barnard Center for Research on Women. Rotskoff is co-editor of the anthology When We Were Free to Be: Looking Back at a Children’s Classic and the Difference It Made (University of North Carolina Press, 2012). Her previous book, Love on the Rocks: Men, Women, and Alcohol in Post-World War II America was named an Outstanding Academic Title by Choice magazine and the American Library Association. Rotskoff has received fellowships and research grants from the Woodrow Wilson Foundation, the American Historical Society, the Sophia Smith Collection, and the Schlesinger Library for the History of Women at the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study. She earned her Ph.D. in American Studies from Yale.

Joel Sachs, Director of Contemporary Music, The Julliard School, Director of the New Juilliard Ensemble, and Co-Director of Continuum, one of the nation’s leading contemporary music groups. An internationally recognized pianist and director of contemporary music, he is the author of one hundred articles on contemporary art music, as well as Kapellmeister Hummel in England and France, The Complete Works for Piano: a Six-volume Collection of Reprints and Facsimiles, and Charles Ives the Visionary: Piano, Chamber and Vocal Works.

Robert M. Seltzer is Professor of history at Hunter College and the Graduate School of The City University of New York and Director of the Hunter interdisciplinary program in Jewish Studies. Seltzer’s book, Jewish People, Jewish Thought: The Jewish Experience in History, is an overview of the development of Jewish life and ideas from biblical times to the present. He is the author of articles and reviews on Jewish historiography, on East European Jewry in the nineteenth century, and other areas of Judaism’s encounter with modernity. Among the books he has edited is, The Americanization of the Jews. Seltzer was a principal consultant for the Museum of Jewish Heritage-New York Holocaust Memorial’s permanent exhibit, has been
general editor of three publication series, “Reappraisals in Jewish Social and Intellectual History,” “Essential Papers in Jewish Studies,” and “Hunter College Occasional Papers in Jewish Studies.” He has served as president of the Association for Jewish Studies.

**Norman Siegel** is a law attorney in private practice. From 1985 to 2000 he was Executive Director of the New York Civil Liberties Union, and before that, Project Director for MFY Legal Services, Inc., which assisted poor people in neighborhoods in Manhattan. He has been active in a number advocacy campaigns, including efforts to limit the use of eminent domain in Harlem and Brooklyn and the public release of all information related to the events of September 11, 2001. He is a frequent contributor to the *New York Times, Newsday, the Daily News,* and the *Amsterdam News.* He has served on the board of directors of the Jackie Robinson Foundation and is a founding board member of the Amadou Diallo Foundation.

**George David Smith** is Clinical Professor of Economics and International Business and Academic Director of the Langone Program at the NYU Leonard H. Stern School of Business. He is author and co-author of several books, among which are *Anatomy of a Business Strategy, From Monopoly to Competition; The New Financial Capitalists; Cotton’s Renaissance* and *Wisdom from the Robber Barons.* He has also authored a number of scholarly and popular articles and is currently at work on a concise history of Wall Street.

**Josef (pronounced Yo-sef) Sorett** is Assistant Professor of Religion and African-American Studies at Columbia University. He is an interdisciplinary historian of religion in America, with a particular focus on black communities and cultures in the United States. Professor Sorett holds a Ph.D. in African American Studies from Harvard University, a B.S. from Oral Roberts University and an M.Div. from Boston University. In support of his research, Josef has received fellowships from the Fund for Theological Education, Harvard's Charles Warren Center for American History and Princeton University’s Center for African American Studies. He has published essays and reviews in *Culture and Religion, Callaloo,* the *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion,* and *PNEUMA: Journal of the Society for Pentecostal Studies.* Josef’s current book project, *Spirit in the Dark: A Religious History of Racial Aesthetics* illumines how religion has figured into debates about black art and culture. He is also editing a volume that explores the sexual politics of black churches.

**Lynda Spielman** is a Business Consultant and Former Director of Deployment, Global Human Resources, Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu. She received her Ph.D. in Latin American History from Indiana University in 1975. Before joining the Deloitte organization, Spielman worked on global economic development issues for international organizations such as the United Nations and the Carnegie Endowment. At Deloitte she has developed innovative programs in cross-cultural learning and communications for multinational business settings for 25 years. Her most recent publication is *Transformational Diversity,* which develops a strategy of inclusiveness that prepares organizations for globalization.

**Ida Torres,** President Emeritus of Local 3 of the Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Union. Awarded an Honorary Doctor of Law from Queens College CUNY in 2000, Torres began as a telephone operator for Local 231 UOPWA. She was elected Secretary-Treasurer Local 3 in 1984 and President in 1998. She has received numerous awards from such organizations as the
National Organization of Women, the Labor Council for Latin American Advancement, and the Black Trade Unionists Leadership Committee. She also received the AFL-CIO Distinguished Services Award.

**Daniel Walkowitz**, Professor of Social and Cultural Analysis, History, NYU. Long-time Director of Metropolitan Studies, the NYU College of Arts and Science's urban studies program, he served as the College's inaugural Director of College Honors from 2004-2007, and Director of Experiential Education from 2007-10. An American Social and Cultural Historian with a focus on labor and urban history, Walkowitz is the author or editor of nine books and four films, including *Worker City, Company Town: Iron and Cotton Worker Protest in Troy and Cohoes, N.Y., 1855-1884* and *Working with Class: Social Workers and the Politics of Middle Class Identity*. His most recent film, *City Folk*, is a collaborative project with the Smithsonian Center for Folklife and Cultural heritage and is scheduled to air in 2014. He is presently writing a book, *Looking for Bubbe: The Lost Left and Jewish Heritage Tourism in Eastern and Central Europe*.

**Kamau Ware** is a photographic teaching artist and licensed New York City tour guide. He earned his undergraduate degree from the University of Pittsburgh in Interdisciplinary Studies with a concentration in World Culture and American History. He continued his studies at Pittsburgh Filmmakers while studying to receive his elementary education certification. After teaching for several years, Kamau has created programs and events for prestigious clients such as the Andy Warhol Museum, the August Wilson Center for African American Culture, and Girl Scouts of the USA. In 2007, he started giving tours part-time at the Tenement Museum where he developed a knack for discussing history in spaces that connect the past to the present. He has created his own series of walking tours tracing the narratives of Africans living in Lower Manhattan from the pre to post-Colonial New York City.

**Bryan Waterman** is Associate Professor of English and American Literature at NYU and Visiting Associate Professor of Literature at NYU Abu Dhabi. He received his PhD in American Studies from Boston University in 2000 and teaches courses and has published on American and Atlantic World cultures from the eighteenth century to the present. With Cyrus R.K. Patell, Waterman is co-editor of *The Cambridge Companion to the Literature of New York City*. His current research deals with New York City in the Age of Warhol.

**Robert Wechsler** is the Executive Director of the School of Continuing and Professional Studies at Lehman College, a branch of the City University of New York and the only four-year public college in the Bronx. A product of the public education system in Brooklyn and graduate of Brooklyn College, he went on to earn his M.A. and Ph.D. at Columbia University in history. He has taught history in the City University system at Brooklyn College, Baruch College and more recently at Bronx Community College, as well as collective bargaining at Rutgers University School of Management and Labor Relations. For more than 25 years Wechsler was on staff as the Education and Research Director of the Transport Workers Union of America, AFL-CIO, a national transportation union with 130,000 members in 114 locations across the nation. He has trained over 10,000 local union officers in all aspects of collective bargaining, created a career path for union administration, worked with workforce development projects in the transit industry, and prepared economic material and advised bargaining committees. A founder and
board member of the New York Labor History Association, he also serves on the advisory boards of the New York City Transit Museum and the Robert Wagner Labor Archives.

Debra Weinstein is a poet and novelist. She is the author of the novel, *Apprentice to the Flower Poet Z*, and her poems have appeared in *The American Poetry Review*, *Tikkun*, and *The Portable Lower East Side*. She received New York University’s Bobst Literary Award for Emerging Writers upon publication of her volume of poetry, *Rodent Angel*. She is also a recipient of a National Endowment for the Arts Creative Writing Fellowship for poetry and a New York State Foundation for the Arts Creative Writing Fellowship for Fiction.

Matthew Zeidenberg is Senior Researcher Associate at the Community College Research Center, Teachers College, Columbia University. With Marc Scott of NYU, Matthew Zeidenberg is working on developing techniques that colleges can use to determine what programs their current students are pursuing and how far they have progressed in those programs. Zeidenberg was the lead author of an evaluation of student success courses in Florida. He has worked on two evaluations of Washington State’s Integrated Basic Education and Skills Training program (I-BEST). He recently published a working paper on excess credits earned by students in community college (beyond those needed for a degree). Zeidenberg holds a PhD in Computer Science and a PhD in Sociology, both from the University of Wisconsin at Madison. He came to CCRC from the Center on Wisconsin Strategy, where he worked on many projects involving regional labor markets and the status of workers.