
PARENTS UPDATE



NYU

GALLATIN SCHOOL OF
INDIVIDUALIZED STUDY

FALL 2022



SAVE THE DATES

OCTOBER 29-DECEMBER 1, 2022

I Tried to Save Myself: Work from Representatives of Recess Assembly

NOVEMBER 23-25

Fall Break

DECEMBER 8, 2022-JANUARY 18, 2023

Collective Curating Workshop

DECEMBER 14

Last Day of Fall Classes

DECEMBER 16-22

Final Exam Period

DECEMBER 23, 2022-JANUARY 2, 2023

Winter Recess

MAY 16, 2023

Gallatin Graduation

MAY 17, 2023

NYU Commencement

Cover Image: Photo still from the Fall 2022 Mainstage performance of Brecht's *Caucasian Chalk Circle*, with students Audrey Hui (left) and Yiwei Liu (right). Photo Credit: © Creighton; Courtesy of NYU Photo Bureau

This Page: Photo of THE SOCIAL MIRROR in front of 1 Washington Place by Careina Yard (MA '18) - THE SOCIAL MIRROR, 1983, on. © Mierle Laderman Ukeles, in collaboration with NYC DSNY, a 20-cubic yard NYC DSNY garbage collection truck covered in tempered glass and acrylic mirror used in parades and special events since 1983 and continuing. Courtesy of the artist and NYC DSNY.

DEAR GALLATIN PARENTS,

Welcome to our 51st academic year! After the challenges and interruptions to our lives necessitated by the COVID-19 pandemic, it gives me immense pleasure to report that our 51st year is feeling wonderfully, even exuberantly *normal*.

Here at One Washington Place, our classrooms are alive with debate, our event spaces are fully programmed, and our students are fully engaged in colloquia, internships, research opportunities, fieldwork, the arts, and much, much more: all the things that—for more than 50 years now—have made NYU Gallatin such a spectacular place to learn and flourish.



In this digital issue of *Parents Update* we offer you a view into this great reemergence: advice from class advisers on navigating this academic year, student perspectives on the Fall exhibition in The Gallatin Galleries of work by Mierle Laderman Ukeles, scenes from our fall Mainstage production, Bertolt Brecht’s classic play *The Caucasian Chalk Circle*, and report from a recent Hudson Valley apple-picking trip. And there’s so much more happening at Gallatin right now: interest workshops kicking off, arts festival planning getting underway, and our Science, Technology, Arts and Creativity (STAC) makerspace humming with activity.

Since joining Gallatin as Dean just three months ago, I’ve learned so much about what makes our school distinctive. I launched my deanship by meeting with faculty, students, administrators and alumni both 1:1 and in groups to talk about Gallatin’s abundant strengths. I’ve learned about how we help students to discover a sense of personal mission; how we build bridges between the classroom and the world; how we teach and support synthesis and curiosity; how we conduct academic research with real-world impact, and so much more. In the coming months, we’ll be launching initiatives that build on these strengths, and I will definitely keep you in the loop.

I hope to see many of you on campus for NYU Alumni and Parents Weekend, October 20-23, 2022.

Sending regards from One Washington Place,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Victoria Rosner". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Professor Victoria Rosner
Dean, NYU Gallatin

FALL MAINSTAGE PRODUCTION: **BRECHT'S THE CAUCASIAN CHALK CIRCLE**



Photo Credit: © Creighton: Courtesy of NYU Photo Bureau

After a three-year hiatus, Gallatin's annual fall production returned to The Jerry H. Labowitz Theatre for the Performing Arts with a staging of Bertolt Brecht's play, *The Caucasian Chalk Circle*. Co-directed by Fiasco Theater's **Paul L. Coffey** and **Ben Steinfeld**, the performance of the modernist German playwright's most renowned epic play also offered students, alums, and members of Fiasco, Gallatin's resident theater company, an opportunity to collaborate. *The Caucasian Chalk Circle* is set in Georgia in the Caucasus shortly after World War II and revolves around a tale of the struggle of two women over custody of the same child. Based on an adaptation of the *Chinese drama Huilan ji (The Chalk Circle)*, the play retells the story from the Hebrew Bible of the judgement of Solomon. Brecht's parable about displacement during war, the ongoing search for real justice, and the transformative power of radical love is as vital now as when it was written in the 1940s.

GALLATIN GOES: **APPLE PICKING**

On September 30, fifty Gallatin undergrads joined **Bobby Peñaherrera** and **Monique Sorel-Dominguez** from Gallatin's Office of Student Life and graduate student **Conny Zhao** (MA '23) on a trip to Apple Ridge Orchards in Warwick, New York to pick apples and enjoy a Hudson Valley hayride.

"These events are purely social and may on the surface seem silly but they're quite meaningful to the students," says Peñaherrera, "because they offer them opportunities to interact with other Gallatin students who they normally wouldn't get the chance to meet. The beauty of this is that we all join just to pick apples but emerge with a special bond."



STUDENT PERSPECTIVES:
MIERLE LADERMAN UKELES: CHASING THE HUMMING OF LIFE



© Mierle Laderman Ukeles, in collaboration with NYC DSNY, a 20-cubic yard NYC DSNY garbage collection truck covered in tempered glass and acrylic mirror used in parades and special events since 1983 and continuing. Courtesy of the artist and NYC DSNY.

For over fifty years, artist Mierle Laderman Ukeles has been at the forefront of rethinking the artist's relationship to labor, the environment, feminism, and activism, all the while questioning the artist's role when it comes to engaging the public. The fall show in The Gallatin Galleries, *Mierle Laderman Ukeles: Chasing The Humming of Life*, ran from September 15 to October 13, 2022, and was presented as a companion exhibition for the inaugural Discard Studies Conference. Two student gallery assistants, **Nina Osoria Ahmadi** (BA '23) and **Sovah Woydak** (BA '25) worked with the Curator of The Gallatin Galleries, **Keith Miller**, on installing Ukeles's video works in the Galleries. "Coming into the show, I had no idea about her work," says Nina. "I went from knowing nothing to

knowing almost everything about these video works of hers from the 70s and 80s. It was incredible to see how influential she was in the City not just on an artistic level, but on a structural level in terms of impacting how New Yorkers interacted with service workers in the City." Sovah noted that some of the preparations for the exhibition included making archival footage accessible. "We had to think about captions and how to increase access for the visually impaired and hearing impaired," she says. "We had to think about how to transform older footage to make it more accessible." Ukeles delivered the keynote address, "Who Cares?," for the 2022 Discard Studies Conference on Wednesday, October 12, which is available on NYU Gallatin's YouTube channel.

ADVICE FROM GALLATIN CLASS ADVISERS



“Talk to people: talk to others in your cohort and students who may be at a more advanced stage of the degree; talk to your instructors and talk to other faculty; talk—a lot!—to your advisers. The concentration emerges through conversation, in class and beyond, and you learn about yourself and your interests and how everything comes together in talking everything through.”

—First-Year Class Adviser Yevgeniya Traps



“You are encountering so many new ideas, texts, images, and authors. Create a dedicated space somewhere to keep track of the ones that are most exciting to you. Think of it as a personal archive, commonplace book, or portfolio. Don’t let your first impressions get lost in class notes or jotted in the margins of books. These notes will serve you in writing your IAPC and later your List of Works, and in your intellectual journey beyond Gallatin.”

—Sophomore Class Adviser Cameron Williams



“ Reflect back and look forward! It’s hard to imagine that your last year at Gallatin might be around the corner, but many senior year milestones—including the colloquium capstone—come sooner than many students anticipate. Now’s the time to reflect back on your education so far and begin articulating in writing what made it so special, including the texts you read, the topics you explored, and your experiences beyond the classroom such as internships, study away, and personal projects important to you.”

—Junior Class Adviser
Irene Morrison-Moncure



“ Get your list of works and rationale drafted and submitted to your faculty adviser, even if you feel nervous or anxious. The best way to tackle these feelings is to get started and have a draft to build on. And once your rationale and list of works are approved, schedule your colloquium. Don’t wait until late in the spring when other commitments start piling up.”

—Senior Class Adviser Rachel Bunker



“ No matter what, communicate. There are many options and solutions. Nothing is too big or too small for you to work through so long as you stay in touch with your faculty adviser and the class advisers. We are here to help! Speak up, even when it feels difficult.”

—Senior Class Adviser Malik Walker

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NEW YORK UNIVERSITY
1 WASHINGTON PLACE, NEW YORK, NY 10003
GALLATIN.NYU.EDU