



# JACK, JOSEPH AND MORTON MANDEL YOUTH HUMANITIES ACADEMY

## SUMMER 2024

# Welcome to the Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Youth Humanities Academy!

Reflect | Engage | Prepare for College Life

Over the next nine weeks, you will be introduced to the study of the humanities through discussion-based seminars, tutorials, digital humanities labs and City as Text experiences in Cleveland. By critically engaging with a set of Big Questions and collectively practicing different modes of inquiry, each one of you will grow as deep thinkers equipped with the tools to live thoughtful and reflective lives, evaluate and participate in contemporary civic life and succeed in future collegiate pursuits.



PERSEVERANCE  
COMPLETION DRIVEN  
**Leadership**  
COMMITMENT OPPORTUNITIES  
CHALLENGE

# **THE BIG QUESTIONS**

**Who am I?**

**Who are we?**

**Who decides?**

# WEEK 1: INTRODUCTION

## Building Community

**Facilitators:** All faculty; Youth Humanities Academy Fellows: Michael Arcaro (Villa Angela-St. Joseph High School); Anna Beltran (Shaker Heights High School); Jaynaea Reed (John Hay High School); Christian McCruel (Rhodes High School); Lauren Smith (John Hay High School); and IMPROVment (CWRU improv group)

### Monday: Building Community

Intellectual Friendship

### Tuesday: Building Community

Intellectual Friendship

### Wednesday: Building Community

Ground Rules for Discussion

### Thursday: Building Community

Improv and Intellectual Vulnerability

# WEEK 2: PHILOSOPHY

## Socratic Dialogue and the Pursuit of Self and Wisdom

### Facilitator: David Busch

Busch is the director of the Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Youth Humanities Academy. He holds a Ph.D. in history from Carnegie Mellon University.

### Monday: Reading Experiment

*The Republic*, (Book VII) by Plato and Nathan L. King, "Autonomy: Think for Yourself"

### Tuesday: Disciplinary Workshop

Dialogue and Debate:  
Challenging Our Assumptions

### Wednesday: Film and New Media

Are We in *The Matrix*?

### Thursday: Cleveland as Text

Metropolitan Philosophy: Cleveland Public Square

## WEEK 3: HISTORY

### Seeking the Youth Perspective in History: An Exploration of the Political Self

#### Facilitator: David Busch

Busch is the director of the Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Youth Humanities Academy. He holds a Ph.D. in history from Carnegie Mellon University.

#### Monday: Reading Experiment

Wesley Hogan, “Who’s the Expert?  
An Essay on Evidence and Authority”  
and Nathan King, “Honesty: Don’t Distort  
the Truth”

#### Tuesday: Disciplinary Workshop

Textbook Comparison:  
Where’s the Youth Perspective?

#### Thursday: Film and New Media

Analyzing Film Narratives of Youth Activism

#### Friday: Cleveland as Text

Places of Activism and Tragedy:  
Kent State May 4 Center

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## WEEK 4: LITERATURE

### The We of Me: An Examination of the Collective Self Through Literature

#### Facilitator: Gayle Williamson

Williamson is an associate professor in the English department at Tri-C. She teaches courses on composition and literature and is a member of The Great Questions Foundation.

#### Monday: Reading Experiment

Toni Morrison, *Recitatif: A Story*  
and Nathan King, “Curiosity: A Healthy  
Appetite for Knowledge”

#### Tuesday: Disciplinary Workshop

Annotating Memory and Ancestry

#### Wednesday: Film and New Media

Reconnecting to Ancestry

#### Thursday: Cleveland as Text

Bench by the Road: The Cozad-Bates House

## WEEK 5: ART HISTORY

### What is Art? Who Decides? Exploring the Implications of the Public Art Museum

#### Facilitator: Hayley McGuirk

McGuirk is an adjunct professor of Art History at Tri-C's Western and Metro campuses, where she teaches classes in Western and Non-western art history. She holds a dual degree in history and art history from Baldwin Wallace University and a Ph.D. in Interdisciplinary Arts from Ohio University.

#### Monday: Reading Experiment

Carol Duncan, "The Museum as Ritual" (7-20) and Nathan King, "Open-Mindedness and Firmness: Transcend and Maintain Your Perspective"

#### Tuesday: Film and New Media

What Is the Art World?

#### Wednesday: Cleveland as Text

Being a Critical Museum Visitor:  
Cleveland Museum of Art

#### Thursday: Cleveland as Text

Being a Critical Museum Visitor:  
Museum of Contemporary Art Cleveland

## WEEK 6: RHETORIC

### Me, Myself, and I: Prophetic Rhetoric in Search of the Courageous Self

#### Facilitator: Derrick Williams

Williams is a professor of Communication Studies at Tri-C, where he teaches courses on public speaking and interpersonal communication. He holds a Ph.D. in communication studies from Southern Illinois University.

#### Monday: Reading Experiment

Rev. Martin Luther King Jr, "The Other America"; Fannie Lou Hamer, "We're on Our Way"; and Malcolm X, "The Ballot or the Bullet" and Nathan King, "Courage: Persist Despite Threats"

#### Tuesday: Disciplinary Workshop

Rhetorical Strategy of the Black American Jeremiad

#### Wednesday: Film and New Media

Rhetorical Art as "Collage" and Truth Bearing  
With Our Words

#### Thursday: Cleveland as Text

Grounds of the Black Jeremiad:  
Cory Methodist Church

## WEEK 7: ANTHROPOLOGY

### Patterns and Puzzles: An Archaeologist's Understanding of What It Means To Be Human

#### Facilitator: Eric Olson

Olson is a lecturer in Anthropology at Tri-C, where he teaches courses on Mayan and Ohio archaeology. He holds a master's degree in anthropology from Ball State University.

#### Monday: Reading Experiment

Robert Kelly, "Hunter-Gatherers and Anthropology" (1-23) and Nathan King, "Carefulness: Mind Your Evidence"

#### Tuesday: Disciplinary Workshop

Mapping Space

#### Wednesday: Disciplinary Workshop

Stone Tools as Text

#### Thursday: Cleveland as Text

Field Application: The Hemlock Creek Trail

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## WEEK 8: REFLECTIONS

### Individual and Collective Synthesis

#### Facilitators: All faculty and YHA alumni

#### Monday: Reflections

Intellectual Journey Review

#### Tuesday: Reflections

Intellectual Journey Review

#### Wednesday: Community

Intellectual Journey Review

#### Thursday: Sharing

Community Presentations

## IMPORTANT DATES

**June 3**

Start of the Mandel Youth Humanities Academy

**July 1-4**

Program break

**August 1**

Last day of Mandel Youth Humanities Academy





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