

**NOBLE
FELLOWSHIP**

December 2024



Noble Fellows Enjoy Holiday Gathering

A number of Noble Fellows and their guests gathered at the home of Dr. Siu-Challons Lipton on December 13 for a festive holiday gathering. During the evening reception, the group became reacquainted while enjoying holiday cheer. Thank you to the Liptons for their gracious hospitality!

Milan Tomin Founds Gourmet Chocolate Company

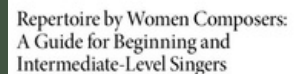
If you attended the holiday gathering, you may have enjoyed some delicious chocolates shared by Legacy Fellow Milan Tomin. Tomin and his wife, Sarah, have recently founded a gourmet chocolate company, Verdana Chocolates, which promotes the health benefits of cacao while also making a positive socio-economic impact on the communities that grow it. Congratulations to Milan and Sarah for their entrepreneurial venture. Learn more about their business at

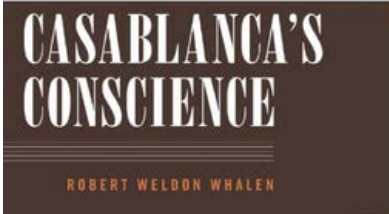


[www.queens.edu/
advancement/alumni-newsletter/october-2024/](http://www.queens.edu/advancement/alumni-newsletter/october-2024/)

Dr. Jennifer Piazza-Pick Performs and Publishes

Faculty Fellow Dr. Jennifer Piazza-Pick has had a busy fall performing, writing, and teaching. With her ensemble, Whistling Hens, she performed at the Flute New Music Consortium Festival in Omaha, Nebraska. Jennifer then sang her debut performance of Arnold Schoenberg's seminal work, *Pierrot Lunaire*, as part of the Origins Concert Series in Silver Spring, MD. Locally, Jennifer also had the distinct pleasure of performing under the baton of a former student in Handel's *Messiah*. With her colleague Dr. Teri Bickham of the University of Maryland, she has published "Repertoire by Women Composers: A Guide for Beginning and Intermediate-Level Singers" in the *Journal of Singing*.





Whalen with
Founding Fellow
and former
Queens
President
Dr. Pamela
Davies



Faculty Fellow Bob Whalen Publishes New Book

Dr. Bob Whalen, the very first faculty Noble Fellow, has recently penned another book, *Casa Blanca's Conscience*. The book is a continuation of the research and focus of his Noble Fellowship project. Published by Fordham Publishing, the book draws on themes from what Bob describes as "the best movie ever."

Although now retired from teaching history at Queens, Bob continues to write and remains active as a volunteer in the community. He and his wife Meg live in Charlotte and recently celebrated the wedding of their daughter, Julia. During this holiday season, Whalen, who has at times brought the holiday spirit to the Queens campus community by dressing as Santa Claus (pictured at left), wishes Noble Fellows a joyous holiday season and a happy new year.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Application Deadline Approaching

The deadline for 2025-2026 faculty and student application submissions is January 10, 2025. Please share the application with faculty and/or students you believe would be good candidates for the Noble Fellowship. Applications and other information can be found at:

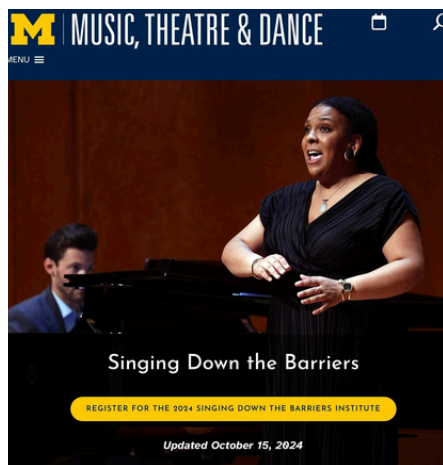
WWW.QUEENS.EDU/NOBLEFELLOWSHIP

April 25: Noble Fellowship Dinner

Join us for the **Noble Fellowship Dinner** on **April 25, 2025**, in the Kathryn Greenhoot Recital Hall inside the Sarah Belk Gambrell Center for the Arts & Civic Engagement. Mark your calendar!

Kellie Williams Featured by University of Michigan School of Music

Student Fellow Kellie (Kel) Williams was recently featured by the University of Michigan School of Music, Theatre, and Dance's program advertisement for "Singing Down the Barriers." As part of her Noble Fellowship, Williams attended this workshop for music educators in Ann Arbor last summer.



Williams, a Queens senior, also recently received acclaim for her role in *Jaja's African Hair Braiding*, which received a Tony Award Nomination for Best New Play. Be sure to attend the April 25 Noble Fellows Program and Dinner to hear more about Kel's work.