

JOHN CARROLL UNIVERSITY

announces

**The Good Times
Before the Crash of '29**



FALL 2009

The Speakers

David J. Goldberg, Ph.D., Columbia University, wrote *Discontented America: The United States in the 1920s, A Tale of Three Cities: Labor Protest and Organization in Paterson, Passaic and Lawrence, 1916-1921* and co-authored *With Our Hands: The Story of Carpenters in Massachusetts* and several articles on the biases and class tensions of the 1920s, including works on the Ku Klux Klan and the Scopes Trial. He is Professor of History at Cleveland State University.

John J. Grabowski, Ph.D., Case Western Reserve U., Editor of *the Encyclopedia of Cleveland History*, has written *Identity, Conflict and Cooperation, Central Europeans in Cleveland, 1850-1930*, and *Cleveland: A History of Motion*. He teaches at Case Western Reserve and is Krieger-Mueller Historian and Research Director at the Western Reserve Historical Society. He has been a Fulbright Senior Lecturer at Bilkent University, Turkey, and is researching Turkish immigration to the U.S.

David W. Robson, Ph.D., Yale University, is best known for works on early America: *Educating Republicans: The College in the Era of the American Revolution*, and numerous articles as “Pennsylvania’s ‘Lost’ National University,” “College Founding in the New Republic, 1776-1800,” and “‘My Unhappy Son’: A Narrative of Drinking in Federalist Pennsylvania” and regularly teaches courses on the History of American Sports at John Carroll University where he is Professor of History.

Debra J. Rosenthal, Ph.D., Princeton University, wrote *Race Mixture in 19th Century U.S. and Spanish American Fiction: Gender, Culture, and Nation Building and other works* as “Hoods and the Woods: Rap Music as Environmental Literature,” “The White Blackbird: Miscegenation, Genre, and the Tragic Mulatta,” “Temperance Movement 1870-1920,” and co-edited *Temperance in American Literature*. A Visiting Fellow at Oxford University, 2005-2006, she teaches at John Carroll University.

Shirley T. Wajda, Ph.D., U. of Pennsylvania, is author of “*Social Currency*”: *Commercial Portrait Photography and the Fashioning of an American Middle Class, 1839-1889*, “The Artistic Portrait Photograph,” “A Room with a Viewer: The Parlor Stereoscope, Comic Stereographs, and the Psychic Role of Play in Late Victorian America” and numerous other works. She has organized cultural exhibitions as “The Kokoon Arts Club: Cleveland Revels!” now showing at the Kent State University Museum.

William Francis Ryan, Ph.D., University of Connecticut, teaches at John Carroll University and is host of the Humanities Lecture Series.

Sessions will meet **7p.m to 9p.m in the D.J. Lombardo Student Center** Conference Room (Schott Hall). Discussion will follow lectures and refreshments will be served at all sessions.

The Good Times Before the Crash of '29

After ending the War to end all wars, Americans took pride in the nation's new power and were ready to enjoy the good times that made America different from the fractious Europeans who gave us the Great War. As the rich indulged in ritzy silk hat consumption, a culture of flappers, fast cars, and loose living made headlines as writers expatriated to Parisian cafes in disdain of both the new vulgarity and the hypocrisy of Prohibition. For those without silk hats or fast cars, a "Golden Age" of sports provided vicarious participation in the "Good Times." But beneath it all, there were tensions. If America was really "exceptional," how did "hyphenated" Americans--Jewish and Italian radical types and Catholics--fit into this landscape? At decade's end, "roaring" roadsters slowed to a crawl as bubbles burst and bread lines formed.

November 9

Shirley Wajda

Flappers, Frivolity, & Wild New Freedoms

November 16

John Grabowski

Anything Goes--Leonard, Cole, Town Topics: The Good Life in Cleveland

November 23

Debra Rosenthal

Liquor, Licentiousness, and Literature

November 30

David Robson

The Golden Age of Sports: Ruth, Dempsey, Grange and More

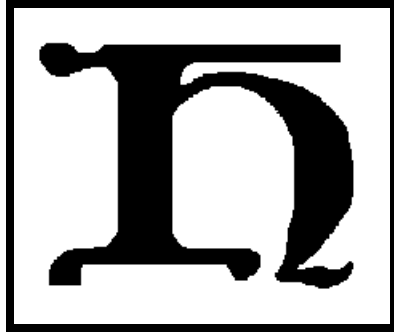
December 7

David Goldberg

A Land Divided: Real and 'Other' Americans

The **series fee is \$85 per person or \$140 for two.** Readings will be sent to subscribers prior to the series. To enroll, send checks to Dr. William F. Ryan, Department of History, John Carroll University, 20700 North Park Boulevard, University Heights, OH 44118. Tel: 216/397-4780.

THE INSTITUTE OF HUMANITITES



Since 1988, the Humanities Institute of John Carroll University has held twice a year Lecture Series in which known scholars in their fields discuss different aspects and interpretations of a single topic from the past (series have been on Greco-Roman antiquity, Medieval and Renaissance eras, non-Western cultures, and modern times). The lectures go beyond the narration of facts to explore the meanings of events and ethics decisions and how they have influenced contemporary culture. The lectures are made possible through an anonymous endowment administered by the Development Office of the University.

John Carroll University
University Heights, OH 44118
Tel.216/397-4780