



Hungarian Studies Association of Canada
Association canadienne des études hongroises
Kanadai Magyarstudományi Társaság

**“Memories and Memoirs of Hungary,
Hungarians, and the HSAC: Reflecting on
the Past, Imagining the Future”**

**HUNGARIAN STUDIES ASSOCIATION OF CANADA
40th ANNUAL CONFERENCE
Online**

June 10-11, 2026

Open Events — Session 1 and Session 2 are free and open to the public. The rest of the online conference requires registration, which can be completed at <https://hungarianstudies.org>.

Day 1 Wednesday, June 10

(9:00am-4:30pm Eastern Time; 15:00-22:30 Central European Time)

Session 1 OPEN EVENT 9:00-10:30am ET/15:00-16:30 CET

<https://lakeheadu.zoom.us/j/93865764717>

President's Welcome: AGATHA SCHWARTZ, President of HSAC

Keynote Address: MARLENE KADAR, Emeritus Professor and Senior Scholar, York University, "Becoming Hungarian: Hungarian-ness and the Ironic and Unfulfilled Promise of the Gerund in Studies of Memory and Identities, or, Neither Here nor There"

Break 10:30-11:00am ET/16:30-17.00 CET

During breaks, a photography exhibit curated by Robyn Jensen will be shown.

Session 2 OPEN EVENT 11:00am-12:30pm ET/17:00-18:30 CET

<https://lakeheadu.zoom.us/j/96610965317>

Invited Panel: Roma, Migrants, and the Future of Hungary and Canada

Moderator and Conversant: Linda Carranza, Co-Founder and Director of Ráday Salon

Gina Csányi-Robah, Executive Director of the Canadian Romani Alliance, will speak about "Resilience on the Move," an exhibit about Roma immigration to Canada currently on display at the Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21, Halifax, Nova Scotia. Gina will highlight her own family's story as 1956 Hungarian Roma refugees in Canada.

Jázmin Gürbüz, Project Leader of POLIP Egyesület, will speak about the work of POLIP organizing young Hungarians to engage politically and the future of Hungary post-election from the perspective of young Hungarians.

Michael Simmons, International Human Rights Activist, will speak about his work with Roma and migrant rights in Hungary, in the long historical context of his leadership in the African American Civil Rights Movement as documented in his biography, *Stayed on Freedom* (2023).

James Peter (to be confirmed), President of Next Step NGO in Budapest, will speak about the work of his NGO with refugees living in Hungary, as well as his own experience as a refugee from West Africa who arrived in Hungary in 2001.

Break 12:30-1:00pm ET/18:30-19:00 CET

Session 3 1:00-2:30pm/19:00-20:30 CET

<https://lakeheadu.zoom.us/j/94955780912>

Panel: Politics, Pedagogy, and Law

Chair: Angela Chong

Joel S. Fetzer, Pepperdine University, “Have Hungarian Parties Given Hungarian Slovaks the Laws They Want? A Quantitative Analysis of Slovakia’s National Council Legislative Actions from 1993 to 2025”

Julio Lucchesi Moraes, Université de Saint-Boniface, “The Destruction of Reason Revisited: Lukács, Freire, and the Transnational Politics of Erasure”

Márk Rácz, Pest Megyei Kormányhivatal Közlekedésfelügyeleti Főosztály, “Personal Sources and Lived History in Hungary before 1989 as Reflected in the Recollections of Marxism-Leninism Lecturers”

Break 2:30-3:00pm ET/20:30-21:00 CET

Session 4 3:00-4:30pm/21:00-22:30 CET

<https://lakeheadu.zoom.us/j/93330123441>

Panel: Grief, Loss, and Memory

Chair: Sonya Di Sclafani

Robyn Jensen, University of Regina, “An Archive of Goodbyes: Curating Loss, Reclaiming Cultural Belonging through Hungarian-Canadian Photographs”

Agnés Zana, Semmelweis University, “Digital Memory and Grief in Hungarian Families: Personal Loss, Collective Narratives, and Communication in a Polarized Society”

Gdalit Neuman, York University, “Zionist Youth in Post-Holocaust Hungary: Memoires and Life Writing”

Day 2 Thursday, June 11

(9:00am-5:00pm Eastern Time; 15:00-23:00 Central European Time)

Session 5 9:00-11:00am ET/15:00-17:00 CET

<https://lakeheadu.zoom.us/j/93070942430>

Panel: Immigration and the Hungarian Diaspora

Chair: Ginny Lewis

Soma Rédey, University of Debrecen, “Telkes and the Olgyays: A Solar Synergy; The Relationship Between Mária Telkes and the Olgyay Brothers (1949–1960)”

Balázs Venkovits, University of Debrecen, “From Rerouted Migration to Enduring Community: One Hundred Years of Hungarian Diaspora Organizations in Montreal”

Zsolt Máté, University of Pécs, “The Reception of Students of Sopron to Toronto and Vancouver”

Sonya Di Sclafani, Concordia University, “News of the 56ers in Montreal, Canada”

Break 11:00-11:30am ET/17:00-17:30 CET

Session 6 11:30am-1:00pm ET/17:30-19:00 CET

<https://lakeheadu.zoom.us/j/98709494672>

Panel: Pre-Modern and Early Modern Histories

Chair: Steve Jobbitt

Judit Gál, ELTE Research Centre for the Humanities, Institute of History, “The Southwestern Balkans in Hungarian Geopolitical Strategy in the Arpadian Era”

Terence A. Check Jr., Ohio State University/Cleveland State University “Why Was There No Hungarian Inquisition?”

Fatih Ekim, Eötvös Loránd University “Memorial Culture in Hungary about the Muslim and Jewish Existence (1526–1699): The Case of Budapest; An Analysis of the Political, Cultural, and Geopolitical Layers of Urban Identity”

Break 1:00-1:30 pm ET/19:00-19:30 CET

Session 7 1:30-3:00pm ET/19:30-21:00 CET

<https://lakeheadu.zoom.us/j/98102075471>

Panel: Memoirs, Literature, Archives

Chair: Katalin Kürtösi

Róbert Kerepeszki, University of Debrecen, “Enforced Ego-Documents in the Asylum: Great War Experience and Deviance in the Clinical Records of an Ex-Serviceman in Interwar Budapest”

Anikó Zsuzsanna Antal, Independent Scholar, “Memories of the Hungarian-Canadian Diaspora Literature—From Archiving and Documentating to Transnational Identity”

Hajnalka Forgács, Library of the Hungarian Parliament, “Works about Canada in the Ghyczy Collection”

Break 3:00-3:30 ET/21:00-21:30 CET

Session 8 3:30-5:00pm ET/21:30-23:00 CET

<https://lakeheadu.zoom.us/j/96513317371>

Panel: Dance, Music, and Community

Chair: Ilona Sandor

Steven Jobbitt, Lakehead University, “From Community Practice to Performance Art: The Evolution of Hungarian and Ukrainian Folk Dance in Canada”

Angela Chong, University of Southern California, “Generational Divides: Refugee Parents, Children, and Their Music — A case study of Los Angeles Hungarian community music in second and third diasporic generations after 1956”

Agatha Schwartz, University of Ottawa, “Resisting Ethnic Nationalism through Music: Remembering the 1980s Vojvodina Hungarian Sógor Együttes”



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We welcome new members! Please visit our website

<https://hungarianstudies.org/>

and our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/HSAofC/>