



Friends of the
Highland Square
Branch Library

ANNUAL BRUNCH

Saturday, April 6
10:30 am–12 pm

Highland Square Branch Library
807 W. Market St., Akron, OH 44303

Registration is requested by calling 330-376-2927,
online at www.akronlibrary.org, or stopping in to
visit us at the Highland Square Branch Library

Brunch will be followed by a short film, *What We Can Tell*, documenting a University of Akron project about testing DNA.

10:30-11 am - Enjoy brunch and socialize with our community.

11 am-12 pm - Our Friends of the Library will introduce our main event.

In 2017, University of Akron's Rethinking Race partnered with Ancestry.com to test the DNA of 30 members from the campus community. Before and after learning their results, participants were asked what they had to say on race, ethnicity, culture, and family. The short film *What We Can Tell* is their story. It asks us all to question what views we hold – and what lines we have drawn – where race is concerned, and how many of those lines have to do with what we perceive as our biology, versus our environment. Presented by Visiting Assistant Professor Heather Pollock.

Heather Pollock grew up in Akron, Ohio. After graduating Kent State with a Bachelor's in the study of Myth, she traveled to Perth, Western Australia to earn a Master's in Classics and Ancient History from the University of Western Australia.

She knew she wanted to teach, and pursued a Master's of Education at the University of Akron. During her studies she worked as a TA in the Dept. of Classical Studies, and when a teaching position opened, Heather stayed on as a member of the Classics faculty. She is now a Visiting Assistant Professor of Instruction, teaching in Classics, as well as in The Williams Honors College. She has recently been made the University of Akron's Coordinator of Study Abroad.

In the last eighteen years, Heather has taught Greek Mythology, Greek Literature, Sports and Society in Ancient Greece and Rome, and she has developed two Humanities Colloquia for the Honors College: *The Hero Class*, and *The Culture of Fear*.

In 2006 she was awarded the Chairs' Award for Outstanding Achievement in Teaching; The University of Akron Outstanding Part-Time Teacher Award in 2007; The Buchtel College of Arts and Sciences Outstanding Part-Time Teacher Award in 2008; and the Greek Life Faculty of the Year Award in 2009.

She was inducted into the Golden Key Honors Society in 2016, received the Passion Award: ODK/NRHH/Mortar Board Award for Excellence in Teaching in 2017; The University of Akron Outstanding Adjunct Faculty Member Award for 2017-18; The National Society of Leadership and Success Award for Excellence in Teaching in 2018; and was nominated for the Kennedy Center/Stephen Sondheim Inspirational Teacher Award in 2018.

She also received The National Residence Hall Honorary Favorite Faculty Award in 2002, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2016, and 2018, but her greatest reward is her students. She knows few greater joys than when they come back for a second or even third class with her. And now she is even more enthusiastic about helping UA students fulfill their dreams of education abroad!