



# ELI NEWS

English Language Institute • University of Pittsburgh  
Parkvale Building, Room M13, 200 Meyran Ave • Pittsburgh PA 15260

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ELI Activity:

## Easter Egg Hunt



Keep your eyes peeled today, **Thursday, April 4**, for Easter eggs hidden around the

ELI! There will be over 100 colorful plastic eggs in various locations, including the classrooms, computer lab, Vault, and hallways. Some eggs will be clearly visible, but you will have to scrutinize every corner of the ELI to find the rest.

Don't get frustrated if you can't find any. Be persistent! You might have to suspend your search once your class begins, but you can utilize the breaks to resume your task.

Opening each egg will reveal a sweet treat as well as a language tidbit. The treat is yours to keep. You can keep the egg too, but if you don't want it, please place it in the basket on the table outside the computer lab or in the basket in the Vault.

What is the purpose of this activity? It's a tradition! Although Easter is a religious holiday, many customs associated with this holiday are linked to disparate ideas and beliefs. These days hunting for Easter eggs is not considered a religious activity and all kinds of people, including both children and adults, like to get involved. It is undeniable that ELI students have the tenacity to find every single egg!

This event is for all students studying at the ELI, including CCC students. If you would like to participate in an Easter Egg Hunt with guests and children, please read the article about Easter Egg Hunts in the city of Pittsburgh in this week's News.

## Safety Tips for the Break

As we move into the break, we hope that you will all take the time to relax and enjoy your time off. While you are away, please keep the following tips in mind for a safe break:

- If you encounter someone who is rude or discriminates against you in public, ignore the person and leave the area as soon as possible. Do not respond to rudeness with rudeness; the safest and most intelligent thing to do is to walk away.
- If an employee of a business discriminates against you, leave the area, and write down the time, place, what happened, and name of the employee, if you have it.
- It is important to report inappropriate behavior to a store or office manager – the company or office will want to know if their employee is using inappropriate behavior. Stacy can help you decide if you want to make a report and how to do it. Stacy's email is [sar72@pitt.edu](mailto:sar72@pitt.edu).

We are sharing these tips because it is good to be prepared in case something negative happens, but we are also confident that your break will be filled with calm and happiness. Have a wonderful break!

## Bigelow Bash

On Sunday, April 7 from 1 pm to 6 pm Pitt Program Council invites you to the annual Bigelow Bash: Music and Food Truck Festival starring T-PAIN! \$1 food trucks and performances begin at 1 pm on Bigelow Boulevard.

Performances include the winner of Battle of the Bands, Cities Aviv presented by WPTS Radio, a special presentation from Pitt Athletics, and our headliner, T-Pain!

With 60 hit songs under his belt and two Grammy trophies on his mantle, T-Pain has cemented himself as one of the most influential artists of all time. But even he needed a bit of time to himself to reload. After a successful run of #1 hits, albums, tours and a plethora of cameo appearances, T-Pain took some time off to enjoy the fruits of his labor and perfect his craft.

In 2018, T-Pain has returned and he is back and better than ever. He launched an "Everything Must Go" campaign in August to clear out his vault of unreleased music as a gift to his dedicated fans, he is currently the star of the hit television show on Fuse titled "T-Pain's School of Business", the dean of his very own university-Wisconsin University, and has an album slated to come out in early 2019. T-Pain is showing no signs of slowing down and has proven that he only gets better with time.

All Pitt Program Council events are intended for Pitt Oakland undergraduate students only. Pitt Council will be SWIPING ID'S FOR FOOD TRUCKS.

*Follow the ELI  
on Instagram  
@eli.pitt*



## Easter Egg Hunts in Pittsburgh

Today, **Thursday, April 4**, the ELI will have an Easter Egg Hunt for all students studying at the ELI, including CCC students. If you would like to participate in this type of activity with guests and children, please read the information below about Easter egg hunts in the city of Pittsburgh.

### ZooHop to Spring at Pittsburgh Zoo & PPG Aquarium

This Easter egg hunt will be held on Friday, April 19, from 10 am - 1 pm in Kids Kingdom. All egg hunt participants will receive a complimentary bag filled with treats, but you should bring your own basket to collect the eggs. Participants will also have a chance to take a picture with the Easter Bunny, make a themed craft, and participate in other activities in the Worlds of Discovery building in Kids Kingdom. All ZooHop to Spring activities are included with general Zoo admission.

### Easter Egg Hunt at Simmons Farms

Simmons Farms is located in McMurray, PA, approximately 45 minutes from Pittsburgh. This egg hunt is held every day from April 12 - April 20 from 10 am – 6 pm. No registration is required. The cost is \$13.50 for each child. There is no charge for adults. Activities include creating a variety of crafts, decorating your Easter egg gathering bag, and collection of 12 eggs that are exchanged for prizes. There is also a petting zoo at the farm!

### Eggstravaganza! at the National Aviary

The National Aviary is located in the North Side, a short drive or bus ride from downtown. This event will be held on April 13, 14, and 19 – 21 from 11 am – 3 pm. Eggstravaganza! is free with regular National Aviary admission. Activities include a parade with the Easter Bunny, an egg matching game, story time with a live bird, and fossil crafts!

### Egg-Normous Easter Egg Hunt in Ross Township

Ross Township is located approximately 15 minutes from downtown Pittsburgh. This event will be held at the Ross Municipal Center Park on Saturday, April 13, from 11 am – 2 pm. The Egg-Normous Easter Egg Hunt is free and open to the public; however, you must pre-register online at <https://ross.pa.us>.

Please check your email for links to all of these events.

## Into the Woods

On Thursday, April 4 at 8 pm at the Charity Randall Theatre (4301 Forbes Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15213) Stephen Sondheim's *Into the Woods*, a 1987 musical that combines the plots of several Brothers Grimm and Charles Perrault fairy tales, will be showcasing for \$12 students and \$25 adults. Niffer Clarke, a visiting assistant professor whose voice can be heard on the *Meet the Robinsons* soundtrack, directs the musical.

## ELI Closing Ceremony

by Stacy Ranson

The ELI would like to invite you to the Closing Ceremony for this semester. The ceremony will be on April 11 from 1:00-3:00 p.m. in the Assembly Room of the William Pitt Union. We'll take pictures, have some refreshments, and hand out attendance certificates at the ceremony. You all have played a big role in making this semester great—we hope you'll come celebrate with us!

## Italian Film Festival

On Thursday, April 4 from 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm, Italian Film Festival USA of Pittsburgh will be screening critically acclaimed Italian film at Frick Fine Arts Building, Auditorium (650 Schenley Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15260). Visit the attached website below for a full list of this year's film screenings, times, and locations.

<http://italianfilmfests.org/pittsburgh.html>

Films will be shown in Italian with English subtitles.

## Open Rec Wheelchair Basketball

If you want to learn how to play Wheelchair Basketball or brush up on your skills, on Thursdays from 6-8 pm, in Trees Hall Gymnasium, come join Pittsburgh Steel wheelers and members of SDA (Students for Disability Advocacy) for a game of basketball.

## Boy Erased

On Thursday, April 4 from 9:00 pm to 11:30 pm at the William Pitt Union, Assembly Room (3959 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15260) come and join Pitt Program Council for a FREE screening of *Boy Erased*. Doors open at 8:30 P.M. Snacks will be provided. All Pitt Program Council events are open to all undergraduate Pitt students with a valid (Oakland) Student ID.

## FI Students and End-of-Term Grace Period

The Department of Homeland Security requires students to complete all levels of the ELI program in order to receive the 60-day grace period following the completion of study. This means that if you complete level 6 at the ELI, you will have 60 days after your last day of study to remain in the U.S or request a transfer to a new program.

If you end your study at the ELI before completing level 6, you will have a two-week grace period after your final day of class. This means that you will need to request a transfer to a new program or leave the U.S. within 2 weeks of your last day of study if you do not complete level 6.

If you transfer to a new program at any time, you must begin study at the first available term for the new program. If you transfer within your grace period, you are permitted to be out of school for up to 5 months before beginning the first available term of your new program. Please see Stacy if you have questions about these policies.

## ELI Lockers

Please note that ELI lockers must be cleaned out by 12:00 pm on Friday, April 12. Locks must be removed. Locks left on lockers after April 12 will be cut off, and anything left in lockers will be placed in lost and found. Please see the ELI main office if you have any questions.

ELI Activity:

## Language Music Club Extra Meeting!

The Language Music Club will hold a special meeting on **Monday, April 8, from 12-12:45 pm in M15** (the room next to the main office). The day of the week and time is different from the usual Language Music Club schedule so that you can attend immediately after the Grammar final exam. Ece and Isabel, a Pitt student who is doing an internship with the ELI, will lead the meeting on Monday.

This meeting will help you practice your English listening skills. We will listen to an American pop song and we will also listen to a podcast. These activities will help you warm up for the Listening final exam! After the podcast, we will have a discussion about the meanings of the song lyrics, and we will learn some new vocabulary words to help you talk about music. The purpose of the meeting will be to practice English in a fun and stress-free environment.

Scientists agree that listening to music relieves stress, so come and relax between final exams by singing along to music with your friends! You do not need to be a good singer or to have any musical talent to participate. This activity is open to all ELI students, including CCC students. Feel free to bring your lunch!

## First Day of Summer 2019 Term

Please remember that if you are planning to study at the ELI next term, the first day of official attendance is Friday, May 10, 2019. If you arrive at the ELI after the first day of official attendance, you will be counted absent for each day that you miss. You may pick up your fall schedule any time after 12:00 pm on Thursday, May 9. If you cannot arrive by Monday, May 20, you will need to wait until the next semester to attend the ELI. Please see Stacy if you have any questions.

## Activities Survey Please respond!

Please help us improve our program by completing a survey on activities at the ELI and the University! Perhaps you have friends and/or family that will attend the ELI in the future. Getting your feedback will help us make improvements so they can have the best language learning experience possible. Check your email and the flyers posted around the ELI for a link to the survey.

Studying at the English Language Institute at the University of Pittsburgh offers students many advantages, one of which is the opportunity to participate in a variety of activities. Part of the ELI's Mission Statement is to provide "students with opportunities to experience life on an American university campus and to interact with members of the University campus and the local community." How does the ELI achieve this mission? We plan and promote many activities!

Although we are aware of how many students participate in ELI-planned activities, we also want to know if you have participated in other activities offered by other Pitt groups, such as the Pitt Program Council and Global Ties. We want to hear from **all ELI students** about this topic even if you didn't participate in any activities.

Please complete the survey by **Thursday, April 11**. The survey will take approximately 10 minutes to complete. Thank you for your feedback and for helping to make our program even stronger! If you have any questions about the survey, please contact Ece at [ecu4@pitt.edu](mailto:ecu4@pitt.edu).



## Late Night Bowling

On Friday, April 12 from 10 pm – 11:55 pm, come and join with Pitt Program Council at Late Night Bowling. We will be taking a trip to Zone 28 for two hours of bowling (shoes included), 2 games of laser tag, and a \$10 arcade game card! Pizza, drinks, and round-trip transportation included. Tickets are \$5 at the William Pitt Union (WPU) Ticket Office, limit of 2 tickets per ID. All Pitt Program Council events are open to all undergraduate Pitt students with a valid (Oakland) Student ID.

## ELI Activities Photos

Today, **Thursday, April 4**, we have our final ELI Activity for the Spring semester, the ELI Easter Egg Hunt. Check this week's ELI News for more information about this activity.

We had a great time participating in social and cultural events every week this semester and we have the pictures to prove it! If you participated in any ELI activities this term, you know that Ece takes a lot of pictures. You may have seen these photos on the monitors in the student lounge and outside the main office.

Ece uploaded all of the photos to a folder on Box and emailed this link to all ELI students yesterday, **Wednesday, April 3**. If you did not receive this email, please email Ece at [ecu4@pitt.edu](mailto:ecu4@pitt.edu), and she will email the link to you.

## Short Class Schedule for April 11

Classes beginning at...	meet...
10:00 am	10:35-10:50 am
11:00 am	10:55-11:10 am
12:00 noon	11:15-11:30 am
1:00 pm	11:35-11:50 am
2:00 pm	11:55-12:10 pm
3:00 pm	12:15-12:30 pm
Closing Ceremony	1:00-3:00 pm

## Stacy's Office Hours Term Break



I know that some of you may need to see me after the ELI term ends.

Remember, if you are planning to leave the U.S. and return to the ELI next semester, I must sign your I-20 before you go. If you need me for this, or for any other reason, please note the following dates and times.

I will be available in my office (M22) during the hours below. I will not be available any other time during the break, and I will not write letters of recommendation or review statements of purpose over the break, so please plan carefully.

Monday, April 15	Tuesday, April 16	Wednesday, April 17
9:00-9:45 am	12:00-1:00 pm	12:00-1:00 pm

## English Language Institute

### Final Exam Schedule Spring 2019

The ELI gives final exams at the end of the term. These exams are worth 30% of the final grade for each class. There are no excused absences for finals. The ELI does not give early final exams or make up exams. Role Play finals in Speaking are graded with another Speaking teacher. Writing finals are graded by a teacher from another class with input from your teacher.

Please note the following schedule and plan to be present for the finals.

Fri, April 5	Mon, April 8	Tues, April 9
<b>Writing final</b> 10:00am- 12:00pm	<b>Grammar final</b> 10:00am- 12:00pm	<b>Reading final</b> 10:00am- 12:00pm
<b>Speaking final</b> 1:00pm- 3:00pm	<b>Listening final</b> 2:00pm- 4:00pm	

## Transfer Process

Students with F1 visas who want to transfer to a new school must see Stacy to complete the transfer. You must bring a copy of the acceptance letter and the transfer form from the new school. You may transfer at any time during the term, but you must complete this process to remain in legal status. Remember that if you complete your final term of study at level 6 at the ELI, you have a 60-day grace period. During that time, you may stay in the U.S. without studying, and you may request a transfer at any time during that 60-day period. If you do not complete level 6, you have a 2-week grace period, and you must request a transfer within that time.

If you do not request a transfer during the grace period, you will be out of status at the end of your grace period, and it will be too late to transfer your SEVIS record. Please see Stacy if you have any questions about this process.

## Unpaid Tuition

If you or your sponsors have not paid your ELI tuition for the fall term, you are past the deadline for payment. You can check your tuition account by logging in to my.pitt.edu and clicking PittPay. Please note that students with unpaid tuition cannot receive copies of final grades, letters of recommendation, or any other documents from the ELI. There are several ways to pay your tuition.

- **eCheck:** Free online transfer from a US bank account to your Pitt account.
- **Cash, check, or money order:** Visit the Student Payment Center in room G-7 Thackeray Hall.

**Credit cards:** Online *only* at my.pitt.edu—you may not use a credit card at Thackeray Hall. There is an additional 2.75% fee for using a credit card.

## F1 Visa

### Requirement: Travel Signatures

If you are traveling outside of the U.S. during the April break, and you are returning for the next term, you MUST have Stacy sign your I-20 before you leave.

Stacy will not be available after April 17, so you must see her soon if you are traveling. **You will have to cancel travel plans if you do not have Stacy's signature before April 17.**

**No one else at the ELI is able to sign your I-20. See Stacy even if you think you may travel!**

## ELI Idiom of the Week

An **idiom** is a phrase or expression whose meaning might not always be clear from the words that make it up.

*“Bite off more than  
one can chew”*

To take on too many tasks, jobs, or responsibilities, or to attempt something that you can't complete by yourself.

For example: “Sade really **bit off more than she can chew** when she agreed to make plans with friends during finals weeks.”

## Coffee Talk



The ELI will like to thank everyone that participated in the Coffee Talk and for making it an amazing semester. Hope to see you next semester!



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