Dread Reckoning: Fall Forum Reanimated

CTL Fall Forum 2026

October 26–October 30, 2026

Monday events:

Making Monsters - Monday, October 26, 12:30pm–1:30pm. Pratt Library, East Reading Room

Using found objects, odds and ends, and a healthy dose of playfulness, we build small creatures that give shape to whatever needs shaping (frustrations, fears, other feelings). Through playful creation, we transform our challenges into something tangible we can form, remake, and ultimately release.

Eligible part-time faculty who participate qualify for a **$75 stipend**.

RSVP here

Menacing Movie Night! - Monday, October 26, 3pm–5pm; Pratt Library, MMB Screening Room

Join us for a spooky night of film and fear! Co-hosted alongside our colleague at the Pratt Library, Matt Garklavs, we'll be enjoying the film TKTK, setting ourselves up nicely to kick off the week's *Fall Forum: Dread Reckoning* events with a little bit of terror and a lot of fun! *(Light snacks and refreshments provided)*

RSVP here

Tell Me Something Terrible: Scary Story Telling with the Writing and Tutorial Center - Monday, October 26, 5pm–8pm; North Hall (by the fish tanks!)

As part of this year's Fall Forum, Dread Reckoning, we're gathering around one of humanity's oldest ways of making sense of fear: telling scary stories. Faculty, students, and creatures from beyond are compelled to attend to share a brief tale of the eerie, uncanny, unsettling, supernatural, or simply inexplicable. Bring a ghost story, urban legend, family haunting, local lore, strange encounter, or other story that still gives you pause. Come to tell, come to listen, or simply come sit with us in the dark.

RSVP here

Tuesday events:

AIDS, Art, and the Horror of Institutional Abandonment: Lesbian Geographies of Care -Tuesday, October 27, 10am–11:30am; Pratt Library, East Reading Room

What happens when the institutions meant to protect us fail?

This participatory session looks at art and activism from the AIDS crisis as responses to fear, loss, stigma, and institutional abandonment. We'll begin with the visual culture of ACT UP and Gran Fury, then turn to St. Vincent's Hospital, the NYC AIDS Memorial, and lesbian geographies of care, the often overlooked networks of caregiving, advocacy, and community support that emerged during the crisis.

Together, we'll look closely at images, trace what institutions preserved or erased, and consider how art makes absence visible. A short activity will invite participants to identify similar gaps, silences, or networks of care within the histories they teach.

The session asks a simple question: When institutions fail, what can people make together in their place?

Participants will leave with a visual and archival approach they can adapt to teaching difficult histories through fear, absence, memory, and care.

Eligible part-time faculty who participate qualify for a **$75 stipend**.

RSVP here

Confidence and Courage Through Community with members of the Course-Based Civic Engagement Faculty Learning Community **-**Tuesday, October 27, 2pm–3:30pm; Pratt Library, East Reading Room

This session will feature facilitators and members of the Course-Based Civic Engagement Faculty Learning Community in conversation about the work done so far in the FLC and around the Institute. They will discuss their experiences and the challenges and questions that arise in this kind of work, and will invite participants to join in the conversation in order to further demystify the process.

Even for those with a great deal of teaching experience, the prospect of bringing external partners into the classroom and guiding students through a more complex set of interactions can overwhelm the brain or send butterflies to the stomach. What does that classroom experience look like? Where are the pitfalls? How does one begin?

The FLC was created to discuss these questions and instill confidence for those who have always wanted to explore work with a mission-driven external or internal partner in a classroom setting. Participants in the session will also be introduced to relevant issues, and learn from those who have endeavored to confront these question marks.

RSVP here

Wednesday events:

Mo(u)rning session & Grief Weaving - Wednesday, October 28, 10am–12pm; Pratt Library, Alumni Reading Room

Imagine the dawn: the first light of morning, a threshold hour that had to pass through the dark before it could arise. We're halfway through our 2026 CTL Fall Forum, and you are invited into this mo(u)rning's griefweaving session to notice how grief can be held in new forms. So far this week, we've recounted fears, poked at present frustrations, and revived old monsters. In this collaborative session between the CTL and Arthur Kay (Foundation), we'll turn to the themes that have surfaced this week: the stories we tell through text and question, our collective resilience, and our aims for the future. Using the practices of inkshedding, a rhythm of gathering and scattering, gathering and scattering, and griefweaving's simple, repetitive motions of hand weaving, we'll focus on what we find grounding in the dawn light.

Eligible part-time faculty who participate qualify for a **$100 stipend**.

RSVP here

Welcome, Lunch and Framing Remarks with President Frances Bronet and Provost Donna Heiland **-** Wednesday, October 28, 12pm–1pm; Pratt Library, Alumni Reading Room

We welcome you to a buffet lunch and celebratory unveiling of the CTL's journal, *iteratio: Inquiries in Teaching Art and Design* sixth issue!

RSVP here

***iteratio* Writers Panel: Fear the Blank Page -** Wednesday, October 28 from 1:15pm–2:30pm; Pratt Library, Alumni Reading Room

In this panel, we'll hear from the writers who have contributed to the Pratt Center for Teaching and Learning journal, *iteratio* - now embarking on its seventh issue! Writers will share their writing processes, the reflections they have on their classroom practices, and discuss the fear they've overcome to get it all down on paper. We'll also unveil the freshly printed *iteratio* issue 6 and celebrate all who made it come to life!

RSVP here

Thursday events:

Educational (Technology) Monsters - Thursday, October 29, 10:30am–11:30 am; Online event

Let's talk about the tech that keeps us up at night. This interactive session invites you to name and ask questions of the digital monsters lurking in ed tech.

We'll start with an open and honest assessment of your own technological dreads before walking through a curated monster gallery inspired by classic movie monsters, but grounded in everyday classroom experiences. We'll share stories, vent frustrations and pick these monsters apart together.

Rather than offering easy answers, this session aims to sharpen our collective awareness and focus a more critical lens on the ed tech monsters hiding in plain sight.

Eligible part-time faculty who participate qualify for a **$75 stipend**.

Online RSVP here

Sailing Around in Choppy AI Waters with members of Charting New Courses in the Context of AI Faculty Learning Community -
Thursday, October 29, 12pm–1:30pm, Online event

I would never personally choose a sailboat as my maritime vessel, but here we are: sailing around tight harbors on a windy day. Where is an inlet where we can regroup? This panel will present around three special interest groups in our FLC: "Charting New Courses in the Context of AI" which are:

1. How we frame the work we want our students to do, how we frame our approach to the presence and use of AI to our students in our syllabus and introductions to the coursework;
2. How we prompt and assign work in the context of AI's presence in our students' lives; and
3. How we assess student learning in the context of AI.

Members of the FLC will conduct a roundtable outlining their choice points across these three vectors, telling stories of experimentation with new pedagogical approaches in these choppy waters.

Online RSVP here

Friday events:

Curiosity Hour: Staying with Collapse - Friday, October 30 from 11-12pm
Online event,

As we close this week's Fall Forum: Dread Reckoning, we have been thinking about how we navigate moments when things feel uncertain, when conditions shift, and what we thought we knew becomes harder to hold. The unknowable shows up in so many ways in our lives, in our creative work, our teaching, and the broader environments we live and work in. But we don't often pause to reflect on it directly, partially because it can feel overwhelming.

In this Curiosity Hour, we will stay with one theme within that uncertainty: the collapse. We'll get curious about what it means to encounter environmental, social, and systemic unraveling that is still taking shape. What it asks of us, and how do we orient ourselves within it?

Eligible part-time faculty who participate qualify for a **$75 stipend**.

Online RSVP here

Forest Bathing (mindful walking and communing among the trees) – Friday. October 30, 1pm–2pm; Online event.

Join Cultured Forest (Brooke Mellen) for a Virtual Forest Bathing event exploring the health benefits of Shinrin-Yoku followed by guided nature meditation and creative activities intended to build community in nature while reducing stress. Brooke Mellen

founded Cultured Forest to help others find healing in nature and has been featured by Wall Street Magazine, Vogue and The Today Show. She has a Masters in Visual Arts Administration from NYU and currently works as a Fine Art Insurance Adjuster. Seven years ago she studied the art of Shinrin-Yoku in Japan and then started a creative project where she immersed herself in the forest environment to experiment with Forest

Therapy. Brooke documented the aspects of the forest that were most soothing. She now leads others on mindful nature connection experiences and educates participants about our symbiotic relationship with the natural environment. Prepare to learn exercises that you can try at home or in any natural environment to help you find calm, alleviate stress and increase creativity. You can learn more about Cultured Forest at culturedforest.com or @culturedforest on Instagram.

Online RSVP here