NEWS

"Today is where your book begins / The rest is still unwritten."
UNWRITTEN NATASHA BEDINGFIELD

Students teach workshop on how to use Anthropic's AI tools

BY MELISSA ADAMANTIDI
STAFF REPORTER

More than 100 Yale students packed Davies Auditorium on Thursday evening for a Claude agentic tools workshop, which provided a hands-on introduction to Anthropic's artificial intelligence tools and was co-hosted by the Yale College Council's tech division, the Yale Claude Builder Club and the Yale Entrepreneurial Society.

The event marked the first major initiative from the YCC tech division, which is a pilot program that was launched this year. Over 150 students preregistered for the workshop — a figure that organizers said reflected a growing demand on campus for programming that introduces non-technical students to emerging technology.

"Events like this are meant for students to really discover what's out there and also not feel intimidated," Joseph Elsayyid '26, a Davenport College senator and the chair of the tech division, said. "When you have so many changes and so much development happening so fast, especially young people like us get intimidated, but workshops like this show that it's actually quite easy to dip your toes in, and you can be really shocked at what can happen."

Presenters walked the crowd through a series of live demonstrations with both Claude Code and Claude Cowork, Anthropic's agentic AI tools, which utilize a user's file system, browser and installed applications to execute tasks. Using its help, the presenters coded a simple video game, generated a slide deck from academic research papers, constructed websites for local businesses and integrated Claude with Gmail and Google Calendar.

In one demonstration, a presenter used Claude to locate a friend's contact information and send a birthday dinner invitation, pulling from email and calendar data in real time. The crowd clapped enthusiastically when the AI successfully sent the message after a few attempts.

"The next step is the agentic phase, where you're not only asking and getting an answer from these chatbots, but you're also getting the agentic side where it's doing stuff for you on your computer," Zain Anwar '29, a member of the tech division, said. According to Anwar, every student who attends one of the workshops gets Claude Pro for free for six months.

"Accessibility is the best way for you to learn," Anwar added.

Nicolas Gertler '27, who co-leads the Yale Claude Builder Club, helped organize the event. Gertler described himself as a liaison between Yale student groups and Anthropic, and he promotes the company's products on campus. He said he applied to be an ambassador for Anthropic through its worldwide campus program.

"We're representing Anthropic, promoting on campus and getting students to use Claude," Gertler said.

Elsayyid framed the YCC tech division's broader mission as aiming to help Yale students develop a nuanced understanding of AI's capabilities.

"It's important for Yale students to develop a working relationship of what AI can and cannot do, as well as what aspects of their exploration benefit from automation and what areas they think they can focus on building skills that still need human refinement," he said.

Throughout the evening, the organizers emphasized Anthropic's AI program as a tool that is relevant across disciplines and, at several points, said that none of the tools they demonstrated required any programming knowledge.

Anwar, who described himself as a non-technical student, said he has used Claude Code to build websites and products in the healthcare and biotech space.



MELISSA ADAMANTIDI / CONTRIBUTING REPORTER
The Yale College Council's tech division, the Yale Claude Builder Club and the Yale Entrepreneurial Society together hosted over 100 students for a live demonstration of how to use Anthropic's agentic artificial intelligence tools.

The next event on the tech division's calendar is a Claude Code hackathon scheduled for Saturday, which will offer $2,500 in prizes.

Contact
MELISSA ADAMANTIDI *at*
melissa.adamantidi@yale.edu

Alder sends children scrambling for Easter eggs at hunt in the Hill

BY NELLIE KENNEY
STAFF REPORTER

Hundreds of kids raced for thousands of Easter eggs in the second annual egg hunt hosted by an alder in the Hill on Saturday.

Tables and tents surrounded a field behind the John C. Daniels School of International Communication as children swinging colorful baskets, grocery bags and popcorn buckets queued outside the area roped off for Ward 3 Alder Angel Hubbard's second annual Easter egg hunt. Hubbard directed the crowd from a temporary stage provided by the city's parks department. Bubbles drifted, music blared and hot dogs sizzled.



NELLIE KENNEY / CONTRIBUTING REPORTER
Hundreds gathered on Saturday for an Easter egg hunt organized by Ward 3 Alder Angel Hubbard and funded by local motorcycle and social clubs, continuing a tradition started last spring.

"I need the other wards to see that Ward 3 is lit today," Hubbard said in a speech before the hunt began.

Also milling through the crowd were members of local motorcycle and social clubs — including the Presidents Motorcycle Club, of which Hubbard is the sergeant at arms, she said. Several clubs pitched in to help fund and organize the hunt. That funding supported a range of prizes, including bicycles, two TVs and heaps of games and teddy bears.

Before the start of the egg hunt, Hubbard invited the family of Kaiden Phillips, a 15-year-old boy who was fatally shot in Newhallville in September, to the stage. Hubbard presented the family with a city citation of condolence and named the first round of the egg hunt in Phillips' honor.

"For every egg, for every kid, for every laughter that we do today is in honor and memoriam of him," Hubbard said.

The youngest children opened the hunt accompanied by their parents, dashing across the field to gather eggs. Most eggs contained candy, but a few golden eggs corresponded to special prizes.

Inez, 9, won a blue stuffed bear after she found a golden egg. She said she was "happy" about receiving the bear. She had not decided what to call it, but was considering "Bluey," she added.

Marcia Perkins, who attended with her grandchildren, said it was her first time at the egg hunt.

"I think it's wonderful for the children, bringing them outside on this beautiful day that we finally have," she said.

During a time in which "there's a lot going on," Perkins said that it was "great getting the kids together, making new friends, some from other schools."

The Infamous Fusion Drill Team & Drum Core, a local youth drill team, performed. They were followed, in between the second and third rounds of the hunt, by another local youth team, the Elite Drill Squad and Drum Corps.

Several city leaders, including Board of Alders President Tyisha Walker-Myers, Board of Alders Majority Leader Richard Furlow and acting-New Haven Police Chief David Zannelli, were among the crowd.

Zannelli said the hunt was "something the city needs more of."

"We need more events like this, showcasing unity and togetherness, rather than just getting together when there's a crisis," he said.

Hubbard encouraged attendees to call her "Yummy," a nickname she said she grew up with. In a speech near the end of the event, she told the crowd that she did not hold the hunt because of her position as alder. "I did that because I am Yummy, period," she said.

"We all had nicknames," Hubbard said of her family in an interview. "And my mom — it was never 'mom' or 'mama,' she was 'Honey Ma.'" Mary Ogman, or "Honey Ma," died last August, and Hubbard dedicated the final round of the egg hunt in her honor.

"This right here is my mom," Hubbard said. "She would have been dancing, throwing money. This is all her."

The egg hunt began at 1 p.m. and lasted until around 4:30 p.m.

Contact
NELLIE KENNEY *at*
nellie.kenney@yale.edu

Local sculpture exhibit explores themes of migration and memory

BY ANGELINA KOVALCHUK
STAFF REPORTER

With a new exhibition called "Passages," the New Haven Creative Arts Workshop is inviting visitors to consider themes of migration and memory.

The exhibition, which spans two floors of the gallery, showcases works from Susan Clinard and Fethi Meghelli, two prominent artists who have worked in New Haven. The exhibition is free and open to the public, and will be open until Saturday.

"Strength and vulnerability, pain and joy, hope and sorrow all come together in memorable experiences of a shared humanity that tug at one's heart," Judy Birke, the curator, stated in a press release.

In an email, Clinard wrote that the exhibition seeks to look "beyond individual experience and engage shared histories and collective narratives, seeking connection rather than division."

Clinard's sculptural collection, "The Weight We Carry," approaches that connection through traversing generations. A trio of ceramic figures carrying weights behind them convey emotional burden through form and expression, exploring theories of intergenerational trauma.

"By showing these figures that are dragging, pulling, lifting these weights, it was envisioning how we push through difficulties that we carry, not in our own life, but also from our generations before us," Clinard said at an artist talk on Sunday. "But we can change those forms. They can get lighter, they can move, they can open, they can lessen."

Clinard and Meghelli also confront movement and boundaries through works exploring migration and displacement.

"We feel deeply compassionate about the plight of those thrown into instability," Clinard wrote. She wrote that the works honor the "brave and inspiring stories of countless refugees and immigrants who've found themselves transplanted in New Haven."

Meghelli cited his experiences as an Algerian immigrant in France and the United States as inspiration for his work.

"Over the years, there were always things happening around me or even outside me, and it touches me proudly. And so I had to produce images that show that time, this time, all the time," Meghelli said at the artist talk.

The featured works offer additional commentary on the uncertainty of the contemporary world. "Lady Liberty 2026," a 6-foot sculptural depiction of the Statue of Liberty crammed into a coffin-like box, expresses a "present loss of our democratic values and principles," Clinard said.

Clinard and Meghelli also explored found and discarded materials in their work. "One can see the evolution of materiality in the work over the decades," Clinard said.



ANGELINA KOVALCHUK / CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER
"Passages," an exhibition at the New Haven Creative Arts Workshop that considers themes related to trauma and displacement, will be on display until Saturday.



ANGELINA KOVALCHUK / CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER

The exhibition also invites visitors to reflect on their own human experiences, such as through pieces like "The Carrier of Our Wishes," a 7-foot tall sculpture covered in multicolored ribbons, each with written wishes from people who have viewed the sculpture.

A note and basket of ribbons accompany the sculpture, inviting viewers to write their own "wish" and tie it onto the sculpture.

Clinard stated that she hopes visitors walk away with the impression that art is instrumental in reviving the human spirit.

"It is a language of its own, interpreted and felt by the viewer," Clinard wrote. "My hopes are that people walk away with a sense of connectivity, of beauty, of wonder and with questions that they may have to grapple within themselves."

The New Haven Creative Arts Workshop gallery is located at 80 Audubon St.

Contact
ANGELINA KOVALCHUK *at*
angelina.kovalchuk@yale.edu.