

CALL FOR PAPERS

Anna Julia Cooper Society
American Literature Association
28th Annual Conference
May 25-28, 2016
Westin Copley Place
Boston MA

Anna Julia Cooper: Writing in a Time of Backlash

Anna Julia Cooper and her contemporaries writing and organizing at the end of the nineteenth century, worked within and against what had been a two-decade (if not longer) backlash against the modest political and social gains attained during the Reconstruction era. They devised a range of literary, extra-literary, rhetorical, pedagogical and activist strategies to challenge the political repression and backlash that characterized the post-Reconstruction era. For this session, we invite abstracts that explore these strategies, broadly defined, as well as examine the related literary and cultural output. Paper might consider any of the following areas, though we welcome abstract on topics outside of those suggested below as well:

- Theory and practice of democracy (especially at the intersections of race, class, gender, sexuality, ability and/or nation)
- The politics of genre and form in a time of backlash
- Defining/defying political/social/cultural backlash
- Rhetorical, visual, and/or pedagogical strategies
- Comparative/transnational frameworks for resistance
- Backlash and the politics of print/knowledge production
- “Extraliterary” productions in drama and other fields
- Archival practice as resistance strategy

Abstracts should take up some aspect of Cooper’s work, but can do so in a comparative framework that situates Cooper in relation to her peers and/or later figures as well.

Please send abstracts (of no more than 300 words) and a brief bio no later than January 25, 2017 to ajcsociety@gmail.com.

Please adhere to the following format when submitting proposals: 1. List email subject as ALA-AJC Submission 2017 - [Your Last Name]; 2. Attach abstract as word doc and include name, brief bio, title and abstract within document.

For more about the Anna Julia Cooper Society, visit our website at www.annajuliacoopersociety.com.