

## **CFP: Lydia Maria Child Society**

**American Literature Association Conference in San Francisco, CA**

**24 – 27 May 2018 at the Hyatt Regency San Francisco, 5 Embarcadero**

(URL: [americanliteratureassociation.org/ala-conferences/ala-annual-conference/](http://americanliteratureassociation.org/ala-conferences/ala-annual-conference/))

The Lydia Maria Child Society **welcomes proposals for a roundtable and for an open-topic panel** at the annual American Literature Association Conference in San Francisco, CA, at the Hyatt Regency San Francisco.

### **Social Justice Pedagogy Roundtable**

The Lydia Maria Child Society seeks participants for a **roundtable on pedagogy, social justice, and American literature**. Considering contemporary social justice concerns ranging from the Black Lives Matter movement to the Dakota Access Pipeline controversy to persistent gender inequities and xenophobia made all too apparent by the 2016 presidential election and the resulting anti-woman and anti-immigrant policies, the Child Society feels strongly that many of the issues for which Child fought so passionately remain deeply relevant today. To honor her lifelong commitment to both education and writing as ways to attain social change, we ask that our selected panelists prepare brief presentations on how they address the above issues and/or others within the literature classroom, before engaging in what we hope will be a fruitful and wide-ranging open discussion on social justice pedagogies and American literature. What texts and social issues have proved particularly pertinent to your students' lived experiences of activism, marginalization, etc.? How do you productively draw parallels between the concerns of the literary works you teach and those we are facing in the world outside the classroom? What specific lesson plans, textual pairings/groupings, and/or other pedagogical approaches might you recommend to colleagues striving to make their syllabi and classrooms more socially conscious and engaged?

Please send 200-word abstracts of your proposed presentation, as Word documents, to [lydiamariachildsociety@gmail.com](mailto:lydiamariachildsociety@gmail.com) by January 10, 2018. Note that while we of course welcome proposals that engage with Child's work, Child need not be included for your proposal to be considered.

### **Open-Topic Panel on Child**

The Lydia Maria Child Society values sharing ideas about Lydia Maria Child and her work, particularly the work that has spoken the most to you. We therefore welcome for our **open-topic panel** proposals that engage with any aspect of Child's personal or professional life and endeavors. Possible topics include:

- Child and food/cooking
- Child and animals
- Child and the Civil War
- Child and radical democracy/activism

- Child and politics, especially in relation to current issues
- Child's journalism and editorship
- Child and education
- Child and the arts (theater, music, visual arts, etc.)
- Child's influence on her contemporaries
- Child's influence on later writers
- Child in the K – 12 classroom, continuing education, and beyond
- Child in the community (local, state, national, international)

Please send 250-word abstracts and a brief CV, as Word documents, to [lydiamariachildsociety@gmail.com](mailto:lydiamariachildsociety@gmail.com) and to [sburr@nmu.edu](mailto:sburr@nmu.edu) by January 10, 2018.