American Literature Association
A Coalition of Societies Devoted to the Study of American Authors

29th Annual Conference on American Literature
San Francisco, CA

May 24-27, 2018

Conference Director
Leslie Petty
Rhodes College

Follow us on Twitter @AmLit_ALA for updates and news, and tweet about the conference using #ALA2018!

This on-line draft of the program is designed to provide information to participants in our 29th conference and an opportunity to make corrections. Please send your corrections directly to the conference director at pettyL@rhodes.edu as soon as possible. Updates will be published on-line weekly until we go to press.

Please note that the printed program will be available at the conference. Opportunities to advertise in the printed program are available at a cost of $250 per camera ready page – further information may be obtained by contacting Professor Alfred Bendixen, the Executive Director of the ALA, at ab23@princeton.edu

Audio-Visual Equipment: The program also lists the audio-visual equipment that has been requested for each panel. The ALA normally provides a digital projector and screen to those who have requested it at the time the panel or paper is submitted. Individuals will need to provide their own laptops and those using Macs are advised to bring along the proper cable/adaptor to hook up with the projector. Please note that we no longer provide vcrs or overhead projectors or tape players and we cannot provide internet access.

Registration: Participants must pre-register for the conference by going to the website at
and either completing on line-registration which allows you to pay with a credit card or completing the registration form and mailing it along with the appropriate check to the address indicated.

Please remember that all participants in the 29th Annual ALA Conference are required to pre-register in order to remain on the program. Those who have not pre-registered by April 15th will be informed that they will be dropped by May 1 if they do not pre-register. I regret that it will be necessary to strictly enforce this policy.

Please make your hotel reservations as soon as possible. You can do so by going to

http://americanliteratureassociation.org/ala-conferences/housing-information/

and following the directions posted.

If something prevents you from presenting your paper, please notify the chair of your panel and the conference director as soon as possible.

Please note that our rules permit individuals to present only one formal paper at the annual conference. Individuals may present one paper and also serve on roundtables and chair sessions.

A few sections still need chairs and we welcome volunteers who should contact the conference director if they are interested in chairing a specific session.

Thank you for your support of the American Literature Association

Leslie Petty, 2018 Conference Director

Registration Desk (Pacific Concourse)

Wednesday, 8:00 pm – 10:00 pm;
Thursday, 8:00 am - 5:30 pm;
Friday, 7:30 am - 5:00 pm;
Saturday, 7:30 am - 3:00 pm;
Sunday, 8:00 am - 10:30 am.
Book Exhibits (Pacific L-M-N-O)

Thursday, 10 am – 5 pm;  
Friday, 9 am – 5 pm;  
Saturday, 9 am – 1:00 pm.

Featured Readings and Receptions

Thursday, May 24, 2018

Ishmael Reed

6:00 – 7:00 pm

Opening Reception
7:00- 8:00

Friday, May 25, 2018

African American Literature and Culture Society Reception

Reading and Book Signing:

Friday May 25, 2018
7:15- 9:00 pm

Reading by giovanni singleton, recipient of the 2017 Stephen E. Henderson Award for Outstanding Achievement in Poetry

Presentation of the Darwin T. Turner Award to Michele Elam

A reception hosted by the African American Literature and Culture Society, the Charles W. Chesnutt Society, the Paul Laurence Dunbar Society, the Pauline Hopkins Society, the Toni Morrison Society, the Ralph Ellison Society, Octavia E. Butler Literary Society, and the John Edgar Wideman Society, and sponsored by the African American Literature and Culture Society and the American Literature Association will precede the reading.

giovanni singleton is the author of Ascension (2011), winner of the California Book Award Gold Medal for poetry, and AMERICAN LETTERS: works on paper (2017). Her poetry appears in many anthologies and is inscribed on the Yerba Buena Center for the Arts in San Francisco, CA. She has been a fellow at the Squaw Valley Community of Writers, Cave Canem, and the Napa Valley Writers Conference, as well as a
recipient of the New Langton Bay Area Award. She is the coordinator for the Lunch Poems series at the University of California-Berkeley and founding editor of *nocturnes (re)view of the literary arts*. She has taught at Saint Mary's College, Naropa University and New Mexico State University.

**Saturday, May 26, 2018**

A Reading from *LINCOLN IN THE BARDO* (2017)

**Dramatis Personae**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Performer</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Willie Lincoln</td>
<td>Maxine Hong Kingston</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abraham Lincoln</td>
<td>Joe Lamb</td>
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<tr>
<td>Roger Bevins III</td>
<td>David Johnson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hans Vollman</td>
<td>Earl Kingston</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rev. Everly Thomas</td>
<td>Joanne Palamountain</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eddie Baron</td>
<td>John Whalen-Bridge</td>
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<tr>
<td>Betsy Baron</td>
<td>Kathleen Taylor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Director</td>
<td>David Johnson</td>
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In the opening pages of the novel, Willie Lincoln is dying of typhoid fever while his parents must host a large state dinner in the White House. After Willie dies, Abraham Lincoln attempts to grapple with his loss by visiting his dead son’s crypt, opening the casket, and holding his beloved son’s body. This act deeply affects several of the spirits inhabiting the charnel ground, but Willie is disturbed by the sight. Now a disembodied spirit, Willie looks down upon his father and his own unrecognized body, unaware that he is dead. Why does his father walk away, abandoning him?

Saunders has defined the bardo as “a transitional state between lives,” but the concept can apply more widely to a number of liminal situations. According to some Tibetan Buddhist teachings, everyday life (the *shinay bardo*), the dreams that come between one day and the next (the *milam bardo*), and the bardo of meditative experience (the *samten bardo*) are all moments in which beings struggle for clarity, though these lesser-known bardos are thought to be less consequential than the purgatorial term between lives. A traveler stuck in an airport due to a missed flight is in a kind of bardo, a period of uncertainty. While the novel is centered on the travails of Willie Lincoln, the boy’s spiritual journey is artfully linked to that of all the other characters in this novel, and perhaps to the whole of American life that is shaped by Abraham Lincoln’s choices.

Like Willie, the President finds himself caught between possibilities. The elder Lincoln faces crises that are at once spiritual, psychological, and political. In late February 1862, just after Grant’s capture of Fort Donelson, the Civil War was beginning to metastasize into a new kind of war—the catastrophe that would claim over 600,000 American lives. During the course of the novel, the ten worst battles were yet to happen. Saunders takes us into the agonized heart of Lincoln as he struggles with what he should do.

Readers (and hearers) of *Lincoln in the Bardo* may find the central organizing metaphor to be quite timely. In response to the political rallies of a more recent politician, Saunders in early 2016 wrote that he had “never before imagined America as fragile, as an experiment that could, within my very lifetime, fail.”
Spiritually engaged and unfailingly intelligent, *Lincoln in the Bardo* appreciates profoundly the fragility of our individual lives and of our communal way of life.

With the kind permission of the writer, The Postmortem Players have come together to perform a reading of *Lincoln in the Bardo* for the American Literature Association.

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**Thursday, May 24, 2018**

Registration:  7:30 am - 5:30 pm
Book exhibit:  10 am- 5 pm

**Thursday, May 24, 2018**

9:00 – 10:20 am

**Session 1-A  Black Protest and the Literary Response**

Organized by the African American Literature and Culture Society

Chair: Aldon Nielsen, The Pennsylvania State University

1. “‘This is the Time’: Umbra, On Guard for Freedom and the Death of Patrice Lumumba,” David Grundy, University of Cambridge, UK.
2. “‘The Black Map’ (A book entirely unwritten)”: Reframing Bronzeville from Within,” Sophia Bamert, University of California, Davis.

A/V: Yes

**Session 1-B  Howells and Democracy**

Organized by the William Dean Howells Society

Chair: Daniel J. Mrozowski, Trinity College

1. “Democracy and Trust in the Oeuvre of William Dean Howells,” Margit Peterfy, University of Heidelberg

Audio-Visual Equipment required: Projector and Screen
**Session 1-C**  Faulkner: In Short
Organized by the William Faulkner Society

Chair: Sarah Gardner, Mercer University

2. “An Error in Copyediting: Removing the South from Faulkner’s Second-Prize Story in *Ellery Queen’s Mystery Magazine*,” John N. Duvall, Purdue University
3. “‘Where Are Your Guts?’: Pride, Honor, and Inner Strength in William Faulkner’s ‘Honor,’” Dennis B. Ledden, Pennsylvania State University

Audio-visual equipment required: Projector and screen for PowerPoint/film clips

**Session 1-D**  Future Earths I: Future Past and Future Present
Organized by the Association for the Study of Literature and Environment

Chair: Megan Simpson, Penn State Altoona

1. “Atomic Afrofuturism: The Cold War and Apocalyptic Ecologies,” Kristin George Bagdanov, UC Davis
2. “Uncertainty Discourse in Climate Modeling and Barbara Kingsolver’s *Flight Behavior*,” Pamela Carralero, Purdue University
3. “‘Poem of Our Time’: The Spirituality and Futurity of Waste in A. R. Ammons’s *Garbage*,” Carly Rubin, Louisiana State University

Audio-Visual Equipment required: PowerPoint

**Session 1-E**  Bodies in Poe and Hawthorne
Organized by the Poe Studies Association

Chair: Travis Montgomery, Oklahoma Christian University

2. "Female Bodies and Male Fears in Poe and Hawthorne," Paul Emmett, University of Wisconsin-Manitowoc
3. "*The Scarlet Letter*, ‘Berenice,’ and Jacksonian Era Medical Debates," Jeffrey Yeager, West Virginia University

Audio-Visual Equipment required: projector and screen for PP presentations

**Session 1-F**  Chicana/o/x Narrative Strategies: Voicing Historia in a (Post) Racial America
Organized by Latina/o/x Literature and Culture Society

Chair: Cristina Herrera, California State University, Fresno
1. “Between Fact and Fiction: Articulating Captiva Identity in the Fictionalized WPA Narratives from Lorraine Lopez’s *The Gifted Gabaldon Sisters,*” Patricia Trujillo, Northern New Mexico College
2. “Chicanas and Central Americans: (Mis)Recognition and Disappearance in Helena María Viramontes’ *The Cariboo Café,*” Araceli Esparza, California State University, Long Beach
3. “Dystopian Images in *Their Dogs Came with Them,* and the Economic Realities of Postracial America,” Edén Torres, University of Minnesota
4. “Shifting the Site of Chicana/o Enunciation?: Focalization in Manuel Muñoz’s *What You See in the Dark,*” Omar Figueredo, Independent Scholar

Audio-Visual Equipment required: Projector for Powerpoint/DVD presentations and Screen

**Session 1-G**  Postwar Urban Poetry I: Riots and Rebels  
Organized by the Postwar Area Literature Group

Chair: Nicole Dib, University of California, Santa Barbara

1. “‘The eagerness of objects to be what we are afraid to do’: Anxiety and Affects in Frank O’Hara,” Melih Levi, Stanford
2. “The Tesseract that Jack Built: Translational Poetics in Spicer’s *After Lorca,*” Nicholas Whittington, University of California, Santa Cruz

Audiovisual Equipment Required: Projector, hook-ups (for PowerPoint)

**Session 1-H**  Disappearing Women: A New Look at Recovery  
Organized by the Constance Fenimore Woolson Society

Chair: Jane M. Fleming, University of Texas at Austin

1. “Social Satire and Non-Human Empathy in Sigourney’s *Crushed Mouse,*” Sarah J. Schuster, University of Texas at Austin
2. “Deadly Inversions: Emotional Labor and Disappearance in Constance Fenimore Woolson’s *Miss Grief,*” Danielle Cofer, University of Rhode Island
3. “An American Exmatriate Literary Tradition?: Recovering the Missing Mothers of Gilded Age Expatriate Novels,” Shonda N. Stevens, Florida State University

Audio-Visual Equipment required: None

**Session 1-I**  Cultural Contexts  
Chair: TBA

1. “Regrets for Mr. Roosevelt: Pauli Murray’s Poems for FDR,” Christina G. Bucher, Berry College
2. “American Nobels: From Sinclair Lewis to Bob Dylan,” James D. Bloom, Muhlenberg College

**Session 1-J**  Reassessing Leslie Fiedler  
Organized by the American Literature Society

Chair: Karen Roggenkamp, Texas A&M-Commerce

2. When Bad Faith Makes Good Art: Leslie Fiedler and the Aesthetics of Hypocrisy," Ashley Barnes, University of Texas-Dallas
3. “Leslie Fiedler’s Coming to Jerusalem,” Ken Dauber, SUNY at Buffalo

Audio-Visual Equipment required: None

**Thursday, May 24, 2018**  
**10:30-11:50am**

**Session 2-A**  Don DeLillo and Paradox  
Organized by the Don DeLillo Society

Chair: Jesse Kavadlo, Maryville University

2. “Don DeLillo and the Lure of Fundamentalism,” Matt Kavanagh, Okanagan College  
4. “Composites in Don DeLillo,” Michael Goebel, Albertus Magnus University of Cologne

**Session 2-B**  Frank Norris  
Organized by the Frank Norris Society  
Chair: Eric Carl Link, Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne

1. “Looking at ‘Wheat’ in the Blink of an Eye,” Toby Widdicombe, University of Alaska Anchorage  
2. “Design for Determinism: Norris, Nansen, and A Man’s Woman,” Patti Luedecke, Western University Ontario  

Audio Visual Equipment Required: PowerPoint Projector and Screen

**Session 2-C**  “Note from the Real World” – Amiri Baraka  
Organized by the Amiri Baraka Society

Chair: Aldon Lynn Nielsen, The Pennsylvania State University
1. “27 Cooper Square: Amiri Baraka and Bohemia,” William J. Harris, University of Kansas, emeritus
2. “The Empire Strikes Back: Baraka and Andrews in the age of Trump,” Joseph Lease, California College of the Arts

Audio-Visual Equipment required: data projector with screen and sound

Session 2-D: Future Earths II: Speculative Ecologies
Organized by the Association for the Study of Literature and Environment

Chair: Ian Marshall, Penn State Altoona

3. “Sympathy with the Earth: Becoming World in Area X of the Southern Reach Trilogy,” Suzanne McCullagh, Miami University of Ohio

Audio-Visual Equipment required: PowerPoint

Session 2-E Border Crossings and Revisions: Celebrating 100 Years of My Ántonia
Organized by The Willa Cather Foundation

Chair: John Swift, Occidental College

1. “Wild Flowers and Refuge in My Ántonia,” Charmion Gustke, Belmont University
2. “Synthesizing Place, the Plains, and Cather: Perspectives on My Ántonia from the International Classroom,” Aaron J Laduke, Northwestern University-Qatar
3. “That Singular Light’: The Luminescent Underpinnings of My Ántonia,” Aimee M. Allard, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Audio-Visual Equipment Required: Projector and screen.

Session 2-F Untimely Regions: Arizona, New Mexico, Florida

Organizer and Moderator: Antonio López, English, George Washington University

2. “Memory in Contemporary Latino/a Poetry,” Jessica Guzman, English, University of Southern Mississippi
4. “Past/Future/Perfect: Cuban Writers and Temporal Form,” Luis Iglesias, English, University of Southern Mississippi
AV Requirements: Computer, PowerPoint, Screen. [We do not provide computers.]

**Session 2-G** Postwar Urban Poetry II: Politicizing Performance Spaces
Organized by the Postwar Area Literature Group

Chair: Nicole Dib, University of California, Santa Barbara

1. “‘To them and to you, life’: Diasporic Ethics of Charles Reznikoff’s Urban Vision,” Dalia Bolotnikov, University of California, Santa Barbara
3. “‘These Are the Breaks:’ The Poetics of Black Nostalgia,” Felice Blake and Lexxus Edison, University of California, Santa Barbara

Audiovisual Equipment Required: Projector, hook-ups (for PowerPoint) those using Macs may need to provide their own connecting cords and dongles

**Session 2-H** Disappearing Women: Changing the Conversation about Recovering Reconstruction
Organized by the Constance Fenimore Woolson Society

Chair: Jane E. Schultz, Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis

1. “Forgotten Stories, Unexpected Developments,” Kathleen Diffley, University of Iowa
2. “Before Memory and Memorialization: Rebecca Harding Davis’s Reconstruction,” Sarah E. Gardner, Mercer University
3. “Reconstructing Sherwood Bonner’s Like unto Like,” Kathryn McKee, University of Mississippi

Audio-Visual Equipment required: LCD projector

**Session 2-I** Challenging Versions of Veteran Identity and Representation
Organized by Liam Corley, California State Polytechnic University, Pomona

Chair: Danielle Cofer, University of Rhode Island

3. “Four Antebellum Female Veterans: Legacies and Divergences in Southworth, Brown, Brewer, and Sampson,” Liam Corley, California State Polytechnic University, Pomona

Audio-Visual Equipment required: none
Session 2-J  Beyond Harlem, Expanding the Renaissance

Organizer: Amber La Piana, Foothill College

Chair: Susan Tomlinson, University of Massachusetts Boston

1. “Soft and Lazy Syncopation”: Art, Violence, and Capitalism in Hughes's The Ways of White Folks, Erin Mae Clark, Saint Mary's University of Minnesota
2. “Better Racial Understanding”: Delilah L. Beasley, the Bay Area, and the Harlem Renaissance, Amber La Piana, Foothill College
3. “I'll make me a world”: James Weldon Johnson's God's Trombones as Literary Collection, Joelle Moen, Brigham Young University-Idaho

Audio-Visual Equipment required: None

Session 2-K  Arthur Miller and Eugene O'Neill: Dramatic Theory and the Business of Performance
Organized by the Arthur Miller Society

Chair: Beth Wynstra, Babson College


Audio-Visual Equipment required: None

Session 2-L  Business Meeting: Available

Thursday, May 24, 2018
12:00 – 1:20 pm

Session 3-A  Don DeLillo and Paradox II
Organized by the Don DeLillo Society

Chair: Jacqueline Zubeck, College of Mount Saint Vincent

1. “The Living and the Undead: DeLillo’s Late Style,” Mark Osteen, Loyola University
2. “Mapping Transcendence: Don DeLillo’s Uncanny Spaces,” Laura Barrett, SUNY/New Paltz
3. “The Monastery of Manhattan: DeLillo’s *Great Jones Street* and the Postsecular City,” Teddy Hamstra, University of Colorado-Boulder
4. “Don DeLillo and Endings and Beginnings,” Jesse Kavadlo, Maryville University

Audio-Visual Equipment required: projector for computer and screen

**Session 3-B** Narrative Disruptions & Reconstructions in Southern Literature
Organized by the Society for the Study of Southern Literature

Chair: Bill Hardwig, University of Tennessee

1. “U.S. Southern Writers and Spanish America,” Amanda Louise Johnson, Rice University
2. “‘Laura Krey, a Texas Agrarian: The *Sewanee Review* Essays,” José E. Limón, University of Notre Dame
3. “Narrating Affect: The Grotesque and Cormac McCarthy’s *Suttree*,” Bill Hardwig, University of Tennessee

Audio-Visual Equipment Requirements: On-screen photo display; laptop connection

**Session 3-C** Interdisciplinary Currents in Faulkner Studies: A Roundtable
Organized by the William Faulkner Society

Moderator: Peter Lurie, University of Richmond

3. “Faulkner and the Field of Law and Literature,” Kathryn S. Koo, Saint Mary’s College of California
4. “Sexology, Creation, and Procreation: Queering Pregnancy in *If I Forget Thee, Jerusalem*,” Aimee Armande Wilson, University of Kansas
5. “Faulkner and Visual Culture Now: Recursion or Development?” Peter Lurie, University of Richmond

Audio-visual equipment required: Projector and screen for PowerPoint/film clips

**Session 3-D** Available

**Session 3-E** Queerness, Familia, and Gendered Identities in Chicana/o/x Literary and Cultural Production
Organized by Latina/o/x Literature and Culture Society

Chair: Marci R. McMahon, University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

1. “Forged Identity: Borderlands Subjectivity in Daniel Chacón’s ‘Godoy Lives,’” Jacob Wilkenfeld, Northwestern University
2. “Unraveling the Familia Fantasy in Ana Castillo’s *The Guardians* and *Give It To Me,*” Monica Montelongo Flores, California State University, Stanislaus
3. “Queering Vatos Locos: *Sureños, Sexuality, and Hypermasculinity,*” Frank García, University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign
4. “CyberAztlán: Chicana/o Feminist Activism,” Justine Hernandez, St. Edward’s University

Audio-Visual Equipment required: Projector for Powerpoint/DVD presentations and Screen

**Session 3-F Teaching Poe and the World**  
Organized by the Poe Studies Association

Chair: Emron Esplin, Brigham Young University

1. “Poe in Brazil: Machado de Assis and the Emulation of Poe as a Criticism against Baudelaire’s Intermediation,” Greicy Pinto Bellin, Centro Universitário Campos de Andrade (Brazil)

Audio-Visual Equipment required: projector and screen for PP presentations

**Session 3-G Emerson and Literature**  
Organized by the Ralph Waldo Emerson Society

Chair: Michael C. Weisenburg, University of South Carolina

1. “Fleeing to Fables: Emerson in Children’s Literature,” Kristina West, University of Reading
2. “Emerson in Marilynne Robinson’s *Gilead,“* Susan Dunston, New Mexico Tech
3. “Emerson, Longfellow and the Professionalization of the Arts.” Philipp Loeffler, University of Heidelberg

Audio-Visual Equipment required: PowerPoint Projection

**Session 3-H American Religious-Scientific Literature**  
Organized by: Christine Hedlin, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
Chair: Dawn Coleman, University of Tennessee

1. “Scientific Racism and Religion in Harriet Beecher Stowe’s *The Minister’s Wooing,*” Christine Hedlin, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
2. “Phantom Limbs: Amputation and Religion in Silas Weir Mitchell’s ‘The Case of George Dedlow,’” Randall Fuller, Kansas University
4. “Spiritualism, Free Love, and Consent in Elizabeth Oakes Smith’s Bertha and Lily,” Ashley Reed, Virginia Tech

Audio-Visual Equipment Needed: None

Session 3-I  History, Truth, and Fiction in the Recent Work of John Edgar Wideman
Organized by John Edgar Wideman Society

Chair: Wilfred Samuels, University of Utah

1. "Truth and Fiction in Writing to Save a Life," Stephen Casmier, Saint Louis University
2. "History and Truth in Wideman's Recent Work," Keith Byerman
3. "Dwelling on the Dirtiness of Keeping Brothers;"
Rich Roberts, University of Utah

Audio-Visual Equipment Needed: None

Session 3-J  Ellen Glasgow: Across the Canon
Organized by Mark A. Graves, Ellen Glasgow Society

Chair: Chad Rohman, Dominican University

1. "An Inward Turn: Mining the ‘Living Pulse’ of Loss in the Life and Works of Ellen Glasgow;" Jana Rivers-Norton, Cochise College
2. "Art, Inspiration, Family: Conversations with Ellen Glasgow’s Relatives," James L. Coby, University of Alabama in Huntsville
3. “Another Look at Glasgow’s One Man in His Time,” Mark A. Graves, Morehead State University

Audio-Visual Equipment required: None

Session 3-K  Business Meeting: Postwar Area Literature Group

Session 3-L  Business Meeting: Constance Fenimore Woolson Society

Thursday, May 24, 2018
1:30 – 2:50 pm

Session 4-A  Reading Confederate Monuments I
Organized by the American Literature Society

Chair: Leland S. Person, University of Cincinnati

1. “Print Culture and the Enduring Legacy of Confederate War Monuments: Columbia, SC as a Case Study,” Michael C. Weisenburg, University of South Carolina, Columbia
2. “Complicating Today’s Myth about the ‘Myth of the Lost Cause’: Lamar’s Dedication to a Statue of Calhoun, 1887,” Brook Thomas, University of California, Irvine

Audio-Visual Equipment required: Projector

Session 4-B  Howells and the Politics of Subjectivity: Gender, Class, and Race
Organized by the William Dean Howells Society

Chair: Margaret Jay Jessee, University of Alabama at Birmingham

1. “I tried to see her as you do’: Gendered Subjectivity and William Dean Howells’s The Coast of Bohemia,” Jennifer Leigh Moffitt, Florida Southern College
2. “Democracy and American Girls: Gender, Class, and ‘Race’ in William Dean Howells’ International Novels,” Naoko Sugiyama, Japan Women’s University

Audio-Visual Equipment required: Projector and Screen

Session 4-C  “Four Cats on REPATRIATIONOLOGY” – Amiri Baraka II
Organized by the Amiri Baraka Society

Chair: Gregory Pierrot, University of Connecticut, Stamford

1. “Allah Mean Everything’—Baraka’s Syncretic Religion,” Chris Stroffolino, Laney College
2. “Toward a Total Art: Some of Amiri Baraka’s Sketches, Drawings, Paintings,” Tyrone Williams, Xavier University

Audio-Visual Equipment required: data projector with screen and sound

Session 4-D  Melville in the Anthropocene
Organized by the Melville Society and the Association for the Study of Literature and the Environment (ASLE)
Chair: Meredith Farmer, Wake Forest University

2. “Concentrating ‘the snugness:' Body, Relation and Being in a Melvillean Anthropocene," Ryan Heryford; California State University, East Bay
3. “Has the crater but shifted?: Geology and Racial Violence in Melville’s Battle Pieces," Carie Schneider, University of Arizona

Respondent: Meredith Farmer, Wake Forest University

Audio-Visual Equipment is needed

**Session 4-E**  Evelyn Scott: Provocative Modernisms
Organized by the Evelyn Scott Society

Chair: Claudia Milstead, University of Northern Colorado

1. "Evelyn Scott's The Wave: Challenging the Patriarchal Pedestal Then and Now," Dawn Gartlehner, University of Vienna
2. "Birth, Fiesta, and Death: Evelyn Scott's Gaze Upon Brazilian Culture and Society," Maria Das Graças Salgado, Universidade Federal Rural do Rio de Janeiro

Audio-Visual Equipment Required: Projector and PC/Windows laptop

**Session 4-F**  The Frontier in American Literary Imagination
Organized by the James Fenimore Cooper Society

Chair: Luis A. Iglesias, University of Southern Mississippi

2. “Constructing the Frontier: Natty’s Cabin as Lyrical Trope,” Marissa Grunes, Harvard University
3. “Local and Global Knowledges in Cooper’s Last of the Mohicans,” Kacey Steward, University of Delaware

Audio-Visual Equipment required: Projector and Screen/Monitor

**Session 4-G**  Emerson and Nineteenth Century Arts Movements
Organized by the Ralph Waldo Emerson Society
Chair: Roger Thompson, Stony Brook University

1. “Light is the first of painters’: Ralph Waldo Emerson and the Luminism of John Frederick Kensett,” Ann Beebe, University of Texas at Tyler
2. “A singularly dandified theory of manners’: Emersonian Aesthetics amongst the Decadents” Tim Clarke, University of Ottawa
3. “Emersonianism West: Aesthetic Experience and Aesthetic ownership in Frank Norris’s McTeague,” Chacko T. Kuruvilla, University of California, Santa Cruz

Audio-Visual Equipment required: PowerPoint Projection

**Session 4-H**  Resistance and Freedom in African American Literature
Chair: TBA

2. “No one could live on a street live this and stay decent’: Ann Petry’s The Street,” M. Elizabeth Geddy, Georgia Southern University
3. ”The Double of Double Consciousness: Charles Johnson’s Du Boisian Auto Machia,” Richard Hardack
4. “The De/Historicized Body in Randall Kenan’s A Visitation of Spirits,” Deborah Wilson, Arkansas Tech University

Audio-Visual Equipment Required: None

**Session 4-I**  Business Meeting: Poe Studies Association

**Session 4-J**  Business Meeting: Gertrude Stein Society

**Session 4-K**  Business Meeting: John Edgar Wideman Association

**Session 4-L**  Business Meeting: William Faulkner Society

Thursday, May 24, 2018
3:00 – 4:20 pm

**Session 5-A**  Reading Confederate Monuments II
Organized by the American Literature Society

Chair: Randi Tanglen, Austin College

2. “Redeeming White Women as Property in The Birth of a Nation,” Maria Seger, University of Louisiana at Lafayette
3. “Frederick Douglass Monuments,” Leland S. Person, University of Cincinnati

Audio-Visual Equipment required: Projector

Session 5-B Frank Norris’s *McTeague*: New Perspectives
Organized by the Frank Norris Society

Chair: Steven Frye, California State University Bakersfield

1. “‘Bottled Lightning’: *McTeague* and the Gospel of Relaxation,” Jeffrey W. Miller, Gonzaga University
3. “‘Spit ut out’: The Role of Dialect in Frank Norris’s *McTeague*,” Scott Shumaker, University of Nevada Reno

Audio Visual Equipment Required: PowerPoint Projector and Screen

Session 5-C The Literature of the Christian Left
Organized by the American Religion and Literature Society

Chair: Ray Horton, Murray State University

2. “Biblical Radicalism and Gender Politics in Marilynne Robinson’s *Housekeeping*,” Srirupa Chatterjee, Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad
4. “What Has Pragmatism to Do with Religion?” Tae Sung, California Baptist University

Audio-Visual equipment required: Projector & connection for PowerPoint

Session 5-D Film and Literary Texts Panel
Organized by the Cinema Television Literature Association

Chair: Christine Danelski, California State University, Los Angeles

1. “Physical Challenge: Game Shows, State Power, and Death,” Mike Miley, Loyola University New Orleans
3. “Nothing Can Be Changed Until It Is Faced: Aesthetics of Adaptation in *I Am Not Your Negro*,” Erin Lee Mock, University of West Georgia
4. “‘These violent delights have violent ends’: Shakespeare and *Westworld*,” Nicole Kenley, Simpson University
Equipment Required: Projector and Screen

Session 5-E  “Something Unusual and Engaging”: Freedom of Movement in My Ántonia
Organized by The Willa Cather Foundation

Chair: Charmion Gustke, Belmont University

2. “Acquiring Roots: Grafting as Belonging in My Ántonia," Jack Kerkering, Loyola University Chicago
3. “The Ideal Observer Meets the Ideal Consumer: Realism, Domestic Science, and Immigrant Cuisine in My Ántonia," Stephanie Tsank, University of Iowa

Audio-Visual Equipment Required: Projector and screen.

Session 5-F  James Fenimore Cooper and the Winds of Change
Organized by the James Fenimore Cooper Society

Chair: Stephen Arch, Michigan State University

1. “Blood Purer and Richer': The Disruptive Presence of Cora in The Last of the Mohicans," Michelle Dostal, Oklahoma State University
2. “'Cup and Saucer’ Divorce: Cooper and Women’s Rights," Barbara Alice Mann, University of Toledo, OH
4. “Cooper and Democratic Elitism,” Ma Yueling, Wuhan University, China

Audio-Visual Equipment required: Projector and Screen/Monitor

Session 5-G  Special Event: Screening of the video documentary Paul Laurence Dunbar: Beyond the Mask (Frederick Lewis, director; 118 min., 2017), with Q&A by Producer and Executive Producer Joseph W. Slade, Emeritus Professor of Media Arts and Studies, Ohio University.

Sponsored by the Paul Laurence Dunbar Society and the African American Literature and Culture Society.

Session 5-H  Ambulance Driver: Hemingway and the First World War
Organized by the Hemingway Society
Chair: Kirk Curnutt, Troy University

1. “Echoes of World War I Trauma in Winner Take Nothing,” Paul Blom, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
3. “Ghosts of Solferino: Hemingway, Dos Passos, and Jean-Henri Dunant’s Legacy on the Modern Battlefield,” John D. Schwetman, University of Minnesota Duluth

Audio-Visual Equipment required: None
Session 5-I  “As I Was Saying”: How to Read Gertrude Stein’s *The Making of Americans*: A Roundtable Discussion Organized by the Gertrude Stein Society

Chair: Amy Moorman Robbins, Hunter College, CUNY

1. Cecilia Konchar Farr, St. Catherine University
2. Janie Sisson, St. Catherine University
3. Emma Hargreaves, St. Catherine University
4. Varghese John, UC College, Mahatma Gandhi University, India

Audio-Visual Equipment required: None

Session 5-J  Business Meeting: William Dean Howells Society

Session 5-L  Business Meeting: Phillip Roth Society

Session 5-M:  Business Meeting: Amiri Baraka Society

Thursday, May 24, 2018
4:30 – 5:50 pm

Session 6-A  Contemporary Experiments
Chair: Regina Yoong, Ohio University

1. “Cathy Park Hong’s *Dance Dance Revolution*: Literary Epic and War’s Unvoiced Stories,” Andrea Quaid, Bard College
2. “Storm Over Atlanta: Tom Wolfe’s *A Man in Full* and the Critics,” Frank G. Novak, Jr., Pepperdine University
3. “Resilience from the Garden: Charles Goodrich’s *Going to Seed,*” Josh A. Weinstein, Virginia Wesleyan University
4. “The Art of Longing: The Representation of Desire in Andre’ Aciman’s *Call Me by Your Name,*” Margaret E. Johnson, Idaho State University

Audio-Visual Equipment required: DVD player or computer with projector – We will provide projector – participant will need to provide laptop to show dvd.
Session 6-B  Literary Naturalism and Social Protest: A Roundtable Discussion  
Organized by the Frank Norris Society  

Moderator: Eric Carl Link, Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne  

Panelists:  
- Donna Campbell, Washington State University  
- Anita Duneer, Rhode Island College  
- Steven Frye, California State University Bakersfield  
- Lauren Navarro, LaGuardia Community College  
- Keith Newlin, University of North Carolina Wilmington  
- Jeanne Reesman, University of Texas San Antonio  
- Adam Wood, Salisbury University  

Audio-Visual Equipment Required: Projector and Screen  

Session 6-C  Civil War, Reconstruction, Legacy  
Organized by the Civil War Caucus  

Chair: Kathleen Diffley, University of Iowa  

1. “Lyrical Weapons of War: The Poet's Corner in Civil War Soldier Papers,” James Berkey, Penn State Brandywine  
2. “Love at the Bedside: Hospitalized Soldiers, Caregivers, and Bodily Claims,” Jane E. Schultz, Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis  
3. “One Hundred Days Count: Civil Rights and the 1870 Census,” Judy Giesberg, Villanova University  
4. “An Illustrative Sample of Sales of William Still’s The Underground Railroad,” Alex Black, Hobart and William Smith Colleges  
5. “Copies of Carnage: Reevaluating Civil War Photography,” Ian Finseth, University of North Texas  

Audio-Visual Equipment required: LCD projector  

Session 6-D  Gothicism, Queer Futures, & The Maternal: Reconsidering Shirley Jackson’s The Haunting of Hill House  
Organized by the Shirley Jackson Society  

Chair: Jill E. Anderson, Tennessee State University  

1. “Shirley Jackson and the Potential Queer Future,” Emily Banks, Emory University  
2. “Shirley Jackson’s Domestic Architecture and the Matrophobic Gothic,” Luke Reid, Université de Montréal  
Audio-Visual Equipment required: screen & laptop connections

**Session 6-E  “A Shake Down”: Posthumous Engagements with Henry James**  
Organized by the Henry James Society

Chair: Oliver Herford, University of Birmingham

1.  “A Piece of String”: Rebecca West on Henry James”, Hazel Hutchison, University of Aberdeen
2.  “Pound Reading James: The Brunnenberg Volumes”, Simone Francescato, Ca’ Foscari University of Venice

Audio-visual equipment requested: projector and screen for PowerPoint presentations

**Session 6-F  Philip Roth and Sports**  
Organized by The Philip Roth Society

Chair: Andy Connolly, Hostos Community College of CUNY

1.  “Countering the Punch or Punching Counters? The Aesthetic and Erotic Significances of Roth’s Sporting Metaphor in *The Human Stain*,” Andy Connolly, Hostos Community College of CUNY
2.  “Roth in the Water: Swimming as Sport and Recreation,” Ira Nadel, University of British Columbia
3.  “Masculinity and Moral Athleticism” Carina Staudte, Independent Scholar

Audio-Visual Equipment required: data projector/screen (to show images from a laptop)

**Session 6-G  Continued: Special Event**: Screening of the video documentary *Paul Laurence Dunbar: Beyond the Mask* (Frederick Lewis, director; 118 min., 2017), with Q&A by Producer and Executive Producer Joseph W. Slade, Emeritus Professor of Media Arts and Studies, Ohio University.

Sponsored by the Paul Laurence Dunbar Society and the African American Literature and Culture Society.

**Session 6-H  Literature and the Christian Right**  
Organized by the American Religion and Literature Society

Chair: Christopher Douglas, The University of Victoria

2.  “Is there Critique in Gilead? Suspicion and the Formation of Believing Subject in *The Handmaid’s Tale* and *Lila*,” Ray Horton, Murray State University
Audio-Visual equipment required: None

**Session 6-I**  Mountains and Valleys of the South
Organized by the Society for the Study of Southern Literature

Chair: Erica Abrams Locklear, University of North Carolina Asheville

1. “You Are What you Eat: Appalachian Food in Local Color and Travel Writing,” Erica Abrams Locklear, University of North Carolina Asheville
3. “‘like trying to live in a graveyard’: Uninhabitable Environments, Fatalism, and the Post-Apocalyptic Vision of the Poor in Ron Rash’s *Serena*,” Randi Adams, Western Carolina University

Audio-Visual Equipment required: No

**Session 6-J**  New Readings of Old Stories
Organized by the Society for the Study of the American Short Story

Chair: James Nagel, University of Georgia

1. “A New Reading of Nathaniel Hawthorne’s ‘The Birthmark’,” Gudrun M. Grabher, University of Innsbruck (Austria)
2. “A New Perspective on the Anticlimactic and Abortive Events in Sherwood Anderson’s ‘Adventure’,” James W. Thomas, Pepperdine University
3. “Folk Traditions and Motifs in Joel Chandler Harris’s ‘Where’s Duncan’,” Lisa Abney, Northwestern State University of Louisiana

Audio-Visual Equipment required: None

**Session 6-K**  Open Session on Ernest Hemingway
Sponsored by the Hemingway Society

Only abstracts will be read so that there will be adequate time for discussion by the panelists and the audience.

Chair: Peter Hays, University of California, Davis

3. “‘Out of Season’ and the Fisher King,” Michael Montgomery, University of California, Davis.
4. “How Do You Know Anything: Hemingway’s Epistemology,” Mark Cirino, University of Evansville

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Audio-Visual equipment, none.

Session 6-L  Business Meeting: Cinema Television Literature Society

Session 6-M Business Meeting: James Fenimore Cooper Society

Thursday, May 24, 2018
Featured Reading

Ishmael Reed

Audio-Visual Equipment required: Microphone and Podium and a/v

6:00 – 7:00 pm

Opening Reception
7:00- 8:00

Friday, May 25, 2018

Registration: 7:30 am - 5:30 pm
Book Exhibits open 9:00 am – 5:00 pm

Friday, May 25, 2018
8:10 – 9:30 am

Session 7-A  New Looks on Nella Larsen
Organized by the African American Literature and Culture Society

Chair: Belinda Waller-Peterson, Moravian University

1. “Protesting Subjectivity, Embracing Queer Flesh: Self-Abnegation in Nella Larsen's Passing,” Alvin Henry, St. Lawrence University
2. “Nella Larsen Takes Her Stand: The Ecology of Protest in Quicksand,” Rachel Carr, University of Kentucky
3. "A Hand on Clare’s Bare Arm: Trans-ing Queerness in Nella Larsen's Passing," Anna Ziering, University of Connecticut
A/V: Yes

Session 7-B  American Jokes: Laughter at the Margins of Respectability
Organized by the American Humor Studies Association

Chair: Jeffrey Melton, University of Alabama

1. “Blonde Jokes: Anita Loos’ Gentlemen Prefer Blondes and Dorothy Parker’s ‘Big Blonde,’” Madison Priest, The Graduate Center, CUNY
2. “‘My Best Friend is Gay...’: Rhetorical Strategies for Making Bigotry Laughable,” Rebecca Krefting, Skidmore College
3. “MADness, Mishugas, Manhattan: That Other New York(er) Humor,” Judith Yaross Lee, Ohio University
4. “Satire and the Problem of Comic Laughter,” James E. Caron, University of Hawai’i at Manoa

Audio-Visual Equipment Required: projector/screen

Session 7-C  Race, Religion, and Post-secularism in American Literature
Organized by the American Religion and Literature Society

Chair: Kathryn Ludwig, Ball State University

1. “Questions of Faith: Reading the Productive Space of Religious Doubt in Helena Maria Viramontes’ The Dogs Came with Them,” Susan Edmunds, Syracuse University
2. “Slaves Writing Post-Secular: ‘The Problem of Evil’ and Haunting (Un)Belief in Hannah Craft’s The Bondwoman’s Narrative,” Ryan David Furlong, The University of Iowa
3. “From Wars to Walls: Hemispheric Politics and the Whiteness of American Secularism in Jackson’s Ramona,” AnaMaria Seglie, St. Norbert College

Audio-Visual equipment required: Projector & connection for PowerPoint

Session 7-D  Beat Roots: Kerouac, Kaufman, diPrima, and Self-Identification
Organized by the Beat Studies Association

Chair: Todd Hoffman, Augusta University

1. “‘Bum’ as Societal Model: Kerouac’s Ecology of Internal Restructuring in The Dharma Bums,” Allison Douglass, Graduate Center, CUNY
Audiovisual equipment required: Powerpoint projector/hookup

**Session 7-E**  Hidden Archives: Recovering Black, Latino, Multilingual, and Immigrant Literary Heritages, Organized by The Research Society of American Periodicals and The Western Literature Association

Chair: Montse Feu, Sam Houston State University

1. “The 1930s Writings of Jorge Ainslie in La Prensa de San Antonio, Texas,” José F. Aranda, Rice University.
2. “Emotional Communities in Many Languages. Anarchist Literature in American Periodicals at the Turn of the Twentieth Century,” Susana Sueiro Seoane, Universidad de Educación a Distancia, Spain.
3. “Green Mountain Anarchists and the Founding of the Cronaca Sovversiva: Building a Social History of Immigrant Propagandists and Radical Community Organizers,” Andrew Hoyt, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities.

Audio-Visual Equipment required: projector and screen

**Session 7-F** New Work on Eudora Welty
Organized By The Eudora Welty Society

Chair: Harriet Pollack, College of Charleston

1. “‘You Can’t Win’: Welty, Faulkner, and The Moral Tightrope of Dark Humor,” Adrienne Akins Warfield, Mars Hill University
2. “Convergence and Confluence: Postwar Southern Identity in Eudora Welty’s The Optimist’s Daughter,” Sarah Harsh, Emory University
3. “Eudora Welty’s ‘The Penalties of Writing Delta Wedding,’” Sophia Kane Leonard, Emory University
4. “Eudora Welty’s Ecological Vision,” Annette Trefzer, University of Mississippi

AV request: projector

**Session 7-G** There’s a Shakespeare in Harlem: Reassessing the Politics and Aesthetics of Langston Hughes
organized by the Langston Hughes Society

Chair: Christopher Allen Varlack, University of Maryland-Baltimore County

1. “Whitewashing a Black Socialist Masterpiece: The Liberal Appropriation of Langston Hughes’ ‘Let America be America Again,’” James D. Hoff, Borough of Manhattan Community College, CUNY
2. “Open Letter to America: The Lyrical Speaking Voice as Prophetic Protest in Hughes’ ‘Open Letter to the South’ and ‘Let American Be America Again,’” Paula Hayes, University of Memphis
3. “Poetry as Public Lament: The Prophetic Imagination of Langston Hughes,” Jeffrey R. Williams, University of Central Missouri

Audio-Visual Equipment Required: Projector
Session 7-H  Authority and Authorship in American Women’s Manuscript Writing

Chair: Tracey Daniels-Lerberg, University of Utah

1. “‘Good wives to snails should be akin’: Gender Roles and Political Community in Black Women’s Friendship Albums,” Faith Barrett, Duquesne University
2. “Recorded Care: Hospital Diaries of Civil War Nurses and Caregivers,” Marla Anzalone, Duquesne University
3. “Modulated Voice and Mediated History in the Reservation Diaries of Abby Williams Hill,” Tiffany Aldrich MacBain, University of Puget Sound
4. “Gone Girls, Found Manuscripts: Diary and Epistolary Fiction in the Digital Age,” Desirée Henderson, University of Texas Arlington

A/V: yes

Session 7-I  Ezra Pound and his Palpable Poetics of Environment in The Cantos: The Making Visible of Ideas
Organized by the Ezra Pound Society

Chair: Demetres Tryphonopoulos, Brandon University
Co-chair: LeeAnn Derdeyn, Southern Methodist University

1. "The Corruption of Literary Culture: Cantos 14 & 15," Robert von Hallberg, English Department, Claremont McKenna College
2. “Geopolitics, Ecopoetics, and Agrarianism in Pound’s Adams Cantos,” LeeAnn Derdeyn, Discernment & Discourse, English, Southern Methodist University

Audio-Visual Equipment required: None

Session 7-J  New Directions in Agee Studies
Organized by the James Agee Society

Chair: Hugh Davis, Piedmont College

1. “That Horrid Little Man!: Cinematic Identification in A Death in the Family,” Philip Derbesy, Case Western Reserve University
2. “James Agee and the Southern Superreal,” Lindsey A. Freeman, Simon Fraser University
3. “Else (Take Heed) the Sweet Flesh Slips’: Polysexual Self-Fashioning in Agee’s Letters,” Hugh Davis, Piedmont College

Audio-Visual Equipment required: None

Session 7-K  Vonnegut and Trump’s America
Organized by the Kurt Vonnegut Society
Chair: Nicole Lowman, State University of New York at Buffalo

2. “Kurt Vonnegut’s Apocalyptic Masculinities,” Sanna Melin Schyllert, Independent Scholar
4. “Machines and the Loss of Moral Agency: Why Trump’s America Should Frighten Everyone,” Richard Coronado, South Texas College

Audio-Visual Equipment required: None

Session 7-L Business Meeting: Available

Session 7-M Business Meeting: Available

Friday, May 25, 2018
9:40 – 11:00 am

Session 8-A Reading Cummings
Organized by the E. E. Cummings Society

Chair: Bernard F. Stehle, Community College of Philadelphia

1. “Was there an Olaf?: The Factual Basis of ‘i sing of Olaf glad and big’,” Tim Dayton, Kansas State University
2. “Wholly How: Revisiting ‘anyone lived in a pretty how town’,” Michael Webster, Grand Valley State University

Audio-Visual Equipment required: Projector for laptop.

Session 8-B The Return to Asia in Asian American Literatures
Organized by The Circle for Asian American Literary Studies (CAALS)

Chair: Na-Rae Kim, Kennesaw State University

1. "The City and Its Refugees: The Geopolitics of Non-Places in Mohsin Hamid’s How to Get Filthy Rich in Rising Asia and Exit West," Yuan Ding, University of Minnesota-Twin Cities
2. “Transpacific Resonances and Modalities of Relation in Leanne Dunic’s To Love the Coming End,” Michelle Siobhan O’Brien, Central Washington University
3. “The Congressman from India Goes East,” Swati Rana, University of California, Santa Barbara
4. “From a Distance: The Vicarious Witness in Luisa A. Igloria’s Poetry on EJKs,” Louyzza Maria Victoria Vasquez, University of the Philippines, Diliman

Audio-Visual Equipment required: projector with Mac hookup

**Session 8-C** Bodies of Resistance: Race, Identity, and Representation
Organized by The Edwidge Danticat Society

Chair: Shylah Hamilton, California College of the Arts

1. The Price of Being ‘Good’: The Black Female Body and The Stigma of Sexual Freedom in Danticat’s Breath, Eyes, Memory, Wandeka Gayle, University of Louisiana at Lafayette
2. Visioning Black Futures: Edwidge Danticat as Cultural Worker, Maia Butler, Ph.D., University of North Carolina Wilmington

Audio-Visual Equipment Required: Projector

**Session 8-D** Adaptations
Organized by the Nathaniel Hawthorne Society

Chair: Leland S. Person, University of Cincinnati

1. "The Mirrored Muse: A Playwright’s Perspective on Creating a Hawthorne for the Stage." Diane Baia Hale, Independent Playwright and Scholar

Audio-Visual Equipment required: LCD projector with connection to laptop

**Session 8-E** Business Meeting: Research Society of American Periodicals

Audio-Visual Equipment required: yes

**Session 8-F** Can Independent Publishers Save Black Literature?: A Round Table with The Ishmael Reed Publishing Company

Organized by Melanie Masterton Sherazi

Chair: Melanie Masterton Sherazi, California Institute of Technology

1. Ishmael Reed, author and publisher
2. Carla Blank, editor
3. Tennessee Reed, poet and editor
4. Melanie Masterton Sherazi, postdoctoral instructor and editor of King Comus
Audio-Visual Equipment Required: Yes

**Session 8-G** “Hold[ing] Fast to Dreams”: Tracing the Literary Legacy and Cultural Critique of Langston Hughes

organized by the Langston Hughes Society

Chair: Jeffrey R. Williams, University of Central Missouri

1. “The Transnational Social Space in Langston Hughes’s ‘Cubes,’” Luo Lianggong, Central China Normal University
2. “Langston Hughes’s Literary Legacy: The Case of Haryette Mullen’s *Muse & Drudge,*” Scarlett Higgins, University of New Mexico
3. “‘Regardless of the Brutality that Still Chases Us’: The ‘Radical Libretto[s]’ of Nikky Finney and Langston Hughes,” Christopher Allen Varlack, University of Maryland-Baltimore County

Audio-Visual Equipment Required: Projector

**Session 8-H** Edith Wharton, Book History, and Digital Humanities

Organized by the Edith Wharton Society

Chair: Paul Ohler, Kwantlen Polytechnic University

1. “Transatlantic Publication and Wharton’s Aesthetic of Revision,” Paul Ohler, Kwantlen Polytechnic University
3. “Complete Works of Edith Wharton in Print and Online,” Carol Singley, Rutgers University
4. “Reading the Reader: Edith Wharton’s Library and Networks of Exchange,” Sheila Liming, University of North Dakota

Audio-Visual Equipment required: Projector

**Session 8-I** Mark Twain, Politics, and Satire

Organized by the Mark Twain Circle of America

Chair: Hal Bush, St. Louis University

1. “The Americanization of Jeanne D’Arc; Mark Twain and Cultural Hegemony,” Paula Harrington, Colby College
2. “The People Must Wait’: Populism, Democracy, and *A Connecticut Yankee,*” Andrew Alquesta, Tufts University
3. “Mark Twain’s Legal Burlesques and the Democratization of American Legalese,” Mark Baggett, Samford University
4. “Absolute Monarchs in America: Mark Twain, Brigham Young, and the Burden of the ‘Peculiar Institution,’” Atsushi Sugimura, The University of Tokyo/ University of California, Berkeley
Session 8-J Parlaying Humanities Skills into Academic Leadership and/or non-Academic Careers: Roundtable Discussion

Organizer and Chair: Deborah Clarke, Arizona State University

1. Alfred Bendixen, Princeton University
2. John Cox, NEH
3. Olivia Carr Edenfield, Georgia Southern University
4. Eric Carl Link, Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne
5. Wendy Martin, Claremont Graduate University
6. Shannon Lujan, Arizona State University

Audio-Visual Equipment required: none

Session 8-K Gender and Sexuality in the Work of Charles W. Chesnutt
Organized by the Charles W. Chesnutt Association

Chair: Trinyan Mariano, Florida State University

1. “A House of Her Own: The Redemptive Power of the Unmarried Woman’s Property Rights in Chesnutt’s The House Behind the Cedars,” Valerie Sirenko, The University of Texas at Austin
2. “Elderly Black Women and the Memory of Slavery in the Work of Charles Chesnutt,” Christopher S. Lewis, Western Kentucky University
3. “Be as near a man as you can: Queer Performances of Humanity in The Marrow of Tradition,” Aaron J. Stone, University of Michigan

Audio-Visual Equipment required: none

Session 8-L Business Meeting: Business Meeting: Kurt Vonnegut Society

Session 8-M Business Meeting: American Religion and Literature Society

Session 8-N Business Meeting: Available

Friday, May 25, 2018
11:10 am – 12:30 pm

Session 9-A Black Women Writing Protest
Organized by the African American Literature and Culture Society

Chair: Rachel Carr, University of Kentucky
4. “Reframing the ‘Scripted’ Vulnerability of Whiteness as Violence: The Praxis of the Wake in Victoria C. Murray’s Stand Your Ground,” Lâle Demirtürk, Bilkent University, Turkey.

A/V: Yes

Session 9-B Asian American Literature and Visual Texts
Organized by The Circle for Asian American Literary Studies (CAALS)

Chair: Laura Wright, University of Connecticut

3. “Asian American Comics and Thinking Historically,” Caroline Kyungah Hong, Queens College, City University of New York
4. “The Writings of Martin Wong (1946-1999),” Amy Lee, University of California, Berkeley

Audio-Visual Equipment required: projector

Session 9-C New Directions in Stephen Crane Scholarship
Organized by the Stephen Crane Society

Chair: Adam H. Wood, Salisbury University

1. “‘Deep History’ in Crane’s Poetry,” Donald Vanouse, Emeritus, SUNY Oswego
2. “Humoring Affectation in Stephen Crane’s The Black Riders and War Is Kind,” Andrew Dorkin, University at Buffalo, SUNY

Audio-Visual Equipment required: projector for powerpoint and dvd presentation and screen

Session 9-D Hawthorne’s Anticipations of Twenty-First Century Psychopathologies
Organized by the Nathaniel Hawthorne Society

Chair: Julie E. Hall, Sam Houston State University

1. "'Of the Devil’s party': Hawthorne’s Fascination with Sexual Pathology," Jason Courtmanche, University of Connecticut
2. "Farewell to the Sadomasochistic Symbiosis: The Scarlet Letter," Eitetsu Sasaki, Momoyama Gakuin University, Japan

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Audio-Visual Equipment required: LCD projector with connection for laptops

**Session 9-E:** Editorship as Collaboration: Patterns of Practice in Multi-Ethnic Periodicals, Organized by The Research Society of American Periodicals

Chair: Florian Freitag, Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz


Audio-Visual Equipment required: projector and screen

**Session 9-F**  Getting Funded in the Humanities: An Grant-Writing Workshop Organized by the National Endowment for the Humanities

Chair: John D. Cox, NEH

Audio-Visual Equipment required: Computer projector for PowerPoint, if possible

**Session 9-G**  Jack London on the High and Horrible Seas: Empire, Film, and the Gothic
Organized by the Jack London Society

Chair: Kenneth K. Brandt, Savannah College of Art and Design

1. Jack London’s Imperial and Maritime Gothic, Anita Duneer, Rhode Island College
2. The Trader in Jack London’s “Mauki,” Keith Newlin, University of North Carolina Wilmington
3. Spectacles of Empire, Empire of Spectacle: Jack London in the South Seas, Paul Baggett South Dakota State University

AV: Yes, PowerPoint

**Session 9-H**  Women’s Voices

Chair: Shirley Samuels, Cornell University

1. “‘Nothing but calico’: Working Women, the Lowell Offering, and Transatlantic Labor Reform,” Amber Shaw, Coe College
2. “‘Mi’ja’ is I Love You’: Language & the Sacred in Sandra Cisneros’ *A House of My Own,* Christina Garcia Lopez, University of San Francisco
3. “Unhomely Oklahoma and Toni Morrison’s Paradise,” Jessica Maucione, Gonzaga University

Audio-Visual Equipment required: Will need to project images on screen from laptop; also need Powerpoint

**Session 9-I**  
Teaching/Reading Raymond Carver Post-Obama  
Organized by The International Raymond Carver Society  

Chair: Sarah Wadsworth, Marquette University

1. "Reading Raymond Carver in Translation in the Post-Obama World,” Jagannathan Govindan, Independent Scholar
2. “Carver in the Age of Trump: Whose voice is powerless?” Angela Sorby, Marquette University
3. “Teaching Raymond Carver Post-Obama: ‘This is a very special time,’” Sandra Kleppe, Inland Norway University of Applied Sciences

Audio-Visual Equipment required: None

**Session 9-J**  
Roundtable: Responses to Michelle Sizemore’s *American Enchantment*  
Organized by the Catharine Maria Sedgwick Society  

Moderator: Lisa West, Drake University

2. "Revolutionary Invocation and the Temporalities of Civil Mysticism," Gretchen Murphy, University of Texas at Austin.
4. “*American Enchantment* and Graduate Study," Gabriela Valenzuela, University of California at Los Angeles.
7. "Enchantments and Entanglements," Maria Karafilis, California State University at Los Angeles.

Respondent: Michelle Sizemore, University of Kentucky.

Audio-Visual Equipment: none

**Session 9-K**  
Trauma, Masculinity, and the Human Condition in the Work of Kurt Vonnegut  
Organized by the Kurt Vonnegut Society  

Chair: Zachary Perdieu, University of Georgia

2. “Kurt Vonnegut & Carl Sagan: A Tale of Two Assholes,” Ben Reed, Texas State University
3. “Tethered, Untethered: Coping and the Mythic Collective in Ceremony and Slaughterhouse-Five,” Zachary Perdieu, University of Georgia
4. “I’ll Call it the Children’s Crusade”: Historical Trauma in Slaughterhouse-Five, Kerstin Tuttle, University of South Dakota

Audio-Visual Equipment required: None

Session 9-L Business Meeting: Edith Wharton Society
Session 9-M Business Meeting: Available

Friday, May 25, 2018
12:40 – 2:00 pm

Session 10-A Visions of Faith in Marilynne Robinson
Organized by Marilynne Robinson Society

Chair: Haein Park, Biola University

1. Kathryn Ludwig, “Liminal spaces in Marilynne Robinson’s Lila”
2. Peter Ndaita, "Sensus Divinitatis in the Writings of Marilynne Robinson"
4. Taylor Johnston, ‘Perhaps only from watching gulls fly’: Critical Protestantism and the White Lower Middle Class in Marilynne Robinson’s Housekeeping"

Audio-Visual Equipment Required: Yes

Session 10-B “Textual Afterlives: Dislocation, Distortion, Recuperation”
Organized by the Reception Study Society

Chair: Bryan Sinche, University of Hartford

2. “John Brown’s Afterlives in the Literature of Anti-Racist Movements," Timothy Robbins, Graceland University

Audio-Visual Equipment required: projector for powerpoint presentations

Session 10-C Ecologies of Hispaniola: Historical Memories and (Neo)colonial Realities
Organized by The Edwidge Danticat Society

Chair: Dr. Nadège T. Clitandre, UC Santa Barbara
1. Orchidelirium in Edwidge Danticat’s Work: Oscillating Between the Cosmopolitan and the Indigenous, Weishun Lu, UW-Madison
2. History Without Memory: The Memorialization of the Parsley Massacre in Edwidge Danticat’s The Farming of Bones, Sara Santos, Stony Brook University
3. Edwidge Danticat Writes Back: Borders and Displacement Breath Eyes Memory and The Farming of the Bones, Rochell Isaac, Ph.D., LaGuardia Community College, CUNY

Audio-Visual Equipment Required: Projector

**Session 10-D**   Articulating Otherness: Morrison, Baldwin, Coates
Organized by the Toni Morrison Society

Chair: Dana A. Williams, Howard University

1. "'A Dream Deferred?': Baldwin, Morrison and Coates on Race and the American Dream," Angelyn Mitchell, Georgetown University
2. "Morrison, Baldwin, Coates: The Politics of Dismantling the House that Race Built," Marilyn Sanders Mobley, PhD, Case Western Reserve University
3. "Reexamining the Concept of Whiteness and Reclaiming the Site of Empowerment in Toni Morrison and Ta-Nehisi’s Coates’s Works," Aoi Mori, Meiji Gakuin University

Audio-Visual Equipment Required: Projector and Screen

**Session 10-E**   Henry James Out West
Organized by the Henry James Society

Chair: Oliver Herford, University of Birmingham

1. “Henry James’s Sense of the West”, Philip Horne, University College London
2. “A Sense of the Past that is not my own: Henry James, the American West, and Public Memory”, Beverly Haviland, Brown University
3. “Daisy Miller in Hollywood”, John Carlos Rowe, University of Southern California

Audio-visual equipment requested: projector and screen for PowerPoint presentations

**Session 10-F**   The Politics of Teaching Latina/o/x Literature
Organized by Latina/o/x Literature and Culture Society

Chair: Javier Rodríguez, University of North Texas

1. “Libros Are For Everyone: Teaching Latinx Literature for All,” Christopher Carmona, University of Texas Rio Grande Valley and Isaac Chavarria, South Texas College
3. “Well, That Didn't Work': Lessons from the Latinx Literature Classroom," Javier Rodríguez, University of North Texas

Audio-Visual Equipment required: Projector for Powerpoint/DVD presentations and Screen

**Session 10-G  Jack London: Mystic, Ghost, Psychologist**
Organized by the Jack London Society

Chair: Jeanne Reesman, University of Texas at San Antonio


AV: Yes, PowerPoint

**Session 10-H  The Early “Nasty Woman”: Recovering “Unruly” Voices in American Literature - Part 1**

Chair: Elif Armbruster, Suffolk University

1. “Overcoming the Literary Legacy of the Woman Physician as a Nineteenth Century Nasty Woman,” Margaret Jay Jessee, University of Alabama at Birmingham
3. “Mere, mère, mater, Mary’: H. D.’s Linguistic Alchemy,” Alyssa Duck, Emory University

Audio-Visual Equipment Required: Laptop Projector for PowerPoint Presentations

**Session 10-I  New Directions in Chesnutt Scholarship**
Organized by the Charles W. Chesnutt Association

Chair: Bill Hardwig, University of Tennessee

1. “Circuits of life in Charles Chesnutt’s *Conjure Stories,*” Anna Thomas, Brown University
2. “Dead and Superfluous Limbs': Uncanny Landscapes and Disabled Bodies in Charles Chesnutt’s *The Colonel's Dream,*” Kelly Vines, Louisiana State University

Audio-Visual Equipment required: none
Session 10-J  Murders and Murderers: Eudora Welty’s Take on Detective Fiction
Organized By The Eudora Welty Society

Chair: Julia Eichelberger, College of Charleston

1. "Rediscovering the Mystery: Eudora Welty and the Transformation of a Genre," Suzanne Marrs, Millsaps College
2. "Welty in the First Degree: Eudora Welty's Use of Crime Fiction and the Killing of 'Miss Welty,'" Jacob Agner, University of Mississippi
3. "Attacks of the Ponder Heart: Killing Bonnie Dee Softly," James Andrew Crank, University of Alabama

Session 10-K: Shirley Jackson’s Strange Domesticities
Organized by the Shirley Jackson Society

Chair: Melanie R. Anderson, Glenville State College

1. "Strange Domesticity: Shirley Jackson’s Early New Yorker Stories," Ashley Lawson, West Virginia Wesleyan College
2. "We Have Always Lived in the Castle, Lizzie and Emma Borden, and the Specter of Murderous New England Maidens," Karen Roggenkamp, Texas A&M University—Commerce
3. "Cat Stories, Moon Fantasies, and Fairytales: Refashioned American Domesticity in We Have Always Lived in the Castle," Richard Pascal, Australian National University
4. "Domestic Love in We Have Always Lived in the Castle and the Ghosts of Economics Past," Allison Douglass, The Graduate Center, CUNY

Audio-Visual Equipment: No

Session 10-L: Business Meeting: Washington Irving Society

Friday, May 25, 2018
2:10 – 3:30 pm

Session 11-A  Margaret Fuller: In the Classroom and Beyond
Organized by the Margaret Fuller Society

Chair: Larry Reynolds, Texas A & M University

1. "Using Fuller to Teach Fuller: Creating Agency and Security," Holly Dykstra, Laredo Community College
2. "Teaching Margaret Fuller, Fanny Fern, and the Nineteenth-Century Press in the Wake of #MeToo,"
   Callie Gallo, Fordham University
3. "Elemental Bodies: Mapping the Materialist Cartographies of Margaret Fuller's 'Leila' and Kate
   Chopin's *The Awakening* in a Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Classroom," Lesli Vollrath,
   University of Houston
4. “Praxis of Duality: The Sisterhood of Fuller's 'Leila' and Du Bois's 'Atlanta',” Nanette Rasband Hilton,
   University of Nevada--Las Vegas

Audio-Visual Equipment required: projector and screen

**Session 11-B Dirty Words: Profanity, Power, and American Humor**
Organized by the American Humor Studies Association

Chair: Jeffrey Melton, University of Alabama

1. “‘Mere Formula—Nothing More’: Poe, Profanity, and the Gothic in ‘Never Bet the Devil Your Head,’”
   Carl Ostrowski, Middle Tennessee State University
2. “You Are a F**king A**hole”: The Metaphor of Profanity in American Humor,” John C. Bird, Winthrop
   University
   Haven

Respondent: Bruce Michelson, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Audio-Visual Equipment Required: projector/screen

**Session 11-C Emily Dickinson Out of Context**
Organized by the Emily Dickinson International Society

Chair: Faith Barrett, Duquesne University

1. “Conjecturing a Climate: On Reading Dickinson’s Winter Poems in the Anthropocene,” Adam
   Sweeting, Boston University
   University of Massachusetts, Amherst
3. “‘Tell it slant—’: Emily Dickinson and Testimonial Aesthetics,” Wendy Tronrud, CUNY Graduate
   Center

AV: projector requested

**Session 11-D New Readings of William Burroughs**
Organized by the Beat Studies Association

Chair: Allison Douglass, Graduate Center, CUNY
2. “Burroughs’ Image/Word Virus and the AIDS Crisis,” Michael Lindsay-Chiappini, Case Western Reserve University

Audio-visual equipment required: Powerpoint projector/hookup those using Macs may need to provide their own connecting cords and dongles

**Session 11-E  Performance and Panel: Queer Chicana Activism and Performance Ahora!: Celebrating “International Hip Chick” Monica Palacios**
Organized by Latina/o/x Literature and Culture Society

Chair: Marci R. McMahon, University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

1. “Little Rooms, Big Cities: Spatial Encounters and Reconfiguring Borders in Monica Palacios’s Art and Activism through VIVA,” Eddy Alvarez, Portland State University
2. “‘Kill the Orange Gringo’: Monica Palacios’s Queer Universalism and the Politics of Resistance,” Reza Mirsajadi, Tufts University
3. “Sonic Intimacies and Queer Desire in Monica Palacios’s I Kissed Chavela Vargas,” Marci R. McMahon, University of Texas Rio Grande Valley
4. “Queer Chicana Soul: Live Performance by Monica Palacios,” Monica Palacios, Independent Artist

Audio-visual Equipment required: Projector for Powerpoint/DVD presentations and Screen

**Session 11-F Theodore Dreiser, Open Topic**
Organized by the International Theodore Dreiser Society

Chair: Cara Erdheim Kilgallen, Sacred Heart University

1. “Gonzo Dreiser: A Pioneer of Literary Journalism,” Roark Mulligan, Christopher Newport University
2. “Gendered Geographies and the ‘Precarity of Place’ in Theodore Dreiser's Fiction,” Jillmarie Murphy, Union College

Audio-visual Equipment Required: A projector for use in a PowerPoint presentation

**Session 11-G  Roundtable: Teaching the Works of Eudora Welty**
Organized By The Eudora Welty Society

Moderator: Julia Eichelberger, College of Charleston

2. “Picturing Difference and Disability in Our Classrooms: Teaching Welty’s Photographs,” Keri Watson, University of Central Florida School of Visual Arts and Design
3. “Queering Welty’s Male Bodies in the Undergraduate Classroom,” Gary Richards, University of Mary Washington
4. “Welty’s Place in the Undergraduate Theory Classroom,” Annette Trefzer, University of Mississippi
5. “Teaching the Art of Welty’s Letters,” Julia Eichelberger, College of Charleston

AV request: projector

Session 11-H New Approaches to Saul Bellow’s Work
Organized by the Saul Bellow Society

Chair: Gloria Cronin, Brigham Young University

1. “Rethinking Herzog: Notes towards an Investigation.” Makayla Steiner, University of Iowa & Daniel Muhlestein, Brigham Young University

Audio-Visual Equipment Required: Projector, Screen, and Laptop Connections

Session 11-I Lowell and Other Poets
Organized by the Robert Lowell Society

Chair: Charles Altieri

1. “The threadbare art of my eye’: Robert Lowell's Portraits of Poets,” Sally Connolly, University of Houston
3. "The world you've been saved from grasps you roughly: The Bostons of Robert Lowell and John Wieners,” Leo Dunsker, University of California, Berkeley
4. “Claudia Rankine’s Lowell,” Nikki Skillman, University of Indiana

Audio-Visual Equipment required: none

Session 11-J The Importance of the American Short Story: A Roundtable
Organized by the Society for the Study of the American Short Story

Moderator: James Nagel, University of Georgia

1. Alfred Bendixen, Princeton University
2. Jenn Alandy Trahan, Stanford University
3. Oliver Scheiding, University of Mainz, Germany
4. Olivia Carr Edenfield, Georgia Southern University
5. Enikő Maior, Partium Christian University, Romania.

Audio-Visual Equipment required: None

**Session 11-K**  Bracebridge and Beyond: Christmas Traditions in American Literature
Organized by the Washington Irving Society

Moderator: Tracy Hoffman, Baylor University

1. Brian Garcia, Long Beach City College
2. Mary Higbie, Irving Heritage Society
3. Matthew Redmond, Stanford University
4. Judith Richardson, Stanford University
5. Mohammed Sharafuddin, University of Minnesota

Audio-Visual Equipment Required: none

Session 11-L  Business Meeting: Toni Morrison Society

Session 11-M  Business Meeting: Edwidge Danticat Society

**Friday, May 25, 2018**
**3:40 – 5:00 pm**

**Session 12-A**  Empathy, Affect, and Friendship in Children’s Literature
Organized by the Children’s Literature Society

Chair: Linda Salem, San Diego State University

1. “Rural Subdivisions, Toxic Scat, Sexual Consent, and Betrayals: Empathy, Memory, and the Fantastic in *Me and Marvin Gardens,*” Laura Nicosia, Montclair State University
2. “Children’s Interpretation and Communication of Emotional Exchanges Among Friends in Literary Illustrations,” Eva Nwokah, Our Lady of the Lake University, Casey Talianchich-Klinger, Our Lady of the Lake University, Ariana Garza, Our Lady of the Lake University
3. “Impact of Binaries on Affect and Friendship in Children’s War Literature,” Vera Veldhuizen, University of Cambridge

Audio-Visual Equipment required: Digital PowerPoint and screen; video capability to connect to personal laptop

**Session 12-B**  Okada and Beyond
Organized by The Circle for Asian American Literary Studies (CAALS)

Chairs: David Cho, Hope College, and Christine Kitano, Ithaca College

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1. “John Okada: The Life and Rediscovered Work of the Author of No-No Boy,” Frank Abe, Resisters.com
2. “War and Words: Reading the Post-9/11 Bildungsroman,” Anantha Sudhakar, San Francisco State University
3. “Citizenship and Belonging in Chang-Rae Lee’s A Gesture Life,” Roy Kamada, Emerson College

Audio-Visual Equipment required: projector

**Session 12-C  Emily Dickinson Out of Context II**
Organized by the Emily Dickinson International Society

Chair: Desiree Henderson, University of Texas at Arlington

1. "'Miles on Miles / of Nought’?: Dickinson Rethinks Context and Relationality,” Ryan Cull, New Mexico State University
2. “God Trap: Faith and Lack in the Poetry of Emily Dickinson,” Katie Berta, Ohio University
3. “Oh Subsidy of Balm!: Dickinson, Bataille, and Mystical Non-Knowledge,” Jordan Greenwald, University of California, Berkeley
4. “‘Back—Toward Time—And forward—’: Conclusion, Possibility, and the Poetics of Contextlessness in Dickinson,” Kacie Fodness, University of South Dakota

AV: projector requested

**Session 12-D  Pauline E. Hopkins’s Activism**
Organized by the Pauline Elizabeth Hopkins Society

Chair: John Cullen Gruesser, Kean University

1. “Pauline Hopkins and Advocacy Journalism,” Rhone Fraser, Howard University
2. “Racial Transmigration in Pauline Hopkins’s Of One Blood,” Amadi I. Ozier, Rutgers University
3. “Anti-Lynching Activism in Pauline E. Hopkins’ Contending Forces,” John Cyril Barton, University of Missouri, Kansas City

Respondent: Cherene Sherrard-Johnson, University of Wisconsin, Madison

Audio-Visual Equipment: Projector for laptop

**Session 12-E  Modernism and Diagnosis**

Organized by: Lisa Mendelman, Menlo College
Chair: Kyla Schuller, Rutgers University

1. “Modernist Pathologies,” Lisa Mendelman, Menlo College
2. “Unhappy Victims: The Unreadability of Star Suicides and the Emergence of Personality Science,” Katherine Fusco, University of Nevada-Reno

Audio-Visual Equipment required: projector with a UB/AV port

Session 12-F  “New” Theoretical Approaches to Dreiser Studies
Organized by the International Theodore Dreiser Society

Chair: Keith Newlin, University of North Carolina Wilmington

1. “Poor Mothers? Women's Agency, Adoption, and Class in Theodore Dreiser's Delineator (1907-1910) and Jennie Gerhardt (1911),” Jude Davies, University of Winchester
2. “What's Length Got to Do with It?: Dreiser and the Bourgeois Class,” Jason Potts, St. Francis Xavier University
3. “Performing Gender on Skates and the Stage: Athletics and Art in Dreiser's The “Genius” and Sister Carrie,” Cara Erdheim Kilgallen, Sacred Heart University

Audio-Visual Equipment required

Session 12-G  F. Scott Fitzgerald I
Organized by the F. Scott Fitzgerald Society

Chair: Kirk Curnutt, Troy University

2. “Post-Traumatic Healing in Zelda Fitzgerald’s Caesar’s Things,” Sharon Kim, Judson University

Audio-Visual Equipment Required: PowerPoint capability

Session 12-H  War and Its Transformations
Chair: Liam Corley, California State Polytechnic University, Pomona

1. “Nostalgia and the Un-Homely in Ambrose Bierce’s Tales of Soldiers and Civilians,” Susan Scheckel, Stony Brook University
2. “Occupied Others and Voyeuristic Readers: Sites of Iraqi/American Contact in Roy Scranton’s War Porn,” Brian J. Williams, Tennessee Tech University
3. “Gertrude Stein, Gunnar Myrdal, and Race in Stein’s Brewsie and Willie,” Rebecca Walsh, North Carolina State University
4. “Geographies of Traumatized Citizenship: Black Masculinity and War in Morrison’s Fiction,” Johanna X. K. Garvey, Fairfield University

Audio-Visual Equipment required: Computer projector

Session 12-I  Philip Roth’s Nonfiction: A Roundtable Discussion
Organized by The Philip Roth Society
Moderator: Benjamin Schreier, Penn State University

1. Victoria Aaron, Trinity University
2. James Bloom, Muhlenberg College
3. Andy Connolly, Hostos Community College of CUNY
4. Aimee Pozorski, Central Connecticut State University

Audio-Visual Equipment required: None

Session 12-J  Culture and Literature of the Chicago Renaissance: Postmodern and Postcolonial Development

Organizer and Chair: Yoshinobu Hakutani, Kent State University

1. “‘Careful Candours’: Gwendolyn Brooks, T. S. Eliot, and the Poetics of Social Critique,” Anita Patterson, Boston University
2. “‘All Narratives Are Lies, Man, an Illusion’: Buddhism, Postmodernism, and Postcolonialism in Charles Johnson’s Middle Passage and Dreamer,” Preston Park Cooper, Austin Community College

Audio-Visual Requirement: None

Session 12-K  Lowell Now
Organized by the Robert Lowell Society

Chair: Frank Kearful, University of Bonn

1. “Robert Lowell & the Hybrid Imaginary: Life Studies as Inclusionist Urtext,” Phillip Crymble, University of New Brunswick
2. “Lost / in the Mob: Life Studies and ‘The Real Robert Lowell,’” Mark Bauer, University of California, Berkeley
4. “Robert Lowell’s New Economy of the Poetic Vocation and the Stumbling Block of Commodity Fetishism,” Gregorz Kosc, University of Warsaw

Audio-Visual Equipment required: none

Session 12-L  Business Meeting: Society for the Study of the American Short Story

Session 12-M: Business Meeting: American Humor Studies Association

Session 12-N: Business Meeting: Catharine Maria Sedgick Society
Friday, May 25, 2018
5:10 – 6:30 pm

Session 14-A  Race, Disability, and the Body (Politic) in O’Connor’s Fiction
Organized by the Flannery O’Connor Society

Chair: Robert Donahoo, Sam Houston State University


Audio-Visual Equipment required: Projector for PowerPoint presentations

Session 14-B  William Stafford in the Anthropocene: Toward a Poetics of the “Earthbound”
Organized by the Friends of William Stafford

Chair: Laura Armstrong, Independent Scholar


Audio-Visual Equipment required: projector for powerpoint and screen

Session 14-C  Sedgwick (and Her Contemporaries) Beyond Unitarianism
Organized by the Catharine Maria Sedgwick Society

Chair and Respondent: Ashley Reed, Virginia Tech

2. “Unitarians, Shakers, and Infidels: The Problem of ‘Rational Christianity’ in Sedgwick’s Redwood,” Gretchen Murphy, University of Texas at Austin.

Audio-Visual Equipment required: projector and screen

Session 14-D  Roundtable: Toni Morrison: The Work of a Literary Artist and the Work of Public History and Remembrance
Organized by the Toni Morrison Society

Moderators: Craig Stutman, Delaware Valley University and Carolyn Denard, Georgia College and State University

Roundtable Participants:
Lori Martin, Louisiana State University
Chris Momany, Adrian College
Lynne Simpson, Oklahoma State University

Audio-Visual Equipment Required: Projector and Screen

**Session 14-E  Third-Generation Holocaust Representation**
Organized by The Society for American Jewish Literature
Chair: Hilene Flanzbaum, Butler University

3. “Picturing Past, Present and Future: Contemporary Graphic Holocaust Literature,” Jessica Lang, Baruch College, CUNY

Respondent: Alan L. Berger, Florida Atlantic University

Audio-Visual Equipment required: Yes; projector and screen for PowerPoint presentation

**Session 14-F  Jack London: Biographical Relationships and Legacy**
Organized by the Jack London Society
Chair: Anita Duneer, Rhode Island College

1. How Jack London Founded Students for a Democratic Society, Jay Williams, Independent Scholar

AV: Yes, PowerPoint

**Session 14-G  Reading American Democracy in New Contexts**
Chair: TBA

Audio-Visual Equipment required: Projector and screen to show images

**Session 14-H Continuities in Thom Gunn’s Elegiac Poems**
Organizer and Chair: Sally Connolly, University of Houston

1. “Thom Gunn’s Elegy to Robert Lowell by Another Name,” Florian Gargaillo, Boston University
2. “Rites of Passage: Thom Gunn’s and Robert Duncan’s Anthems for Doomed Youth,” Mark Scroggins, Florida Atlantic University
3. “Holding off the Avalanche”: Scale, Measurement, and Intimacy in Gunn’s Elegies,” Emily Leithauser, Emory University

A/V: no

**Session 14-I Enthusiasm and the Wild: Reverence, Irreverence, Survival**
Organized by the Western Literature Association

Chair: Michael K. Johnson, University of Maine, Farmington

2. “Bret Harte’s Outdoor Impiety,” Tara Penry, Boise State University
3. "Neither Naked nor Afraid: Survivalist Misunderstandings of Thoreau’s Wilderness," Kate Huber, University of Central Oklahoma

Audiovisual Equipment Required: None

**Session 14-J A Choir of Resistance”: “Unruly” Voices and “Nasty” Women in American Literature [Part II]**

Chair: Elif Armbruster

1. “A Choir of Resistance: Margaret Fuller’s Network of Nasty Women in Woman in the Nineteenth Century,” Lesli Vollrath, University of Houston
3. “A Peculiar Case’ of Women’s Writing in Elizabeth Stoddard’s The Morgesons,” Ki Yoon Jang, Sogang University (Seoul)
4. “The Unruly, Unmarried Black Woman Mimi Daquin of Walter White’s Flight,” Julie Anne Naviaux, University of Alabama in Huntsville
5. “Wandering Women and Queer Resistance in Djuna Barnes’ Nightwood,” Victoria Chandler, University of South Carolina
6. “Teaching the ‘Nasty Woman’: Facing Resistance in the Classroom,” Elif Armbruster, Suffolk University

A/V: no
Session 14-K  Business Meeting: Theodore Dreiser Society

Session 14-L  Business Meeting: Circle for Asian American Literary Studies

Session 14-M  Business Meeting: Pauline Elizabeth Hopkins Society

Friday, May 25, 2018
6:30 – 7:15 pm
Annual Business Meeting for Representatives of Member Author Societies

Friday May 25, 2018
7:15- 9:00 pm
African American Literature and Culture Society Reception
Reading and Book Signing:
Reading by giovanni singleton, recipient of the 2017 Stephen E. Henderson Award for Outstanding Achievement in Poetry
Presentation of the Darwin T. Turner Award to Michele Elam

A reception hosted by the African American Literature and Culture Society, the Charles W. Chesnutt Society, the Paul Laurence Dunbar Society, the Pauline Hopkins Society, the Toni Morrison Society, the Ralph Ellison Society, Octavia E. Butler Literary Society, and the John Edgar Wideman Society, and sponsored by the African American Literature and Culture Society and the American Literature Association will precede the reading.

giovanni singleton is the author of Ascension (2011), winner of the California Book Award Gold Medal for poetry, and AMERICAN LETTERS: works on paper (2017). Her poetry appears in many anthologies and is inscribed on the Yerba Buena Center for the Arts in San Francisco, CA. She has been a fellow at the Squaw Valley Community of Writers, Cave Canem, and the Napa Valley Writers Conference, as well as a recipient of the New Langton Bay Area Award. She is the coordinator for the Lunch Poems series at the University of California-Berkeley and founding editor of nocturnes (re)view of the literary arts. She has taught at Saint Mary’s College, Naropa University and New Mexico State University.

Saturday, May 26, 2018
8:10 – 9:30 am

Session 15-A  Approaches to Ernest J. Gaines
Organized by the Ernest J. Gaines Society

Chair: Marcia Gaudet, University of Louisiana at Lafayette, Emerita
1. An International and Comparative Approach to Ernest J. Gaines’s *Catherine Carmier*: The Influence of Ivan Turgenev’s *Fathers and Sons*, Toru Kiuchi, Nihon University
2. Miss Jane’s Kitchen: Ernest Gaines and the Contemporary South, Terrence Tucker, University of Memphis
3. Into the “Gothic Heart” of Ernest Gaines’s *The Autobiography of Miss Jane Pittman*, Ineke Bockting, Catholic University of Paris

Audio-Visual Equipment required: Yes

**Session 15-B**  
Refugee Counternarratives  
Organized by the Circle for Asian American Literary Studies (CAALS)

Chair: Cathy J. Schlund-Vials, University of Connecticut

1. “Refugee Memes: Remembering Historical Trauma and Violence in the Digital Commons,” Long Bui, Vassar College
2. “Your Mountain Lies Down with You’: Hmong Refugee Political Geography in Afterland,” Ma Vang, University of California, Merced
4. “Magical Passages through the Refugee Regime in Mohsin Hamid’s *Exit West,*” Mai-Linh K. Hong, Bucknell University

Audio-Visual Equipment required: projector

**Session 15-C**  
Eugene O’Neill: Context, Development, and Influence  
Organized by the Eugene O’Neill Society

Chair: David Palmer, Massachusetts Maritime Academy

2. “All the World’s a Capitalist Structure: The Allegory of O’Neill’s *The Hairy Ape* through Performance,” Lauren Luedtke, San Diego State University
3. “The Influence of Eugene O’Neill’s Theatre on the Modern Brazilian Stage,” Isadora Grevan de Carvalho, Rutgers University

Audio-Visual Equipment Required for O'Neill Society Session 1: A screen and a projection system to which both a Macintosh and a PC laptop computer can be connected. Note Mac user may need to provide connector or dongle.

**Session 15-D**  
Bartleby Now  
Organized by the Melville Society

Chair: Meredith Farmer, Wake Forest University

1. “Is non-preference a preference?” Wendy Anne Lee, New York University
2. "Bartleby is nothing," Nancy Ruttenburg, Stanford University
4. Thanatopolitics and the Managerial Regime," Jeffrey Hole, University of the Pacific

Audio-Visual Equipment required: Projector

Session 15-E  O’Connor, Catholicism, and Creativity: New Connections/Considerations
Organized by the Flannery O’Connor Society

Chair: Andrea Ivanov-Craig, Azusa Pacific University

1. "Coffey with O’Connor: The Importance of Georges Rouault," Robert Donahoo, Sam Houston State University
2. "Two Enochs: Regional Grotesquerie in the Works of Sherwood Anderson and Flannery O’Connor," Laura Henning, Daytona State College
4. "Flannery O’Connor’s Absent Fathers: The Working (Through) of Grief in Program Era Fiction," Benjamin Batzer, University of Iowa

Audio-Visual Equipment required: Projector for PowerPoint presentations

Session 15-F  Representations, Revisions, and Crises in Eliot’s Poetry: New Perspectives
Organized by the T. S. Eliot Society

Chair: Nancy K. Gish, University of Southern Maine


Audio-Visual Equipment required: Projector for powerpoint and screen

Session 15-G  Charles Olson’s Correspondence and the Emerging of the New American Poetry and Poetics
Organized by the Charles Olson Society

Chair: Jeff Gardiner, Independent Scholar

2. “Epistolary Polemics: Olson and Blackburn,” Erik Noonan, Independent Scholar
3. “Least Song in the Age of Quantity: Form and the Charles Olson/Robert Creeley Correspondence,” Joshua Hoeynck, Case Western Reserve University

Audio-Visual Equipment required: Projector (connected to laptop) and speakers
**Session 15-H: The Education of Henry Adams at 100: A Round Table Discussion**
Organized by the Henry Adams Society

Chair: Joanne Jacobson, Yeshiva University


2. “Henry Adams and James McNeill Whistler: An Education in Form,” Barry Maine, Wake Forest University


**Session 15-I: American Gothic: Past and Present**
Organized by The Edgar Allan Poe Society of Baltimore

Chair: Benjamin F. Fisher, Emeritus, University of Mississippi

1. “Toying with the Past in the Works of Shirley Jackson and M. R. James”
   Melanie R. Anderson, Glenville State College

2. “The Politics of Recycling Andrew Klavan’s The Uncanny”
   Andrew Smith, Sheffield University

3. “Adah Isaacs Menken and Postbellum Gothic”
   Travis Montgomery, Oklahoma Christian University

4. “Many-Voiced Men: Gothic Masculinities in Hawthorne’s Short Stories”
   Ian Jayne, Oklahoma Christian University

**Session 15-J: Concepts of Land and People - Native American Visions**

Chair: TBA

1. “The Land and the People are Inseparable: Writing the Oral and Visual in Leslie Marmon Silko’s memoirs Sacred Water and Turquoise Ledge,” Annette Portillo, University of Texas

2. “From Cherokee to the Middle East: Diane Glancy’s Polyphonic Prayer for Syria in The Collector of Bodies,” Angela Mullis, Rutgers University

3. Performing the Past and the Possible in Louise Erdrich’s The Last Report on the Miracles at Little No Horse,” Shari Evans, University of Massachusetts

Audio-Visual Equipment required: none
Saturday, May 26, 2018
9:40 – 11:00 am

Session 16-A  “Black” Modernism and After
Organized by the African American Literature and Culture Society

Chair: Keith Byerman, Indiana State University

3. “Persona as Palimpsest: Natasha Trethewey’s Native Guard and the Archive,” Ryan Sharp, University of Texas at Austin.

A/V: Yes

Session 16-B  Whitman and the Press
Organized by the Whitman Studies Association

Co-chairs: Stefan Schöberlein, University of Iowa; Stephanie M. Blalock, University of Iowa

1. “Clerk Trouble: Masculinity and Consumerism in Whitman’s Print Culture,” Jason Stacy, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville
2. “Whitman’s 1855 Preface as Bridge and Barrier,” Peter J. Bellis, University of Alabama at Birmingham
3. “The Poet of (Many Happy) Return(s): Whitman the Birthday Boy,” Micah Bateman, The University of Texas at Austin

Audio-Visual Equipment required: Digital Projector/Screen for PowerPoint presentations; HDMI and mini-HDMI; Internet Access [We are unable to provide internet access. Those using Macs may need to provide their own connecting cords and dongles.]

Session 16-C  Asian American History in Literary Imagination
Organizer and Chair: Lan Dong, University of Illinois Springfield

1. “Settling the Unsettled Past: Ethnic Roots in David Mura’s Suicides of the Japanese Empire,” Yuki Obayashi, University of California, Santa Cruz
2. “Analysis of Julie Otsuka's The Buddha in the Attic from Legal and Gender Perspectives,” Kaori Mori Want, Konan Women’s University

Audio-Visual Equipment required: internet access and projector and connector for PowerPoint presentation [We are unable to provide internet access.]
Session 16-D  Social Justice Pedagogy Round Table  
Organized by the Lydia Maria Child Society

Moderator: Lucy Sirianni, University of Berkeley

1. “Rise Up! Protest and Dissent in American Literature,” Randi Lynn Tanglen, Austin College
2. “He Asked Me if I Meant to Persist in My Resistance: Social Justice in the American Literature Classroom at a High-Risk, High-Need University,” Autumn R. Lauzon, University of North Carolina, Pembroke
5. “Incidents in the Life of a Blind Girl: Intersectional Disability Justice in the American Literature Classroom,” Lucy Sirianni, University of California, Berkeley

Audio-Visual Equipment required: Yes, for projection of photos/images from laptops

Session 16-E  Illustrating Crime Fiction  
Organized by the Crime Fiction Group

Chair: Alfred Bendixen, Princeton University

1. "Illustrating 'The Murders in the Rue Morgue,'" John Gruesser, Kean University
2. "Old Sleuths: Portraying Age in Detective Serials, 1870-1900," Nathaniel Williams, University of California, Davis

Audio-Visual Equipment Required: Projector and Laptop Connection [Those using Macs may need to provide their own connecting cords and dongles.]

Session 16-F  Aesthetics and Ethics: New Readings of Four Quartets  
Organized by the T. S. Eliot Society

Chair: Nancy K. Gish, University of Southern Maine

1. “Christian Beliefs and Constructivist Aesthetic: Giving Concrete Body to the Work of Spirit in ‘Ash Wednesday’ and ‘Four Quartets,’” Charlies Altieri, University of California Berkeley

Audio-Visual Equipment Required: Projector for powerpoint and screen

Session 16-G “Models of Exactness” in the Poetry of Marianne Moore
Organized by the Marianne Moore Society

Chair: Carly Rubin, Louisiana State University

2. “Moore’s Counterpoint,” Elizabeth Gregory, University of Houston
3. "Precisians and Precisionists: Moore and O’Keeffe" Ashley Lazevnick, Princeton University

Audio-Visual Equipment required: Powerpoint Projector and Screen

**Session 16-H**  **The “Motherline” and the Maternal Body: Explorations into the Labors of Pregnancy, Childbirth, and Motherhood in American Women’s Writing**
Organized by the Society for the Study of American Women Writers

Chair: Christopher Allen Varlack, University of Maryland-Baltimore County

1. “She was brought to bed’: The Queer Temporality of Early American Childbirth and the Holyoke Women’s Diaries (1760-1856),” Sam Sommers, University of California, Los Angeles
2. “The ‘will to flower’: Diane di Prima’s Countercultural Maternity,” Mary Paniccia Carden, Edinboro University of Pennsylvania
3. “Many-Gendered Mothers’: Motherhood in Jesmyn Ward’s Salvage the Bones,” Eliza Holmes, Harvard University

Audio-Visual Equipment Required: Projector/Screen

**Session 16-I**  **New Directions in Mark Twain Studies**
Organized by the Mark Twain Circle of America

Chair: Bruce Michelson, University of Illinois

1. “Writers Reading and Readers Responding: Mark Twain, Leonard Cohen, and Joan of Arc,” Susan K. Harris, University of Kansas
2. “Readers’ Theater: The Diaries of Adam and Eve,” Linda Morris, University of California, Davis, emerita and Larry Howe, Roosevelt University
3. “Heedless and Too-Bold’s Watery Enchanted Ground: *The Pilgrim’s Progress* as a Predecessor Text to *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*,” Liam Purdon, Doane University

A/V: No

**Session 16-J**  **Alcott in the Classroom**
Organized by the Louisa May Alcott Society

Chair: Melissa M. Pennell, University of Massachusetts Lowell
1. “Louisa May Alcott, Major Author,” Gregory Eiselein, Kansas State University
2. “Slave Rebellions: Teaching ‘An Hour’ Alongside ‘Benito Cereno,’” Christine Doyle, Central Connecticut State University
3. “‘Thirteen Ways of Looking’: Alcott’s Eight Cousins in the Collegiate Classroom,” Anne K. Phillips, Kansas State University

Audio-Visual Equipment required: none

**Session 16-K  Cormac McCarthy I**
Organized by the Cormac McCarthy Society

Chair: Stacey Peebles, Centre College

1. “‘A Snare and a Delusion’: Collaboration, Commodification, and Cowboys in Cormac McCarthy’s *Cities of the Plain*,” Jamie Brummer, Christian Brothers High School
2. “Teaching Gender and Sexuality in Cormac McCarthy,” Lydia Cooper, Creighton University
3. “Avatars of Working Class Identity in *Suttree*,” Sean Hooks, University of California, Riverside
4. “Malkina: Reading Cormac McCarthy’s Villainess” Alexandra Chiasson, Louisiana State University

Audio-Visual Equipment required: None

**Session 16-L Business Meeting: Society for American Jewish Literature**

**Session 16-M Business Meeting: Ernest Gaines Society**

**Session 16-N Business Meeting: Eudora Welty Society**

**Session 16-O: Business Meeting: Available**

**Saturday, May 26, 2018**
11:10 am – 12:30 pm

**Session 17-A  What it Means to be Human in the Work of Octavia E. Butler”**
Organized by the Octavia E. Butler Literary Society

Moderator: Tarshia Stanley, Spelman College

1. “Birthing the Posthuman in Octavia Butler’s Dawn,” Michael Sean Bolton, Santa Fe College
2. “Mescegenation and Mestizaje Rooted in Myth as Elements of Fantasy in Octavia Butler’s Kindred and Carmen Tafolla’s ‘La Malinche,’” Gabriela Serrano, Angelo State University
3. “Slime Mold and Mitochondrial Eve: Butler’s Xenogenesis,” Angela Rovak, University of Oregon

Audio-Visual Equipment required: Projector
Session 17-B  Asian American Histories and Citizenship: Concepts of Legality in Literature
Organized by the Circle for Asian American Literary Studies (CAALS)

Chair: Krupal Amin, The Ohio State University

1. “Contradictions Between Citizenship and Empire in Sabina Murray’s The Caprices,” Laura Wright, University of Connecticut
2. “Release him from all paper”: Two Appropriations of American Legal Documentation in Asian American Poetics,” Alex Howerton, University of South Carolina
3. “(Un)Documenting the ‘Good’ Immigrant in Fae Myenne Ng’s Bone,” Emily Yoon Perez, University of Maryland, College Park

Audio-Visual Equipment required: projector

Session 17-C  Katherine Anne Porter: A Woman of Letters
Organized by the Katherine Anne Porter Society

Chair: Christine Grogan, The Pennsylvania State University

1. “All my past is usable’: Online Access and the Katherine Anne Porter Correspondence Project at the University of Maryland,” Amber Kohl and Beth Alvarez, University of Maryland
2. “Katherine Anne Porter’s Special Bond,” Alice Cheylan, Université de Toulon

Audio-Visual Equipment required: projector for powerpoint presentation and internet connection [We are unable to provide internet connection.]

Session 17-D  Cupcakes, Cruelty, and Curses: Fresh Considerations of Lydia Maria Child
Organized by the Lydia Maria Child Society

Chair: Sandra Burr, Northern Michigan University

1. “Cookbook Morality: Child vs. Corporate Cookbooks,” Linda Civitello, Ph.D., Independent Scholar
2. “Lydia Maria Child and the National Movement to Prevent Animal Cruelty,” Meredith Eliassen, San Francisco State University
3. “Chocorua’s Curse,’ Domestic Space and Ecology,” Lisa West, Drake University

Audio-Visual Equipment required: Yes, for projection of photos/images and of PowerPoint slides from laptops

Session 17-E  Space and Smell in Crime Fiction
Organized by the Crime Fiction Group

Chair: Kinohi Nishikawa, Princeton University
2. “Detective Fiction and the Politics of Deodorization,” Hsuan L. Hsu, University of California, Davis

Audio-Visual Equipment Required: Projector and Laptop Connection

**Session 17-F**  American Jewish Literature and Trauma
Organized by The Society for American Jewish Literature

Chair: Victoria Aarons, Trinity University

1. “Can Jewish-American Trauma be American Trauma? A Discussion of the Novels of Jonathan Safran Foer,” Hilene Flanzbaum, Butler University
2. “Poverty After Auschwitz: The Forgotten Survivors in American Jewish Literature,” Anthony Wexler, Case Western Reserve University
3. “‘Child Not Born’: The Figure of an Unborn Child in the Age of Genocide,” Aimee Pozorski, Central Connecticut State University

Audio-Visual Equipment required: Yes; projector and screen for PowerPoint presentation

**Session 17-G**  Charles Olson’s Correspondence and the Emerging of the New American Poetry and Poetics
Organized by the Charles Olson Society

Chair: Jeff Gardiner, Independent Scholar

1. “Encountering the Poet’s Hand: Charles Olson’s Archive, the Commons, and the Twin Impulses of Composition and Exchange,” Melissa Watterworth Batt, Curator, Charles Olson Research Collection, University of Connecticut
2. “Charles Olson: Post and Polis,” Matthew Hofer, University of New Mexico
4. “‘My Muse Is Kleos’: Tying It Together. Charles Olson’s Correspondence with Ann Charters,” Jeff Davis, Independent Scholar
5. “The Door is Open: Charles Olson,” documentary on the making of the Maud-Olson library housed at the Gloucester Writers Center

Audio-Visual Equipment required: Projector (connected to laptop) and speakers [We are unable to provide speakers.]

**Session 17-H**  “She Was Becoming Herself and Daily Casting Aside that Fictitious Self”: Critiques of Domesticity and Servitude in American Women’s Writing
organized by the Society for the Study of American Women Writers

Chair: Sabrina Starnaman, University of Texas at Dallas

1. “‘Under the Pressure of Much Care and Business to My Profession’: The Invisible Editorial Labor of Susanna Haswell Rowson,” Kristina Garvin, Saint Joseph’s University
2. “Caroline Kirkland, Harriet Wilson, and the Environmental Critique of Domesticity,” Dylan Ford, University of Massachusetts Amherst
3. “Not ‘the old story over again’: Coming Womanhood and Coming-of-Age in *Fettered for Life*,” Elizabeth A. Boyle, Purdue University

Audio-Visual Equipment Required: Projector/Screen

**Session 17-I**  Ralph Ellison and the Ethics of Writing
Organized by the Ralph Ellison Society

Chair: Marc Conner, Washington and Lee University

1. “Ralph Ellison’s Archaeology of History,” Michael Germana, West Virginia University
2. “Universal Indictment: Ralph Ellison’s Invisible Man and the Ethics of Confession,” Ryan Siemers, University of Utah
3. “Tell It Like It Is, Ralph?: Ellison and the Rise of Creative Nonfiction,” Kevin Moore, University of California at Santa Barbara
4. “Ellison on the Color of Memory,” Sterling Bland, Rutgers University, Newark

Audio-Visual Equipment required: None

**Session 17-J**  Teaching Early American Drama
Organized by the Society of Early Americanists

Chair: Jennifer Mylander, San Francisco State University

1. Heather Nathans, Tufts University, “The Avatar Project: Embodying the Archive in Early American Theatre and History”
2. Betsy Klimasmith, University of Massachusetts Boston, “From the Closet to the Classroom: Performance Pedagogy in Early American Literature Courses”
3. Paul Lewis, Boston College, “Teaching the Terrible; Or, Taking William Charles White’s *Orlando: Or Parental Persecution, A Tragedy*, to School”
4. Kimberly A. Southwick-Thompson, University of Louisiana at Lafayette, “Women in the Sequel: Using *Hamilton* to Spotlight the American Enlightenment and Return Revolutionary Female Playwrights to Center Stage”

Audio-Visual Equipment required: None
Affective Historiography in Percival Everett's Fiction
Organized by the Percival Everett International Society

Chair: Amee Carmines, Hampton University

1. “Pain, Violence, and Parody: Critical Distance/Intimate Suffering in Percival Everett’s The Water Cure,” Amee Carmines, Hampton University


Business Meeting: Marianne Moore Society

Business Meeting: Louisa May Alcott

Business Meeting: Mark Twain Circle

Business Meeting: Kate Chopin Society

Saturday, May 26, 2018
12:40 – 2:00 pm

Underground, Indie, and Alternative Publishing & the Graphic Novel
Organized by the Comics and Graphic Narratives Circle

Chair: Rachel Miller, The Ohio State University

1. “Latinx Comics: The Untold History of Alternative Comics,” Frederick Aldama, The Ohio State University
2. “Publishing Policies and (Independent) publishing houses as topoi in Comics and Graphic Novels,” Barbara Eggert, Danube University Krems
3. “My Kid Could Have Done That!: John Porcellino’s King Cat and Comics at the Crossroads,” Joshua Abraham Kopin, University of Texas—Austin

Audio-Visual Equipment required: Projector and Screen

Roundtable: Digital Sleuthing and Lost Texts: Reading in the Age of Expanding Archives
Organized by the Digital Americanists society

Moderators: Stefan Schöberlein, University of Iowa; Stephanie M. Blalock, University of Iowa, Kevin McMullen, University of Nebraska—Lincoln

Participants:
1. Zachary Turpin, University of Idaho
2. Angela Pettitt, Penn State Shenango
3. Bonnie James Shaker, Kent State University
4. James E. McWilliams, Texas State University

Audio-Visual Equipment required: Digital Projector/Screen for PowerPoint presentations; HDMI and mini-HDMI; Internet Access, Laptop (if possible). [We are unable to provide, internet access or a laptop. Those using Macs may need to provide their own connecting cords and dongles.

Session 18-C New Perspectives on Paul Laurence Dunbar
Organized by the Paul Laurence Dunbar Society

Chair: John Cyril Barton, University of Missouri, Kansas City

1. “The Curious Afterlife of ‘Life’: or, When a Poem Takes on a Life of It’s Own,” Thomas Morgan, University of Dayton
2. “’The Negro Poet-Reader’: African-American Elocutionists’ Dunbar Recitations,” Amy Hobbs Harris, Central State University

Audio-Visual Equipment Required: projector

Session 18-D Currents of Life: Mysticism, Politics, and Desire in the late H.D.
Organized by the H.D. International Society

Chair: Rebecca Walsh, North Carolina State University

2. “The Politico-Mystical Turn in H.D.’s Late Writing,” Lisa Dustin, Zayed University
3. “The Wire She Was’: Modern and Electric Sexuality in H.D.’s Nights,” Haley Larsen, Purdue University

Audio-Visual Equipment required: standard projector

Session 18-E Eugene O’Neill Today: Pedagogy, Dramaturgy, and Transnationality. A Round-Table Discussion
Organized by the Eugene O’Neill Society
Moderator: Steven F. Bloom, Lasell College

Robert M. Dowling, Central Connecticut State University
Eric Fraisher Hayes, The Eugene O’Neill Foundation, Tao House
Katie Johnson, Miami University
Jeffery Kennedy, Arizona State University
Daniel McGovern, The Eugene O’Neill Foundation, Tao House
Alexander Pettit, University of North Texas
Beth Wynstra, Babson College
Audio-Visual Equipment Required for Eugene O'Neill Society Session 2: A screen and a projection system to which both a Macintosh and a PC laptop computer can be connected. Mac user may need to provide connector or dongle.

**Session 18-F** Travel Writing of Asylum and Refuge
Organized by the Society for American Travel Writing

Chair: Gary Totten, University of Nevada Las Vegas

1. “Checkpoints: Crossing Fraught Borders,” Carolyn Kraus, University of Michigan Dearborn
2. “Children of War: Narratives of Conflict in Syria and Iraq in Children’s Literature,” Angela Morris, University of Memphis
3. “Rising Stars and Fallen Women: Emily Hahn’s Shanghai,” Jeffrey Mather, City University of Hong Kong
4. “Stories of Displacement in Graphic Travel Writing: Sarah Glidden’s Rolling Blackouts,” Agnese De Marchi, Ca Foscari University of Venice

Audio/visual required: projector

**Session 18-G** Ethnicity and Immigration in the Midwest
Organized by The Society for the Study of Midwestern Literature

Chair: Kirk Curnutt, Troy University

3. “All are Machines: Labor and Addiction in Algren’s The Man with the Golden Arm,” Doug Sheldon, University of Illinois at Chicago
4. “Non-Parallel Lines: Virginia Campbell, Bridget, and Sally,” Kathleen Butterly Nigro, University of Missouri-St. Louis

Audio-Visual Equipment Required: Projector and Screen

**Session 18-H** Repeat, Revise, Resist: The Work of Elizabeth Oakes Smith’s Late Indian Novels
Organized by: Timothy Scherman, Northeastern Illinois University

Chair: Cynthia Patterson, University of South Florida

1. “Without Mercy’: Revising the Historical Record in Elizabeth Oakes Smith’s Indian Novels,” Tracey Daniels-Lerberg, University of Utah
2. “Contesting the Uncontested: Revisions and Race in Oakes Smith’s The Bald Eagle,” Timothy Scherman, Northeastern Illinois University
3. “Writing for Revenge: Two Tales, Twenty Years, and a Lifetime of Rage,” Rebecca Jaroff, Ursinus College
Audio-Visual Equipment required: Powerpoint Projection

**Session 18-I**  Roundtable Discussion on “The Newness of Little Women”
Organized by the Louisa May Alcott Society

Moderators: Gregory Eiselein and Anne K. Phillips, Kansas State University

1. “‘New Friendship Flourished Like Grass in Spring’: The Newness of Friendship in Little Women,” Sarah Wadsworth, Marquette University
3. “Little Women Revisited: Alcott and New Media,” Krissie West, University of Reading, UK
5. “Girl Power: A Look at Recent Little Women Adaptations,” Elise Hooper, Independent Scholar

Audio-Visual Equipment required: none

**Session 18-J**  Haiku in America and Japan: The Interaction between Two Countries

Organizer and Chair: Toru Kiuchi, Nihon University

1. “Mutual Influence between the American and the Japanese Haiku,” Toshio Kimura, Nihon University
2. “Richard Wright’s Haiku and Basho,” Yoshinobu Hakutani, Kent State University
3. “Sonia Sanchez’s Haiku and Japan,” Heejung Kim, Independent Scholar

Audio-Visual Equipment required: None

**Session 18-K**  Disruptive Environments and Strange Relationships

Chair: Thomas Garcia, UCLA

1. “Approaching the Wild in the Writing of James Dickey and Jack London,” Kenneth K. Brandt, Savannah College of Art and Design
2. “Lovecraft’s Queer Ecology: Ambivalence and Xenophilia,” Neill Matheson, University of Texas
4. “It Is Dreadfully Hard for a Mother to be Separated from her Children”: Bursting the Myth of Women’s Work in Dorothy Canfield’s The Home Maker,” Ann Bliss, Texas A&M University-San Antonio

Audio-Visual Equipment required: None

**Session 18-L**  Business Meeting: Society for Contemporary Literature

**Session 18-M: Business Meeting: Octavia Butler Society**
Session 18-N: Business Meeting: Ralph Ellison Society

Session 18-O: Business Meeting: Katherine Anne Porter Society

Saturday, May 26, 2018
2:10–3:30 pm

Session 19-A Drawing While Black
Organized by the Comics and Graphic Narratives Circle

Chair: Rachel Miller, The Ohio State University

1. “Deliberate Design: Barbara Brandon,∗ Black Feminism & the American Comedic Tradition,” Jalylah Burrell, Depaul University
2. “Sequential Art and Slavery: Trauma in the Graphic Novel Adaptation of Octavia Butler’s *Kindred,*” Samanda Robinson, Johns Hopkins University

Audio-Visual Equipment required: Projector and Screen

Session 19-B Percival Everett and the Problem(s) of Language and Representation
Organized by the Percival Everett International Society

Chair: Keith Mitchell, University of Massachusetts, Lowell

1. “Percival Everett’s Zulus: Text, Paratext, Intertext,” Keith Mitchell, University of Massachusetts, Lowell

Audio-Visual equipment required: for second session only

Session 19-C Truth in Fiction / Fiction in Truth: The Impulse Toward Nonfiction and Truth-Telling in Recent Literary Production

Organized by Fred Johnson, Whitworth University
Sponsored by the Society for Contemporary Literature

Chair: Grant O. Palmer, University of California, Riverside

2. “The Serial ‘I’: Brian Reed’s *S-Town* Podcast and the Literary Nature of First Person Memory,” Jacqueline Patz, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities

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Audio-Visual Equipment required: Projector with ability to connect to presenter laptops, inc. a MacBook Air. Speakers for audio. [We are unable to provide speakers.]

Session 19-D  Melville and the Emergence of Trumpism
Organized by the Melville Society

Chair: James Noel, Los Medanos College

1. “Trumpism and the Know-Nothing Party” Madison Furrh, Colorado State University- Pueblo
4. “Crippled America: Trump, Ahab, and the Materialist Turn,” Nathan Wolff, Tufts University

Audio-Visual Equipment is needed

Session 19-E Politics, Poetics, and Race in Depression-Era American Literature
Organized by: William Solomon

Chair: William Solomon, University at Buffalo

1. “A Feeling for History: African American Historical Representation During the Depression,” Nathaniel Mills, University of Minnesota
2. “Fusing an Alloy: Muriel Rukeyser at the Limits of Poetry / Documentary,” Sarah Ehlers, University of Houston
3. “It Will Have Happened Here Then: American Dictator Novels and the Thirties Today,” Matthew Stratton, University of California at Davis

A/V requested

Session 19-F Mary E. Wilkins Freeman: Open Topic
Organized by the Mary E. Wilkins Freeman Society

Chair: Ken Johnson, Perimeter College - Georgia State University

1. “No Pity: Mary E. Wilkins Freeman, Subsistence, and ‘The Tears of Things,’” Clare Mullaney, University of Pennsylvania
3. “Queering the Canon: Freeman’s Unlikely Companions in the American Literature Classroom,” Aušra Paulauskiene, LCC International University, Lithuania

Audio-Visual Equipment Required: Yes (presenters will use PowerPoint presentations)
Session 19-G  F. Scott Fitzgerald II
Organized by the F. Scott Fitzgerald Society

Chair: Sharon Kim, Judson University

1. “The Last Tycoon on film and television: a comparative analysis and a rekindled interest in Fitzgeraldiana?” Patricia Fra-López, University of Santiago de Compostela
2. “F. Scott Fitzgerald’s Musical Imaginary,” Meghan Burns, University of Connecticut

Audio-Visual Equipment Required: PowerPoint capability

Session 19-H  Form and Meaning in Contemporary Poetry

Chair:  Alan Soldofsky, San Jose State University

2. “Reading/Representing Disability in Molly McCully Brown’s The Virginia State Colony for Epileptics and Feebleminded,” Andrea Ivanov-Craig, Azusa Pacific University
3. “The Morning of the Poem in the Autumn of the System: James Schuyler’s Middle-Ground Poetics,” Tobias Huttner, Johns Hopkins University
4. “‘One immaterial body, a fictive person’: Disjunctions of Scale and the Economic Sublime in Timothy Donnelly’s The Cloud Corporation,” Ann Keniston, University of Nevada

Audio-Visual Equipment required: Projector

Session 19-I  Above the American Renaissance: David S. Reynolds and the Spiritual Imagination in American Literary Studies

Moderator: Harold K. Bush, Saint Louis University

1. Harold K. Bush, Saint Louis University
2. Tracy Fessenden, Arizona State University
3. Nathaniel Williams, University of California
4. Mary Eyring, Brigham Young University
5. Sean Pears, State University of New York
6. Audrey Raden, Independent scholar
7. David S. Reynolds, City University of New York Graduate School

Session 19-J  Approaches to Teaching Kate Chopin Round Table
Organized by the Kate Chopin International Society

Chair: Christina G. Bucher, Berry College
1. “Bird Songs: Teaching the ‘Soundtrack’ of The Awakening,” Mark Schiebe, Queensborough Community College, The City University of New York
2. “Passing for ‘Normal’: Edna Pontellier’s Universal Struggle,” Chris Gilmer, Alcorn State University-Vicksburg
3. “Enriching Kate’s Stories with Stories of Kate’s Life,” Gerri Chopin Wendel, Independent Scholar and Chopin descendant
4. “CRISPing the Classroom: Renewing Chopin through Evolving Pedagogy,” Kathleen Butterly Nigro, University of Missouri-St. Louis
5. “Students’ Creative Responses to Chopin’s Works,” Kelli Purcell O’Brien, University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff

Audio-Visual Equipment required: None

Session 19-K Cormac McCarthy II
Organized by the Cormac McCarthy Society

Chair: Steven Frye, California State University, Bakersfield

1. “Eucatastrophic Consolations in Cormac McCarthy’s The Road,” Haein Park, Biola University
2. “With Love Alone: Cormac McCarthy and Weak Thought,” Bryan Vescio, High Point University
3. “Dreams of race that was,’ Loss and Quietism in Cormac McCarthy’s The Orchard Keeper” Fredrik Svensson, Karlstad University, Sweden

Audio-Visual Equipment required: None

Session 19-L Business Meeting: Margaret Fuller Society

Session 19-M Business Meeting: Digital Americanists

Session 19-N Business Meeting: Eugene O'Neill Society

Session 19-O Business Meeting: Lydia Maria Child Society

Saturday, May 26, 2018
3:40 – 5:00 pm

Session 20-A Textual History, Historical Texts
Organized by the African American Literature and Culture Society

Chair: Grégory Pierrot, University of Connecticut at Stamford


A/V: Yes

Session 20-B Postindustrial Environments
Organized by Laura Finch, University of Michigan, and Theodore Martin, University of California, Irvine
Sponsored by the Society for Contemporary Literature

Chair: Fred Johnson, Whitworth University

2. “Model Cities and Ghost Maps: Scale and Site in Contemporary Ecopoetics,” Margaret Ronda, University of California, Davis
3. “Narrative Mobility and Global Cities: Joseph O’Neill’s Netherland and Teju Cole’s Open City,” Jeffrey Gonzalez, Montclair State University

Audio-Visual Equipment required: projector and mac/PC laptop hookup [Those using Macs may need to provide their own connecting cords and dongles.

Session 20-C Margaret Fuller: Out of New England
Organized by the Margaret Fuller Society

Chair: Noelle Baker, Independent Scholar

1. "Of Good and Noble Aspect: Margaret Fuller, Catholicism and Pius IX (1847-1850)," Simone Maria Puleo, University of Connecticut, Storrs
2. "Romantic Revolutions: Cosmopolitan Radicalism in Margaret Fuller’s Dispatches from Europe," Clemens Spahr, Mainz University, Germany
3. “The Morning Star of Margaret Fuller': The Woman’s Club Movement and the Legacy of Fuller’s Conversations,” Katie Kornacki, Caldwell University
4. "Who's Afraid of Margaret Fuller?: Literary and Biographical Connections Between Virginia Woolf and Margaret Fuller," Michael Schrimper, Independent Scholar

Audio-Visual Equipment required: projector and screen

Session 20-D Sites of Agency or Exploitation: Perspectives on Public/Private Spheres by American Women Writers of Color
organized by the Society for the Study of American Women Writers

Chair: Christopher Allen Varlack, University of Maryland-Baltimore County
1. “I am Homeless and Alone: Rebuilding Sites of Racial Belonging in Iola Leroy,” Brittany Susson, Loyola University Chicago
2. “Why ‘being swallowed up into some little man’ is Not Enough: Anna Julia Cooper’s Vision of Love and Liberation,” Vivian M. May, Syracuse University
3. “Uplift, Image, and Selfhood in Nella Larsen’s Quicksand,” Jenna Marco, University of South Carolina
4. “We all walk that line: Labor, Gender, and Precarity in 21st Century American Workplace Dramas,” Megan Behrent, New York City College of Technology, CUNY

Audio-Visual Equipment required: Projector

**Session 20-E** From Poe to Ellis: Genre and Crime Fiction
Organized by the Crime Fiction Group

Chair: Molly Donahue, Georgia Southern University

1. “Six Secret Murder Mysteries by Edgar A. Poe,” Susan Amper, Bronx Community College

Audio-Visual Equipment Required: Projector and Laptop Connection

**Session 20-F** Borders, Boundaries, and “a Flourishing Friendship”: The Work of Lyn Hejinian, Leslie Scalapino and their Collaborations
Organizer: Laura Hinton, City College of New York of CUNY

Chair: William J. Harris, University of Kansas

Respondent: Lyn Hejinian, University of California, Berkeley
1. “Perverse Crossings and Muse X: Lyn Hejinain’s Oxota: A Short Russian Novel,” by Julie Carr, University of Colorado, Boulder
2. “Transautography and Leslie Scalapino,” by Lisa Samuels The University of Auckland (New Zealand)

Audio-Visual Equipment required: Yes

**Session 20-G** Cape Cod
Organized by the Thoreau Society

Chair: Kristen Case, University of Maine

1. “Economic Imperception in Henry David Thoreau’s Cape Cod,” Alex Moskowitz, Boston College
2. “Cape Cod, Literature, and the Illocality of Thinking about Capital,” Benjamin Pickford, Université de Lausanne

Audio-Visual Equipment required: Yes

**Session 20-H** Stevens' Americana
Organized by the Wallace Stevens Society

Chair: Zachary Tavlin, University of Washington

1. "'A comprehensive island hemisphere': Stevens and the Banjo," Florian Gargaillo, Boston University

Audio-Visual Equipment required: Basic projector

**Session 20-I** American Haiku
Organized by the Haiku Society of America

Chair: Peter McDonald, California State University, Fresno

1. “The Postdomestic Woman in Roberta Beary’s The Unworn Necklace,” Joshua Gage, Cleveland State University
2. “Lenard D. Moore’s Jazz Haiku,” Ce Rosenow, Lane Community College
3. "Sonia Sanchez's 'magic words': Black History, Haiku & Healing," Meta L. Schettler, California State University, Fresno

Audio-Visual Equipment Required: None

**Session 20-J** Exploring Kate Chopin’s Writing Through Theoretical and Legal Lenses
Organized by the Kate Chopin International Society

Chair: Kelli Purcell O’Brien, University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff

1. “The Right of Repose: Time as Unit of Justice in Kate Chopin’s At Fault," Trinyan Mariano, Florida State University
3. "Re-reading Kate Chopin’s Ignored Story ‘A Morning Walk’ as a Key to Her Oeuvre," David Wehner, Mount St. Mary’s University

Audio-Visual Equipment required: None
Session 20-K Not Just the In-betweens: Politics, Art, and Transnationalism in the Work of Maxine Hong Kingston
Organized by the Maxine Hong Kingston Society

Chair: Erin Farmer, Solano Community College (Tentative)
2. “Peace Consciousness through Literature: Aesthetic Design and Activism in Maxine Hong Kingston's Fifth Book of Peace and The Woman Warrior,” Kuldip Kaur Kuwahara, North Carolina Central University
3. Traveling with Maxine Hong Kingston, Wittman Ah Sing, and Fa Mook Lan in I Love a Broad Margin to My Life,” John Whalen-Bridge, National University of Singapore

Audio-Visual Equipment Required: none

Session 20-L Business Meeting: Mary E. Wilkins Freeman Society

Session 20-M: Business Meeting: Percival Everett International Society

Session 20-N: Business Meeting: Cormac McCarthy Society

Saturday, May 26, 2018
5:10 – 6:30 pm

Session 21-A: RSAP Article Award Winners, Organized by The Research Society of American Periodicals

Chair: Mark Noonan, New York City College of Technology – CUNY


Audio-Visual Equipment required: projector and screen

Session 21-B Digital Interventions: DH Perspectives on (Dis)ability, Feminism, and Ecology.
Organized by the Digital Americanists Society
Co-chairs: Stefan Schöberlein, University of Iowa; Stephanie M. Blalock, University of Iowa, Kevin McMullen, University of Nebraska—Lincoln

Audio-Visual Equipment required: Digital Projector/Screen for PowerPoint presentations; HDMI and mini-HDMI; Internet Access, Laptop (if possible). [We are unable to provide internet access or a laptop. Those using Macs may need to provide their own connecting cords and dongles.]

Session 21-C Embodiment and Charlotte Perkins Gilman
Organized by the Charlotte Perkins Gilman Society

Chair: Jana Rivers-Norton, Cochise College

1. "The Social Power of Sleep in Charlotte Perkins Gilman's The Forerunner," Hannah Huber, University of South Carolina

Audio-Visual Equipment Required: Powerpoint projector and screen

Session 21-D Harriet Beecher Stowe Panel: New Approaches to Reading Stowe
Organized by the Harriet Beecher Stowe Society

Chair: Marlowe-Daly Galeano, Lewis-Clark State College

1. "Sailors in Uncle Tom's Cabin," Cynthia Smith, Miami University
2. "Botanical Stowe," Katherine Isabel Bondy, UC-Berkeley
3. "Vesey and Gordon’s Righteous Insurrection: The Legacy of Denmark Vesey’s Natural Rights Philosophy in Harriet Beecher Stowe’s Dread," Christopher Allan Black, Auburn University
4. "Uncle Tom's Cabin: Jewett’s Advertisement Methods Create a Perfect Puff Storm and ‘The Story of the Age,’” Kelley Ann Endres, Indiana University of Pennsylvania

Audio-Visual Equipment: would like the ability to use PowerPoint

Session 21-E New Directions in African American Literature

Chair: TBA

1. "By the Bias: Fashion, Humor, Jazz and the Short Fiction of Toni Cade Bambara," Jaiylah Burrell, DePaul University
2. "Baddest Bitches in Palmetto: The Nail Artisan Mafia Collective," Shelby Crosby, University of Memphis

Audio-Visual Equipment required: Projector with video and sound

**Session 21-F Beyond Modernism**

**Chair:** TBA

1. “In Between a Modernist and Proletarian Ethic: Muriel Rukeyser and Transcendental, Visionary Bridges,” Trudi Witonsky, University of Wisconsin

Audio-Visual Equipment required: to connect iPad 3, present using Prezi Those using Macs may need to provide their own connecting cords and dongles.

**Session 21-G Thoreau and Resistance**
Organized by the Thoreau Society
Chair: Kristen Case, University of Maine

2. “Sounding Extinction: Thoreauvian Resistance to Monumental Death,” Rachael DeWitt, UC Davis
3. “Thoreau Against Antigone, or, Individualism and Its Vicissitudes,” Michael Mlekoday, UC Davis

Audio-Visual Equipment required: Yes

**Session 21-H William Carlos Williams and West Coast poetry today**
Organized by the William Carlos Williams Society
Chair: Ian Copestake, Independent Scholar

1. “Strange Courage’: WCW’s Inspiring Poetics of Self-Imposed Exile,” Bill Mohr, California State University, Long Beach

Audio-Visual Equipment required

**Session 21-I Ralph Ellison and the Contemporary American Moment (Round Table)**
Organized by the Ralph Ellison Society

Moderator: Adam Bradley, the University of Colorado at Boulder

1. “Writing the Territory: Geography and Subjectivity in Ralph Ellison’s Invisible Man,” Emerson Hamza, Rice University
7. “Charlottesville and the Myth of the Flawed White Southerner,” Tim Parrish, University of California at Davis

Audio-Visual Equipment Required: none

**Session 21-J** Ethics and Love in the Work of George Saunders
Organized by Not Yet the George Saunders Society

Chair: John Whalen-Bridge, National University of Singapore


Audio-Visual Equipment Required: none

**Session 21-K**: Poetry Reading: Lyn Hejinian

**Session 21-L**: Business Meeting: African American Literature and Culture Society

**Session 21-M**: Business Meeting: Society for the Study of American Women Writers

Saturday, May 26, 2018
6:30-7:30

A Reading from *LINCOLN IN THE BARDO* (2017)

**Dramatis Personae**

Willie Lincoln Maxine Hong Kingston
Abraham Lincoln Joe Lamb
Roger Bevins III David Johnson
Hans Vollman Earl Kingston
Rev. Everly Thomas Joanne Palamountain
Eddie Baron John Whalen-Bridge
Betsy Baron Kathleen Taylor
In the opening pages of the novel, Willie Lincoln is dying of typhoid fever while his parents must host a large state dinner in the White House. After Willie dies, Abraham Lincoln attempts to grapple with his loss by visiting his dead son’s crypt, opening the casket, and holding his beloved son’s body. This act deeply affects several of the spirits inhabiting the charnel ground, but Willie is disturbed by the sight. Now a disembodied spirit, Willie looks down upon his father and his own unrecognized body, unaware that he is dead. Why does his father walk away, abandoning him?

Saunders has defined the bardo as “a transitional state between lives,” but the concept can apply more widely to a number of liminal situations. According to some Tibetan Buddhist teachings, everyday life (the shinay bardo), the dreams that come between one day and the next (the milam bardo), and the bardo of meditative experience (the samten bardo) are all moments in which in which beings struggle for clarity, though these lesser-known bardos are thought to be less consequential than the purgatorial term between lives. A traveler stuck in an airport due to a missed flight is in a kind of bardo, a period of uncertainty. While the novel is centered on the travail of Willie Lincoln, the boy’s spiritual journey is artfully linked to that of all the other characters in this novel, and perhaps to the whole of American life that is shaped by Abraham Lincoln’s choices.

Like Willie, the President finds himself caught between possibilities. The elder Lincoln faces crises that are at once spiritual, psychological, and political. In late February 1862, just after Grant’s capture of Fort Donelson, the Civil War was beginning to metastasize into a new kind of war—the catastrophe that would claim over 600,000 American lives. During the course of the novel, the ten worst battles were yet to happen. Saunders takes us into the agonized heart of Lincoln as he struggles with what he should do.

Readers (and hearers) of Lincoln in the Bardo may find the central organizing metaphor to be quite timely. In response to the political rallies of a more recent politician, Saunders in early 2016 wrote that he had “never before imagined America as fragile, as an experiment that could, within my very lifetime, fail.” Spiritually engaged and unfailingly intelligent, Lincoln in the Bardo appreciates profoundly the fragility of our individual lives and of our communal way of life.

With the kind permission of the writer, The Postmortem Players have come together to perform a reading of Lincoln in the Bardo for the American Literature Association.

Reception: 7:30 – 8:30

Sunday, May 27, 2018
Registration open 8:00 am - 10:20 am
(Pacific Concourse)

8:30 – 9:50 am

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Session 22-A  1830 is the New '20: The 1820s as Early American Literature
Organized by the Society of Early Americanists

Chair: Kathryn S. Koo, St. Mary’s College

1. Thomas Koenigs, Scripps College, “The Great Struggle for Veracity between History and Fiction: Historical Fictionality in the 1820s”
2. David Lawrimore, Idaho State University, “Re-Periodizing the Historical Novel: Competing Historicisms in Memoir of the Northern Kingdom”
3. Steven Epley, Samford University, “A Possible Connection Between a Turn-of-the-Nineteenth Century Scandal and Susanna Rowson’s Lucy Temple (1828)”

Audio-Visual Equipment required: None

Session 22-B  On Williams’s In the American Grain

Chair: Stephen Hahn, William Paterson University

1. “From Williams to Miranda: The Virtue of History and the Historical Fate of Alexander Hamilton,” Ian Copestake, Independent Scholar;
2. “the flower once ravished….’: The Spirit of the Americas in In the American Grain,” Daniel L. Burke, Loyola University of Chicago;
3. “Inhuman Clarity”—WCW, Robert Lowell, and In the American Grain,” Marcel Inhof, University of Bonn.

Audio-Visual Equipment required: None

Session 22-C  Redeeming Absence in Twentieth-Century American Drama
Organized by: Matt DiCintio, American Theatre and Drama Society

Chair: Heather Nathans, Tufts University

1. “Performing Native American Absence in Larissa FastHorse's The Thanksgiving Play,” Nelson Barre, University of Oregon

Audio-Visual Equipment required: None

Session 22-D  Place and Space in American Writing

Chair: TBA

1. “'In the Silence between Darkness and Light': Liminal Space in The Stories of Breece D’J Pancake,” Christopher Blackburn, Georgia Southern University

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2. “Does It All Turn on Affection?: Wendell Berry, the Affective Turn, and the Question of Place,” William Major, University of Hartford
3. “Francis Parkman—Traveler, Tourist, Cultural Voyeur,” Susan L. Roberson, Texas A&M University-Kingsville
4. “The Speeches and Writings of Abraham Lincoln: An Eco-Critique,” James Tackach, Roger Williams University

Audio-Visual Equipment required: none

Session 22-E Scandals and Failures of Reform Writing in the Long Nineteenth Century

Organizer: Ryan Schneider, Purdue University
Chair: Derek Pacheco, Purdue University

2. “(Twice) Wronged Women: Amelia Norman and Zulma Marache,” Nicole Livengo, Marietta College
3. “Maria Stewart’s Moral Worthiness,” Ryan Schneider, Purdue University

Audio-visual Equipment Needed: None

Session 22-F African American Satire: Refashioning History and Genre

Organized by: Christopher A. Shinn, Howard University

Chair: Kelsey Kiser, Southern Methodist University

2. “Mystery Politics: The Case of Crime Fiction in George Schuyler’s Ethiopian Stories,” Christopher A. Shinn, Howard University

Audio-Visual Equipment required: None

Session 22-G: Available

Sunday, May 27, 2018
10:00 – 11:20 am
**Session 23-A**  "Great Male Narcissists": Reading (Against) Updike and Wallace Post-#MeToo  
Organized by the John Updike Society and the International David Foster Wallace Society

This roundtable will explore "Great Male Narcissists," a phrase Wallace uses to describe Updike, Philip Roth, and Norman Mailer in his acerbic review of Updike’s novel *Toward the End of Time*. This roundtable intends to explore the connections and disparities between Updike’s and Wallace’s work, especially regarding their depictions of masculinity. Special attention will also be given to the treatment of religion and spirituality in the work of both authors.

Chair: Mike Miley, Loyola University New Orleans

1. Matt Bucher, President, International David Foster Wallace Society  
2. Ryan Lackey, Oregon State University  
3. Alex Moran, Independent Scholar

Audio-Visual Equipment required: none

**Session 23-B**  Contemporary African American Literature

Chair: TBA

1. “Elite Protest: Dorothy West and the Foundations of the Modern Black Elite,” Terrence Tucker, University of Memphis  
3. “Seen and Unseen: Science, Technology, and Determinism in African American Literature,” John Dudley, University of South Dakota  
4. “Subversions or ‘Perversions’ of Passing?: Race, Gender, and Queer Sexuality in Linda Villarosa’s *Passing for Black* and Helen Oyeyemi’s *Boy, Snow, Bird*,” Erika R. Williams, Emerson College

Audio-Visual Equipment required: None

**Session 23-C**  American Fiction of Mid-19th Century

Chair: Amber Shaw, Coe College

1. “Cross-Racial Class Vengeance in George Thompson’s *City Crimes*,” Timothy Helwig, Western Illinois University  
2. “Hawthorne’s Entangled Narratives and Narratives of Entanglement,” Maria Karafillis, California State University  
4. “Re-Imagining Mrs. Georgie Sheldon: Feminist Theory in 19th-Century Sentimental Fiction,” Carol Degrasse, University of Texas at Tyler

Audio-Visual Equipment required: None

Session 23-D Available