



CALL FOR PAPERS

6TH BIENNIAL JOHN UPDIKE SOCIETY CONFERENCE

Alvernia University, Reading, Pa. — September 29-October 4, 2020

The John Updike Society is now accepting proposals for papers to be presented at the **6th Biennial John Updike Society Conference** at Alvernia University, Reading, Pennsylvania, in fall 2020. The conference will coincide with the October 3 historic marker dedication and grand opening of the newly restored John Updike Childhood Home in Shillington, Pennsylvania, which the Society purchased in 2012 and has turned into a museum. Attendees will also be able to take group trips to Updike sites in Berks County and a day trip to Philadelphia.

We welcome one-page proposals for 15-20 minute papers on all aspects of Updike's life and work, but especially seek proposals on:

- Works dealing with Updike's childhood as described in his fiction, nonfiction, and poetry, including *Midpoint*, *Pigeon Feathers*, *Self-Consciousness*, *The Centaur*, and *Olinger Stories*.
- Updike works celebrating a milestone anniversary in 2020: *Rabbit, Run* (60th), *Bech: A Book* (50th), *Rabbit at Rest* (30th), and *Gertrude and Claudius* (20th).
- Toward the End of Time*, since 2020 is the year in which the novel is set.

We will also entertain proposals for panel discussions focused on individual works, groups of works, or themes in Updike's fiction, poetry, and nonfiction. Scholars who have recently published a book or are in the process of writing a book on Updike are especially encouraged to submit proposals for panel discussions.

Send proposal and a brief one- or two-paragraph bio to: Program director Larry Mazzeno: larry.mazzeno@alvernia.edu.

Successful proposals will be acknowledged within two weeks of receipt. To present a paper or moderate a panel at the conference, participants must be members of The John Updike Society and register for the conference. For more information: <http://blogs.iwu.edu/johnupdikesociety/>.