The James Fenimore Cooper Society will host two panels at the 31st Annual Conference of the American Literature Association, to be held in San Diego, CA, May 21-24, 2020 (for more information: https://americanliteratureassociation.org/calls/ala-annual-conference/).

Panel 1: James Fenimore Cooper and the American Revolution

To celebrate the publication of Library of America’s new edition, Two Novels of the American Revolution (2018): James Fenimore Cooper’s The Spy (1821) and Lionel Lincoln (1825), the Cooper society invites papers that engage with Cooper’s literary and historical responses to the American Revolution and its impact on the nation (and world). We invite proposals that explore Cooper’s literary responses to the war or its period as broadly constituted from a variety of perspectives. Please submit a 250-word abstract, a brief CV (2-3 pages), and an indication of whether or not the paper may be published in the James Fenimore Cooper Society Journal by January 10, 2020. Please also indicate any audio-visual requirements. All proposals should be both pasted into the text of the email and included as attachments (word files or pdfs preferred). For additional information, please visit the James Fenimores Cooper Society webpage for resources and visual archives: (https://jfcoopersociety.org/)

Panel chair TBA

Please submit abstracts and accompanying materials to Luis A. Iglesias (luis.iglesias@usm.edu)

Panel 2: James Fenimore Cooper’s Cultural Dialogues

Throughout James Fenimore Cooper’s prolific writing career, his novels and non-fictional works have engaged with and revealed the complicated cultural dialogues of Antebellum America. Rich in multicultural and racial exchanges, his works, from the sea and frontier novels to his travel writing and political narratives, give readers a broad view of the many layered cultural contacts of the period, revealing a nation in continual ethnic, racial, and social interchanges. We invite papers that explore the works of James Fenimore Cooper from the perspective of cultural exchange broadly defined. Submit a 250-word abstract, a brief CV (2-3 pages), and an indication of whether or not the paper may be published in the James Fenimore Cooper Society Journal by January 10, 2020. Please also indicate any audio-visual requirements. All proposals should be both pasted into the text of the email and included as attachments (word files or pdfs preferred). For additional information, please visit the James Fenimore Cooper Society webpage for resources and visual archives: (https://jfcoopersociety.org/)

Panel Chair: TBA

Please submit abstracts and accompanying materials to Luis A. Iglesias (luis.iglesias@usm.edu).

Papers should be a maximum of 15-20 minutes (6-8 pages) in length. Brief discussion will follow the presentations. Presenters need not be members of the James Fenimore Cooper Society, though we certainly hope they will choose to join. Please note that per ALA guidelines, no one may present more than one paper at the conference.

Papers presented at the conference will, with their authors’ permission, be published in the James Fenimore Cooper Society Journal and made available online at the Cooper Society website. Papers may be mildly revised for publication.

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