

**Call for Papers**

**American Literature Association  
Symposium on  
The City and American Literature**

**New Orleans, LA  
September 10-12, 2015**

**Keynote Speaker:**

**Ed Folsom, University of Iowa**

ALA symposia provide opportunities for scholars to meet in pleasant settings, present papers, and share ideas and resources. The September 2015 symposium will focus on representations of the city in American literature. We welcome proposals for individual papers, complete panels, and roundtable discussions on any aspect of this important subject.

**Location: Hotel Monteleone  
214 Royal Street  
New Orleans, LA 70130-2201**

Hotel Rate: The Hotel Monteleone is offering a special rate of \$175 (plus tax) per night for a single or double room.

**Conference Director:  
Leslie Petty, Rhodes College**

Conference Fee: \$150  
(Includes two lunches and three receptions)

Please email all proposals to Leslie Petty  
pettyL@rhodes.edu  
**before June 30, 2015**

**Conference Details:** The American Literature Association will return to New Orleans for a symposium on the City and American Literature, September 10-12, 2015. Please plan to stay in the conference hotel as this helps us meet our commitment to the hotel and keeps our rates low. The Hotel Monteleone is an historic hotel in the French Quarter that has hosted many distinguished American writers.

Sessions run Friday and Saturday, September 11-12. There will be an opening reception on Thursday evening as well as receptions Friday and Saturday evenings. Lunch will be served Friday and Saturday. Please note that luncheon preferences will be sent to conference participants at a later date. Our emphasis on the receptions and meals reflects a belief that some of the most productive scholarly conversations happen in congenial social settings.

A special event will be planned for Thursday, September 10. Details will follow.

Individuals may propose papers or panels by emailing the conference director, Leslie Petty (pettyL@rhodes.edu), no later than June 30, 2015. The proposal should include the title of the presentation or panel, an abstract that provides a clear idea of the material that will be covered, a brief vita or description of the presenter's qualifications and email addresses for all participants. The proposal should be both pasted into an email and sent as an attachment (preferably in WORD). All emails will be acknowledged in a timely manner.

The conference director welcomes proposals for roundtables and panels that deal with the development of important genres, literary movements, themes, and issues related to the symposium topic.

Please note that no audiovisual equipment will be available for the symposium.

Those proposing papers and/or panels will be informed of acceptances in mid-July. Participants will be asked to make their hotel reservations immediately and to pre-register on-line. If necessary, the registration fee and form can be mailed using the material posted at the end of this announcement. A program will be placed on the ALA website prior to our meeting, and printed programs will be available at the symposium.

**ALA Guidelines:** The most common ALA format is a time slot of one hour and twenty minutes with three papers and a chair. This permits time for discussion and three papers of approximately 20 minutes (or nine typed double-spaced pages). Organizers of panels are free to use other formats provided they respect the time limits. Furthermore, the ALA encourages panel organizers to experiment with innovative formats including discussion groups and panels featuring more speakers and briefer papers. Chairs will make sure that the panels start and end on time and that no speaker goes beyond the allotted time limit. We prefer that chairs not present papers on the panels that they are moderating, and no one may present more than one paper at an ALA symposium.

The conference fee covers the costs of the conference including two meals and two receptions. We encourage all of those who are on the program to pre-register. The conference fee is \$150 for all participants. We regret that we are unable to offer a lower rate for graduate students and independent scholars.

**ALA Membership:** Membership in the ALA is not required in order to propose or present a paper. In fact, technically the members of the American Literature Association are the various author societies. Individuals may keep informed about the activities of the ALA, including our symposia and conferences, by checking our website ([www.americanliterature.org](http://www.americanliterature.org)).

Please note that the American Literature Association maintains the lowest conference fees of any major scholarly organization because it operates without a paid staff. If you have any questions that are not answered by this announcement, please contact the conference director at [pettyL@rhodes.edu](mailto:pettyL@rhodes.edu) or Alfred Bendixen, Executive Director of the ALA, at [ab23@princeton.edu](mailto:ab23@princeton.edu)

Thank you for your interest and your support of the American Literature Association.