

AMERICAN LITERATURE ASSOCIATION  
SYMPOSIUM:

**FRONTIERS AND BORDERS IN  
AMERICAN LITERATURE**

Keynote Speakers:

Lee Clark Mitchell, Princeton University  
Eric Carl Link, Indiana University/  
Purdue University, Fort Wayne

February 25-27, 2016

Sheraton Gunter Hotel  
205 E. Houston St.  
San Antonio, TX 78205  
Ph. 210-227-3241

Conference Director:  
Steven Frye  
California State University, Bakersfield

**Upcoming ALA Events:**

**ALA 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference**

May 26-29, 2016

Hyatt Regency Embarcadero, San Francisco, CA

Conference Director:

Alfred Bendixen, Princeton University

ab23@princeton.edu

**ALA Fall Symposium: The American Short Story:  
An Expansion of the Genre**

October 20-22 2016

Hyatt Hotel

Savannah, GA

Conference Director

James Nagel, University of Georgia

jnagel@uga.edu

The American Literature Association is a coalition of societies devoted to the study of American authors.

For further information, see the web site at  
**[www.americanliteratureassociation.org](http://www.americanliteratureassociation.org)**

# **AMERICAN LITERATURE ASSOCIATION**

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Thank you to the Department of English and the School of Arts and Humanities at California State University, Bakersfield, specifically Chair Andy Troup and Dean Richard Collins, for their understanding and support of this symposium. Special thanks goes to the Department of Literature and Philosophy at Georgia Southern University, most notably Olivia Carr Edenfield, for wisdom and guidance in every stage of the process, and for her graduate assistants, Christopher Blackburn and Benjamin Peyton.

**Friday, February 26, 2016**  
**Registration: 7:15-8:30 a.m. (*Alamo Foyer*)**  
Pick up Programs, Nametags, Information

**Session One: Plenary Panel: Frontiers and Borders in  
American Literature**  
**8:30-9:20 (*Alamo Room*)**

**Moderator:** Steven Frye, California State University,  
Bakersfield

**Panelists:**

Lee Clark Mitchell, Princeton University

Eric Carl Link, Indiana University/Purdue University Fort  
Wayne

Nicolas S. Witschi, Western Michigan University

**Session Two A: 9:30-10:50 (*Frontier*)**

**Octavia Butler**

Chair: Cynthia Murillo, Tennessee State University

1. "Empathetic Trappings: Revisiting the Nineteenth Century in Octavia Butler's *Kindred*," Irina Popescu, University of California, Berkeley
2. "Breaching Temporal Borders: Octavia Butler and the Archive," Mary Alice Kirkpatrick, Furman University
3. "A Comfortable Lie: Confronting the Humanity of the Enemy in Octavia Butler's *Patternmaster*," Natalie Russell, Huntington Library

**Session Two B: 9:30-10:50 (*Quadrangle*)**

**Travel Narratives**

Chair: Alfred Bendixen, Princeton University

1. "Baseball's Legacy of Conquest," Debora N. Tienou, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
2. "Frontiers and Borders in American Travel Writing," Susan L. Roberson, Texas A&M University-Kingsville
3. "Pound in Paris, Carlos Williams in Paterson: How Travel Renews Literary Subjects," M. Catherine Downs, Texas A&M University-Kingsville
4. "Texas: Old Territory for Washington Irving," Tracy Hoffman, Baylor University

**Session Two C: 9:30-10:50 (*Alamo*)**

**Decolonizing Chicana Identity: Charting Feminist Criticism of Time, Capitalism, and Social Class in Chicana Literature**

Chair: Erin Murrah-Mandril, University of Texas-Arlington

1. "Repressing Tejana History: Adina DeZevala's History and Legends of the Alamo as Decolonial Recovery Work," Erin Murrah-Mandril, University of Texas-Arlington
2. "Vendidas: The Gender and Colonial Dynamics of Selling Out in Luis Valdez's 'Los Vendidos' (1967)," Lorena Gauthereau, Rice University
3. "Is there Such a Thing as Bourgeois Chicana Novel?: Upsetting Chicana Literary Paradigms and Reconciling 'Status Panic' in Michele Serros's *Honey Blond Chica(na)*," Diana Noreen Rivera, University of Texas-Rio Grande Valley

**Session Two D: 9:30-10:50 (*Everett*)**

**National and Transnational Borders**

Chair: Olivia Carr Edenfield, Georgia Southern University

1. "A Place of Eternal Repose: American Pastoralism in Evelyn Waugh's *The Loved One*," Carmel Ohman, University of Oregon
2. "Permeable Borders and Possible Worlds in William Gibson's *The Peripheral*," Edward Royston, Texas Women's University
3. "(Un) Gendering the Frontier: E. L. Doctorow's *Welcome to Hard Times*," Nancy Romig, Howard Payne University
4. "Speculation as Borderland: Producing New Aesthetic Forms and Chronotopes in Contemporary Fictions of Speculation," Ashley Winstead, Southern Methodist University

**Session Three A: 11:00-12:20 (*Frontier*)**

**Restaging Chicana Dramatic Literature and Performance Across Borderlands**

Chair: Claire M. Massey, Saarland University, Germany

1. “Staging Sonic Cultural Citizenship in Luis Valdez’s *Zoot Suit*,” Marci McMahon, University of Texas-Rio Grande Valley
2. “Restaging Chicana Identity from San Anto to Scottsdale: *The Panza Monologues* as Theater for Social Change across the Borderlands,” Trevor Boffone, University of Houston
3. “Unnatural Disaster: “Restaging Ecoterrorism and Apocalyptic Affect in Cherríe Moraga’s *Heroes and Saints*,” Catheryn Merla-Watson, University of Texas-Rio Grande Valley

**Session Three B: 11:00-12:20 (*Quadrangle*)**

**Transhistorical Borders**

Chair: Robert Donahoo, Sam Houston State University

1. “The Past is Never Dead’: Race and the Unsettled Borders of the North American West,” Tracey L. Clough, University of Texas-Austin
2. “Robert Frost’s ‘Mending Wall’ and *Paradise Lost*,” Matthew Spring, University of Dallas
3. “Mind Mapping the Mental Aberrations in ‘The Bell Jar’ by Sylvia Plath,” Ayesha Yameen, Bahria University, Islamabad, Pakistan
4. “Paradise Rezoned: *Tropic of Orange* and the Delimitation of Los Angeles Literature,” Sydney Miller, University of California, Los Angeles

**Session Three C: 11:00-12:20 (*Alamo*)**

**Twentieth Century Frontiers**

Chair: Eric Carl Link, Indiana University/Purdue Fort Wayne

1. “Local Effects and Global Contexts: The Importance of Geography in Theodore Dreiser’s *The Financier*, *The Titan*, and *The Stoic*,” Jude Davies, University of Winchester
2. “Saint Jack, A Lucky Feller: Encountering Cultural Borders in the Postcolonial Fiction of Paul Theroux,” Sue Hodson, Huntington Library
3. “After the Plague: Race and Survival in Jack London’s *The Scarlet Plague*,” Gina M. Rossetti, Saint Xavier University
4. “Race, Hygiene, and Gender in Tillie Olsen’s *Yonnondio*,” Leah A. Pennywark, Purdue University

**Session Three D: 11:00-12:20 (*Everett*)**

**Myths, Memoirs, and Women Warriors: What Do They Have in Common?**

Chair: Matthew Wentz, Georgia Southern University

1. “Beyond the Pale: Medea and Feminine Earth Energy,” Mary Aswell Doll, Savannah College of Art and Design
2. “Frontiers of Freedom: Memoirs of North Korean Woman Refugees,” Mary C. Kim, Savannah College of Art and Design
3. “The Power of ‘Talk Story’ in Maxine Hong Kingston’s *The Woman Warrior*,” Weihua Zhang, Savannah College of Art and Design

**Symposium Luncheon: 12:30-1:30**  
**(Robert Johnson Room)**

**Session Four A: 1:40-3:00 (Frontier)**

**Early American Works**

Chair: Marci McMahon, University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

1. "Contracting Kinship and Democracy in James Fenimore Cooper's *Wyandotte*," Gretchen Murphy, University of Texas-Austin
2. "Kentucky on My Mind: Frontier Revenge and Community Building in Bird's *Nick of the Woods*," Brian Elliot, Urbana University
3. "'A Man May Smile, and Smile, and Be a Villain': Transatlantic Masculinity and Female Sexuality in Rowson's *Charlotte Temple*," Bill Lancaster, Texas A&M University-Commerce
4. "'So Perfectly Indianized': One Way Border Crossings—Children Refusing to Leave the Indians," Barry Wood, University of Houston

**Session Four B: 1:40-3:00 (Quadrangle)**

**Regions and Borders**

Chair: Ariel Santos, University of Nevada, Las Vegas

1. "'You never beat the river': Contemporary Appalachian Literature as Anti-Captivity Narrative," Joshua Martin, Georgia State University
2. "Transcending the Border between Body and Soul in the Fiction of Maria Cristina Mena," Cynthia Murillo, Tennessee State University
3. "The Other Vanishing American: Disappearing Farmers in American Literature," Carolyn Kuchera, University of New Mexico-Gallup
4. "Freedom Fighters: Epistemic and Physical Violence in Nineteenth-Century Filibuster Narratives," Scott Olsen, University of Kentucky

**Session Four C: 1:40-3:00 (Alamo)**

**African American Literature I**

Chair: Tracy L. Clough, University of Texas-Austin

1. "Colonial Imagery and Racial Themes in Stephen King's 'The Gunslinger,'" Curtis L. Collier, University of Texas-Tyler
2. "Jean Toomer's *Cane*: An Ecocritical Perspective," Whitney Laycock, Weber State University
3. "The Bronze Statues of Charlottesville: Social and Topographic Spaces," Gillet Rosenblith, Sophie Abramowitz, Eva Latterner, University of Virginia

**Session Four D: 1:40-3:00 (Everett)**

**Cormac McCarthy I**

Chair: Allen Josephs, University of West Florida

1. "'Everything is Necessary': Humanity's Perversion of Nature in Cormac McCarthy's *The Crossing*," Zachary Perdieu, Texas State University
2. "'Like some supplicant to the darkness over them all': The Good of John Grady Cole in *Cities of the Plain*," Russell M. Hillier, Providence College
3. "Cosmic Cormac: Space and Geological Time in the Fiction of Cormac McCarthy," Benjamin S. West, SUNY-Delhi
4. "Invocations of Eve in the Kid: Reimaginings of *Paradise Lost* and *Blood Meridian*," Bernadette Russo, Texas Tech University

### **Session Five A: 3:10-4:30 (*Frontier*)**

#### **Hispanic American Borders I**

Chair: Cristina Herrera, California State University, Fresno

1. "Borders, Naming, and Americo Paredes's *George Washington Gomez*," Richard Black, Northwest Missouri State University
2. "Music, Transnational Identity, and the Self in the Early Poetry of Americo Paredes," Alex Torres, Stanford University
3. "Human Butchering: The Animalization of Gendered and Racialized Others in *Forgetting the Alamo*," Megan Nieto, University of Texas-San Antonio
4. "The Power of Being Exchanged: California Women as Exchange Commodity in Ruiz de Burton's *The Squatter and the Don*," Monique McDade, University of Nevada-Reno

### **Session Five B: 3:10-4:30 (*Quadrangle*)**

#### **Transnational Frontiers**

Chair: Steven Zani, Lamar University

1. "Ecology of Conquest: The Diversification of the Frontier in Herman Melville's "The Encantadas,'" Patricia Sunia, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
2. "H. D.'s 'Tide-Line"—Moving the Frontier into the Sea," Berengere Riou, New York University
3. "'Put on my girdle of bark': Transcendentalism and the Pacific Frontier," Todd Nathan Thompson, Indiana University of Pennsylvania
4. "A Lakeman in Lima: Transnational Banditry in *Moby-Dick*'s "The Town-Ho Story," Samuel McBrayer Lackey, University of South Carolina

### **Session Five C: 3:10-4:30 (*Alamo*)**

#### **Feminist Frontiers**

Chair: Helane Androne, Miami University of Ohio

1. "Reading Boone Reading: A Feminized Frontier," Hope Hodgkins, University of North Carolina at Greensboro
2. "Creating 'the female American': A Myth of Assimilation," Bethany Scettrini, Baylor University
3. "A Rhetoric of Sweetness and Toughness: Competing Visions of Feminine Virtue and Masculine Myth on the Western Frontier," Sarah-Marie Horning, University of Central Florida
4. "Broadening the Boundaries: A Historical Analysis of Frontier Women in Nineteenth-Century Literature," Carol Degrasse, University of Texas-Tyler

### **Session Five D: 3:10-4:30 (*Everett*)**

#### **Romanticism**

Chair: Susan L. Roberson, Texas A&M University-Kingsville

1. "Emerson and Douglass: Leaving the Homeland," Rebecca Johnston, University of Texas-Tyler
2. "The Tourist's Luxury of Choice: Parkman and Magoffin's Quest for the Romantic American Adventure," Monica Reyes, University of Texas-Rio Grande Valley
3. "New Frontier Voices: Hawthorne and the American Romanticism Movement," Melanie Whiting, University of Texas-Tyler
4. "Shadows of Similitude: The Tomb as Interstitial Place in Poe's 'Morella,'" Whitney S. May, Texas State University

**Session Six A: 4:40-6:00 (Frontier)**

**Cormac McCarthy II**

Chair: Wallis R. Sanborn III, Our Lady of the Lake University

1. Discerning the Moral Voice in *Blood Meridian*,” Jamie Dittlinger, Our Lady of the Lake University
2. “Anonymity, Violence, and Genocide in Cormac McCarthy’s *Blood Meridian*,” Amber Gonzalez, Our Lady of the Lake University
3. “The Borginnis Woman in *Blood Meridian*,” Jessica Gonzalez, Our Lady of the Lake University
4. “The Significance of Prophecy in *Blood Meridian; or, The Evening Redness in the West*,” Veronica Gonzalez, Our Lady of the Lake University

**Session Six B: 4:40-6:00 (Quadrangle)**

**Native American Literature I**

Chair: Robert W. Haynes, Texas A&M International University

1. “Tenskwatawa: The Noise Maker’s Vision,” Paden Carlson, Utah State University
2. “A Continent Divided: The Damage of National Literary Border on (Native) American Literature,” Adam Nemmers, Texas Christian University
3. “Struggling to Tell the Truth: Harriet Wheeler’s Fiction,” Nancy Bunge, Michigan State University
4. “Reimagining History and Historical Time in Sesshu Foster’s *Atomik Aztex* (2005),” Daniel de Paula Valentin Hutchins, Texas Tech University

**Session Six C: 4:40-6:00 (Alamo)**

**Marginal Fictions I**

Chair: Bernadette Russo, Texas Tech University

1. “Producing Beyond: Frontiers in Toni Morrison’s *Sula* and *Beloved*,” William S. Webster, South Georgia State College
2. “Psychological Borderlands of *Beloved* and *Mama Day*,” Lori L. Cook, University of Texas-Tyler
3. “Benjamin Alaire Saenz’s Queer Texas Border,” Jackie Cuevas, University of Texas-San Antonio

**Session Six D: 4:40-6:00 (Everett)**

**“I Will Have My Serpent’s Tongue”: Chicana/Latina Feminisms Beyond Expectations**

Chair: Trevor Boffone, University of Houston

1. “Consuming Latinidad? The Politics of Food, Consumption, and Troubling Latina Identity in Alisa Valdes-Rodriguez’s *The Dirty Girl’s Social Club*,” Cristina Herrera, California State University, Fresno
2. “Taking Her Anzaldua Underground: Carolina Hinojosa’s *The List* as Chicana Strategy, Survival, and Resistance in the Borderlands,” Claire M. Massey, Saarland University, Germany
3. “‘Devil toying with her peas’; or, Psychosexual Implications of Afro-Dominican Female Political Vision in Nelly Rosario’s *Song of the Water Saints*,” Helane Androne, Miami University of Ohio

**Keynote Reception: 6:00-7:45 p.m. (Alamo)**

**"Frontiers or Borders? Staking Out Boundaries for Teaching American Literature"**

**Lee Clark Mitchell, Princeton University**

**Saturday, February 27, 2016**  
**Registration 7:15-8:30 a.m. (Alamo Foyer)**

**Session Seven A: 8:30-9:50 (Frontier)**

**Popular Literature, Cinema, and the Novel**

Chair: Weihua Zhang, Savannah College of Art and Design

1. "‘We Know We Belong to the Land’: *Oklahoma!*, OK, Exclusive Inclusivity, and the Frontier Politics of Rogers and Hammerstein," Steven J. Zani, Lamar University
2. "‘Adult/Adolescent Border Crossings in American War Literature,'" Allison Layfield, Purdue University
3. "‘Cooper’s *The Pioneers*: A New American Identity,'" Christopher Stampone, Southern Methodist University
4. "The Post-Postmodernist Obliteration of Surface and Depths in Bates Motel: How Hitchcock’s Psycho becomes Realist Television," David Anshen, University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

**Session Seven B: 8:30-9:50 (Quadrangle)**

**Modern and Contemporary Frontiers I**

Chair: Allen Josephs, University of West Florida

1. "‘Violent Manipulation and Innovative Use of Nature in Hemingway’s *The Sun Also Rises*,'" Matthew Wentz, Georgia Southern University
2. "‘Turning off the Thinking’: Uncovering the Borders between the Military- and Medical-Industrial Complexes in the Work of Ernest Hemingway,'" James Fitzgerald, Binghamton University
3. "‘Industrial Tourism’: Reification and Loss in Abbey’s *Desert Solitaire*,'" Ariel Santos, University of Nevada-Las Vegas
4. "‘Where the Maps Stopped’: Changing Landscapes and the Catholic Church in the Novels of Louise Erdrich,'" Grace E. Miller, University of Minnesota

**Session Seven C: 8:30-9:50 (Alamo)**

**Immaterial Geographies: Contemporary American Thought and the Imagined Frontier**

Chair: Robert Ryan, University of Illinois-Chicago

1. "‘Our war on terror begins with al Qaeda, but it does not end there’ The Speculative, Perpetual Frontiers of Dispossession and Secularization in *The Reluctant Fundamentalist*,'" Marcus Heiligenthal, Binghamton University
2. "‘*Netherland*, Networks, and Fiction of the Financialized Frontier,'" Corbin Hiday, University of Illinois-Chicago
3. "‘Xenospatial Poetics: Sovereignty, Space, and Fiction,'" Justin Raden, University of Illinois-Chicago

**Session Seven D: 8:30-9:50 (Everett)**

**Gothic Frontiers**

Chair: George Piggford, Stonehill College

1. "‘Noctambulation’: Traversing *Huntley*’s Gothic Frontier,'" Kristin A. Cook, Independent Scholar
2. "‘Frontier Terror: Reading Annie Proulx’s Wyoming Stories as Great Plains Gothic,'" Aaron LaDuke, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
3. "‘The Jet Black and Perfectly White: A Borderlands Reading of Edgar Allan Poe’s *The Narrative of Arthur Gordon Pym*,'" Ryan Pederson, Baylor University

**Session Eight A: 10:00-11:20 (*Frontier*)**

**Tracking Wilderness and Liminality in Literature, Tourism, and Culture**

Chair: Erica Tom, Rutgers University

1. “Border Horses: Equines as Liminal Figures in Cormac McCarthy’s Border Trilogy,” Erica Tom, Rutgers University
2. “The Confluence: Ideas of Wilderness in Arguments Surrounding the Grand Canyon Escalade Project,” Addie Mahmassani, Rutgers University
3. “From Wilderness to Zoology: Zoo Guidebooks and (Re)Reading Empire, 1870-1910,” Daniel Vandersommers, University of Mississippi

**Session Eight B: 10:00-11:20 (*Quadrangle*)**

**Politics of Difference in Latin@ Folktale and Literature Productions: A Panel Discussion**

Moderator: Cathryn Merla-Watson, University of Texas-Rio Grande Valley

Panelists:

Mercedes Torres, Texas A&M University-San Antonio

Cynthia Saldivar, University of Texas-Rio Grande Valley

Sergio G. Barrera, University of Texas-Rio Grande Valley

**Session Eight C: 10:00-11:20 (*Alamo*)**

**Drama and Performance**

Chair: Nancy Bunge, Michigan State University

1. “The Frontier Violence in Horton Foote’s Drama,” Robert W. Haynes, Texas A&M International University
2. “Textual Performance of Borders in the American Drama of the Nineteenth and Early Twentieth Century,” Johanna Hartmann, University of Augsburg
3. “‘You Were My Greatest Acting Challenge’: The Performance of Gender and the Gendering of Race in David Henry Hwang’s *M. Butterfly*,” Carina Hahn, Trinity School

**Session Eight D: 10:00-11:20 (*Everett*)**

**Realism: Late Nineteenth and Early Twentieth Centuries**

Chair: Gina M. Rossetti, Saint Xavier’s University

1. “*Roughing It* with Bill Cody: Mark Twain, Buffalo Bill, and the Frontier Autobiography,” Nicolas S. Witschi, Western Michigan University
2. “Willa Cather: The Frontier, the Sea, and the Epic,” Brian Gingrich, Princeton University
3. “Redefining Romance: *O’Pioneers!* & Agricultural History,” Erin Richards, Smith College

**Session Nine A: 11:30-12:50 (Frontier)**

**Marginal Fictions II**

Chair: Benjamin S. West, SUNY-Delhi

1. "Foreign Marriage: Sui Sin Far's Cultural Critique through Unconventional Matrimony," Jeremy Leatham, Baylor University
2. "The Japanese Transnational Bodies: Unassimilated Immigrant Subjects and American South in Wakako Yamauchi's Short Stories," Rie Makino, Nihon University
3. "Border Limbo in Karen Tei Yamashita's *Tropic of Orange*," Lee Rozelle, University of Montevallo
4. "'In the End We All Come to be Cured of Our Sentiments': Liminality, Rhetorical Physiology, and Cultural Anxiety within Cormac McCarthy's Border Trilogy and Leslie Marmon Silko's *Ceremony*," Stephen Turner, Arkansas State University

**Session Nine B: 11:30-12:50 (Quadrangle)**

**Modern and Contemporary Frontiers II**

Chair: Christopher Stampone, Southern Methodist University

1. "Modern American Lostness, or how to be and not be alone," Ashlie M. Kontos, University of Texas-Tyler
2. "A Medievalist Reading of Nabokov's *Lolita*," Malek J. Zuraikat, University of Arkansas
3. "Night-Porch Poetics: The Lyric in *Let Us Now Praise Famous Men*," Gregory Emilio, Georgia State University
4. "'Joy [is] a liquid': Toward an Oceanic Reading of Salinger's Fiction," James M. Cochran, Baylor University

**Session Nine C: 11:30-12:50 (Alamo)**

**Native American Experiences**

Chair: Lydia R. Cooper, Creighton University

1. "Captive Voices: Olive Oatman and Susannah Willard Johnson," Molly Mann, St. John's University
2. "'Idle' Land on the Northern Borderlands Frontier: Fleur Pillager's Ecological Battle in Louise Erdrich's *Tracks*," Calvin Hoovestol, University of Texas-San Antonio
3. "(Re)mapping Trauma through Space and Memory in Louise Erdrich's *The Plague of Doves*," Rebecca Macklin, University of Leeds
4. "Fighting for Home: Domestic Resistance in the Works of Louise Erdrich," A. Laurie Lowrance, University of New Mexico

**Session Nine D: 11:30-12:50 (Everett)**

**Modern and Contemporary Frontiers II**

Chair: Matthew Wentz, Georgia Southern University

1. "Leaky Vessels: Genre and Global Networks in William Faulkner's Imaginary," Jordan Burke, University of Virginia
2. "McCarthy's *The Orchard Keeper* and Faulkner's 'Barn Burning'": A Comparison," William Haynes, Texas A&M International University
3. "The Myth of an Empty Frontier in Joan Didion's Fiction," Katarzyna Nowak-McNeice, Universidad Carlos III de Madrid, Spain

**Symposium Luncheon: 1:00-2:20 (*Robert Johnson Room*)**  
**Keynote Address by**  
**Eric Carl Link, Indiana University/Purdue University Fort Wayne**  
**“Space is Not the Final Frontier: Philip K. Dick’s Transcendent Voyages”**

**Session Ten A: 2:30-3:50 (*Frontier*)**

**Chicana Feminisms**

Chair: Ashlie M. Kontos, University of Texas-Tyler

1. “The Sexual and Sociopolitical Borderlands: Image of La Virgen de Guadalupe and La Malinche Within *Heroes and Saints*,” Teresa Hernandez-Reed, University of Texas-Rio Grande Valley
2. “Redefining Monstrosity in Josefina Lopez’s *Detained in the Desert*,” Cynthia Saldivar, University of Texas-Rio Grande Valley
3. “Transformative Narratives of the Border: Gender, Politics, & Desire in Emma Perez’s *Forgetting the Alamo, Or, Blood Memory*,” Adrianna M. Santos, University of Texas-San Antonio
4. “‘Impressions of a Tejana in Idaho’ and Impressions of Idaho on a Tejana: Norma Cantu’s Journey to Mexico in Idaho,” Carolyn Gonzalez, College of Idaho

**Session Ten B: 2:30-3:50 (*Quadrangle*)**

**Flannery O’Connor I**

Chair: Robert Donahoo, Sam Houston State University

1. “Knowable Communities in Flannery O’Connor’s *The Violent Bear It Away* and William Goyen’s *The House of Breath*: Applying the Perspective of Raymond Williams’s *The Country and the City*,” Bruce Henderson, Ithaca College
2. “‘The Mass on the World’: Catholic Ecology in Flannery O’Connor’s and Teilhard de Chardin,” George Piggford, Stonehill College
3. “Characters as Trees Walking: Denaturalizing Narrative in Flannery O’Connor,” Carol Shloss, University of Pennsylvania

**Session Ten C: 2:30-3:50 (*Alamo*)**

**African American Frontiers II**

Chair: Daniel Vandersommers, University of Mississippi

1. “‘Look lak dey think God don’t know nothing’ bout de Jim Crow law’: Reading Hurston’s Janie as a Revolutionary Figure,” Camille J. Brown, Mills College
2. “Breaking the Yoke of Bondage: Metaphors of Liberation in the Slave Narrative of Old Elizabeth,” Andrea Frankwitz, Gordon College
3. “Postcolonial Hybridity: Magic in the Margins,” Leah McCormack, Adams State University

**Session Ten D: 2:30-3:50 (*Everett*)**

**Cormac McCarthy III**

Chairs: Steven Frye, California State University, Bakersfield

1. “In the Borderlands of Hell: The Question of Suicide and Morality in Cormac McCarthy’s *The Road*,” Allan Chavkin and Nancy Feyl Chavkin, Texas State University
2. “The Barracuda: Cars and Trucks in Cormac McCarthy’s Fiction,” Lydia R. Cooper, Creighton University
3. “Three Ways of Sinning in Cormac McCarthy’s *No Country for Old Men*,” Rachel B. Griffis, Baylor University

**Session Eleven A: 4:00-5:30 (Frontier)**

**Flannery O'Connor II**

Chair: George Piggford, Stonehill College

1. "Mother/Daughter Doubling in O'Connor's Unfinished Novel, 'Why Do the Heathen Rage?'" Collen Warren, Taylor University
2. "On Flirtation: Flannery O'Connor on Courtship and Contingency," Avis Hewitt, Grand Valley State University
3. "Flannery O'Connor and Returning Veterans: 'A Late Encounter with the Enemy,'" Robert Donahoo, Sam Houston State University

**Session Eleven B: 4:00-5:30 (Quadrangle)**

**Cormac McCarthy IV**

Chair: Wallis R. Sanborn III, Our Lady of the Lake University

1. "Water Power as Politics and Survival in the North American Southwest as Supported by Cormac McCarthy's *Blood Meridian* and Border Trilogy," Sonya Groves, Our Lady of the Lake University
2. "The Historical Impact of the Quechan Indians on the Glanton Gang in Cormac McCarthy's *Blood Meridian*," Amber Gutierrez, Our Lady of the Lake University
3. "Murdering the Enlightenment Ideal: Judge Holden and *Blood Meridian*," Wallis R. Sanborn III Our Lady of the Lake University

**Session Eleven C: 4:00-5:30 (Alamo)**

**Native American Literature II**

Chair: Nicolas S. Witschi, Western Michigan University

1. "A Critical Treatment of Border Theory Through Humor in Alexie's *The Lone Ranger and Tonto Fistfight in Heaven* and Cisneros' *Woman Hollering Creek*," Christopher Wydler, Texas A&M University-Commerce
2. "Healing and the Environment in American Indian Biographies," Shaheena Ayub Bhatti, National University of Modern Languages, Islamabad, Pakistan
3. "A Novel with Nine Lives: Adaptations of *Ramona* in the Nineteenth Century and Beyond," Bethany Beyer, College of Charleston

**Session Eleven D: 4:00-5:30 (Everett)**

**Hispanic American Borders II**

Chair: Todd Nathan Thompson, Indiana University, Pennsylvania

1. "*Y No Se Trago La Tierra* and *Downtown Boy*: Transgressing Mexican American Folk Catholicism on the Campesino Frontier," Tyler Jean Dukes, Texas State University
2. "SUPERNAFATA vs, El Gran Mojado: Alternative Fictional Realities and the Fight for Free Trade," Ryan M. Brooks, West Texas A&M University
3. "Ana Castillo's Borderlands Spirituality," Jordan Carlson, Baylor University
4. "(Mis)Representations of Latino American Masculinities in *La Mission* and Junot Diaz's *The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao*," Abraham Salinas, University of Texas-Arlington

**Reading & Closing Reception  
5:30-7:00 p.m. (*Alamo Foyer*)**

**Texas Writers:**

**Lupe Mendez is an internationally published performance poet and CantoMundo Fellow. Lupe's work focuses on advocacy of Ethnic Literature, the creation of poetry events and workshops open to the public, and supporting newer writers of color who look to pursue MFAs in Creative Writing.**

**Jasminne Mendez is an educator, performance poet, and award winning author. She is a graduate of the University of Houston and currently a creative writing MFA candidate with the Rainier Writers Workshop at Pacific Lutheran University.**

**Carolina Hinojosa-Cisneros is a writer from San Antonio, Texas, on a journey to encourage, inspire, and press forward.**

**Natalia Treviño is the award-winning author of *Lavando La Dirty Laundry*. Her work captures the voices and lives of women who emerge despite everything that works tirelessly against them**

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For further information, see the web site at  
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Or contact the Executive Director:

Professor Alfred Bendixen  
American Literature Association  
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Princeton University  
Princeton, NJ 08544  
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**Upcoming ALA Events:**

ALA 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference

May 26-29, 2016

Hyatt Regency

San Francisco, CA

Conference Director:

Professor Alfred Bendixen, Princeton University

[ab23@princeton.edu](mailto:ab23@princeton.edu)

ALA Fall Symposium: The American Short Story:

An Expansion of the Genre

October 20-22 2016

Hyatt Hotel

Savannah, GA

Conference Director

Professor James Nagel, University of Georgia

[jnagel@uga.edu](mailto:jnagel@uga.edu)

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