

Ralph Ellison Society – ALA 2019 CFP

Panel: “Ralph Ellison and the Great Novels/Novelists”: Ralph Ellison was always in conversation with other great works of literature, from Twain’s Huckleberry Finn and Melville’s Moby Dick to the work of Malraux and Dostoevsky. In this panel, we seek papers that discuss Ellison’s engagement with another great novel or novelist, examining the ways in which Ellison responds to and adapts the work of other writers, the critical or correcting stances Ellison takes towards their work, and the ways in which Ellison writes back and revises the work of the novelists with whom he engaged.

Round Table: “Teaching Ellison in the Context of other Writers”: This round table seeks brief presentations (5-7 minutes each) that focus on how teaching Ellison in the context of other writers can be a rich and stimulating way to engage Ellison’s work and ideas. Ellison’s critical engagement with other novelists is well known, from Twain and Melville to Malraux and Dostoevsky. In addition, Ellison engaged with classical writers such as Ovid and Virgil, medieval and renaissance writers such as Dante and Shakespeare, great poets such as Eliot and Yeats . . . the list is endless. We seek to stimulate a wide-ranging discussion about how Ellison can be taught in these writerly contexts such that a richer understanding both of Ellison and these other writers emerges.

Please send 1-paragraph proposals to Marc Conner at connerm@wlu.edu **no later than January 15 2019.**