

## CFP: George Saunders Society, ALA, San Diego, May 21-24 2020

The George Saunders Society invites prospective participants for one or two panels at the 2020 American Literature Association conference in San Diego, CA, to be held May 21 to 24, 2020. We are interested in presentations on any aspect of George Saunders's life and work; in this, our fourth year of activity at ALA, we are particularly interested in papers that challenge or go beyond the most common (particularly religious, ethical, or new sincericist) readings of the author's work in the critical literature to this point. The topic is therefore open, but possible approaches might include:

- Saunders and neoliberalism
- Saunders and political commitment
- Motherhood and fatherhood in Saunders
- Depictions of disability in Saunders
- Saunders and science fiction/genre fiction
- Saunders and critical race theory
- Saunders and ecocriticism
- George Saunders in the undergraduate classroom
- Saunders as celebrity/Saunders as literary tastemaker
- Saunders as teacher/Saunders and MFA culture
- Saunders and his literary ancestors, peers, and descendants
- Saunders audiobooks and adaptations

Please e-mail abstracts of 200-300 words in Microsoft Word or PDF format to Dr. Brian Jansen, Department of English, University of Maine—at [brian.jansen@maine.edu](mailto:brian.jansen@maine.edu)—no later than Friday, January 10, 2020. Each submission should also include a brief biographical note, including your name as it will appear in the conference program, institutional affiliation, and preferred mode of contact during the second half of January 2019. Please indicate any AV needs.

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The American Literature Association's 31st annual conference will meet at the Manchester Grand Hyatt Hotel in San Diego, CA, May 21-25, 2020 (Thursday through Sunday of Memorial Day weekend). The deadline for proposals is January 30, 2020. For further information, please consult the ALA website at [www.americanliteratureassociation.org](http://www.americanliteratureassociation.org) or contact the conference director, Professor Leslie Petty, at [pettyL@rhodes.edu](mailto:pettyL@rhodes.edu) or the Executive Director of the ALA, Professor Alfred Bendixen of Princeton University, at [ab23@princeton.edu](mailto:ab23@princeton.edu) with specific questions.