CFP – ALA 2023 – Poe Studies Association

**Teaching Poe and/during the COVID 19 Pandemic**

For nearly two-and-a-half years, Covid 19 has reshaped habits and routines, including the ones related to teaching and classroom environments. Almost overnight, in-person courses were moved online around the globe as cities closed and lockdowns were enforced. Students, teachers, and university professors had to relearn how to communicate in distance learning settings, as well as how to make sense of what was going on outside schools and universities. Bearing this scenario in mind, some questions may come up: What can Poe teach us about confinement? How do we teach Poe virtually, in digital formats, through streaming?

At the upcoming American Literature Association Conference in Boston (May 25-28, 2023), the PSA will sponsor a panel titled **Teaching Poe and/during the COVID 19 Pandemic**, for which the organization seeks proposals. Possible topics include but are not limited to Poe, disease, and death; Poe and confinement; teaching Poe beyond regular classroom settings; adapting Poe stories to the current pandemic theme; and making sense of Poe during the Covid 19 scenario.

To submit a proposal, please send a title and an abstract of no more than 250 words to Renata Philippov at renata.philippov@unifesp.br. Please use “PSA ALA Panel 2023” for the subject line. The deadline for submissions is January 10, 2023. Panelists will be notified by January 15, 2023.

**Maritime Poe: Seafaring, Oceanic, and Other “Blue” Studies**

Is the “shrouded figure” of “the perfect whiteness of snow” emerging from the cataracts at the end of Arthur Gordon Pym a symptom of an apocalyptic debacle of our inequitable and environmentally endangering explorations (and extractions)? Or is it a paradoxical trope, a kind of inscrutable scripture, signaling both our human and wild conditions? Is it refuting or affirming
the racialization of the natives found in the remote Antarctic? How does Poe fare in the seafaring tradition? What are the oceanic entanglements of works like “A Descent into the Maelström,” “Ms. Found in a Bottle,” “The City in the Sea,” or “Dream-Land”? Do they resonate with histories of chartering and exploitation, coloniality, debris, flotsam? Possible areas of investigation include readings of Poe through the angles of critical maritime studies (e.g. representation and operations of the sea in art forms and their interdisciplinarity and intertextuality), “oceanic studies” encompassing the nonhuman scale, depth and layering of the oceans as new critical categories, archipelagic studies and their fragmenting and clustering of conceptions in American Studies, or the “blue humanities,” explicitly ecocritical in their approach.

At the upcoming American Literature Association Conference in Boston (May 25-28), the PSA will sponsor a panel titled “Maritime Poe: Seafaring, Oceanic, and Other ‘Blue’ Studies,” for which the PSA seeks proposals. To submit a proposal, please send a title and abstract of no more than 250 words to Margarida Vale de Gato at margaridagato@campus.ul.pt. Please use “PSA ALA Panel 2023” for the subject line. The deadline for submissions is January 10, 2023. Panelists will be notified by January 15, 2023.