

The Thoreau Society – ALA Proposals, 2023

The Thoreau Society is pleased to sponsor two panels for the ALA Conference on May 25th-28th at the Westin Copley Place in Boston (<https://americanliteratureassociation.org/>).

Panel:

Thoreau and History: How does Thoreau’s writing offer new perspectives on history – on the work of settler colonial histories of the 19th century and on Transcendentalist ideas of history developed by Emerson, Carlyle, Fuller and their circle? How does Thoreau’s work engage with varying conceptions of time, complicating teleology with circularity, and national history with the *longue duree* and geologic time? How does Thoreau explore spiritual, mythic and indigenous understandings of time and history? What new historical lenses offer new perspectives on Thoreau’s writing – new contexts from his own era or new insights from our own – the Anthropocene and New Materialist theoretical frameworks? Please send 200 word abstracts for 15-minute presentations by January 15th to jkucich@bridgew.edu and k.kelly@northeastern.edu.

Roundtable:

Thoreau and . . . New pairings with Thoreau and familiar ones reconsidered. New approaches to 19th century contemporaries and new connections to other writers from other times and contexts. We especially welcome pairings that work well in the classroom and connections to 21st century writers. Please send 100 word abstracts for 5-7 minute presentations January 15th to jkucich@bridgew.edu and k.kelly@northeastern.edu.