

CALL FOR PAPERS

Paul Laurence Dunbar Society

American Literature Association
35th Annual Conference
May 23-26, 2024
The Palmer House Hilton
17 East Monroe Street Chicago, IL 60603

The Paul Laurence Dunbar Society seeks proposals for a session at the American Literature Association Conference in Chicago, IL on May 23-26, 2024.

150 Years (and Counting!) of Dunbar: Open Session

Papers on any aspect of Dunbar's career, or that focus on any aspect of his literary output: poetry, novels, short stories, musical theater, correspondence, or essays. Some possible suggestions:

- 2022 marked the 150th anniversary of Paul Laurence Dunbar's birth. What new insights can Dunbar's life and career provide to us today?
- Dunbar attended the 1893 Chicago World's Fair, where he first met Frederick Douglass, amongst others. How did this event impact his career?
- Dunbar's "Standard English" poetry: what would an examination of Dunbar's formal verse—his use of the sonnet or the rondeau, for example, or his engagement with pastoral poetry—add to current critical conversations surrounding Dunbar's literary reputation?

Proposals on teaching Dunbar and on Dunbar's relationships—both personal and professional—with other authors, editors, critics, or related historical figures are especially welcome.

Please email 200-250 word proposals to Tom Morgan at tmorgan2@udayton.edu by January 15, 2024