

ALA2025 Call for Papers
May 21-24, 2025 | Boston, MA
International David Foster Wallace Society

The International David Foster Wallace Society will sponsor two panels at this year's ALA; one will be a roundtable focusing on the 20th anniversary of *This is Water*, and the other is a traditional panel of papers.

Please send abstracts no more than 300 words, a short biography, and any a/v needs to info@dfwsociety.org no later than January 10, 2025. Please indicate ALA25 in your subject line. Updates will be posted to dfwsociety.org and the society's social media pages (@dfwsociety).

Roundtable:

This year marks twenty years since David Foster Wallace gave his now ubiquitous commencement address to Kenyon College (2005), now titled *This is Water*. The DFW Society seeks scholars, emerging and established, to discuss the legacy and continued impact of *This is Water*.

Panel:

The DFW Society seeks submissions related to any aspect of Wallace's fiction or nonfiction. Paper topics may include but are not limited to:

- New close readings of individual texts, especially those that might challenge conventional wisdom and established readings
- Wallace and genre fiction
- Wallace in the public sphere, including adaptations and allusions to Wallace in other media
- Wallace's self-management of his own public image
- Wallace and race
- Wallace and cultural space
- Teaching Wallace, especially to non-majors or in departments other than English
- Wallace and "difficulty"
- Wallace and emergent media, e.g. hypertext or audiobook

All panel participants should be DFW Society members no later than May 1, 2025. See <https://dfwsociety.org/membership/> for more info. No one may present more than one paper at an ALA conference. It is possible to present a paper and also participate in a round-table discussion as well as chair another panel or panels.