

**CFP: E. E. Cummings Sessions at the American Literature Association’s 36th Annual Conference, Chicago, Illinois, May 20-23, 2026**

The E. E. Cummings Society will sponsor a session (or two) at the 2026 American Literature Association conference in Chicago [ <https://americanliteratureassociation.org/> ]. We invite proposals for papers on any aspect of Cummings’ life and/or work. Proposals that touch upon the following topics will be especially welcome:

- Close readings of individual Cummings poems
- Cummings the Modernist: Making it New (and Now)
- Letters, syllables, words, and spaces in Cummings’ poems
- Prominent natural images in Cummings’ poems, e.g., leaves and/or birds
- *is 5* at 100.
- Cummings’ poetry and prose during and after WWII
- Cummings’ notion of “growth” and other metaphors of transformation [“never to rest and never to have:only to grow” (CP 462)]
- Cummings’ “philosophy of life”— “transcendental, romantic, prelapsarian, organicist, and individualistic”? (Friedman, *Art* 66). Discuss.
- Cummings’ prose (*The Enormous Room, A Miscellany, EIMI, i: six nonlectures, Letters*) and theatre works (*Him, Tom, Santa Claus*)
- Cummings and Re-Vision [For some drafts of poems, see the *Cummings Archive*: <https://cummingsarchive.org/> ]

Submit 250-400-word abstracts to Michael Webster (websterm@gvsu.edu) by January 28, 2026.

For further information, consult the web page of the [American Literature Association conference](#).

**Work Cited**

Friedman, Norman. *E. E. Cummings: The Art of His Poetry*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins UP, 1960. [Project Muse: <https://muse.jhu.edu/book/71698> ]