The W.D. Howells Society will host two panels at the American Literature Association's 38th annual conference, which will meet at the Westin Copley Place in Boston, May 26-29, 2027 (Wednesday through Saturday of Memorial Day weekend).

PANEL 1: HOWELLS & OTHERS

During the decades comprising his ascendancy as editor at the *Atlantic Monthly*, the flowering of his career as novelist, playwright, and essayist, and his move to the house of Harper, Howells' name and influence were ubiquitous. His fingerprints, as editor, correspondent, and reviewer, are all over the careers of a virtual who's-who of late-nineteenth-century writers, and his opinions on matters of literature, culture, and current events were matters of interest for a general public among whom his had become a household name. Proposals are invited for a panel exploring any of the myriad ways in which Howells' work inflected the writing of other literary figures in the decades surrounding the turn of the century as well as the ways his own work interfaced with that of his contemporaries. Proposals fitting the topic in any of a broad variety of ways of construing the titular topic are welcome.

PANEL 2: OPEN TOPIC

The Howells Society invites proposals concerning any and all approaches to Howells and his works, including but not limited to the following:

- New approaches to Howells' life, career, and writings;
- Reassessments of frequently studied and taught works;
- Lesser-known works;
- Howells' public and/or academic standing;
- Howells and democracy;
- Howells and the humanities;
- Howells in the classroom.

Please send 250-500 word proposals for either panel to Andrew Ball (andrew_ball@emerson.edu) no later than **January 14, 2027**. (Earlier submissions are welcome!) Please designate the panel for which your proposal is intended.

For further information or questions about the conference, please consult the ALA website at www.americanliteratureassociation.org.