



# NeMLA 2023

NORTHEAST MODERN LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION • NIAGARA FALLS, NY



## *On the 54<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention of NeMLA in Niagara Falls, March 23–26, 2023*

Joseph Valente, UB Distinguished Professor

English and Disability Studies

President of NeMLA

THE THEME OF THIS YEAR'S NEMLA CONFERENCE is *resilience*—encompassing the resilience of people, of the life of the mind, of the humanities, of trauma survivors, of the pursuit of peace with justice, of efforts to preserve the planet for human habitation, and, most recently, of the struggle to protect and defend democratic ideals, institutions, and practices. NeMLA is not only devoted to developing and reflecting seriously upon the measures needed to sustain a resiliency of spirit in all of these areas, it is determined to model such resiliency under the anti-intellectual pressures imposed upon and emanating from an increasingly corporatized university system. No sector of an increasingly embattled academy faces greater challenges—material, political, occupational and ideological—than the humanities, of which the language arts, broadly construed, are both the engine and the vanguard. An organization like ours confronts these challenges to the profession of critical engagement by a stubbornly concerted effort in conferences and publications, to mount for as a large a community as possible the highest caliber and the widest variety of cultural inquiry in our power. That is how we enact in our own intellectual habitus the resilience we discover, analyze, and celebrate in other arenas. But to accomplish this goal, finally, we must also challenge ourselves to overcome the pious assumptions and orthodox adherences that may give us a sense of unified purpose, but at the risk of what

Friedrich Nietzsche called a herd morality. We cannot allow the powers currently arrayed against the critical enterprise of the humanities to provoke or persuade us to forfeit the iconoclasm that is indissociable from any properly critical endeavor.

We are therefore fortunate to have as our keynote speakers two decisively iconoclastic thinkers and writers in their respective fields. **Anne Enright**, the Inaugural Laureate of Irish Fiction, is the author of ten works of narrative fiction. These include *The*

## INDEX

<a href="#">President's letter</a> . . . . .	1-2
<a href="#">Welcome to Niagara Falls.</a> . . . . .	3
<a href="#">NeMLA Tour</a> . . . . .	4
<a href="#">NeMLA Reads Together.</a> . . . . .	5
<a href="#">Niagara Film Screening.</a> . . . . .	5
<a href="#">Sponsors &amp; Exhibitors</a> . . . . .	5
<a href="#">Featured Speakers.</a> . . . . .	6-13
<a href="#">Awards and Fellowships</a> . . . . .	14
<a href="#">Undergraduate Forum</a> . . . . .	15
<a href="#">Professionalization Opportunities</a> . . . . .	16-17
<a href="#">Workshops</a> . . . . .	18
<a href="#">2024 Convention.</a> . . . . .	19
<a href="#">Board Elections</a> . . . . .	20
<a href="#">NeMLA Publications.</a> . . . . .	20
<a href="#">Key Dates &amp; Deadlines</a> . . . . .	20

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*Gathering*, which won the Man Booker Prize and the Irish Novel of the Year for 2007, *The Forgotten Waltz*, which won the Carnegie Medal for fiction, *The Portable Virgin*, which won the Rooney Prize for Irish Literature, *What You Like*, which won the Encore Award, *The Green Road*, shortlisted for the Whitbread Awards, and the novel *Actress* in 2020.

**Tim Dean** is the James M. Benson Professor of English at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign and the author of numerous influential theoretical and critical works, including *Beyond Sexuality*, *Unlimited Intimacy*, and *Hatred of Sex*.

We look forward to seeing you and hearing your thoughts in Niagara Falls, where NeMLA will once again discharge its office as a bellwether of humanities research and analysis.



Joseph Valente is author, with Margot Gayle Backus, of *The Child Sex Scandal and Modern Irish Literature: Writing the Unspeakable* (Indiana University Press, 2020) and *The Myth of Manliness and Irish National Culture, 1880–1922* (University of Illinois Press, 2011).

**EXPANDING MENTORSHIP AT NEMLA**

One of NeMLA's core missions is to help professionalize our junior scholars on various aspects of the profession including teaching, publishing, and the job search. We do everything in our power to give graduate students and early-career professionals the necessary resources to promote their careers and to foster collaborations with mentors that often extend beyond the convention. This year, NeMLA will be expanding its mentorship scaffolding to local school districts, inviting high school students to dip their toes into the world of scholarly research in the humanities.



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**WELCOME TO NIAGARA FALLS!****54<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention****MARCH 23–26, 2023****NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK****Location:** Niagara Falls Convention Center**Hotel:** Sheraton Niagara Falls**SPONSORED BY THE UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO**

Our 54<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention will meet March 23–26, 2023, at the [Niagara Falls Convention Center](#). The Niagara and Buffalo area offers convention attendees a multitude of activities to enjoy, including fine dining, arts & culture, historical sites, and natural attractions. There are multiple ways to explore the city and its natural wonders. Enjoy the grandeur of the majestic Falls and the pristine hiking trails and scenic terrain by visiting America's oldest and "most instagrammed" state park. The Cave of the Winds is open year-round and is a must-see in all four seasons (show your badge for a discounted NEMLA price!). Visit the Niagara Falls Underground Railroad Heritage Area with its unparalleled historic resources, narratives, and sites to find out about the rich local heritage associated with the Underground Railroad and Abolitionist movement. Located about 20 minutes north of the Park, you can find and tour the grounds of the original Fort Niagara, where Native American, French, British and American soldiers lived and worked from the 18<sup>th</sup> to the 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. Also minutes away is the Niagara Wine Trail which stretches across Niagara, Orleans and Monroe counties. Last but not

least, you can experience the next wonder of the culinary world, the Niagara Falls Culinary Institute to develop a taste for the extraordinary. It features state-of-the-art kitchens and its own restaurant, bakery cafe, TV studio, gift shop, and bookstore.

Niagara Falls is a proud recipient of the 2022 Experts' Choice Award, the only accolade based on professional reviews, which recognizes Niagara Falls as one of the very best attractions.

The [Sheraton Niagara Falls hotel](#) (and the [Wyndham Garden](#), NEMLA's overflow hotel) are located in the heart of the [Niagara Falls](#) tourist district and are only an 8-minute walk from the falls and national park. On-site parking at the hotel is free for hotel guests; at the Niagara Falls Convention Center, parking is \$5 a day after validation of your parking ticket at the Convention Center. Reserve hotel rooms on our website [www.buffalo.edu/nemla/convention/hotel.html](http://www.buffalo.edu/nemla/convention/hotel.html). For more information, email [support@nemla.org](mailto:support@nemla.org).

**ROOM AND RIDE SHARE**

Open to all NEMLA convention attendees! Want to connect with others to share rooms and/or rides in Buffalo for the Annual Convention? The Graduate Student Caucus and the CAITY Caucus host the Room and Ride Forum. Convention participants who want to share the costs of traveling to or staying in the convention hotel can add to the online thread. For room and ride share opportunities, visit [nemlagraduatecaucus.wordpress.com](http://nemlagraduatecaucus.wordpress.com).



## NEMLA TOUR

### THE UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO POETRY COLLECTION AND RARE & SPECIAL BOOKS COLLECTION

This one-hour visit to the University at Buffalo Libraries Special Collections includes an introduction to the history and holdings of UB's Poetry Collection and Rare & Special Books Collection followed by a tour of select manuscripts and other materials by Curator James Maynard and Associate Curator Alison Fraser. Also on display in the reading room will be a larger exhibition organized by the University Archives focusing on Louise Blanchard Bethune (1856–1913), the first woman to practice as a professional architect in the United States and the first woman member and Fellow of the American Institute of Architects, who is buried in Buffalo's Forest Lawn Cemetery. Members can sign up for the tour from their CFP dashboard, under the tab "Registration and Membership."



#### *The UB Poetry Collection*

Founded in 1935 by Charles Abbott, the Poetry Collection is the library of record for 20th- and 21st-century poetry in English and is comprehensive in its collection of first and other bibliographically significant editions of poetry, literary magazines and journals, broadsides, anthologies, criticism, and reference materials. Additionally, it holds more than 170 literary archives and manuscripts collections from a wide range of poets, presses, magazines, and organizations including James Joyce, William Carlos Williams, Helen Adam, Robert Duncan, Robert Graves, Dylan Thomas, and Wyndham Lewis, as well as many contemporary writers. There are also substantial collections of artwork, audio recordings, ephemera, photographs, visual poetry, and zines, making it one of the largest poetry libraries of its kind in the world. For more information, see [library.buffalo.edu/pl](http://library.buffalo.edu/pl).

#### *The UB Rare & Special Books Collection*

The Rare & Special Books Collection began in 1935 with the donation of Thomas B. Lockwood's collection of rare books and includes such significant publications as the four 17th-century folios of William Shakespeare; first editions by such writers as Edmund Spenser, John Milton, Jane Austen, Mary Shelley, Charles Dickens, and Walt Whitman; and works by fine presses such as Kelmscott, Doves, Roycroft, and Ashendene. Comprised today of over 17,000 titles, the collection also includes ancient Greek and Roman coins, original works by William Blake, incunabula, modern first editions, and examples of fine bindings. For more information, see [library.buffalo.edu/specialcollections/rarebooks](http://library.buffalo.edu/specialcollections/rarebooks).



University at Buffalo

Special Collections

## NEMLA READS TOGETHER

Anne Enright  
*The Gathering*



NeMLA's 54<sup>th</sup> Convention will feature Anne Enright's novel *The Gathering*. "Reckless intelligence, savage humor, slow revelation, no consolation: Anne Enright's fiction is jet dark—but how it glitters," writes Liesl Schillinger in *The New York Times*. NeMLA members are encouraged to read *The Gathering* in preparation for the keynote address. Please submit any questions you would like to ask the author at [support@nemla.org](mailto:support@nemla.org) or ask them in person.

Winner of the 2007 Booker Prize and the 2008 Irish Novel of the Year, *The Gathering* is about narrator Veronica Hegerty's search through her family's past and present to discover the truth about her alcoholic brother Liam's suicide. The novel's title refers to the wake the family held for Liam, and Veronica's search for the truth uncovers family secrets spanning generations. Booker committee judges chair Howard Davies described the novel as "an unflinching look at a grieving family. It's the bleakness of one woman's vision, a bleakness rooted in her family, her marriage, and the death of her brother."

## FILM SCREENING

### NIAGARA'S DIAMOND JUBILEE



Sponsored by NeMLA's Cultural Studies and Media Studies Area

In celebration of NeMLA's meeting in Niagara Falls, NeMLA will be screening Henry Hathaway's 1953 thriller *Niagara*, with leading performances by Joseph Cotten, Jean Peters, and the not-yet-iconic Marilyn Monroe, to mark the film's 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Join us on Saturday 24 March at 4:45 PM in Governor (Niagara Convention Center) for the screening, immediately followed by a roundtable about the film.

Presentations of 5-7 minutes will focus on the production history of the film, its unusual status as a Technicolor noir, its visuals and music, the leading performances of Joseph Cotten, Jean Peters, and Marilyn Monroe, its representation of the Falls as a breathtaking natural phenomenon or a magnetic tourist attraction, and its enduring cultural significance.

## 2023 SPONSORS & EXHIBITORS

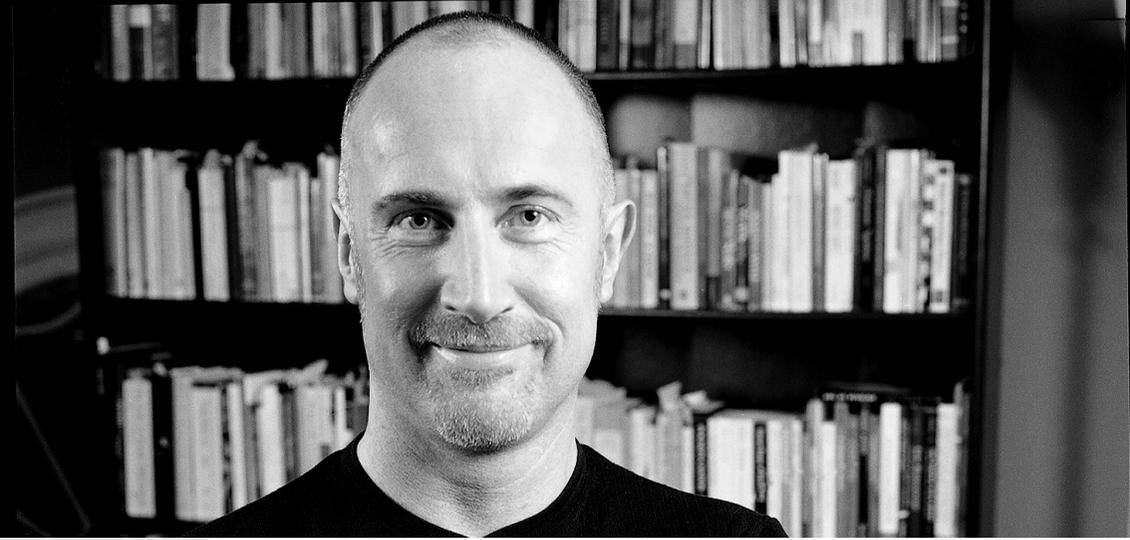
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# OPENING ADDRESS



## TIM DEAN

### *Trauma, Resilience, Finitude: A Story*

PROFESSOR TIM DEAN is James M. Benson Professor of English at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign where he teaches psychoanalysis, queer theory, and modernism. His work reconsiders the troubled relationship between homosexuality and psychoanalysis, assesses the status of same-sex desire in psychoanalytic theory and practice, and the value of psychoanalysis for queer theory. He is the author of *Gary Snyder and the American Unconscious* (1991), *Beyond Sexuality* (2000), and *Unlimited Intimacy: Reflections on the Subculture of Barebacking* (2009), all published by the University of Chicago Press, and a co-editor of *Homosexuality and Psychoanalysis* (2001).

THURSDAY, MARCH 23 @ 7:00 PM

CONVENTION CENTER, CASCADES

# KEYNOTE SPEAKER



## A CONVERSATION WITH IRISH NOVELIST **ANNE ENRIGHT**

FRIDAY, MARCH 24 @ 7:00 PM  
CONVENTION CENTER, CASCADES

ANNE ENRIGHT, acclaimed Irish writer and author of the prize-winning novel *The Gathering*, will be interviewed by Professor Claire Bracken, Associate Professor of Irish Literature and Culture at Union College. *The Gathering* was the Irish Novel of the Year, won the Irish Fiction Award and the 2007 Man Booker Prize. From 2015 to 2018, Anne Enright was the inaugural Laureate for Irish Fiction. She has published three collections of stories, collected as *Yesterday's Weather*, one book of non-fiction, *Making Babies*, and six novels. Her latest, *Actress*, was published in March 2020.

*Anne Enright's The Gathering is the focus of this year's NeMLA Reads Together*



AMERICAN & DIASPORA STUDIES | CAITY CAUCUS  
PEDAGOGY & PROFESSIONALIZATION



# THERESA MCCARTHY

*Land Grab Universities in the Era of “Reconciliation” and Land Back*

**SATURDAY, MARCH 25 @ 11:45 AM**  
CONVENTION CENTER, CATARACT ROOM

While the Truth and Reconciliation Commission further exposed the violent legacies of education for Indigenous peoples in Canada, the response to it has been largely confined to mainstream educational reform. Less attention has been paid to reconciling issues of Indigenous land, even though its acquisition was the rationale for the Indian Residential School system in the first place. While Indigenous children suffered in residential schools, stolen Indigenous lands and resources built the infrastructure of the Canadian settler state, and its institutions of higher education. Taking this ongoing legacy into account, this talk examines recent US-based Indigenous scholarship on “Land Grab Universities” to contextualize this discussion in Canada, in relation to the Grand River Haudenosaunee specifically.

THERESA MCCARTHY is an Onondaga Nation, Beaver Clan citizen of Six Nations of the Grand River Territory. She is Associate Professor in the Department of Indigenous Studies and Associate Dean for Inclusive Excellence at the University at Buffalo. She is the author of *In Divided Unity: Haudenosaunee Reclamation at Grand River* (2016) which won the 2017 Native American and Indigenous Studies Association’s Best First Book Prize. Theresa has worked on reinstating Haudenosaunee language courses at UB, and on building relationships with nearby Haudenosaunee communities in support of Indigenous language learning. She is currently a Principal Co-Investigator and the Indigenous lead on a 3.2 million dollar grant from the Andrew W. Mellon foundation supporting the formation of the new Indigenous Studies Department at UB. She is both grateful and proud to be living and working on Seneca Nation territory.

GERMAN STUDIES | FRENCH & FRANCOPHONE STUDIES  
ITALIAN STUDIES | HISPANOPHONE & LUSOPHONE STUDIES



# DENNIS LOONEY

*Working Advocacy into your Language Program:  
Examples & Possibilities*

**FRIDAY, MARCH 24 @ 11:45 AM**

**CONVENTION CENTER, CATARACT ROOM**

How much are you thinking about advocacy when you step into the classroom? How to advocate for the value of studying a language and its culture? Is the curriculum of your program designed to appeal to students, today and tomorrow? What is your program/department actually doing to demonstrate the connections between language learning and making global citizens? This talk explores the role advocacy plays in making the language professional's work as dynamic as it can be.

From the course, to the program, to the department, and to the profession itself, how can we build advocacy into success for our students and for ourselves as teachers?

DENNIS LOONEY served as director of the Office of Programs and director of the Association of Departments of Foreign Languages at the Modern Language Association from 2014-2021. From 1986 to 2013, he taught Italian at the University of Pittsburgh. In 2022, he received the James E. Alatis Founder's Award from the Joint National Committee for Languages for "a lifetime of exceptional contributions to advancing language and international education" and the ACTFL Wilga Rivers Award for Leadership in World Language Education. He has published articles on Dante, Petrarch, Ariosto, and Tasso, a book on the reception of the classics in Ferrara from 1450-1600, *Compromising the Classics: Romance Epic Narrative in the Italian Renaissance* (1996) and *Freedom Readers: The African American Reception of Dante Alighieri and the Divine Comedy* (2011).

WOMEN'S & GENDER STUDIES CAUCUS | DIVERSITY CAUCUS  
AMERICAN & DIASPORA STUDIES | BRITISH & ANGLOPHONE STUDIES



# RINALDO WALCOTT

## *Freedom's Revenge; Or Towards Liberation*

**SATURDAY, MARCH 25 @ 7:00 PM**

**NIAGARA FALLS SHERATON: JADE**

Beginning with a discussion of Raul Peck's *Exterminate all the Brutes*, a 2021 documentary series tracing Europe's global expansion and accompanying ideas, Walcott puts into contention Europe's expansion as a project of unfreedom rather than one of freedom. He argues for an understanding of *freedom* as one that ends Euro-American global rule. Writing with the backdrop of ongoing coloniality, ecological disaster, carceral practices of all kinds, fascism, and the ever increasingly late modern primitive capitalist accumulation, taking freedom seriously as a mode of reorganizing the world is freedom's revenge on Euro-American forms of unfreedom. Freedom's revenge, he argues, is the rebound of Europe's idea of freedom, but only as it undoes Euro-America as the site where the liberated might be inaugurated globally.

RINALDO WALCOTT is Professor and Chair in the Department of Africana and American Studies at the University of Buffalo where he also holds the Carl V. Granger Chair in Africana and American Studies. Professor Walcott's research focuses on the cultural expression of Black life and on the transnational, diasporic and the national crosscurrents of Black creativities. He is the author of number of *The Long Emancipation: Moving Toward Black Freedom* (Duke, 2021) and of *On Property: Policing, Prisons, and the Call for Abolition* (Biblioasis, 2021) which was short-listed for the Toronto Book Award in 2021. Currently he is working on two monographs, one on freedom and the sea, and another on Black queer expressive culture. A third work seeks to grapple with the possibilities of achieving utopia from the grips of the catastrophe that threatens to consume all of planetary life. Rinaldo was born in Barbados. He divides his time between the city of Buffalo and the city of Toronto.

# FRENCH & FRANCOPHONE STUDIES



# YOHANN RIPERT

*Can Independence be Sustainable? Négritude's Resilience after 1960*

**SATURDAY, MARCH 25 @ 7:00 PM**

**NIAGARA FALLS SHERATON: DIAMOND**

It is a truism to say that 1960 marks a defining moment in the history of decolonization. How the rich literary imagination of independence was transformed into viable political strategies to ensure its sustainability remains less defined. In the Francophone world, *Négritude* provided a wide array of resources to frame freedom from colonial oppression and imperial oversight as early as the interwar period and into the late postwar years. Far from disappearing with the colonial empire, *négritude* quickly became a powerful stage to investigate the resilience of post-colonial independence. Ripert returns to the two immediate post-independence decades to question, along with *négritude* thinkers: how to transform that historical moment into a sustainable project?

YOHANN RIPERT is a scholar of Francophone intellectual history and the author of *Senghor for the Ages* (forthcoming). Working at the crossroads of transatlantic studies, postcolonial literature, and Cold War diplomacy, his next project, "Sustainable Independence," theorizes how investments in aesthetic production shape the (un)sustainable development of strategies of decolonization. Currently Assistant Professor of French and Francophone Studies at Stetson University in Florida, Ripert is the Director of the Honors Program and Faculty Advisor in the Center for Community Engagement. He has published in *Small Axe*, *African Studies Review*, *Lingua Romana*, and *Éthiopiennes*. He is also a Juilliard-trained concert pianist and a former translator for the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues at the United Nations.

# HISPANOPHONE & LUSOPHONE STUDIES

📍 Créditos: Zayra Taranto

Créditos: Zayra Taranto



## YOLANDA ARROYO PIZARRO

### *Creativity and Passion During Afroresilience Times*

**SATURDAY, MARCH 25 @ 7:00 PM**

**NIAGARA FALLS SHERATON: SAPPHIRE**

Yolanda Arroyo Pizarro's lecture will focus on the discussion of issues related to race in Caribbean and Latinx culture, women's rights, LGBTQ fight for equity, activist actions and resilience during extreme events in Puerto Rico (hurricanes, earthquakes, pandemic). Her different intersectionalities and experiences open the door to opportunities for dialogue by encouraging conversations about gender, diversity and ethnicity, particularly centering the experience of AfroLatinas.

YOLANDA ARROYO PIZARRO has been recognized nationally and internationally as one of the most engaged AfroCaribbean authors in the fight against antiracism

and in educating against racism to build a more just and equitable society. She received the 2012 and 2015 Instituto de Cultura Puertorriqueña awards, and the National Award of the Instituto de Literatura Puertorriqueña in 2008. She publishes books that denounce, visibilize and promote the discussion of Afroidentity and sexual diversity in Puerto Rican Culture. She is the founder and director of the Cátedra de Mujeres Negras Ancestrales that responds to the United Nations call to commemorate the International Decade of the Afrodescendants since 2015. Among her works are the short story book *Las negras* (2012), winner of the National Award Book by the Puerto Rico PEN Club in 2013. Her book *Animales de apariencia inofensiva*, won the book award in 2015 and her book *Ojos de luna* the same book award in 2007. She is Assistant Professor and Writer-in-Residence at EDP University.

## ITALIAN STUDIES



# PAOLA GAMBAROTA

*Resilience and Vulnerability. 'American Naples,' 1943–1945*

**SATURDAY, MARCH 25 @ 7:00 PM**

**NIAGARA FALLS SHERATON: RUBY**

Resilience is too often asked of the most vulnerable. This talk engages the longstanding perception of Naples as a resilient city and of the Neapolitans as survivors—of natural catastrophes, foreign occupations, neglect. We will see how the trope was revisited across time by writers such as Giacomo Leopardi, and, closer to us, Elena Ferrante. It was also revived in North American media shortly before the liberation/occupation of Naples. In what ways do images of resilience obstruct, structure, or deform perceptions of lived events and of the past?

PAOLA GAMBAROTA is Associate Professor of Italian at Rutgers University. Her research interests include modern Italian literature; theories of language and

nation; prewar European avant-gardes, and film. She is author of *Irresistible Signs: The Genius of Language and Italian National Identity* (University of Toronto Press, 2011), which won both the MLA Aldo and Jeanne Scaglione Publication Award for a Manuscript in Italian Literary Studies and the American Association of Italian Studies Book Prize, as well as *Surrealismo in Germania* (Campanotto Editore, 1997). She is completing a third book titled, *American Naples: Cross-Cultural Memories of an Occupation*, for which she received the American Council of Learned Societies/Burkhardt Fellowship at the American Academy in Rome. She recently published an essay on “The Transnational Origin of Italian Post-War Populism” in the British journal *The Italianist* (2019).

## NeMLA AWARDS

### **i** Annual Book Awards

The NeMLA Book Awards include two annual awards for 1/ the best unpublished book-length manuscript on any of NeMLA's focal literatures, languages, media, or cultures 2/ the best unpublished book of fiction.

**Submission deadline is October 15, 2023.**

### **i** CAITY Caucus Essay Award

The next award will be for a paper presented at the 2023 Convention by an independent scholar or a contingent, adjunct, or two-year college faculty member.

**Submission deadline is January 6, 2024.**

### **i** Graduate Student Caucus Essay Award

This award is for an expanded (article-length) version of a presentation by a graduate student at any of the sessions of the previous three conventions. **Submission deadline is January 15, 2024.**

### **i** Postcolonial Studies Essay Award

NeMLA is proud to sponsor a special essay prize for a revised paper in Postcolonial Studies presented at one of the previous two NeMLA Conventions. **Submission deadline is December 15, 2023.**

### **i** Women's & Gender Studies Essay Award

The NeMLA Women's and Gender Studies Caucus invites submissions for the "Best Essay in Women's and Gender Studies Award" given for a paper presented at the previous two sessions of the NeMLA Convention using women and/or gender-centered approaches.

**Submission deadline is January 15, 2024.**

### **i** Summer Fellowship Award

The NeMLA Summer Fellowship Program is designed to support the research of NeMLA members, especially untenured junior faculty, graduate students, and independent scholars. This does not preclude senior faculty from applying. **Submission deadline is February 6, 2024.**

### **New in 2023! NeMLA Dissertation Fellowship**

The purpose of the NeMLA Dissertation Fellowship is to offset graduate student members' living expenses while they complete their dissertation. The fellowship must be used for the final year of writing the dissertation. Applicants must be members, and preference will be given to scholars who have presented at NeMLA and engaged the profession outside of their own institutional affiliations.

**Submission deadline is June 1, 2023.**

## 2022 NEMLA AWARD WINNERS

### ANNUAL BOOK AWARD IN FICTION

**Patrick Thomas Henry**, University of North Dakota *Practice for Becoming a Ghost: Stories*

**Runner-Up: Allison Brooks**, Kent State University, *Great Grandma's Grimoire*

### CAITY ESSAY AWARD

**Rebecca Arbele**, Tufts University, "How Robin Wall Kimmerer's *Braiding Sweetgrass* Teaches through Storytelling, Science, and Metaphor"

### GRADUATE STUDENT CAUCUS ESSAY AWARD

**Lorenzo Bartolucci**, Stanford University, "Landscape in the Shadow: The Self in 1974"

### POSTCOLONIAL STUDIES ESSAY AWARD

**Shanaaz Mohammed**, Davidson College, "Coralization: Coral Materiality in Khal Torabully's Poetry"

### WOMEN'S AND GENDER STUDIES CAUCUS ESSAY AWARD

**Samadrita Kuiti**, University of Connecticut-Storrs, "Anticipating the Afrotopia: Queer Monsters and Utopian Futurities in Nnedi Okorafor's *Lagoon*"

*Honorable Mention: Dolores Batten*, University of Central Florida, "The Problematics of the Postcolonial? Identity: Embracing Linguistics, Culture, and Pre-Feminism in Zora Neale Hurston's *Their Eyes Were Watching God*"

### 2022 SUMMER RESEARCH FELLOWS

**Alexandra Mira Alonso**, Georgetown University: "Radiografía de lo cutre: políticas y estéticas de una España neocostumbrista"

**Catherine Evans**, Carnegie Mellon University, "Lesbian Feminist Revolution: The Rise, Fall, and Lasting Impact of Persephone Press"

**Maria Rovito**, Pennsylvania State University, "Menstrual Manifesto: An Autocritical Analysis of the Omission of Endometriosis Pain Within Disability Studies"

**Michael Martin Shea**, University of Pennsylvania: "Neoliberal Visions: Poetry, History, and Crisis in the Americas"

**Nagore Sedano Naveira**, University of Puget Sound: "Tracing Barbed Wire: Postmemory and Visual Culture in *Gurs, History and Memory* (2017)"

**Rebecca Glasberg**, University of California, Los Angeles, "Francophone Algerian Literature at the Intersection of Postcolonial and Jewish Studies: Kateb Yacine's *Nedjma*"

# UNDERGRADUATE FORUM

The Annual Convention features a separate Undergraduate Research Forum in the form of poster presentations in the Exhibits Area. This is an opportunity for aspiring scholars to discuss their research with peers, graduate students and faculty, and to be awarded prizes by NEMLA's various constituencies. Please join us to speak one-on-one with these emerging scholars and ask questions about their research. | **Saturday 1:15PM-5:00PM, Exhibits Area**

## 2022 UNDERGRADUATE FORUM PRIZE WINNERS

**Yuchen Lu**, Duke University: "17th Century Ephemeral Literature: Machine Learning in Understanding Ordinary Lives in London"

**Martin Dolan**, SUNY Binghamton University: "Questions of Canon in Gilbert Hernandez's Palomar Comics"

**Christopher Saca**, Montgomery College: "Resilience through the Forced Creation of a Black Male Street Identity in *The Other Wes Moore*"

**Charlotte Lim, Ioana Lungescu, Dan Reznichenko, Heidi Smith, & Amy Weng**, Duke University: "Caring for a Corrupt Corpus: Ethical and Legal Standpoints on English Consumption (1660-1714)"

**Madison Blair**, Birmingham-Southern College: "Gynecological Misrepresentations in Medieval Europe"

**Riley Kelfer**, Colby College: "'Ungessed Kinships': Reading Care Amid Violence in Cormac McCarthy's Border Novels"

**Glik Koffink**, American University: "Bleeding Out: A Trans-feminist Care Analysis of Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein* (1818)"

**Jubie Tan**, SUNY Binghamton University: "Creative Learning During the COVID-19 Pandemic"

**Alexander Paredes-Ruiz**, Independent Scholar: "Imperial Exotification and Theatrical Ahistoricism in Peter Shaffer's *The Royal Hunt of the Sun*"

**Abhishek Devarajan**, University of California, Irvine: "Ethical Consumption Before Capitalism"

**Lucia Wang**, Bryn Mawr College: "Miss Castaway: The Anti-miscegenation In Anna May Wong's 1920s Films"

**Julia LaPlante**, Lasell University: "Trauma, Class, and Care in *Wuthering Heights*"

**Aymon Langlois**, Skidmore College: "Towards a More Social Social Model"

**Maria Smith**, Dickinson College: "The Effects of Racialization and Exoticization of Afro-Caribbean Women Immigrants in Spain"

**Margaux Trexler**, New York University: "The Pardoner's Interruptions of the Wife of Bath: Three Explanatory Theories"

**Celine Sui**, Johns Hopkins University: "Language of Care in Popular Narratives of Feminist Sexual Harassment Allegation in China"

**Elizabeth Lowney**, Marywood University: "*Madre Tierra*: Identity and Voices in Afro-Diasporic Poetry"

**Aniyah Adams**, Elon University: "'Une histoire tuee': Unsilencing Haitian History in the works of Agnant"

**Grey Nebel**, University of North Georgia: "The Construction of Gender Identity and Patriarchal Systems in Postcolonial Maghreb"

**Ye Ram Kim**, Bryn Mawr College: "A Language of One's Own: Multilingualism in Amazigh Literature"

**Hannah Appelhans**, Bryn Mawr College: "Friendship in Horace's Ode 2.6 through German and English Eyes: Hölderlin and Conington"

**Jillian Lunoe**, Bryn Mawr College: "Those Who Live Behind the Walls: The Reflection of Care in the Physical Environment"

**Arianna Robertson**, Hamilton College: "Representations of Language and History in Postcolonial French-Algerian Women's Autofictions"

# 2023 PROFESSIONALIZATION OPPORTUNITIES

## MENTORING

**Job Clinic:** One-on-one mentoring sessions during exhibit hours. NeMLA will arrange for early career scholars to receive advice on cover letters or CVs and to do mock interviews with senior faculty.

**Publishing Mentorship Program:** Senior faculty work with ABDs and recent PhDs to offer guidance throughout the year on an article that the emerging scholar wants to publish.

**WGSC Mentorship Program Meeting:** The NeMLA Women's and Gender Studies Caucus operates an interdisciplinary mentoring breakfast which pairs senior faculty mentors with junior faculty and doctoral students.

**Interactive Workshops:** Workshops at the Annual Convention are led by a moderator and are interactive discussions that model hands-on learning. They aim to develop professional skills or examine professional interests, responsibilities, and proficiencies.

**Book and Essay Awards:** Members can submit their written work to get feedback, win awards, and receive a certificate of recognition.

## EXHIBITORS

**The Exhibit Hall** is the heart of NeMLA, the setting for all networking events, coffee and snack breaks, the Job Clinic, Undergraduate Poster Presentations, and Exhibitor-sponsored workshops.

**The Elevator Pitch:** Practice articulating your project in an "elevator pitch" to interviewers and editors. Meet one-on-one with participating exhibitors to receive their feedback on how to refine your presentation into a short, cohesive, and clear statement of your research. We especially encourage scholars who are shopping their first book project to participate in this initiative.

**Workshops:** Attend workshops on publishing and scholarship led by our exhibitors. Examples of workshops include "From Book Proposal to Peer Review," and "Publishing Today: A Talk with Publishers."

## SOCIAL ENGAGEMENT

**Networking areas:** Designated areas are available in the Exhibit Hall for networking. Gather with people in your area of scholarship, meet other members, board directors, fellows, and staff, and share your interests and NeMLA experiences. We hope to see you there!

**Photo contest:** Organize a get-together with your panelists, take a photograph of the gathering and e-mail it along with your names to [photos@nemla.org](mailto:photos@nemla.org) by April 1. The author of any selected photo receives free registration for the following convention.

**#NeMLA Souvenir:** Post a picture holding the books you purchased in the Exhibits Hall with the #NeMLA souvenir hashtag! The winner gets free registration for the following convention.

**Graduate Student Meet-and-Greet Social Event:** Socialize with fellow graduate students while enjoying drinks and light snacks! | [Friday following the Keynote Event.](#)

**Annual Creative Writers and Editors' Gathering** (Sponsored by NeMLA's journal *Modern Language Studies*): A great place to make connections and to share experiences as editing and creative writing professionals working in a rapidly-changing academy and publishing marketplace.

## ART AT NEMLA

The Arts Management Program at The University at Buffalo has given its students the opportunity to collaborate with NeMLA this year in organizing the conference's first art exhibit. [Adriana Torres-Trinidad](#), [Ruixin Qing](#), and [Qinyang Zhi](#), three students from the program, are in charge of curating an exhibition of visual and performing art that relates to the conference's theme of resilience and to the sessions while highlighting Buffalo artists. The visual artworks will explore the topics of indigenous/afro identity, sexual diversity, women's strength, and technology vs. humanity, and along with the performance from the University at Buffalo's Dance Department, will be an embodiment of resilience.

Through this partnership, the UB Arts Management team will have the opportunity to put together a brand-new show, which will put their arts management capabilities to the test. For NEMLA audiences in the Niagara Falls Convention Center, they will seek out the best artwork they can in order to stimulate new lines of discussion.

**Draw NeMLA: Children's Art Contest.** Attendees under the age of twelve can submit drawings inspired by the convention at the Registration Desk. Winning artists will receive a gift certificate, and their art will appear on our website as well as in our newsletter.

## NEMLA CAUCUSES

Caucuses act as special interest groups for different identities at different stages of the career process. Each caucus organizes Special Events and sponsored sessions at the Annual Convention. NeMLA caucuses offer opportunities for funding through Travel Grants and Essay Awards.

**CAITY:** The CAITY Caucus advocates for NEMLA members who are contingent, adjunct, or independent scholars and/or teach at two-year institutions. The Caucus organizes panels, speakers, and discussions on topics including pedagogy, unionizing, and non-traditional career paths, offering travel and paper prizes in support of CAITY members and their endeavors.

**Diversity Caucus:** The Diversity Caucus was created to facilitate discussion among NEMLA members of issues of diversity, especially as it relates to academic life. In addition to encouraging the development of NEMLA sessions and initiatives, the Caucus sponsors a Postcolonial Essay Award.

**Graduate Student Caucus:** The Graduate Student Caucus (GSC) provides generous support to graduate students attending NEMLA, sponsoring Travel Awards, a Room & Ride share, as well as the GSC Award. At the conference, the Caucus hosts interactive workshops and networking circles.

**Women's and Gender Studies Caucus:** WGSC welcomes members interested in feminist scholarship, women's and gender studies, and the status of women in the profession at all stages of their careers. The Caucus organizes panels, promotes publication, and fosters the establishment of

networks linking senior and junior faculty including graduate students. In addition, the Caucus sponsors an essay award for participating members.

The NEMLA bylaws describe the process through which members can create new Caucuses. If you are interested in starting a caucus, please contact [support@nemla.org](mailto:support@nemla.org).

## BUSINESS MEETINGS

**NeMLA Board Meetings:** The Board of NEMLA meets twice a year to review and inquire about material, initiatives, and issues that affect the organization and its Annual Convention. | **Thursday 7:30–11:00AM & Fall Meeting**

**CAITY Caucus Annual Meeting:** Join other CAITY members to discuss the business and goals of the Caucus. Topics include panels, speakers, and continuing to advocate for members on issues including pedagogy, unionizing, and non-traditional career paths. | **Thursday March 23, 6:00–7:00PM | Hennepin, Niagara Convention Center**

**Graduate Student Caucus Annual Business Meeting:** Join the GSC Board to discuss how NEMLA can better serve its graduate student members. Topics that are considered include: sessions the GSC might propose, the graduate student experience at the Convention, what we can do during the rest of the year to advocate and keep students informed, and opportunities for more involvement. | **Thursday March 23, 6:00–7:00PM | Whitney, Niagara Convention Center**

**Women's and Gender Studies Caucus Business Meeting:** Following the Mentorship Program Meeting and Breakfast, the WSGC Business Meeting's agenda includes determining future speakers and convention topics, as well as nominating Caucus officers. | **Saturday March 25, 8:15–11:30AM | Cataract, Niagara Convention Center**

**General Membership Business Meeting and Brunch:** Where we announce our Essay and Book Award winners; honor our fellowship winners; thank outgoing Board directors and welcome incoming ones; share the Call for Session Proposals for our next convention; have our members vote on issues or changes to the bylaws when necessary; and conclude with a Brunch, which allows all members to converse and network. | **Sunday March 26, 12:15–1:30PM | Cascades**

# 2023 NEMLA WORKSHOPS

## i INTERACTIVE WORKSHOPS

THURSDAY, MARCH 23 @ 12:00 PM

Workshops at our Annual Convention model hands-on learning and are interactive discussions led by a moderator. They aim to develop professional skills or examine professional interests, responsibilities, and proficiencies. Space may be limited, so please [pre-register](#). Workshops appear under “Registration & Membership” in your account, unless sold out in which case, you may [ask](#) to be added to our waiting list.

### TEACHING MEDICAL HUMANITIES AT MED SCHOOL: INTERDISCIPLINARY OPPORTUNITIES (AND LIMITS)

*Ronja Bodola, Louisiana State University*

This workshop discusses professional opportunities for humanists beyond the traditional transdisciplinary settings by exploring new avenues for humanists in a medical school setting. It stimulates discussions about what exactly the physician-humanist interprofessional collaborations can look like, and what humanist expertise has to offer to medical education. The facilitators (MD/PhD) will share examples of their interdisciplinary, interprofessional practice.

### LANGUAGES FOR THE PROFESSIONS AND SPECIFIC PURPOSES: SPANISH COURT INTERPRETING

*Graziela Rondon-Pari, SUNY Buffalo State College*

Based on a proficiency-oriented instruction approach, the preparation of court interpreters should include the avoidance of false cognates, reaching language equivalence, and awareness of language variation. The workshop will include multiple interpreting activities and a discussion of ethical issues.

### AUDIO DESCRIPTION: THE VISUAL MADE VERBAL

*Joel Snyder, Audio Description Associates, LLC/American Council of the Blind*

This audio description workshop will provide an overview of the “Fundamentals of Audio Description” (developed by Dr. Snyder) and access awareness, particularly with respect to people who are blind or have low vision.

## i EXHIBITOR-SPONSORED WORKSHOPS

FRIDAY, MARCH 23 @ 10:00 AM AND 3:00 PM | CASCADES

Exhibitors have the opportunity to offer workshops at NEMLA. We will promote your workshop as part of our Professionalization Initiatives, and convention attendees will have the opportunity to pre-register. For more information, please email [Claire Sommers](#), Exhibits and Professionalization Coordinator.

### GENRES OF SCHOLARLY PUBLISHING WITH EDWIN MELLEN PRESS

*Eva Kort, The Edwin Mellen Press*

In this workshop, the editor of the Edwin Mellen Press will discuss each of several genres of scholarly publishing such as monographs, translations, reviews, reference works, critical editions, etc.—their use, value, and place in the development of one’s scholarly career. The workshop will include examples, etc.

### LANGUAGE AND LANGUAGE-LIKE DATA FROM THE CENSUS BUREAU

*Amy Brombos, United States Census Bureau*

Learn how the Census Bureau collects data on language spoken at home, ancestry and ethnicity, how to find that data, download the tables, or create a choropleth map on our portal that you can use. This workshop will present to attendees and engage their participation (no computer needed), as well as illustrate how educators may instruct with Census Bureau data or have the Census Bureau guest-present in college/university courses. No prior experience with data or statistics is needed.

# 55<sup>th</sup> NeMLA ANNUAL CONVENTION

MARCH 7–10, 2024 ◦ BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

SESSION PROPOSALS DUE

ABSTRACT SUBMISSIONS DUE

**April 29, 2023**

**September 30, 2023**



**SURPLUS** is the keyword for 2024 NeMLA convention for critical and creative work that, in addition to the commonly associated meanings of profit and value, can be more broadly construed as excess or excessive, as surfeit, or what is leftover, or unwanted: an excess of emotions (anger, fear, passion, desire), for example; or surplus time (leisure or its absence); or populations rendered “surplus”—migrants, the marginalized, the unemployed, the incarcerated.

## 2024 OPENING ADDRESS



**RICKIE SOLINGER** is a historian of reproductive politics. She is the author of *Wake Up Little Susie: Single Pregnancy and Race before Roe v Wade* (1992, 2000) and *Pregnancy and Power: A History of Reproductive Politics in the US* (2007, 2019)

## 2024 KEYNOTE SPEAKER



**TIPHONIE YANIQUE**, a professor at Emory University, is the acclaimed writer of the novel *Land of Love and Drowning*—the focus of “NeMLA Reads Together”—which won the 2014 Flaherty-Dunnaw First Novel Award and the Phillis Wheatley Award for Pan-African Literature, among other honors.

## 2024 BOARD ELECTIONS

NeMLA is a member-driven organization committed to a fundamentally democratic approach to governance and convention design. Please vote in our current board elections by February 25 and nominate board representatives for our next open slate of positions by August 15, 2023.

### OPEN POSITIONS FOR 2024

- 🗳️ American and Diaspora Studies Director
- 🗳️ Comparative Literature Director
- 🗳️ Cultural and Media Studies Director
- 🗳️ Pedagogy and Professionalization Director

### Key Dates

- Feb 5, 2023 . . . . . Exhibitors Registration
- Feb 6, 2023 . . . . . Summer Fellowships Application
- Feb 25, 2023 . . . . . Board Elections Voting
- Mar 23–26, 2023 . . . . . 54th NeMLA Convention, Niagara Falls
- Apr 1, 2023 . . . . . Photo Contest Submissions
- Apr 15, 2023 . . . . . UB Special Collections Fellowship
- Apr 29, 2023 . . . . . Session Proposals Due
- May 15, 2023 . . . . . Publishing Mentorship Submissions
- Jul 15, 2023. . . . . Summer Newsletter
- Sep 30, 2023 . . . . . Abstract Proposals Due
- Jan 6, 2024 . . . . . CAITY Essay Award
- Jan 10, 2024 . . . . . Job Clinic Pre-registration
- Jan 13, 2024 . . . . . CAITY Travel Award
- Jan 15, 2024 . . . . . Graduate Student Essay Award
- Jan 15, 2024 . . . . . WSGC Essay Award

## NeMLA Publications

NeMLA proudly sponsors the publication of three journals dedicated to the production of award-winning scholarship.

### MODERN LANGUAGE STUDIES



*Modern Language Studies* is a peer-reviewed journal representing the wide-ranging critical and creative interests of NeMLA members. We publish scholarship, interviews, fiction and poetry, reviews, and commentary on teaching, research, and writing in all areas of English, American, comparative studies, as well as the literatures of the modern languages.

### NEMLA ITALIAN STUDIES



*NeMLA Italian Studies* promotes the study of Italian culture by publishing critical studies on Italian literature, cinema, culture, linguistics, and language pedagogy. The journal includes sections dedicated to creative writing in Italian (primarily poetry or short-prose fiction), translations of contemporary and classical works/authors, cultural debates, and interviews. A section of the journal is dedicated to book reviews.

### MAST: THE JOURNAL OF MEDIA ART, STUDY AND THEORY



*MAST: The Journal of Media Art, Study and Theory* is an online, open-access, and double-blind peer-reviewed journal featuring interdisciplinary scholarship in the domain of media studies with a focus on both practice and theory. MAST stands for “Media Art Study and Theory” and welcomes original high-quality submissions from artists, practitioners, scholars, writers, theorists, curators, academic faculty, and graduate students in artistic research, theory, and practice-based/practice-led studies in media arts.