



NeMMLA 2024

NORTHEAST MODERN LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION ◦ BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

WINTER
NEWSLETTER
2024

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FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

WHAT WE HAVE BEEN WITNESSING

on the world stage at the end of this tragic year is, in Dennis Kucinich's words, a "descent into madness, into nothingness." We enter 2024 with the knowledge of the daily destruction of human and civilian life on a mass scale. We enter it in mourning and despair. But we are not helpless. We are the teachers, writers, and students of a common language that can and must transcend all barriers—of identity, space, and time—to voice the horrors of oppression as well as the existence and resilience of the oppressed. As intellectuals, we aim to foster and create spaces where the arts and humanities find the power to turn both sorrow and resistance into a shared experience.

We hope that in March as we gather in person again for the 55th Convention of the Northeast Modern Language Association, our 2024 gathering will be a renewed opportunity to affirm our collective belief in peace, coexistence, equality, and fairness, and to assert our common humanity in the face of the intolerable realities and rhetoric that circulate across the world and among us today. We remain committed to imagining new futures to heal the gaping wounds of the past and present.

NeMLove and NeMLand is how we refer to the amazing community that our members and constituencies have created through and at NeMMLA over the years. We get together year after year, to model the possibility of peaceful dissent and (dis)agreement in speech and action, to represent the best of what has been thought, to stage debate and opportunities for intellectual growth and cultural advancement.

Since 2014, NeMMLA has grown exponentially, and we are now looking for more creative ways to continue developing and thriving. With the support and endorsement of our Board of Directors, staff, and crew, we will continue looking for productive partnerships nationally and internationally. To this end, we will be launching a major advancement and fundraising campaign—and know that we can count on our

members' loyalty and support as we work to establish an endowment for NeMMLA so that the organization can continue to remain secure in insecure times. Should you wish to contribute, please contact me at cmardoro@buffalo.edu or do so directly via your username account.

Our 2024 convention is a return to Boston, the site of the last fully in-person convention before the gruesome pandemic that ravaged our lives, and is thus an exorcism of sorts—a reclaiming of the heart and soul of in-person NeMMLA—as we step away from Zoom and return to face-to-face communication and interactions. 2024 NeMMLA is where we will gather again to model community and intellectual exchange at their best, in sessions, hallways, the lobby, and exhibit hall, at our receptions, special events, brunch, and on the streets of Boston. Any excuse to talk and learn is embraced at NeMMLA.

We want to thank Tufts University, especially James A. Glaser, Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences, and our 2024 NeMMLA President and Tufts Professor of English Modhumita Roy, for sponsoring our 55th Annual Convention at the Sheraton Boston. Specifically, we are grateful for their vision and support in helping to organize our keynote event with Caribbean-American writer Tiphonie Yanique, whose beautiful novel *Land of Love and Drowning* is the subject of *NeMMLA Reads Together*, as well as our opening address by renowned historian Rickie Solinger. Caribbean studies will be a focus among our other Special Events this year, since we have the honor of welcoming Professor

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2024
CONFERENCE
SCHEDULE

Tufts
UNIVERSITY

University
at Buffalo



Giselle Anatol, whose talk will help us look beyond traditional touchstones of monstrosity, health, and horror, and Professor Adlai Murdoch, who will discuss the creolizing processes that have come to define the Caribbean space.

We are also privileged to have Special Events in each language and scholarship area on Saturday evening: Alberto Blanco whose triple poetic reflection—a combination of music, image, and poetry—is bound to enchant; Professor Ela Gezen, whose expertise will transport us to West Berlin and its Turkish-German community of artists; Professor David Ward, who will offer a panorama of contemporary Italian speculative fiction; and activist and conflict resolution expert Rebecca Subar, who will share strategies about how to be a changemaker from their book *When to Talk and When to Fight: The Strategic Choice between Dialogue and Resistance*.

In addition, we have partnered with community organizations to bring you slam poetry and other performances at our conference site. We are grateful to the Boston Poetry Slam group for agreeing to perform contemporary spoken word poetry over several days. On Friday at 11:45AM, we look forward to the performances by choreopoets Brittney S. Harris and Dana Venerable, percussive poet Jessica Femiani, and dancer Michele Dunleavy.

At this year's NeMLA convention, we will again be showcasing art pieces, this time by artist Piera Benetti, whose beautiful and abstract artwork will be accessible throughout the spaces of convention to help articulate her vision of art precisely not as "surplus" (the theme of our conference) but as part of our everyday.

Finally, our Undergraduate Forum will take place on Saturday, March 9 from 1:00-5:00PM, in the second-floor foyer of the Sheraton, by the registration desk. Please make sure to stop by and provide feedback to our emerging scholars. Our Undergraduate Forum is in its sixth year, and our junior NeMLA members continue to inspire us with their fresh, in-depth perspectives on literature and culture.

Most importantly, I want to thank every one of you, our members and chairs, for helping make NeMLA the friendliest conference. Here is to a new era at NeMLA, one that would not be possible without our members' steadfast and visionary commitment to our profession.

Sincerely,

Carine M. Mardorossian
Executive Director, NeMLA



OUR 55th ANNUAL CONVENTION WILL MEET March 7–10, 2024, at the Sheraton Boston Hotel. The Boston area offers convention attendees a multitude of activities to enjoy, including fine dining, arts & culture, historical sites, and natural attractions.

The Sheraton Boston Hotel is in the historic Back Bay neighborhood, and it is directly connected to the Prudential Center and the Hynes Convention Center. In other words, it is centrally located and within walking distance or a short cab ride to attractions such as Newbury Street, Copley Square, and the Museum of Fine Arts.

The Sheraton Boston Hotel features an indoor pool restaurant, fitness center, a convenience store, and dry-cleaning service.

Valet parking is \$65/day. Electric car charging stations are available.

TRAVEL INFORMATION

AIR TRANSPORTATION

✈ **Logan International Airport (BOS)** is 6 miles (approximately 15 minutes) by automobile from the hotel.

DISCOUNTED TRAIN TRAVEL WITH AMTRAK

Boston South Station, the Amtrak train station, is 15 minutes by automobile from the hotel.

Amtrak offers Every Day Discounts and Guest Rewards. See www.amtrak.com for more information.

DISCOUNTED FLIGHTS WITH NEMLA'S OFFICIAL AIRLINE

Delta Air Lines is pleased to offer a special discount for NeMLA convention attendees. Visit our website to book your flight and use the NeMLA discount code and refer to Meeting Event Code: NM2VVK. You may also call Delta at 1-800-328-1111 Monday-Friday, 7:00AM-7:30PM (CT). There is no service fee.

METRO TRAVEL ON THE MBTA (AKA THE "T")

- 🚇 **Hynes Convention Center station (Green Line)** is a 6-minute walk from the hotel.
- 🚇 **Symphony station (Green Line)** is an 8-minute walk from the hotel.
- 🚇 **Mass Ave station (Orange Line)** is a 10-minute walk from the hotel.
- 🚇 **The Back Bay transit station (Orange Line and Commuter Rail)** is a 15-minute walk.

ROOM-AND-RIDE SHARE

Want to connect with others to share rooms and/or rides in Boston for NeMLA 2024? The Graduate Student Caucus and the CAITY Caucus host the Room-and-Ride Forum, and it is open to all NeMLA convention attendees! Participants who want to share the costs of traveling or booking rooms can add to the online thread at nemlagraduatecaucus.wordpress.com.



NEMLA 2024 PROFESSIONALIZATION OPPORTUNITIES

One of NeMLA's core missions is to professionalize our junior scholars on various aspects of the profession, including teaching, publishing, and the job search. To that end, we connect mentees with senior faculty in their field as well as with convention exhibitors who offer their guidance and expertise in preparing job market materials and book proposals, practicing mock interviews and book pitches, writing articles for publication, and offering advice on teaching and the profession.

We offer these services in a range of formats from workshops and a Job Clinic that take place at the convention to extended mentoring programs that last throughout the year. For information on any of our professionalization activities, please contact support@nemla.org.

MENTORING

Job Clinic

Faculty members will meet graduate students, contingent and adjunct faculty one-on-one to advise these emerging scholars on CVs and cover letters, and to practice mock interviews. These one-on-one 30-minute advising sessions will be open throughout the Convention.

Publishing Mentorship Program

We pair senior faculty with emerging scholars in a similar research area. The senior scholar will offer guidance throughout the year on an article that the emerging scholar is hoping to publish. The arrangement would be at the discretion of the mentor and mentee, but the mentor must be willing to read a draft or suggest possible venues for publication. We highly suggest that you meet at least once via Zoom.

WGSC Mentorship

The NeMLA Women's and Gender Studies Caucus operates an interdisciplinary mentoring breakfast which pairs senior faculty mentors with junior faculty and doctoral students. It is followed by the WGSC Business Meeting, whose agenda includes determining future speakers and convention topics, as well as securing Caucus officer nominations. For more information, please contact wgsnemla@gmail.com.

BUSINESS MEETINGS

NeMLA Board Meeting

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 March 7 @ 8:00AM | Clarendon B

CAITY Caucus Annual Meeting

Join NeMLA members who advocate for contingent, adjunct, or independent scholars and faculty at two-year institutions to discuss the business and goals of the CAITY Caucus. Topics include panels, speakers, and continuing to advocate for members on topics including pedagogy, unionizing, and non-traditional career paths.

Thursday March 7 @ 6:00PM | Clarendon B

GSC Annual Business Meeting

The Graduate Student Caucus invites you to discuss how NeMLA can better serve its graduate student members. At our business meeting, we will discuss sessions the GSC might propose, graduate student experience at the Convention, what we can do during the rest of the year to advocate and keep you informed, and opportunities for you to get involved. We welcome agenda additions via email!

Thursday March 7 @ 6:00PM | Clarendon A

WGSC Business Meeting

The Women's and Gender Studies Caucus welcomes current as well as prospective members. The agenda includes suggestions for future speakers and topics at NeMLA conferences, as well as nominations for Caucus officer positions. The meeting includes the Women's and Gender Studies Mentorship Program Meeting.

Saturday March 9 @ 8:15AM | Constitution B

Sunday Membership Business Meeting & Brunch

Open to all members. The membership meeting is 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 10 @ 12:00PM | Grand Liberty

UNDERGRADUATE FORUM

The Annual Convention annually features a separate Undergraduate Research Forum in the form of poster presentations. Students are invited to give 3- to 5-minute presentations on their research followed by a networking event. This is an opportunity for aspiring scholars to discuss their research with peers, graduate students and faculty.

Saturday March 9 @ 1:00PM (group 1) and 3:00PM (group 2) | Foyer, Exhibit Hall

Undergraduate Networking Event

Following the Undergraduate Forum, join us for an event allowing undergraduates to network with faculty, graduate students, and peers in their field of study and to practice discussing their research and aspirations for graduate study in a professional setting. Please join us to help us welcome our newest NeMLA members.

For questions and further details, please contact undergradforum@nemla.org.

NEMLA STATEMENT ON ACADEMIC FREEDOM

We, the Board of Directors of the Northeast Modern Language Association, declare our opposition to the recent and increasing tide of legislation in Florida, Texas, Virginia, and other states that attempts to restrict the academic freedom of educators in their classrooms and to censor the contents of libraries in classrooms, schools, and communities. We support the democratic rights of educators and students to have free access to a diversity of ideas and viewpoints, and we condemn the authoritarian attempts of politicians to restrict academic freedom, particularly as the primary targets of their campaign include BIPOC and the LGBTQIA+ community.

As scholars, professors, and researchers in the areas of languages and literatures, we stand with our colleagues whose classroom shelves are being emptied, and whose academic freedom is being abridged, with their students whose education is being gutted, and with both because their integrity and rights as human beings are under attack.

The selection of educational materials and curricula needs to be left to educators and the deliberative process conducted by experts in the education field, and not politicians or administrators. As pillars of our society, schools and libraries make possible critical thinking, learning, and civic engagement, which are the foundation of a democratic society. Therefore, our schools and libraries must remain protected by the First Amendment and defended against partisan ideological control.

— NeMLA Board of Directors —



REFLECTIONS ON THE 2023 UNDERGRADUATE FORUM

DEREK DIMATTEO

Since 2019, NeMLA has included an Undergraduate Research Forum (URF) featuring poster presentations by undergraduate students from universities both domestic and international. In 2023, the forum received 80 submissions from which 30 were accepted.

Three of those participants were willing to share their thoughts and advice for future participants in the Undergraduate Research Forum.

What follows is my edited mashup of my emailed communications with: Katie Koeppl, a freshman French and anthropology double major at the College of Wooster (Ohio); Britt Cranmer, a major in Spanish adolescence education with a minor in Latinx Studies at SUNY Fredonia (New York); and Ayesha Jilani, a sophomore majoring in sociology and cultural studies at Forman Christian College University (Lahore, Pakistan).

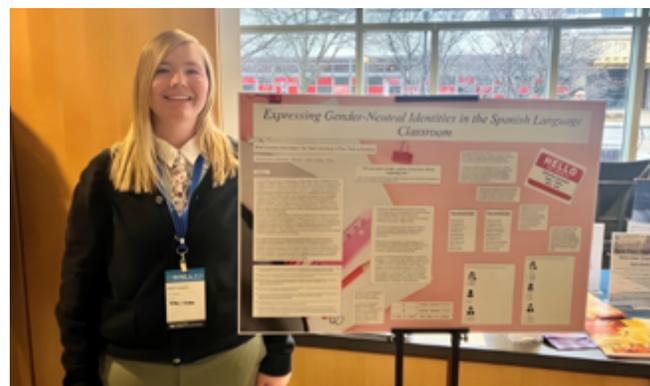
Each of these students submitted abstracts of research projects they worked on for particular classes (ranging from a first-year writing seminar to a senior capstone), and each submission had been encouraged by a professor who had attended NeMLA in a previous year.

DR. DIMATTEO: *What were your feelings about submitting your abstract?*

AYESHA: I was extremely worried honestly. One, because no other undergrad from my university had ever attended the conference so I couldn't ask anyone about what to expect or how to format my poster, and two, I knew a majority of the undergrad forum will be American students, and I was nervous my work wouldn't be as good as theirs. I submitted my abstract right when the CFP opened, and until I received the acceptance email, I was holding my breath.

KATIE: I felt very confident in submitting my abstract to NeMLA, because I knew that it would be an amazing opportunity to share my work and research with other talented scholars. Since it was my first conference, I was a bit nervous to be presenting in a space with so many other students and mentors whom I didn't know, but once I got there, I quickly got acquainted with several of them and became much more comfortable with showcasing my work.

BRITT: Honestly, I was very nervous to submit my abstract! My paper at the time was in its early stages, and I worried that I may change or add to my bibliography as I progressed in my research. Luckily, I had professors provide feedback to my proposal and ease my doubt by sharing that it is completely normal to refine these types of things over time. Notably important: I did not let my original abstract limit where I went with this project!



Britt Cranmer presenting at NeMLA's 2023 Undergraduate Forum.

DR. DIMATTEO: *What was your process of preparing for the conference?*

AYESHA: The preparation process was extremely hectic, but that's mainly my fault. I redid my poster design about four times until I was satisfied with it. My friend Maheen Mashhood helped me visualize my final design poster as they're very skilled with graphic design. I was going over the script for weeks before, because I knew opportunities like these were rare, so I wanted everything to be perfect. As soon as I started speaking about my research to the first person, all my jitters went away.

KATIE: After submitting my abstract, I began to work on my poster, including information from both my abstract and further historical context for the film that I had learned about in my course 'Decoding Storytelling in the Hispanic Creative Industries'. I felt that it was necessary to include the context for the film, rather than simply the analysis of said film, so I included a few sentences about the Cochabamba Water War, and how it impacted the characters in the film. I wanted people to be curious about the cultural events that inspired both Bollaín's film and my essay, so I delved deeper into history about Cochabamba itself and how the director was able to address the Water War in a more sensitive way.

BRITT: I prepared for the conference by re-reading my research essay that I had finalized in December and annotating the important pieces. Any powerful statements received bright highlighter marks. I then re-read and annotated the sources in my bibliography that I utilized in a similar manner to prepare for audience questions on the studies, surveys, etc. The hardest part was refining the strong points, out of dozens of pages of material, to include in my poster. I was passionate about everything in my research, and I had to narrow, shorten, and cut ideas to provide the summary-length poster and accompanying presentation to the conference audience.

DR. DIMATTEO: *What are your thoughts on participating in the NeMLA conference? How has this experience benefitted or influenced you?*

AYESHA: I learned so many things throughout the convention, from the different sessions to the keynote speakers and even from the other undergrads. Even at this stage, I already have ideas about my senior thesis. Listening to the speakers and seeing how all their research works and interacts definitely gave me things to take back home with me. This experience gave me confidence about my work and bettered my presentation skills.



Ayesha Jilani presenting at NeMLA's 2023 Undergraduate Forum.

BRITT: Sharing my research greatly increased my self-confidence and the pride that I take in my role as a Spanish teacher. The NeMLA conference gave me an outlet to share my ideas amongst invested audience members, and made me recognize my own, as well as my fellow undergraduate student participants' contributions.

The experience of attending the NeMLA conference has allowed me to see myself as part of a larger community that goes beyond SUNY Fredonia, being a student, an educator, etc. I am a member of a community that recognizes the powers of language and its nuances. When I reflect on the weekend, I feel that shared importance and excitement over again.

DR. DIMATTEO: *Do you have any final thoughts?*

AYESHA: The other undergrads were extremely passionate and hardworking and I wish I'd gotten more time to spend with them. Throughout the forum, I met wonderful people, who were not only keen about my work but asked thought-provoking questions that made me think about other perspectives and what I could add into my research to make it better. This convention was a wonderful experience, and I'll be forever grateful.

KATIE: To be able to present my research to a variety of talented and accomplished people is something that I will never forget. During the conference, I decided to prioritize workshops that focused more on my major(s), but I also wish I could have gone to more events that may have taken place in the same timeframe. However, the events I did attend were impactful, sensitive, educational, and inspiring. They pulled me out of my comfort zone and even challenged what I thought I already knew. Furthermore, the two speaker series that I attended blew me away and gave me a new perspective on violence, culture, mental illness, and social justice.

BRITT: As a participant, I am so glad that I did not let the initial intimidation of presenting at a conference scare me away from this opportunity. As an audience member, it was so great to be surrounded by people who all share a love of language throughout the weekend. Attending different sessions allowed me to learn a lot as well as celebrate bilingualism amongst others in the profession. The NeMLA conference sessions that I attended gave me topics to look into as well as new films, books, and music to explore. The recommendations that came from other presenters will certainly expand my repertoire!

ADVICE FOR UNDERGRADUATE PARTICIPANTS

AYESHA JILANI, FORMAN CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

“Capitalist Metaphors in *Parasite*”

My advice for next year's students is to not be afraid to ask for help. Doing research is not an easy process, and requires many sleepless nights, but thinking you're going to be a bother by asking for help is not good for anyone. Being nervous is normal, but it's important to remember the amount of time and effort you put into this project. You should be proud of completing research at this stage. I definitely wish I allowed myself to feel more proud of this achievement. Another thing I would say is to not be afraid to talk to people. I was nervous about being all alone at a huge event in a new country. I definitely missed out on some opportunities to talk to more people and make new friends.

KATIE KOEPL, COLLEGE OF WOOSTER

“Revisiting the Indigenous Character Daniel and Themes of Discrimination in *Even the Rain*”

My advice for next year's students is to discuss your work with your professors, advisors, or any other academic resource you have. Go to peer review sessions. Talk to people in your major(s) to see if they have any thoughts on your endeavors. It may seem tedious, but setting aside time to talk to my professor about how I could improve my essay (even after I had turned it in) really helped me out a lot when developing my argument and creating my final poster. And don't be afraid to reach out! That's what the professors are there for; they will always be happy to help.

BRITT CRANMER, SUNY FREDONIA

“Expressing Gender-neutral Identities in the Spanish Language Classroom”

My advice for next year's students is to not let the “conference” idea scare you! This was my first presentation at an academic conference, and I was unsure of what to expect. It was very conversational, and I enjoyed myself rather than being nervous by simply sharing my enthusiasm with the approaching audience members. Know that you have valuable contributions to our field that are waiting to be heard!

Another piece of advice I have for next year's students is to enter the conference with a goal in mind. My goal was to encourage educators to give inclusive language a space in their classrooms. I interacted with many Spanish educators at the conference and gave them specific ways that they could incorporate this gender-neutral language in instruction. I left the conference knowing that I succeeded in prompting educators to think about what gender-neutral language may look like in the classroom setting, and hoping that they try out the recommendations that I gave with their own students.



NEMLA 2024 CULTURAL & SOCIAL ACTIVITIES



POETRY: BOSTON POETRY SLAM

The Boston Poetry Slam's mission is to foster new voices in performance poetry, to drive the evolution of the genre, and to promote poetry to the widest and most diverse audience possible using the nurturing environment of the open mic, the appeal of compelling featured poets, and the competition of poetry slam.

Our flagship show is every Wednesday night at 8:00PM at the Cantab Lounge in Cambridge, MA. Find recaps of each show, the upcoming calendar, and archived poet history from 1991 to now at bostonpoetryslam.com.

- ▶ Thursday, March 7, at 8:30PM
- ▶ Friday, March 8, at 8:30PM
- ▶ Saturday, March 9, at 11:30AM

MUSIC: WITCH & WHISKEY

The Celtic duo Witch & Whiskey (Alexis Finet and Emily Pritchard) have played together since 2019, delighting audiences with their own twist on Irish, Scottish, and other Celtic music around the world. Trained at the Conservatoire National de Musique d'Orléans in France, Alexis Finet plays the traditional Irish wooden flute and whistles of all varieties, also studying under renowned Celtic flutists Kevin Crawford and John Skelton. Alexis has taught flute in France, Colombia, and in the US, and founded the Celtic band Méabh's Mavericks during his doctoral studies in North Florida. He is now based in Nashville, TN. Fiddler Emily Pritchard trained under United States Scottish fiddling champion Jane McMorran in Tennessee, and she completed a concert tour of Scotland in 2002 with the band Celtic Air. Emily still plays with the Meabh's Mavericks in Tallahassee, FL.

Saturday, March 9 @ 8:30PM | Reception Hall

DIVERSITY CAUCUS + AMERICAN/DIASPORA AREA SOCIAL EVENT

To provide an informal space for scholars of color to gather and support one another, the Diversity Caucus and the American/Diaspora Area are happy to be co-sponsoring a Coffee Hour at this year's NeMLA convention in Boston. Please join us on Thursday March 7, at 4:30 PM, at Jaho Coffee Roaster and Wine Bar (located at 116 Huntington Ave, around the corner from the conference hotel) for conversation, networking, and solidarity. Allies welcome, and coffee is on us. We look forward to seeing you there! Please contact Ann Marie Short if you have any questions: ashort@saintmarys.edu.

Thursday March 7 @ 4:30PM | Jaho Coffee Roaster and Wine Bar

GRADUATE STUDENT CAUCUS EVENTS

GSC Business Meeting

Agenda includes Caucus updates, by-law amendments and upcoming election, travel awards, and NeMLA 2025: Philadelphia session proposals.

Thursday March 7 @ 6:00PM-7:00PM | Clarendon A

GSC Brew-Ha-Ha Social

Join NeMLA's graduate students for a night of socializing and networking while enjoying drinks and light snacks!

Friday March 8 @ 7:30PM-onwards | location TBD

Workshop

Navigating the Humanities Careers Landscape
Chaired by Mai Hunt and Lydia Tang from the Modern Language Association.

Saturday March 9 @ 8:15-9:45 AM | Constitution Ballroom B

Roundtable

Preparation for the Profession: Sharing Information for Early Career Teaching | Speakers include Lindsay Bryde (SUNY Empire State College), Natalie Thompson (University of Virginia), Kathleen Ahrens (Hong Kong Polytechnic University), and Constanza Bartholomae (Bryant University).

Friday March 9 @ 1:15-2:45PM | Grand Liberty B

Room-and-Ride Share

Sponsored by the Graduate Student Caucus and the CAITY Caucus, the Room-and-Ride Share is running again this year. Please check the form and sign up if you are looking to get connected to other graduate students to share accommodations for the convention. <http://tiny.cc/nemla-gsc-costsharing>

CAITY CAUCUS

CAITY offers travel funding, for which the deadline to apply is January 13, 2024, as well as an Essay Award, for which applications are due January 6, 2024.

Business Meeting

Please consider running or nominating someone for one of CAITY's available posts: VP and Secretary. You may email nominations to us directly at bastet801@att.net or maria.plochocki@gmail.com. We will hold the election at our Business Meeting. In addition, we'll discuss eligibility for travel funding, specifically expanding it to include session chairs and those presenting on roundtables and creative sessions, who are, at least officially, not eligible at the moment. The agenda can include anything else that's on your minds, especially how CAITY can serve your needs best!

Thursday March 7 @ 6:00PM | Clarendon B



NEMLA 2024 WORKSHOPS

i INTERACTIVE WORKSHOPS

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 is 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.

THURSDAY, MARCH 7 | 12:00–2:00 PM

NO SURPLUS IN SUSTAINABILITY: ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE IN LATIN AMERICA

Viktoria Hackbarth & Azlin Perdomo, Boston University

This workshop promotes cultural awareness in language classrooms by examining Latin American artistic expressions concerned with environmental justice, showcasing a range of thought-provoking contemporary Latin American artists and activists. Attendees will walk away with concrete examples of how to use authentic materials involving different media arts in their L2 classrooms.

AFFECTIVE WRITING PEDAGOGIES WORKSHOP: USING ZINES

Irmak Ertuna Howison, Columbus College of Art and Design & Elif Sendur, Rutgers University-New Brunswick

In this workshop, participants will be working on developing affective and process-based writing pedagogies along with many colleagues. We will use zines to make annotated bibliographies, write research papers, and create visual writing. One of the goals of this project is to bridge the gap between students’ lived experiences through encountering everyday media and images and their academic writing while emphasizing the plasticity of writing itself. The results are impressive, and we will implement this pilot in larger writing and research classes.

DECOLONIZING PROGRAM OUTCOMES: A WORKSHOP FOR LANGUAGE INSTRUCTORS

Andrea Bryant, Independent Scholar & Suzuko Knott, Connecticut College

This interactive workshop aims to provide participants with the knowledge, tools, and strategies needed to critically transform the communities of learning they guide with core aspects such as inclusivity, confronting and addressing power imbalances, and diminishing inequities for minoritized, oppressed, and marginalized individuals in the learning environment. Throughout the workshop, we will engage in an ongoing discussion related to these themes as these relate to decolonial teaching methodologies and approaches. We will further this discussion by inviting a space to co-imagine how those colonial legacies and biases underpinning the languages we teach continually influence curricula and canons alike. We end by exploring how we can dismantle these structures and further our joint aim of ensuring traditionally marginalized learners have a sense of belonging.

SATURDAY, MARCH 9 | 8:15–9:45 AM

NAVIGATING THE HUMANITIES CAREERS LANDSCAPE: A GRADUATE STUDENT WORKSHOP (GSC SPONSORED)

Mai Hunt & Lydia Tang, Modern Language Association

In this interactive workshop, graduate students will explore resources and strategies for navigating the job market, both academic and beyond. Topics include MLA resources for grad students, job market data, guidance on preparing application materials, implementing transferable skills from graduate training, identifying mentors, and more. This workshop builds upon a suite of resources from MLA Academic Program Services and Professional Development.

SUNDAY, MARCH 10 | 8:15–10:15 AM

STUDENT-CENTERED DISCUSSIONS USING SOCRATIC CIRCLES

Derek DiMatteo, Gannon University

Socratic Circles are a student-centered, text-based discussion activity suitable for both literature and language classrooms. The two main benefits of Socratic Circles are increasing student participation in class discussions and helping students to reach a deeper understanding of a text that they have read. Workshop participants will: 1. Learn all steps of the Socratic Circle protocol through a mixture of direct instruction and active participation; 2. Learn how Socratic Circles can integrate into a sequence of reading, analysis, and writing about the ideas in a text; 3. Receive materials to implement this activity.

TASK-BASED LANGUAGE TEACHING (TBLT): THE MACRO- THE MICRO- AND EVERYTHING IN BETWEEN

Emilia Illana Mahiques, Cornell University & Juan Escalona Torres, Tufts University

This workshop provides an overview of the foundations of TBLT and demonstrates how a successful implementation of Tasks requires thoughtful consideration of both macro- and micro-decisions at the various stages of syllabus design. Through a series of hands-on exercises in lesson planning, materials creation, and language assessment, attendees will experience first-hand the components involved in implementing the TBLT framework.

SUNDAY, MARCH 10 | 10:30 AM–12:15 PM

DIGITAL STORYTELLING IN FOREIGN LANGUAGE CURRICULA: THE WHY AND THE HOW

Kessi Kuhn, Georgetown University

This workshop for foreign language instructors presents how to integrate dissertation projects about narratives in the digital storytelling format into existing curricula. It includes best practices for curricular considerations (level, topic, materials), an outline of the instructional sequence and lesson plans, and assessment rubrics. Workshop participants will have an opportunity to get started on the basics of their own DS assignment.



INTERACTIVE WORKSHOPS *continued*

SUNDAY, MARCH 10 | 10:30 AM – 12:15 PM

TEACHING LANGUAGES IN THE AGE OF AI: A PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP FOR EDUCATORS

Philip Noonan, Boston University

In this hands-on workshop, participants will be introduced to several popular AI chatbots and AI image generators, while also learning practical strategies for working with them in the language classroom. The workshop will provide training for how to generate desired AI content through the careful selection of prompts and a small-group brainstorming session geared toward helping participants take the first steps toward creating their own AI-based activities. Although the workshop will focus on the use of AI in the language classroom, educators of all disciplines are encouraged to attend as the training provided will be applicable to all areas of focus.



Boston Poetry Slam: Slam poet in action.

NEMLA READS TOGETHER

The 55th Annual Convention’s common read will feature Tiphonie Yanique’s novel *Land of Love and Drowning*, which members are encouraged to read in preparation for Yanique’s keynote address. Please submit any questions you would like to ask the author to support@nemla.org or ask them in person.



Set in the years from 1916 to the 1970s, *Land of Love and Drowning* is a magical realist novel that chronicles two parallel transformations: that of the Danish West Indies as it is sold and becomes the U.S. Virgin Islands, and that of three generations of the Bradshaw family on the island of St. Thomas. In particular, the novel’s

action orbits around patriarch Owen Arthur Bradshaw’s two daughters, Eeona and Anette.

The novel is full of rich cultural and political resonances, from the sinking of the real-life ship the *Fancy Me* to references to Lord Invader’s song “Rum and Coca-Cola,” which lend themselves to interpretation, alongside the incestuous relationship between Owen and Eeona. As critic Amy Gentry observes, “It’s tempting to read the Bradshaws’ father-daughter incest as a symbol of America’s patriarchal and despoiling relationship with its bewitchingly beautiful virgin territories—certainly the term ‘insular possession,’ still used to describe such territories, is creepily suggestive.” The novel also explores how the islanders navigate their own shifting subjectivity as citizens of a U.S. territory at a time when the island had no TVs, few radios, and seemed far removed from the Civil Rights movement roiling the USA.

Imbued into this novel are the folktales and elements of family history that Tiphonie Yanique grew up with, having herself been raised on the island of St. Thomas, and her family having lived on the Virgin Islands for generations. For example, inclusion of the ship the *Fancy Me* sinking, while

an event affecting almost every Virgin Islander in some fashion, has particular significance to Yanique because her great-grandfather was the ship’s captain.

ACCOLADES

Land of Love and Drowning is the winner of the 2014 Flaherty-Dunnaw First Novel Award from the Center for Fiction, the Phillis Wheatley Award for Pan-African Literature, and the American Academy of Arts and Letters Rosenthal Family Foundation Award. *Land of Love and Drowning* was also a finalist for the Orion Award in Environmental Literature and the Hurston-Wright Legacy Award.



FRANCO-GERMAN ECOCRITICISM

AN INTRODUCTION

Alwin Franke & Yohann C. Ripert
Stetson University

There is something counterintuitive about the use of nationalist adjectives in ecocriticism—a field whose objects of study transcend national borders. To build a Franco-German ecocriticism course as a challenge to the anglophone dominance in ecocritical scholarship, however, invites a cross-linguistic “international turn” that opens a twofold opportunity: to go beyond ecocritical texts taught in English and American Studies departments and to supplement French and German literature with Francophone and Germanophone aesthetics challenging Eurocentric biases.

In French literary history, Rousseau’s nostalgic depictions of an imagined state of nature resonates with Négritude’s nostalgic poeticizing of a pre-colonial African communion with nature, yet they both reveal an ecological imagination framed by a political “return” to an origin as fictional in postcolonial writing as it is in environmental policy. And while Derrida deconstructs the Eurocentric dichotomy between nature and culture crucial to Lévi-Strauss’s analysis of alterity, the Caribbean ecology that Aimé Césaire’s and Suzanne Césaire’s attempt to poeticize in *Tropiques* challenges—and is challenged by—a legacy of a colonial politics of naming (plants, fruits, mountains, seas, etc.) that impedes the construction of an indigenous environmental critique.

In the German tradition, ecological thought is inextricably tied to the legacy of Romanticism as both a product of and reaction to modernization. From Kant’s attempt at theorizing organic life in the third critique to Alexander von Humboldt’s efforts to imagine human relations to nature in cosmological terms, the emerging ecological paradigm is not only a resource for Europe’s auto-critique but is also entangled with colonial imaginaries. Jakob von Uexküll’s re-imagination of nature as a world of symbolic



Woman Walking in an Exotic Forest (Femme se promenant dans une forêt exotique) (1905) by Henri Rousseau

exchanges—*Umwelt*—and its reception by thinkers from Heidegger to Deleuze carries this tradition into the 20th century.

More recently, the encounter between the Marxist tradition and ecocriticism in both French and German literature has allowed for criticizing the potentially ideological function of ecological discourses through notions like agency, network, or cosmology, concepts that tend to obscure asymmetrical economic relations of exploitation and domination. The “international turn” in ecocriticism thus also harbors the potential of a critical re-evaluation of its conceptual arsenal, supplementing the new focus on environmental thought with the critical vocabulary of Marxist thought.

Alwin Franke is Assistant Professor of German in the Department of World Languages and Cultures at Stetson University.

Yohann C. Ripert is Assistant Professor of French and Francophone Studies in the Department of World Languages and Cultures as well as a Faculty in the Honors Program at Stetson University.

NEMLA AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS

NEMLA SPONSORS SEVERAL AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS to promote new scholarship in modern languages and literatures. NEMLA membership is required to be eligible. In addition, paper competitions sponsored by the Caucuses recognize quality research by our constituents.

ANNUAL BOOK AWARDS

The NEMLA Book Awards include two annual awards, one for the best unpublished book-length manuscript on any of NEMLA's focal literatures, languages, media, or cultures and a second for the best unpublished book of fiction. The prizes include a \$500 cash prize and NEMLA's assistance with contacting presses about the publication of their manuscripts (at the winners' discretion).

Submission deadline is October 15, 2024.

CAUCUS ESSAY AWARDS

Essays should be between 6,000 and 9,000 words. Submissions should be unpublished manuscripts revised and expanded from original papers presented at previous NEMLA convention(s). Submissions should be written in or translated into English. Each Caucus Essay Award winner will be awarded a \$100 prize awarded at the membership brunch, and winning essays will automatically be considered for publication by *Modern Language Studies*. All essays are subject to *MLS's* double-blind review.

CAITY Caucus Essay Award

NEMLA awards an annual prize for the best essay developed from a paper presented by contingent faculty, adjunct instructors, independent scholars, and two-year college faculty members. The competition is limited to papers presented by CAITY members at a session during the previous NEMLA convention.

Submission deadline is January 6, 2024.

Graduate Student Caucus Essay Award

NEMLA awards an annual prize to the best graduate student paper presented at any of the previous three convention's sessions. This Essay Award is open to any participant who was a graduate student when they presented.

Submission deadline is January 15, 2024.

Postcolonial Studies Essay Award

NEMLA is proud to sponsor a special essay prize, awarded by the Diversity Caucus, for a revised paper in *Postcolonial Studies* presented at one of the previous two NEMLA Conventions.

Submission deadline is December 15, 2024.

Women's & Gender Studies Essay Award

The NEMLA WGSC 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. This essay may not be submitted to another contest for the duration of the award's deliberation. Essays must be submitted in English.

Submission deadline is January 15, 2024.

FELLOWSHIPS

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.

NEMLA PUBLICATIONS

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

MODERN LANGUAGE STUDIES



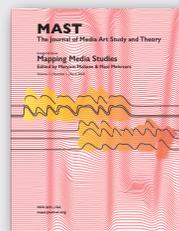
Modern Language Studies is a peer-reviewed journal representing the wide-ranging critical and creative interests of NEMLA members. We publish scholarship, interviews, fiction and poetry, reviews, and commentary on teaching, research, and writing in all areas of English, American, comparative studies,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



2023 NEMLA AWARD & FELLOWSHIP WINNERS

2023 ANNUAL BOOK AWARD WINNERS

Annual Book Award in Scholarship

Alison Cotti-Lowell, New England Conservatory, *Home and Away: Romantic British Citizenship and the Transatlantic World*

Annual Book Award in Fiction

Catey Christiansen, North Carolina State University, *Dead Name Anthology*

Honorable Mention: **Annika Nerf**, SUNY University at Albany, *Ships in the Night*

2023 CAUCUS ESSAY AWARD WINNERS

CAITY Essay Award

Megan Crognale, Fairfield University, "Narrating the Nation: Language and the Landscape of Time in Scego's *Adua*"

Graduate Student Caucus Essay Award

Kaitlin Moore, University of Wisconsin-Madison, "I'm traversing my own death throes: Haunting the Queer Spacetime(s) of Dear Esther"

Postcolonial Studies Essay Award

Sayanti Mondal, Illinois State University, "The Gaze of the Margin: Agency, Identity, and the Postcolonial Storyteller"

Women's and Gender Studies Essay Award

Callie Ingram, University at Buffalo, "Writing against Encounter: Jennifer Egan on New Sincerity and Gendered Violence"

2023 FELLOWSHIP WINNERS

Summer Fellowships

Edurne Beltran de Heredia Carmona, Coastal Carolina University, "Critical Edition of Feminist Voices in Iberian Spanish Subculture: Women Voices in Fanzines"

Noëlle Brown, Kennesaw State University, "Reimagining Marie Bashkirtseff"

YuHao Chen, University of Pittsburgh, "Fleshing Out Chinese Sounds"

Monserrat García Rodenas, Georgetown University, "Audiovisual Geography of the Ruination of the National Landscape in the 20th Century"

Teresa Gilliams, Albright College, "Reading, Preserving and Mobilizing Black Texts: Black Feminist Approaches to Teaching the Harlem Renaissance"

Giampaolo Molisina, University of Wisconsin-Madison, "Rome and the Poetics of Time: History, Meta-History, and Neo-History in the Cinematic City"

Amanda Stuckey, Central Penn College, "Nineteenth-century Networks of Printing for Blind/Low-Vision Readers"

Matthew Zundel, New York University, "Towards a Gay Communism"

UB Special Collections Fellowship

Orchid Tierney, Kenyon College

2023–2024 Graduate Fellows

Brooke Bastie is a PhD candidate in English at the University of Buffalo.

Marietta Fernández López is a PhD candidate in the Spanish Language and Literature program at the University at Buffalo.

Jessica Lowell Mason is a Ph.D. candidate and teaching assistant in the Global Gender and Sexuality Studies Department at the University at Buffalo.

Casey O'Reilly is a Ph.D student in the English program at Tufts University.

Sam King-Shaw is a PhD student and teaching assistant in the Department of Global Gender and Sexuality Studies at the University at Buffalo.

Marie Dufay-Verbie comes from Paris, France. She is a 4th year PhD candidate in French and Francophone Studies at the University at Buffalo.

Gillian Wood is a Ph.D student in the English program at Tufts University.

2023 UNDERGRADUATE FORUM WINNERS

Do Quyen Pho & Ha Vy Do Nguyen, Fulbright University Vietnam, "'The Vacant Chair' in Vietnam: Resilience, Silence, and Silence in Postwar Context"

Britt Cranmer, SUNY Fredonia, "Expressing Gender-neutral Identities in the Spanish Language Classroom"

Claire Waldrop, Ohio University, "The Horrors of a Patriarchy: The Final Girl Trope and the 'Finnsburg Episode'"

Jamie Aciukewicz, University of Massachusetts Lowell, "Resilience in the Hispanic Immigrant Community of Lowell, Massachusetts"

Madeline Crosby, Buffalo State University, "The Potential of Feminist Metaphysics for Trans Futures: Analysis Through Creative Non-Fiction"

Kyra Krzywicki, University of Scranton, "Taylor Swift's Lyrics: Catalyst for Adolescent Girlhood in America"

Julianna Caskie & Connie Ulm, Lehigh University, "Creating Resilient Intergenerational Political Communities Through Regional LGBTQ+ History"

Yuheng Deng, Haverford College, "Resilience through Trauma: Word and Image in Republican Era Propaganda Broadsheets in 1927"

Marissa Traglia, Susquehanna University, "Consumption and Capitalism Within Women's Bodies in Short Stories Written by Latin American Women"

Martin Zwergel, College of Wooster, "Empathy in Practice: A Comparative Analysis of Audience Implication in *STAMPED* and *Even the Rain*"

Hannah Krull, University at Buffalo, "Queered Appalachia: Rural Working Women and the Embodied Landscape"

Sophia Ross, St. John Fisher College, "'Girl Crimes' Are Resilience and Rage: Zines as Modern Tools for Social and Political Action"

Zanaya Hussain, University at Buffalo, "Female Factory Workers and the Push for a New Wave of Feminism in China"

Aoife Clune, Buffalo State University, "The Prevalence of Book Bannings and How They Threaten Students' Free Expression"

Julia Platt, Ohio University, "Life Outside the Boundaries: The Resilience of Patriarchy Through Language"

Victoria Canales, University of Texas at Austin, "'Sick With Rot': Memory, Control, and Haunted Houses in *Wuthering Heights* and *Mexican Gothic*"

Hawa Saleh, Canisius University, "Oh the Melodrama!: Melodrama in Crane's *Maggie* and Yeziarska's *Children of Loneliness*"

Katie Koeppel, College of Wooster, "Revisiting the Indigenous Character Daniel and Themes of Discrimination in *Even the Rain*"

Billie McClosky, St. Lawrence University, "Understanding the Iranian Women's Movement: Mobilization and Advocacy for Gender Reform"

Xiomara Jean-Louis, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, "The Haitian Crisis: Resilient Theologies and Applications of Postcolonial Thought"

Ayesha Jilani, Forman Christian College, "Capitalist Metaphors in *Parasite*"

October Heffner, Lake Forest College, "Analyzing Romantic Comedies from an Intersectional Feminist Lens"

Le Nguyen, Fulbright University Vietnam, "Cinematic Language in Thi Bui's *The Best We Could Do* and *Nhà Ca's The Mourning Headband for Hue*"

Andrea Tapia, St. John Fisher College, "The Rules of Writing: How the Standardization of Linguistic Expression Defined Black Feminism"



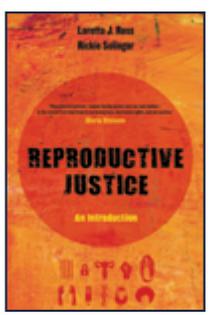
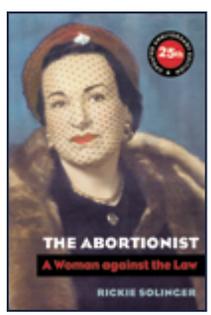
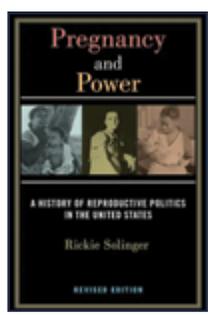
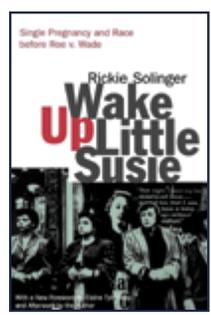
THURSDAY MARCH 7 @ 7:00 PM • LIBERTY BALLROOM, BOSTON SHERATON

Rickie Solinger

Professor Rickie Solinger is a historian writing about reproductive politics. She is the founder and Senior Editor of the University of California Press book series, *Reproductive Justice: A New Vision for the Twenty-First Century*. She is also a curator, working with artists, organizing exhibitions about reproductive politics and satellite topics. These exhibitions have traveled to over 150 college and university galleries, aiming to interrupt the curriculum.

Solinger is the author or editor of a dozen books, including *Wake Up Little Susie: Single Pregnancy and Race before Roe v Wade* (1992, 2000); *Pregnancy and Power: A History of Reproductive Politics in the United States* (2007, 2019); *The Abortionist: A Woman Against the Law* (1994, 2019), and, with Loretta Ross, *Reproductive Justice: An Introduction* (2017).

In her Opening Address, Rickie Solinger will talk about why *Roe v. Wade* was “never enough” to underwrite reproductive dignity and safety or to guarantee what we can call “reproductive citizenship.” She will lay out the core ideas of *Reproductive Justice* and make a case for RJ’s particular relevancy as a framework for both historical analysis and contemporary activism. Solinger will also consider how the *Dobbs* decision constitutes a brutal effort to re-essentialize gender, race, and class in a white supremacist polity.

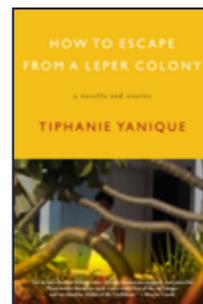
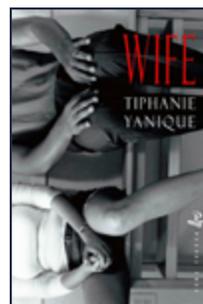
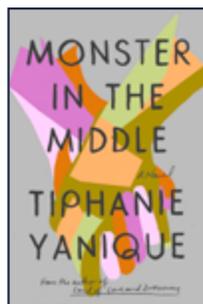
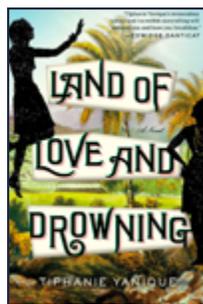


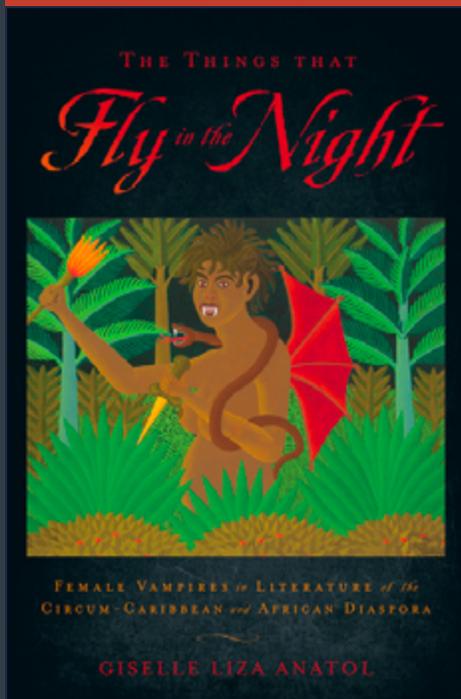


FRIDAY MARCH 8 @ 7:00 PM • LIBERTY BALLROOM, BOSTON SHERATON

Tiphonie Yanique

Tiphonie Yanique is that rare writer who has received critical acclaim and awards in three literary genres: poetry, the novel, and short stories. She is an outspoken activist on behalf of the Caribbean Diaspora, having appeared on *Democracy Now!* with Amy Goodman, and published a passionate op-ed in *The New York Times* on the US response to hurricanes in the Caribbean. *Vulture* praised her as “one of the most inventive and talented stylists of her generation.” Her poetry collection *Wife* (2015) won the 2016 Bocas Prize in Caribbean poetry and the 2016 Forward/Felix Dennis Prize for a First Collection. Her debut novel *Land of Love and Drowning* (2014)—the focus of our annual *NemLA Reads Together* initiative—won the 2014 Flaherty-Dunnán First Novel Award from the Center for Fiction, the Phillis Wheatley Award for Pan-African Literature, and the American Academy of Arts and Letters Rosenthal Family Foundation Award, among other honors. She has been awarded the Boston Review Prize in Fiction, a Rona Jaffe Foundation Writers Award, a Pushcart Prize, a Fulbright Scholarship and an Academy of American Poet’s Prize. Her second novel, *Monster in the Middle*, was published in October 2021 to wide acclaim. Originally from the Virgin Islands, she now lives in Atlanta, where she is a professor at Emory University. Visit her web site at <https://www.tiphonieyanique.com>.





SATURDAY MARCH 9 @ 11:45 AM • GRAND LIBERTY BALLROOM, BOSTON SHERATON

Giselle Anatol

Medical ‘Monstrosities’: Black Female Vampires in Recent African Diaspora Fiction

In *The Things That Fly in the Night: Female Vampires in Literature of the Circum-Caribbean and African Diaspora* (2015), Anatol took up the skin-shedding, bloodsucking soucouyant figure of Trinidadian folklore and other incarnations of Black female vampires in adult fiction to explore how conventional narratives reveal social anxieties about women’s mobility and sexual agency, and condition listeners to strive for/expect female contentment with family care-taking and staying “grounded” in the domestic space.

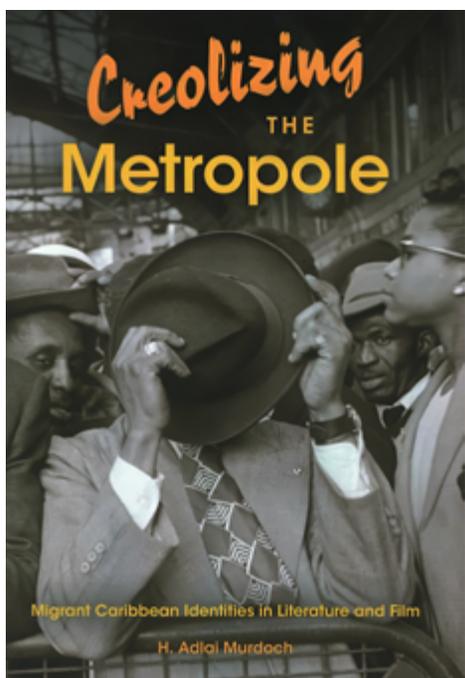
In this talk, Anatol considers several new examples in literature of the African diaspora, such as Maisy Card’s *These Ghosts are Family*, Sherri L. Smith’s dystopian novel *Orleans*, Eden Royce’s historical novel *Root Magic*, and Tiffany D. Jackson’s horror story *White Smoke*. Analyzing how each employs the figure of the skin-shedding “boo-hag” or predator who drains the blood of the community, Anatol questions how successfully these stories challenge readers to look beyond traditional touchstones of monstrosity, health, and horror.



SATURDAY MARCH 9 @ 7:00 PM • LIBERTY BALLROOM, BOSTON SHERATON

H. Adlai Murdoch

Race, Resistance, and the Formation of Subjectivity in the Black French Caribbean



Each and every inhabited territory in the Americas—including, or especially, the islands of the Caribbean—made subject to European colonization was originally peopled and subsequently re-peopled by groups ethnically, culturally and linguistically different from the European colonizer. With such difference came assumptions of the inferiority of the Other that undergirded the systems of classification and exploitation by and through which capitalism and slavery co-existed in a relationship of mutual dependency. Professor Murdoch's talk will discuss how this elicited the liberatory acts, political strategies and ethnocultural theories that came to define the Black French Caribbean, acts which would posit identity, in Stuart Hall's words, as a "production," never complete, always

in process and constituted within, not outside, representation.

H. Adlai Murdoch is Professor and Head of the Department of French and Francophone Studies at Penn State University. He is the author of *Creole Identity in the French Caribbean Novel*, and of *Creolizing the Metropole: Migratory Metropolitan Caribbean Identities in Literature and Film*. He has co-edited multiple essay collections and journal issues. He is currently completing a manuscript entitled *Seizing Black Diasporic Subjectivity in the French Caribbean: From the Haitian Revolution to the French Antilles in 2009*, on issues of revolution, diaspora, and agency.



SATURDAY MARCH 9 @ 7:00 PM • CONSTITUTION BALLROOM B, BOSTON SHERATON

Alberto Blanco

Song and Flight: A Reading

Song and Flight, a triple poetic reflection associated with the three questions that Paul Gauguin posed in his masterpiece, “Where do we come from, What are we, Where are we going?” Writing verses with music alone is not enough; both a visual component—the image—as well as the inner need to say something are necessary. Poetry is half music, half image, and half poetry.

Alberto Blanco is a Mexican poet, translator, essayist, and visual artist. He is the author of over 30 books of poetry, including *Giros de faros* (1979), *Dawn of the Senses: Selected Poems* (1995), and *Afterglow/Tras el rayo* (2011). He has also published translations, essay collections on visual art, and children’s books. Blanco’s work explores the boundaries between aesthetic forms and genres, languages, and verbal and visual registers. His poetry has been translated into over 20 languages.



SATURDAY MARCH 9 @ 7:00 PM • BACK BAY BALLROOM A, BOSTON SHERATON

Ela Gezen

Cultures of/in Migration: Turkish Artists in West Berlin

Turkish artists, intellectuals, and academics founded numerous associations in West Berlin throughout the 1970s and '80s to establish institutional settings for cultural activities. Central objectives were the promotion of Turkish culture beyond folklorization, the formulation of common interests, and the facilitation of collaborations. This talk will focus on multi-genre exhibits co-organized by the Turkish Association of Academics and Artists, which will be discussed as a key part of the formation of a Turkish public sphere in West Berlin. In addition to reading these as a current within broader efforts to represent Turkish culture as multi-layered and as essential to public-political debates on integration, this talk will also address how we may relate cultural activities in the early phase of Turkish migration to cultural practices and interventions today.

Ela Gezen is an Associate Professor of German at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. Her research and teaching focus on 20th- and 21st-century German literature and culture, with emphases on literatures of migration, minority discourses, and transnationalism. Her first book *Brecht, Turkish Theater, and Turkish-German Literature* studies the significance of Bertolt Brecht for Turkish and Turkish German literature. Currently, she is working on her second book, *Cultures in Migration*, which examines cultural practices by Turkish artists throughout the 1970s.



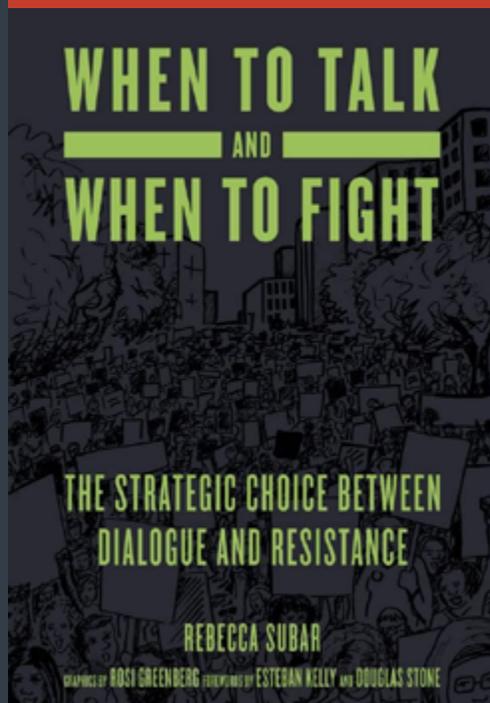
SATURDAY MARCH 9 @ 7:00 PM • BACK BAY BALLROOM B, BOSTON SHERATON

David Ward

The Other Sides of History: The Whys and Wherefores of Contemporary Italian Speculative Fiction

Focusing on the alternative history genre, the talk will offer a panorama of contemporary Italian speculative fiction. In addition, Ward will examine the underlying premises of speculative fiction, its effects on its readers, and how the genre casts doubt on the known historical record by underscoring its contingency and questioning its teleology.

David Ward is Emeritus Professor of Italian Studies at Wellesley College. He is the author of five books, four in English, one in Italian and has coedited a collection of essays. In addition, he has published numerous articles in national and international peer-reviewed journals. He is the co-editor for reviews for the *Journal of Modern Italian Studies*.



SATURDAY MARCH 9 @ 10:00 AM • CONSTITUTION BALLROOM B, BOSTON SHERATON

Rebecca Subar

When to Talk and When to Fight: The Strategic Choice Between Dialogue and Resistance

Subar will discuss their book *When to Talk and When to Fight: The Strategic Choice between Dialogue and Resistance* (2021). A conversation between talkers and fighters, it introduces a new language to enable negotiators and activists to argue and collaborate across different schools of thought and action. Weaving storytelling and analysis, the book maps the habits of changemakers, explaining why some groups choose dialogue and negotiation while others practice confrontation and resistance. Why do some groups seemingly always take an antagonistic approach, challenging authority and in some cases trying to tear down our systems and institutions? Why are other groups reluctant to raise their voices or take a stand, limiting themselves to conciliatory strategies? And why do some of us ask only the first question, while others ask only the second?

Rebecca Subar is a strategist and practitioner at Dragonfly Partners, where they support leaders at all levels of organizational life to make strategic and relationship choices with integrity in a racist world. They have given advice and support to political actors and activists on change, challenge and conflict for over thirty years, with attention to power relations and human relationships at the center of their work.



BOSTON MUSEUMS & ART CENTERS



Rhododendrites, [CC BY-SA 4.0](#), via Wikimedia Commons

MUSEUM OF AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY

The Museum of African American History is New England's largest museum dedicated to the contributions of African Americans, and preserves historic sites and Black Heritage Trails that tell the story of Black communities from the Colonial Period through the 19th century. Exhibits showcase the stories of Black families who debated the issues of the day, produced great art, organized and advanced the cause of freedom.

www.MAAH.org | 46 Joy St | 617 725 0022



Image: Carol Blyberg, [CC BY-NC 2](#), via Flickr

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

The fifth largest in the United States, this museum contains more than 450,000 works of art. Highlights include 18th- and 19th-century American art, Native American work, British illustrated books, & prints, Chinese paintings & calligraphy, Dutch Golden Age paintings, Egyptian artifacts, French impressionist & post-impressionist works, and the largest museum collection of Japanese works outside Japan.

MFA.org | 465 Huntington Ave | 617 267 9300

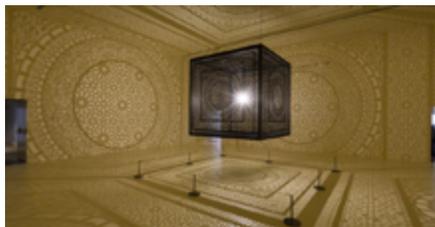


Image: Carol Blyberg, [CC BY-NC 2](#), via Flickr

PEABODY ESSEX MUSEUM

More than 200 years old, this museum celebrates outstanding artistic and cultural creativity by collecting and interpreting objects of art and culture from around the world in ways that increase knowledge, engage the mind, and stimulate the senses. It presents the earliest collections of Native American & Oceanic art in the US, as well as historic houses and gardens and one of the United States' major museums for Asian art.

PEM.org | 161 Essex Street, Salem | 866 745 1876



Image: Daderot, [CCO](#), via Wikimedia Commons

HARVARD ART MUSEUMS

A short walk from the heart of Harvard Square, the Harvard Art Museums include three comprehensive collections of works. The Busch-Reisinger Museum features German expressionism pieces, Bauhaus memorabilia, and a working pipe organ. The Fogg Museum includes Western prints, plasters, and drawings. The Arthur M. Sackler Museum features Asian, Islamic, and Indian art.

HarvardArtMuseums.org | 32 Quincy St, Cambridge | 617 495 9400



Image: z0rc, [CCO](#), via Flickr

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE

The Museum of Science is committed to deepening the public's relationship with science and technology by leading efforts throughout the United States and abroad, in both formal and informal educational arenas, to redefine the roles that science centers can play. Features include a planetarium, IMAX theater, butterfly garden, 360-degree dynamic simulators, and the 65-million-year-old fossil, Triceratops Cliff.

MOS.org | 1 Science Park | 617 723 2500



Image: le Liz, [CC BY-NC-SA 2](#), via Flickr

ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER MUSEUM

Originally the home of its namesake, this museum features significant examples of European, Asian, and American art, infamous for the 13 works stolen from its collection. Other activities include the concert series and the interior courtyard. Fun discount opportunities available for people named Isabella, visitors on their birthday, and anyone wearing Red Sox paraphernalia.

GardnerMuseum.org | 25 Evans Way | 617 566 1401



Image: Bill Damon, [CC BY 2.0](#), via Wikimedia Commons

INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ART

The ICA's building features a dramatic folding ribbon form and a cantilever that extends to the water's edge. The design weaves together interior and exterior space, producing shifting perspectives of the waterfront throughout the museum's galleries and public spaces. The ICA showcases 20th- and 21st-century art in every imaginable medium, including film and video, music, literature, and dance.

ICABoston.org | 25 Harbor Shore Dr. | 617 478 3100



Image: Mass Office Of Travel & Tourism, [CC BY-ND 2](#), via Wikimedia Commons

HARVARD MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

Harvard's natural history museum is home to one of the United States' oldest, most diverse menageries of stuffed animal specimens, as well as impressive collections of moon rocks and dinosaur bones to check out too. The museum also includes an exhibit of lifelike glass flowers.

HMNH.harvard.edu | 26 Oxford St, Cambridge | 617 495 3045



BOSTON LIBRARIES

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Boston Public Library offers daily tours highlighting the architecture of its famed National Landmark building by Charles Follen McKim as well as art treasures by Daniel Chester French and John Singer Sargent. Free one-hour tours are offered to the public by trained volunteer guides.

Tiny.cc/nemla-bpl | 700 Boylston St. | 617 536 5400

BOSTON UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

The University Libraries' collections contain more than 2.4 million physical volumes, 45,000 current unique serials titles, and 77,000 media titles. The African Studies Library is one of the premiere African research libraries in the country.

BU.edu/library | Boston University

HARVARD UNIVERSITY HOUGHTON LIBRARY

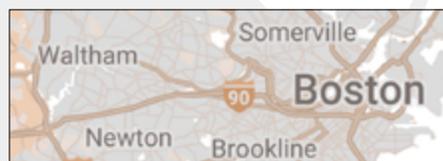
The collections of the Houghton Library encompass wonderfully diverse holdings such as ostraca, daguerreotypes, and the working papers of living novelists and poets. Houghton Library regularly exhibits highlights from its collections in the Edison and Newman Room. These often include the personal effects, notes, books, and other objects of interest from authors such as Emily Dickinson, John Keats, Dante, Tennessee Williams, Goethe, Cervantes, and Lewis Carroll.

Library.harvard.edu | Harvard St, Cambridge | 617 495 2440

MARY BAKER EDDY LIBRARY

Plan a tour of this world-famous, three-story, stained-glass globe—one of the key attractions at the Mary Baker Eddy Library. The Mapparium's three-dimensional perspective of the world of 1935 is enhanced by *A World of Ideas*, an original presentation that features a rich orchestration of words, music, and LED lights to illustrate how ideas have traversed time and geography and changed the world.

MaryBakerEddyLibrary.org | 200 Mass Ave | 617 450 7000



NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY SNELL LIBRARY

The Northeastern University Library includes almost a half million printed books and numerous archives documenting the history of Boston. It is a member of the Boston Library Consortium, a group of research libraries in the Greater Boston area.

Library.northeastern.edu | 360 Huntington Ave. | 617 373 8778

JOHN F. KENNEDY PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY & MUSEUM

The John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum is dedicated to the memory of the 35th United States President. Located on a ten-acre park, overlooking the sea and the city that launched him to greatness, the Library is a tribute to the life and times of Kennedy.

JFKlibrary.org | Columbia Pt. | 1 866 535 1960

BOSTON OUTSIDE

BOSTON HARBOR & WHALE WATCHING CRUISES

Learn about the history of the Boston waterfront. The Stellwagen Bank Marine Sanctuary is a rich feeding ground for whales, dolphins, sea birds, and other marine creatures. New England Aquarium naturalists are always on board to share knowledge, answer your questions and explain the mind-blowing behaviors of these truly magnificent mammals.

BostonHarborCruises.com | 1 Long Wharf | 1+877 733 9425

BOSTON PUBLIC GARDEN

The first public botanical garden in America, this English landscape-style garden features a pond, seasonal plantings, and numerous statues, including the 1869 Equestrian Statue of George Washington.

Tiny.cc/nemla-garden | 4 Charles Street | 617 635 4505

CHARLES RIVER ESPLANADE

This Back Bay state park is a Boston Landmark, offering scenic walks and photographic opportunities looking over the Charles River.

Esplanade.org

KELLEHER ROSE GARDEN

Conveniently located around major Boston universities and colleges, the Back Bay Fens is a picturesque park that includes the Parker Victory Gardens, the Roberto Clemente Monument, and the Kelleher Rose Garden.

EmeraldNecklace.org | 73 Park Dr | 617 522 2700

ROSE FITZGERALD KENNEDY GREENWAY

The Greenway is the contemporary public park in the heart of Boston supported by the non-profit Greenway Conservancy. The Greenway includes seven water features and a new carousel with characters—cod, lobster and more—inspired by the drawings of Boston school children. The Conservancy partners with cultural institutions and non-profit organizations to create events geared toward multi-generational and multicultural audiences.

RoseKennedyGreenway.org | 185 Kneeland St. | 617 292 0020

BOSTON HISTORY

AFRICAN MEETING HOUSE AND ABIEL SMITH SCHOOL

Built in the early 1800s, these are two of the Museum of African American History's most valuable assets. Located in what once was the heart of Boston's African American community, these buildings remain a showcase of black community organization and enduring testimony to black craftsmanship. The African Meeting House, a National Historic Landmark, was the site of the first African Baptist Church of Boston and is now the oldest extant black church building in America. The Abiel Smith School, the nation's first public school for African American children, currently houses a first-class exhibit space.

maah.org/boston-location | 6 Joy St | 617 720 0753

BOSTON TEA PARTY SHIPS & MUSEUM

Tracing Boston's colonial history, this museum features exhibits, group tours, Abigail's Tea Room-- as well as the only known surviving tea chest from the Boston Tea Party and the chance to dump tea yourself into the sea.

BostonTeaPartyShip.com | 306 Congress St | 866 955 0667



BOSTON TROLLEY TOURS

For more than 30 years, Old Town Trolley has provided Boston sightseeing tours highlighting the best of the city. Friendly conductors provide fascinating trivia and humorous local stories.

A tour includes free admission to the Old State House Museum, the Dreamland Wax Museum, and discounts to other museums and Boston sites.

TrolleyTours.com/boston

BOSTON WOMEN'S HERITAGE TRAIL

This historic trek takes visitors through fascinating slices and stories from Boston's illustrious past, highlighting the work of women, from household names like Abigail Adams, Phillis Wheatley, Amelia Earhart, Louisa May Alcott, and Rose Kennedy, to less-familiar leaders like Chew Shee Chin, Julia O'Connor, Clementine Langone, and Melnea Cass. Self-guided and private tours available.

Bwht.org | Walk Through Centuries of Women's History

FREEDOM TRAIL

Experience Boston's iconic 2.5-mile red line leading to 16 nationally significant historic sites. Preserved and dedicated by the citizens of Boston in 1951, the Freedom Trail is a unique collection of museums, churches, meeting houses, burying grounds, parks, a ship, and historic markers that tell the story of the American Revolution and beyond. Today the Freedom Trail is a world-renowned, signature tourist experience attracting over 4 million people annually to visit Boston's precious 17th-, 18th-, and 19th-century sites. Stops include the Bunker Hill Monument and Museum; the USS Constitution, the oldest commissioned naval vessel still afloat; Faneuil Hall, part of Boston National Historic Park, site of several speeches by Samuel Adams and others leading up to the American Revolution; and Quincy Market, a popular food and retail complex.

TheFreedomTrail.org | 617 357 8300

2024 EXHIBITORS & ADVERTISERS

- » [Amherst College Press](#)
- » [Haymarket Books](#)
- » [Lexington Books](#)
- » [McPherson & Company](#)
- » [The New Press](#)
- » [PM Press](#)
- » [Rowman & Littlefield](#)
- » [Scholars Choice](#)
- » [Universitas Press](#)
- » [Verso Books](#)
- » [W. W. Norton & Co](#)



BOSTON CHILDREN'S MUSEUM

The second oldest and one of the largest children's museums in the world, its exhibits and programs emphasize hands-on engagement and learning through experience, employing play as a tool to spark the inherent creativity, curiosity, and imagination of children. The Museum's collections and exhibits of natural history, Native American studies, Afro Caribbean studies, and Japanese artifacts encompass more than 50,000 items. Children and families can make art together in the studio, enter the world of Marc Brown's beloved book series Arthur, make and float or even stretch bubbles, construct their own city with trucks and diggers, or see the life-size animatronic Dilophosaurus.

BostonChildrensMuseum.org | 308 Congress St | 617 426 6500

FRANKLIN PARK ZOO

This zoo contains more than 200 species of animals from around the world, including gorillas, crocodiles, lemurs, giraffes, lions, kangaroos, flamingos, and llamas.

ZooNewEngland.org/franklin-park-zoo | 1 Franklin Park Rd | 617 541 5466

NEW ENGLAND AQUARIUM

With more than 1.3 million visitors per year, the Aquarium is a global leader in ocean exploration and marine conservation, a catalyst for global change through public engagement, commitment to marine animal conservation, leadership in education, innovative scientific research, and effective advocacy for vital and vibrant oceans. Exhibits feature seals, coral reefs, giant squids, penguins, touch tanks, and the IMAX Theatre.

Neaq.org | 1 Central Wharf | 617 973 5200

BOSTON NEIGHBORHOODS

Each Boston neighborhood tells its own story, a tale of community, culture, and eclectic commercial areas that showcase the best of Boston's history and contemporary landscape. You can check out those various neighborhoods at

<https://www.boston.gov/neighborhoods>.

NEMLA BOARD ELECTIONS AND NOMINATIONS

NeMLA's success depends on an engaged, volunteer Board. NeMLA is currently conducting a vote to elect new directors in the following areas:

- ▶ Second Vice President
- ▶ American & Diaspora Studies Director
- ▶ Comparative Literature Director
- ▶ Cultural Studies & Media Studies Director
- ▶ Pedagogy & Professionalization Director

Those interested in serving as Second Vice President should contact the Executive Director at cmardoro@buffalo.edu. They would serve as president in 2027, and the site of the conference would be determined by their institutional location.

Current NeMLA members can vote by completing the [online voting form](#). The deadline to vote is February 1.

Nominations are also sought for the next positions by August 15 2024:

- ▶ Second Vice President
- ▶ Creative Writing, Publishing & Editing Director
- ▶ French & Francophone Studies Director
- ▶ Hispanophone & Lusophone Studies Director

KEY DATES

Jan 10, 2024	Job Clinic Pre-registration
Jan 13, 2024	CAITY Travel Award Submission
Jan 15, 2024	Graduate Student Essay Award Submission
Jan 15, 2024	WSGC Essay Award Submission
Feb 5, 2023	Exhibitors Registration Deadline
Feb 6, 2023	Summer Fellowships Application Submission
Feb 25, 2024	Board Elections Voting Deadline
Mar 7-10, 2023	55 th NeMLA Convention, Boston