



NeMLA 2025

NORTHEAST MODERN LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION

WINTER
NEWSLETTER

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Contact: support@nemla.org

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear NeMLA Members and Conference Participants:

La Salle University is honored to host the 56th Annual NeMLA Convention at the Philadelphia Marriott Downtown. This gathering holds special significance as we return to this city as an in-person format after the 2021 convention, which

transitioned online due to the challenges of COVID-19. This year, we are thrilled to welcome participants back to Philadelphia, a city rich in history, culture, and innovation.

Situated in the heart of Philadelphia, our convention site offers unparalleled access to the city's vibrant attractions. Just steps away, participants can explore iconic landmarks such as Independence Hall, the Liberty Bell, and Reading Terminal Market. The location perfectly complements this year's theme, "(R)EVOLUTION," as Philadelphia's role in shaping history and fostering innovation resonates with the conference's focus on transformative ideas.

To enhance your experience, we have organized walking tours of historically significant sites, providing a deeper connection to the city's revolutionary spirit. Additionally, we've secured discounted tickets to Noel Coward's *Hay Fever*, showing at the Walnut Street Theater during select matinees, offering a delightful cultural escape. Conference participants may visit many of the city's remarkable museums including the Edgar Allen Poe Museum, the Philadelphia Museum of Art, and the Rodin Museum, which offers special collection tours from 1pm- 2pm Friday-Sunday, just to name a few. Tickets for a 2-day consecutive pass for the Philadelphia Museum of Art and the Rodin Museum are available for \$30. Our youngest members of NeMLA can enjoy spending time at the Touch Me Museum and the Franklin Institute. Philadelphia CityPass offers admission into multiple museums and sites for \$59. Additional events of cultural interest can be accessed on the [uwishunu Philadelphia](http://uwishunu.com) website.

We can all look forward to the numerous presentations delivered at the 2025 convention, which promise to be quite interesting. Please preview the conference schedule



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to map out the sessions you wish to visit to ensure that you do not miss any of the ones that interest you. Also, I encourage you to review the list of workshops that will be offered at the convention and sign up for them. This year we have a wide array of workshops that deal with many facets of our profession. A special thanks to our Area Directors and Caucus Presidents for overseeing and organizing such thought provoking panels, roundtables, seminars, and creative sessions as well as inviting exciting guest speakers for our special events. Many of these have been organized in collaboration with other fields of inquiry demonstrating the true interdisciplinary nature of our profession. *(continued)*

At the 56th convention, NeMLA will continue to offer professionalization opportunities for our scholars. The Undergraduate Student forum will be held for its seventh year. This year we had a record breaking number of quality submission and therefore will expand the forum to include three sessions on Saturday. Please stop by their poster session at the convention to chat with them about their research. In order to prepare our colleagues for the job market, NeMLA will host a Job Clinic. Mentorship is so important to our younger colleagues, so please sign up to review CVs or provide mock interviews. Additionally, we will offer a workshop on how to convert our wonderful NeMLA panels into edited collections. In our Exhibition Hall we will have various literary presses with the newest in academic scholarship.

We encourage everyone to attend the opening address on Thursday evening with Speaker Benjamin Fraser, Professor of Iberian and Latin American Cultural Studies in the College of Humanities at the University of Arizona. On Friday evening, we will feature our “NeMLA reads together speaker, Julia Alvarez, an American New Formalist poet, novelist, and essayist, who is regarded as one of the most critically and commercially successful Latina writers of her time. On Saturday evening, we will be treated to Area Event Speakers with reception to follow. On Sunday, to mark the closure of the convention, please join us for the Sunday Membership Brunch, when we will host our general membership meeting.

I would like to thank everyone at La Salle University involved in this endeavor including all the members of the former Department of Languages, Literatures and Cultures; Provost, Cam Wesson; and Interim Dean, Frank Mosca. I am so grateful to our La Salle University graduate and undergraduate student representatives for their help planning our local events and finding local resources to make your stay in Philadelphia more enjoyable. A special note of gratitude to our former Dean Pamela Barnett who understood the value that NeMLA provides to the field of Humanities and agreed to sponsor this convention.

At this time, I would like to convey my deepest

appreciation to NeMLA’s amazing Board of Directors as well as my fellow executive officers Simona Wright (1st Vice President) and Modhumita Roy (Past President). Of course, Nothing would be possible without the assistance and support of our incredible Associate Executive Director, Derek DiMatteo, who has worked countless hours to make this organization run so smoothly. Thank you also to our Host institution, Gannon University, for their support and in particular Sabine Preuss-Miller, our administrative assistant and Parihbu , our graduate assistant.

We look forward to an inspiring convention filled with thought-provoking discussions, shared experiences, and opportunities to immerse yourself in the unparalleled charm of Philadelphia. I look forward to welcoming you in person in Philadelphia.

Dr. Victoria L. Ketz,
President and Executive Director of NeMLA,
Chair of the Department of Literatures and
Perspectives at La Salle University

2025 BOARD ELECTIONS

Nominations have been received by NeMLA’s Nominating Committee, and an election will be held. Members are asked to consider the candidates’ experience, statements, and years of involvement with NeMLA. Elected members will begin their duties on the last day of the upcoming convention. Positions that are being filled are:

- First Vice President
- Second Vice President
- Creative Writing, Publishing, and Editing Director
- French and Francophone Studies Director
- Hispanophone and Lusophone Studies Director
- Graduate Student Caucus Representative

When the election period opens, members will receive an email explaining where to read about each candidate and how to cast votes.



2025 ANNUAL CONVENTION

March 6–9, 2025

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Philadelphia Marriott Downtown
1201 Market St., Philadelphia, PA 19107
Phone: (215) 625-2900

Local Host Institution: La Salle University
School of Arts & Sciences

Administrative Home: Gannon University
College of Humanities, Education, & Social Sciences



Our 56th Annual Convention will meet March 6 to 9, 2025, at the Philadelphia Marriott Downtown. The Philadelphia area offers convention attendees a multitude of activities to enjoy, including fine dining, arts & culture, historical sites, and natural attractions.

REGISTRATION

Please [register for the convention!](#) Regular registration runs from December 16 through January 15. Late registration is \$50 more expensive and runs from January 16 through February 28, 2025.

LODGING

The [Philadelphia Marriott Downtown](#) hotel is located at the heart of City Center, with easy accessibility to the entire city. When not attending sessions, you can spend time exploring the city from the history of Independence Hall to the delicacies at Reading Terminal Market and the excitement of Fabric Row. We are planning a variety of activities from walking tours, art exhibits, music, plays, to museum visits to delight you and anyone that may join you.

The Philadelphia Marriott Downtown features an indoor pool, a 24-hour fitness center, and bicycles to rent. The hotel also houses two restaurants, a coffee shop/café, and a bar/lounge. Note that the hotel has a smoke-free policy but is pet-friendly (non-refundable \$50 fee per pet, per stay). For more information [click here](#).

Valet parking is \$69.50/day. Electric car charging stations are available.

Reserve hotel rooms at our discounted rate of \$199/night + taxes of 16.45% on the Passkey web site ([click here](#)). For more information, email support@nemla.org.

AIR TRANSPORTATION

Philadelphia Intl. Airport (PHL) is 17 km / 10.6 mi (approximately 20 minutes) by automobile from the hotel.

Philadelphia, PA (PNE-Northeast Philadelphia) is 23.1 km / 14.4 mi (approximately 30 minutes) by automobile from the hotel.

DISCOUNTED FLIGHTS WITH NEMLA'S OFFICIAL AIRLINE DELTA AIR LINES

Delta Air Lines is offering a special discount for NeMLA convention attendees. [Visit Delta's website](#) to book your flight and use the NeMLA discount code: NY3J8. You may also call Delta at 1-800-328-1111 Monday–Friday, 7AM–7:30PM (CT). There is no service fee!

DISCOUNTED AMTRAK TRAVEL

The 30th Street Amtrak Station. Amtrak offers Every Day Discounts and Guest Rewards. See amtrak.com for more information.

BUS

There are two Greyhound stops in Philadelphia:

- 199 Spring Garden St.
- 1701 Callowhill St.

METRO (SEPTA)

The closest metro station (SEPTA) is Broad-Spring Garden Station (old name: Spring Garden Station at 500 N. Broad Street). Alternatively, use Suburban Station.

ROOM AND RIDE SHARE

Open to all convention attendees! Want to connect with others to share rooms and/or rides in Philadelphia for NeMLA 2025? The Graduate Student Caucus and the CAITY Caucus host the Room and Ride Forum. For room and ride share opportunities, visit nemlagraduatecaucus.wordpress.com

OPENING ADDRESS: BENJAMIN FRASER

DOWN SYNDROME CULTURE: A TALK BY BENJAMIN FRASER

Thursday 6 March 2025, 7:00 PM

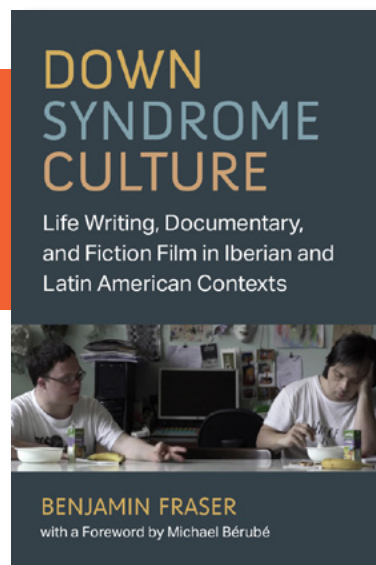


Framing the notion of Down Syndrome Culture in terms at once artistic, historical, and theoretical, Fraser explores the cultural visibility of people with trisomy 21. References to cultural products including film, painting, comics and the novel mark a series of reflections on the development of disability studies as a discipline with global reach. From the fiber art that Judith Scott produced in California, USA, to a memoir written by Andy Trias Trueta in Barcelona,

examples cover and move beyond those discussed in three of the author's published books—*Disability Studies and Spanish Culture* (Liverpool, 2013), *Cognitive Disability Aesthetics* (Toronto, 2018), and *Down Syndrome Culture* (Michigan, 2024).

BIO

Dr. Benjamin Fraser is Professor of Iberian and Latin American Cultural Studies in the College of Humanities at the University of Arizona. His research program spans cinema, popular music, photography, urban planning, and the videogame, centering on three primary areas: disability studies, comics studies, and urban cultural studies.



KEYNOTE EVENT: JULIA ALVAREZ

TELLING THE UNTOLD: A CONVERSATION WITH JULIA ALVAREZ

Friday 7 March 2025, 7:00 PM



The keynote event of NeMLA's 2025 convention features renowned author Julia Alvarez, who will give a short reading followed by an interview and a Q&A from the audience.

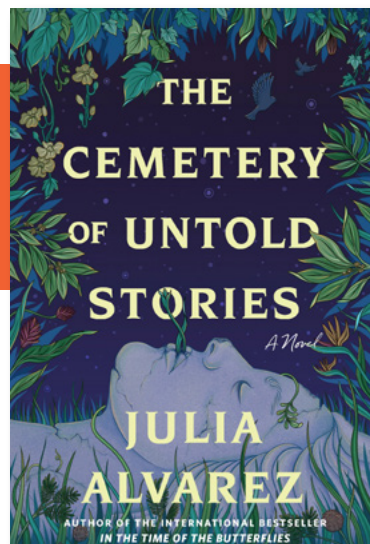
Julia Alvarez's most recent novel is *The Cemetery of Untold Stories*, which *The Los Angeles Times* called "an imaginative celebration of living, oral traditions, and

our capacity even outside the gates of publishing, to bring our stories of the past into the future." When faced with the loss of sight in one eye, Alvarez decided she wanted to write one last book. Just one, she bargained. With the aid of prism glasses that helped reduce the double vision, she dusted off the novel she had started prior to the retinal surgeries—the story of an older writer, a Prospero in Latina female guise, who has come to the end of her rough magic and knows it is time to bury her unfinished manuscripts. But the manuscript now had that juice of necessity and passion that had been missing before. And for the writer, every

day she sat down to write was a gift, a rebirth. In her appearance at NeMLA 2025, Julia Alvarez will talk about all she learned while writing *The Cemetery of Untold Stories*, including the revelation that it wouldn't be her last book.

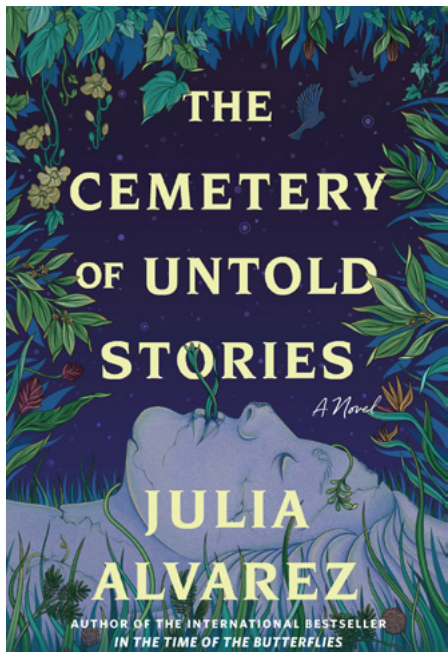
BIO

Julia Alvarez is a poet, novelist, and essayist who has taught and mentored writers throughout her life, and who has been widely recognized for her phenomenal storytelling, including garnering the Hispanic Heritage Award in Literature and the F. Scott Fitzgerald Award. Alvarez has written critically acclaimed novels including *How the García Girls Lost Their Accents* (1991), *In the Time of the Butterflies* (1994), and *Yo!* (1997). Her work often explores topics such as bicultural identity, the immigrant experience, childhood memories, and her identity as a Dominican American. Visit her web site at juliaalvarez.com.



NEMLA READS TOGETHER

The Cemetery of Untold Stories



“Only an alchemist as wise and sure as Alvarez could swirl the elements of folklore and the flavor of magical realism around her modern prose and make it all sing... lively, joyous, full of modern details and old tall tales... often witty, occasionally somber and elegiac.”

— Luis Alberto Urrea,
The New York Times Book Review

The 56th Annual Convention’s common-read features literary icon and great American novelist Julia Alvarez’s newest novel, *The Cemetery of Untold Stories* (2024). You are encouraged to read *The Cemetery of Untold Stories* in preparation for Alvarez’s keynote address.

Hachette describes the book as follows:

Alma Cruz, the celebrated writer at the heart of *The Cemetery of Untold Stories*, doesn’t want to end up like her friend, a novelist who fought so long and hard to finish a book that it threatened her sanity. So when Alma inherits a small plot of land in the Dominican Republic, her homeland, she has the beautiful idea of turning it into a place to bury her untold stories—literally. She creates a graveyard for the manuscript drafts and the characters whose lives she tried and failed to bring to life and who still haunt her.

Alma wants her characters to rest in peace. But they have other ideas and soon begin to defy their author: they talk back to her and talk to one

another behind her back, rewriting and revising themselves. Filomena, a local woman hired as the groundskeeper, becomes a sympathetic listener to the secret tales unspooled by Alma’s characters. Among them, Bienvenida, dictator Rafael Trujillo’s abandoned wife who was erased from the official history, and Manuel Cruz, a doctor who fought in the Dominican underground and escaped to the United States.

The Cemetery of Untold Stories asks: Whose stories get to be told, and whose buried? Finally, Alma finds the meaning she and her characters yearn for in the everlasting vitality of stories. Julia Alvarez reminds us that the stories of our lives are never truly finished, even at the end.

Hachette has published a [book club reading guide](#) for *The Cemetery of Untold Stories*.

2025 FEATURED SPEAKERS

NeMLA's Areas and Caucuses are sponsoring several special events with featured speakers.

NATALIE LÉGER

"Unimaginable Solidarities: Revolution in the Popular Imagination"



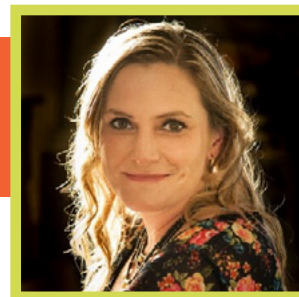
If it can be said that the Haitian Revolution (1791–1804) bent reality, it created a new reality for all the peoples of Saint Domingue but most especially for the captive populace, then why is it that contemporary imaginings of the Revolution fail to bend reality in this present? This talk brings the Haitian Revolution into dialogue with the films *Even the Rain* (2010) and *Black Panther: Wakanda Forever* (2022). It does so to ask how our understanding of revolution might expand if we reasoned against the racial essentialisms of contemporary imaginings of anti-colonial resistance. I trace the significations of the Haitian Revolution in each film; and I analyze how the overt presence or absence of the Revolution results in films that cannot conceive of indigenous resistance as inclusive of black resistance and black resistance as inclusive of indigenous resistance. The possibilities of these real solidarities are unimaginable.

[Natalie Léger](#) is an Assistant Professor of English at Temple University, specializing in twentieth century anti-colonial thought and decolonial philosophy in Caribbean literature and African diasporic fiction. Her research interests also focus on race and visual culture, Latin American literature, and magical realist cultural production. Her book, *Haiti and the Revolution Unseen: The Persistence of the Radical Decolonial Imagination*, is forthcoming in April 2025 from Vanderbilt University Press.

Organized by American & Diaspora Studies, French and Francophone Studies, Women and Gender Studies Caucus, and Diversity Caucus

JENNIFER THORNDIKE-GONZALEZ AND ANDREA COTE BOTERO

"Nuevas Escritoras: Hacia una Poética de lo Humano"



This year's area speakers, Jennifer Thorndike and Andrea Cote Botero will talk about the fast (r)evolutions happening in our global societies and, in opposition to the turn towards extreme professionalization and marketability of today's degrees, the urgent need to revalue the humanities.

[Jennifer Thorndike-Gonzalez](#) is an educator, scholar, and writer serving as Chief Diversity Officer at Saint Peter's University in Jersey City. Her research focuses on health equity from a cultural perspective. The author of six books, she has won the prestigious Hatch Award for Scholarly and Creative Work and the Team Player's Award for DEI. The FIL-Guadalajara-México selected her as one of the 20 most outstanding Latin American authors born in the last two decades of the 20th century.

[Andrea Cote Botero](#) is Professor of Creative Writing at the Bilingual M.F.A. at University of Texas at El Paso. She is the author of four poetry collections, including *En las Praderas / In the Prairies of the End of the World* (2019) and *Chinatown 24/7* (2017), and two books of prose: *A Nude Photographer: A Biography of Tina Modotti* and *Blanca Varela or Writing from Solitude*. In 2020 she won the International Latino Book Award.

Organized by Hispanophone & Lusophone Studies, Creative Writing, Editing, & Publishing, as well as Pedagogy & Professionalization

2025 FEATURED SPEAKERS

GIANCARLO LOMBARDI

"Plural TV: Notes Towards a Comparative Approach to Global Serial Drama"



Moving away from the competing concepts of Quality TV and Complex TV, my theorization of Plural TV stems from an application of Barthes' concept of plurality to the differing and deferred reception of television drama once it travels across continents. Such plurality takes on greater relevance in the study and reception of non-Anglophone television series, screened with subtitles that invoke estrangement due to a reception that places emphasis and strain on concurrent images, writing, and sound. It is this shift from complexity to plurality that motivates my advocacy for the study of television in comparative frameworks. Serial drama, thanks to its multiple addressees, is the ideal plural text since its reception depends on the activation of cultural, semantic, or symbolic codes that may occur differently across time and space. And a study of such plurality necessarily occurs through close textual reading informed by a vast array of medium-specific theoretical tools.

[Giancarlo Lombardi](#) is Professor of Italian and Comparative Literature at the College of Staten Island and at the CUNY Graduate Center, and the Executive Officer of the MA/PhD Program in Comparative Literature. Books include *Nuovo Cinema Politico*, co-edited with Christian Uva (2016) and *Terrorism, Italian Style*, co-edited with Alan O'Leary and Ruth S. Glynn (2012). Articles include "The Literary in TV, or Why We Should Teach TV Series in Literature Departments" in *Television Series as Literature*, edited by Winckler and Huertas (2021).

Organized by Comparative Literature, Italian Studies, and Cultural and Media Studies

CARISSA HARRIS

"Premodern Reproductive Justice"



This lecture explores the three key components of the Black feminist framework of reproductive justice—the right not to have a child, the right to have a child, and the right to parent in health and safety—in premodern England and Scotland with connections to our present moment, drawing on church court records, medieval sermon stories, Middle Scots pregnancy laments, and Thomas Middleton's *A Chaste Maid in Cheapside*. The first section on "wench abortion" explores legal and literary representations of "wenches" who terminate their pregnancies; the second section on "wench childbirth" analyzes the ways that pregnant singlewomen's labors became experiences of torture designed to extract information regarding their sexual conduct; and the third section on "wench maternity" examines reproductive labor and child relinquishment.

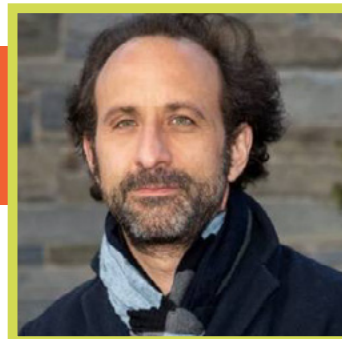
[Carissa M. Harris](#) is Associate Professor of English at Temple University. Her research and teaching focus on gender and sexuality in late medieval England and Scotland, with emphasis on histories of consent and violation, women's anger, and reproductive justice. She is the author of *Obscene Pedagogies: Transgressive Talk and Sexual Education in Late Medieval Britain* (Cornell, 2018) and co-editor, with Sarah Baechle and Elizaveta Strakhov, of *Rape Culture and Female Resistance in Late Medieval Literature* (Penn State, 2022).reading informed by a vast array of medium-specific theoretical tools.

Organized by British and Global Anglophone Area Studies

2025 FEATURED SPEAKERS

JASON WOZNIAK

"Debt as a Higher Education Labor Issue:
Doing the Work to Abolish Debt"



Debt robs our future wages. It steals our free time. And it makes labor strikes less likely or shorter in duration. In short, debt is a labor issue. Higher education faculty, staff, and students are buried in debt. Our universities increasingly take on debt for operations and capital improvement projects. All this debt impacts our labor conditions and causes instructional harms.

In this workshop we will discuss how higher education is a site of debt extraction, but also a potential site of debt resistance. The debts that burden members of higher education communities can be a source of power if debtors unite in debt abolition struggle. "Alone our debts are a burden, but together they give us power," Debt Collective proclaims. During this session we will share debt testimony and develop strategies and tactics that will lead to debt jubilee for all workers and students in higher education.

[Jason Wozniak](#) is Assistant Professor in the department of Educational Foundations and Policy Studies at West Chester University, where he teaches graduate courses focused on higher education philosophy and history. His research focuses on critical theory analyses of financial debt and education theory and practice. He is completing his first book, provisionally titled, *The Mis-Education of the Indebted Student*. In addition, he is the founder and co-director of The Latin American Philosophy of Education Society (LAPES.org).

Organized by CAITY Caucus and Graduate Student Caucus

JON CHO-POLIZZI

"Wor(l)ds in Motion: Translation Beyond the Canon"



This combined workshop and talk investigates the changing function of literary translation in an age increasingly reliant on AI-generated text production and productivity-driven value assessment. Despite framing translation as a democratizing force, history teaches us that translation has far more often served as a tool for empire building and the flattening of nuanced discourse. Today's technocratic environment places us at another crossroads in our understanding of the form and function of the translator—a moment to reevaluate investment in translation at an institutional, technological, and societal level. This keynote challenges participants to rethink the role of literary translation in their scholarship and pedagogy, positing the practice no longer as an instrument of canonization, but a radical tool for realizing more pluralist humanities.

[Jon Cho-Polizzi](#) is an Assistant Professor of German at the University of Michigan, where he is also affiliated with the department of Comparative Literature. He received his PhD in German and Medieval Studies from UC Berkeley in 2020 after studying Translation, Literature, and European History at Ruprecht-Karls-Universität Heidelberg and UC Santa Cruz. A prolific literary translator, Jon's work highlights the polyphony of contemporary German-language literature, working at the intersection of literary, migration, and translation studies.

Organized by German Studies

CONFERENCE 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.

The 2025 workshops are sold out. If you would like to be added to the waiting list for a workshop, please email support@nemla.org with the subject line "2025 Workshop Waitlist Request."

PUBLISHING IN ACADEMIC JOURNALS

Primary Area:
Pedagogy & Professionalization

Secondary Area:
Creative Writing, Editing and Publishing

Workshop Facilitator:
Laurence Roth, Susquehanna University; Helen Freear-Papio, College of the Holy Cross; Victoria Ketz, La Salle University; Derek DiMatteo, Gannon University

Description:
Three journal editors will provide participants with an explanation of the submission and publishing process typically followed by academic journals with a discussion of examples and time for Q&A. Topics will include the desk review, external reader reviews, revise and resubmit, why it takes so long for articles to get published, open access journals, predatory journals, and how to propose a special issue.

ARTS-BASED PEDAGOGIES AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF SELF-MOTIVATED INQUIRY

Primary Area:
Pedagogy & Professionalization

Secondary Area:
Rhetoric & Composition

Workshop Facilitator:
Vittoria Rubino, St. John's University

Description:
Through a combination of storytelling, guided reflection, and multimodal exercises, this session will bring theory to practice for arts-based pedagogies as first-year composition practice. You will learn how concepts from studio art can be applied to first-year composition.

CROSSING BORDERS: CONNECTING DIVERSE COMMUNITIES IN SPANISH LANGUAGE COURSES

Primary Area:
Spanish and Portuguese

Secondary Area:
Pedagogy & Professionalization

Workshop Facilitator:
Yuting Jia, Northwestern University

Description:
Inspired by Li Wei's insights on translanguaging, our panel aims to redefine language teaching. We'll collaboratively develop lesson plans that bridge cultural divides and connect students more deeply with the Hispanic world's diverse communities. Join us to explore innovative strategies for fostering an inclusive and engaging learning environment in Spanish classes.

BOOK PROPOSALS FOR EDITED COLLECTIONS

Primary Area:
Pedagogy & Professionalization

Secondary Area:
Creative Writing, Editing and Publishing

Workshop Facilitator:
Julia Titus, Yale University; David Racker, Temple University

Description:
This workshop will explain the process and best practices for writing a book proposal for an edited collection. The workshop will feature scholars who have successfully gone through the entire process as well as editors from publishing companies who can provide further guidance on how to put together a proposal and what happens after it gets accepted.

STUDENT-CENTERED DISCUSSIONS USING SOCRATIC CIRCLES

Primary Area:
Pedagogy & Professionalization

Secondary Area:
Interdisciplinary Humanities

Workshop Facilitator:
Derek DiMatteo, Gannon University

Description:
You will learn Socratic Circles, which are a student-centered, text-based discussion activity suitable for both literature and language classrooms; increase student participation in class discussions and help students understand texts more deeply; receive materials to implement the activity in your classes.

2025 CONVENTION EXHIBITORS

The exhibitors will be in Salons I and J in the Grand Ballroom on the hotel's 5th floor. Using your convention badge's QR code in conjunction with the Whoava convention app, you can interact with the exhibitors.

Some of this year's exhibitors include:



CLEMSON UNIVERSITY PRESS



LEXINGTON BOOKS



McFarland



The Scholar's Choice

~Bringing Books to Readers Worldwide Through Exhibits~

SUSQUEHANNA UNIVERSITY PRESS

UNIVERSITY OF
PENNSYLVANIA PRESS



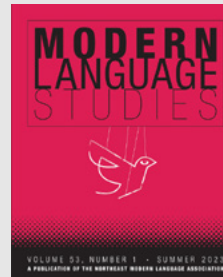
W. W. NORTON & COMPANY

Independent and Employee-Owned

NeMLA PUBLICATIONS

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

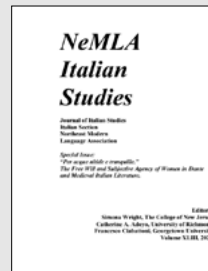
Modern Language Studies



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.

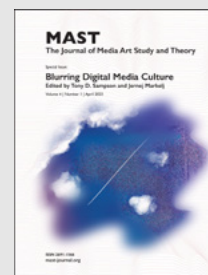
NeMLA Italian Studies



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.

SPECIAL EVENTS

DIVERSITY CAUCUS SOCIAL EVENT

To provide an informal space for scholars of color to gather and support one another, the Diversity Caucus is happy to be co-sponsoring a social event at this year's NeMLA convention in Philadelphia. Please join us on Thursday March 6, at 4:30 pm, in Salon K for light refreshments, conversation, networking, and solidarity. Allies welcome, and coffee is on us. We look forward to seeing you there!

Thursday, March 6, 4:30 PM | Salon K

WALKING TOURS OF REVOLUTIONARY PHILADELPHIA

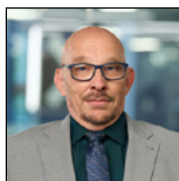


Historians will lead a walking tour of historical revolutionary war locations in Philadelphia. Wear Comfortable Shoes. Spots are limited, so you must register in advance through the NeMLA portal. Price is \$5.00.

TOUR GUIDES



Dr. Stuart Leibiger is Professor of History and Chair of the Humanity and Society Department at La Salle University.



Dr. Mark Thomas is Assistant Professor of Political Sciences at La Salle University.

HAY FEVER, BY NOEL COWARD



Theater tickets are available for three performances of [Noel Coward's play Hay Fever](#) at the Walnut Street Theater. Discounted ticket price of \$65 is available through the NeMLA portal.

Thursday, March 6, 2025. 2:00–3:30 PM

Saturday, March 8, 2025. 2:00–3:30 PM

Sunday, March 9, 2025. 2:00–3:30 PM

Location: 825 Walnut Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107

Things to Do Around Town



Philadelphia Art Museum (closed on Tuesdays and Wednesdays) Mon, Thurs, Sat, Sun: 10am-5pm, and Friday:10am-8:45pm

General admissions: \$30 Adults, \$28 Seniors 65 and over, \$14 Students (with valid ID), and free for youth (18 and under). philamuseum.org



Philadelphia Scavenger Hunt - Art District Alliterative Adventure: letsroom.com



Kimmel center for the Performing Arts - Ensemble Arts Philly.

Showing through March 6-9 : David Nihill: Shelf Help Tour, Swan Lake, Beethoven's "Eroica", Sheng Wang, Richard Goode: piano, and ECCO - Nicholas Phan, tenor.

SPECIAL EVENTS

NEMLA 2025 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

CV and 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.

Instructions for Mentors

Please pre-register by February 15 as a mentor in your account by selecting the "Job Clinic Mentor" option under "Registration & Membership."

Instructions for Mentees

Please pre-register by January 31 as a mentee in your account by selecting the "Job Clinic Mentee" option under "Registration & Membership."

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 wgsc@nemla.org.

GRADUATE STUDENT CAUCUS EVENTS

For additional details, check the schedule on the Whova app or email gsc@nemla.org.

GSC BUSINESS MEETING

Agenda includes Caucus updates, by-law amendments and upcoming election, travel awards, and NeMLA 2026: Pittsburgh session proposals.

Thursday, March 7 @ 6:00 PM–7:00 PM
Location: Franklin Hall

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 7 @ 8:30 PM-onwards
Location TBD

WORKSHOP: REVOLUTIONARY AI IN GRADUATE ASSISTANT TEACHING

Chaired by Liping Yang, GSC Vice President

Thursday, March 6 @ 10:00–11:30 AM
Location: Room 402

DEBT AS A HIGHER EDUCATION LABOUR ISSUE: DOING THE WORK TO ABOLISH DEBT

Dr. Jason Wozniak, West Chester University
Co-organized with the CAITY Caucus.

Friday, March 7 @ 3:00–4:30 PM
Location: Salon K

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.

tiny.cc/nemla-gsc-costsharing

BUSINESS MEETINGS

NeMLA BOARD OF DIRECTORS 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 6 @ 8:00 AM | Salon K

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 6 @ 6:00 PM | Salon K

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 6 @ 6:00 PM | Franklin Hall

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.

Friday, March 7 @ 8:15 AM | Salon G

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 9 @ 10:45 AM | Salon H

NeMLA Caucus Information

CAITY Caucus

(Contingent/Adjunct/Independent Scholar/Two-Year)

The CAITY Caucus advocates for NeMLA members who are contingent, adjunct, or independent scholars, or who 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 these endeavors. Everyone with interests in these areas is welcome!

Diversity Caucus

The Diversity Caucus has been created to facilitate discussion among NeMLA members about issues of diversity, especially as related to academic life. This group offers a space to bring about conversations among members with shared interest in Africana Studies, Diaspora Studies, and Diversity issues and develop relevant NeMLA sessions and initiatives.

Graduate Student Caucus

With the generous support of NeMLA, the Graduate Student Caucus (GSC) is able to provide an array of opportunities for graduate students that include travel grants, professionalization opportunities, CV and Job Clinic, publishing mentorship, special sessions. Please visit our website for further information about events and opportunities.

Women's and Gender Studies Caucus

The NeMLA 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.

Please join these caucuses through the Membership Registration page in the online portal.

STUDENT INTERVIEWS

Undergraduate Forum Advice and Reflections from 2024

By Paribhu Thapa, Gannon University

To help undergraduates who are presenting at Philly in 2025 or who may be considering presenting in the future, we have interviewed five participants from the sixth annual Undergraduate Research Forum (URF) held at the 2024 NeMLA convention in Boston. In this column, the following participants share their experiences and advice: Ying Ying “Chelsie” Wei, senior at Tufts University; Grace Quasebarth, senior at Salve Regina University; Syd Alves, junior at Wheaton College; Roni Lakin, junior at Boston University; and Isabel Snyder, junior at Slippery Rock University.

These five students’ topics were in the literatures and languages, although other students in the Forum presented in interdisciplinary areas that included economics, geography, education, linguistics, and more. Each student received mentoring either by their university professors or a NeMLA board member.

“What was the title of your presentation?”

Chelsie: “Acute Awareness: Existential Anxiety and Responsibility in 20th Century Film and Literature”

Grace: “The Sound of Exoticism: Portraits of Spain in Bizet’s Carmen”

Syd: “Kindred and the place of Historiographic Metafiction”

Roni: “Too Many Cooks in the Kitchen: Food Production in The Handmaid’s Tale”

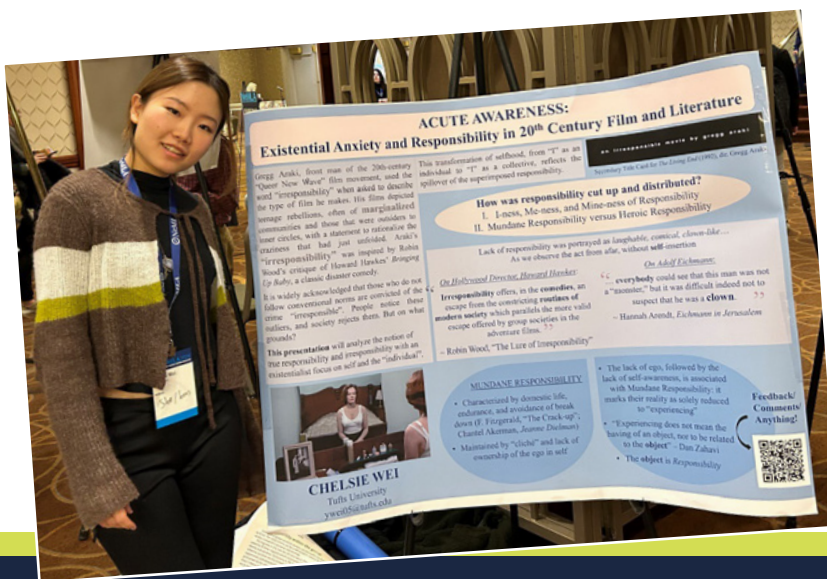
Isabel: “The Armenian Genocide Meets the Narrative Poem”

“How did you feel about writing your abstract?”

Chelsie: Writing abstracts for humanities was a new and exciting experience for me. I had applied to NeMLA on a whim—I did not expect to produce an abstract for my senior thesis that early on in the process of my writing. But I knew what my thesis was going to look like and how it would fit with the theme of the conference, so I did what I could at the time.

Grace: This was the first time that I had ever written an abstract, so going into writing, I had a mix of feelings. I was confused and overwhelmed because I didn't quite know what the “formula” was for an abstract, but at the same time, I was so excited and grateful to learn how to write an abstract for such an incredible opportunity.

Roni: I felt excited to share my work, as this project started through Boston University’s Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program, which allowed me to work with a mentor to conduct research and draft a 25-page analysis.



“Everyone I spoke with while at the conference was supportive and interested.”

— Syd, Undergraduate Presenter

Ying Ying “Chelsie” Wei (she/her) presenting at the 2024 NeMLA Undergraduate Forum

STUDENT INTERVIEWS

“What helped you most while creating your poster presentation? Why?”

Syd: While I was creating the poster presentation, I utilized NeMLA's past undergraduate researchers' advice, as well as help from one of my professors. Having a resource with advice from others who had once been in my shoes assuaged many anxieties and helped answer some of my questions. And my professor had past experience with forums similar to NeMLA's, so I was lucky enough to meet with her throughout my poster-making process.

Isabel: I worked with my academic advisor, and she helped me brainstorm ideas for how I wanted my poster to look. Using Canva was also a big help in designing my poster.

“How was your overall experience participating in the NeMLA conference?”

Roni: NeMLA 2024 was my first time attending an academic conference that was not specifically limited to undergraduates. I had the chance to attend several panels and speaker sessions on topics that interested me. I was especially excited to hear from Giselle Anatol, as I had read her book on female vampires in African Diasporic literature earlier that academic year. As far as presenting my own research, I was glad to engage with scholars from across the region to share my insights, whether the people I talked to had read the texts I worked with in my research or not.

Chelsie: Having readily available resources from my school, thesis advisor, and NeMLA advisors was extremely helpful. I believe I signed up to be paired with a NeMLA advisor and they were very kind and eager to offer help. At that point, knowing that someone is excited to hear about my work became a big motivation for creating my poster presentation.

Grace: The biggest thing that helped me when creating my poster was taking a step back from reading so much about the “do's and don'ts” of poster presentations and starting to design it. I am a person who loved to look at visual references, so it was tricky to see examples that were mostly for STEM fields, then incorporate those guidelines for the humanities. But, as soon as I stopped trying to follow an example that didn't exist and started imagining how I wanted to visually display my research, I started to have so much fun creating the poster. I also asked a lot of people for feedback: professors, friends, and my boss; their suggestions and comments significantly helped me improve the poster!

“Did the conference help you in any way? Did it make a significant impact? How?”

Isabel: The conference really helped me build my confidence and prepared me for other academic conferences I was presenting that semester. Also, one of my favorite highlights was getting to meet Tiphonie Tanique who was a keynote speaker at the conference. I read her work as part of my world Literature course, and then I got to meet her in person! Preparing for an attending the conference is also a great thing to add to your resume and talk about in future interviews.

Syd: The conference helped me to gain confidence in my work and has also encouraged me to consider conducting more literary research in the future. Everyone I spoke with while at the conference was supportive and interested.



Isabel Snyder (she/her) presenting at the 2025 NeMLA Undergraduate Forum

STUDENT INTERVIEWS

“ What advice or pointers would you give to next year’s undergraduates attending and presenting in the 2025 conference?

Chelsie: I would suggest taking advantage of as many resources that are offered and attending as many different sessions as you can!

Grace: ... do not be afraid to ask for help and feedback on early drafts – this is so critical! At NeMLA, the most important thing you can do is be kind. Support the other undergraduate presenter and check out their posters; I met so many cool people and learned so many new things this way! ...

Syd: ... create and design a poster that you will love and be proud of when others see it. Be sure to be confident when presenting because no one knows your research as well as you.

Roni: ... attend as many presentations relevant to your interest as possible, but you can also branch out to learn more about other disciplines. While preparing for your presentation, try not to psych yourself out or end up repeating a script.

Isabel: Don't be afraid. The people at the conference and those who attend the undergraduate forum in particular are there because they are interested in your work! Take advantage of everything the conference has to offer but remember it's okay to build some “down-time” into your schedule.

Life After Graduation!

Grace Quasebarth has graduated from Salve University since the conference and has begun her PhD in Hispanic studies at the University of Pennsylvania (UPenn). Her decision to pursue a PhD was influenced by her studies in Spanish during her undergrad. Grace mentions having the opportunity to study with incredible and supportive professors who encouraged her to pursue a major she had never imagined doing, and now taking it a step further! She hopes to continue a variation of her NeMLA presentation topic during her time in grad school.



Syd Alves (she/they) presenting at the 2024 NeMLA Undergraduate Forum



Roni Lakin (they/them), presenter at the 2024 NeMLA Undergraduate Forum: Too Many Cooks in the Kitchen: Food Production in 'The Handmaid's Tale'

2024-25 AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Complete information for current awards and fellowships can be found at nemla.org/awards.html with only brief descriptions and deadlines listed here.

Annual Book Awards

NeMLA solicits book-length manuscripts for its two Annual Book Prizes for:

- The best unpublished book-length manuscript on any of NeMLA's focal literatures, languages, media, or cultures
- The best unpublished fiction book in English

Manuscripts cannot be under review at a press. The authors must be current members with a demonstrated commitment to NeMLA (a convention participant, or a member for at least one year in the last five years). The manuscript must be written in English and include an overview of the proposed book (2-3 single-spaced pages), as well as a roundup of competing books and a brief explanation of the uniqueness of the proposed project. NeMLA will not consider unrevised dissertations for this award. The prize includes a cash prize, and NeMLA will assist winners with contacting presses about the publication of their manuscripts (at the winner's discretion). The winners will be announced at the annual business meeting.

Deadline: October 15, 2024

Email submissions: book.award@nemla.org

Creative Writing Award

The award will be given for a presentation given on a Creative Session at the previous Convention.

Deadline: December 15, 2024

Email submissions to support@nemla.org with "NeMLA Creative Award Submission" as the subject line.

Caucus Essay Awards

There are four different caucus essay awards. Submissions should be between 6,000 and 9,000 words. All essays are to be 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 bestowed at the membership brunch, and essays will be considered for publication by *Modern Language Studies*. All essays are subject to *MLS's* double-blind review.

Caucus Essay Awards Descriptions:

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. Please email submissions as two separate Microsoft Word document files to postcolonial.essay.award@nemla.org: (1) a cover sheet with the title, author's name, address and academic affiliation. (2) the essay with "NeMLA Postcolonial Essay Award" in the subject line.

Deadline: December 15, 2024

Caity 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 Caitymembers at a session during the NeMLA convention earlier in the year. Email submissions to Caity@nemla.org as two separate Microsoft Word documents: (1) a cover sheet with the title, author's name, address and academic affiliation. (2) the essay with the title "NeMLA Caity Essay Award Submission" in the subject line.

Deadline: January 6, 2025

Graduate Student Caucus Essay Award

NeMLA awards an annual prize to the best graduate student paper presented at any of the sessions of the previous three conventions. Email submissions as two separate Microsoft Word document files to gsc@nemla.org (1) a cover sheet with the title, author's name, address and academic affiliation. (2) the essay and "NeMLA GSC Essay Submission" in the subject line.

Deadline: January 15, 2025

Women's and 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. This essay may not be submitted to another contest for the duration of the award's deliberation. Essays must be submitted in English. Send entries to the President of the NeMLA Women's and Gender Studies Caucus as two separate Microsoft Word document files at wgsc@nemla.org: (1) a cover sheet with the title, author's name, address and academic affiliation. (2) the essay with "NeMLA WGSC Essay Award Submission" in the subject line. Decisions will be communicated in winter.

Deadline: January 15, 2025

2024-25 AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Travel Awards

NeMLA offers three different travel awards to members accepted to present papers at the upcoming annual convention. Applicants are eligible to receive only one of the awards below.

Graduate Student Travel Awards

The Graduate Student Caucus provides a number of travel awards to graduate students accepted to the upcoming Annual Convention. Email the accepted abstract and a 250-word statement of the presentation's relevance to the field to gsc@nemla.org.

Deadline: November 30, 2024

Award: \$110–400 (depending on quality and number of awardees)

Caity Travel Award

Caity Travel Awards are open to contingent faculty, adjunct instructors, independent scholars, and two-year college faculty accepted to present a paper as part of a traditional panel or seminar at the upcoming annual convention. Caity Travel Awards are not meant for panel chairs or for participants in creative sessions or roundtables.

Deadline: January 13, 2025

Email submissions: Caity_travel@nemla.org

Antonio Cao Travel Award

NeMLA is sponsoring a special graduate student travel award in memory of Antonio Cao, member of the Department of Romance Languages and Literatures at Hofstra University, a passionate scholar, and an invaluable and loyal member of NeMLA. To honor Dr. Cao's memory and his unwavering support of students, this prize will be awarded to a graduate student who is presenting on any aspect of Spanish culture or literature at our annual convention. Applications are evaluated on basis of the quality of the abstract; the relevance of the topic to Spanish studies; the funds available from the student's institution; and the travel distance to the Convention.

Deadline: January 10, 2025

Email submissions: cao.travel@nemla.org

Summer Research Fellowships

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. Fellowships up to \$1,200 are intended to defray the cost of traveling incurred by researchers in pursuing their work-in-progress over the summer. This program does not provide funding for conference travel, equipment, food, or general office expenses.

Deadline: February 6, 2025

Email submissions: fellowship@nemla.org



2026 NeMLA 57TH ANNUAL CONVENTION

(Re)generation

March 5–8, 2026
Pittsburgh, PA

The keyword for the 2026 convention is (Re)generation, which invokes positivity, energy, and engagement. We hope the 2026 convention contributes to the (re)generation of the humanities intellectually, spiritually, and professionally—elevating the humanities to a better, higher, and more worthy state. We use regeneration in the sense of “bringing forth again”—bringing forth not the original but a new entity that is more powerful, vigorous, efficient, and healthier.

(Re)generation is intended here also as a restoration of the body, of the system of the humanities, whose notion was conceived by the Latin philosopher and polymath Beothius as an instrument of health—of hygiene of the mind. Understood in these terms, the health of the humanities depends on a continuous regenerative process that partakes in the creation of new forms of life, both empirical and philosophical, and is open to inclusive debate, restorative justice, and political empowerment.

Under the theme of (Re)generation, we welcome scholarship engaging in explorations of our society, interdisciplinary re-elaborations of cultures and cultural legacies, as well as the re-examination of our histories. We are optimistic that our collaborative effort and commitment to the humanities will help us better understand the present crises and transit us into periods of sustainable and equitable regeneration.

Session proposals due May 15, 2025

You must be a NeMLA member to propose a session. If you presented or chaired at the 2025 convention, then you have automatic NeMLA membership for the 2025 calendar year.

Abstract proposals due September 30, 2025

Individuals must submit presentation abstracts to specific sessions through the NeMLA portal. Abstract submissions will open in June.



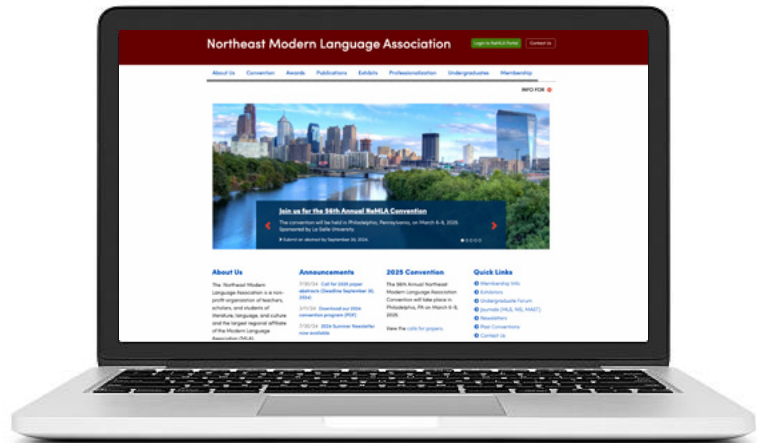
<https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/User:Popscreenshot>



Key Dates for 2025

Jan 31	CV and Job Clinic Pre-Registration
Jan 15	CAITY Travel Award Submission
Jan 15	Graduate Student Essay Award Submission
Jan 15	WGSC Essay Award Submission
Feb 5	Exhibitor Registration Deadline
Feb 6	Summer Fellowships Application Submission
Feb 25	Board Elections Voting Deadline
Mar 6–9	56th NeMLA Convention, Philadelphia, PA
May 15	Session proposals due
Sep 30	Abstract proposals due

Find more information on upcoming events, important dates and more on our website: www.nemla.org



Upcoming Convention Dates

2026 March 6–8, Pittsburgh, PA

CONNECT WITH NEMLA



#NeMLA25
www.nemla.org



The Northeast Modern Language Association (NeMLA) is a non-profit organization of teachers and scholars of literature, language, and culture, and the largest regional affiliate of the Modern Language Association (MLA).

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