

NeMLA

NORTHEAST MODERN LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION

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NeMLA News

Northeast Modern Language Association

President's Letter: Onward to Boston!

Dear NeMLA Members and Conference Participants,



Credit: Ron Frits

Very soon, I will have the honor to welcome you to NeMLA's 51st Annual Convention in Boston. The executive officers, the NeMLA board, our executive director Carine Mardorossian, and I are delighted to be returning to Massachusetts, where NeMLA was founded, and especially to Boston, where we have previously held many memorable conventions. Our 2020 convention site, the Marriott Copley Place, is conveniently located

across the street from the Prudential Center and behind the Boston Public Library in Copley Place (both stops are on the green line of the T), as a hyphen between the historical richness of the city and its vibrant contemporary scene. I encourage you to reserve your hotel room at the Marriott Copley Place right away at the special NeMLA discounted rate of \$179 before rooms fill up! Reserve your room at buffalo.edu/nemla/hotel.

Our convention site is also just a few steps away on the T from the Museum of Fine Arts, the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, the Institute of Contemporary Art, the Science Museum, and the Children's Museum, as well as many other renowned cultural landmarks, such as the Fenway, Boston Commons, the North End, and the Freedom Trail, all of which make Boston such a vibrant, exciting city. We have secured discounts for live performances on Saturday: *The Children* at the SpeakEasy Stage Company and *rEvolution* at the Boston Ballet. And convention attendees can enjoy a \$7 discount at the New England Aquarium. Whether you are looking for art, music, theater, dance, sightseeing, or a unique culinary experience, Boston has something for everyone! More information about all that Boston has to offer is available at buffalo.edu/nemla.

We are also excited to collaborate with Boston University as our host institution for this year's convention! I would like to extend my gratitude to everyone at Boston University involved in this great endeavor, especially Dr. Gillian Pierce, Assistant Provost for Academic Assessment; Dr. Karl Kirchwey, Associate Dean of the Faculty/Humanities in the College of Arts and Sciences; and Dr. Davida Pines, Chair and Associate Professor in the Division of Rhetoric. I am also grateful to our Boston University graduate student representatives, Korine Powers and Cory Charpentier, for their help planning our local events and finding local resources to make your stay in Boston enjoyable. Thank you all!

Boston is the perfect location for this year's convention topic, "Shaping and Sharing Identities: Spaces, Places, Languages, and Cultures," as the city offers a rich sample of diversity in all it encompasses, both culturally and linguistically. This unique urban reality is the result of its past and its present, and a long tradition of cosmopolitanism and populations in contact. Geographically, Boston is both a major port of entry to the American continent and a gateway toward the rest of the world, thus embodying the constantly ongoing shaping and sharing of cultures, identities, and places, all of which is the focus of this year's convention.

I am especially proud to announce that our inaugural photo contest, "My NeMLA," in which members shared photographs of their hometown

to illustrate our 51st Annual Convention's theme, was very successful, thanks to an enthusiastic vote by our members in selecting their favorite pictures. We will publish selected photos in the next issue of our peer-reviewed journal *Modern Language Studies*. Thanks to everyone for your interest in this new initiative!

I look forward to the numerous presentations delivered at the 2020 convention, for which a record number of sessions and attendees have been accepted. I also encourage you to review the list of workshops that will be offered at the convention. Thank you to Area Directors and Caucus Presidents for organizing exciting, thought-provoking special events with guest speakers. Many of these events are collaborations between several areas of inquiry, demonstrating again the fundamentally interdisciplinary nature of our profession.

NeMLA also continues to offer professionalization opportunities to new and early career scholars. Our Undergraduate Forum enters its second year; please stop by this poster session at the convention and take a moment to speak with undergraduate students about their research as we welcome emerging scholars to our convention. NeMLA also continues its Job Clinic, a useful opportunity to prepare yourself for the job market. I encourage mentors to volunteer to give feedback and graduate students and early career faculty to seek advice on their resumes or to practice mock interviews. And don't forget to stop by our Exhibit Hall to buy the newest in academic scholarship!

I especially encourage everyone to attend our kick-off event on Thursday evening, with opening speaker Maurice Lee, Professor and Chair of the Department of English at Boston University. And don't miss our keynote event Friday evening, featuring "NeMLA Reads Together" speaker Andre Dubus III, who will discuss his latest novel, *Gone So Long*, interviewed by our own Christina Milletti. Finally, I hope you join us for the Sunday Membership Brunch to offer feedback, win prizes, and learn how to get involved with NeMLA.

Stay up to date on the many panels, roundtables, seminars, workshops, and professional development opportunities that our convention offers to its members with our new mobile app, available for download at buffalo.edu/nemla.

I would like to conclude by thanking NeMLA's Board of Directors, as well as my fellow executive officers Brandi So (1st Vice President), Bernadette Wegenstein (2nd Vice President), and Simona Wright (Past President). Nothing would be possible without the incredible work and dedication of our executive director Carine Mardorossian, and I commend her for her great vision for NeMLA. Thank you also to our administrative host institution, the University at Buffalo, and to everyone on the NeMLA team, both in Buffalo and in Boston, for working so hard to make this year's convention a success. In particular, I would like to thank Ashley Byczkowski, Claire Sommers, and Derek McGrath for their tremendous work behind the scenes.

I look forward to meeting all of you in Boston, and I hope that you will enjoy our 51st Annual Convention!

Sincerely,

Carole Salmon
University of Massachusetts Lowell
NeMLA President

WELCOME TO BOSTON!



51st Annual Convention

March 5–8, 2020, Boston, MA

LOCAL HOST: BOSTON UNIVERSITY

The 51st Annual Convention will meet March 5 to 8, 2020, at the Marriott Copley Place, in the heart of downtown Boston. The Marriott is offering NeMLA members a conference rate of \$179. Free wireless Internet is provided in guest rooms to all Marriott Bonvoy guests (free membership at marriott.com). On-site parking is \$40 daily. Reserve hotel rooms at buffalo.edu/nemla/hotel. For more information, email support@nemla.org.

Travel Information

GROUND TRANSPORTATION

The Marriott Copley Place is four miles from Boston Logan International Airport. Taxi, bus, and subway service are available to and from the Marriott and Boston Logan.

DISCOUNTED FLIGHTS WITH NEMLA'S OFFICIAL AIRLINE DELTA AIR LINES

Delta Air Lines is pleased to offer a special discount for NeMLA convention attendees. Visit buffalo.edu/nemla/delta to book your flight with Discount Code NY2VJ! You may also call Delta at 1-800-328-1111 Monday–Friday, 7:00 AM–7:30 PM (CT) and use the code. There is no service fee!

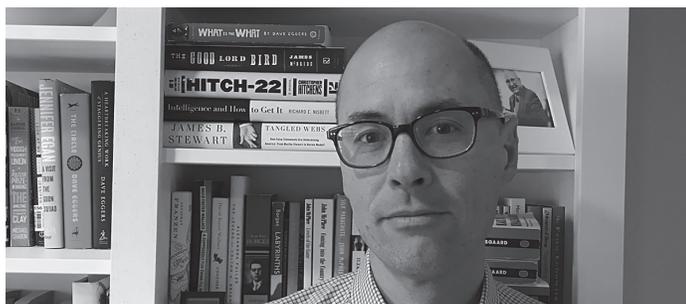
DISCOUNTED TRAIN TRAVEL WITH AMTRAK

Amtrak offers various Every Day Discounts and a generous Amtrak Guest Rewards loyalty program for frequent travelers. For more information, please visit buffalo.edu/nemla/amtrak.

ROOM AND RIDE SHARE

Open to all NeMLA convention attendees! Want to connect with others to share rooms and/or rides in Boston for NeMLA 2020? For room and ride share opportunities, fill out the form at <https://nemlagraduatecaucus.wordpress.com/gscnemla20/gsc-costsharing>.

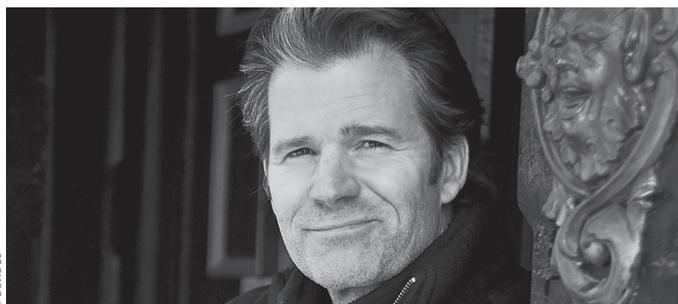
2020 FEATURED SPEAKERS



Opening Event: Maurice Lee

Thursday, March 5, 7:00PM, Marriott, Salon E
The Office of Literature

The word “office” has two dominant meanings: a place for commercial, professional, and bureaucratic labor; and a charge or position of authority associated with public service. The crisis in the humanities reflects a tension between these meanings insofar as the public role of literature as understood by literary scholars often conflicts with the commercial, professional, and bureaucratic structures in which we work. As higher education becomes more committed to instrumental knowledge, vocational training, standardized assessments, and corporatism, the traditional values and methods of literary studies seem increasingly under duress. But what are these values and methods, and how traditional are they? What are, and what have been, the offices of literature? Taking Nathaniel Hawthorne as a case study, Maurice Lee argues that literary aesthetics have not always been at odds with commercial, professional, and bureaucratic discourse. Our crisis in the humanities can appear to stem from irreconcilable differences between the two, though a broad historical perspective suggests less determined and more hopeful dynamics.



Keynote Event: Andre Dubus III

Friday, March 6, 7:00PM, Marriott, Salon E
Finding a Life through Words

Andre Dubus III grew up in mill towns on the Merrimack River along the Massachusetts-New Hampshire border. He is the author of seven books including three *New York Times* bestsellers. His most recent is *Gone So Long* (2018). *House of Sand and Fog* (1999) was a #1 *New York Times* bestseller, a fiction finalist for the National Book Award, Booksense Book of the Year, and an Oprah Book Club Selection; it won the *Los Angeles Times* Book Prize and was adapted into an Academy Award-nominated motion picture starring Ben Kingsley and Jennifer Connelly. *The Garden of Last Days* (2008) is soon to be a major motion picture. His memoir, *Townie* (2011), was a #4 *New York Times* bestseller and a *New York Times* Editor's Choice. *Dirty Love* (2013) was chosen as a Notable Book and Editors' Choice from the *New York Times*, a Notable Fiction from the *Washington Post*, and a Kirkus Starred Best Book of 2013. Mr. Dubus has been awarded a Guggenheim Fellowship, the National Magazine Award for Fiction, two Pushcart Prizes, and an American Academy of Arts and Letters Award in Literature. His books are published in more than 25 languages.

Book signing to follow

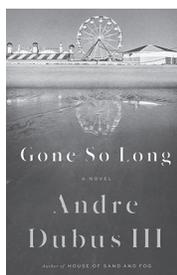
THE HUMANITIES ON THE ROAD



We are delighted to announce that award-winning novelist Christina Milletti, Executive Director of the Humanities Institute at the University at Buffalo, will serve as NEMLA's 2020 interviewer for our new initiative, the *Humanities on the Road*, featuring

internationally renowned authors from our annual convention's local host city. This inaugural edition is especially well-named for this convention's featured author: Andre Dubus III has professional ties to Lowell, Massachusetts, birthplace of leading Beat Generation figure Jack Kerouac, the author of *On the Road*. May *Humanities on the Road*, with Christina at its wheel, introduce NEMLA members to incredible people and unknown places with our convention's renowned authors in the Northeast for many years to come!

NEMLA READS TOGETHER



NEMLA members are encouraged to read *Gone So Long* in preparation for writer Andre Dubus III's keynote address. In *Gone So Long*, Daniel Ahearn lives a quiet, solitary existence in a seaside New England town. Forty years ago, following a shocking act of impulsive violence on his part, his daughter, Susan, was ripped from his arms by police. Now in her forties, Susan still suffers from the trauma of a night she doesn't remember.

Lois, her maternal grandmother who raised her, tries to find peace in her antique shop in a quaint Florida town but cannot escape her own anger, bitterness, and fear. Cathartic, affirming, and steeped in the empathy and precise observations of character for which Dubus is celebrated, *Gone So Long* explores how the wounds of the past afflict the people we become, and probes the limits of recovery and absolution. Submit questions in advance to ask the author at support@nemla.org or with our new mobile app.

AREA SPECIAL EVENTS

Emilio Sauri, “Document or Represent? Literature and Art at the Limits of the Present” | Saturday, March 7, 6:30PM, Marriott, Arlington

American/Comparative Literature/Cultural Studies & Media Studies/Spanish & Portuguese Special Event

This talk considers three tendencies that have come to define literary and cultural criticism during the last three decades: the emphasis on documentation over representation; the prominence given to the concrete against abstraction; and the predilection for the spontaneous over the deliberate or programmatic. Reading recent fiction and photography from Latin America and the United States together, this talk demonstrates how a renewed attentiveness to the question of art on the part of contemporary writers and artists not only underscores the limits—both critical and political—of these tendencies but also offers a means to think beyond them.



Photographer: An Lefevre

EMILIO SAURI is Associate Professor of English at the University of Massachusetts Boston. His research focuses on literature and visual art from Latin America and the United States, and reads these in relation to the development of the global economy from the end of the 19th century to the beginning of the 21st century.

Joseph Valente, “This Disability Which Is Not One: Autistic Intermittency and The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time” | Saturday, March 7, 6:30PM, Marriott, Simmons

Anglophone/British/Diversity Special Event

For both the general and the professional reader, the autism-based novel has emerged as a form of genre or formula fiction, whose characterization and corresponding narrative predicaments are bound by the stereotypical core deficits/differences enshrined on the autistic spectrum. The interpretive assumptions honed by such formula or genre fiction make it exceedingly difficult to appreciate less conventional, more ambitious, or “literary” portraits of the autistic, especially the rare text that might seek to delineate the dialectical interplay of type and heterogeneity informing autism most comprehensively. This state of affairs, I would argue, explains how the radical implications of Mark Haddon’s narrative design in *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* has escaped notice for the last 15 years, allowing the novel to continue as the archetypal, authoritative, and most successful mass market representation of an autistic subject in history—as opposed to what it really is—the most authentic because decentered portrait of autism ever to win widespread appeal.



Copyright: Doug Levere

JOSEPH VALENTE is Distinguished Professor in English and Disability Studies at the University at Buffalo. He is the author of *James Joyce and the Problem of Justice: Negotiating Sexual and Colonial Difference*, *Dracula’s Crypt: Bram Stoker, Irishness, and the Question of Blood*, and *The Myth of Manliness in Irish National Culture, 1880-1922*, and co-author of *The Child Sex Scandal and Modern Irish Literature: Writing the Unspeakable*, forthcoming from Indiana University Press.

A Fiction Reading with Christina Milletti: Choke Box: A Fem-Noir | Saturday, March 7, 6:30PM, Marriott, Regis

Creative Writing, Publishing, & Editing Special Event

When Edward Tamlin disappears while writing his memoir, Jane Tamlin (his wife and the mother of his young children) writes a secret, corrective “counter-memoir” of her own. Calling the book *Choke Box*, she reveals intimate, often irreverent, details about her family and marriage, rejecting—and occasionally celebrating—her suspected role in her husband’s disappearance. From her room in the Buffalo Psychiatric Institute, Jane slowly reveals a hidden history of the ghost authorship that has sabotaged her family and driven her to madness.



CHRISTINA MILLETTI’s novel *Choke Box: A Fem-Noir* won the Juniper Prize for Fiction and was released by University of Massachusetts Press in March 2019. Her fiction, articles, and reviews have appeared in many journals and anthologies, such as *Best New American Voices*, *The Iowa Review*, *The Master’s Review*, *Denver Quarterly*, *The Cincinnati Review*, *Studies in the Novel*, *Zeta*, *The Brooklyn Rail*, *American Letters & Commentary*, and *The Buffalo News*. Her first book, *The Religious & Other Fictions*, a collection of stories, was published by Carnegie Mellon University Press, and she has recently completed a new collection, *Now You See Her*, with the help of a residency at the Marble House Project. She is Associate Professor of English at the University at Buffalo, where she is the Executive Director of the Humanities Institute and co-curates the Exhibit X Fiction Series. She is also NeMLA’s 2020 interviewer for our new *Humanities on the Road* initiative.

The Annual Creative Writers and Editors’ Reception sponsored by *Modern Language Studies* will precede the presentation.

Patrick Autréaux, “The Dark Room: La chambre noire” | Saturday, March 7, 6:30PM, Marriott, MIT Room

French & Francophone Special Event

Patrick Autréaux has used his artistic (and personal) journey to transcend the boundaries of disciplines. His talk offers a retrospective of what fascinated him as a psychiatric practitioner and a writer: exploring psychological limits that trouble us to the point of interfering with the approximate identities (and genders) we abhor. He will point to this intruder—trauma—that is in us and is us, as Jean-Luc Nancy writes it, this intruder that is a driving force, a goal and a space: a type of matrix or dark room that impregnates itself by becoming foreign to itself. Yet, for Autréaux, it is this fecund matrix that perhaps creates a voice, what others may call a style, that is to say a language transformed by a body: a written voice. The talk will be given in French.



Copyright: Hélié Gallimard

While studying medicine and cultural anthropology, **PATRICK AUTRÉAUX** published poetry and reviews of contemporary art. In 2006, after practicing for 15 years as an emergency-room psychiatrist, he decided to devote himself entirely to writing. The view of illness as an inner experience informs his first cycle of writing, ending with *Se survivre*. He is the author of the novels *Dans la vallée des larmes*, *Soigner*, and *Le dedans des choses*. He also published in 2015 *Les Irréguliers*, a novel on undocumented immigration in France. His “standing poem” *Le Grand Vivant* was produced at the Festival d’Avignon in 2015. In 2017, he published *La Voix écrite*, a creative non-fiction essay on a vocation between literature and medicine; and in 2019, his novel *Quand la parole attend la nuit*. He received the Hemingway Grant from the French Minister of Foreign Affairs for his first novel translated in English, *In the Valley of Tears*.

Renate Ludanyi, “German as a Heritage Language in the USA” | Saturday, March 7, 6:30PM, Marriott, Suffolk

German Special Event

Considerable research in both linguistic theory and pedagogy has been developed for numerous heritage languages in the United States. German as a heritage language has received less attention, although this gap is slowly being filled. This talk presents the current status of German as a heritage language in the United States and elsewhere internationally. Dr. Ludanyi will discuss the particularities of heritage languages from historical, linguistical, and pedagogical perspectives to articulate differences in expectations and approaches to teaching a heritage and foreign language. Dr. Ludanyi will present the community-based schools in the United States where German is taught both as a heritage and a foreign language. She will discuss both challenges and progress being made in teaching German as a heritage language and culture in the United States.



RENATE LUDANYI is president of the German Language School Conference, where she works with government agencies to develop German schools abroad. Born in Silesia, Germany, Renate Ludanyi sees language as a connection to heritage and home. She introduced to the United States the German Language Certificate of the Standing Conference of the Ministers of

Education and Cultural Affairs. In 1978, driven by a decrease in German instruction in Connecticut, Dr. Ludanyi, along with concerned parents and colleagues, created the German Language School of Connecticut to strengthen cultural ties in the state’s German-speaking community. The American Association of Teachers of German has awarded the GSC with the prestigious designation of German Center of Excellence and awarded Dr. Ludanyi with the coveted Friend of German Award. She is also a core member of the Washington-based National Coalition of Community-Based Language Schools and faculty at Western Connecticut State University, where she is director of the German Studies Center. Dr. Ludanyi is a recipient of the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany.

Millicent Marcus, “From the Mirror of Narcissus to Mirror Neurons: What Cognitive Science Has to Teach Us about Films (Italian Ones in Particular)” | Saturday, March 7, 6:30PM, Marriott, Wellesley

Italian Special Event

This presentation was inspired by recent findings in neuro-aesthetics—the study of the impact of the arts on the nervous system. Cinema has been found to have a particularly strong effect on the part of the brain housing mirror neurons, the origin of such psychic processes as identification and empathy. Using clips from *Gomorra* and *Io non ho paura*, this event will analyze how the cinematic medium creates us as “embodied spectators” whose responses, at the level of neurology, can propel us to the highest reaches of understanding and compassion for the plight of the “other.”



MILLICENT MARCUS is Professor of Italian at Yale University. Her specializations include medieval literature, Italian cinema, interrelationships between literature and film, and representations of the Holocaust in post-war Italian culture. She is the author of *An Allegory of Form: Literary Self-Consciousness in the Decameron*, *Italian Film in the Light of Neorealism*, *Filmmaking by the Book: Italian Cinema and Literary Adaptation*, *After Fellini: National Cinema in the Postmodern Age*, and *Italian Film in the Shadow of Auschwitz*. Her current research projects include case studies in contemporary Italian cinema, and the argument for a neuro-aesthetic approach to the analysis of film.

Marjorie Howes, “Irish Women Writers and Literary History” | Friday, March 6, 4:45PM, Marriott, Regis

Women’s & Gender Studies Special Event

This talk examines how the study of 20th-century Irish women writers re-shapes our understanding of the categories through which scholars have traditionally written the history of Irish literature during that century. Professor Howes will explore how writers such as Elizabeth Bowen, Mary Lavin, and Kate O’Brien force us to revise terms such as the Irish Literary Revival, the Counter-Revival, modernism, realism, and naturalism.



MARJORIE HOWES is the author of *Yeats’s Nations: Gender, Class, and Irishness* and *Colonial Crossings: Figures in Irish Literary History* and the co-editor of *The Cambridge Companion to W. B. Yeats*, *Semicolonial Joyce*, and *Yeats and Afterwords* and a contributor to *The Field Day Anthology of Irish Women’s Writing*. She is also one of two series editors (with Claire Connolly) of the 6-volume series *Irish Literature in Transition*, which is forthcoming from Cambridge University Press in 2020. She teaches at Boston College.

Special Events Networking, Following Saturday Evening’s Special Events, Marriott 3rd Floor Atrium

Melanie Holm, “Under Pressure: How to Successfully Publish Under Less Than Ideal Circumstances” | Saturday, March 7, 11:45AM–1:15PM, Marriott, Regis

Professional and Pedagogy Area, the CAITY Caucus, and the Graduate Student Caucus Special Event



This interactive workshop will focus on how to succeed in academic writing and publishing, including strategies for breaking large writing projects into more manageable tasks; integrating teaching and research to maximize scholarly output; targeting and tailoring publications for specific audiences; and identifying the habits and tendencies that can slow your progress and keep you from the path to successful, timely, and efficient publication.

WORKSHOPS

Space is limited, so pre-register for these interactive workshops at cfplist.com/nemla and click “Registration and Membership.” Workshops that do not appear on the registration page are sold out, but you can email support@nemla.org to be added to our waiting list.

Data-driven Rubrics for the Contemporary Second Language Writing Classroom | Mary Jo Lubrano and Janice Willson, Yale University | Thursday, March 5, 2:15–4:15PM, Marriott, Back Bay Conference Center

Assessing second language writing is becoming more complex in today’s multicultural digital classroom. This workshop equips instructors to respond to these changes by demonstrating a method for aligning course goals with contemporary writing samples.

Enhance Students’ Cultural Proficiency through Street Art and Text Graffiti | Viktoria Hackbarth and Mira Angrist, Boston University | Saturday, March 7, 4:45–6:00PM, Marriott, Salon E

Participants in this workshop will be exposed to and actively engage with multi-model graffiti and art in the public space using pedagogical tools.

Essential Elements of Online Teaching | Richard Schumaker, City University of New York, and Susan Ko, Lehman College, CUNY | Thursday, March 5, 12:00–2:00PM, Marriott, Simmons

Participants will draft a design plan for a course or course elements that will make use of online delivery and receive feedback from moderators and workshop peers.

How Partnering with STEM Disciplines Can Elevate the Humanities | Beverly Wood and Debra Bourdeau, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University | Friday, March 6, 1:15–2:45PM, Marriott, Back Bay Conference Center

This workshop will show how to effectively blend STEM with the humanities when developing courses in order to expand students’ capacity for analysis and critical thinking.

Inclusive Curriculum and Instructional Design: Building Marketable Skills | Ann Gagné, University of Toronto-Mississauga | Sunday, March 8, 8:30–10:30AM, Marriott, Back Bay Conference Center

We will engage in activities that will improve skills and emphasize what can make you marketable as an instructional designer, educational developer, curriculum support in academia, or as a corporate training facilitator.

Introduction to Digital Textual Editing: A Hands-on Workshop | Isabella Magni, Rutgers University-New Brunswick | Thursday, March 5, 12:00–2:00PM, Marriott, Back Bay Conference Center

We will explore basic issues of conceptualizing, planning for, managing, and building digital editions, and we will provide a hands-on introduction to text-encoding. No technical skills or previous experience in text markup is necessary.

Shaping Pedagogy and Student Learning through Shared Open Educational Resources (OER) | Bryan McGeary, Dickinson College, and Christina Riehman-Murphy, Pennsylvania State University | Thursday, March 5, 4:30–6:00PM, Marriott, Back Bay Conference Center

We will explore effective strategies to navigate the wide variety of OER repositories. We will also discuss ways that OERs can help teachers incorporate open pedagogical practices that will lead to active and iterative learning and identity-inclusive course materials, and reinvent the relationship that students have with course content.

Situated and Transformed Practice: Critical Visual Literacy in L2 Instruction | Andrea Bryant, Georgetown University, and Silja Weber, Columbia University | Thursday, March 5, 12:00–2:00PM, Marriott, Suffolk

Politically neutral textbooks and language classrooms do not exist. Using a pedagogy of multiliteracies, this workshop models instructional sequences that decenter biased portrayals of marginalized speakers in language textbooks.

NEW EXHIBITOR-SPONSORED WORKSHOPS!

Shakespearean Cultures | With João Cezar de Castro Rocha, organized by Michigan State University Press | Friday, March 6, 3:00–4:30PM, Marriott, Back Bay Conference Center

João Cezar de Castro Rocha discusses his new book *Shakespearean Cultures: Latin America and the Challenges of Mimesis in Non-hegemonic Circumstances* (MSU Press). This discussion favors the insertion of Latin American authors into the comparative scope of world literature, and stages an unprecedented dialogue among European, North American, and Latin American readers of René Girard’s work.

Supporting Your Class and You: Making Materials Compatible and Marketable With OER | Melanie Banfield, LectureSource | Friday, March 6, 4:45–6:15PM, Marriott, Salon E

This workshop explores how to share and market your teaching portfolio to other professors with OERs.

Intellect’s Publishing Bootcamp—Academic Presses: Tips and Strategies | Amy Damutz, Intellect Books | Friday, March 6, 10:00–11:30AM, Marriott, Back Bay Conference Center

This workshop demystifies current practices to provide insider guidance on how to advance research and careers through scholarly publishing, including how to determine where to publish, how to approach a press and editors, and how to deal with peer review.

Pitch to Publication: A Roundtable with Convention Exhibitors | John Morgenstern, Clemson University Press, and featuring exhibitors from additional presses | Friday, March 6, 11:45AM–1:00PM, Marriott, Back Bay Conference Center

Exhibiting publishers will guide authors on how to propose a book to an academic press, from finding the right editor to drafting successful proposals. Editors will provide insider tips for effective queries, pitches, and proposals.

UNDERGRADUATE WORKSHOP

Applying to Graduate School | Claire Sommers, Washington University at St. Louis, Jennifer Mdurwa, SUNY University at Buffalo, and Donovan Ramon, Kentucky State University | **Saturday, March 7, 11:45AM–1:15PM, Marriott, Back Bay Conference Center**

This session will offer practical advice on applying to Master's and PhD programs in the Humanities. Participants will be given the opportunity not only to have their questions answered but to workshop their application materials. No pre-registration required.

MEET THE AUTHOR

Chidi Achebe, "Chinua Achebe's No Longer at Ease at 60" | **Thursday, March 5, 4:30–6PM, Marriott, Hyannis, & Friday, March 6, 11:45AM–1PM, Marriott, Salon D**



Credit: Teebanj (CC3.0)

Chinua Achebe's works have long been studied by students and scholars, but many remain unfamiliar with his second novel, *No Longer at Ease*. This novel deserves renewed attention not only for its literary and cultural merit but also for vital connections to Achebe's first novel, *Things Fall Apart* and other important literary works. Chinua Achebe's son, Chidi

Achebe, will be a respondent.

CHIDI ACHEBE is the son of renowned author Chinua Achebe. Dr. Achebe advocates for health care equality and was awarded the 2012 Dartmouth College Martin Luther King Award. He has served as the President and CEO of Harvard Street Neighborhood Health Centers as well as Assistant Professor at Tufts University School of Medicine.

PROFESSIONALIZATION EVENTS

CAITY Annual Business Meeting | **Thursday, March 5, 6:00–7:00PM, Marriott, Falmouth**

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. A vote for President/Board Representative will take place at this meeting. Constituents must be present at the meeting to vote. Read all candidates' bios and statements of purpose at buffalo.edu/nemla/caityvote. Other meeting topics include panels, speakers, and continuing to advocate for our members on topics including pedagogy, unionizing, and nontraditional career paths.

Graduate Student Caucus Annual Business Meeting | **Thursday, March 5, 6:00–7:00PM, Marriott, Orleans**

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 (email gsc@nemla.org)!

Women's & Gender Studies Mentorship Program Meeting & Caucus Business Meeting | **Saturday, March 7, 8:30–10:30AM, Marriott, Simmons**

The Women's & Gender Studies Mentor Program welcomes new participants, mentors, and mentees. This interdisciplinary program pairs senior faculty with junior faculty and doctoral students. The

wsgc Business Meeting will follow and is open to current and prospective members. The agenda includes future speakers and convention topics, as well as Caucus officer nominations.

NEMLA's Publishing Mentorship Program: Our Second Year | **Saturday, March 7, 10:15–11:30AM, Marriott, Back Bay Conference Center**

NEMLA's Publishing Mentorship Program pairs graduate students and early career faculty members with seasoned scholars in similar areas. In this roundtable, participants assess the challenges and successes from this year-long undertaking.

Undergraduate Forum | **Saturday, March 7, 1:30–4:30PM, Marriott, Salon E**

Students will give 3- to 5-minute poster presentations on their work during our Second Annual Undergraduate Forum. Meet and converse with our aspiring scholars, read their research at your

FREE PROFESSIONAL HEADSHOTS

FRIDAY, MARCH 6–SATURDAY, MARCH 7, 12:00–4:00PM, SALON E

Whether for a web site, book jacket, or profile, headshots are necessary for professionalization. Stop by Salon E between 12 and 4 PM Friday and Saturday for photos, courtesy of Julia Zhogina Photography. No pre-registration required.

SIGN UP FOR JOB CLINIC & MENTORING CIRCLE BY JAN 10!

SALON E

These one-on-one 30-minute advising sessions allow those contemplating the job market, especially graduate students and contingent and adjunct faculty, to practice mock interviews and work on cvs and cover letters. Pre-register by January 10: log into cfplist.com/nemla, click "Registration and Membership," choose "Job Mentoring Circle and Clinic," and choose "Mentor" or "Mentee."

SIGN UP FOR THE PUBLISHING MENTORSHIP PROGRAM BY JAN 15!

Prospective Mentors: Please email jobclinic@nemla.org by January 15 with your affiliation and areas of specialty so we can pair you up.

Prospective Mentees: Please complete and email the application at buffalo.edu/nemla/jobclinic to jobclinic@nemla.org by January 15.

PROMOTE YOUR BOOK

SALON E

Did you publish a book in 2019 or 2020? Bring copies of your book's flyer to share at our Exhibit Hall in Salon E! Make sure to list the time and place of your session so attendees can meet you in person! Email support@nemla.org to advertise your work on our web site.

NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES

8:30AM–5:00PM, SALON E, EXHIBIT HALL, DAILY & SATURDAY, MARCH 7, 8:30PM, MARRIOTT, 3RD FLOOR ATRIUM

Get to know your fellow scholars and engage with the NEMLA community! Our Exhibit Hall and evening Special Events will have designated areas for networking. Meet NEMLA's board members, administration, and staff and share your NEMLA experiences with the people who put this conference together. We hope to see you there!

UNDERGRADUATE NETWORKING EVENT

SATURDAY, MARCH 7, 4:45–6:00PM, SALON D

Following the Second Annual Undergraduate Forum, join us for an event allowing undergraduates to network with faculty and graduate students 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 youngest NEMLA members.

own leisure, then vote for your favorite presentation on our mobile app to award prizes to our youngest scholars.

The **Undergraduate Networking Event** will follow in Salon D at 4:45 PM.

Membership Business Meeting and Brunch | Sunday, March 8, 11:45AM–1:30PM, Marriott, Salon E

We will announce the winners of the NeMLA Essay Awards; the Book Award; Fellowships; honor outgoing and incoming Board members; and share flyers for the Call for Session Proposals for our 52nd Annual Convention in Philadelphia. The brunch will also offer NeMLA attendees an opportunity to converse and network.

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

Photo Contest

Prize: Win a 2021 NeMLA Convention Registration!

We encourage session chairs to organize get-togethers with presenters outside of sessions. Whether sharing a meal or drink, visiting presenters outside the conference room allows you to talk about research, explore your session's topic in greater detail, and get to know fellow convention participants. At our convention in Boston, organize get-togethers with your presenters, take a photograph of your gathering, and email it to photos@nemla.org with the names of all attendees by April 1, 2020. Session chair(s) in the winning photo will receive free convention registration for our 2021 meeting in Philadelphia. (Don't forget to propose a session for NeMLA 2021, starting March 2020!)

Graduate Student Caucus Social

Fri, Mar 6, 8-10 PM, The Pour House

Brew Ha Ha!, gsc's social event, will be held at **The Pour House**, 907 Boylston St, an 8-minute walk from the Marriott Copley Place. Join us for a night of socializing and networking with fellow graduate students while enjoying drinks and light snacks! Follow the GSC on social media for the most up-to-date information about upcoming GSC initiatives! Tweet @NeMLAGradCaucus, follow @NeMLAGradStudents on Facebook and @NeMLAgrad on Instagram, or email gsc@nemla.org.

NeMLA Draws: Children's Art Contest

We encourage our youngest attendees to draw pictures inspired by our yearly convention. Whether depicting convention participants, keynote events, special events, the Marriott Copley Place, or sites around Boston, children under the age of twelve can submit their drawings at the Registration Area to enter the contest. Be sure to include your name and age, the name of the adult with whom you attended the convention, and the title of your picture. Winning artists will receive a prize, and their picture may be included on our web site and in our newsletter.

Live Music

This year's convention will feature live music by local Boston talent and folk/bluegrass singers, Sara Duncan and Rachel Ravina.

LOCAL EVENT DISCOUNTS

NeMLA is happy to sponsor live performances and museum admission in Boston to provide discounted admission to convention attendees. Purchase tickets for live performances at cfplist.com/nemla.

THE CHILDREN AT SPEAKEASY STAGE COMPANY



Lucy Kirkwood's *The Children* is a 2018 Tony Award Nominee for Best Play that questions the responsibility each generation has for the way it leaves the world. In the wake of a devastating nuclear accident, three friends must come to terms with their shared culpability in this searing drama about responsibility and guilt, reparation and redemption. SpeakEasy Stage Company is an intimate, acclaimed non-profit theater company located in Boston's South End that focuses on producing plays that create challenging, connecting, and inspiring conversations among audience members. NeMLA has secured a special post-show talk for our 51st Annual Convention attendees and a **special reduced admission rate of \$50 per adult ticket, \$25 per student ticket**. Saturday, March 7, 4:00PM.

rEVOLUTION AT THE BOSTON BALLET



Credit: Rachel Neville Photography

rEVOLUTION is a mixed repertory ballet program showcasing the work of three pioneering choreographers—George Balanchine, Jerome Robbins, and William Forsythe—who pushed classical dance form forward and definitively changed the course of ballet. Boston Ballet is the oldest professional ballet company in New England, started by Massachusetts native E. Virginia Williams in 1963, as well as the first American dance company to tour China. NeMLA has secured a **special reduced admission rate of \$55** (more than 30 percent off) and a post-show tour for our 51st Annual Convention attendees. Saturday, March 7, 7:30PM.

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. NeMLA has secured a **special reduced admission rate of \$25** (a \$7 discount) for our 51st Annual Convention attendees. Just show your NeMLA badge at the ticket office. Monday-Friday 9:00 AM-5:00 PM, Saturday-Sunday 9:00 AM-6:00 PM.

FELLOWSHIPS

SUMMER RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP

Fellowships of up to \$1,200 defray travel costs incurred by researchers pursuing work-in-progress over the summer. As part of their funding, NEMLA Summer Research Fellows submit posters for display at the Annual Convention; fellows do not have to attend the convention where their poster are displayed. Please email submissions to fellowship@nemla.org with “NEMLA Summer Fellowship” in the subject line and the following as Microsoft Word attachments: (1) a two-page single-spaced application describing the summer project with a timeline, (2) an itemized budget, (3) your CV, and (4) two recommendation letters from colleagues in the field supporting the proposed project; these can either be emailed or mailed in a sealed and signed envelope to NEMLA, 306 Clemens Hall, Buffalo, NY 14260-4610. **More Information:** buffalo.edu/nemla/summerfellow. **Deadline:** February 6, 2020

NeMLA-UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO SPECIAL COLLECTIONS FELLOWSHIP

The University at Buffalo’s Poetry Collection holds one of the largest collections of poetry first editions and other titles, little literary magazines, broadsides and anthologies, and 150 archives and manuscript collections. It holds the archives of the Jargon Society and large manuscript collections by James Joyce, William Carlos Williams, Dylan Thomas, Wyndham Lewis, Robert Duncan, Theodore Enslin, Helen Adam, and more. Founded on the Collection of Thomas B. Lockwood, the Rare and Special Books Collection features literary first editions and finely printed books from 1600 to the present.

Please email the following in a single PDF to ublibraryfellow@nemla.org: (1) a cover letter, (2) a brief two- to three-page, single-spaced research proposal identifying collections and materials to be used, including length and approximate timing of proposed visit, (3) a current two- to three-page CV detailing previous and upcoming research support, (4) budget for use of Fellowship funds, and (5) a letter of support from department chair (this can be sent separately). **Stipend/length of term:** \$1,400, one month. **Deadline:** April 15, 2020

ESSAY AWARDS

CAITY CAUCUS ESSAY AWARD

The 2020 award is for a paper presented at the 2019 Convention by an independent scholar or a contingent, adjunct, or two-year college faculty member. Submitted essays should be 7,000 to 9,000 words. Please email revised conference papers to caity@nemla.org with “NEMLA CAITY Essay Award Submission” in the subject with two Microsoft Word attachments: (1) a cover sheet with the applicant’s name, address, and academic affiliation, and (2) the revised essay with no identifying information. **Deadline:** January 10, 2020.

GRADUATE STUDENT CAUCUS ESSAY AWARD

This award is for an expanded (article-length) version of presentation by a graduate student to the 2017, 2018, or 2019 convention. Submitted essays must be 7,000 to 9,000 words, using MLA format and citation style. Please email submissions to gsc@nemla.org with “NEMLA

Graduate Student Essay Award Submission” in the subject line and two PDF attachments: (1) a cover sheet with the applicant’s name, address, and academic affiliation, and (2) the revised essay with no identifying information. **Deadline:** January 15, 2020.

TRAVEL AWARDS

NEMLA offers 2020 awards to members accepted to present papers at the 51st Annual Convention in Boston. Applicants are eligible to receive only one of the awards listed below.

ANTONIO CAO MEMORIAL AWARD

In memory of Antonio Cao, Hofstra University professor and an invaluable member of NEMLA, our 2020 prize will be awarded to a graduate student who is presenting on any aspect of Spanish culture or literature at the upcoming NEMLA 51st Annual Convention in Boston. Please email to cao.travel@nemla.org the following: your convention presentation abstract, the relevance of your topic to Spanish studies, funds available from your institution, and the travel distance to the Convention. **Deadline:** January 10, 2020.

CAITY TRAVEL AWARD

CAITY Travel Awards are open to contingent faculty, adjunct instructors, independent scholars, and two-year college faculty who have been accepted to present a paper as part of a traditional panel or seminar at NEMLA’s annual convention. CAITY Travel Awards are not meant for panel chairs or for participants in creative sessions or roundtables. Applicants can expect to hear from the Caucus by mid-February. Download the application at buffalo.edu/nemla/caitytravel and email it to caity@nemla.org. **Deadline:** January 6, 2020.

2020 BOARD ELECTIONS

Candidates for 2020–2023

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT

Joseph Valente | University at Buffalo

BRITISH/ANGLOPHONE STUDIES DIRECTOR

Thomas Lynn | Penn State Berks

Dewey W. Hall | California State Polytechnic University

DIVERSITY CAUCUS PRESIDENT

Maryann DiEdwardo | Lehigh University

Jennifer Mdurwva | University at Buffalo

GERMAN STUDIES DIRECTOR

Thomas Herold | Montclair State University

Charles Vannette | University of New Hampshire

ITALIAN STUDIES DIRECTOR

Tiziano Cherubini | Baylor University

Irene Lottini | University of Iowa

NEMLA members: read candidates’ bios and statements of purpose and vote online at buffalo.edu/nemla/boardelection.

DEADLINE TO VOTE: February 1, 2020.

OPENINGS FOR BOARD MEMBERS

The success of NeMLA depends on an engaged, volunteer Board. These roles provide an opportunity to shape the Convention and to contribute to the profession. Positions on the Board are staggered. Self-nominations are welcome. Nominations for the 2021–2024 slate are due **August 15, 2020**. To submit nominations, or for more information about positions and nominating, please visit buffalo.edu/nemla/boardopenings.

Open positions following the 2020 convention will include:

- Second Vice President
- American/Anglophone Studies Director
- Comparative Literature Director
- Cultural Studies and Media Studies Director
- Pedagogy and Professionalism Director

Board Duties

Two meetings per year, where each Board member is required to write a report on the activities related to their particular position.

Responsibilities

The **Second Vice President** serves on the Board for four years in progressive positions. The Second Vice President chairs the Fellowship Committee, assists the President by performing duties assigned, and when necessary assumes duties and responsibilities of the President. The First and Second Vice Presidents share with the President and the Executive Director responsibility for the annual convention. The Second Vice President also negotiates an agreement with a higher education hosting institution for the NeMLA conference that will take place in the year they will be the acting President. A new Second Vice President is elected yearly.

Directors represent the interests of membership as a whole as well as of their particular Area constituency. They also oversee the convention program for their particular Area and may be requested to serve on other Board committees. Nominations are staggered.

NeMLA News Editors

Solon Morse and Derek McGrath, University at Buffalo

Boston University Liaisons

Gillian Pierce
Karl Kirchwey
Davida Pines
Korine Powers
Cory Charpentier

NeMLA Graduate Fellows at the University at Buffalo

Ashley Byczkowski
Patrick Clancy
Maria Andrea Diaz
Callie Ingram
Valentina Marulanda
Jiwon Ohm
Cassandra Scherr
Nicole Sedor
Dana Venerable

MAST: NEMLA'S NEWEST JOURNAL

ANNOUNCING MAST: NeMLA'S NEW JOURNAL OF MEDIA STUDY



MAST is an international, online, open-access, and peer-reviewed journal featuring interdisciplinary scholarship in media study. *MAST* aims to publish and promote innovative research and writing by artists and scholars who present new methods, approaches, questions, and studies in the field of media study, practice, and theory. This journal is relevant to academics, artists, researchers, theorists, and art curators with an interest in research, theory, and the praxis of media, introducing work that demonstrates a clear and creative engagement with current debates in media studies. *MAST*'s first issue will be published in Spring 2020. To submit, please visit mast-nemla.org.

MLS AND NEW PUBLICATIONS



Modern Language Studies (modernlanguagestudies.org) 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 the professions of teaching, research, and writing. NeMLA members are encouraged to submit essays and book reviews to *Modern Language Studies*. Members are also encouraged to have their publishers send their books to NeMLA to have them reviewed in *Modern Language Studies*. All new books by members will be announced on the NeMLA website. For more information, please email support@nemla.org.

ADAPTATION STUDIES AT NEMLA!

We are pleased and excited to offer a new track of sessions in adaptation studies at this year's convention. Beginning 60 years ago with analyses of films based on novels and plays, this field has broadened to include a wider array of adaptations—operas, TV series, comics, novelizations, online videos, paintings, and other ekphrastic works—while focusing on the challenges adaptation and its study raise for long-standing assumptions about the wholeness and self-sufficiency of works of art that are always subject to adaptation and non-textual processes like biological evolution, immigration and naturalization, and the writing of history. At our Boston convention, there will be ten panels on different aspects of the subject, from reparative adaptation to adaptation as border crossing. If you're interested in what happens when texts generate other texts or audiences experience a text as both its own self and a new version of a familiar text, we hope you'll offer—or watch for—such sessions next year in Philadelphia as well!

51st Annual Convention Exhibitors

Exhibitors Registration is open!

At its 51st annual convention, NeMLA expects more than 1,800 higher education professionals from throughout the northeastern U.S. and Canada as well as around the world to attend more than 400 sessions focused on American, British, French, German, Hispanic, and Italian studies, women's studies and literary theory, cultural studies, film, and more. We encourage local, national, and international publishers and presses, academic institutions, and scholarly organizations to take advantage of our exhibitor and advertising opportunities.

Visit buffalo.edu/nemla/exhibit for more information. And email nemla.exhibit@gmail.com for our returning exhibitor discount! Interested publishing houses and journals can register at buffalo.edu/nemla/exhibitors before February 5, 2020.

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NeMLA 2021

NeMLA GOES TO PHILADELPHIA!

Tradition and Innovation: Changing Worlds Through the Humanities

52nd Annual Convention March 11–14, 2021

LOCAL HOST: UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

Please join us for NeMLA's 52nd Annual Convention in the "Birthplace of America" at the Marriott Downtown, steps from Independence Hall, the Reading Terminal Market, and other treasures of art, culture, and community. This year's theme, "Tradition and Innovation: Changing Worlds Through the Humanities," asks how evolving traditions in the humanities deal with changing worlds, both real and imaginary. This theme opens dialogues about how the humanities underscore, make visible, even facilitate global change. We are delighted to host for our opening address Professor Jed Esty, Vartan Gregorian Professor of English at the University of Pennsylvania, and author of *Unseasonable Youth: Modernism, Colonialism, and the Fiction of Development*. Our Friday keynote event will be given by no other than Pulitzer-prize winning author Jennifer Egan, whose novel *Manhattan Beach* will be the focus of "NeMLA Reads Together." We look forward to seeing you in Philly!

Session Proposals due April 29, 2020

Paper Abstract Proposals due September 30, 2020

For more information, please visit buffalo.edu/nemla or email support@nemla.org.

NeMLA

NORTHEAST MODERN LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION

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Upcoming Convention Dates

- 2020** March 5-8; Boston, MA
Host: Boston University
- 2021** March 11-14; Philadelphia, PA
Host: University of Pennsylvania
- 2022** March 10-13; Baltimore, MD

Key Dates for 2019-2020

- Jan 6** Deadline for the CAITY Caucus Travel Award
- Jan 10** Deadline for the CAITY Caucus Essay Award
- Jan 10** Deadline for the Antonio Cao Memorial Award
- Jan 10** Deadline for Job Clinic Mentor and Mentee Pre-registration
- Jan 15** Deadline for Publishing Mentorship Program Applications
- Jan 15** Deadline for the Graduate Student Essay Award
- Feb 1** Deadline to Vote for Board Elections
- Feb 5** Deadline for Exhibitor Registration
- Feb 6** Deadline for Summer Fellowship Applications
- Mar 5-8** 51st Annual Convention in Boston, MA
- Apr 1** Deadline for Photo Contest
- Apr 15** Deadline for the NeMLA-UB Special Collections Fellowship
- Apr 29** Deadline for 52nd Annual Convention Session Proposals
- Aug 15** Deadline for Board Nominations
- Sep 30** Deadline for 52nd Annual Convention Abstract Proposals