Winter 2013

# Nemla News

# Northeast Modern Language Association

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# President's Letter: Welcome to Boston!

I'm delighted to be returning to a city in which we've enjoyed so many wonderful conventions. NeMLA was founded in Massachusetts and it's always a pleasure to go back to our scholarly home. Our convention site, the Boston Hyatt, has been an ideal location for us in the past and we're confident that it will provide us with equally high standards this year. A difference this time is that our host institution is Tufts University and we are very grateful for their support and for the enthusiasm of our faculty colleagues there.



And, the 2013 convention is going to be a record breaker! With nearly 400 panels, the convention will be our largest yet. Our sessions have increased in number and in variety in nearly all of our language areas. There are more panels in areas such as Portuguese, German, Russian and Creative Writing, for example, and the breadth of the sessions is more impressive than ever. We're building on the success of our relatively new initiative, the pre-convention workshops, by again offering a variety of workshops on Thursday, and are continuing with the mix of seminars, panels and roundtables throughout the four days.

We're looking forward to a variety of special events throughout the convention. The opening night speaker will be Askold Melnyczuk. Melnyczuk is Associate Professor of English at the University of Massachusetts Boston and is a celebrated writer, translator and editor. His books, such as *The House of Widows* and *What Is Told*, have garnered accolades and the journal that he founded and edited, *Agni*, won the PEN Magid award for being "one of America's, and the world's, most significant literary journals."

Translation is a theme that will run throughout this convention, beginning with Melnyczuk's opening night reading. The theory and practice of translation have become a major focus of sessions proposed by members in recent conventions and this theme brings together a lot of what we do as readers, teachers and scholars of language and literature. We're thrilled to welcome David Bellos to the convention to make a plenary address on Saturday evening. Known to many of us for his pioneering work, Bellos is Professor of French and Comparative Literature and Director of the Program in Translation and Intercultural Communication at Princeton University. He has won the French-American Foundation's translation prize (1988), the Prix Goncourt de la Biographie (1994) and the Man Booker International translator's award (2005).

As you all know, we are very fortunate to be hosting Dionne Brand as our keynote speaker this year. Originally from Trinidad, Brand is a Canadian writer, poet, filmmaker and critic whose work is well-known for its interrogation of race, diaspora, gender and sexuality. A fervent and committed cultural observer, Brand has written eighteen books, in addition to essays and articles, including *No Language is Neutral, Thirsty, What We All Long For* and *In Another Place, Not Here.* The late Adrienne Rich described Brand as "a cultural critic of uncompromising courage, an artist in language and ideas, an intellectual conscience for her country."

Our local representatives, Diego Millan and Jackie O'Dell, have put together an impressive array of cultural events throughout the convention. I'm sure that those of you who missed the performance of *Raisin in the Sun* last year in Rochester will be pleased to hear of a second opportunity in Boston! Other events include evenings at the Boston Lyric Opera, the Boston Symphony Orchestra, and the Boston Ballet, and outings to local museums such as the Museum of Fine Arts and the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library. Details inside!

Finally, many thanks are due to the board members and administrators behind the scenes whose work carries on throughout the year, not just throughout the convention. Our Executive Board members Bill Waddell, Ellen Dolgin, Daniela Antonucci and Carine Mardorossian have been an amazing team and have continually gone beyond the call of duty. Our Board of Directors has shown vision and commitment to their areas and deserves full credit for the content of the convention program. The indefatigable Lisa Perdigao, our Special Events Coordinator, has put together a wonderful array of events and programs, and Brandi So and Kristin Leveness continue to offer unflagging administrative support. It is only through the hard work of these faculty members and graduate student fellows that NeMLA has been able to produce a convention of the size and quality that awaits you in March.

I look forward to seeing you all in Boston!

#### Natalie Edwards

The University of Adelaide



**NeMLA's 2013 Convention** will be held at the Hyatt Regency Boston and the Ritz Carlton Hotel (less than two blocks from the Hyatt).

**Hyatt Regency Boston:** One Avenue de Lafayette, \$139/ night.

**Ritz Carlton Boston Common:** 10 Avery Street (subsidized by NeMLA), \$164/night.

Both hotels are only a block away from Boston Commons and Chinatown, and within walking distance of the Faneuil Market. The overflow hotels, listed below, are a few blocks away, close to the Theatre District.

**Courtyard Boston Downtown/Tremont:** 275 Tremont Street; Restored, 1925 Historic Hotel. King rooms \$149/ night; double rooms \$174/night.

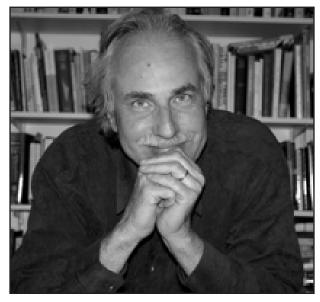
**Doubletree Boston-Downtown:** 821 Washington St.; Enjoy complimentary access to the adjoining YMCA fitness facility, \$159/night.

For links and codes to reserve hotel rooms, go to: http://www.nemla.org/convention/2013/hotel.html

# **Featured Speakers**

# Welcome Reading: Askold Melnyczuk

**Special Guest: acclaimed fiction writer Askold Melnyczuk** will read from his work-in-progress entitled *Smedley's Secret Guide to World Literature*. An Associate Professor at the University of Massachusetts, Melnyczuk has published essays and reviews about a wide range of contemporary international authors in such places as *The New York Times, The Boston Globe,* and *The Harvard Review*. As editor of *Agni,* he contributed to the journal's emphasis on literature in translation and published features on contemporary Colombian poetry, as well as new writing from India. He has co-edited an anthology of contemporary Ukrainian literature, as well as a translation of Oksana Zabuzhko's novella *Girls.* Melnyczuk is also a celebrated fiction writer in his own right, having received a Lila Wallace Reader's Digest Grant and the McGinnis Prize. His first novel was a *New York Times* 



*Notable,* his second was an *LA Times Best Books of the Year* selection, and the most recent was chosen by the American Libraries Association's *Booklist* as an Editor's Choice. An excerpt from *Smedley's Secret Guide to World Literature* aired on WBUR in Boston. **Thursday, March 21, 7:00 - 9:00PM** 

# Keynote Speaker: Dionne Brand

NeMLA is thrilled to welcome Dionne Brand as their 2013 Keynote Speaker. An award-winning poet, Dionne Brand is also a renowned novelist, and essayist. Her writing is notable for the beauty of its language, and for its intense engagement



photo by: jasonchowphotography.com

with issues of social justice, including particularly issues of gender and race. She has won both the Governor General's Literary Award and the Trillium Prize for Literature for her volume *Land to Light On* (1997). She has also won the Pat Lowther Award for poetry and her volume *Thirsty* (2002) was nominated for the Griffin Poetry Prize, the Toronto Book award, and the Trillium prize for literature. Her latest work of poetry, *Ossuaries*, won the 2011 Griffin Poetry Prize.

She has also achieved great distinction and acclaim in fiction, nonfiction, and film. Her fiction includes the novel *In Another Place, Not Here* (1996), a New York Times notable book, and *At the Full and Change of the Moon* (1999), a Los Angeles Times Notable Book. Her critically acclaimed and Toronto Book Award winning novel, *What We All Long For* (2005), is the story of four young people in Toronto; like *Thirsty*, her book of poems, the novel offers an indelible portrait of this great multicultural city. Her non-fiction includes *Bread Out Of Stone* (1994) and *A Map to the Door of No Return* (2001), which is a meditation on Blackness in the Diaspora. In 2009, she was named Poet Laureate of the city of Toronto. **Friday, March 22, 7:30 - 9PM** 

# Plenary Speaker: Translation David Bellos

Co-sponsored by Comparative Languages and French Language & Literatures Areas

**David Bellos** studied French and Russian at Oxford and taught in French departments at Edinburgh, Southampton and Manchester in the UK before coming to Princeton in 1997, where he has a joint appointment in French and Comparative Literature. He specialized in nineteenth-century French fiction and wrote widely



on Balzac until he encountered the work of Georges Perec in the 1980s. Since then he has translated more than twenty books by Perec and other contemporary European writers and also published literary biographies of Perec (1993), the film-maker Jacques Tati (1999), and the polyglot diplomatwriter Romain Gary (2010). In 2007 he became the first director of the Program in Translation and Intercultural Communication at Princeton. What he learned from that adventure is brought together in his recent book, Is That a Fish in Your Ear? Translation and the Meaning of Everything (2011), a finalist for the National Book Critics' Circle Award and for the Los Angeles Times Book Prize. Bellos was awarded the French-American Foundation's translation prize for Life A User's Manual, the Prix Goncourt de la Biographie for the French edition of Georges Perec. A Life in Words, and the Man Booker International Translator's Award for his work with the Albanian novelist Ismail Kadare. Saturday, March 23, 6:30 - 8PM

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# THE MOUTH REFUSES TO TRANSLATE

I think: *serce moyeh* but what I say my pen won't put on paper in

this hostile tongue this Jacob's ladder I am testing rung by rung.

Askold Melnyczuk, published in Grand Street

# After a Snowfall on the Second Day of Spring in 1992

For Gus and Eiko What else are we here for? The unfinished lives, the garages Uncleaned, the unwritten love letters, most of them filled with complaints, arguments with the mysteriously missing beloved who knows why she's here no better than we, the projects half started, the novels and plays, the efforts at politics, the partial despair at how close we come before falling, the friendships that promise deliverance and maybe come nearest of all to being what they promised, the unvisited cities, the grackles unseen in our yards, the secret life of the soil glimpsed only on television, the planets dismissed with a shrug and some lies about science, parents unknown, the mothers and fathers mysterious in their own homes, and to each other, the endless talks with ourselves and no answers, just stutters, then spring.

Askold Melnyczuk, published in Poetry

# Thursday, March 21

#### 7:00PM - 9:00PM Reading & Welcome Reception

Excerpts from *Smedley's Secret Guide to World Literature* with Askold Melnyczuk, University of Massachusetts Boston.

# 9:00PM - 11:00PM Graduate Caucus Reception

# Friday, March 22

11:45AM - 1:15PM

Italian Language & Literatures Special Event "The Untimely Timeliness of Giacomo Leopardi's Theory of

Pleasure" Alessandro Carrera, Graduate Director of World Cultures and Literatures at the University of Houston. He has received the Montale Prize for Poetry (1993), the Loria Prize for Short Fiction (1998) and the Bertolucci Prize for Literary Criticism (2006).

# World Literatures Sponsored Roundtable: Empowering Arabic Learners through Immersion/Content Based

**Instruction.** This pedagogy roundtable will featured Aman Attieh, Swarthmore College.

6:20PM - 7:30PM Graduate Caucus Business Meeting

# 7:30PM - 9:00PM

Keynote Address and Reception "The Versos of the Blue Clerk, or what is withheld" Dionne Brand.

9:30PM - 11:00PM Diversity Meet-and-Greet

# Saturday, March 23

1:30PM - 3:00PM



# **Diversity Programs Special Event**

"The Hip Hop Entry Point: Promoting Diversity and Inclusion through Pedagogy" Emmett G. Price III, Associate Professor of Music at Northeastern University. Price is the author of *Hip Hop Culture* (2006), Executive Editor of the *Encyclopedia of African American Music* (2011), and Editor

of The Black Church and Hip Hop Culture: Toward Bridging the Generational Divide (2012).

# Spanish Language & Literatures Special Event

"Cuban American Writing in the 21st Century: A Dialogue with the Writers" Featuring Ana Menendez, University of Maastricht; Pablo Medina, Emerson College; and Carlos Eire, Yale University; organized by **Isabel Alvarez Borland**, College of Holy Cross. **Carlos Eire** is the author of *Waiting for Snow in Havana* (2003), which won the National Book Award in Nonfiction and has been translated into more than a dozen languages (but is banned in Cuba). **Pablo Medina** has published 13 books of poetry, fiction, nonfiction, and translation. His most recent books include *The Man Who Wrote on Water* and *Cubop City Blues*. **Ana Menéndez** is the author of *In Cuba I Was a German Shepherd*, which was a 2001 New York Times Notable book of the year, and *The Last War* (2009), chosen by Publishers Weekly as one of the top 100 books of the year.

# 3:15PM - 4:45PM

American Area Film Screening: Audre Lourde: The Berlin Years: 1984-1992.

# 6:30PM - 8:00PM PLENARY SPEAKER

"What Translation Teaches" David Bellos, Princeton University.

# Women's & Gender Studies Caucus Speaker and Reception

"Writing Women's Lives: A Fiction Reading and Discussion,"

Suzanne Matson, full professor and Chairperson of the English department at Boston College. She has published three novels, *The Tree-Sitter* (2006), *A Trick of Nature* (2000), and *The Hunger Moon* (1997), and two books of poems, *Durable Goods* (1993) and *Sea Level* (1990).



German Language, Literature & Culture Special Event A Poetry Reading by Hans-Michael Speier, renowned poet,



translator, and literary scholar, whose poetry has appeared in eight volumes and over 40 anthologies. His latest volume is *Haupt Stadt Studio* (Aphaia, 2012). This event is co-sponsored by NeMLA, the Department of German at Georgetown University, and the

Department of German, Russian, and Asian Languages.

**Cultural Studies & Film Special Event and Reception** "Truth and Deception in *The Jew of Malta*: A Director's Perspective" Douglas Morse, The New School.

8:00PM - 9:30PM Creative Writing and Editors Reception Sponsored by Modern Language Studies

# **Small Group Workshops**

The 2013 NEMLA Convention will feature small group workshops that will be offered on Thursday and Sunday. Each workshop will feature a number of presenters who will work closely with participants. For more information visit http://nemla.org/convention/2013/events.html

# Pre-registration is required.

# Thursday 11:30 - 2:00PM

**Responding to Student Papers** *Organizer: Jim Bowman, St. John Fisher College* We all spend hours writing responses to our students' work, often with little sense of their impact on learning. This workshop will focus on strategies for making that feedback, whether formative or summative, more effective. It will address how to achieve better results for student learning and improve both their writing and their mastery of course content in writing and in literature courses. Workshop activities:

- Review/explore best practices for responding according to current research, including ways to use available course management software and other technologies
- Consider the relationship between the stage of a student's project and the type of response to offer
- Reflect on our practices in terms of providing feedback to student writing
- Share and analyze samples of student writing as a group
- Share and analyze samples of both student writing and responses offered by session participants

Session outcome: To develop a short and practical set of revised pedagogical strategies that will lead to more efficient and effective responses.

# **Creative Writing**

# Organizer: Suzanne Matson, Boston College

This is a creative writing workshop addressing the concept of "voice." We'll begin by examining and discussing one or two models, paying attention to how the voice in the text has been constructed through diction, imagery, and rhetorical mode. Participants will write to a prompt that invites either a prose or poetry response. We'll share the exercise and comment. Then, since most participants are teachers or future teachers, we'll end with a discussion of creative writing pedagogy, including issues like managing peer workshop feedback, and evaluating student writing.

# **NEH Grants**

This workshop will provide an introduction to the National Endowment of the Humanities grant opportunities and strategies for writing successful grant proposals. The workshop will focus on types of funding for individual and collaborative research and education. This workshop will highlight a range of programs including new initiatives in the Digital Humanities.

# Sunday 1:30 - 3:00PM

Shaping Your Academic Career and Entering the Job Market

Organizer: Gregory Colón Semenza, University of Connecticut Based on the popularity and outstanding substantive content of this workshop last year in Rochester, the Graduate Student Caucus is pleased to sponsor a second opportunity for scholars on the verge or in the process of applying for jobs in academe. Simply put, this workshop is designed to prepare students for the realities of the academic job market. Participants may be planning to enter the market in Fall 2013 or might be several years removed from doing so (it's never too early to familiarize oneself with what goes on in this crucial year). Professor Semenza will base the format of the meeting largely around the needs and requests of individual participants, but the following subjects certainly will be spotlighted: how to craft a convincing cover letter; the art of interviewing; and the psychological side of surviving the job hunt. Professor Semenza will be in email contact with participants prior to the convention in order to better customize the workshop.



# NeMLA Sponsored Local Events:

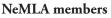
NeMLA is happy to sponsor a series of scheduled events for members attending the Boston conference. These activities are preliminary; updates will be available through email announcements and at *http://www.nemla.org/convention/2013/ activities.html* 

# Friday, March 22

# Boston Ballet: The Sleeping Beauty:

Marius Petipa's *The Sleeping Beauty* has become one of Boston Ballet's trademark works. This breathtakingly beautiful classical ballet is presented with lavish original sets and

costumes by David Walker from the Royal Ballet. When last presented in 2009, *The New York Times* raved, "exquisite." Enjoy Petipa's masterpiece as performed by the first professional repertory ballet company in New England.



receive a 50% discount for Friday, March 22, when purchased by February 11. Further Information: *www.bostonballet.org* or call 617.695.6955 and use the code NEMLA50. Additional dates may be added based on interest. Email: NeMLAlocal2013@gmail.com Cost: Tickets \$30-40 Time: 7:30pm

## Boston Lyric Opera: Cosi Fan Tutti:

Mozart—master of the ambiguities of love—explores the battle between passion and reason through the lens of a playful and, at times, deeply serious farce. Set on a sunny

Neapolitan beach under the looming threat of Mount Vesuvius, two young men gamble that their fiancées will remain faithful, even under the utmost pressure. *Così Fan* 



*Tutte* is light, airy, ravishing and yet, in the end, moving and serious; proof that love is, indeed, a dangerous game. British baritone Thomas Allen makes his BLO debut as the production's stage director as well as onstage in his signature role, Don Alfonso. Allen is an established star of the world's greatest opera houses, recently celebrating his 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary with the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden. BLO favorites Caroline Worra and Sandra Piques Eddy return as the sisters Fiordiligi and Dorabella. The opera is performed in English. **Cost:** NeMLA Group: \$75 regular; \$45 student. (Purchase through RegOnline) **Time:** 7:30pm

Further Information: http://blo.org/

# Saturday, March 23

# The African Meeting House and Abiel Smith School on Beacon Hill:

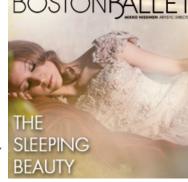
The African Meeting House and Abiel Smith School on Beacon Hill, both built in the early 1800s, are two of the Museum of African American History's most valuable assets. Located in what once was the heart of Boston's nineteenthcentury African American community, these buildings remain a showcase of black community organization and enduring testimony to black craftsmanship. Once a church, a school, a vital community meeting place, the African Meeting House is open to the public. The Abiel Smith School, the nation's first public school for African American children, currently houses a first-class exhibit space. "Portraits of Purpose: A Tribute to Leadership, Boston 1980-2012," which documents black leaders of the Boston



area since 1980, will be available at the museum until April 15<sup>th</sup>. On the guided tour, walk in the footsteps of Frederick Douglass, William Lloyd Garrison, Maria Stewart and all the abolitionist leaders who helped bring an end to slavery in this country. See how historic restoration has returned this National Historic Landmark to its 1855 appearance, with elegantly curved pews and pulpit, period wainscoting and wall finishes, cast-iron posts and golden chandelier.

#### Cost: Tickets \$5

Further Information: *http://www.afroammuseum.org/boston\_campus.htm* 



# Saturday (continued)

#### Huntington Theater: Raisin in the Sun:

In a crowded apartment in Chicago's South Side, each member of a struggling African-American family yearns for a different version of a better life. An impending and sizeable insurance payment could be the key. Lorraine Hansberry's groundbreaking 1959 classic drama is an inspiring and fiercely moving portrait of



people whose dreams are constantly deferred. **Cost:** NeMLA Group: 35Below: \$25; 35+: \$55 (Purchase through RegOnline.)

*Reception prior to performance hosted by American Literatures Area and Diversity Programs* 



Further Information: http://www. huntingtontheatre.org/ season/2012-2013/a-raisinin-the-sun/

# Sunday, March 24

#### Salem:

Founded in 1626 by Roger Conant, Salem has a rich history that includes a key role in the spice trade with the East Indies,

being the birthplace of the National Guard and the home of the infamous Salem Witchcraft Trials of 1692. Today, Salem is a vibrant urban community with a bustling downtown full of an eclectic mix of shops and restaurants. Our waterfront is no longer a hub of the spice trade but is still very active with both recreational and commercial uses. Salem is the home to the Salem Witch Museum and the Peabody Essex Museum.

For details on day trip, email: NeMLAlocal2013@gmail.com

# **Suggested Additional Activities:**

#### **Museum of Fine Arts:**

Renowned as one of the most comprehensive museums in the world, the MFA has been open for over 130 years. November 2010 marks the opening of "The New MFA," which comprises a new wing for Art of the Americas; renovated art of Europe galleries; improved conservation and education facilities; and a new, larger public space the Ruth and Carl J. Shapiro Family Courtyard. First time



and past visitors alike will find something memorable at this renovated classic. Bring your MFA ticket stub to the nearby Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum within two days of purchase and save \$2 on adult/senior general admission. **Cost:** Tickets \$20 for adults, \$18 for students **Time:** Open Monday and Tuesday 10:00 a.m.-4:45 p.m., Wednesday–Friday 10:00 a.m.-9:45 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday 10:00 a.m.-4:45 p.m. Further Information: *www.mfa.org/about* 

#### Boston Women's Heritage Trail:

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

Further Information: *http://bwht.org/about/ bwht-history/* 

# Institute of Contemporary Art:

The ICA's 65,000-square-foot building features a dramatic folding ribbon form and a cantilever that extends to the water's edge. The design weaves together interior and exterior space, producing shifting perspectives of the waterfront throughout the museum's galleries and public spaces. The ICA showcases 20<sup>th</sup>- and 21<sup>st</sup>-century art in every imaginable medium, including film and video, music, literature, and dance.

**Cost:** General admission is \$15 and student admission is \$10

**Time:** Tues and Wed: 10:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m., Thurs and Fri: 10:00 a.m.–9:00 p.m., and Sat and Sun: 10:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

Further Information: http://www.icaboston.org/

# The North End:

One of Boston's most culturally rich neighborhoods, the North End is often referred to as Boston's "Little Italy." This one-square-mile waterfront community is known for its fine dining, amazing cafés, delicious gelato, and colorful personalities. The area is adjacent to **Faneuil Hall**, a marketplace and meeting spot for over 250 years. Bordered by the waterfront, Government Center, Haymarket and the North End, the neighborhood is known for its huge shopping area, sidewalk performances during the summer, and a well-traveled part of Boston's "Freedom Trail."

## Houghton Library:

The collections of the Houghton Library encompass wonderfully diverse holdings such as ostraca, daguerreotypes, and the working papers of living novelists and poets. Houghton Library regularly exhibits highlights from its collections in the Edison and Newman Room. These often



include the personal effects, notes, books, and other objects of interest from authors such as Emily Dickinson, John Keats, Dante, Tennessee Williams, Goethe, Cervantes, and Lewis Carroll.

**Time:** Open 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Further Information: *http://hcl.harvard.edu/Houghton/* 

#### John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum:

The John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum is dedicated to the memory of our nation's thirty-fifth president and to all those who through the art of politics seek a new and better world. Located on a ten-acre park, overlooking the



sea that he loved and the city that launched him to greatness, the Library stands as a vibrant tribute to the life and times of John F. Kennedy. Come tour our Museum which portrays the life, leadership, and legacy of President Kennedy, conveys his enthusiasm for politics and public service, and illustrates the nature of the office of the President. **Cost:** \$12 for adults and \$10 for students **Time:** Open daily 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Further Information: *http://www.jfklibrary.org/* 

## Boston's Chinatown:

In the 1880s, the first Chinese immigrants arrived in Boston, settling in what is now known as "Ping On Alley." Today, nestled between Downtown Crossing and the South End, Chinatown provides visitors with a variety of Asian history and cuisine. History, family, food, tradition make for a rich mix in one of the city's oldest and yet ever-changing neighborhoods.

Further Information: <a href="http://www.boston.com/travel/boston/neighborhoods/chinatown/">www.boston.com/travel/boston/</a> neighborhoods/chinatown/



# **2013** Convention Exhibitors

The Exhibit Area will be open 8AM to 5PM on Friday, March 22 and Saturday, March 23, featuring the exhibitors listed below:

> Bedford/St. Martin Travel and Education Lexington Books Routledge



# NeMLA 2014: Welcome to Harrisburg!

The Northeast Modern Language Association's 45th annual convention in April, 2014 continues the Association's tradition of generative scholarship in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. This capitol city set on the Susquehanna River is

known for its vibrant restaurant scene, historical sites, the National Civil War museum, and nearby Amish Country and antique shops. Harrisburg is easily by car, train, bus, or air.

The 2014 event will include guest speakers, literary readings, professional events, and workshops. A reading by George Saunders (World Fantasy Award for Best Short Fiction) will open the Convention.

NeMLA particularly welcomes sessions that relate to our location, including the River, the Civil War, and German immigration, as well as 2014 Anniversaries including World War I and the Civil Rights Act. In addition, NeMLA 2014 will have a special emphasis on drama and creative writing.

Mark your calendar: the deadline for session proposals is April 15, 2013 with the call for papers to follow June 2013.



Please see http://www.nemla.org for guidelines and more information or email: Northeast.MLA@gmail.com.

# **OPENINGS FOR BOARD MEMBERS: 2014-17**

## Nominations open for Fall 2013 election

The success of NeMLA depends on an engaged, volunteer Board. These roles provide an opportunity to shape the Convention as well as NeMLA's contribution to the profession. Positions on the Board are staggered, so each year different roles become available. The vacant positions and a brief description of their responsibilities are listed below. Self-nominations are welcome.

Second Vice President Anglophone Literatures Director: British Italian Language & Literatures Director German Language & Literatures Director Member-at-Large: Diversity Programs

## **BOARD DUTIES**

• Responsibilities for all Board members: two meetings a year; one in the fall (in New York or at the site of the upcoming convention) and one on the Thursday of the convention before the convention's official start.

• For these meetings, each Board member is required to write a report on the activities related to their particular positions.

# SPECIFIC RESPONSIBILITIES

**The Second Vice-President** serves on the Board for 4 years, in progressive positions. The Second Vice- President chairs the Fellowship Committee (see website for details on the Fellowship) and assists the President by performing duties assigned by the President and, when necessary, assumes the duties and responsibilities of the President. The VPs share with the President and the Executive Director responsibility for the annual convention. With the assistance of the Vice Presidents, and the advice of the Board, the President and the Executive Director plan the annual convention. *A new Second Vice-President is elected every year to the NeMLA Board.* 

**The Directors** represent the interests of the membership as a whole as well as of their particular Area constituency. They oversee the convention program for their particular area, including the suggestion of Board-sponsored sessions, and work to help the executive find speakers and other programs. In addition to the convention program committee, they may also be requested to serve on the Board's various other committees. *Area Director nominations are staggered.* 

The Member-at-Large: Diversity Programs serves as a resource for the Board, organizing sessions and events that support a welcoming environment for a diverse membership.

Nominations can be sent to First Vice President and Chair of the Nominating Committee, Daniela Bisello Antonucci at *daniela.antonucci@gmail.com* no later June 15th. If you have any questions about the positions or nominating process, please email Daniela Bisello Antonucci.

Northeast Modern Language Association Elizabeth Abele, Executive Director Nassau Community College 1 Education Drive Garden City, NY 11530

Non-Profit Org. U.S. Postage PAID Garden City, NY 11530 Permit #329

# Thanks to Our 2013 Sponsors:

**2013 Conference Sponsor** Tufts University

*Modern Language Studies* Sponsor Susquehanna University

**German Language Event Sponsors** Georgetown University Dept. of German, Russian, & Asian Languages, Tufts University

# Key Dates for 2013

April 15: Deadline for Panel Proposals for 2014 Convention June 15: Call for Papers for 2014 posted at www.nemla.org Sept. 30: Deadline for abstracts for 2014 Convention Oct. 15: Deadline for finalizing 2014 Sessions Oct. 31: Manuscript deadline for NeMLA Book Prize

# **Upcoming NEMLA Conventions:**

2014: April 3-6; Harrisburg, PA Local Host: Susquehanna University2015: April 30-May 3; Toronto, ON Local Host: Ryerson University



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