

# SEAN

## The Society of Early Americanists Newsletter



THE SOCIETY OF EARLY  
AMERICANISTS

### *From the SEA President*

In early November many of us in the SEA read Seo-Young Chu's essay in the on-line magazine *Entropy*, "A Refuge for Jae-in Doe." If you have not yet read it, I urge you to do so: It is a dramatic and painful memoir about her experience as a graduate student at Stanford University, and in her life and career since then. She writes that Prof. Jay Fliegelman, a prominent scholar in early American literature, raped her when she was a student there in the 1990s. The essay's particular power grows with the multiple forms of writing Prof. Chu employs: confessions, conversations, and memories, but also poems in sonnet, villanelle, and other early modern styles, in imitation of Donne, Marvell and Milton. My favorite was "INSTRUCTIONS LEFT INCOMPLETE (After Donne's Holy Sonnet)." The beauty of the poetry transcends the pain and outrage of her experience, and deserves to be reprinted and read on its own.

The news quickly spread through cyberspace, and past president Laura Stevens helped Patrick, Ralph and me to draft a statement from the SEA leadership, posted on our new website on November 10<sup>th</sup>. The essay by Prof. Chu was particularly heart-wrenching for us because of Prof. Fliegelman's influence in the field of early American literature. A number of our members have studied or worked with him (as did a couple of my colleagues here at Oregon, who helped me understand the events). Because Fliegelman died in 2007 the process of confronting the truth of his predatory behavior is less fraught than for the dozens, nay hundreds of powerful men in politics, entertainment, academia, media and other industries who have attacked with impunity their colleagues, aides, coworkers and others. But because academic careers and the relationships built within them are relatively lengthy and memories long, it still provokes painful processes. It is shameful that although Stanford University placed Fliegelman on a two-year unpaid leave, he was not fired nor publicly sanctioned for his acts.

Since early November the #MeToo movement has continued to grow. Many victims of sexual violence have found the confidence to speak out and name their assailants, and many others have become aware of suppressed and repressed events involving their close friends and family members.

### Inside this Issue . . .

<b>From the SEA President</b>	<b>1-2</b>
<b>From the SEA Vice-President</b>	<b>2-3</b>
<b>From the SEA Executive Coordinator</b>	<b>3-5</b>
<b>Announcements</b>	<b>5-7</b>
<b>Early America @ the MLA</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Fellowship Opportunities</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Focus on Early American Historical Sites</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Digital Early America</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Preserving the Old Corner Bookstore</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Upcoming Conferences and CFPs</b>	<b>12-15</b>
<b>SEA Council of Officers</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Membership Information</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Image Index</b>	<b>16</b>



*A View of the Town of Concord*, Amos Doolittle, 1775

As we wrote, the SEA does not have a role to “investigate, prosecute, arbitrate, hire, or fire” those who are accused or suspected of sexual harassment and violence. Still, I think the Early American field is better prepared than some others to analyze and combat the problem of sexual harassment in academia, because many of us have studied the dynamic of public and private, and the changing taboos and mores of sexuality and power in American culture, across hundreds of years of its history.

Because we study not only the published writings of literary figures but also the letters, diaries, and private papers of powerful figures, we see the operation of silence and suppression. Through our scholarship we are sometimes among the first to learn of the sexual violence committed by powerful American patriarchy. These acts can be exposed, not ten years, but more than 150 years after they occurred. Thomas Jefferson is just one example of sexual aggressors who enjoyed the protection of complicit silence from people in their families, households, and workplaces, and from laws that excluded their victims from any access to the justice system. Scholars of Early America can speak with authority about exactly how and when women have achieved important civil rights in America; for property rights, political franchise, and equality in marriage and family law. We can also describe the types of taboos and inequalities that have kept women from achieving truly equal opportunities.

In academia the boundaries between public and private have changed as they have in the larger society, but they remain contorted and too often subject to evasions and misunderstandings. At many universities faculty no longer invite students to their homes or to off-campus events at which harassment might take place. Many students and faculty alike are highly apprehensive about sexual aggression, and of the damage that accusations of harassment may have. This anxiety is itself a force that can limit opportunities, and this is just one of many difficulties we face in solving the problem.

In the holy trinity of the professoriate: research, teaching, and service, I sense that many academics still regard research as a public activity, and teaching as a private one. The classroom and the office hours are where instructors believe that their behavior is not being scrutinized by the peers who obsessively analyze the books and articles, the publications, by which they expect their worth to be measured. Most of us will find few readers in the public to which our writing is circulated, but will interact with hundreds of students, and meet one-on-one with dozens over a year or more in our jobs.

However closely we work with mentors and mentees, we must never forget that these are professional relationships

carried out in a public setting where political and civil rights are articulated and protected.

Gordon Sayre  
SEA President  
University of Oregon



### *From the SEA Vice-President*

For my Winter 2018 *SEAN* column, I would like to call the membership's attention to a joint workshop organized and sponsored by the Society of Early Americanists and the Obama Institute for Transnational American Studies at Johannes Gutenberg University in Mainz, Germany, taking place October 4-6, 2018. As SEA Vice-President, I am working with Professor Oliver Scheiding in Mainz to organize the event. We look forward to bringing together scholars from both sides of the Atlantic in a workshop format designed to create intensive and productive conversations and collaborations. We hope that this workshop and format will resonate with our membership and that many of you will submit a proposal. To highlight the rationale and approach for this workshop, I would like to echo the description and call that Oliver and I wrote collaboratively:

“The discipline of early American studies seems full of gaps: from Eric Slauter's perceived trade gap between historians and literary scholars (*Early American Literature*, 2008) to the theory gap between early American literature and later disciplines identified by Ed White and Michael Drexler (*American Literary History*, 2010). Given the boon of transatlantic scholarship in the past few decades, however, the relationship between European and North American scholars working on early Americanist topics appears to grow closer than ever before. A small but stalwart group of European—especially French, German, Austrian, Swiss, and British—early Americanists regularly attends North American conferences, such as the SEA biennials and the annual ASA convention. In turn, however, too few North American scholars are reading European scholarship and attending scholarly gatherings in Europe.”

This joint Obama Institute-SEA workshop will bring together early Americanist scholars from North America and Europe in a 2 ½-day intensive conversation and collaboration about transatlantic perspectives on new developments in the field of early American studies.

The workshop seeks to engage several critical fields around which specific collaborations during the conference will center:

- Digital humanities and archival studies
- Intersections between book history, print, and material culture
- Transpacific and archipelagic studies
- Indigenous studies
- African American studies
- Periodical studies
- Ethnic, multilingual, and comparative literary studies
- Environmental and medical humanities; history of science
- Religious networks
- Post-critique
- Aesthetics and new formalism

Seminal critical interventions—such as Elizabeth Anker and Rita Felski's *Critique and Post-Critique* (Duke, 2017) or Ed Cahill and Ed Larkin's focus on aesthetics in their jointly edited issue of *Early American Literature* (2016)—frequently catalyze new work in early American studies on both sides of the Atlantic. Yet scholars in Europe and North America often apply theoretical questions in different ways and proceed from different assumptions about the aims, methods, and rhetorical articulations of scholarly and critical innovation. Even more basically, varying practices of reading and teaching, or uses of text, context, and critique often make conversations at standard conferences non-starters or inconclusive. This workshop provides early American literature scholars the opportunity to

- Discuss their work with scholars across the Atlantic.
- Debate applications of key critical texts in their field to early American studies.
- Plan collaborative publications, grants, or workshops.

The Workshop will be limited to 30 participants grouped together in small, critically and thematically focused teams. After an opening welcome and evening reception, each team works together across 2 days and shares results in poster presentations at the end of the workshop. The new building on the campus of Johannes Gutenberg University that houses the Obama Institute provides excellent seminar and meeting rooms facilitating the productive collaboration of small, focused groups.

On the morning of day 1, participants will discuss pre-circulated, essay-length manuscripts representing their own works-in-progress. This portion of the workshop will serve to provide participants windows into each other's work and open up spaces for meaningful collaborations.

In the afternoon of day 1, break-out groups will convene to discuss a pre-determined, small body of critical and theoretical texts impacting their current scholarship. This portion will serve to flesh out and discuss varying readings and transatlantic differences in the application of

critical/theoretical works to early American studies. *In toto*, day 1 of the workshop will establish the groundwork for collaborations on day 2. On the morning of day 2, break-out groups will reconvene to discuss possible projects for future collaboration between scholars on both sides of the Atlantic. In the afternoon, collaborators will produce a digital/physical poster to present to the joint workshop participants, displaying possible directions for their collaboration. The workshop will close with an early evening "working" reception, where participants share their emerging projects.

If you are interested in joining us for this workshop, please submit a 2-page CV and a 400-500 word proposal to the Workshop Chair, Prof. Oliver Scheiding ([scheiding@uni-mainz.de](mailto:scheiding@uni-mainz.de)) by February 15, 2018. The proposal should include the applicant's critical and theoretical focus, current work(s)-in-progress, past and future work in primary text archives, and a statement detailing specific objectives and ideas for scholarly collaboration. The proposal should address how and why the applicant's work would profit from collaboration with colleagues across the Atlantic. Although the main Workshop language will be English, all applicants should detail their level of competency in languages other than English (such skill will not be required but may help in grouping applicants in specific teams).

"Bis bald" in Mainz.

Patrick Erben  
SEA Vice-President  
University of West Georgia



### *From the SEA Executive Coordinator*

We have a whole series of exciting conferences and workshops to look forward to in the coming months. In March, Abram Van Engen will be hosting the conference "Religion and Politics in Early America" at Washington University in St. Louis; in May, Len von Morzé will be coordinating three panels at the American Literature Association in San Francisco; in October, Oliver Scheiding will be hosting the workshop "Transatlantic Conversations: New and Emerging Approaches to Early American Studies" at the University of Mainz; and in 2019, Gordon Sayre will be hosting our 11<sup>th</sup> Society of Early Americanists Biennial Conference at the University of Oregon at Eugene.

As Gordon observed in the last edition of this newsletter, this will be the first time that the SEA conference takes

place on the West Coast. What took us so long? The answer may in part be, as Gordon suggested, that the SEA has had a tradition of choosing conference locations whose histories connect them to our field of study—“early America.” Although he noted that Eugene was not founded until 1851—well after the “new terminus date of the SEA’s purview in 1830”—he challenged us to “examine the Pacific world as well as the Atlantic, and to explore Native history in the Columbia basin” when beginning to plan our call for panels, roundtables, and papers for 2019.

Here I would like to amplify Gordon’s point that our first conference on the West Coast presents us with a unique challenge and opportunity to think differently about early American studies. Although it has been argued that our field has undergone a “turn” toward transnational and hemispheric approaches, our focus has by and large remained limited to the Atlantic world, despite some notable exceptions, such as the recent work of Michelle Burnham, for example. This focus has so far been rather untroubled by our choices of conference locations: until 2015 (Chicago) and 2017 (Tulsa), all of our conferences took place on the Eastern seaboard (or on an Atlantic island)—Charleston, Norfolk, Providence, Alexandria, Williamsburg, Hamilton (Bermuda), Philadelphia, and Savannah. When looking toward the Pacific Northwest, we are first reminded of the extent to which the very periodization defining our field—“early” America—has depended on this rather limited focus and may need to be rethought in terms of the multiple geographies of America. Indeed, even our new terminus of 1830 appears rather arbitrary a temporal demarcation with respect to the history of the Pacific Northwest.

I say ‘arbitrary’ not because Eugene, Oregon, was not founded by the Anglo-American pioneer Eugen Skinner until 1851. For, when approaching the Pacific Northwest, we are also reminded, once again, of the need to look beyond the English-language archive for understanding the history of early America. We may hereby do well to take guidance from recent work of colonial Latin Americanists such as Edward Slack, Tatiana Seijas, and Ricardo Padron, who have made significant forays into Pacific Rim studies. We might also do well to reach out to colleagues in history and language departments specializing in East Asian languages and cultures, or in Russian expansionism in the region during the eighteenth century. Finally, we may benefit from closer collaboration with cultural anthropologists such as Gwenn Miller, Aron Crowell, or Kent Lightfoot, who specialize in the Native American cultures of the Pacific Northwest and who are not yet part of our scholarly community, even as we have become ever more methodologically diverse.

Following the historical voyage of the Danish explorer Vitus Bering on behalf of the Russian monarchy in 1728, the

Pacific Northwest was, during the eighteenth century, what James Barnett has called a “cross-road of empire,” a region marked by inter-cultural trade and diplomacy, as well as inter-imperial rivalry and competition between powerful Native American tribes such as the Inuit or the Tlingit, as well as Russians, Spaniards, Englishmen and (later) US Americans. There is now a substantial body of archaeological, anthropological, and historical scholarship on the relationship between Native peoples, Russian fur traders, as well as Spanish missionaries and colonists further south. Likewise, there is a long-standing tradition of eminent historical and ethno-historical scholarship on the Spanish frontier in Alta California, including the recent work of Michael Mathes and the late David Weber. The Spanish occupation of Alta California had begun in 1769, as the Viceroyalty of New Spain charged the Franciscan friar Junípero Serra to build a chain of missions up the coast of California in an attempt to preempt claims from rival European powers. In 1789, Estéban José Martínez established what would become the northernmost Spanish fort on the Pacific coast—the only one north of the mission at San Francisco—at Nootka Sound on Vancouver Island at the instructions of the viceroy of New Spain. The same year, the Italian-born explorer Alessandro Malaspina sailed up the coast from Acapulco to Nootka sound on a Spanish scientific expedition that left an extensive record meticulously documenting in word and image, the native cultures, as well as flora and fauna of the Pacific Northwest. A man of the Enlightenment, Malaspina suggested, upon his return, that Spain abandon the attempt to dominate far-off lands militarily and instead establish a Pacific Rim trading bloc, managed by the Spaniards from Acapulco.

Not surprisingly, these commercial, scientific, missionary, political, and diplomatic interactions resulted in multiple inter-cultural and inter-personal entanglements. Perhaps most famous among these is the legendary romance between the Russian colonial functionary Nikolai Rezanov and his impressionable teenage Spanish fiancé María de la Concepción Marcela Argüello at the San Francisco Presidio. Whereas Spanish American literary history is largely silent on this episode, in Czarist Russia (and even still today) it became a favorite colonial romance—Russia’s John Smith and Pocahontas. In a more realistic vein, recent scholarship has shown that inter-marriage between Russians, Amerindians, and Spanish-speaking peoples was wide-spread throughout the coast, resulting in a rich cultural *mélange*. By the 1850s over 20% of colonial residents in Alaska were officially creoles – the product of Russian-Alaska Native marriages – while a much larger proportion of the population was bicultural, bilingual, and Russian Orthodox.

To the south, the New Spanish viceregal government openly encouraged close alliances and inter-marriage between Spanish settlers and Amerindians in the area, such as the Huchnom, as marriage was frequently used as a tool of inter-cultural diplomacy. In short, the early Pacific Northwest before the US American take-over in 1867 was one of the last fluid borderland regions where Native peoples were politically important players in a hemispheric theater of inter-cultural encounter, conflict, and mixture that provides a rich field of inquiry for early American studies and that will hopefully receive attention during our conference in 2019.

Ralph Bauer  
SEA Executive Coordinator  
University of Maryland



*Announcements*

**Scholar and Junior Scholar of the Month Programs**

In November 2017, the SEA Social Media Team kicked off the new Scholar of the Month and Junior Scholar of the Month campaigns to highlight the exciting and innovative scholarship, teaching, public education, digital humanities, and other endeavors of SEA members. Each month we recognize established scholars on the first of the month, and mid-month we honor junior scholars—defined as graduate students or members who have received their terminal degree within three years. The campaign was proposed by Stacey Dearing, the SEA twitter administrator, and was inspired by the ASECS Women’s Caucus Scholar of the Month Program.

In order to ensure that members at any stage in their career can be included, we have adapted our version to include two scholars each month. Any member of the SEA is eligible to be the Scholar of the Month; you can nominate yourself or a fellow member by emailing Stacey Dearing at [Stacey.Dearing@gmail.com](mailto:Stacey.Dearing@gmail.com). All nominees are added to a master list, and each month we contact a nominee, inform them of their nomination, and ask if they would like to be featured. If they accept, we ask them to complete a brief interview and to provide a photo for the website, Facebook, and Twitter. As part of the interview, we also ask each Scholar of the Month to nominate a future Scholar and Junior Scholar of the Month.

The social media team would like to thank our first Scholars of the Month, David S. Shields and Hilary Wyss, as

as our first Junior Scholar of the Month, Melissa Antonucci, for their enthusiasm and assistance in initiating the program. Finally, we are especially grateful to the SEA executive officers, particularly our President, Gordon Sayre, for his immediate support and for taking on the task of posting the interviews and photos on the SEA website. To see each Scholar of the Month, and to keep up with our social media, you can follow the SEA on Facebook (@EarlyAmericanists), on Twitter (@TheRealSEA), and on the website ([www.societyofearlyamericanists.org](http://www.societyofearlyamericanists.org)).

Stacey Dearing  
PhD candidate, Purdue University  
SEA Twitter Administrator/Co-Chair of the SEA Junior Scholars Caucus

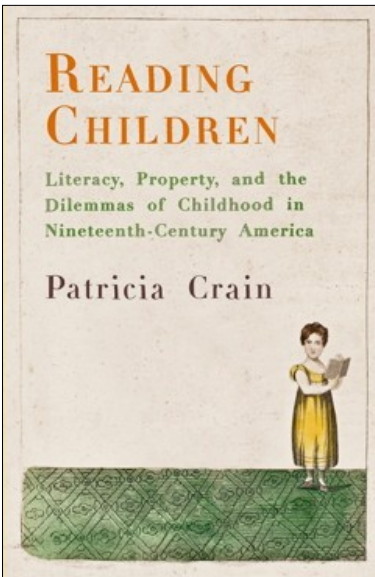


*Scholar of the Month Recipients:  
November 2017: Hilary Wyss, Trinity College  
December 2017: David S. Shields, University of South Carolina  
January 2018: Kristina Bross, Purdue University*



*Junior Scholar of the Month Recipients:  
November 2017: Melissa Antonucci, University of Tulsa  
December 2017: Helen Hunt, Tennessee Tech University  
January 2018: Rebecca M. Rosen, Princeton University*

## Early American Literature Announces Winner of 2017 Book Award



Professor Patricia Crain of New York University has been selected to receive the 2017 *Early American Literature* Book Prize, which is awarded in odd calendar years to a second or subsequent monograph, and in even years to a first book. Crain's *Reading Children: Literacy, Property, and the Dilemmas of Childhood in Nineteenth-Century America* was published by the University of Pennsylvania Press in 2016.

*Reading Children* makes a "stunning contribution" to the

field of childhood studies by showing the long colonial history of children's reading practices. The committee noted Crain's creative relation to temporality, which "depends upon contradistinction and juxtaposition" rather than linear development. Underlying this entire project is a deep commitment to ensuring that early American literature be understood both on its own terms and as a key component of 19th-century American literary production writ large.

Another strength noted by the committee is the wealth of archival discovery that forms the study's backbone. In many ways, this is a book about sensory and material culture--what children saw, heard, sang, scribbled, the paper doll clothes they cut out and interleaved in their gift books. The gorgeous and prolific illustrations help make that sensory experience available to the reader. It is Crain's good fortune that Penn Press dedicated itself to printing the images in such glorious fidelity. But it is her conviction that these images are worth printing--and her independent-minded commitment to showing why--that makes the book itself so very remarkable.

The University of North Carolina Press along with the *EAL* editorial team and the other members of the committee, congratulate Pat Crain for her outstanding contribution to early American literary studies. Next year's prize will be awarded to an author's first book, with monographs published in 2016 and 2017 being eligible. The prize alternates between second or subsequent books by established scholars in odd calendar years and first books in even years. It is accompanied by a \$2,000 cash award.

Please consult the journal's website or contact Professor Sandra Gustafson ([Gustafson.6@nd.edu](mailto:Gustafson.6@nd.edu)) of the University of Notre Dame for details.

(This information courtesy of *Early American Literature* and North Carolina University Press)



## New Editor of Books at OIEAHC

The Omohundro Institute of Early American History & Culture is delighted to announce that Catherine E. Kelly begins this month as its Editor of Books. Her appointment brings the OI's books program into an exciting new era. Its deep traditions and reputation for excellent scholarship are a vital foundation for the innovations we seek to foster and support.

Member of the search committee and of the OI's Council (2012-15) Jennifer L. Morgan of New York University noted that Cathy Kelly's appointment signals the OI's commitment to exploring new directions in early American scholarship; we anticipate that her impact on the Institute and on the field of Vast Early America will be generative and lasting."



Catherine E. Kelly

Cathy is excited to work with the OI's top-notch team and the larger community as they bring current projects to fruition and take on new work together. She is especially interested in extending both the range and the reach of the Institute's catalog.

Our new Editor is the author of *Republic of Taste: Art, Politics and Everyday Life in Early America* and *In the New England Fashion: Reshaping Women's Lives in the Nineteenth Century*, as well as numerous essays, and co-editor of *Reading Women: Literacy, Authorship, and Culture in the Atlantic World, 1500-1800*. She has also served as the editor of both *Common-place* and *Journal of the Early Republic*.

### New ASECS Liaison

Lisa Logan, Associate Professor of English at the University of Central Florida, has agreed to serve as the new SEA liaison to the American Society for Eighteenth Century Studies (ASECS).

Professor Logan will serve for a two-year term (through ASECS 2020) and will represent the SEA at the upcoming ASECS conference (March 22-25) in Orlando, Florida.



Lisa Logan

### Early American Panels at MLA 2018

The following is a sampling of the panels offered on early American topics.

#### Foregrounding Indigeneity and Settlement in American Literary Studies

Presider: Mark Rifkin  
University of North Carolina (Greensboro)

“Strange Paupers: Indigenous Labor, Debt, and Persistence in Early America”  
Beth Piatote, University of California (Berkeley)

“Politics of the Past: Antidispossession Struggles in 1690’s Massachusetts and Yucatan”  
David Kazanjian, University of Pennsylvania

“Mary Jemison’s Cabin: Indigeneity, Interracial Kinship, and Domestic Racialization”  
Brigitte Fielder, University of Wisconsin (Madison)

“Colonialism, White Supremacy, and the ‘Corporate Person’”  
Manu Vimalassery, Barnard College

#### Early American #BlackLivesMatter

Presider and Respondent: Jordan Alexander Stein  
Fordham U, Lincoln Center

“Ambivalent Respectability: The Wrongful Convictions of Abraham Johnstone”  
Ajay Kumar Batra, University of Pennsylvania

“Fugitive Joy in the Poetry of Phillis Wheatley”  
Lenora Warren, Colgate University

“Flight Together: Runaway Slave Advertisements and Black Queer Intimacy”  
Caleb Knapp, University of Washington (Seattle)

“Phillis Wheatley’s Divine Quiet”  
Dana Murphy, University of California (Irvine)

#### Eyewitnessing and Early American Literature

Presider: Alexander Mazzaferro  
Rutgers University (New Brunswick)

Speakers:  
Allison Bigelow, University of West Virginia  
Jeffrey Glover, Loyola University (Chicago)  
Emily Ogden, University of Virginia  
Sarah Rivett, Princeton University  
Kelly Wisecup, Northwestern University

#### Religion and the Early American Novel

Presider:  
Sarah Rivett, Princeton University

“The Work of Native Oratory in Lydia Sigourney’s *Traits of the Aborigines of America*”  
Magdalena Zapedowska  
University of Massachusetts, Amherst

“William Jenks, the New England Clergy, and the Early American Novel”  
David K. Lawrimore, Idaho State University

“Wieland; or, the Transformation of God : Narrative Theology and Postsecular Faith in Early American Literature”  
Daniel Boscaljon, University of Iowa



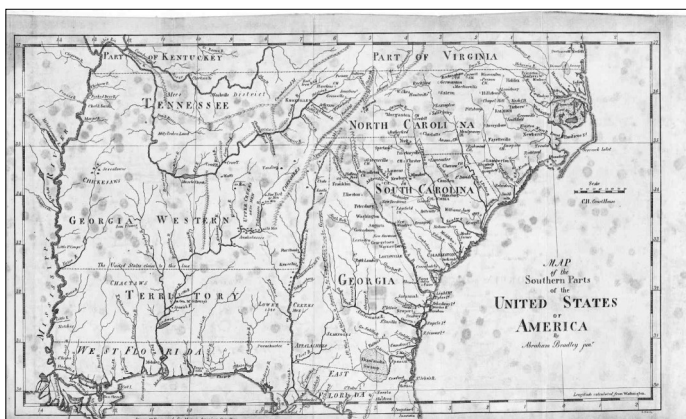
### **The Mellon Scholar Internship Program**

The Library Company of Philadelphia's Program in African American History, with the support of the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, is pleased to announce the Mellon Scholars Program of fellowships, internships, and workshop for 2018-2019. These competitive programs are designed to increase the participation of scholars from underrepresented backgrounds and others in the field of African American history prior to 1900.

The Mellon Scholars Internship Program (June 3 through June 30, 2018). Interns will be rising seniors or recent college graduates and will receive a \$1,500 stipend and additional support for travel and housing. Application deadline: March 1, 2018, with a decision to be made by April 15.

The Mellon Scholars Research Fellowship Program aims to promote research in the collections of the Library Company and to enhance the production of scholarly work in African American history of the 17th, 18th, and 19th centuries. Fellows must be in residence for the entire term of the award. The following research fellowships will be offered for 2018-2019:

- Post-doctoral fellowship, with a stipend of \$50,000 for the academic year, or \$25,000 for one semester. Applicants must hold a Ph.D. by September 1, 2018; application deadline March 1, 2018.
- Dissertation fellowship, with a stipend of \$25,000 for the academic year, or \$12,500 for one semester. Applicants must be in the later stages of research or writing; application deadline March 1, 2018.
- Short-term fellowships, for doctoral candidates and senior scholars, with a stipend of \$2,500 for one month of research between June 1, 2018 and May 31, 2019; application deadline March 1, 2018.  
(Courtesy of the Library Company of Philadelphia)



### **Lemon Project Postdoctoral Fellowship**

The Omohundro Institute of Early American History & Culture and the College of William & Mary Lemon Project: A Journey of Reconciliation invite applications for a two-year post-doctoral fellowship, to begin July 1, 2018, in the history of institutions and economies of oppression with a preference for higher education and slavery.

The OI-W&M Lemon Project Fellow will devote most of their time to research and writing, and will also work closely with the OI and Lemon Project staffs and participate in colloquia and other scholarly activities of the Institute and the College. The fellows will develop and teach one course per year on the subject of their research in the history department or a related department as appropriate. The fellow will also be able to hone their digital humanities skills and contribute to the intellectual life of the Lemon Project through the Project's Omeka site and university website. Fellows have access to all research facilities, lectures, and events at the College of William & Mary and other area resources. In addition to a stipend of \$50,400 per year, the fellowship provides office, research, and computer facilities as well as some travel funds for conferences and research.

(Courtesy of the Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture <https://oieahc.wm.edu>)



### **NEH Summer Sessions**

#### **The Native American West: A Case Study of the Columbia Plateau**

**Deadline:** March 1, 2018

**Dates:** June 17 - July 1 (2 weeks)

**Project Director(s):** Christopher Leise; Laurie Arnold  
**Visiting Faculty:** Katrine Barber; Brian Collier; Larry Cebula; Roberta Conner; Cheryl Gunselman; Chad Hamill; Alexandra Harmon; Michael Holloman; Amy Lonetree; Timothy Nitz; Scott Manning Stevens  
**Location:** Walla Walla, WA

**For more information:** [nativeamericanwest@gmail.com](mailto:nativeamericanwest@gmail.com)

#### **Slavery and the Constitution**

**Deadline:** March 1, 2018

**Dates:** July 8 - 21 (2 weeks)

**Project Director(s):** Paul Benson; Paul Finkelman  
**Visiting Faculty:** Jenny Bourne; Spencer Crew; Seymour Drescher; Eric Foner; Lacy Ford; Kate Masur  
**Location:** Washington, DC  
**For more information:** [leebee@dccd.edu](mailto:leebee@dccd.edu)

*Focus on Early American Historical Sites  
The Proprietary House in Perth Amboy, New Jersey*

For those living in or near, or visiting, New Jersey there is a unique eighteenth century site worth a visit: the Proprietary House in Perth Amboy. This is the sole surviving colonial governor's house from the original thirteen British colonies. It is owned by the state of New Jersey, while maintained and operated by the non-profit Proprietary House Association. During its long history the house has been a royal governor's mansion, the home of several wealthy individuals (who enlarged it), a fancy hotel, the retirement home for Presbyterian ministers, and then a boarding house of questionable reputation. Rescued in disarray there have been several periods of restoration work. Today, much of the original structure is run as a museum, while portions of the additions have been rented out for offices that provide an income.

The origins of the house go back to the seventeenth century history of colonial New Jersey, which originally was part of the Duke of York's proprietary grant in 1664. He quickly re-granted a portion to two friends John Lord Berkeley and Sir George Carteret. After Berkeley sold his half in 1674 there were actually two colonies – West Jersey and East Jersey. Merged with one government when this became a royal colony in 1702, the land continued to be held by two groups of proprietors. There were two treasurers, and the legislature alternatively met in the old capitols of Burlington (on the Delaware) and Perth Amboy (on Raritan Bay). Unlike other colonies, for example Williamsburg, Virginia, there were no official residences for government or governor. After William Franklin (always referenced as Benjamin Franklin's illegitimate son) was appointed governor in 1763 he established his home in West Jersey, near family in Philadelphia. To entice him to their section the East Jersey proprietors hired John Edward Pryor as architect and started construction of an elegant house in the port town of Perth Amboy. Close to New York City this was also where some members of the Board of Proprietors of East Jersey lived.

The original Georgian style house, completed in 1764, had four stories that included a basement with a kitchen and an arched brick lined wine cellar, main floor with reception and dining rooms, upstairs with a bedroom and guest room, and then servant quarters above. There were sixteen fire places, room for gardens and a large stable outside, and a view of the bay. At £6,622.13.10 the cost was double the original estimate. However, Franklin was in no rush to live there, so the building was rented first to the Chief Justice of the colony, and then to a local lawyer. In 1774 Governor Franklin and his wife Elizabeth Downes decided they would move in, but only after the house was

updated with fancy imported wall paper and other amenities worthy of their status.

While originally popular as the Royal governor, by this time colonial politics were heating up, and unlike his father this Franklin remained loyal to the King who had appointed him. On January 8, 1776 militia officers and men surrounded the building at 2 am (at which point Elizabeth reputedly went into hysterics), and the governor was placed under house arrest. Released he held on until June 1776, by then the last royal governor still holding office. Caught sending reports to London, he was tried for treason, then interred in Connecticut. Elizabeth moved behind British lines into New York City where she died before he was exchanged in 1778 for an American officer. Adamantly opposed to the Rebellion, and bitter about her death,



*From caption under picture: Built in 1760 by the Board of Lords Proprietors of East Jersey as a home for the Colonial Governor. Material brought over from England. Occupied by Governor William Franklin. Headquarters of army officers during the war. Famed as a hotel in the next century and known as "The Brighton." A home for Presbyterian Clergymen for 20 years until 1903 and known as the Westminster. Now owned and occupied by J.P. Holm.*

William led a loyalist group that raided into New Jersey and elsewhere. In 1782 he left for England, living there until he died 1813 still an exile. This is without a doubt the most dramatic part of the house's history, and what, along with its original architectural features, provides its significance.

At some point during or just after the American Revolution the house suffered considerable fire damage. It was restored then and, as noted above, in later years was enlarged and served a variety of purposes. Today the museum section commemorates the brief period when it was the governor's mansion. The Associations' website has background information on all the main periods of the house's history, also notes when the museum is open, and provides contact information and directions to get there.

Dr. Maxine Lurie  
Seton Hall University

The Early Americas Digital Archive, hosted by the University of Maryland and under the general editorship of Dr. Ralph Bauer, is an interdisciplinary project that holds electronic texts (and links to the originals) from 1492 to approximately 1820. Committed to bringing together the traditional and digital humanities, the archive promotes hemispheric and transatlantic studies by featuring texts that are written in or about the Americas.

The project began in 2002 when the Society of Early Americanists expressed interest in teaching Early Ibero/Anglo American studies and hosted the first Early Ibero/Anglo Americanist Summit. With assistance from the Maryland Institute of Technology in Humanities (MITH), the Summit featured an electronic archive which became the foundation for the open accessed Early America's Digital Archive.

The archive features two components: the EADA database and the Gateway to Early American Authors on the Web. (from <http://mith.umd.edu/research/eada/>)

### **Interview with Ralph Bauer on the Early Americas Digital Archive**

*Approximately how many texts does the archive now contain?*

It contains approximately 160 texts.

*Approximately how many new texts are added each year?*

Currently 5-10 new texts are added each year.

*Have you noticed ways the content of the archive/the kinds of texts being added has changed since its creation?*

Since the founding nucleus of the EADA was the (informal) digital anthology I created for the 1st 'Early Ibero/Anglo Americanist Summit' in Tucson, AZ (2002), the original body of texts tended to be canonical texts from colonial Ibero- and Anglo-American literature--the sort of texts one would find on syllabi of survey courses in colonial (Latin) American literature. At the time, the development of the open-source EADA from some of the content of the Summit anthology in AY 2003 was supported by the MITH, which provided a fellowship for course buy-outs, as well as substantial technical and staff support. I estimate that ca. 50% of the current content was added during the first year.

Since then, the EADA content has grown more slowly, as my staff support has been limited to one RA position, which has been generously provided by my department over the years. Also, especially recently, the vast majority of new additions has come from guest submissions, which typically originated in Graduate seminars.

Also, several new additions resulted from various Undergraduate and Graduate RAs whom I supervise. Consequently, the more recent additions have tended to be less canonical and of more specialized interest. They also tend not to exist elsewhere on the internet. Finally, they tend to come complete with introductions, annotations, and a bibliographic apparatus (something that the original publications lacked).

An example of a more recent addition would be <http://eada.lib.umd.edu/text-entries/the-audiencia-of-sta-fee-to-the-king-on-the-taking-of-sto-thome-by-the-english-in-1618/>. Also, we have begun to purchase page images for some of our texts and have begun to integrate them (though this process has been slow-going). An example of that would be <http://eada.lib.umd.edu/text-entries/briefe-and-true-report-of-the-new-found-land-of-virginia/>. Finally, in 2015-16, we moved the EADA from a MITH to a UMD library server. In the process, we changed the EADA over to a Word Press platform.

*Do you keep track of how many people access the archive in a given period?*

I personally don't, but I imagine that the UMD Library (on whose server the EADA is now housed) probably does.

*Are there plans in the works for the archive (i.e. adding more annotated texts, etc.)?*

Yes, the EADA has always been a work in progress. We continue to add new annotated texts as they are submitted by guest editors or generated by Undergraduate and Graduate RA whom I supervise. We will also continue to integrate page images, as resources permit.



## Preserving the Old Corner Bookstore

Petitions have been recently circulated asking for signatures to transform a local, Boston spot that is the home of New England literary history. Once the spot where Anne Hutchinson's cottage sat, a Chipotle Grill is currently located on the corner of School and Washington Streets. However, Chipotle is just the most recent of businesses to occupy the Old Corner Bookstore (OCB) building. During the mid-nineteenth century it was home to Ticknor and Fields, a famous publishing company that is credited with kindling interest in American literature. A petition has been started to preserve the memory and honor of Ticknor and Fields in the form of a literary museum, as they are famous for publishing the works of canonical authors such as Ralph Waldo Emerson, Henry David Thoreau, Harriet Beecher Stowe, Nathaniel Hawthorne, Mark Twain, Charles Dickens, Lydia Maria Child, and Horatio Alger.



*Current photography of the Old Corner Bookstore Location*

The OCB was the center of flourishing literary activity between approximately 1820 and 1860. In the official petition to preserve the building as a museum, Paul Lewis, who has spearheaded the effort, mentions that the OCB was surrounded by other major literary landmarks, such as the spot where Lydia Marie Child published *Juvenile Miscellany*, Sarah Josepha Hale edited *Godey Ladies Book*, and where John P. Jewett and Company published *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. Nearby was also where 180 magazines were published including *The Atlantic Monthly*, *The Dial*, edited by Margaret Fuller and James Russel Lowell's *Pioneer*, which is known for having published Edgar Allan Poe's "The Tell-Tale Heart."

Lewis adds that "properly funded and thoughtfully repurposed as a museum of Boston's literary heritage, the OCB's ground floor could host a permanent exhibition about the role of Ticknor and Fields in the development of American literature and rotating exhibits about Bostonian writers, editors, publishers, theaters, libraries, magazines, movements, genres, and books. Literary walking tours could be run from the site, and the upper floors could house complementary literary and cultural organizations, providing regular income and more programming for the building.



*Undated photo of the Old Corner Bookstore*

Several scholars and editors believe the site should be preserved as a museum to pay homage to the literary history that once took place behind its doors. Lewis, of Boston College, has collected over 3,000 signatures. However, according to Historic Boston, the non-profit who owns the building, they are unwilling to consider a museum because commercial properties bring in more money for other preservation opportunities.

\*Information is courtesy of article from the *Boston Globe*: <https://www.bostonglobe.com/arts/books/2018/01/11/turning-old-corner-bookstore-into-museum-legacy-mlk-murder/> and the official petition website: <https://www.change.org/p/kathy-kottaridis-convert-the-old-corner-bookstore-into-a-museum-of-boston-s-literary-history>

**NeMLA: Northeast Modern Language Association  
Pittsburgh, PA  
April 12-15, 2018**

“Global Spaces, Local Landscapes, and Imagined Worlds”  
The 49th Annual Convention of the Northeast Modern Language Association will meet April 12 to 15, 2018, and will feature approximately 400 sessions, as well as dynamic speakers and cultural events. Every year, this event affords NeMLA’s principal opportunity to carry on a tradition of lively research and pedagogical exchange in language and literature. The theme of this year’s convention is “Global Spaces, Local Landscapes and Imagined Worlds.” We seek to examine the concept of spaces: their appropriation and occupation, the demarcation of borders, processes of inclusivity and exclusivity, as well as reproductive processes related to the creation of worlds—real, fantastic, and imagined. Pittsburgh, a city whose recent cultural explosion attracts visitors from around the United States and the world, provides the ideal backdrop for such thought provoking topics.

Early American based panels include:

- Excluded: Neglected Authors Pre-1900, American Literature and Literary History: Thursday, Track 1
- Teaching Early American Literature in a Time of Political Upheaval: Thursday, Track 3
- Family Letters and Imagined Space in Early America: Friday, Track 8
- The First Frontier: Pittsburgh and Pennsylvania in Early America: Friday, Track 6

**American Literature Association  
29th Annual Conference  
San Francisco, CA  
May 24-27, 2018**

Society of Early Americanists-hosted panels include:

“1830 is the New ’20: The 1820s as Early American Literature”

In spring 2017, the Society of Early Americanists voted to extend the Society’s temporal range from 1820 to 1830, in order to (as the Society stated) “reflect more fully the range of the scholarship and teaching of our members.” This panel asks us to consider the implications of this temporal extension. In what sense can writing of the 1820s be called “early American”? How do we put works from the decade into a historical constellation with literature from earlier periods? What’s interesting about the decade?

“SEA Teaching Panel: Early American Drama”

Despite a flurry of exciting recent scholarship, many early Americanists teach one play (if they teach any at all) in their courses on the period. Though theater might now be seen as republicanism’s primary literary mode, and as a defining

circumatlantic form, our syllabi have yet to catch up with this recognition. This panel invites reflections on teaching drama in the period. What texts, practices, assignments work for you?

“Internationalizing Non-State Actors in the Early Republic”

On July 2, 2017, California governor Jerry Brown described an end-run around federal climate policies by invoking the political power of non-state actors in international relations, even as Brown also explained that “the biggest state in the union is the venue for a worldwide convocation of states, regions and entrepreneurs and others.” Reflecting a contested history of mixed sovereignty suggested by the multiple meanings of the word “state” in the US context, Brown’s comment evokes a tradition that includes George Logan, whose non-state diplomacy triggered the Logan Act much discussed these days. In the spirit of its Californian inspiration, this panel calls for studies of non-sovereign (or sub-sovereign) entities in the international republic of letters, whether in diplomatic or literary sources. How does early republican writing represent, or perform, the powers of these groups (which might include proto-states, militias, factions, partisans, etc.)? How is their political agency represented? While these groups are often viewed as anti-federalists, can we read them as internationalists?

**“Religion and Politics in Early America,”  
SEA Special Topics Conference  
St. Louis, Missouri  
March 1-4, 2018**

This conference explores the intersections between religion and politics in early America from pre-contact through the early republic. All panels relate to the way religion shapes politics or politics shapes religion—how the two come into conflict, collaborate, or otherwise configure each other. We define the terms “religion” and “politics” broadly, including (for example) studies of secularity and doubt. This conference has a broad temporal, geographic, and topical expanse. Scholars will be coming from multiple disciplines, including American Studies, English, History, Law, Political Science, Religious Studies, and more. Finally, special panel series will hold related panels open for all participants to attend. These series will examine the material cultures of religion and politics, Native American religion and politics, mission work, disestablishment and religious toleration, William Penn and his legacy, and issue of globalization and cosmopolitanism in early America. We look forward to exciting discussions and welcome you to the conference

<https://sites.wustl.edu/religionpolitics2018/>

**Beyond Recovery**  
**Special Issue of *Early American Literature***  
**Due: June 15, 2018**

The recognition that archives are partial, filled with lacunae that demand scholarly attention, has fueled research engaging the epistemological, cultural, and political forces of early American materials and repositories. While powerful, positivist recovery work—efforts to fill gaps and hear silenced voices—has theoretically and materially expanded early American studies, the archive remains yet and always incomplete. This special issue of *Early American Literature* seeks essays that work around, across, or beside missing or marginalized records.

“Beyond Recovery” invites submissions that address some of the following questions: What avenues exist for scholars when archival research reaches a dead end of missing or absent records? How can scholars and archivists intellectually and ethically engage with archival absence? Are there some archival gaps that not only cannot but also should not be filled? How can we respond to the powerful pull of absence—of that which has been lost or suppressed—rather than to what is found? How do the structures of archives—labor, the organization of and access to materials, institutional homes—enable or disable archival gaps, and their apprehension? What techniques and technologies can be used in archival work as or beyond recovery?

We welcome submissions exploring a wide range of methodological, material, and pedagogical approaches that engage with absences and exclusions. In particular, we invite full-length (8,000-10,000 words) articles from scholars engaged in archival research whose work models new approaches to records that are incomplete, biased, unrecorded, or unpreserved. Send essays to Lauren Coats ([lac@lsu.edu](mailto:lac@lsu.edu)) and Steffi Dippold ([dippolds@ksu.edu](mailto:dippolds@ksu.edu)).



**SSAWW 2018 Triennial Conference**  
**Denver, Colorado**  
**Conference Theme: “Resistance and Recovery across the Americas”**  
**November 7-11, 2018**

**Proposed Sessions:**

- Practices and Theories of Literary Influence in American Women’s Writing (Deadline 2.8.2018)
- Forms of Resistance: Women’s Family Letters of the Early Americas (Deadline 2.9.2018)
- Resistance and Recovery through Collaborative Teaching Practices (Deadline 2.9.2018)
- Lydia Maria Child Society Syllabus Assignment/Exchange for Social Justice Pedagogy (Deadline 2.9.2018)
- Uncovering Recovery: The Therapeutic as Resistance in American Women’s Writing (Deadline 2.9.2018)
- Catharine Sedgwick Society “Resisting Readers, Resisting Narrators” (Deadline 2.10.2018)
- Troubling Hospitality in 19th-Century American Women’s Writing (Deadline 2.10.2018)
- In the Company of Margaret Fuller: Unexpected Genealogies of Feminism (Deadline 2.10.2018)
- “Micro” Digital Humanities and the Recovery of American Women Writers (Deadline 2.11.2018)
- Speaking Her Truth, Power in the Telling (Deadline 2.12.2018)
- ASLE – Environmental Narratives of Resistance and Recovery (Deadline 2.14.2018)

For links to the CFPs, go to <https://ssawwnew.wordpress.com/2018-conference/>



**Communities in Print / Communities of Print: Periodicals and the Constitution of Community in Early America****Biannual Meeting of the European Early American Studies Association, London****December 14-16, 2018****Due: March 1, 2018**

The proposed panel investigates the relation between community and periodicals in Early America. We are interested in the tensions between ideas of community and the theorization of the periodical, the ways in which periodicals frame community, in which they and their readers constitute communities, or the ways in which understanding periodicals as communities helps us understand them. We depart from a number of observations.

On the one hand, there is much congruence between Benedict Anderson's seminal study on *Imagined Communities* (1983/1991), which identifies the importance of print-capitalism and the reading of newspapers in the constitution of imagined national communities, and studies of Early North American print culture as setting out to produce a peculiarly American, and then national, identity (see e.g. McGill 2007, Gross/Kelley 2010, and Straub 2017). On the other hand, philosophical and sociological engagements with the idea of community (Bauman 2001, Wright 2000, Nancy 1991) have frequently stressed the exclusionary role of community, the way it needs to be read against identity, and the importance of limiting it off against outside communication (Bauman 2001, 14-16).

How, then, can we understand the interaction between community and the periodical at different levels: the community of printers, the community of creators, the community of readers, whether national or local or simply translocal, or the communities written into being by periodicals? The periodical archive has already been shown to offer priceless insights into the contested creation of early American identities, through the formation of the canon and cultural standards, the rise of literature as a profession and industry, and the essentially transnational dimension of cultural production in the colonial period and beyond. This panel seeks to add to this by offering steps towards a more complex theorization of the interaction between community as an idea and ideal, and communities in Early America in practice, and their constitution by, in, through, or against periodicals.

200-word proposals should be sent to Tim Lanzendörfer, [lanzendo@uni-mainz.de](mailto:lanzendo@uni-mainz.de), and Julia Straub, [straub@ens.unibe.ch](mailto:straub@ens.unibe.ch)

**Afterlives of the Enlightenment: Sovereignty CLCS 18th Century****Due: February 15, 2018**

The eighteenth century world placed sovereignty in the heart of global political, economic, and cultural debates. In the past ten years, scholars have examined sovereignty in matters of aesthetics (Anderson, "Zombie Sovereignty"), literary criticism (Aravamudan, "Subjects/Sovereigns/Rogues"), and political theory (Chatterjee, *Lineages of Political Society*; Downes, *Hobbes, Sovereignty, and Early American Literature*), joining interdisciplinary work in archaeology (Smith, "Archaeologies of Sovereignty"), area studies (Warrior, "Home/Not Home"), history of science (Casumbal-Salazar, "Fictive Kinship"), law (Benton, *Search for Sovereignty*), philosophy (Nayar, "On the Elusive Subject of Sovereignty"), and spatiality (Brown, *Walled States, Waning Sovereignty*). Please send abstracts to Sunil Agnani ([sagnani1@uic.edu](mailto:sagnani1@uic.edu)) or Allison Bigelow ([amb8fk@virginia.edu](mailto:amb8fk@virginia.edu))

**Southern Foodways: Textual Transactions and Regional Food Writing****Due: March 15, 2018**

The Society for the Study of Southern Literature is sponsoring a 2019 MLA panel on the changing landscape of southern foodways and food writing. Given the growing interest and debates on the topic, we are organizing a panel that discusses food writing and food in literature in the context of recent discussions and shifts in the field. Drawing upon the conference theme of "Textual Transactions," this panel will consider the "mutually constitutive engagements" enacted not only by food itself but also by the ways in which food is written about, understood, and used as shorthand for and as a symbol for the U.S. South.

Possible themes or questions to consider include:

- The ways in which writers and/or critics build from or ignore the Southern Foodways Alliance values statement, "All presentations and plates benefit from context."
- Literary representations of regional cuisine that complicate or further our understanding of southern consumers.
- Representations--literary or otherwise--of southern food that invite historical, contextual inquiry: for example, exploring a particular ingredient or recipe's affiliation with one group or region despite its historical origins with another.
- Considering the roots and routes of regional cuisine to ask how movement and migration have changed both the reception and representation of so-called "regional" items.

Submit 250-word abstracts, A/V requirements, and 100-word bio to Katie Burnett, Fisk University ([kburnett@fisk.edu](mailto:kburnett@fisk.edu)), Erica Abrams Locklear, UNC-Asheville ([elockea@unca.edu](mailto:elockea@unca.edu)), and Monica Miller, Middle Georgia State University ([monica.miller@mga.edu](mailto:monica.miller@mga.edu)).

As part of the “Afterlives of the Enlightenment” series sponsored by the CLCS 18th-Century Forum, this panel welcomes contributions from scholars of the eighteenth century and periods shaped by Enlightenment currents. Papers might consider questions of sovereignty from one of the perspectives mentioned above, or in emerging areas like Indigenous data sovereignty in the digital humanities, food sovereignty, or ecological sovereignty.

Please send abstracts to Sunil Agnani ([sagnani1@uic.edu](mailto:sagnani1@uic.edu)) or Allison Bigelow ([amb8fk@virginia.edu](mailto:amb8fk@virginia.edu))

**Women and Archives**  
**Special Issue of *Tulsa Studies in Women's Literature***  
**Due: March 15, 2018**

In “Archives, Records, and Power: The Making of Modern Memory” (2002), Joan Schwartz and Terry Cook assert, “Archives have the power to privilege and to marginalize. They can be a tool of hegemony; they can be a tool of resistance” (13). This dual function of the archive as a vehicle for both reinforcing social inequities and engendering counternarratives frames this special issue of *Tulsa Studies in Women's Literature*, scheduled for publication March 2021. We understand the term archive in a scopic sense, inclusive of institutional vaults of artifacts and records; traces and residues of embodied performances and affective experiences; and/or imaginative literature that renders historically marginalized voices legible. We welcome theoretical essays that build on the work of Jacques Derrida, Diana Taylor, Ann Cvetkovich, among other theorists of the archive, as well as essays that examine the relationship between women's literary and/or cultural production and archival knowledge. Essays should be 6000-9000 words (excluding notes), should conform to the endnote style of the 16th edition of the Chicago Manual of Style, and should be submitted in Microsoft Word.

Essay topics may include (but are not limited to):

- Women authors' efforts to fill in archival lacunae about slavery, colonialism, and/or Jim Crow segregation
- Women, material culture, and the archive
- Alternative ways of understanding what constitutes an archive and/or alternative sites of artifactual or historical knowledge

We also invite two types of shorter essays: Archives pieces should be 1500-3000 words in length and present new bibliographies, descriptions of particular archives, or narratives of archival research. Innovations pieces should be 2000-5000 words long, and describe new scholarly approaches to the relationship between archives and women's writing, such as digital humanities projects, or reflections on the effects of such projects on the field. Please send submissions to Emily Rutter at [errutter@bsu.edu](mailto:errutter@bsu.edu) and Laura Engel at [engell784@duq.edu](mailto:engell784@duq.edu), and use the subject line “Tulsa Studies: Women and Archives.”

**Forms of Resistance: Women's Family Letters of the Early America's**  
**SSAW 2018 Triennial Conference**  
**November 7-11, 2018**  
**Due: February 9, 2018**

How do the letters of women of the early Americas, in particular those to family members, reveal ways in which they resisted the various strictures and obstacles that defined their lives? Given the limitations on female authorship, letters were one of the few ways women could articulate their desires, anxieties, and struggles. Especially when writing to relations—correspondence typically marked by higher levels of familiarity and trust—letters present opportunities for authentic reflection about matters both public and private. In these, women could reveal truths about their lives that might otherwise have gone unexpressed. They can reveal aspirations, a political/social/cultural consciousness, and even various forms of trauma. In addition, it is in their private letters that many women have been recovered who might otherwise never have been known; that these texts are generally not anthologized means our awareness of them continues to be precarious. This session will examine women's family letters of the early Americas as sites of resistance and recovery, in keeping with the conference theme. Letters up to approximately 1830 and from any geographical area in the early Americas will be considered. Proposals about the letters of women from marginalized groups are especially welcome. Please send 300-word proposals and a brief bio to Mary Balkun [mary.balkun@shu.edu](mailto:mary.balkun@shu.edu).

**SEA Council of Officers**

**Executive Officers, 2017-2019**

Gordon Sayre, President (University of Oregon)  
[gsayre@uoregon.edu](mailto:gsayre@uoregon.edu)

Patrick M. Erben, Vice President (University of West Georgia)  
[perben@westga.edu](mailto:perben@westga.edu)

Ralph Bauer, Executive Coordinator (University of Maryland)  
[bauerr@umd.edu](mailto:bauerr@umd.edu)

**Advisory Officers:**

Immediate Past President:  
Laura Stevens, (University of Tulsa)  
[laura-stevens@utals.edu](mailto:laura-stevens@utals.edu)

**SEAN Editor:**

Mary Balkun (Seton Hall University)  
Assistant: Kaitlin Tonti (Indiana University of Pennsylvania)

**Webmaster:**

Susan Imbarrato (Minnesota State University Moorhead)

**EARAM-L Moderator:**

Raymond Craig (Bowling Green State University)

**Website:** <https://www.societyofearlyamericanists.org>

# Society of

## Early Americanists

### To Our Members

The SEA thanks its new and renewing members for their invaluable support of our Society. Your contributions make early American studies thrive. Please remember to keep your membership current and direct any membership inquiries to the Executive Coordinator, Ralph Bauer [seacoord@gmail.com](mailto:seacoord@gmail.com)

You can also help build our membership by referring colleagues in the field to the Society's homepage: <https://www.societyofearlyamericanists.org>

### Society Information/Membership

The Society of Early Americanists provides a forum for scholarly and pedagogical exchange and professional support among scholars of various disciplines who study the literature and culture of America to approximately 1830. Our membership of over 350 individuals enjoys a twice-yearly newsletter detailing recent publications and activities in our field, a website that lists announcements and updates on our events, along with links to many documents of interest to early American scholars and teachers, and a listserv that posts conference announcements, queries, and scholarly pursuits. We also offer opportunities for networking and dissemination of professional work. <https://www.societyofearlyamericanists.org/membership>

### Opportunities for Giving

In addition to keeping your SEA membership active, you can contribute to the Fund to Honor Excellence in Teaching: <https://www.societyofearlyamericanists.org/teaching-resources/honored-teachers>

### Image Credits

1. *A View of the Town of Concord*. Image credit: <https://connecticuthistory.org/ralph-earl-portrait-of-an-early-american-artist/>
2. *David Shields*. Photo credit: David Shields
3. *Hilary Wyss*. Photo credit: Hilary Wyss
4. *Kristina Bross*. Photo credit: Kristina Bross
5. *Melissa Antonucci*. Photo credit: Melissa Antonucci
6. *Helen Hunt*. Photo credit: Helen Hunt
7. *Reading Children Cover Image*. Image credit: Pat Crain
8. *Catherine E. Kelly*. Photo credit: Catherine E. Kelly
9. *Lisa Logan*. Photo credit: University of Central Florida
10. Watermelon image. Photo credit: <https://sea2013.wordpress.com/>
11. *Map of the Southern United States*. Image credit: <http://www.digitalhistory.uh.edu/maps/maps.cfm>
12. *The Proprietary House*. Image credit: Maxine Lurie
13. *America*. <http://eada.lib.umd.edu/>
14. *Old Corner Bookstore Current Location*. Photo credit: <https://www.change.org/p/kathy-kottaridis-convert-the-old-corner-bookstore-into-a-museum-of-boston-s-literary-history>
15. *Undated photo of Old Corner Bookstore*. Photo credit: <https://www.bostonglobe.com/arts/books/2018/01/11/turning-old-corner-bookstore-into-museum-legacy-mlk-murder/>
16. *Procession of Victuallers of Philadelphia, on the 15th of March, 1821*. Image credit: <http://common-place.org>