



RMMLA Update

ROCKY MOUNTAIN MODERN LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION

JOIN US IN CALGARY FOR OUR 2007 CONVENTION!

The 61st annual convention will be held at the Westin Hotel in Calgary October 4–6, 2007. Our thanks go to our local host institution, the University of Calgary, as well as to all of our session chairs and presenters for making this a great program.

Please note that Monday, October 8 is Canadian Thanksgiving, so flights and hotels will be fuller than usual that weekend. Book your travel and hotel EARLY!

Our keynote speaker this year will be **Elizabeth George**, author of the Inspector Lynley crime novels. Ms. George has won the Anthony Award, the Agatha Award, and France's Le Grand Prix de Littérature Policière for her novel *A Great Deliverance*, for which she was also nominated for the Edgar and the Macavity Awards. She has also been awarded Germany's MIMI for her novel *Well-Schooled in Murder*. Her novels have been filmed for television by the BBC and have been broadcast in the United States on PBS's *Mystery* series. Her most recent novel is entitled *What Came Before He Shot Her*. At the RMMLA luncheon on Friday, Ms. George will give a talk entitled "The Enduring Appeal of Crime." On Friday afternoon she will also participate in a special panel discussion on creative writing.

We are also happy to welcome guest speaker **Evelyn C. White**, journalist and author of the biography *Alice Walker: A Life* (W.W. Norton, 2004), the first full-length biography of the Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *The Color Purple* and many other works. Ms. White's articles, essays and reviews have appeared in such publications as *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Vancouver Sun*, *The Globe and Mail*, *The Washington Post*, *The Philadelphia Inquirer*, *The San Francisco Chronicle*, and *Smithsonian*, *Essence*, and *Ms.* magazines. Ms. White will be giving a talk entitled "A Passion for Freedom: Alice Munro and Alice Walker," looking at the life

and literature of these writers through the lens of their fervent quest for liberation, both personally and professionally.

Douglas Steward, Associate Director of MLA English Programs and of the Association of Departments of English, will give a talk entitled "A Pall of Orthodoxy: Academic Freedom in the Classroom." He will also participate in a panel discussion on academic freedom.

The deadline for paper proposals to session chairs was March 1; some chairs are still seeking papers for their session, so if you did not submit a proposal but wish to be considered still, email the appropriate session chair to see if s/he is still seeking papers. Click on Call for Papers online at www.rmmla.org.

IMPORTANT REMINDER:

Americans now need a passport for all AIR and SEA travel to and from Canada; by later this year, a passport will also be required for LAND travel across the U.S.–Canada border.

CALGARY EXCURSIONS

This year, we will offer two excursions on Saturday afternoon, October 6:

1. Calgary City Sights (US\$75 per person) with a visit to Fort Calgary Historic Site and Canada Olympic Park, the site of the 1988 Winter Olympic Games. The excursion includes a tour guide, admission to the park and a ride up the Ski Jump Tower. Min. 40/Max 54.
2. Transportation to Banff (US\$50 per person). Transportation to/from Banff, with time for shopping and dining on your own. Optional High Tea at Banff Springs Hotel (US\$32 extra).

All sessions end at 1:30 pm on Saturday; both excursions leave the hotel at 2:00 pm. Calgary City Tour returns at about 6:00 pm; bus from Banff returns at about 10:00 pm.

Reservation form included in this mailing.

CALGARY CONVENTION DETAILS

Our convention begins on Thursday morning, October 4, and runs through Saturday at 1:30 pm, October 6. The complete convention program will be on our Web site by mid-June. We know that you will enjoy this year's convention and we hope to see you in Calgary!

Convention participants make room reservations directly with the Westin Hotel:

The Westin Calgary
320 4th Avenue SW
Calgary, AB T2P 2S6 Canada
Direct Phone: 403-266-1611
Toll-Free Phone: 800-937-8461
Fax: 403-233-7471

All reservations must be guaranteed with a credit card. You **MUST** mention the RMMLA room block to receive our discounted rate. The cut-off date for our discount rate is **September 6, 2007**—BUT this is on a space available basis—the **RMMLA block may be sold out before September 6, so make your plans early!**

Call for New 2008 Convention Sessions

The 62nd annual RMMLA convention will be held in Reno, Nevada, next year, October 9–11, 2008. We would like to request volunteers to chair special topic sessions on topics relating to Western literature, film, popular culture, etc. Other special topics will, of course, also be considered. Please consider volunteering to chair a session.

Mailing Notice

Please note that this mailing includes the following:

- Spring issue of the *Rocky Mountain Review of Language and Literature*
- Calgary convention registration form
- Executive Board nomination form (due November 1)
- Calgary/Banff Excursion reservation form
- CV-Cover Letter Help Session reservation form
- Spring 2007 Newsletter

IMPORTANT DATES

June 1—Application deadline for Convention Travel Grants

Early June—Preliminary convention program posted to www.rmmla.org

August 1—Deadline for editorial changes to convention program (email okay)

September 6—Cut-off date for discounted block rate at the Westin Hotel in Calgary. Block may be sold out by then, though, so book early.

September 15—Postmark/transaction deadline for early, discounted convention registration rate (includes buffet luncheon ticket). No luncheon tickets available after this deadline.

November 1—Nominations due to Secretariat for Executive Board Elections (email okay).

November 1—Deadline for Calgary chairs to submit session report with name of new chair for Reno in 2008. Special Topic sessions are not automatically renewed each year. STS chairs will receive a different form, asking if the session wishes to be considered for 2008 and if someone has been designated as chair.

November 1—Deadline to submit reports for Special Topic Session requests for inclusion in the 2008 Reno Call for Papers (email okay).

December 15—Application deadline for Davis and Farr awards.

February 1, 2008—Application deadline for Huntington Award and Research Travel Grants.

Submissions sought for RMMLA Journals

The editors of the *Rocky Mountain Review* and the *E-Review* encourage members to submit articles for publication. Articles appearing in the online journal, the *Rocky Mountain E-Review*, undergo exactly the same review process as articles considered for the print journal. Unlike articles in the print version, which must be in English, articles destined for the online journal may be written in any language, and may include multimedia components (graphics, audio, video, hyperlinks to other Web sites, etc.), features not possible in the print version. Pieces accepted for publication in the *E-Review* will appear as soon as they have passed through the review process, rather than on a fixed print publication schedule. Complete submission guidelines appear on our Web site. Consider submitting your work to the *Rocky Mountain Review* and *E-Review*.

Rocky Mountain Review FORUM

The editors are interested in receiving "Forum" pieces for the journal, that is, short commentaries on some professional or pedagogical issue of importance to our members. Please submit these following the usual guidelines for a scholarly article.

CONVENTION SESSION CHAIRS: HOW TO SUBMIT PROGRAM COPY

Session chairs enter their program information directly into the online form.

- Go to the CONVENTIONS page on the RMMLA web site (www.rmmla.org)
- Click the "Program Form for Session Chairs"
- Log into the site (your login information can be emailed to you from here, too)
- Find your session on the pull-down menu
- Follow the directions for adding presenters, paper titles, abstracts, A-V requests and scheduling requests (in Comments field)
- Please add your information by MAY 1
- Last day to make changes is AUGUST 1, at which time the program goes to press.

If the system does not allow a chair to enter a presenter's name, that generally means that the person is not current in RMMLA dues. Remind the person that s/he must join RMMLA to be included in the program. Membership before April 1 ensured inclusion in all mailing lists related to the journal and the convention; all convention forms are also available for download from the RMMLA web site at www.rmmla.org.

Presenters can update their own program copy (paper title and/or abstracts) once the session chair has added him/her to the session. A/V and scheduling requests must come through the session chair to be considered.

Only RMMLA staff can make changes to a member's name; all other updates to member contact information may be made by members themselves by using the "Membership Directory" option or by emailing us with the changes.

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RMMLA GRANTS AND AWARDS

RMMLA offers several grants and awards, described in the enclosed Grants and Awards brochure. Recipients of recent grants and awards are as follows:

The recipient of the Cecilia Konchar Farr Award for 2007 is **Lisa Byrd** of the University of Tennessee for her paper entitled "Spectacle of Strangeness: Anti-masque Nature in Jonson's *Masque of Queens*," presented at the Women's Caucus Seminar in Tucson.

The Charles Davis Award carries a \$100 prize. There was a tie for the 2007 prize: **Amy Hamilton** (University of Arizona) for her paper entitled: "You better keep right on walking": Remembering Migration and Removal in American Indian Women's Poetry" and **Wendy Roberts** (Northwestern University), for her paper entitled "Regionalizing Christianity: Charles Sheldon's *In His Steps* in the Context of Regionalist Fiction." Runner-up awards (\$50) were given to **Jordan Green** (University of Oregon) and **Matthew Landers** (Louisiana State University).

This year's RMMLA-Huntington Library Research Grant, carrying a stipend of \$2,000 to cover one month of residency and research at the Huntington Library in San Marino, California, goes to **Allison Ksiatkiewicz** (York University) for her project entitled "The Visual Culture of Natural History of the 19th Century and Contemporary Nations of Wilderness in American Landscape Painting."

IN YOUR HONOR

If you have recently received a research or teaching award or published a book or other media, please send details to rmmla@wsu.edu so that we can announce this on our web site.

Convention Travel Grants: JUNE 1 Deadline

Application deadline is June 1 for our Convention Travel Grants (\$250 each, one for faculty and two for graduate students, plus runner-up fee waivers). Application guidelines for all RMMLA grants and awards are at www.rmmla.org. NEW in 2007: Application for all RMMLA grants and awards now EMAIL SUBMISSION ONLY.

Mark your calendars for Reno, Nevada—October 9–11, 2008,
AND Snowbird, Utah—October 8–10, 2009!