The central mountains of Arizona are the setting for WLA’s 45th annual conference. The mile-high city of Prescott, the first territorial capital of Arizona, is lit by the stunning blue and grey tones of the Bradshaw Mountains. Long a central stage in the drama of the American West, Prescott is home to generations of indigenous peoples and working cowboys. Our conference will be held at the Prescott Resort on the Yavapai-Prescott Indian Reservation, and there we will gather to honor the work and legacy of El Teatro Campesino’s founder and 2010 Distinguished Achievement Award recipient: playwright, poet, and activist Luis Valdez. We welcome essays, both theoretical and creative, on any aspect of western literature and culture. To recognize theatrical literature, the literature of performance, AND the variety of ways we perform our identity as westerners on the global stage, WLA 2010 invites you to submit proposals on the following topics and themes:

- labor, literature, and land
- activism, protest, and irony in western literature
- the literature of theater, performance, and folklore
- identity performance: transgressions, masks, boundary crossings, and trickster figures
- ethnic and bilingual literatures in the West
- Arizona, the Southwest, and the border
- the West as global stage
- Luis Valdez, El Teatro Campesino and its legacy

All submissions must include a 250-word abstract, name, address, affiliation, contact information, and A/V requests. Proposals for panels are welcome and should include an abstract for each paper. All submissions are due by June 15, 2010. For award submissions, follow the guidelines listed under www.usu.edu/westlit/Awardsgeneral.htm.

Send materials by email to Gioia Woods, WLA President at Gioia.Woods@nau.edu or by mail to Gioia Woods, WLA President, Department of Comparative Cultural Studies Box 6031, Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff AZ 86011.