Not Cloudy All Day

Climates of Change in the American West
Welcome to Estes Park!

Look around you at this glorious location! We are in the Front Range of the Colorado Rockies, a magnificent landscape occupied, visited, and loved by Arapaho and Ute (as well as other) tribes, US expansionists, British nobility, French fur trappers, American explorers and adventurers, and millions of visitors from all over the world. At the YMCA, between Rocky Mountain National Park and the Arapaho National Forest, we are surrounded by many acres of public lands.

We meet at a moment which feels, to us at least, like a time when we must talk about change—climate change and everything it will alter about our material lives, culture shift, social transformation—and when we must make our “talk” more accessible to a broad, public audience. These convictions have shaped our conference themes and design, not to mention our choice of plenary speakers and our Distinguished Achievement Award Winner.

Our featured speakers are Aaron Abeyta, Paolo Bacigalupi, Brian Calvert, Scott Denning, Dan Flores, Kathleen Dean Moore, and Laura Pritchett. In addition to addressing climate change and cultural transformation in the West, these speakers exemplify public engagement, social and environmental activism, and a commitment to scholarly rigor and creative vigor in their work. A partnership with the Estes Valley Library has led us to make Laura Pritchett’s and Kathleen Dean Moore’s events open to the general public. We have also created a Public Intellectual/Public Interest Award for our conference this year, with relevant talks highlighted on our program (PI).

You will see on our schedule the WLA’s usual critical and creative writing (CW) panels, and we have also experimented with Quick Paper (more than four per panel) and Conversation panels with the hope that real discussion occurs during these sessions; the latter, especially, will invite listeners to become full participants. Our large number of graduate student presenters and several panels featuring younger student-scholars (including one from the Center for the Study of the American West at West Texas A&M University, our major sponsor) exemplify the WLA’s desire to cultivate a next generation of scholars. Although our Distinguished Achievement Award winner, Leslie Marmon Silko, unfortunately could not attend our gathering, many panels and a demi-plenary on indigenous studies and on Silko’s work demonstrate our strong continuing interest in Native American literatures.

We hope that the YMCA’s particular vibe will help foster a greater sense of community among our members. In the common areas, out in the expansive campus, and over shared meals in the cafeteria, we encourage you all to break out of your usual social circles, join new groups, and make new friends.

Sincerely,
SueEllen Campbell and Alex Hunt
2019 WLA Co-presidents
Indigenous Lands

With gratitude and respect, the Western Literature Association acknowledges that the land where we are gathering this week has for many thousands of years been part of the ancestral homeland of the Ute, Arapaho, and other Native peoples. We recognize indigenous peoples as original and traditional stewards of this place whose ties to it continue, and we strive as an organization to honor those ties.

Acknowledgments

The Western Literature Association gratefully acknowledges support from our sponsors:

- The Center for the Study of the American West at West Texas A&M University
- The Charles Redd Center at Brigham Young University
- Estes Valley Public Library
- Colorado State University’s Department of English
- An anonymous donor by a longtime WLA member
- The Center of the West at University of Colorado Boulder
- Colorado State University’s College of Liberal Arts
- Colorado State University’s Public Lands History Center
- Colorado State University’s Department of History
- The College of Fine Arts and Humanities at West Texas A&M University

Access the program (with abstracts) on your smart device: download Conference4me from the iTunes App Store, the Google Play Store, or the Windows Phone Store.

You can create your own schedule and receive live updates to the program!
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WEDNESDAY OVERVIEW

1:00-4:00 p.m.
   WLA Executive Council Meeting (Keyhole)
   Chair: Nicolas Witschi

4:00-7:00 p.m.
   Registration (Lower Long’s Peak Lobby)

5:00-6:45 p.m.
   Welcome Reception (Diamond East)

5:00-7:30 p.m.
   Dinner Buffet (Aspen Dining Room)
   Note: Meal times are set by the YMCA. Attendees can eat at any time within the scheduled buffet time.

7:00-7:15 p.m.
   Indigenous Land Acknowledgment
   Ava Hamilton, Arapaho (Assembly Hall C)

7:15-8:30 p.m.

OPENING PLENARY:
LAURA PRITCHETT, The Truth of Fiction: Climate Change in Five Novels (co-sponsored by Estes Valley Library)
Introduced and moderated by Louann Reid, Colorado State University
Location: Assembly Hall C

Laura Pritchett’s short story collection Hell’s Bottom, Colorado, won the PEN USA Award for Fiction and the Milkweed National Fiction Prize, and her novels Sky Bridge, Stars Go Blue, Red Lightning, and The Blue Hour have won numerous literary awards, including the High Plains Book Award. She also writes nonfiction (most recently Great Colorado Bear Stories) and has edited several environmental anthologies. Her stories and essays have appeared in The New York Times, O Magazine, High Country News, and elsewhere. She is a life-long resident of Colorado, living near Fort Collins, and has recently joined the creative writing faculty of Western Colorado University.
THURSDAY OVERVIEW

7:00-9:00 a.m.
  Breakfast Buffet (Aspen Dining Room)
7:45 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
  Registration (Lower Long’s Peak Lobby)
8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
  Book Exhibit & Coffee/Tea Station (Chasm Lake)
8:00-9:15 a.m.
  Sessions T1
9:30-10:45 a.m.
  Demi-Plenary: Susan Harness, Margaret Jacobs, Stephen Graham Jones, & Rick Waters, “Deconstructing and Reconstructing Indigenous Families and Identities” (Assembly Hall C)
9:30-10:45 a.m.
  Sessions T2
11:00 a.m.-12:15 p.m.
  Sessions T3
11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
  Lunch Buffet (Aspen Dining Room)
12:20-1:20 p.m.
  Graduate Student Luncheon with Kathleen Dean Moore (Diamond East)
1:30-2:45 p.m.
  Sessions T4
3:00-4:15 p.m.
  Plenary: Paolo Bacigalupi, “Storytelling for a Fragmented Future” (Assembly Hall C)
4:30-5:45 p.m.
  Sessions T6 & Grad Student Panel: “Publishing” (Granite Pass)
5:00-7:30 p.m.
  Dinner Buffet (Aspen Dining Room)
7:00-8:30 p.m.
  Plenary: Kathleen Dean Moore, “How to Love a Wounded World” (Assembly Hall C)
8:30-10:00 p.m.
  Social & Open Mic (Diamond East)
THURSDAY
7:45 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Registration
Location: Lower Long’s Peak Lobby

THURSDAY
8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Book Exhibit & Coffee/Tea Station
Location: Chasm Lake

THURSDAY
8:00-9:15 a.m.

T1A: Students on Student Engagement and Cultural Research (Center for the Study of the American West [CSAW] sponsored panel)
Location: Boulder Field
Chair: Timothy Paul Bowman, West Texas A&M University

The True Value of Student Research
Patrick William Diepen, West Texas A&M University

Rovellers and Representation: Latino and Hispanic Representation in Red Dead Redemption
Ashley Ryan, West Texas A&M University

Personal Experiences in the American West: How Education, Q&As, and the Blazing of Trails Bring West Texans Together
Jose Jose Navarrete, West Texas A&M University

Montgomery Harrison Wadsworth Ritchie: Scanning the Life of a Rancher
Eliana Renee Flores, West Texas A&M University

Public Lands and Climate Change: How National Parks Do Their Part
Katelyn Elizabeth Denney, West Texas A&M University

T1B: War and Warming in the West (CW)
Location: Granite Pass
Chair: Thomas George McGuire, United States Air Force Academy

In Love and War with Magpies: 5 Poems
Thomas George McGuire, United States Air Force Academy

Excerpts from Below Freezing
Donald Anderson, United States Air Force Academy

Stories and Beginnings
Richard Johnston, United States Air Force Academy
T1C #MeToo and the WLA (Conversation)
Location: Bible Point
Moderators: Emily Lutenski, Saint Louis University; Ashley Reis, University of North Texas

T1D: The West(ern) Abroad
Location: East Portal
Chair: Alex Trimble Young, Arizona State University

Distracted Censorship: Resilience of the American Western under Fascism
Stefano Rosso, University of Bergamo
Der verlorene Westen: German Nationalism and Cowboy Country
in the Paintings of George Grosz
Bonnie Roos, West Texas A&M University
The Mythic West in Flann O’Brien’s *At Swim-Two-Birds*
Casey Pleming, West Texas A&M University
“Plural bodies, yet kindred spirits”: Linguistic Dispossession and Survivance
in Gloria Anzaldúa’s *Borderlands/La Frontera* and Irena Klepfisz’s *A Few Words in the Mother Tongue*
Caitlin Simmons, University of Iowa

T1E: Remapping Western Spaces
Location: Keyhole
Chair: O. Alan Weltzien, University of Montana Western

Mari Sandoz’s Maps
Nicole Gray, University of Nebraska-Lincoln
Becoming Local: Literary Reinhabitation in Kathleen Norris’s *Dakota*
Sherry Alexander Bingham, University of Central Oklahoma
Everywhere and Nowhere: The Postwestern Geographies of Everett’s *Wounded*
and Orange’s *There There*
William Lombardi, Feather River College

T1F: Scaling the West
Location: Glacier Basin
Chair: Sylvan Goldberg, Colorado College

Scaling the Dime Novel: A Quantitative Analysis of House Style
Morgan Day Frank, Wesleyan University
Steinbeck’s Slow Writing
Gavin Jones, Stanford University
Clarence Dutton’s Slow Sublime
Sylvan Goldberg, Colorado College
Little City
Rachel Heise Bolten, Stanford University
T1G: The Haunted West
**Location:** Diamond East  
**Chair:** Rebecca M. Lush, California State University San Marcos

- Wicked Witches of the West: Frontier Horror in *Salem* and *AHS: Roanoke*  
  Rebecca M. Lush, California State University San Marcos
- “Sweet dreams will never take me home”: The Haunting of the West in *The Shining*  
  Jeffrey Chisum, University of Southern California
- Immaterial Bo(a)rders and Transmotional Hauntings: The Haunted Highways, Hotels, and Mobile Homes of Stephen Graham Jones  
  Joshua Anderson, University of Saint Joseph
- Jeff VanderMeer and the Liminal Place in Eco-Horror  
  Maria O’Connell, Wayland Baptist University

T1H: Environment, Race, and Leisure: Outdoor Industry Narratives and Western Culture (ASLE Sponsored Panel)
**Location:** Diamond West
**Chair:** Peter Bayers, Fairfield University

- Alex Honnold, Tommy Caldwell, and White Masculinities of the American West in the Climbing Films *Free Solo* (2018) and *The Dawn Wall* (2017)  
  Peter Bayers, Fairfield University
- The Retail Environmentalism of Patagonia in Yvon Chouinard’s Literary West  
  Daniel Clausen, Transylvania University
- Taking Recreation (Somewhat) Seriously; Or, Using Leisure to Rethink Commercial Capitalism  
  Ryan Hediger, Kent State University

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*We will be live tweeting at the Western Literature Association Conference. Follow us on Twitter at twitter.com/WesternAmerica1 and use the hashtag: #westernlit2019*

*Please also use this same hashtag for Instagram and help us document the conference! Follow western_literature!
T2C: Mosey Poesy: Western Lyricism in Poetry, Prose, and Song (CW)

Location: Bible Point
Session Chair: Sidney Thompson, Texas Christian University

You/Wee: Poems/Songs
Sidney Thompson, Texas Christian University
Tornado Season: Lyricism in the Borderlands
Courtney Craggett, Weber State University
Songs of Change and Conflict
Conrad Shumaker, University of Central Arkansas
T2G: Digital West: Landscapes and Identities

Location: Diamond East
Chair: Mike Lemon, Texas Tech University

The Real and Imagined Landscape of Texas in Film and Television Westerns
Erin Bistline, Texas A&M University

White, Male, and Ready to Roll: Disability and the White Savior in Avatar
Rebecca Marie Trammell, Texas Tech University

Gaming the “Wild” West: An Ecoludological Analysis of Wilderness
   Depictions in Red Dead Redemption II and The Last of Us
AJ McCormick, West Texas A&M University, Texas Tech University

T2H: Western Massacre Sites (PI)

Location: Diamond West
Chair: Jennifer Dawes, Midwestern State University

Imagining “Waco”: The Branch Davidian Siege in Popular Culture
Jennifer Dawes, Midwestern State University

Mining Waco’s Wasteland: Missing Toxic Masculinity of Governmental Agencies
David Cremean, Black Hills State University

T3A: Lost and Found: Children Out West

Location: Boulder Field
Chair: Maria O’Connell, Wayland Baptist University

Anthologizing Boarding School Literature
Amanda J. Zink, Idaho State University

Boy of the Border: The Harlem Renaissance, Children’s Literature, and the U.S.-Mexico Borderlands
Timothy Paul Bowman, West Texas A&M University

Luck Boy’s Borderland: An Examination of Luck and Culture in Paolo Bacigalupi’s Ship Breaker in Comparison to the American West
Bailey Danielle Twilleger, West Texas A&M University

Cultural Identity/Identity of Culture: Explorations of Self in Louise Erdrich’s Future Home of the Living God
Jaclyn Louise Sutherland, Idaho State University
T3B: Places in the West (CW)
Location: Granite Pass
Session Chair: Joshua Dolezal, Central College

Love and Death in the Era of Climate Change
Matthew Bauman, Black Hills State University

Flathead Lake and Other Poems
Richard Robbins, Minnesota State University Mankato

Beside the Rattlesnake
David Mogen, Colorado State University, emeritus

T3C: Place, Consciousness, Animal: Western Fiction
Location: Bible Point
Chair: Susan Nance, University of Guelph

Conrad Richter’s Ecological Consciousness
Marianne Cotugno, Miami University

Displacement in “The Cougar”: Apocalyptic Readings of Western Ecocriticism
Sarah Nolan, University of Southern California

What Does Place Studies Teach Us about *Butcher’s Crossing*?
Nancy Lincoln Easterlin, University of New Orleans

Cormac McCarthy’s Elusive Narrator
Kerry Fine, Arizona State University

T3D: New Southwest Indigenous Literary Histories:
From Origins to Apocalypse
Location: East Portal
Chair: James Cox, University of Texas at Austin

Power/Justice/Territory: (Re)Defining Indigenous Jurisdiction in the Mystery Fiction
of Todd Downing and Carole laFavor
Jenna Hunnef, University of Saskatchewan

The Lynn Riggs and N. Scott Momaday Array: Letters, Bibliographies, Quarterlies
James Cox, University of Texas at Austin

When a Mound Isn’t a Mound, but Is: Channeling Earthworks
in Lynn Riggs’ *The Cherokee Night*
Chadwick Allen, University of Washington

From Settler Foreclosure to Indigenous Futures: Apocalyptic Nationhood and the Body
in Lynn Riggs’s *The Cherokee Night* and Cherie Dimaline’s *The Marrow Thieves*
Lisa M. Tatonetti, Kansas State University

Reading as Resurgence: When Boarding School Student Writings Return Home
Michael Taylor, Brigham Young University

Indigenous Mnemonics: Memory Structures in *Whereas* and *From Sand Creek*
Susan Bernardin, Oregon State University
**THURSDAY**
11:00 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

**T3E: Rereading for Climate Change**
**Location:** Keyhole
**Chair:** Robert Thacker, St. Lawrence University

- Brutal Nostalgia, Slow Violence, and *My Ántonia*: Making America Great Again, Volume 1
  Michael Gorman, Hiroshima City University
- Reading Willa Cather’s Southwestern Novels in the Age of Climate Change
  Yohei Yamamoto, Meiji University
- Inventing Western Climates: Willa Cather’s Territorial Imagination
  Daryl W Palmer, Regis University

**T3F: Climate Impact on Literary Form**
**Location:** Glacier Basin
**Chair:** Matt Burkhart, Case Western Reserve University

- Coyote, Wolf, and Woman: Animal Encounters of the Anthropocene and Their Wild Importance
  Lauren E Perry, University of New Mexico
- Intimacy, Futurity, and the Contemporary Apocalypse
  Bren Ram, Rice University
- Storied Bodies on the Border
  Frank McGill, Regis University
- Octavia Butler and the Slow Apocalypse of Los Angeles: Race, Class, and Climate Fiction
  Jaquelin Pelzer, University of Colorado – Boulder

**T3G: Climates of Violence: Feminisms and Environmental Justice**
**Location:** Diamond East
**Chair:** José Aranda, Rice University

- Who Stole the Planet? Colonization, Capital, and Enslavement
  Priscilla Solis Ybarra, University of North Texas
- Environmental Justice in Indian Country Through an Indigenous Feminist Lens
  Dina Gilio-Whitaker, California State University San Marcos
- Feminist Westerns Engaging Authoritarianism and Climate Injustice
  Krista Comer, Rice University

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T3H: Storytelling Scholars (Conversation)
Location: Diamond West
Chair: O. Alan Weltzien, University of Montana Western

Novelist, Biographer, and Writing about Place
O. Alan Weltzien, University of Montana Western

Playing Pioneer Woman
Margaret Jacobs, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

The Making of Americans: Pursuing My Irish Ancestors across the Nineteenth Century
Ken Egan, Humanities Montana

Embodyed Presence and Literary Analysis: The West and the Outback
Tom Lynch, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Scholar Pilgrim: Author Home Places and the Personal Quest
Susan Naramore Maher, University of Minnesota Duluth

Graduate Student Luncheon with Kathleen Dean Moore
Location: Diamond East

T4A: Revitalizing Indigenous Languages and Poetics
Location: Boulder Field
Chair: Margaret Noodin, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

What Do the Living Owe the Dead? Reflections on Antikoni, NAGPRA, and a Chorus of Aunties
Beth Piatote, University of California, Berkeley

Zaka’an: Sappho’s Fragments on Fire in New Western Anishinaabemowin Translations
Margaret Noodin, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

The Eco-Poetics of Nora Marks Dauenhauer
Christopher Caskey Russell, University of Wyoming

T4B: Borderlands and Domestic Spaces
Location: Granite Pass
Chair: Priscilla Solis Ybarra, University of North Texas

Creating and Recreating Domesticities in Early Twentieth-Century Texas
Laurie Lowrance, University of New Mexico

Language, Identity, and Climate in Fabiola Cabeza de Baca’s Culinary Texts
Alyssa Marie Revels, United States Air Force Academy

Parteras en la Comunidad: Mexican American Midwives as Agents of Social Cohesion in the Southwest
Erin Murrah-Mandril, University of Texas at Arlington
T4C: Apocalyptic Visions
Location: Bible Point
Chair: Lynn Badia, Colorado State University

William Stafford’s Western Apocalypse
James Armstrong, Winona State University
Solidarity and Self-Determination: Indigenous Waters in the Anthropocene
Paul Formisano, University of South Dakota
Figuring Care as Affirmative Resistance in the Comic Spread
Kelly McKisson, Rice University

T4D: Past Presidents’ Conversation: Buried Archives of the West(ern)
Location: East Portal

Taylor Gordon and the Archives of the African American West
Michael K. Johnson, University of Maine-Farmington
“The Most Enthusiastic Antiquarian”: On the Political Uses of Black Western Archives
Emily Lutenski, Saint Louis University
On Not Finding What I Went Looking For in the Cecil B. DeMille Archives
Christine Bold, University of Guelph
Golfing at Flamingo Las Vegas with Marquis the Chimp, 1955
Susan Nance, University of Guelph
Ruth Muskrat Bronson and Archival Work
Kirby Brown, University of Oregon

T4E: Stephen Graham Jones Society Sponsored Panel
Location: Keyhole
Chair: Billy J. Stratton, University of Denver

Objects as Artifacts of the Past, Present, and Future: Stories from Stephen Graham Jones’s Bleed Into Me
Alison Turner, University of Denver
“How have you stayed alive this long?”: Storytelling and the Preservation of Culture in Stephen Graham Jones’s Mongrels
Alison Bertolini, North Dakota State University
Deep Mapping and Spatial Narratives of Legacy, Survivance, and the Gothic: Stephen Graham Jones’s The Fast Red Road, Mongrels, and Mapping the Interior
Bernadette V Russo, Texas Tech University
Motherless Mongrels: Coming of Age and Reproductive Justice in Mongrels and The Twilight Saga Films
Julia Fleming, Red Rocks Community College
Alise Wisniewski, University of Denver
T4F: Extraction
Location: Glacier Basin
Chair: William Handley, University of Southern California

“wheat—wheat—wheat, all the time”: Food Energy Systems and the Extractive Determinism of Frank Norris
Paul Schmitt, University of Iowa
The West of Appalachia: William Woolfitt’s Poetic
Kelly Griffith, United States Air Force Academy
Earth Movers: Urban Lithographies in Contemporary Alberta Poetry
Jenny Kerber, Wilfrid Laurier University
Mining, Foreign Invasion, and Unlikely Alliances in Arizona: From Cowboys & Aliens to Oak Flat
Travis Franks, Arizona State University

T4G: Cather Here and There
Location: Diamond East
Chair: Mark Madigan, Nazareth College

“Do Owls Always Hoot in Graveyards?” The Soldiers’ Soundscape in Cather’s One of Ours
Evelyn Funda, Utah State University
Cather, Sassoon, and the Church of St. Ouen
Richard C. Harris, Webb Institute
The Bildungsroman and the Voyou: Willa Cather's The Song of the Lark
and (Non)hegemonic Western Mobilities
Paul W. Burch, Rice University

T4H: Reclaiming Feminist Methodologies: Narrative Scholarship and Autobiographical Literary Criticism (Conversation)
Location: Diamond West
Chair: Randi Tanglen, Austin College

The Long History of the “Personal Voice” in Feminist Criticism
Melody Graulich, Utah State University, emeritus
Autobiographical Literary Criticism as a Form of Public Intellectual and Pedagogical Outreach
Randi Tanglen, Austin College
Walking the Talk by Talking the Walk: Material Ecocriticism and Narrative Scholarship in Writing and Pedagogy
Amy Hamilton, Northern Michigan University
Refocusing on Women and the Obscene in Viet Nguyen’s The Sympathizer
Amanda Gradisek, Walsh University
THURSDAY
3:00-4:15 p.m.

Plenary: Paolo Bacigalupi, Storytelling for a Fragmented Future

Location: Assembly Hall C
Introduced and moderated by Lynn Badia, Colorado State University

Paolo Bacigalupi is on virtually every list of fiction writers who focus on climate change. His imagined future climate dystopias include *The Water Knife* (set in Phoenix and Las Vegas, where water has grown disastrously scarce, life is ugly, and violence rules) and *The Windup Girl* (set in Bangkok), both for adults, and a trio of *Ship Breaker* novels for young adults; his awards for these and other books are too many to list. His short pieces of fiction and nonfiction have appeared in *Wired, Slate, Medium, Salon*, and *High Country News*. Another Coloradan, he lives in Paonia, Colorado.

THURSDAY
4:30-5:45 p.m.

T6A: Western Activist Writing

Location: Boulder Field
Chair: Amanda J. Zink, Idaho State University

The Rhetoric and Influence of Mental Health Reformer Dorothea Dix
Emily Treasure, Idaho State University

The Agrarian Mind: Animal, Vegetable, Miracle and *An Owl on Every Fence Post*
Brooke Cartwright, Northeastern State University

What Would Wally Do? Wallace Stegner on Political Polarization and the Politics of Identity
Kary Doyle Smout, Washington and Lee University

Betrayal Trauma Theory in Tara Westover’s Memoir *Educated*
Jeremy Solomon, Idaho State University

T6B: Grad Student Panel: Publishing

Location: Granite Pass
Chair: Jillian Moore Bennion, Duquesne University

Panelists:
Susan Kollin, Montana State University
Rebecca Lush, California State University San Marcos
Melody Graulich, Utah State University, emeritus
Erin Murrah-Mandril, University of Texas at Arlington
Melina Vizcaíno-Alemán, University of New Mexico
T6C: Women’s History: Bringing the Past into the Present (PI)

Location: Bible Point
Chair: Carol Loranger, Wright State University

No Longer Unknown: A Public Archival History of Sanora Babb
Mariah Wahl, University of Texas

No Region for Tourists and Women: The Blue Birds Go West
Kayann Short, Women Writing the West

Magical, Criminal, Weird: Using Colorado Women’s History in Genre Fiction
María Melendez Kelson, Dodge City Community College

T6D: African American West

Location: East Portal
Chair: Michael K. Johnson, University of Maine-Farmington

“This lovely part of the world”: Juanita Harrison in Waikiki
Cathryn Halverson, Minot State University

Performance as Historiographic Disruption in Cultural Representations of the “Black Cowboy”
Indigo Recker, Duquesne University

“You’re from out west”: A Black Cowboy on the [Mythic] Western Front in *Pretty Deadly*, Volume Two
Mike Lemon, Texas Tech University

T6E: Indigenous Representations

Location: Keyhole
Chair: James Cox, University of Texas at Austin

Multimodal Sound Ecologies and Ethnomusicology: Rethinking Frances Densmore’s *Chippewa Music*
Amanda Monteleone, University of Texas at Arlington

The Tall Good Looking One: Silko and Roanhorse’s Navajo Characters
Carolyn Dekker, Finlandia University

A Paradoxical Entity: Cappy as Trickster in Louise Erdrich’s *The Round House*
Cameron David Sedlacek, Idaho State University

“The copy of a copy of the image of an Indian”: Re-membering and the Digital Screen in Tommy Orange’s *There There*
Maria Alberto, University of Utah
T6F: New West Cli-Fi
Location: Glacier Basin
Chair: Nancy S. Cook, University Of Montana

Climate Change and the Anti-Western: Reading John Williams’s *Butcher’s Crossing* as Cli-fi
Nancy Menning, Ithaca College

Casting against Climate Change: The Facsimile of “Fly Fishing” in *Love in the Anthropocene*
Cory Glen Willard, University of Nebraska

“Becoming-Animal”: Exploring the Possibilities and Limitations for New Subjectivities
in Louise Erdrich’s *Tracks*
Nicholas Jon Langenberg, Grand Valley State University

“She knows this ranch like a chart”: Cowgirls and Climate Change
Elizabeth Wright, Penn State Hazleton

T6G: The Long 60s
Location: Diamond East
Chair: Tom Lynch, University of Nebraska

“Rock Poesy State!” Allen Ginsberg on Tape
Kathryn Mack Winner, Stanford University

Colin Carman, Colorado Mesa University

Outer Beats: Angus MacLise’s Journey, West to East
Rob Wallace, Northern Arizona University

Still Farther Downstream: Literary Frolic in the Work of Richard Brautigan
Michael Brown, Creighton University

T6H: Post West / Diverse Media
Location: Diamond West
Chair: Ryan Brooks, West Texas A&M University

Conscious Feminine Understanding in HBO’s *Westworld*
Susanna Bender, Texas Tech University

Religion and Humanity in HBO’s *Westworld*
Steven Tucker, Texas Tech University

From Famine to Feast: Thanos and the Complication of Grief and Eco-Grief
in *Avengers: Endgame* and *Infinity War*
Bridgit O’Connell, Wayland Baptist University

The Country Trap: “Old Town Road” and Racialized Identities in the U.S.
Meredith Louise Harvey, George Williams College of Aurora University
Plenary: Kathleen Dean Moore, How to Love a Wounded World (co-sponsored by Estes Valley Library)

Location: Assembly Hall C
Introduced and moderated by SueEllen Campbell, Colorado State University

Kathleen Dean Moore is an award-winning philosopher, activist, and writer whose books include the essay collections *Great Tide Rising: Finding Clarity and Moral Courage to Confront Climate Change*, *Pine Island Paradox*, *Wild Comfort*, and the novel *Piano Tide*. Her essays have appeared in *High Country News*, *Orion*, *Discover*, *Audubon*, *Utne Reader*, *Earth Island Journal*, *New York Times Magazine*, *Conservation Biology*, and elsewhere; and she has addressed audiences ranging from 350.org activists to Nobel Conference scholars to Disney World executives and students all over the country.

Graduate Student Social and Open Mic hosted by Aaron Abeyta

Location: Diamond East

Graduate students only until 9 p.m. Then open to all registered folks.
**Friday Overview**

7:00-9:00 a.m.
Breakfast Buffet (Aspen Dining Room)

7:45 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
Registration (Lower Long’s Peak Lobby)

8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Book Exhibit & Coffee/Tea Station (Chasm Lake)

8:00-9:15 a.m.
Sessions F1

9:30-10:45 a.m.
Plenary: Aaron Abeyta, “The Poem as Necessary Sacrifice: To Love a People, Place, & Home Until It Breaks You” (Assembly Hall C)

11:00 a.m.-12:15 p.m.
Sessions F3

11:30-1:30 p.m.
Lunch Buffet (Aspen Dining Room)

1:30-2:45 p.m.
Sessions F4

3:00-4:15 p.m.
Plenary: Brian Calvert and Scott Denning, “Thinking through the Atmosphere: Public Thought for a Changing Climate” (Assembly Hall C)

4:30-5:30 p.m.
Sessions F6

5:45-6:30 p.m.
Reception (Diamond East)

6:30-8:00 p.m.
WLA Banquet and Award Ceremony (Assembly Hall C)

8:00-10:00 p.m.
Dance with live music from MORAL PANIC (Assembly Hall C)
Registration  
Location: Lower Long’s Peak Lobby

Book Exhibit & Coffee/Tea Station  
Location: Chasm Lake

F1A Responsive Classrooms: How Are Classes and Campuses Adapting to Change? (Conversation)  
Location: Boulder Field  
Chairs: Tara Penry, Boise State University; Nic Witschi, Western Michigan University

F1B Geologies of Memory (PI, CW)  
Location: Granite Pass  
Chair: Kyoko Matsunaga, Kobe City University of Foreign Studies

- Imaginary Indians  
  Debby Thompson, Colorado State University  
- The Case for Inefficiency  
  Quinn Grover, Brigham Young University-Idaho  
- Granite and Grace: A Reading  
  Michael Cohen, Southern Utah University, emeritus

F1C Hard-Core Stone-Cold Cli-Fi  
Location: Bible Point  
Chair: Emily J. Rau, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

- Water Futures in Post-Apocalyptic Fiction  
  Paula Farca, Colorado School of Mines  
- Variations on Plan(et) B: T. C. Boyle’s The Terranauts  
  John David Schwetman, University of Minnesota Duluth  
- “To live in that wreckage”: Kim Stanley Robinson’s New York 2140 as Post-Western Climate Fiction  
  Matt Burkhart, Case Western Reserve University  
- Climate Change Despair in the Classroom: Ethical Responsibilities in Teaching Climate Change  
  Elisa Warford, University of Southern California
F1D Unpacking the Goodnow House Library: Reflections from a Midwestern Archive Collaboration

Location: East Portal
Chair: Steffi Dippold, Kansas State University

Eli Thayer’s “Rousing Lecture”: Changing the Rhetorical Climate about the American West
Mohammad Kasifur Rahman, Kansas State University

Women Write the West: Emma Willard’s Gendered American History
Courtney Thompson, Kansas State University

Thinking Orange in the American West
Stephanie Wallace, Kansas State University

F1E An Ethic of Care

Location: Keyhole
Chair: Ashley Elaine Reis, University of North Texas

Agency in Belonging to Place: American Indian Philosophy in the Ethos of Mourning Dove’s Cogewea
Kristen Paige Wheaton, Idaho State University

Caring for the Land: Women in Rural Space in the Work of Sanora Babb and Wendell Berry
Caroline Straty Kraft, University of Texas at Austin

Seeds of Resilience: Community Caretaking and Sustainable Resistance in Ruth Ozeki’s All Over Creation
Marie Drews, Luther College

The Grace of Trees: (Eco)nstitutive Relationality, Spiritual Utility, and Reforestation Hopes in The Overstory by Richard Powers
Scott Hendry, University of Oklahoma

F1F Sanora Babb and Mary Hallock Foote: Writers in Context

Location: Glacier Basin
Chair: Kerry Fine, Arizona State University

Echoes of Ancient Greece: Influence and Resonance of the Ancient World in the Writings of Mary Hallock Foote
Megan Riley McGilchrist, American School in London

“I Became a Mystic”: Rejuvenation and the West in Mary Hallock Foote’s Edith Bonham
Tara Deborah Causey, University of North Georgia

Sanora Babb and the False Borders of the Dust Bowl
Katharine Reed Taylor, University of Colorado at Boulder

Sanora Babb’s Panhandle Poems
Carol Loranger, Wright State University
F1G Homemaking and Homebreaking  
**Location:** Diamond East  
**Chair:** Kalenda Eaton, University of Oklahoma  

The “Clean Streets Initiative”: Anti-Vagrancy and the Abject in Los Angeles  
Alessandra Lee Meany, University of Washington  
The Uncanny Western Space of Home, from *The Shining* to *Hereditary*  
Lars Erik Larson, University of Portland  

Dream, Baby, Dream: Utopia, Dystopia, Cinematic Realism, and the Late  
Capitalist Postwest in *American Honey*  
Paul Byron Wickelson, Independent Scholar

F1H Genre, Land, and the Global North  
**Location:** Diamond West  
**Chair:** Krista Comer, Rice University  

Feminist Ecology in the U.S. Suburbs: Environmental Studies, Bioregionalism, and the Problem of Suburban Accountabilities  
Annie Culver, Rice University  

Mestiza Cosmopoiesis: Aesthetics of Healing in the Later Writings of Gloria Anzaldúa  
Sam Stoeltje, Rice University  

Ecological Land Taking: Metaphors of Environmental Succession in Willa Cather’s *O Pioneers!*  
Solveig Sigurdardottir, Rice University  

Oil as Invisible Death: Production, Invisibility, War  
Clancy Sheridan Taylor, Rice University

**Plenary: Aaron Abeyta, The Poem as Necessary Sacrifice: To Love a People, Place, & Home until It Breaks You**  
**Location:** Assembly Hall C  
Introduced and moderated by Alex Hunt, West Texas A&M University  

Aaron Abeyta is professor of English at Western Colorado University and Mayor of Antonito, Colorado, his hometown. He is the author of four collections of poetry, including *colcha*, winner of an American Book Award and the Colorado Book Award. His novel *Rise, Do Not Be Afraid*, was a finalist for the 2007 Colorado Book Award and El Premio Aztlan. His writings—grounded in place, family, and culture—have led to a term as Poet Laureate of Colorado’s Western Slope, a Colorado Council on the Arts Fellowship, and a Governor’s Creative Leadership Award. Abeyta has played a significant role in keeping literature vital in some of Colorado’s underserved regions.
**F3A Think Global (but Still Western)**

**Location:** Boulder Field  
**Chair:** Stefano Rosso, University of Bergamo

- A Sri Lankan Huck Finn: Teenage High-Jinx and Surviving on an Island in Martin Wickramasinghe’s 1947 *Madol Doova*  
  Christine Hill Smith, Colorado Mountain College
- “As Remote from your America as the Gobi Desert”: Reading W. Somerset’s *The Razor’s Edge* as a Western  
  Matthew Young Heimburger, University of Utah
- The Danger of Ecological Heroism in *The Life and Times of Michael K* and *The Overstory*  
  Jennifer Dolores Kinne, Grand Valley State University
- Bioregionalism and China  
  Cheng Fang, Nanjing Institute of International Studies

**F3B The West in Other Genres (PI)**

**Location:** Granite Pass  
**Chair:** Kalenda Eaton, University of Oklahoma

- Stephen King’s Colorado: The American West of *The Shining*  
  Tom Hillard, Boise State University
- King of the Chicanos: Manuel Ramos’ Archeology of Colorado Aztlan  
  Tim Steckline, Black Hills State University
- Southern Justice in the American West: Chester Himes, Quentin Tarantino and the Legacy of the Fugitive Slave Law in Los Angeles  
  Joshua Smith, Biola University

**F3C The Public Lands Debate: What’s Next? (PI)**

**Location:** Bible Point  
**Chair:** Jennifer Ladino, University of Idaho

- The Public Lands Debate: What’s Next?  
  Jennifer Ladino, University of Idaho
- Gold Rush Giveaways: Then and Now  
  April Anson, University of Pennsylvania
- “Public” versus “Native”  
  Leisl Carr Childers, Colorado State University
- #PublicLandsAreNativeLands: Digital Storytelling and the Decolonial Mediascape  
  Ashley Elaine Reis, University of North Texas
F3D Breaking the Rules of Sex and Gender
Location: East Portal
Chair: Emily Lutenski, Saint Louis University

Reframing the Western Hero: Sex Work and Frontier Bodies in Joss Whedon’s Firefly
Jillian Moore Bennion, Duquesne University
Prostitute Seeking Domesticity: Violence, Power Dynamics, and Yonic Symbols in HBO’s Westworld
Emma Kathryn Brousseau, Texas Tech University
A Body without a Story: The Immortal Spectacle in The Ballad of Little Jo
Shelby Elizabeth Ella Grauberger, University of Nevada, Reno
“What Are Y’all Starin’ at?” Female Masculinity, Queerphobia, and Agency in Godless
Lindsay Stephens, University of South Dakota

F3E Being on the Land
Location: Keyhole
Chair: William Lombardi, Feather River College

Roughriding through Colorado’s Canyons: Cougars, Bears, and Teddy Roosevelt
Carmen Pearson, Independent Scholar
Lincoln Hills, Jim Crow, and American Constructions of Leisure
Shelly Jarenski, University of Michigan Dearborn
Eric Chilton, Case Western Reserve University
Stand-Off or Show Down? The Shovel Brigade of Elko, Nevada
Gretchen Skivington, Great Basin College

F3F Performing and Constructing Indian-ness
Location: Glacier Basin
Chair: Lisa Tatonetti, Kansas State University

“A great, yet virtuous empire in the west”: (Re)staging the Frontier in James Nelson Barker’s The Indian Princess
David James Peterson, University of Nebraska at Omaha
“The Sac and Fox Did Not Wear Headdresses”: Re-Visioning and Decolonizing the Settler-Colonial Representation of Black Hawk
Donovan Gwinner, Aurora University
Indigenous Rhetoric within the Scope of Native Environmental History and Its Relations to Literature and Journalism: Rebranding the Indian and Nature
Jonathan Wilson, Odessa College
F3G Quick! Resilience! Five Writers Offer Creativity in the Face of Change (CW)

Location: Diamond East
Chair: Elizabeth Dodd, Kansas State University

All Is Leaf
   John T. Price, University of Nebraska at Omaha
The Negroes Send Their Love
   Sean Hill, Minnesota Northwoods Writers Conference
Laughing Matters
   Michael Branch, University of Nevada, Reno
Outliers
   Elizabeth Dodd, Kansas State University
The Pump and the Pumpjack: Climate Change and Diabetes
   Taylor Brorby, Hobart and William Smith Colleges

F3H Research into Art

Location: Diamond West
Chair: Jennifer Sinor, Utah State University

The Role of Speculation in Creative Nonfiction
   Jennifer Sinor, Utah State University
Literary Genealogies: or, Bridging the Past and Imagining Disaster
   Rona Kaufman, Pacific Lutheran University
Research Like a Lawyer, Write Like a Poet
   Wendy Willis, Writer
The Serendipitous Discovery
   Debra Gwartney, Pacific University
Imagination, Research, and the Fiction Writer
   Mary Clearman Blew, University of Idaho

F4A Changing West (PI)

Location: Boulder Field
Chair: Karen Ramirez, University of Colorado Boulder

From the Tournament at Camelot to the Round-up at Abilene: Medievalism and the American West
   Daniel Glynn Helbert, West Texas A&M University
After the End: Collapse and Survival on the Front Range in Peter Heller’s The Dog Stars
   Dana Phillips, Towson University; Rhodes University, Grahamstown, South Africa
Exploring the National Parks as a Site for Deliberation
   Karen Ramirez, University of Colorado Boulder
F4B A Place in the Canon  
**Location:** Granite Pass  
**Chair:** Jenny Kerber, Wilfrid Laurier University  

Nathan Straight, Utah State University  

“What Insists on Being Looked At”: Alternative Modes of Reading and Writing Place  
Kelly Craig, University of Utah  

“From the Viewpoint of the Forest”: Annie Proulx’s (Post)Anthropocene Vision  
from Shared Violence to Cooperative Restoration  
Jamie Crosswhite, University of Texas San Antonio  

Coyote and Raven: Agents of Change  
Emily Golson, University of Northern Colorado  

Wallace Stegner and the w/Western Canon  
James Gilbert Mayo, Jackson State Community College  

F4C The Dark West  
**Location:** Bible Point  
**Chair:** Katharine Amber Anthony, Amarillo Independent School District  

Theorizing the Midwestern Gothic  
Patricia Oman, Hastings College  

Environments of Evil in *The Shining* and *Doctor Sleep*  
Jennifer K. Cox, Idaho State University  

God Offended: Nature Subverted in McCarthy’s *The Road*  
Lori Martin, Pittsburg State University  

F4D Analyzing the Anthropocene  
**Location:** East Portal  
**Chair:** Audrey Goodman, Georgia State University  

A Collision of Worlds through Time: Melting Glaciers, Climate Change, and the Demise  
of Native Communities in John Muir’s Alaska  
Eric Matthew Stottlemyer, Wake Forest University  

Joan Didion, Affective Immersion, and Deep Time  
Zak Breckenridge, University of Utah  

Smog, the Santa Anas, and the Downwinders: Western Literary Atmospherics  
Meagan Rose Meylor, University of Southern California
F4E Silko and Indigenous Textuality (Conversation)
Location: Keyhole
Chair: Anna Wilson, University of Montana

Revised Regeneration: Leslie Marmon Silko and 1970s Post-Traumatic Cinema
Landon Lutrick, University of Nevada, Reno

The Desert Southwest in the Works of Leslie Marmon Silko and Kyoko Hayashi
Kyoko Matsunaga, Kobe City University of Foreign Studies

Wish You Weren’t Here? Leslie Marmon Silko and the Acid West
Anna Wilson, University of Montana

F4F Re/Covering Classics of Western Literature
Location: Glacier Basin
Chair: Nicolas S. Witschi, Western Michigan University

Ramona and the Futurity of Land Use in California
José Aranda, Rice University

Negotiating Manifest Destiny: Helen Hunt Jackson’s Ramona and the Intimacies
of the Western-American “Contact Zone”
Monique McDade, University of Nevada, Reno

Revisionism avant la lettre – Reevaluating Mark Twain’s and Stephen Crane’s Westerns
Johannes Fehrle, University of Graz

Performing Western Authenticity: B. M. Bower’s Literary Practice
Victoria Lamont, University of Waterloo

F4G Western Bodies: Migration, Labor, Perception
Location: Diamond East
Chair: Olivia Tracy, University of Denver

Exiled Birds and Abandoned Boats: The Queer Pacific in Yone Noguchi’s
The American Diary of a Japanese Girl
Jada Ach, Arizona State University

“Connect and Fight”: Debt and Solidarity in Contemporary Western Science Fiction
Ryan Brooks, West Texas A&M University

Autistic Perspectives: An Investigation of Disability and Digital Humanities in Ned Hayes’
The Eagle Tree
Jes Lopez, Michigan State University

Earth (in) the Body: Verbs, Metaphors, and Environmental Rhetoric (Conversation)
Olivia Tracy, University of Denver
F4H Honoring the Rigors of His Putrid Nature: A Structured Conversation on Deadwood: The Movie

Location: Diamond West
Chair: Justin Joyce, Emory University

My Job Is to Interpret the Law: Sheriff Bullock and the Avenging Western Hero
  Justin A. Joyce, Emory University

The Final Stamp: Deadwood and the Gothic American Frontier
  Wendy Witherspoon, Los Angeles City College

Continuity and Change in Deadwood’s Language
  Brad Benz, University of Denver

Deadwood: Firsting and Lasting in the Western Genre
  Alex Trimble Young, Arizona State University

Plenary: Brian Calvert & Scott Denning, Thinking through the Atmosphere: Public Thought for a Changing Climate

Location: Assembly Hall C
Introduced and moderated by SueEllen Campbell, Colorado State University

Brian Calvert and Scott Denning will speak about climate change in the American West, their public-facing climate work, and how that work overlaps or is in tension with other aspects of their professional and personal lives.

Brian Calvert is editor-in-chief of High Country News. A Wyoming native, he has worked as a foreign correspondent, writer, and audio journalist, and he has been a Ted Scripps Fellow in Environmental Journalism at the University of Colorado. His 2017 HCN essay, “So What if We’re Doomed? Climate Chaos, Mass Extinction, The Collapse of Civilization: A Guide to Facing the Ecocide,” is just one result of his concern with climate change.

Scott Denning is Monfort Professor of Atmospheric Science at Colorado State University, where he has since 2006 led a program to engage students, teachers (both at all levels), and the public on the scientific and cultural imperatives of climate change. He speaks about twice a month to churches, farmers, schools, Rotarians, reporters, professional skeptics, and other interested citizens of the planet.
**F6A Farmers, Cowboys, Railroads, and Dirtbags: Seasonal Labor and Western Literature (Conversation)**

**Location:** Boulder Field  
**Chair:** Sarah Jane Kerwin, University of Michigan

- For a Time: Putting Seasonal Mountain Dwelling into Words  
  Sarah Jane Kerwin, University of Michigan  
- Mobile Labor and the Railroad: Relocation, Removal, and Transience  
  Emily J. Rau, University of Nebraska-Lincoln  
- Seasonal Logics of Farming and Migration in the West  
  Surabhi Balachander, University of Michigan

**F6B Postmodern Western Travels**

**Location:** Granite Pass  
**Chair:** Michael Gorman, Hiroshima City University

- The West as Archive in Valeria Luiselli’s *Lost Children Archive*  
  Teddy Hamstra, University of Southern California  
- From the Mexico Western to Hard-Boiled Hollywood in Thomas Pynchon’s *Against the Day*  
  Matt Wanat, Ohio University Lancaster  
- For the Unquiet Dead, Geography Ain’t the Point: The Ludlow Massacre and Global Capitalism in Thomas Pynchon’s *Against the Day*  
  Nicholas Henson, Citrus College

**F6C Feminist Critical Regionalism (Conversation)**

**Location:** Bible Point  
**Chair:** Krista Comer, Rice University

- Embodied Reading  
  Audrey Goodman, Georgia State University  
- Black Women’s Western Geographies  
  Martha Pitts, Fairleigh Dickinson State University  
- The Aesthetics of Place: Gender, Regionalism, and Chicana Art  
  Melina Vizcaíno-Alemán, University of New Mexico

**F6D Western Illness Narratives (CW)**

**Location:** East Portal  
**Chair:** Joshua Smith, Biola University

- At Least I Can Say Goodbye  
  MaxieJane Frazier, Bennington Writing Seminars  
- Darkness and Light  
  Joshua Dolezal, Central College  
- Mules  
  DJ Lee, Washington State University
F6E Homes on the Range: Collaborating across Classrooms and Disciplines through Literature of the Great Plains (Conversation)

Location: Keyhole
Chair: Matthew Q. Evertson, Chadron State College

At Home in the Remote: Settlement and Sustainability in First-Year Inquiry, Ecocomposition, and Western Literature
Matthew Evertson, Chadron State University
Searching for Home in the Warming West: A Creative Writing Collaboration in the Literature Classroom
Markus Egeler Jones, Chadron State University
Finding a Home in the West: Building a Creative Writing Program at a Frontier and Remote College Campus
Steve Coughlin, Chadron State University

F6F (Re)Thinking Activism and Geopolitics in the Borderlands (papers & conversation)

Location: Glacier Basin
Chair: José Aranda, Rice University

Towards an Angry Fronterizx Praxis
Sophia Martinez-Abbud, Rice University
“Otherwise Ordinary Men”: The Geopolitics of the Borderlands
Sonia Del Hierro, Rice University

F6G Personal and Political: Relating to Public Lands

Location: Diamond East
Chair: John David Schwetman, University of Minnesota Duluth

Troubled Delight: Conservation and Use in Mary Austin and John Muir
Caroline Greta Clare, Arizona State University
The Poetics of Photography in Yellowstone National Park
Thomas Patin, Northern Arizona University
From the Public to the Personal: A Reflection on Our National Parks with Terry Tempest Williams
Sharon Reynolds, Palomar College
FRIDAY
4:30-5:30 p.m.

F6H Re-Vision in the Anthropocene (PI, Conversation)
Location: Diamond West
Chair: John VanOverbeke, University of Minnesota

Faith and Novelty in the Anthropocene
George Handley, Brigham Young University
Re-Viewing Rephotography in the Anthropocene
William Handley, University of Southern California
Glacier after Glaciers
John VanOverbeke, University of Minnesota

FRIDAY
5:45-6:30 p.m.

Reception
Location: Diamond East

FRIDAY
6:30-8:00 p.m.

WLA Banquet and Award Ceremony
Location: Assembly Hall C

Bring your YMCA meal pass or banquet ticket

FRIDAY
8:00-10:00 p.m.

Dance with live music from MORAL PANIC
Location: Assembly Hall C
2018 WLA Award Recipients

**DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS**
For an influential scholar or creative writer in western American literature

*Leslie Marmon Silko*

**DELBERT & E'DITH WYLDER AWARD**
For outstanding service to the association

*Susan Kollin* (Montana State University, Bozeman)

**THOMAS J. LYON BOOK AWARD**
For most outstanding book published in 2017 in western American literary and cultural studies

*Kirby Brown* (University of Oregon)
for *Stoking the Fire: Nationhood in Cherokee Writing, 1907–1970*

**DON D. WALKER PRIZE**
For best essay published in western American literary studies in 2017

*Marcel Brousseau* (University of Oregon)

**CREATIVE WRITING AWARD**
For the best creative writing submission to the conference

*Joshua Dolezal* (Central College)
for “Darkness and Light.”

**WLA/CHARLES REDD CENTER K-12 TEACHING AWARD**

*Katharine Amber Anthony* (Amarillo Independent School District)
for “Establishing Roots: Place-Based Learning in a Multicultural Title I High School”

**J. GOLDEN TAYLOR AWARD**
For best essay presented at the conference by a graduate student

*Amanda Monteleone* (University of Texas at Arlington)
for “Multimodal Sound Ecologies and Ethnomusicology: Rethinking Frances Densmore’s *Chippewa Music*”

**DORYS GROVER AWARDS**
For outstanding papers presented at the conference by graduate students who contribute to our critical understandings of region, place, and space in western American literatures

*Travis Franks* (Arizona State University)
for “Mining, Foreign Invasion, and Unlikely Alliances in Arizona: From *Cowboys & Aliens* to Oak Flat”

*Maria Alberto* (University of Utah)
for “The copy of a copy of the image of an Indian’: Re-membering and the Digital Screen in Tommy Orange’s *There There*”

**LOUIS OWENS AWARDS**
For graduate student presenters contributing most to cultural diversity in the association

*Surabhi Balachander* (University of Michigan)
for “Towards a Rural Ethnic Studies”

*Maria Alberto* (University of Utah)
for “The copy of a copy of the image of an Indian’: Re-membering and the Digital Screen in Tommy Orange’s *There There*”
SATURDAY OVERVIEW

7:00-9:00 a.m.
   Breakfast Buffet (Aspen Dining Room)
7:15-8:15 a.m.
   Presidents’ Breakfast (Aspen Dining Room)
8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
   Book Exhibit (Chasm Lake)
8:30-9:45 a.m.
   Sessions S1 & Grad Student Panel: “The Best Advice and Strategies for Interviews” (Granite Pass)
9:45-11:00 a.m.
   Plenary: Dan Flores, “Adventures Writing about Animals in the Anthropocene” (Aspen Glen)
11:15 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
   WLA Business Meeting (Aspen Glen)
11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
   Lunch Buffet (Aspen Dining Room)

Photo courtesy of Evan Fleury
S1A Turning to Home (CW)
Location: Boulder Field
Chair: MaxieJane Frazier, Bennington Writing Seminars

Boom
Lawrence Coates, Bowling Green State University
A Bad Case of NIMBY-itus
Jessica Hellmann, Independent Scholar
Returning to the West: Exploring and Questioning Family Stories
Anne Marie Carrica, Regis University

S1B Grad Student Panel: The Best Advice and Strategies for Interviews
Location: Granite Pass
Chair: Jessica Colleen Perez Lopez, Michigan State University

Panelists:
Priscilla Ybarra, University of North Texas
Will Lombardi, Feather River College
Matt Burkhart, Case Western Reserve University

S1C WLA/Redd Center K–12 Teaching Award
Location: Bible Point
Chair: Randi Tanglen, Austin College

Establishing Roots: Place-Based Learning in a Multicultural Title I High School
Katharine Amber Anthony, Amarillo Independent School District
S1D The Visual West
Location: East Portal
Chair: Erin Bistline, University of Tennessee-Knoxville

Art, Erosion, and Decay in the American West
Amy Von Lintel, West Texas A&M University

Uncertain Wests: Kelly Reichardt, Feminist Filmmaking, and Settler Sensibilities
Susan Kollin, Montana State University

NASA and Literary Landscapes: Doing Your Environmental Change Research in Space
Patricia Hackbarth, Independent Scholar

S1F Outsiders at Home
Location: Glacier Basin
Chair: Melody Graulich, Emeritus Professor Utah State University

What Are Taiwanese (Indigenous People) Doing in Thomas King’s Novel? A Borderless World in *The Back of the Turtle*
Yingwen Yu, University of Arizona

Paneling without Walls: Narrating the Border in *Barrier*
Daniel Pinti, Niagara University

Neither Coolie Nor White Settler: Sui Sin Far’s Bourgeois Chinese
Ryan Wander, University of California, Davis

Intersectionality and Juxtaposition in Mourning Dove’s *Cogewea*
Ryan Patrick Randall, Idaho State University

S1G Borders in Western Fiction
Location: Diamond East
Chair: Bernadette V Russo, Texas Tech University

Gynocentric Heterotopia in Mourning Dove’s *Cogewea*
Jennifer Breck Dalley, Idaho State University

Dao Strom’s *Grass Roof Tin Roof* as Map of Refuge/Refugee/Refugitude in the Hills of California
Michele Janette, Kansas State University

Adaptation through a Leap of Faith: Theology and Theory in A. A. Carr’s *Eye Killers*
Hogan Douglas Schaak, Idaho State University

Finding Home in the West: Japanese American Shopkeeper in Yoshino Uchida’s *Picture Bride*
Wonjeong Kim, Idaho State University

S1H Readers’ Theater: A Lady’s Life in the Rocky Mountains
Location: Diamond West
Chair: O. Alan Weltzien, University of Montana Western

Starring: David Fenimore, Rebecca Lush, Melody Graulich, and Matthew Heimburger, plus a cast of the usual suspects.
Plenary: Adventures Writing about Animals in the Anthropocene
Presented by Dan Flores
Location: Aspen Glen
Chair: Alex Hunt, West Texas A&M University

Dan Flores, A. B. Hammond Professor Emeritus of the History of the American West at the University of Montana-Missoula, is the author of ten books, most recently the New York Times Bestseller *Coyote America: A Natural and Supernatural History* (2016), and *American Serengeti: The Last Big Animals of the Great Plains* (2016). His essays on the environment, art, and culture of the West have appeared in newspapers like the *New York Times*, the *Los Angeles Times*, and the *Chicago Tribune*, and in magazines such as *Texas Monthly*, *Orion*, *Southwest Art*, and *High Country News*, and his work has been honored by the Western Writers of America, the Denver Public Library, the Western Heritage Center/National Cowboy Museum, the High Plains, Montana, and Oklahoma Book Awards; and by the Western History Association, Montana Historical Society, and Texas State Historical Association.
To nominate a WLA member for the Executive Council: Find out if your nominee is willing to serve. Write the name and affiliation of your candidate on the flipchart in the registration area. Council members must be WLA members and must attend the next three WLA meetings, including the Wednesday afternoon Executive Council meeting. All nominees are advised to attend the Saturday morning business meeting.
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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>President/s</th>
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<tr>
<td>1966</td>
<td>Salt Lake City, Utah</td>
<td>C. L. Sonnichsen</td>
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<td>1967</td>
<td>Albuquerque, New Mexico</td>
<td>Delbert E. Wylder</td>
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<td>Colorado Springs, Colorado</td>
<td>Jim L. Fife</td>
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<td>1969</td>
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<td>Morton L. Ross</td>
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<td>1970</td>
<td>Sun Valley, Idaho</td>
<td>Don D. Walker</td>
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The 2021 WLA Conference will be co-hosted by Audrey Goodman and Lisa Tatonetti on October 20th-October 23rd in Santa Fe, New Mexico. The conference will take place at the stunning Santa Fe Community Convention Center, which is in the heart of the first U.S. city to be chosen by UNESCO as a Creative City. Santa Fe is surrounded by the Sangre de Cristo mountains, national forests, and the nineteen Pueblos of New Mexico. The main conference accommodation, the Drury Plaza Hotel, is just blocks from the Convention Center and the historic Plaza. We look forward to seeing you there!
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We thank our exhibitors for joining us in Estes Park. We know that traveling and sending materials has become more expensive, but it makes such a difference to look through your offerings in person. We appreciate your attendance:

- University of New Mexico Press
- Estes Valley Library
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This book is a cultural history of the interplay between the Western genre and American gun rights and legal paradigms. From muskets in the hands of landed gentry opposing tyrannical government to hidden pistols kept to ward off potential attackers, the historical development of entwined legal and cultural discourses has sanctified the use of gun violence by private citizens and specified the conditions under which such violence may be legally justified. Gunslinging Justice explores how the Western genre has imagined new justifications for gun violence which American law seems ever-eager to adopt.

Gunslinging Justice

Hardcover Published: August 2018
ISBN: 978-1-5261-2616-0
Pages: 264
Publisher: Manchester University Press
Available on Amazon.com and through Manchester University Press
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Home on the Range

Oh give me a home where the buffalo roam
Where the deer and the antelope play
Where seldom is heard a discouraging word
And the skies are not cloudy all day

Where the air is so pure and the zephyrs so free
And the breezes so balmy and light
That I would not exchange my home on the range
For all of the cities so bright

How often at night when the heavens are bright
With the light of the glittering stars
I stand there amazed and I ask as I gaze
Does their glory exceed that of ours?

Home, home on the range
Where the deer and the antelope play
Where seldom is heard a discouraging word
And the skies are not cloudy all day
Based out of West Texas A&M University (WTAMU) in Canyon, TX, Center for the Study of the American West's (CSAW) mission is to promote the study of the American West both as a region culturally unique and as a product of broad historical forces. CSAW is housed in the Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum (PPHM), the largest history museum in Texas.

Since its founding, CSAW has established itself as an organization seeking to promote the American West, both on the local scene and in terms of the larger scholarly field. In this endeavor, CSAW focuses on development of interdisciplinary scholarship through research, education, and public outreach and remains dedicated to cultivating a critical vision of region and place in a globalized era.

This juried prize recognizes a book that demonstrates excellent scholarly or creative insight concerning the North American West. Books from any discipline, genre, or publisher are eligible. The 2019 winner, considering books published in 2018, will be announced late 2019. Books published in 2019 can be submitted for consideration through spring 2020.

CSAW offers Research Grants in Western American Studies for faculty, staff, and students from WTAMU and scholars from other institutions who would benefit from the use of the Cornette Library special collections and the PPHM archives, both housed on the WTAMU campus and rich in regional artifacts. Grants up to $2,000 are available depending on the applicant's research topic and need.

CSAW interns gain on-the-job experience, are exposed to the American West and to interdisciplinary studies, and assist with research and public outreach. WTAMU Students from all disciplines are welcome to apply. Both the History and English M.A. programs at WTAMU offer emphasis in Western American studies.

For more information, contact csaw@wtamu.edu or 806.651.5238 or visit wtamu.edu/csaw
San Diego, home of the Kumeyaay, is a region of shifting borders and contested spaces that has been controlled by Spain, Mexico, and, most recently, the United States. In contemporary times, the region of southern California has nurtured visual culture through Hollywood and Comic Con International, the largest convention for comic book culture in the world hosted annually in San Diego. Drawing on this mixture, the theme “Graphic Wests” invites proposals that take up the graphic in all of its connotations, from graphic content to visual texts as well as the intersections of the two when considering the varied literatures and cultural products of the North American West. We also invite papers that address the unique culture of Southern California, such as surf and coastal literatures, along with papers that examine California writers and themes.

The 2020 Distinguished Achievement Award winners, poet Juan Felipe Herrera (21st National Poet Laureate), and fiction author Stephen Graham Jones, whose works exemplify “Graphic Wests,” will join us at the WLA’s 55th annual conference. The 2020 conference will take place in the beautiful coastal area of the Hilton San Diego Del Mar located just one mile from the beach and in close proximity to the Cedros Avenue Design District and Solana Beach. Additional speakers will be announced at a future date.

In addition to proposals on any aspect of the literatures and cultures of the North American West, the WLA especially encourages panels and papers that explore the following topics:

• Comic books/graphic novels set in the West and/or western comics
• Filmic and televisual representations of the West/western
• Borderlands literature
• Graphic violence, language, and/or sexuality in the West/western
• Texts set in the West, or that take up western themes, that incorporate visual elements or make use of graphic design in their engagement with language
• California writers and texts (Le Guin, Steinbeck, Didion, Mary Austin, John Rollin Ridge, Helen Hunt Jackson, María Ruiz de Burton, etc.)
• Writers and texts that explore California surfing and beach culture
• The work of Distinguished Achievement Award Winner Juan Felipe Herrera
• The work of Distinguished Achievement Award Winner Stephen Graham Jones

We are also open to sessions on teaching and roundtable discussions. Proposals for individual papers must include a 250-word abstract, and proposals for panels and roundtable discussions must include an abstract for each paper or presentation. All submissions must include A/V requests. Proposals can be submitted using the ConfTool link accessible via the conference webpage starting in February 2020.

The deadline for submissions is June 15, 2020.

Please submit questions to Rebecca M. Lush or Kerry Fine at WLAConference2020@westernlit.org.