

THE EASTERN VOICE



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From the Editor's Desk

These days, EASA headquarters is a hive of activity. Our crack team of writers, staff, and interns are scurrying about, trying to make arrangements for the annual conference. If you read the Fall Edition of the Eastern Voice, you know that this year's conference will be held in downtown Harrisburg at the Hilton.

For several reasons, it promises to be a memorable event. This year, EASA welcomes two partner organizations: The Middle Atlantic Folklife Association (MAFA) and the Society of Americanists (SOA). Together, we hope to come together to share insights and research on a wide range of topics that fall under the conference theme, "Milestones, Markers, and Moments: Turning Points in American Experience and Tradition." One glance at the conference program will reveal lots of "Milestones" and plenty of "Turning Points." We will hear about new directions in the study of American folklore, contemplate the future of American Studies, reflect on America's participation in World War I (we have reached 100 year anniversary of the USA's entering the war), and assess the impact of the 60s on American life. The conference will, in short, provide us with an opportunity to take stock of American culture and the academic fields that study it.

A quick word on the contents of the newsletter. Several pages of this issue












are devoted to the conference schedule. It is our hope that by perusing the newsletter, readers will be inspired to attend the conference if they have not already decided to do so. That said, the newsletter also serves a second function. Jennifer Drissel and I have composed it with the idea that it can serve as a portable guide to Harrisburg and to the conference. For this reason, Jennifer has generated maps and written stories on sites of local interest, such as Harrisburg's famous Midtown Scholar Bookstore. So don't forget to pack the newsletter away in your suitcase before you head out. I'll see you in Harrisburg!

Enjoy Culture!

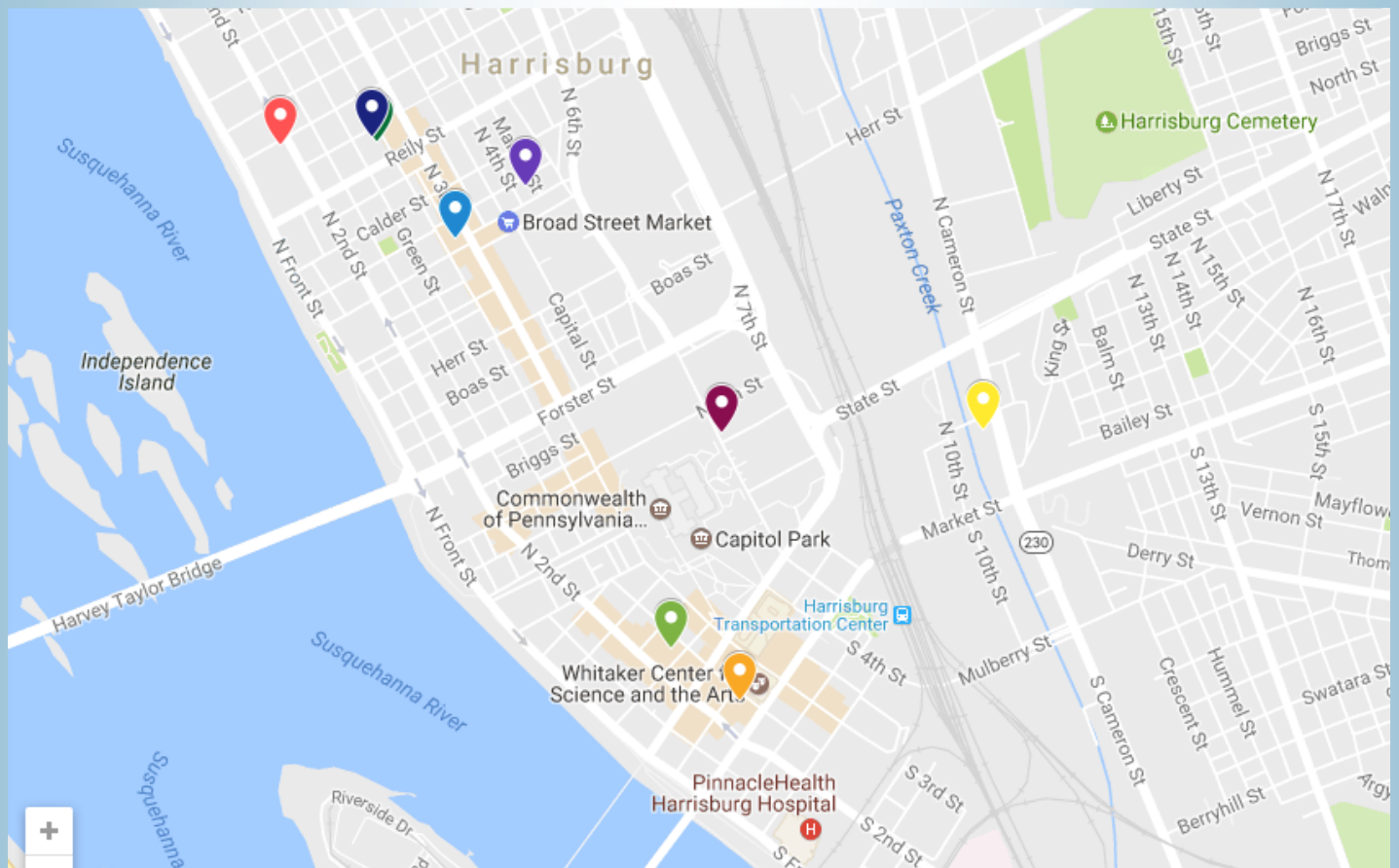
John Haddad

American Studies, Penn State Harrisburg

Things to do in Harrisburg!

-  Harrisburg Hilton
-  Midtown Scholar Bookstore
-  Capitol Building
-  Appalachian Brewing Company
-  Midtown Cinema
-  Zeroday Brewing Company
-  The Millworks- Restaurant/Art Gallery
-  Note Wine Bar
-  McGrath's Pub

- Harrisburg Hilton
- Midtown Scholar Bookstore
- Capitol Building
- Appalachian Brewing Company
- Midtown Cinema
- Zeroday Brewing Company
- The Millworks- Restaurant/Art Gallery
- Note Wine Bar
- McGrath's Pub





The Midtown Scholar Bookstore is one of downtown Harrisburg's greatest attractions. The cozy and friendly atmosphere of the Midtown Scholar is inviting to both seasoned scholars and new readers alike, and has contributed to the store's continued success in a world that is increasingly turning digital. Offering community events such as weekend story time for children, and weekly poetry readings, Midtown Scholar has become a pillar in the Harrisburg community. Owner Catherine Lawrence was kind enough to share some of Midtown Scholar's history and secrets to success in the digital age!

The history of the store is fascinating, vis a vis sustaining the trade in print books in a digital age. You may or may not know it is a family business; my husband and I are both former academics who met as graduate students in History at Yale in the 1990s (he in American history w/ emphasis on politics, slavery and race; me, studying British & European history/cultural studies). So we have long appreciated academic books as students and teachers, and it was natural to find our bookselling endeavors would have a foundation and specialization in the academic book trade! Thus the core of the Midtown Scholar Bookstore, in-store and online, as one of America's largest academic used booksellers, thanks to special relationships we've developed with a wide array of University Presses over the years.

But specifically, - we began as online used booksellers in 2000, just



when Amazon made it possible for anyone to resell books on their used-book marketplace. As our e-commerce sales grew, we realized we wanted to make the amazing collection of books we were acquiring, open to the public for browsing, and so explored the idea of an open shop. So - just as other secondhand booksellers were struggling to make the shift to the internet and

adapt to digital and online marketplaces, we were making the opposite arc: an online bookstore that was eager to establish a physical presence in our community, and to work to bring academics' ideas to a broader public audience by hosting author talks and book discussions, especially by university-affiliated writers.

What we found was our community and region was equally eager to embrace a "third space" of an independent bookstore, as a place for public discussion and exchange of ideas. People may read or acquire some of their books digitally, but the best conversations are still those had in-person - - in my own opinion - - and those of our community patrons, I am sure! Also, any book worthy of intensive reading, of keeping, and sharing, is well suited to a print edition.



Over the years we have been inspired to expand our bookstore again and again, in answer to community sentiments, to readers' desire to have a wider array of (print!) books from which to choose, more, deeper & wider categories to browse, more shelves to examine in order to discover books they might not even have known existed but that speak to their reading, research, and teaching interests.

MIDTOWN ON THE WEB!

Visit the Midtown Scholar's website for information about upcoming events!

<http://www.midtownscholar.com/>



On March 1, 1932, Charles Augusts Lindbergh, Jr., the 20-month-old son of the illustrious pilot, Charles Lindbergh, disappeared from his home in Hopewell, New Jersey. When they arrived on the scene, police found muddy footprints scattered across the child's room, the handcrafted wooden ladder that the kidnapper used to abduct the child from his second-story nursery, and a ransom note demanding \$50,000 for the return of the child. For the next two months, the Lindbergh family was subjected to thousands of false leads on the child's whereabouts and numerous instances of individuals falsely claiming responsibility for the crime.

WANTED
 INFORMATION AS TO THE
 WHEREABOUTS OF



CHAS. A. LINDBERGH, JR.
 OF HOPEWELL, N. J.
 SON OF COL. CHAS. A. LINDBERGH
 World-Famous Aviator

This child was kidnaped from his home in Hopewell, N. J., between 8 and 10 p. m. on Tuesday, March 1, 1932.

DESCRIPTION:
 Age, 20 months Hair, blond, curly
 Weight, 27 to 30 lbs. Eyes, dark blue
 Height, 29 inches Complexion, light
 Deep dimple in center of chin
 Dressed in one-piece coverall night suit

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
 COL. H. N. SCHWARZKOPF, TRENTON, N. J., or
 COL. CHAS. A. LINDBERGH, HOPEWELL, N. J.

ALL COMMUNICATIONS WILL BE TREATED IN CONFIDENCE
 COL. H. NORMAN SCHWARZKOPF
 March 11, 1932 Capt., New Jersey State Police, Trenton, N. J.

On March 6, 1932, Lindbergh received a second ransom note, this time increasing the ransom to \$70,000. Due to Lindbergh's fame and the high profile nature of the kidnapping, the amount of the ransom was not an issue as many prominent individuals, including Al Capone, offered to contribute to help pay the ransom amount. Lindbergh was such a pop culture icon that everyday citizens felt obligated to help in anyway possible. A retired school principle from the Bronx, Dr. John F. Condon, published an article in The Bronx Home News in which he offered to be an intermediary in the incident and stated that he would put up an additional \$1,000 out of own pocket to help recover the child. The kidnapper accepted Condon's offer, receiving an additional eleven ransom notes for the Lindbergh family, and even meeting the kidnapper in person to deliver the ransom money.

Although the kidnapper continuously led the Lindbergh family to believe that Charles Lindbergh Jr. was safe and in a secure location, the child's body was found partly buried and badly decomposed four and a half miles away from the Lindberg home on May 12, 1932. The coroner confirmed that the child had been dead for approximately two months and that the child died as a result from blunt force trauma. The kidnapper had been lying to the Lindbergh family the entire time, and po-

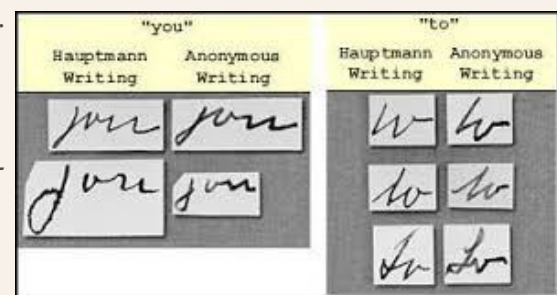
lice had no substantial leads as to the identity of the assailant.

Investigators thought they might have had a potential lead on June 10, 1932, when Violet Sharpe, a waitress in the home of Mrs. Lindbergh's mother, mysteriously committed suicide by swallowing poison. Sharpe had been questioned by the police previously, but was still considered a suspect in the crime. Sharpe's suicide occurred shortly after police requested that she be questioned a second time. Although suspicious, police eventually asserted that Sharpe had no connection to the crime, making the suicide before police questioning nothing but an odd coincidence.

Investigators attempted to track the gold certificates used in the ransom payoff, but had little luck with this at first. They repeatedly interviewed Dr.

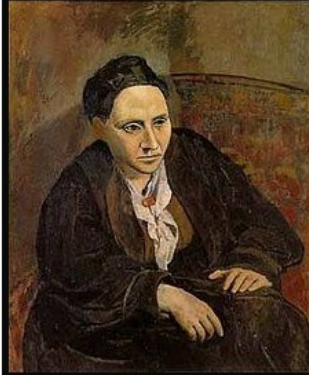
Condon, who had interacted with the kidnapper, in attempt to identify any specific physical traits or mannerisms that could help to narrow down potential suspects. Police even had the ladder that the assailant used to climb into the nursery examined by wood experts to see it may provide any clues. In the summer

of 1934, investigators finally had a breakthrough in the case. From August-September 1934, a total of sixteen Lindbergh gold certificates were located in several destinations in New York. Police used these locations to configure a map of the movements of the person using the ransom money. Police were able to track down the person who was using the bills and identified the suspect as Bruno Richard Hauptmann. Dr. Condon identified Hauptmann as the man whom he had met with, and \$13,000 of ransom certificates were eventually found hidden in Hauptmann's garage. Once in custody, the FBI graphology unit compared Hauptmann's handwriting to that on the ransom letters and confirmed that the notes were indeed written by Hauptmann.



Hauptmann's trial began on January 2, 1935, and lasted five weeks. On February 13, 1935, the jury reached a verdict, finding Hauptmann guilty of murder in the first degree and sentencing him to death. On April 3, 1936, just over four years after he kidnapped and murdered Charles Lindbergh Jr., Hauptmann was sent to the electric chair.

The Lost Generation



All of you young people who served in the war.
You are a lost generation... You have no respect
for anything. You drink yourselves to death.

(Gertrude Stein)

In April 1917, the United States declared war on Germany after the country violated the terms of the Sussex Pledge and resumed unrestricted submarine warfare against Allied and neutral ships in prescribed war zones. Although the United States had initially adopted a neutral position upon the outbreak of World War I in 1914, as the largest

ethnic group in the United States at the time was German, the Committee of Public Information quickly began a propaganda campaign to increase support of America's entrance into the war. Although the United States mobilized over 4 million military personnel to fight in World War I, citizens on the home front were removed from the atrocities of the war. Everyday citizens in the United States could not understand the chaos and destruction of the First World War the way that war-torn Europe could. Upon the conclusion of the war in November 1918, this sentiment remained in the United States, resulting in a disconnect between those who had fought in the war and the citizens on the home front. America's failure to join the League of Nations increased soldiers' sense of disillusionment as they felt that the war had solved nothing. American soldiers had witnessed the horrific effects of mustard gas and trench warfare and returned home to a country that could not understand what they



Hemingway in Italy in 1918

had experienced. This sense of alienation, combined with American prohibition, drove many American intellectuals back to Europe. Gertrude Stein dubbed this cohort of expatriates "the Lost Generation," as some of America's greatest young artists flocked to Paris where they could drink, party, and write without any scrutiny.

During the 1920s, Paris was a Bohemia of free spirits. The immense number of French casualties during World War I created an atmosphere in which French citizens were grateful to be alive and regularly celebrated life. Americans were drawn to Paris not only for its vibrancy and do anything atmosphere, but because it was affordable to live there. Americans could survive in Paris for less than \$100 a month, which made homeland financial support a viable option. Although they were living in Paris, authors such as Ernest Hemingway and F. Scott Fitzgerald utilized the Parisian environment to reflect on life in America. Fitzgerald finished *The Great Gatsby*, a quintessentially American novel while residing in the South of France. Similarly, Hemingway gained world-renowned attention after published his first novel, *The Sun Also Rises* in 1926. Living in Paris for nearly five years



changed Hemingway into a world-class novelist whose work became praised for its lean hard prose. Hemingway's new-found success inspired a slew of struggling American artists to flock to Paris. The once brilliant café society of Paris began to exhibit what Fitzgerald labeled a "sinister" quality by the end of the 1920s as boatloads of Americans attempted to retrace Hemingway's steps. The Stock Market Crash of 1929 put an end to American's journey for self-discovery in Paris, as family members in the United States could no longer afford to support the expatriates.

EASA/MAFA/SOA Schedule

Friday, March 31

11:30-1:00 – Board Meetings of EASA, MAFA, and SOA (Location TBA)

1:00-2:30 – Session 1

American Studies: Pasts, Presents, and Futures

Small Places, Big meanings: Ethnographic Methods at Work

2:45-4:15 – Session 2

Racial and Ethnic Texts

A Dangerous Shelf life: Coming to Grips with the Troubled Past

Middle Atlantic Culture and Identity

4:30-6:00 – Session 3

Smithsonian Round Table

LDS Youth: Transgressive Behaviors to Overcome Tradition and Expectation

Sixties *Finis*: Coping with Era's End

6:00-6:45 – Cocktail Hour

6:30 – Welcome from Frances Wolf, First Lady of Pennsylvania (during Cocktail Hour)

6:45 – Dinner

7:45 – Keynote Address (begins during desert & coffee)

Nicole Saylor, American Folklife Center Archive, The Library of Congress

Title: TBA

Saturday, April 1

8:00-9:30 – Session 4

Sacred Places and Spaces

Criminals, Clowns, and Heroes

From Gilded Age to Trump: Corporations, Politics, and Citizenship

9:30-11:00 – Session 5

Folklife, Interrupted: The Potentials and Importance of Folklife Work(ers) in Uncertain Times (Sponsored by Society of Americanists)

American Populism: Voices, Visions, Violence

There and Back Again: Transnational American Studies

11:15-12:45 – Session 6

Undergraduate Roundtable #1

Undergraduate Roundtable #2

The Great War in Memory: Centenary Perspectives on World War I

12:45-2:00 – Lunch & Awards Ceremony

Panels (Expanded View):

Session 1

American Studies: Pasts, Presents, and Futures

Spero Lappas, Penn State Harrisburg, “The Myth of Method: Why American Studies Should Return to its Own Symbolic Roots”

Angus Kress Gillespie, Rutgers University-New Brunswick, “Showcasing Research on Public Access Television”

Jude P. Webre, Columbia University: “Tragic Democracy and the True Converse: F. O. Matthiessen, Charles Olson & the Fate of Radical Democracy in the Early Cold War”

Simon Bronner, Penn State Harrisburg, “The Death of American Studies”

Small Places, Big meanings: Ethnographic Methods at Work

Rosemary Yee, Penn State Harrisburg, “Chinese Buffet: A Hybrid Dining Practice in America”

Monica Anne Szanyi, Penn State Harrisburg, “Volunteers in an Animal Shelter: Culture Inside an Animal Shelter and Volunteer Involvement in the Greater Community”

Mary Sellers, Penn State Harrisburg, “Pink or Blue: Uncovering the Baby Gender Reveal Party”

Session 2

Racial and Ethnic Texts

Anthony Bak Buccitelli, Penn State Harrisburg, “‘Ethnicity Tag’ and the Poetics of Sharing Ethnicity”

Emily DeJeu, Central Michigan, “The Other Americans: Racial Formation and Enemy Construction in Samuel Morton’s *Crania Americana*”

Bailey Lynch, Penn State Harrisburg, “Walk-Outs and Sit-Ins: The Genesis of a Tactic and its Lasting Effect on Today’s Civil Rights Activism”

Mario Frömmel, Independent Scholar, “Literature with an Accent: Eastern European Immigrant Writers and the American Literary Canon”

A Dangerous Shelf life: Coming to Grips with the Troubled Past

Michael Aaron Rockland, Rutgers University, "The Nuclear Age: From Hiroshima To My Personal Involvement in a Nuclear Disaster. That Is Ongoing"

Elinor Levy, Arts Mid-Hudson's Folk Arts Program, "The Vietnam Veterans Memorial: In the Beginning and Into the Future"

Megan C. McGee Yinger, Penn State Harrisburg, "Branding Disaster: Media Coverage of Tragedy in the Pre-Cable Era"

Karol Kovalovich Weaver, Susquehanna University, "Enslaved Women, Dead Masters, and Freedom"

Middle Atlantic Culture and Identity

Ashley Minner, University of Maryland, "Revisiting the Reservation of Baltimore's Fells Point"

Chad Edward Buterbaugh, Maryland State Arts Council, "Using State Folklife Infrastructure to Account for Environmental, Agricultural, and Ethnic Vernaculars"

David J. Puglia, Bronx Community College, and Mira C. Johnson, Pelham Art Center, "The Yoke of Tradition: South Central Pennsylvania's Chocolate Easter Egg"

Session 3**Smithsonian Round Table**

James Deutsch (moderator), Smithsonian Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage

Amy Clark, Rutgers University-New Brunswick,

Angus Kress Gillespie, Rutgers University-New Brunswick

Sabrina Lynn Motley, Smithsonian Folklife Festival

Kim Stryker, George Mason University

Sally Van de Water, formerly with Smithsonian Folklife Festival

LDS Youth: Transgressive Behaviors to Overcome Tradition and Expectation

Spencer L. Green, Penn State Harrisburg, "Proselyting Pedagogy 101: Pranks"

Brant W. Ellsworth, Central Penn College, "The Devil's Drink: Latter-day Saints, Subversion, and 'Dirty' Soda"

Jared S. Rife, Central Penn College, "'Who will I kiss in the Dark?': NCMO, Tinder, and Hook-up Culture in LDS Youth"

Sixties *Finis*: Coping with Era's End

John O'Hara, Stockton University, "Kent State/May 4, 1970: The End of the Sixties"

Alex W. Bordino, University of Massachusetts, "Found Footage, False Archives, and Historiography in Oliver Stone's JFK"

Ron DePETER: Delaware Valley University, "Into the Muddy Water: Bobbie Gentry's 'Ode to Billie Joe' Fifty Years Later"

Session 4

Sacred Places and Spaces

- Anna O'Brien, Penn State Harrisburg, "Type AMEN if you believe!: Embodied belief and mediation of religious fervor"
- Rori Smith, Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage, Smithsonian Institution, "The First of Their Kind: Narratives from Three Shenandoah, PA Catholic Churches"
- Puja Sahney, State University of New York, Albany, "Hindu Women, Apartment Communities, and Settlement Patterns of Indian Immigrants in the U.S.A."
- Kathryn Holmes, Penn State Harrisburg, "Ye are a Temple: LDS Didactic Practices Concerning the Body"

Criminals, Clowns, and Heroes

- Sean Malak, Temple University, "Links in the System: An Analysis of Mob Associates"
- Jennifer Drissel, Penn State Harrisburg, "Where Have All the Clowns Gone? A Retrospective Look at the 2016 Creepy Clown Phenomenon"
- Tiffany Weaver, Penn State Harrisburg, "'Kind of Gaudy, Isn't It?': Materialism and Ethnicity in Pre-Code Gangster Films"
- Todd M. Mealy, Penn State Harrisburg, "War Seasons: Harold Lloyd's *The Freshman*, Glenn Killinger's Football Career at Penn State, and the Birth of an American Hero"

From Gilded Age to Trump: Corporations, Politics, and Citizenship

- Alan Ginsberg, Columbia University, "When Corporations Became People, Pigs Flew, and Toot-in' Louie Bought the Farm"
- Steven T. Lee, Penn State Harrisburg, "The Era of Trump: Searching for an American Analog"
- Kimberlee Neitz, University of Phoenix, "Because He's Not a Politician: Lifting the Lid on Trump's Victory in Small, Rural Towns"

Session 5

Folklife, Interrupted: The Potentials and Importance of Folklife Work(ers) in Uncertain Times (Sponsored by Society of Americanists)

- Nicole Saylor, American Folklife Center, Library of Congress
- James Deutsch, Smithsonian Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage
- David Puglia, Bronx Community College, CUNY
- Anthony Buccitelli, Penn State Harrisburg
- Sally Van De Water, Pennsylvania Council on the Arts

American Populism: Voices, Visions, Violence

Cristina Benedetti, Ohio State University, "Shifting Vernaculars of Public Gatherings on the National Mall"

Michael Wycha, Penn State Harrisburg, "There's a Riot Going On: Astor Place Riots, Young America, and the Birth of the Modern Condition"

Ralph Godbolt, Penn State Harrisburg, "'F__ the Police': African American Rhetoric and the Institution of Policing"

Cheryl Wooddruff-Brooks, Pennsylvania House of Representatives, "The Voice of Hip-Hop: Progressive Activism via Popular Music"

There and Back Again: Transnational American Studies

Brittany R. Clark, Penn State Harrisburg, "Creating a New Empire for Shopping: Selfridge's Advertisements at the Turn of the Century"

Peter Bryan, Penn State Harrisburg, "The Good Duck Translator: Erika Fuchs and the Exporting of Donald Duck"

Mary Kate Cowher, Penn State Harrisburg, "This is a Bad Land for Gods: Neil Gaiman's America"

Session 6**Undergraduate Roundtable #1****Undergraduate Roundtable #2****The Great War in Memory: Centenary Perspectives on World War I**

Duncan Moench, University of Texas at Austin, "Anti-German Hysteria and the Making of the 'Liberal Society'"

Robert Roy Foresman, North Dakota State University, "Nature's Military Monuments: The Commemoration, Forgetting, and Memorializing of the World War I Memory Tree"

Christopher M. Sterba, San Francisco State University, "'The Tyranny of the Prewar Soul': Thomas Hart Benton, Norman Rockwell, and the Great War's Impact on American Visual Arts"

Registration Form

EASA / MAFA / SOA Annual Conference

Harrisburg Hilton, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, March 31-April 1, 2017

Name: _____ Institution: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Please Check One (includes all sessions & speakers, Friday dinner & reception, and Saturday lunch):

_____ : Faculty and Professionals (\$90)

_____ : Graduate Students and Retired Individuals(\$60)

_____ : Undergraduate Roundtable participants – both Friday and Saturday (\$60)

Our Saturday-only admission is available *exclusively to undergraduate roundtable participants and their friends/family*. It includes access only to Saturday panels & lunch.

_____ : Undergraduate Roundtable Participants (\$25)

_____ : Friends and Family of Roundtable Participants (\$25)

*****Make checks payable to: "Eastern American Studies Association"**

Send completed Registration form and payment to:

EASA c/o Hannah Murray, American Studies
Penn State Harrisburg
777 W. Harrisburg Pike
Middletown, PA 17057



MAFA

Hotel Information

The conference (March 31 – April 1, 2017) will take place at the **Harrisburg Hilton** in downtown Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. To receive the special conference rate of **\$134**, please mention or type in our **conference code** when you make your reservation ("EASA3"). Book your room by ****March 1, 2017**** to receive the special conference rate.

You can book your room in two different ways.

1. Visit the conference webpage that Hilton has set up:

<http://www.hilton.com/en/hi/groups/personalized/M/MDTHHMF-EASA3-20170331/index.jhtml>

2. Call the hotel using the phone number below. Do not forget to mention the conference code.

Hotel Contact Information:

Harrisburg Hilton
One North Second Street
Harrisburg, PA 17101-1601

TEL: (717) 233-6000

FAX: (717) 233-6271

Conference Code: *EASA3*