

NUCL

2022



***Northwest Undergraduate
Conference on Literature
Saturday, March 19***

The Northwest Undergraduate Conference on Literature was founded at the University of Portland in 2004 by Herman Asarnow, Professor Emeritus of English. Dr. Asarnow's school-aged daughter gave him the idea when she wondered why there were so many science fairs but no literature fairs at her school. NUCL is made possible by the dedication of the University of Portland English department (staff, faculty, interns, and students) and the generous support of the College of Arts and Sciences, Provost's Office, and Office of Admissions. Since 2004, more than 700 students from more than 60 high schools and colleges from across the country have come to UP to share their literary passions and commitments with the NUCL community.

Welcome! We're glad you're part of this tradition.

"It was Dostoevsky and Dickens who taught me that the things that tormented me most were the very things that connected me with all the people who were alive, or who ever had been alive."

—James Baldwin

NUCL 2022 PROGRAM OF EVENTS

SIGN-IN

8:45 – 9:00

Mago Hunt Auditorium Foyer

WELCOME

9:00 – 9:15

Mago Hunt Recital Hall

Joshua Swidzinski

Associate Professor, Department of English

NUCL Director

SESSION I

9:30 – 10:45

1. Coloring Outside the Lines: Generic Innovation

Franz 206

The Dickensian Craft: Representation and Characterization

Kindra Roy
Pacific University

“He Hath Ever But Slenderly Known Himself”:
Renouncing Anagnorisis in *King Lear*

Rachel Ferguson
Western Washington
University

The War of Genre Within Richardson’s *Clarissa*

Claire Noring
University of Portland

Moderator: Murphy Bradshaw

2. Searching for Meaning in the Modern World

Franz 214

Prufrock’s Notes from Purgatory: Modernist and Religious Themes in T.S. Eliot’s “The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock” and Fyodor Dostoevsky’s *Notes From Underground*

April Massoni
Western Oregon University

Postmodernism into Post-Meaning:
The Abdication of Meaning in Jessica Hagedorn’s *Dogeaters*

Edward Voloshin
Seattle University

Remembering Together in *Austerlitz*

Anna Nguyen
Pacific Lutheran University

Moderator: Jamieson Miller

3. Sexuality and Society

Franz 223

Experience as Education in Harriet Jacobs’s *Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl*

Caitlin Berrol
Reed College

Girl in Red: Edna Pontellier in *The Awakening*

Hannah Lombard
Southern Oregon University

The Downfall of *Maggie: A Girl Of The Streets*

Curtis Tedrow-Harder
Southern Oregon University

Moderator: Giahna Baker

4. The Twilight of Paganism in *Beowulf*

Franz 217

A Plague on the People: the Dragon and
Monstrous Kings in *Beowulf*

Ella Sohn
Jesuit High School

“Mindful God and One Man’s Daring”:
The Christian-Pagan Conflict of *Beowulf*

Nikola Zupcic
Jesuit High School

Failure, Fate, and Faith: The Consequences of
Failing Weaponry in *Beowulf*

Shreya Kaushik
Jesuit High School

Moderator: Claire Mueller

5. Consuming Gender Politics: Food and Feminism

Franz 231

Changing the Narrative: Literary Representations
of Disordered Eating

Lilly Grey Rudge
University of Portland

Consumption and Feminism in *The Edible Woman*

Mia Tierney
University of Portland

Resolving Rossetti’s “Ambiguous” Stance on
Feminism: An Analysis of *Goblin Market*

Dalton Sikes
Pacific University

Moderator: Janea Melido

SESSION II 11:00 – 12:15

1. Original Poetry: NUCL in Verse

Franz 206

The Sound Just Below the Sound

Nate Metz
Santa Clara University

Bloom & Burn

Trinity Herr
Western Oregon University

indulging the poet

Alaya Mays
Western Washington
University

Intimacy

Kaya Heimowitz
University of Puget Sound

From One to Another

Nicole Harris
Whitworth University

Moderator: Sadie Wuertz

2. Literary Subversion and the Patriarchy

Franz 214

“Give Not Occasion for Love”: *The Countess of Montgomery’s Urania’s* Use of Women’s Desire as a Mask for Women’s Desires

James Lindgren
Portland State University

A Man-Made Cage: The Constricting, Haunting Life of Joyce’s “Eveline”

Sarah James
University of Portland

Liberal and Patriarchal Bargaining in *Maggie: A Girl of the Streets*

Blake Jordan
Southern Oregon University

The Monstrosity of Inversion: The Role of Grendel’s Mother in *Beowulf*

Sophia Pi
Jesuit High School

Moderator: Kate Cuadrado and Amanda Malatesta

3. Crossroads: Gender, Race, and Oppression

Franz 223

Security and Sacrifice in Nella Larsen’s *Passing*

Ella Sowards
Portland State University

Intersectionality and White Male Privilege in Chesnutt’s *The House Behind the Cedars*

Abigail Hernandez
University of Portland

Re-Beginning in the East: Examining Intersecting Discourses of Gender and Orientalism in Chaucer’s *Man of Law’s Tale*

McCalee Cain
Seattle University

Moderator: Tallin Rivers

4. Reading Bodies across Boundaries

Franz 231

Exotification and Objectification of the Chicana Body in *The House on Mango Street*

Beatrice DeGraw
Linfield University

Blergh! White Feminism and the Black “Other” in *30 Rock*

Evangeline Wilder
Gonzaga University

Dual Cultural Conflict in First and Second Generation Asian Americans

Maya Heinselmann
Western Washington University

An Analysis of Dreams: The Importance of Color in Martin Scorsese’s *Hugo*

Lauren Hildum
Hiram College

Moderator: Angelina DiLisio and Samantha Bertagnolli

LUNCH AND AWARDS

12:30 – 1:30

Bauccio Commons Board Room

Welcome: Norah Martin, Interim Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences

Awards Presentation: Joshua Swidzinski, Associate Professor, Department of English, NUCL Director

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

1:45-2:45

Bauccio Commons

“Indigeneity and Indigenous Life in Colonial Virginia”

Dr. Kimberly Takahata, Villanova University

SESSION III

3:00 – 4:15

1. Representations of Empire

Franz 206

The Spectre of Imperialist Ideals in *Heart of Darkness*

Trinity Herr
Western Oregon University

Art and Violence in Ayad Akhtar’s *Disgraced*:
Reading Western Domination over Muslim
Representation in Amir’s and Emily’s Relationship

McCalee Cain
Seattle University

Filmic Representations of Imperial Japan’s Sex,
Slaves: a Historiography

Sophie McCurdy
Hiram College

Moderator: Sarah Joy Whittaker

2. Original Essays: Creative Nonfiction

Franz 214

Kevin

Murphy Bradshaw
University of Portland

Alleys

Mallen Clifton
University of California,
Berkeley

The Difficulty of Forgetting

Jamieson Miller
University of Portland

Freedom from Pygmalion

Ana Imes
George Fox University

Moderator: Lilly Grey Rudge

3. Literature, Science, and ‘Progress’

Franz 223

Personal Identity and Particles: The Relativity of
Time, Internal Fluidity, and Social Progress in
Orlando

Riley Eyring
University of Portland

Labor, Love and Nature in *The Old Man and the
Sea*: The Struggle of Craft in an Industrialized
World

Andrew Ronstadt
University of Washington,
Seattle

Passing Down: Nella Larsen’s Questioning of
Eugenic Ideology

Sky McLeod
Portland State University

Moderator: Sarah James

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| 4. Scripture Re-scripted: Playing with the Bible | Franz 217 |
| “Welcome to the Human Race”: How John Carpenter’s <i>Escape From L.A.</i> Uses Milton To Condemn Fundamentalism | John Dotson
Whitworth University |
| What Do We Say to the God of Death? Examining the Modern Relevance of Chaucer’s <i>Pardoner’s Tale</i> | Stephen Leach
Seattle University |
| Biblical Numerology in <i>Beowulf</i> | Jenny Duan
Jesuit High School |
| Moderator: Trini Sepulveda | |
| 5. Religion and Social Commentary in Early Modern Literature | Franz 231 |
| Prefiguration and Play in <i>La cena del rey Baltasar</i> | Imani Garrott
Reed College |
| “We are arrant knaves all”: Prince Hamlet’s Anti-Providentialist Rhetoric | Natalie Hendren
Washington State University |
| Original or Sin: Judaism as Religious Source in <i>Siege of Jerusalem</i> | Angelina DiLisio
University of Portland |
| Moderator: Mia Tierney | |

CLOSING RECEPTION

4:15-4:45

Franz Hall Lobby

FACULTY SPONSORS OF NUCL PARTICIPANTS

The University of Portland and NUCL honor the dedication of these teachers
of literature and writing:

Alma Rosa Alvarez, Southern Oregon University
Keri Behre, Portland State University
Alexander Bove, Pacific University
Geneviève Brassard, University of Portland
Cheri Buck-Perry, University of Portland
Ann Ciasullo, Gonzaga University
Ariadna García-Bryce, Reed College
Brenda Glascott, Portland State University
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John McDonald, University of Portland
Mary Metzger, Western Washington University
Melanie Mock, George Fox University
Rachel Norman, Linfield University
Leonard Oakland, Whitworth University
Kirsten Parkinson, Hiram College
Joshua Swidzinski, University of Portland
Ryan Topper, Western Oregon University
Charles Tung, Seattle University
Sarah Wagner-McCoy, Reed College



International Journal of Undergraduate Research & Creative Activities *IJURCA*

This year's award winners at the Northwest Undergraduate Conference on Literature are invited to publish their essays in a special issue of *The International Journal of Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity (IJURCA)*. *IJURCA* is a peer-reviewed, open-access journal dedicated to the publication of outstanding scholarship by undergraduates and their mentors. We aim to encourage scholarly work across disciplines, engender a beneficial learning experience for students via our peer-review process, and provide a setting to disseminate research, ideas, and creative concepts. Given our focus, we deeply appreciate NUCI's collaboration with us on this special issue devoted to the conference prizewinners and want to congratulate the awardees for your exceptional work. *IJURCA* accepts student essays throughout the year and would also welcome submissions from any of the conference participants for consideration in our regular issues. For more information, please feel free to contact our humanities editor, Sarah Sillin, via email (sarah.sillin@cwu.edu) or visit our website: <https://ijurca-pub.org>.



NUCL gratefully thanks...

The University of Portland

Herbert A. Medina, Provost

Norah Martin, Interim Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences

Gerardo Cifuentes, Associate Provost for Admissions

Department of English: Geneviève Brassard, Cheri Buck-Perry, Fr. Pat Hannon,

Cara Hersh, Molly Hiro, Lars Erik Larson, John McDonald,

John Orr, Joshua Swidzinski, Sarah Weiger

Emily Hogan, Office Manager, Departments of English, ILC, and History

Sean Ducey, Office of University Events

Reneé Byrd, Printing Services

And last but not far from least! The Superlative NUCL Interns:

Sadie Wuertz, Mia Tierney, and Jamieson Miller



Ornament from *An Essay on Criticism*, from *Works* (1717), Alexander Pope

NOTES

University
of Portland

