



The Herman Melville Distinguished Professorship in American Literature

Candidates for The Herman Melville Distinguished Professorship in American Literature will visit campus throughout the month of February. This prestigious new position in the KU English Department has been made possible by a very generous donation from Professor Emerita **Elizabeth Schultz**. We thank her again for this chance to add a distinguished senior scholar to our faculty. Melville Professorship events will be publicized separately in advance of each visit. The Department encourages faculty, staff, and graduate students to attend the candidate presentations, read their files, and assist in both scheduled and spontaneous hospitality opportunities.

Langston Hughes Award to Mercedes Lucero



Mercedes Lucero

Creative Writing PhD student **Mercedes Lucero** will formally accept the **2017 Langston Hughes Award for Poetry** and read from her work at a ceremony and “birthday party” for Hughes on Wednesday, 1 February, at 7 pm at the Lawrence Arts Center. The award, sponsored by The Raven and the LAC, includes a \$500 cash prize. It was founded to honor Hughes, who spent his childhood in Lawrence, and to “encourage and support Douglas County residents who continue in Hughes’ tradition of portraying life experience through poetry and prose.” The fiction winner this year is Chloe Seim. Lucero’s work has appeared in *Curbside Splendor*, *The Chicago Tribune’s Printers Row*, and *Heavy Feather Review*, among other venues. Her short story, “Memories I Cannot Recall,” was nominated for a Pushcart Prize. She holds an MFA from Northwestern University and is currently Assistant Fiction Editor for *Beecher’s Magazine*. Congratulations, Mercedes!

Her short story, “Memories I Cannot Recall,” was nominated for a Pushcart Prize. She holds an MFA from Northwestern University and is currently Assistant Fiction Editor for *Beecher’s Magazine*. Congratulations, Mercedes!

Dates to Anticipate

HBW’s annual Black Literary Suite, “Mississippi Renaissance,” Exhibit and Kick-off Reception, 8 February, 12:00-1:00 pm, OMA. Panel discussions and film premieres follow throughout the semester on 15 February, 1 March, 6 March, and 15 March.

The Phi Beta Kappa Society presents **Nora Naranjo Morse**, artist, filmmaker, and poet, 9 February, 5:30 pm, Spencer Museum of Art. Co-sponsored by English.

The John F. Eberhardt Memorial Lecture with **Carolyn R. Miller**, SAS Institute Distinguished Professor, Emerita, North Carolina State University, 9 February, 7:00 pm, Jayhawk Room.

Three Events with activist, writer, and historian **Sarah Schulman**, English, College of Staten Island, CUNY, 16 February, 7:00 pm; 17 February, 10:00 am and 12:00 pm.

Read Across Lawrence hosts **Julia Alvarez**, novelist, 5 March, 7:00 pm, Lied Center.

Celebration of Books published by humanities, social sciences, and arts faculty in 2016, 4 April, 4:00-6:00 pm, Hall Center Conference Hall.

HBW welcomes **Nikki Giovanni**, University Distinguished Professor of English, Virginia Tech University, 4 April, 6:00 pm, Woodruff Auditorium.

FSE Professionalization Workshops with **Anne Curzan**, English/Linguistics/Education, University of Michigan, 26 April, 9:30-11:00 am and 4:00-5:30 pm.

2016-2017 Writers’ Faire, second annual Department of English student showcase, 4 May, 1:00-5:00 pm, The Commons, Spooner Hall.

Calendar

N 29 Taproom Poetry Series with **Dee McElhattan**, English; **Alexis Renee Smith** (BA ’15); and **Paul Hanson Clark**, 5:00 pm, Eighth Street Taproom.

W 1 Reading by 2017 Langston Hughes Creative Writing Award-winner for Poetry, **Mercedes Lucero**, English, as part of Langston Hughes Birthday Celebration, 7:00 pm, Lawrence Arts Center, 940 New Hampshire.

Film Screening, “Langston’s Lawrence,” 7:00 pm, Lawrence Arts Center, 940 New Hampshire. Co-developed and co-sponsored by Dream Documentary Collective, whose contributors include **Edgar Tidwell** and **Darren Canady**.

R 2 Job Presentation, first candidate for **The Herman Melville Distinguished Professorship in American Literature**, 4:00 pm, Big 12 Room, Kansas Union. Reception follows. (See separate publicity for further details).

M 6 2Cs, 5:00-6:00 pm, 4041 Wescoe.

Spring 2017 Meeting Schedule

Currently, **Voting Department Meetings** are scheduled for **21 February**, **28 March**, and **25 April** at 4:00 pm in 4051 Wescoe. A **Senior Staff Meeting** is tentatively scheduled for 7 March. Please remember to save all Tuesday afternoons from 4-5 pm so you can be available if circumstances call for other meetings.

Publications

Harrington, Joseph

"Theses on the Eighteenth Brumaire of Donny Napoleon." *Radio* 11.8.16. Maria Anderson, et al., eds. Ithaca, NY: Essay Press, 2017. 125-129. <http://www.essaypress.org/ep-83/>

Mielke, Laura

Rev. of *Performing Authorship in the Nineteenth-Century Lecture Tour*, by Amanda Adams. *American Literary History Online Reviews*, series 9. www.academic.oup.com/alh/pages/alh_review_series_9

Polo, Sarah

Rev. of 2016 Conference on College Composition and Communication (CCCC) session B.37: "Enacting Career Diversity in Rhetoric and Composition: Different Pathways for a Professional Life with a PhD in Rhetoric and Composition." *Kairos: A Journal of Rhetoric, Technology, and Pedagogy*. 21.2 (2017).

KU and Regional Events

- **Resident Fellows Seminar**, "Encountering the Enlightenment: Science, Religion, and Catholic Epistemologies across the Iberian Atlantic, 1680-1815," George Klaeren, History, 1 February, 12:00 pm, Hall Center Conference Hall. RSVP required one week in advance.

- **Conflict & International Change Seminar**, "Beyond Belief: Korea and Diasporic Calls for Alliance in the War Against Japan," Eric Price, History, 3 February, 3:30-5:00 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room.

- **Early Modern Seminar**, "Gorgons and goddesses in 'La tyrannie des fées détruite'," Gillian Weatherly, French & Italian, 6 February, 3:30-5:00 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room.

Fellowships, Scholarships, Awards, Contests, Etc. (Posted)

- **The Keeler Family Intra-University Professorships**, a faculty development program for tenured faculty at mid-career. Allows one semester free of departmental responsibilities to engage in substantive exchange and interaction with faculty members in another discipline. Deadline: 10 February.