



**FRIDAY OCT. 9- SUNDAY OCT. 11 2026
HORIZON CONVENTION CENTER
MUNCIE, IN**

**MIDWEST POPULAR CULTURE ASSOCIATION/
MIDWEST AMERICAN CULTURE ASSOCIATION
*ANNUAL CONFERENCE***

**Midwest Popular Culture Association
and
Midwest American Culture Association**
Annual Conference

Friday, October 9 – Sunday, October 11, 2025

MPCA/ACA Website: <https://www.mpcaaca.org>
#mpca26

Conference Coordinator: Julia Largent Kuttler, McPherson College,
executivesecretary@mpcaaca.org

Program Book Editors: program@mpcaaca.org
Scott Owen Chappuis, Trine University, chappuiss@trine.edu
J. Scott Jordan, Illinois State University, jsjorda@ilstu.edu
Sam Kizer, Ohio University, samkizer@ohio.edu

REGISTRATION

Registration will need to be completed online for each conference attendee and presenter.

Once you've registered for the conference, you will receive email confirmations.

All times listed in the program are listed in Eastern Standard Time.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Thursday, October 8 7:00-9:00 pm	Game Night with Light Refreshments Courtyard by Marriott Muncie at Horizon Convention Center First Floor Conference Room
Friday, October 9 5:45-7:00 pm	Featured Speaker: Dr. Monica R. Sandler Interurban Hall
Friday, October 9 7:00-10:00 pm	Awards and Reception (Cash Bar) Interurban Hall
Saturday, October 10 12:30-2:00 pm	Luncheon and Membership Meeting Interurban Hall
Saturday, October 10 5:45-7:00 pm	Keynote Speaker: Representatives from The James Dean Museum Interurban Hall
Saturday, October 10 7:00-10:00 pm	MPCA Pub Quiz with Quizmaster Brendan Riley (Cash Bar) Interurban Hall
Sunday, October 11 8:00-10:00 am	Executive Council Meeting Courtyard by Marriott Muncie at Horizon Convention Center First Floor Conference Room

The Popular Culture Studies Journal

The Midwest Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association (MPCA/ACA) is the home of a journal in the field of popular culture studies.

Aims and scope:

Popular culture is at the heart of democratic citizenship. It serves as an engine driving technology, innovation, and information, as well as a methodological lens employed by the many fields that examine culture, often from an interdisciplinary perspective. Managed by The Midwest Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association (MPCA/ACA), The Popular Culture Studies Journal is an academic, refereed journal for scholars, academics, and students from the many disciplines that study America and American culture. The journal serves its membership and scholars globally who recognize and support its mission based on expanding the way we view popular culture as a fundamental component within the contemporary world.

Topics covered:

Analysis of the proceedings of the Midwest PCA/ACA and the national organization reveals that most popular culture scholars are interested in American-based:

- Film
- Music
- Television
- Sports
- Celebrity Culture
- Technology
- Literature
- Comics/Cartoons/Graphic Novels

However, many scholars approach these topics from an interdisciplinary perspective, which adds significant value over single-issue or more focused/specialized journals.

Editor: Michael J. Blouin, pcsj@mpcaaca.org

MPCA/ACA EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

President: Cory Barker, Penn State University, president@mpcaaca.org

Program Chairperson: Scott Owen Chappuis, Trine University

Program Vice-Chair: J. Scott Jordan, Illinois State University

Program Vice-Chair: Sam Kizer, Ohio University

Student/New Professional Representative: Beth Shiller,
gradnewprof@mpcaaca.org

Marketing and Communications Chair: Sarah Licht, Georgetown University

Awards Coordinator: Aisha Powell, Morgan State University

At-Large Member: Sumitra Srinivasan, University of Toledo

At-Large Member: Allen Babiarz-Lira, Vol State Community College

At-Large Member: Barry Cole, University of Alabama

Conference Coordinator: Julia Largent Kuttler, McPherson College

Editor, The Popular Culture Studies Journal: Michael J. Blouin,
pcsj@mpcaaca.org

Webmaster: Lori Scharenbroich, West Shore Marketing, webmaster@mpcaaca.org

KEYNOTE GUEST SPEAKER

Representatives from The James Dean Museum
Saturday, October 10, 5:45-7:00 pm, Interurban Hall



“America’s First Teenager”

James Dean changed American pop culture forever by becoming a symbol of youthful rebellion, individuality, and nonconformity. Although his acting career lasted only a few years, his performances in films such as “Rebel Without a Cause” captured the emotions and frustrations of teenagers in 1950’s America. Dean’s distinctive style, including his jeans, leather jacket, and casual attitude, influenced fashion and popularized the image of the rebellious teenager. His tragic death at age 24 made him an enduring cultural icon. Even decades later, James Dean continues to influence actors, musicians, fashion, and ideas about youth, freedom, and identity.

FEATURED SPEAKER

Dr. Monica R. Sandler

Assistant Professor of Film Studies, University of Arkansas

Friday, October 9, 5:45-7:00 pm, Interurban Hall



How the Academy Awards transformed Pop Culture

The Academy Awards are an internationally recognized symbol and one of the top global achievements in cinema. Yearly, movies are released with the hope of awards consideration; an annual bombardment of advertisements, punditry, and PR campaigning all designed to encourage ticket sales and success at the festivities. The culminating event in an annual cycle of prizegiving commonly referred to as the “Award Season,” the Oscars have long existed as the central fixture motivating a system of meritocracy in Hollywood. This presentation will examine the impact of the launch of the prize and its influence on pop culture now 98 years since its founding. Started in 1929, the Academy Awards became the first award to combine the act of prizegiving with the yield and reach of the film industry that over time has come to influence and create a global system of awards. Ultimately, the presentation argues that the Oscars did more than establish cinema’s most prominent prize: it helped create a model for transforming industry recognition into popular spectacle, influencing the proliferation of awards across film, television, music, theater, and global entertainment culture.

Monica R. Sandler is an Assistant Professor at the University of Arkansas, specializing in the history of entertainment prizes and their influence on Hollywood. Her forthcoming book, *The Oscar Industry: Creative Labor, Cultural Production, and the Awards System in the Media Industries*, examines the history of the Academy Awards and the development of the movie awards season. Her writing on awards has been published in the *Media Industries Journal* and *Cinefile*, and she has been interviewed as an awards expert by outlets like *TIME Magazine*, NPR, and *LAist*.

MPCA/ACA Conference Planning Committee Members for 2026

Darryl Clark, Southern Illinois University, darryl.clark@siu.edu

Caryn Neuman, Miami University - Ohio, neumance@miamioh.edu

Ayanna Gaines, Woodbury University, ayanna.gaines@woodbury.edu

Chris Innes, Boise State University, cinnnes@boisestate.edu

Carey Millsap-Spears, Moraine Valley Community College, Millsap-Spears@morainevalley.edu

Renee Thomas-Woods, DePauw University, reneethomas-woods@depauw.edu

Jamie Hook, Indiana University Bloomington, jrhook@indiana.edu

Brilynn Jackila, Michigan Technological University, Bjackil@mtu.edu

Graduate Student Members:

Azariah Journey, University of North Carolina Greensboro, Arjourney@uncg.edu

Daniel Atwood, Northwestern University, danielatwood2018@u.northwestern.edu

MEETINGS OF THE MIDWEST POPULAR CULTURE ASSOCIATION AND AMERICAN CULTURE ASSOCIATION

1973: Duluth, Minnesota	2000: No Meeting
1974: Chicago, Illinois	2001: No Meeting
1975: Kalamazoo, Michigan	2002: Milwaukee, Wisconsin
1976: Bowling Green, Ohio	2003: Minneapolis, Minnesota
1977: Normal, Illinois	2004: Cleveland, Ohio
1978: East Lansing, Michigan	2005: St. Louis, Missouri
1979: Bowling Green, Ohio	2006: Indianapolis, Indiana
1980: Kalamazoo, Michigan	2007: Kansas City, Missouri
1981: Columbus, Ohio	2008: Cincinnati, Ohio
1982: Terre Haute, Indiana	2009: Detroit, Michigan
1983: Bowling Green, Ohio	2010: Bloomington, Minnesota
1984: Bloomington, Indiana	2011: Milwaukee, Wisconsin
1985: Chicago, Illinois	2012: Columbus, Ohio
1986: Kalamazoo, Michigan	2013: St. Louis, Missouri
1987: Kirkwood, Missouri	2014: Indianapolis, Indiana
1988: Bowling Green, Ohio	2015: Cincinnati, Ohio
1989: Lansing, Michigan	2016: Chicago, Illinois
1990: Toledo, Ohio	2017: St. Louis, Missouri
1991: Cleveland, Ohio	2018: Indianapolis, Indiana
1992: Indianapolis, Indiana	2019: Cincinnati, Ohio
1993: East Lansing, Michigan	2020: Virtual Conference
1994: Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania	2021: Minneapolis, Minnesota
1995: Indianapolis, Indiana	2022: Chicago, Illinois
1996: Bowling Green, Ohio	2023: Chicago, Illinois
1997: Traverse City, Michigan	2024: Chicago, Illinois
1998: No Meeting	2025: Iowa City, Iowa
1999: No Meeting	2026: Muncie, Indiana

Upcoming Conferences

PCA/ACA 2026 – Boston, Massachusetts (March 24-27, 2027)

Popular Culture Association and American Culture Association National Conference

<https://www.pcaaca.org>

Submission Deadline: October 31, 2026

DePaul Pop Culture Conference – Chicago, Illinois (Date TBD): Musical Theater

<https://www.popcultureconference.com>

Submission Deadline: TBD

MPCA/ACA 2027– Location and Dates TBD

Midwest Popular Culture Association and American Culture Association National Conference

<https://mpcaaca.org/>

Submission Deadline: May 15, 2027

List of Vendors

Scholar's Choice

Representative: Nancy Rediger

www.scholarschoice.com

McFarland Publishing

Representative: Sophia Lyons

mcfarlandbooks.com

Nomination Biographies for MCPA Executive Council

Voting ends Saturday, October 10 at 6pm!

Student/New Professional Representative

- Delaney Gobel, DePaul University
 - My name is Delaney, and I am a recent graduate of DePaul University's Communication & Media MA program. I have five years of experience in academic and professional mentoring, including my current role as a Student Success Graduate Assistant. This position has allowed me to work alongside students ranging from incoming freshmen to master's students as they prepare for their academic or professional journeys post-graduation. I am extremely passionate about the work I have done in this role, as I believe that building a supportive community of peers and mentors is crucial for students and new professionals as they navigate the path towards their future, particularly if that future lies in academia. I have also worked as the Graduate Assistant at the DePaul Pop Culture Conference for the past two years, during which I have had the pleasure of engaging with undergraduate and graduate student volunteers and conducting administrative tasks as needed. Given my background in student community-building and academic conference assistance, as well as my standing as an emerging academic who understands the interests of this unique population within MPCA, I believe I would be a strong fit for this representative position. Thank you for your consideration!
- Gabbie Iorio, Penn State University
 - Hello! My name is Gabbie Iorio and I'm pleased to accept the nomination for Student Representative. While I am a Midwest native originally from Michigan, I'm currently a rising 2nd year PhD student in the Penn State University Bellisario College of Communications in its Mass Communications program. My research interests include the intersections of sport and gender, social media and society, and celebrity and fandom. Before beginning my doctoral program, I worked as a social media manager for MTV and worked on sport sponsorship programs for NASCAR, NFL, NCAA, and US Soccer. My professional experiences in the business side of pop culture enterprises largely influence my scholarship today. I would love to be more involved with MPCA as the student representative to service the field of pop culture study. Thank you for your consideration!
- Azariah Johnson, University of North Carolina at Greensboro
 - I'm a Ph.D. student in History at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, where I study popular culture, public history, and the ways stories shape identity, belonging, and public memory. Whether I'm researching science fiction, historical fiction, museums, or fandoms, I'm passionate about bringing people together through shared interests and meaningful conversations. As someone still early in my career, I know how intimidating conferences and professional organizations can feel. MPCA was my first academic conference, and it showed me that my most valuable opportunities have come from people who took the time to welcome me, answer questions, and encourage my work beyond MPCA. Those moments shaped my own journey, and I'd love the opportunity to pay that forward. If elected as Student/New Professional Representative, I will advocate for opportunities that help students and new professionals connect, collaborate, and feel like they belong before day one and beyond. I believe that students and new professionals bring fresh ideas, curiosity, and creativity that strengthen our Association, and I'd be honored to help ensure their voices are heard.
- Paul Peters, Baldwin Wallace University
 - My name is Paul Peters, and I am an interdisciplinary film scholar and educator currently teaching at Baldwin Wallace University near Cleveland, Ohio. I would be humbled to serve on the Midwest Popular Culture Association Executive Committee and contribute to the supportive and intellectually vibrant

community that has made MPCA such a rewarding organization with which to engage. My scholarship and teaching emphasize interdisciplinary inquiry, critical engagement with systems of privilege and representation, and a commitment to making academic spaces welcoming and accessible to a wide range of scholars and perspectives. Beyond the classroom, I have experience representing and advocating for communities through service on my graduate program's student advisory committee, leadership within a local film society, and advising student organizations. During my prior career as a software engineer, I developed strengths in organization, project management, communication across diverse audiences, and technical problem-solving. These experiences would allow me to contribute effectively in roles ranging from program planning and member advocacy to technical and web support. As a recent graduate and early-career scholar, I am eager to give back to the community and help MPCA continue to grow and thrive.

Vice President

- Allen Barbiarz-Lira, Vol State Community College
 - I gladly accept the nomination for Vice President & President-elect of MPCA! I feel I have brought a lot to the table, and the possibilities for the future are endless! After attending my first MPCA conference in the fall of 2022, I found this group so welcoming and inclusive that I suggested including a Disney Studies area for the next conference. The research area was created, and I proudly served as the first chair. Wanting to be more involved, I ran for Senator-At-Large in 2024, and have worked on projects for the conference, and am creating other events for members, including inviting guest speakers to a learning discussion outside the conference. I proudly represented MPCA at the past 4 national PCAs, and plan to attend the Boston conference in the spring of 2027. I look forward to not only growing MPCA but also creating more opportunities for members throughout the year. This organization was important to me while I was feeling out my grad student oats, and I hope to keep it as welcoming as it has been for me. I thank you all for your vote today!

- Chuck Coletta, Bowling Green State University
 - My name is Charles Coletta, Ph.D. and I am nominated for the position of Vice President for the MPCA/ACA. I have been a faculty member of the Department of Popular Culture at Bowling Green State University for 26 years where I teach courses related to Film, Television, Mass Media, Comics, and Contemporary Popular Literature Studies. I hold Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Literature from John Carroll University. I have also served previously on the MPCA/ACA Executive Council as a Member-at-Large. If I am chosen for this position, my primary goals are to increase our organization's membership and to revitalize our annual conference. Over the last several years I have co-organized conferences at BGSU related to a variety of topics, including Soap Operas, Funk Music, and Superheroes (Batman & Spider-Man). Each of these events attracted scholars from across the nation and around the world to the BGSU campus. I hope to infuse the future MPCA/ACA conferences with success we have had on my own campus. Another goal of mine will be to strengthen our organization's ties with the Browne Popular Culture Library, which is also located at BGSU. I am proud to belong to the MPCA/ACA and am eager to work toward its future successful achievements. Thank you for your consideration.
- Ahmad Hayat, The International University of Science and Technology
 - I'm an Assistant Professor at The International University of Science and Technology in Kuwait with a passion for teaching, research, and creative storytelling. Before entering academia, I worked as an international television producer and Hollywood script analyst, experiences that continue to shape both my scholarship and my teaching. My research examines the commissioning process of television dramas, particularly within Arab and American media industries. I've presented my research multiple times at both the Popular Culture Association Annual Conference and the Midwest Popular Culture Association Annual Conference. I'm also committed to academic service, having served on the Peter Rollins Book Award and Gary Burns Award committees, and I currently chair the Research Paper and Show Bibles Competition at the Broadcast Education Association's Annual Conference. Outside the classroom, I'm a two-time award-winning documentary filmmaker. My work has received the Broadcast Education Association Festival of Media Arts Award of Excellence and the Queen City Culture Film Festival's Best Documentary Award. I believe my experience as a scholar, conference presenter, committee member, and academic leader has prepared me to serve as President of the Midwest Popular Culture Association and to help strengthen its collaborative and interdisciplinary community.

Representative at Large

- Kay Clopton, Ohio State University
 - I would like to express interest in the At Large Representative position on the Midwest Popular Culture Association's Executive Committee. I am the Humanities & Social Sciences Librarian and an Assistant Professor at Ohio State University. I have a PhD in Comparative Studies from Ohio State as well; my scholarly focus is on the onomatopoeic and mimetic effects in North American and Japanese comics and how they impact the reading experience, with a concentration on Japanese manga, synesthesia, and how the brain responds to reading "sounds". I would be good for this position as my scholarly work and the courses I've taught have been focused on popular culture. I have served on MPCA committees for the Gary Burns graduate student travel grants as well as for reading for the book award for the last two years. I would like to have an opportunity to be more involved with the Midwest Popular Culture Association and I believe this position would be a great way to be further involved with the organization. Thank you for your consideration.
- Chuck Coletta, Bowling Green State University
 - My name is Charles Coletta, Ph.D. and I am nominated for the position of "At Large Representative" for the MPCA/ACA. I have been a faculty member of the Department of Popular Culture at Bowling Green State University for 26 years where I teach courses related to Film, Television, Mass Media, Comics, and Contemporary Popular Literature Studies. I hold Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Literature from John Carroll University. I have also served previously on the MPCA/ACA Executive Council as a Member-at-Large. If I am chosen for this position, my primary goals are to increase our organization's membership and to revitalize our annual conference. Over the last several years I have co-organized conferences at BGSU related to a variety of topics, including Soap Operas, Funk Music, and Superheroes (Batman & Spider-Man). Each of these events attracted scholars from across the nation and around the world to the BGSU campus. I hope to infuse the future MPCA/ACA conferences with success we have had on my own campus. Another goal of mine will be to strengthen our organization's ties with the Browne Popular Culture Library, which is also located at BGSU. I am proud to belong to the MPCA/ACA and am eager to work toward its future successful achievements. Thank you for your consideration.
- Delaney Gobel, DePaul University
 - My name is Delaney, and I am a recent graduate of DePaul University's Communication & Media MA program who is actively applying to PhD programs. I attended my first Midwest Pop Culture Conference last year and absolutely loved the community fostered by MPCA. At Paul Booth's suggestion, I decided to apply for a representative position because I am interested in supporting MPCA's work in any way I can. I have extensive experience in conference administration and support, having served as the Graduate Assistant for DePaul's Pop Culture Conference for the past two years. This position allowed me to support academic conference ideation and execution in various ways, including editing the conference book, developing social media content to promote it, and handling administrative tasks during the event. Given my position as an enthusiastic emerging academic and my past support for conferences, I believe I would be a strong fit for this representative position. Thank you for your consideration!

- Carey Millsap-Spears, Moraine Valley Community College
 - I am interested in serving MPCA for a few reasons. I am thankful for the welcoming organization and helpful attitude of the leadership. For the past three years, I have worked as an Area Chair for Pop Culture and Pedagogy, and when the system moved from Area Chairs to reviewers, I have helped review proposals. I would love to represent the Chicago area in the MPCA since I am a native and have worked in the suburbs for 20+ years. I also am active on my campus (Moraine Valley CC) and help organize panels and discussions in our library and have worked in our district libraries as well. Additionally, I am active with DePaul Pop Culture. From my experiences, I think I could bring some ideas to the organization about membership outreach.
- Zoe Parris, DePaul University
 - I am currently completing my thesis for my master's degree in Communication and Media from DePaul University. I am a great candidate for this role due to my history in Student Affairs as a student employee and my personal history with MPCAACA. During my 6 years at DePaul, I started my career journey with the DePaul Career Center as a Career Coach Ambassador, where I offered career-based coaching and led workshops and presentations for students interested in communication and entertainment. I later worked as a Graduate Assistant, where I managed 40+ students under donor-based scholarships for DePaul's Office of Multicultural Student Success. I upgraded from teaching workshops to building them, all while creating a bigger impact on students through more consistent mentorship. Through both of these roles, I provided consistent support for my team and leadership for event coordination and outreach initiatives. Additionally, MPCAACA has been very important to my development as a scholar, as you were my very first academic presentation when I was just a sophomore. During my attendance last year, I was able to connect with so many creative minds, and if I were to be accepted into this role, I would provide what I have provided in every position I have worked: a commitment to fostering community through administrative and communicative tasks. I hope to be able to showcase these skills to you.
- Paul Peters, Baldwin Wallace University
 - My name is Paul Peters, and I am an interdisciplinary film scholar and educator currently teaching at Baldwin Wallace University near Cleveland, Ohio. I would be humbled to serve on the Midwest Popular Culture Association Executive Committee and contribute to the supportive and intellectually vibrant community that has made MPCA such a rewarding organization with which to engage. My scholarship and teaching emphasize interdisciplinary inquiry, critical engagement with systems of privilege and representation, and a commitment to making academic spaces welcoming and accessible to a wide range of scholars and perspectives. Beyond the classroom, I have experience representing and advocating for communities through service on my graduate program's student advisory committee, leadership within a local film society, and advising student organizations. During my prior career as a software engineer, I developed strengths in organization, project management, communication across diverse audiences, and technical problem-solving. These experiences would allow me to contribute effectively in roles ranging from program planning and member advocacy to technical and web support. As a recent graduate and early-career scholar, I am eager to give back to the community and help MPCA continue to grow and thrive.

Conference At-a-Glance

Thursday, October 8

7:00-9:00 pm

Game Night with Light Refreshments
Courtyard by Marriott Muncie at Horizon Convention Center
First Floor Conference Room

Friday, October 9

9:00 - 10:30 AM

1101 - Animation - White River 1
1102 - Fan Studies 1 - Prairie Creek 1
1103 - Pedagogy - Prairie Creek 2
1104 - Popular Genre Fiction - Cardinal Creek 1/2
1105 - Moral Communication in Fantasy and Drama - White River 2

10:45 AM - 12:15 PM

1201 - LGBTQ+ and/in Popular Culture 1 - White River 1
1202 - Rhetoric 1 - Prairie Creek 1
1203 - Race and Ethnicity - Prairie Creek 2
1204 - Pop-Pourri 1 (Virtual) - Cardinal Creek 1/2
1205 - Media in Transition - White River 2

12:30 - 2:00 PM

1301 - Video Games - White River 1
1303 - Television - Prairie Creek 2
1304 - TIPS: Teaching Ideas for Popular Culture Studies - White River 2

2:15 - 3:45 PM

1401 - East Asian Popular Culture - White River 1
1402 - Music - Prairie Creek 1
1403 - Humor and Satire - Prairie Creek 2
1404 - Star Trek - Cardinal Creek 1/2

4:00 - 5:30 PM

1501 - A case study of the We Do Not Care Club - White River 1
1502 - Horror and Science Fiction - Prairie Creek 1
1503 - Politics - Prairie Creek 2
1504 - Pro-Wrestling Studies - Cardinal Creek 1/2

5:45 - 7:00 PM

Featured Speaker: Dr. Monica R. Sandler - Interurban Hall

7:00 PM

Awards and Reception (Cash Bar), Interurban Hall

Saturday, October 10

9:00 - 10:30 AM

2101 - History - White River 1
2102 - Comics - Prairie Creek 1
2103 - Television - Prairie Creek 2

10:45 AM - 12:15 PM

2201 - Is College Sports Still About College - White River 1
2202 - British Popular Culture - Prairie Creek 2
2203 - New Media - Prairie Creek 2
2204 - Reality TV and Fan Studies - Cardinal Creek 1/2
2205 - Pop-Pourri 2 - White River 2

12:30 - 2:00 PM	Luncheon/Membership Meeting - Interurban Hall
2:15 - 3:45 PM	2401 - Family - White River 1 2403 - Disability Studies - Prairie Creek 2 2404 - Advertising & Public Relations - Cardinal Creek 1/2 2405 - Pop-Pourri 3 - White River 2
4:00 - 5:30 PM	2501 - Workshop: Popular Culture in the Classroom - White River 1 2502 - Philosophy in Popular Culture - Prairie Creek 1 2503 - LGBTQ+ and/in Popular Culture 2 - Prairie Creek 2 2504 - Rhetorical Studies - Cardinal Creek 1/2
5:45 - 7:00 PM	Keynote Speaker - Representatives from The James Dean Museum, Interurban Hall
7:00 - 10:00 PM	Pub Quiz (Cash Bar) - Interurban Hall
Sunday, October 11	
8:00 - 10:00 AM	Executive Council Meeting Courtyard by Marriott Muncie at Horizon Convention Center First Floor Conference Room
9:00 - 10:30 AM	3101 - Adaptations - White River 1 3102 - Media and Fan Studies - Prairie Creek 1 3103 - Environment, Animals, and Climate Change - Prairie Creek 2 3104 - Television - Cardinal Creek 1/2
10:45 AM - 12:15 PM	3201 - Horror and Science Fiction - White River 1 3202 - K-Drama and the Variety of Romantic Experience - Prairie Creek 1 3203 - Creative Works - Prairie Creek 2

PANELS AND PRESENTATIONS

Friday, October 9

Friday 8:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Registration

Interurban Hall

Exhibits

Interurban Lobby

Friday 9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

1101

Friday 9:00-10:30

White River 1

Animation

“Resurrecting rebellion: Analyzing postmodernism concepts in modern cartoons,” Tom Thompson, Indiana State University, tthompson56@sycamores.indstate.edu

“Building community, building family: *Adults’ Picture Book*, *She Loves to Cook*, *She Loves to Eat*, and the soundtrack of lived experience,” Kay Clopton, The Ohio State University, clopton.1@osu.edu

Panel Chair: Kay Clopton

1102

Friday 9:00-10:30

Prairie Creek 1

Fan Studies 1

“The digital as liminal: How fanfiction becomes real,” Cole Stoots, Bowling Green State University, cstoots@bgsu.edu

“Panic! at the looming death of an aging band: Anniversary release of *Live in Denver* as means of self-sustenance,” Madelyn Mendoza, Bowling Green State University, madmend@bgsu.edu

“The death of the author: How the words of Brandon Sanderson are redefining transmedia storytelling,” Matt Lowe, Ball State University, mrLOWE2@bsu.edu

Panel Chair: Matt Lowe

1103

Friday 9:00-10:30

Prairie Creek 2

Pedagogy

“AI has academia 'all shook up': College students' attitudes and usage vary by discipline,” Renee Thomas-Woods, DePauw University, reneethomas-woods@depauw.edu

“Everything is fake, but conspiracies are real: Teaching rhetoric and media literacy in the age of fake news,” Wilton S. Wright, William Penn University, wilton.wright@wmpenn.edu; Samantha Allen Wright, William Penn University, samantha.allen@wmpenn.edu

“Using 'Cell Block Tango' as qualitative interviewing practice,” Beth Shiller, Georgia Southwestern State University, elizabeth.shiller@gsw.edu

“From *Homestuck* to *Skibidi Toilet*: Teaching the infinite weird,” Mark R. Brand, University of Illinois Chicago, mrbrand@uic.edu

Panel Chair: Mark R. Brand

1104

Friday 9:00-10:30

Cardinal Creek 1/2

Popular Genre Fiction

“Japanese Cinderella: The resurgence of traditional femininity in popular romance fiction,” Soh Funahashi, Bowling Green State University, sfunaha@bgsu.edu

“Border crossings in touch of evil,” Matt Wanat, Ohio University Lancaster, wanat@ohio.edu

“Mummies, mysteries, and marauders: feminist escapism in Elizabeth Peter’s *Amelia Peabody* novels,” Heather Roberts, Indiana State University, Heather.Roberts@indstate.edu

Panel Chair: Heather Roberts

1105

Friday 9:00-10:30

White River 2

Moral Communication in Fantasy and Drama: Teaching Values Through Disney, C. S. Lewis, and *Grey's Anatomy*

Panelists: Allen Babiarz-Lira, Vol State Community College, allen.babiarz-lira@volstate.edu; Amy Smelser, Indiana Wesleyan University, amy.smelser@indwes.edu; Ines Petrovic Garcia, Vol State Community College, ines.petrovicgarcia@volstate.edu

Panel Chair: Allen Babiarz-Lira

Friday 10:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

1201

Friday 10:45-12:15

White River 1

LGBTQ+ and/in Popular Culture 1

“Breathe deep: The experience of urban nightlife and its implications for the social health of a city,”
Tyler Judon, Purdue University - Northwest, tjudon@pnw.edu

“More than escapism: Speculative fiction, queer belonging, kinship networks, material culture, and the archive as community space,” Azariah Journey, University of North Carolina at Greensboro, arjourney@uncg.edu

“An exploration of queerness and masculinity within *The Traitors* (US),” Darci Michon, DePaul University, dmichon@depaul.edu

“The great work begins: Exploring queer nostalgia as a counter to fascist longings,” Courtney Dreyer, Ball State University, courtney.dreyer@bsu.edu

Panel Chair: Courtney Dreyer

1202

Friday 10:45-12:15

Prairie Creek 1

Rhetoric 1

“*Matlock v. Matlock*: Courtroom rhetoric on TV,” Michael Donnelly, Ball State University,
mddonnelly@bsu.edu

“Amusing ourselves to the death of discourse: A post-postman critique of online media and offline alternatives,” Azaria Brown, University of Nebraska-Lincoln,
abrowncreativework@gmail.com

“Playful zinery: Manifesting twine games as both digital and physical pedagogical texts,” Joshua Cornelius, The Ohio State University, cornelius.156@buckeyemail.osu.edu

“Echoes of *Hadestown*: Memory, myth, and the postindustrial city,” Maati K. Dungy, Purdue University Northwest, mdungy@pnw.edu

Panel Chair: Maati K. Dungy

1203

Friday 10:45-12:15

Prairie Creek 2

Race and Ethnicity

“*Sinners* and the vampiric need to stay relevant with the times,” Cody Lumpkin, Marshall University,
lumpkinb@marshall.edu

“Animating off-whiteness: How animation polices the borders of an imagined community,”
Francis M. Agnoli, Kirkwood Community College, fagnoli90@gmail.com

“Filmic fan creation: An analysis of Elvis Mitchell’s *Is That Black Enough for You?!?* as a work of fan nonfiction,” Onyinyechukwu Chidi-Ogbolu, Indiana University Bloomington,
ochidiog@iu.edu

Panel Chair: Onyinyechukwu Chidi-Ogbolu

1204

Friday 10:45 - 12:15

Cardinal Creek 1/2

Pop-Pourri 1 (Virtual)

“Dick Tracy goes to the moon!: When a classic comic strip veers off-course,” Charles A. Coletta, Bowling Green State University, ccolett@bgsu.edu

“Artificial intelligence and gender in *The Twilight Zone*,” Elizabeth Zak, Carthage College, ezak@carthage.edu

“Netflix and reality television: *Star Search* and ‘real time’ streaming interactivity,” Leigh H. Edwards, Florida State University, ledwards@fsu.edu

“Howard Johnson's ‘landmark for hungry Americans’: Revisiting a distinct North American legacy in popular culture, 1925-2022,” Brian Peterson, Bowling Green State University, bripet@bgsu.edu

Panel Chair: Scott Owen Chappuis

1205

Friday 10:45-12:15

White River 2

Media in Transition: Technology, Culture and Entertainment

“#OscarsSoWhite at a decade,” Monica Sandler, University of Arkansas, monica.roxanne.sandler@gmail.com

“Public domain in the modern era,” Max van Dongen, Ball State University, mrvandongen@bsu.edu

“Kristen Stewart as a global filmmaker: Stardom, fashion, & globalization of film,” Betsy Pike, Ball State University, betsy.pike@bsu.edu

“Viral vaudeville: Reinventing media through new technology,” Chris Flook, Ball State University, caflook@bsu.edu

Panel Chair: Betsy Pike

Friday 12:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

1301

Friday 12:30-2:00

White River 1

Video Games

“‘There is no escape’: *Hades* and the queer potential of dying and dying again,” Hyacinthe Damitz, University of Illinois Chicago, hingr2@uic.edu

“‘Gotta catch ‘em all’: *Pokémon*, containment, and the politics of interspecies kinship,” Nicholas Miller, Ball State University, nrmiller4@bsu.edu

“Expressing empathy through wrath: How *Asura’s Wrath* incorporates Aristotelian virtue ethics,” Jonathan Robison, DePaul University, jrobiso5@depaul.edu,

Panel Chair: Jonathan Robison

1303

Friday 12:30-2:00

Prairie Creek 2

Television

“Extra *Abbott Elementary*: The politics of paratexts,” Robert Alan Brookey, Ball State University, rabrookey@bsu.edu; Betsy Pike, Ball State University, betsy.pike@bsu.edu

“When ‘guilty pleasures’ become pleasing guilt: How and why films and TV shows explore guilt,” Akash Shetye, The Ohio State University, shetye.4@buckeyemail.osu.edu

Panel Chair: Akash Shetye

1304

Friday 12:30-2:00

Cardinal Creek 1/2

Pop-Pourri 2

“Space for expression: Why graffiti must be part of the urban landscape,” Denise M. Borjas, Purdue University Northwest, dborjas@purdue.edu

“*Heathers*: The 1998 film & musical as an echoed narrative: How Melville’s maritime tale continues to serve as a cultural warning in various temporal and social contexts,” Hannah Moser, Butler University, hmoser@butler.edu

“Promising monsters: Kin and colonization in Andrea Rogers’ *Man Made Monsters*,” Aubrie Blauvelt, University of Colorado Boulder, aubl1895@colorado.edu

Panel Chair: Aubrie Blauvelt

1305

Friday 12:30-2:00

White River 2

TIPS: Teaching Ideas for Popular Culture Studies

“Critical hit!: Building a digital RPG to teach critical AI literacy,” Maria M. Martino, Moraine Valley Community College, martinom43@morainevalley.edu

“Getting published: Popular culture books,” Don Corrigan, Webster University Professor Emeritus, donzie550@aol.com

“Gamified genres: Using board game design to teach technical communication,” Destiny Kiddoo, William Penn University, , Destinykiddoo@wmpenn.edu

“Video games in the writing classroom: Game selection and lesson structures,” Mark R. Brand, University of Illinois Chicago, mrbrand@uic.edu; Jim Drown, University of Illinois Chicago, jdrown1@uic.edu

Panel Chair: Julia Largent Kuttler

Friday 2:15 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.

1401

Friday 2:15-3:45

White River 1

East Asian Popular Culture

“‘I am a twisted old tree which has been dried up for over a thousand years’: Monstrous fated female in *Hotel Del Luna*,” Emily Race, University of the South (Sewanee), ecrace@gmail.com

“Necromancy, necropolitics, and necroeconomy: Death as a commodity in Sung-il Kim’s *Blood of the Old Kings*,” Spencer Martin, University of Kansas, sraymartin@ku.edu

Panel Chair: Spencer Martin

1402

Friday 2:15-3:45

Prairie Creek 1

Music

“‘Oft hope is born, when all is forlorn:’ Hopecore within the realm of media and art,” Aleah Urbina, Murray State University, aurbina1@murraystate.edu; Anya Kenney, Murray State University, akenney@murraystate.edu

“BTS breaks the stigma: Mental health advocacy leads to global stardom,” Wesley Park, Pepperdine University, wesley.park@pepperdine.edu

“Understanding Joy Division and New Order: Knowing, possibility, and critical-artistic models,” Jesse Schlotterbeck, Denison University, schlotterbec@denison.edu

“Filling the Civic: Marian Anderson and the organization of cultural life in Wartime La Porte, Indiana,” Melva Godwin, MLS, Independent Scholar, melvagodwin@gmail.com

“‘Sharp enough to kill a man’: Taylor Swift, female rage, and intersections with the Riot Grrrl movement,” Josh Coonrod, Missouri University of Science & Technology, jrc1d4@mst.edu

Panel Chair: Josh Coonrod

1403

Friday 2:15-3:45

Prairie Creek 2

Humor and Satire

“High heels, high camp, high art: Melodramatic identification and ironic distance in *Tecanes lejanos*,”
Jenn Lee, University of Illinois Urbana Champaign, jl229@illinois.edu

“Playing by her own rules: The use of satire in Larissa Fasthorse’s *The Thanksgiving Play*,” Cortney
Smith, Oberlin College, csmith5@oberlin.edu

Panel Chair: John Dowell

1404

Friday 2:15-3:45

Cardinal Creek 1/2

Star Trek

“More than subspace chatter: *Star Trek* fanzines as citizen-led community journalism,” Shanna R.
Gilkeson, Eastern Michigan University, sgilkeso@emich.edu

“*Star Trek*’s campy fans: A look at menagerie and gothic comedy,” Carey Millsap-Spears, Moraine
Valley Community College, millsap-spears@morainevalley.edu

“Dorothy Fontana: The New Jersey ‘secretary’ who co-created *Star Trek*,” Marc DiPaolo, Moraine
Valley Community College, dr.dipaolo@gmail.com

“Infinite diversity, finite whiteness: Managed diversity and the racial politics of futurity in *Starfleet
Academy*,” Julie Snyder-Yuly, Marshall University, snyderyuly@marshall.edu

Panel Chair: Julie Snyder-Yuly

Friday 4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

1501

Friday 4:00-5:30

White River 1

Examining the growth of social media as home of health care information: A case study of the We Do Not Care Club

Panelists: Katherine Denker, Ball State University, kjdenker@bsu.edu; Jennifer Dunn, Dominican University, jdunn@dom.edu; Tasha Dunn, University of Toledo, tasha.dunn@utoledo.edu;

Panel Chair: Kathleen Turner Ledgerwood

1502

Friday 4:00-5:30

Prairie Creek 1

Horror and Science Fiction

“A hand out of the grave: A history of zombies,” Leon Krusemark, William Penn University, Leonkrusemark224@gmail.com

“Imperfect victims, perfect survivors: Rhetorics of victimhood in *The Last House on the Left* (1972, 2009),” Geneveive Newman, Ball State University, geneveive.newman@bsu.edu

“‘Disappearance into artificial survival’: The simulated human in *Black Mirror*,” Lori Cummings, Wayne State College, lonewco1@wsc.edu

Panel Chair: John Dowell

1503

Friday 4:00-5:30

Prairie Creek 2

Politics

“20 years of change ... or not? Looking at how pivotal issues explored in *The West Wing* were viewed then to now,” Joanna Claudy, Trine University, claudyj@trine.edu

“Communication and bias in popular media,” Mia DePriest, Trine University, mdepriest22@my.trine.edu

“Witchcraft en vogue: Popular magic in digital culture,” Michelle Colpean, University of Cincinnati, colpeame@ucmail.uc.edu; Cassidy Ellis, University of Cincinnati, ellis2cd@ucmail.uc.edu

Panel Chair: Scott Owen Chappuis

1504

Friday 4:00-5:30

Cardinal Creek 1/2

Pro Wrestling Studies

“Rikidozan's strange journey from 1950s Japanese nationalist pro wrestling hero to 1990s Korean symbol of capitalist initiative,” William Schwartz, Southern Illinois University, william.schwartzbaringer@siu.edu

“Heil Hogan: Intersections of Deleuzian arborescence and Eco’s *Ur-Fascism* in professional wrestling,” Mike Hagan, University of Louisville, mphaga01@louisville.edu

Panel Chair: Mike Hagan

Friday 5:45 – 7:00 p.m.

Interurban Hall

Featured Speaker: Dr. Monica R. Sandler, Assistant Professor of Film Studies, University of Arkansas

Awards and Reception Immediately Following (Cash Bar)

Saturday, October 10

Saturday 8:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Registration

Interurban Hall

Exhibits

Interurban Lobby

Saturday 9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

2101

Saturday 9:00-10:30

White River 1

History

“‘Speculative children’ and the birth of transnational adoption,” Danielle Glassmeyer, Bradley University, dglassmeyer@bradley.edu

“Heroes or villains?: Women in film noir,” Sage Mullins, Baldwin Wallace University, smullins23@bw.edu

“Fandom as grassroots cultural movement in the ‘long sixties,’ Brian Mullgardt, Millikin University, bmullgardt@millikin.edu

“Cultural heritage as social and environmental advocacy: Imagining alternative futures by reassembling the past and present,” Tom Bowers, Northern Kentucky University, bowerst1@nku.edu

Panel Chair: Tom Bowers

2102

Saturday 9:00-10:30

Prairie Creek 1

Comics

“Of its time and before its time: *Displaced Paranormals* 7 and comic books from the 80s, 90s, and beyond,” Jason Kahler, Independent Scholar, jasonjohnkahler3@gmail.com

“Call her bunny: *Wonder Woman* and *Black Canary Crusade* for women’s rights at the Playboy Bunny Club,” Jennifer Swartz-Levine, Lake Erie College, jswartz@lec.edu

“In search of the superman: Nietzschean philosophy in M. Night Shyamalan’s *Unbreakable*,” Samuel Tucker, Murray State University, thespt13@gmail.com

“*Chainsaw Man*’s critique of the lumpenproletariat,” Logan Spence, Miami University, spencel6@miamioh.edu

Panel Chair: Logan Spence

2103

Saturday 9:00-10:30

Prairie Creek 2

Television

“Follies of the living, concerns of the dead, and other foreign affairs: Gender, sexuality, and Korean representation in seasons 10 & 11 of *M*A*S*H*,” Britt Rhuart, University of New Mexico - Gallup, brhuart@unm.edu; Liz Seung-A Lee, Bowling Green State University, seungal@bgsu.edu

“Monster hunters become monsters,” Thomas Chester, Ivy Tech Community College, tchester1@ivytech.edu

“‘Friends don’t lie’: *IT*, *Stranger Things*, and the horrific truths of childhood imagination,” Lesley Sieger-Walls, University of Missouri-St. Louis, laaky6@umsl.edu

“*Beyond Our Control*: A midwestern marvel,” Christine Becker, University of Notre Dame, cbecker1@nd.edu

Panel Chair: Christine Becker

Saturday 10:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

2201

Saturday 10:45-12:15

White River 1

Is College Sports Still About College?: A Discussion Over The NIL Era and President Trump's 'Saving College Sports' Executive Order

Panelists: Jake Manning, University of Kentucky, jmma386@uky.edu; Zane Dayton, Marshall University, DaytonZ@marshall.edu; Christopher Clements, University of Kentucky, Clements@uky.edu; Eddie Paul, Marshall University, Paul17@marshall.edu

Panel Chair: Jake Manning

2202

Saturday 10:45-12:15

Prairie Creek 1

British Popular Culture

“‘There is something in my house’: Haunted manors and gothic camp in the music video,” Drago Momcilovic, University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee, momcilov@uwm.edu

“The spy and the wild: The concept of nature in Daniel Craig's *James Bond* Movies,” Frauke Thielecke, Washington University St. Louis, f.thielecke@wustl.edu

Panel Chair: Frauke Thielecke

2203

Saturday 10:45-12:15

Prairie Creek 2

New Media

“‘Learn to use doctors, not be used by doctors’: How holistic health influencers build credibility through interdependence on Instagram,” Alexander Tawiah, University of Iowa, alexander-tawiah@uiowa.edu

“AI therapy bot says, ‘how are you feeling today?’: Looking at how AI uses fake empathy in a therapy chat,” Kirstin Pate, Marshall University, pate30@marshall.edu

“Digital paratext documentation and analysis in *Clair Obscur: Expedition 33*,” Indira Neill Hoch, University of the Pacific, ineill@pacific.edu

Panel Chair: Indira Neill Hoch

2204

Saturday 10:45-12:15

Cardinal Creek 1/2

Reality TV and Fan Studies

“*The Golden Bachelor*: A new reality,” Ann Andaloro, Morehead State University, a.andaloro@moreheadstate.edu

“Where do I fit? Examining instances of queer reclamation in *Supernatural* fanfiction,” Liam Cercone, University of Louisville, liam.cercone@louisville.edu

“Controlling the stage: Racialized audience policing in Bad Bunny’s 2026 halftime show,” Sophia Peterson, Ball State University, sophiebelle0311@gmail.com

Panel Chair: Sophia Peterson

2205

Saturday 10:45-12:15

White River 2

Pop-Pourri 2

“Podcasts and politics: How listening habits construct reality,” Lexi Traylor, Ball State University,
lexi.traylor@bsu.edu

“Managing experience: Twilight sleep and the cultural logic of modern life,” Fereshteh Majdi,
Marquette University, Fereshteh.majdi@marquette.edu

“A flock of one’s own: The life and writings of Nancy Luce, Chicken Lady of Martha’s Vineyard,”
Mandy Reid, Indiana State University, mandy.reid@indstate.edu

Panel Chair: Mandy Reid

Saturday 12:30 – 2:00 p.m.

Interurban Hall: Luncheon/Membership Meeting

Saturday 2:15 – 3:45 p.m.

2401

Saturday 2:15-3:45

White River 1

Family

“Grief literacy: Exploring bereavement and perceived peer support amongst college students,” Olivia
Rayson, Trine University, omrayson23@my.trine.edu

“Free to be complicated: Free to be...you and me, children's understanding of gender complexities,
and contradictions in audience reception,” Claire Nistler, DePaul University,
cnistler@depaul.edu

Panel Chair: Scott Owen Chappuis

2403

Saturday 2:15-3:45

Prairie Creek 2

Disability Studies

“Decoding the spectrum: AI in autism,” Kjerstine Dixon, Indiana University East, kjemarti@iu.edu

“Grand-mal or la petit mort: queer crip vampire pleasures and the ‘seizure- orgasm’ in *Carmilla* (1872) and *Nosferatu* (2024),” Corbin Outlaw, University of Illinois Chicago, moutla3@uic.edu

“The ableist empire: Media representations of disability, empire, and revolution in science fiction television of the streaming era,” Luke Van Niel, The Ohio State University, vanniel.5@osu.edu

“(Not) hiding in plain sight: Masking, demi-rhetoricity, and the politics of autistic representation in *Heated Rivalry*,” Sam Kizer, Ohio University, samkizer@ohio.edu

Panel Chair: Sam Kizer

2404

Saturday 2:15-3:45

Cardinal Creek 1/2

Advertising & Public Relations

“Rebuilding after crisis: An analysis of the American Eagle great jeans campaign script,” Valeria A. Ruiz, DePaul University, vrui10@depaul.edu

“The effectiveness of AI influencers in shaping pro-environmental behaviors,” Temilade Adeeko, Penn State University, tia5216@psu.edu

“The lulu-ification of women’s running vlogs,” Delaney Gobel, DePaul University, delaneygobel@gmail.com

Panel Chair: Delaney Gobel

2405

Saturday 2:15-3:45

White River 2

Pop-Pourri 3

“Going beyond wood for sheep: Cooperation mechanisms in competitive board games,” Brendan Riley, Columbia College Chicago, briley@colum.edu

“Unravelling knitting subculture with *Game of Wool*,” Jade Walker, DePaul University, jwalke87@depaul.edu

“Don’t tell me what to read’: Gender and protest in middle-grade and young adult anti-censorship novels,” Jill Treftz, Marshall University, treftz@marshall.edu

Panel Chair: Brendan Riley, briley@colum.edu

Saturday 4:00 – 5:30 p.m.

2501

Saturday 4:00-5:30

White River 1

Workshop: Popular Culture in the Classroom

Pedagogy

Panelists: Jimmie Manning, University of Nevada and Northwestern University, jimmiem@unr.edu; Jennifer Dunn, Dominican University, jdunn@dom.edu; Kathleen Turner Ledgerwood, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, turnerlk@erau.edu; Katherine Denker, Ball State University, kjdenker@bsu.edu

Panel Chair: Jimmie Manning

2502

Saturday 4:00-5:30

Prairie Creek 1

Philosophy in Popular Culture

“Ramones in the realm of platonic realism,” Christopher M. Innes, Boise State University,
cinnes@boisestate.edu

“Idea and obsession, repetition and violence in an alien land,” Tom Duncanson, Green Citizen
Diplomacy Project, tom@tomduncanson.com

“A proper resting place: Communal care and ghost stories,” Eliza Marley, University of Illinois
Chicago (UIC), emarle2@uic.edu

“‘Press X to Shaun’: Anxiety, depression, and panic in video games,” Andrew Black, Murray State
University, ablack9@murraystate.edu

Panel Chair: Andrew Black

2503

Saturday 4:00-5:30

Prairie Creek 2

LGBTQ+ and/in Popular Culture 2

“The representation of male/male sexuality in Boys Love manga published as translations from
(primarily) the publishers suBLime and TokyoPop,” James Drown, University of Illinois at
Chicago, jdrown1@uic.edu

“Trans bodies, video games, and horror narratives,” Artemis Groobert, DePaul University,
Artemis.coto@gmail.com

“Detecting privilege in the *Knives Out* series,” Paul D. Peters, Baldwin Wallace University,
ppeters@bw.edu

Panel Chair: Paul D. Peters

2504

Saturday 4:00-5:30

Cardinal Creek 1/2

Rhetorical Studies

“Predators and little red hoods: A rhetorical metaphor analysis of Lydia the Bard’s ‘Feed Us Your Girls’ music video,” Zoe Pointer, Ball State University, zlpointer@bsu.edu

“Walled-in books: spatializing narratives of the American shopping mall,” Saul Kutnicki, North Central College, sdkutnicki@noctrl.edu

Panel Chair: Saul Kutnicki

Saturday 5:45 – 7:00 p.m.
Interurban Hall

Keynote Speaker: Representatives from The James Dean Museum

Pub Quiz Immediately Following (Cash Bar)

Sunday, October 11

Sunday 8:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Registration

Interurban Hall

Exhibits

Interurban Lobby

Sunday 9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

3101

Sunday 9:00-10:30

White River 1

Adaptations

“Markiplier, *Iron Lung*, and the audience led campaign that left Hollywood gobsmacked,” Tiffany Rogers, Murray State University, trogers22@murraystate.edu

“Making scents of cinema: Olfactory adaptation in the world of niche perfumery,” Jamie Hook, Indiana University, jrhook@iu.edu

“What makes us tick: Mass culture and manufactured rage,” Elizabeth Flesch, DePaul University, eflesch@depaul.edu

“Pennies for thought: Making space for pennies from heaven in the film noir pantheon,” Darryl Clark, Southern Illinois University-Carbondale, darryl.clark@siu.edu

Panel Chair: Darryl Clark

3102

Sunday 9:00-10:30

Prairie Creek 1

Sad Girls

Media and Fan Studies

“Mourning sickness: Between the tragic and the prodigal,” Emerald Vaught, Indiana University,
emvaugh@iu.edu

“‘Sometimes, bad stuff just happens’: Postfeminist recuperation and the Lucretia narrative in *Sorry, Baby*,” Annie Park, Indiana University Bloomington, annipark@iu.edu

“Receiving the last of the bugs: Gendered sadness as cultural object,” G Angel, Indiana University
Bloomington, gaangel@iu.edu

“Did you ever hear about the girl who got frozen? Taylor Swift, the sad girl clock, and politics of
time,” Louise Ferrall, Indiana University Bloomington, lferrall@iu.edu

Panel Chair: Louise Ferrall

3103

Sunday 9:00-10:30

Prairie Creek 2

Environment, Animals, and Climate Change

“Becky Chambers’ *Monk & Robot* and the temporality of optimism,” Amanda Page, Colorado State
University, amanda.page@colostate.edu

“Highway horrors: Midwest roadkill carnage,” Don Corrigan, Webster University - St. Louis,
donzie550@aol.com

Panel Chair: Don Corrigan

3104

Sunday 9:00-10:30

Cardinal Creek 1/2

Television

“Method to his madness: How society's fears throughout history created pop culture's greatest villain, The Joker,” Megan M. Pierce, Manchester University, MMPierce2026@manchester.edu

“Generations of laughter: From *Life with Elizabeth* to *The Golden Girls*,” Jariyah Kimbro, Ball State University, jariyah.kimbrow@bsu.edu

“Playboy’s *Girls Next Door* 20 years later: A feminist media analysis of reality TV memoir and rewatch podcasting post-#MeToo,” Gabrielle Iorio, Penn State University, gabbie@psu.edu

Panel Chair: Gabrielle Iorio

Sunday 10:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

3201

Sunday 10:45-12:15

White River 1

Horror and Science Fiction

“Weird, (usually) low budget water beasts of the 50s and 60s,” Darlene Marie Hall, Lake Erie College, dhall@lec.edu

“Post-horror strange sounds: The sound and music of A24 folk horror films,” Lara R. Hrycaj, Governors State University, lara.hrycaj@gmail.com

“‘To live forever!’: Broadcasting the subject as author in *Ray Bradbury: The Illustrated Man*,” Eric Zobel, Indiana University, gzobel@iu.edu

“‘I’d kill to make a great film again’: Horror filmmaking as auteur damage control,” Joshua Coonrod, Missouri University of Science & Technology, joshuacoonrod@gmail.com

Panel Chair: John Dowell

3202

Sunday 10:45-12:15

Prairie Creek 1

Romancing the Globe: K-drama and the Variety of Romantic Experience

“One among four: Redefining romance in K-drama's 5-person ensembles,” Juliet Tawiah, Northern Illinois University, jtawiah1@niu.edu

“Homoerotic tension in K-drama love triangles and male rivalries,” Bosompemaa Dankwa, Northern Illinois University, bdankwa1@niu.edu

“Mother loves to children in love: K-drama serials *Welcome to Samdal-Ri* and *Love Next Door*,” Beth McGowan, Northern Illinois University, bmcgowan@niu.edu

Panel Chair: Beth McGowan

3203

Sunday 10:45-12:15

Prairie Creek 2

Creative Works

“A hotel room of one’s own: Affect, space, and futurity in Doris Lessing’s *To Room Nineteen* and Miranda July’s *All Fours*,” Kaela Ryan, Bowling Green State University, kcryan@bgsu.edu

“Self-observation: Orson Scott Card’s *Ender’s Game* through Foucault’s panopticon,” Michael Garrett Meyer, Indiana State University, mmeyer15@sycamores.indstate.edu

“*Light Splits Down the Wolf’s Tooth*: A queer reading & craft discussion,” Sarah Sorensen, Wixom Public Library, sarahmsorensen@gmail.com

Panel Chair: Sarah Sorensen

INDEX

Adeeko, Temilade	2404	Ferrall, Louise	3102
Agnoli, Francis M.	1203	Flesch, Elizabeth	3101
Andaloro, Ann	2204	Flook, Chris	1205
Angel, G	3102	Funahashi, Soh	1104
Babiarz-Lira, Allen	1105	Garrett, Michael	3203
Becker, Christine	2103	Gilkeson, Shanna R.	1404
Black, Andrew	2502	Glassmeyer, Danielle	2101
Blauvelt, Aubrie	1304	Gobel, Delaney	2404
Borjas, Denise M.	1304	Godwin, Melva	1402
Bowers, Tom	2101	Groobert, Artemis	2503
Brand, Mark R.	1103, 1305	Hagan, Mike	1504
Brookey, Robert Alan	1303	Hall, Darlene Marie	3201
Brown, Azaria	1202	Hoch, Indira Neill	2203
Cercone, Liam	2204	Hook, Jamie	3101
Chappuis, Scott Owen	1204, 1503, 2401	Hrycaj, Lara R.	3201
Chester, Thomas	2103	Innes, Christopher M.	2502
Chidi-Ogbolu, Onyinyechukwu	1203	Iorio, Gabrielle	3104
Clark, Darryl	3101	Journey, Azariah	1201
Claudy, Joanna	1503	Judon, Tyler	1201
Clements, Christopher	2201	Kahler, Jason	2102
Clopton, Kay	1101	Kenney, Anya	1402
Coletta, Charles A.	1204	Kiddoo, Destiny	1305
Colpean, Michelle	1503	Kimbrow, Jariyah	3104
Coonrod, Josh	1402, 3201	Kizer, Sam	2403
Cornelius, Joshua	1202	Krusemark, Leon	1502
Corrigan, Don	1305, 3103	Kutnicki, Saul	2504
Cummings, Lori	1502	Largent Kuttler, Julia	1305
Damitz, Hyacinthe	1301	Lee, Jenn	1403
Dankwa, Bosompemaa	3202	Lee, Liz Seung-A	2103
Dayton, Zane	2201	Lowe, Matt	1102
Denker, Katherine	1501, 2501	Lumpkin, Cody	1203
DePriest, Mia	1503	Majdi, Fereshteh	2205
DiPaolo, Marc	1404	Manning, Jake	2201
Dixon, Kjerstine	2403	Manning, Jimmie	2501
Donnelly, Michael	1202	Marley, Eliza	2502
Dowell, John	1403, 1502, 3201	Martin, Spencer	1401
Dreyer, Courtney	1201	Martino, Maria M.	1305
Drown, Jim	1305, 2503	McGowan, Beth	3202
Duncanson, Tom	2502	Mendoza, Madelyn	1102
Dungy, Maati K.	1202	Michon, Darci	1201
Dunn, Jennifer	1501, 2501	Miller, Nicholas	1301
Dunn, Tasha	1501	Millsap-Spears, Carey	1404
Edwards, Leigh H.	1204	Momcilovic, Drago	2202
		Moser, Hannah	1304
		Mullgardt, Brian	2101

Mullins, Sage	2101	Shetye, Akash	1303
Newman, Geneveive	1502	Shiller, Beth	1103
Nistler, Claire	2401	Sieger-Walls, Lesley	2103
Outlaw, Corbin	2403	Smelser, Amy	1105
Page, Amanda	3103	Smith, Cortney	1403
Park, Annie	3102	Snyder-Yuly, Julie	1404
Park, Wesley	1402	Sorensen, Sarah	3203
Pate, Kirstin	2203	Spence, Logan	2102
Paul, Eddie	2201	Stoots, Cole	1102
Peters, Paul D.	2503	Swartz-Levine, Jennifer	2102
Peterson, Brian	1204	Tawiah, Alexander	2203
Peterson, Sophia	2204	Tawiah, Juliet	3202
Petrovic Garcia, Ines	1105	Thielcke, Frauke	2202
Pierce, Megan M.	3104	Thomas-Woods, Renee	1103
Pike, Betsy	1205, 1303	Thompson, Tom	1101
Pointer, Zoe	2504	Traylor, Lexi	2205
Race, Emily	1401	Treftz, Jill	2405
Rayson, Olivia	2401	Tucker, Samuel	2102
Reid, Mandy	2205	Turner Ledgerwood, Kathleen	1501, 2501
Rhuart, Britt	2103	Urbina, Aleah	1402
Riley, Brendan	2405	Van Dongen, Max	1205
Roberts, Heather	1104	Van Niel, Luke	2403
Robison, Jonathan	1301	Vaught, Emerald	3102
Rogers, Tiffany	3101	Walker, Jade	2405
Ruiz, Valeria A.	2404	Wanat, Matt	1104
Ryan, Kaela	3203	Wright, Samantha Allen	1103
Sandler, Monica	1205	Wright, Wilton S.	1103
Schlotterbeck, Jesse	1402	Zak, Elizabeth	1204
Schwartz, William	1504	Zobel, Eric	3201