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SUMMER 2008



The South Central Modern Language Association
Affiliated with the Modern Language Association of America

THE SOUTH CENTRAL MODERN LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION

SOUTH CENTRAL NEWSLETTER

San Antonio Convention News

The 65th annual SCMLA convention will be held at the **Sheraton Gunter** in **San Antonio, Texas**. Close to the border between Mexico and the United States, San Antonio offers a fitting venue for discussions that cross borders in the many fields that SCMLA members represent: languages, literatures, linguistics, cultural studies, theory, etc., and many sessions address this theme. While “borders,” this year’s theme, can represent current political debates on immigration, security, boundaries, and division, the theme also covers more expansive definitions. Not only do borders divide, but they can also unite and hinge together two separate areas or topics. They conjure up images of passage, embarkation, arrival, new challenges, and interchange, as well as blending, blurring, being “on edge,” “on the fringe,” and “in the margins,” to name only a few of the ways that borders affect us.

The department of English and Communication Arts and the department of Languages at **St. Mary’s University** as well as the department of Modern Languages and Literatures at the **University of Texas-**

San Antonio will host the gathering. Highlights will include the plenary address by **Naomi Shihab Nye** on Friday, November 7 at 5:45pm, entitled “Language as Gravity: We Have No Borders When We Read.” Nye has been a Lannan Fellow, a Guggenheim Fellow, and a Witter Bynner Fellow (Library of Congress). She is the author of *19 Varieties of Gazelle: Poems of the Middle East*, *Honeybee*, a book of poetry for young adults, was published in March 2008. **Arturo Madrid**, the Murchison Distinguished Professor of Humanities at Trinity University, San Antonio, will give Thursday afternoon’s 6:00 keynote before the SCMLA Social, which starts at 7:00.

The Sheraton Gunter will provide space for 69 regular and allied sessions as well as 25 special sessions. Registration packets will arrive in late August or early September and will include hotel reservation information as well as the conference registration form that will allow you to reserve your space at receptions, breakfasts, luncheons, and socials. However, members will be able to register, pay dues, vote, and make hotel reservations on-line.

Find links and more information on how to **pay by credit card** on page 6 and on-line at www.ou.edu/scmla. If you would like to contact the Sheraton, Gunter in San Antonio before you receive the registration information, call (888)-999-2089 and ask for the SCMLA rate (\$139 single & double.)

We look forward to welcoming you to San Antonio and to a stimulating convention this year!

Reminder:

All SCMLA Conference Paper Prize submissions are due on **September 1, 2008**. For more information please visit www.ou.edu/scmla

Paper Prizes:

- *Historical Literary and/or Cultural Studies*
- *Hispanic Gender Studies*

Please mail four (4) copies to SCMLA, University of Oklahoma, 104 Fourth Street, Baker, B64, Norman, OK 73019-6410.

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2008 San Antonio Plenary Speaker-Naomi Shihab Nye



Naomi Shihab Nye grew up in St. Louis, Jerusalem, and San Antonio and has traveled the United States and the world leading writing workshops and inspiring students. Her books of poetry include *19 Varieties of Gazelle: Poems of the Middle East*, *A Maze Me: Poems for Girls*, *Red Suitcase*, *Words Under the Words*, *Fuel* and *You & Yours*. Her other works include prize-winning poetry anthologies for young readers, including *This Same Sky*, *The Space Between Our Footstep*, and *Poems & Paintings from the Middle East*. A book of poetry for young adults entitled *Honeybee* was published earlier this year.

Naomi Shihab Nye has been a Lannan Fellow, a Guggenheim Fellow, and a Witter Bynner Fellow (Library of Congress). She has received a Lavan Award from the Academy of American Poets, the Isabella Gardner Poetry Award, the Lee Bennett Hopkins Poetry Award, the Paterson Poetry Prize, four Pushcart Prizes, and numerous honors for her children's literature, including two Jane Addams Children's Book Awards. Her collection *19 Varieties of Gazelle* was a finalist for the National Book Award. She is a regular columnist for *Organica* and poetry editor for *The Texas Observer*. Her work has been presented on National Public Radio's *A Prairie Home Companion* and *The Writer's Almanac*. She has been featured on two PBS poetry specials: *The Language of Life with Bill Moyers* and *The United States of Poetry*. She has also appeared on *NOW with Bill Moyers*.

Nye will give the Plenary Address at the SCMLA conference in San Antonio at the Gunter Hotel on Friday, November 7, 2008 at 5:45 p.m

Convention Socials & Opportunities

French, German, & Spanish Receptions

Once again there will be a French, German, and Spanish reception on Friday afternoon from 4:00-5:30. The French, German, and Spanish representatives will host the reception for members to share ideas and information pertinent to their disciplines. Please mark your registration form in the convention packet to participate.

Breakfasts

The **South Central College English Association (SCCEA)** and the **Women's Caucus** will hold professional breakfasts on Friday and Saturday mornings. The Women's Caucus will meet on Friday at 7:30am and the SCCEA will meet Saturday at 7:45am. Please pre-register on your convention registration form to participate.

Mock Job Interviews

The workshop for academic jobseekers that provides informal advising and mock interviews will be **Saturday morning, November 8, 2008**. The workshop is sponsored by the **South Central Association of Departments of Foreign Languages and Departments of English**. If you are interested in scheduling a mock interview, contact Grady C. Wray, SCMLA Executive Director, at scmla@ou.edu. Volunteers may also be needed to conduct the interviews. Volunteer by contacting scmla@ou.edu.

SCMLA 2008 Conference Paper Prizes

Deadline: September 1, 2008

Members with appropriate papers scheduled for the Fall 2008 conference are encouraged to compete for our two conference paper prizes, jointly sponsored by the SCMLA. Please submit your paper to: SCMLA, U of Oklahoma, 104 Fourth Street, Baker House B46, Norman, OK 73019-6410 by **September 1, 2008**. For more information on all SCMLA prizes go to: www.ou.edu/scmla/grants.html

Historical Literary and/or Cultural Studies / \$250

Bill L. and Gerre D. Andrist Hispanic Gender Studies Prize / \$750 in 2008

2008 Sustaining Departmental Members

SCMLA is proud to announce its Sustaining Departmental Members for 2008. If your university is not listed here, please contact SCMLA@ou.edu or www.ou.edu/scmla to become a member.

Louisiana State U (Foreign Languages & Literatures)

Midwestern State U (Foreign Languages)

Southwestern Oklahoma State U (Language Arts)

St. Mary's U (English and Communication Studies)

St. Mary's U (Languages)

U of Oklahoma (English)

U of Oklahoma (Modern Languages, Literatures, & Linguistics)

U of Texas - Austin (Germanic Studies)

U of Texas - San Antonio (Modern Languages and Literatures)

U of Tulsa (English)

Xavier U of Louisiana (English)

SCMLA Deadlines 2008-2009

SEPTEMBER 2008

01 Deadline for SCMLA office receipt of **2008 Conference Paper Prize** submissions.

OCTOBER 2008

06 Deadline for SCMLA office receipt of **2008 convention pre-registration and ballots**.

06 Deadline for **2008 convention hotel reservations** at the Sheraton Gunter, San Antonio.

NOVEMBER 2008

21 Deadline for SCMLA office receipt of **items to be included in the Winter Newsletter**, including Regular/Allied and Special Session Calls for Papers for 2009.

JANUARY 2009

20 Nominations/Self nominations for SCMLA officers and representatives to F. Blackwell.

FEBRUARY 2009

02 Deadline for **Humanities Research Center/SCMLA award**. Apply directly to the HRC. See Grant / Award information at www.ou.edu/scmla.

20 Deadline for receipt of **SCMLA Research and Travel Award** and the **Graduate Student Grant** applications to the SCMLA office.

20 Deadline for SCMLA office receipt of **Final Proposals for Special Sessions**, Baton Rouge.

MARCH 2009

01 Deadline for application for **Newberry Library/SCMLA award**. Apply directly to the Newberry Library. See Grant / Award information at www.ou.edu/scmla.

27 Proposers of approved Special Sessions will be notified.

27 Deadline for receipt of **Book Prize** nominations.

27 Deadline for submission of **Papers/ Abstracts for Baton Rouge 2009** to Regular/Allied Session Chairs.

APRIL 2009

10 Deadline for SCMLA office receipt of **Final Program copy** for all 2009 sessions.

10 Deadline for requesting **audio-visual equipment** for Baton Rouge 2009.

MAY 2009

22 Deadline for **2010 Special Session Calls for Papers** for inclusion in the Summer Newsletter.

22 Deadline for SCMLA office receipt of items to be included in the **Summer Newsletter**.

22 Deadline for 2009 convention participants to **become members of SCMLA**.

Executive Committee Elections 2008 & 2009 Nominations

The Fall Convention Packet will include a ballot and information on the candidates for Executive Committee Officers and Consulting Editors for the *South Central Review*. Ballots must be received by October 6, 2008 in order to be counted. You may also cast your vote on-line at www.ou.edu/scmla. The candidates are as follows:

Vice President:

- Deborah Arteaga-Capen
- Karin Schestokat

Russian and Other Less Commonly Taught Languages Representative:

- Luciano Namorato
- Mara Sukholutskaya

Spanish Representative:

- Lucero Tenorio
- Sharon Ugalde

Consulting Editors:

- David McWhirter (American Literature) *Texas A&M University*
- Ryan Long (Spanish) *University of Oklahoma*
- Mary Ann Garnett (French) *University of Arkansas-Little Rock*

Members are invited to submit nominations and self-nominations for the 2010 election of an At-Large Representative, the English

Representative, the German Representative, and the Vice President. Candidates for these positions should be ready to serve three-year terms and to meet twice a year, in the spring (in February or March) and on the first day of the fall convention. Executive Committee members are required to serve on various subcommittees. Expenses associated with the Spring Meeting, if held, are paid for by the Association. Expenses for the fall meeting must be paid for by the member or the member's institution. Nominations/Self-nominations should be accompanied by a brief curriculum vitae (max. 4 pages). Send by January 20, 2009 to Frieda H. Blackwell, Baylor U, One Bear Place 97344, Waco, TX 76798.

Nominations for Life & Honorary Members

If you would like to nominate someone for an SCMLA Life or Honorary Membership, please contact:

Marita Nummikoski, University of Texas-San Antonio, Dept of Modern Languages, Literatures, & Linguistics, San Antonio, TX 78249-0644

Congratulations to the newest SCMLA Life Member!

Dr. Thomas Bonner
Department of English
Xavier University of Louisiana

Future Conventions

2008

San Antonio

Texas

November 6 - 8

Sheraton Gunter

Hotel

2009

Baton Rouge

Louisiana

October 28 - 31

Hilton Baton Rouge

Capitol Center

Awards

Available Prizes for 2009

- 2 Research Abroad Awards
- Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center/SCMLA Award
- Graduate student Award
- Newberry Library/SCMLA Award
- SCMLA Book Award
- Kirby Award

Please check the website at www.ou.edu/scmla for more information on these awards.

2008 Prize Winners

Emily Johnson
U of Oklahoma
Research Abroad Award

Raymond-Jean Frontain
U of Central Arkansas
HRHRC/SCMLA Award

Justin R. Tremel
U of Texas-Austin
Graduate Student Grant

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Call for Special Sessions - Baton Rouge 2009

South Central Modern Language Association Call for Special Sessions - Baton Rouge, Louisiana 2009 Theme: "Continuity and Displacements"

The SCMLA invites Special Session proposals for its 66th annual convention in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, October 29 - 31, 2009 at the Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center. You may focus on the conference theme -- "Continuity and Displacements" -- but proposals on any topic are welcome.

No state felt the devastating effects of Hurricane Katrina more than Louisiana, especially in the city of New Orleans. Out of the destruction have come many changes, including displacements, diasporas, ruptures, and the erasure of communities and cultural elements. However, much rebuilding and picking up the pieces has also occurred, with those affected by the storm adapting to new circumstances in which they maintain continuities in their heritage and their lives. What happens to people and cultures also occurs in the parallel lives of literatures and languages, in which tradition and habit are struck by the storms of change and innovation and yet manage to survive, and even to prosper, by incorporating the new in the old. Come join us at SCMLA to consider our disciplines in light of the Louisiana experience.

To propose a Special Session, you must be an SCMLA member in good standing; to issue a Call for Papers, return this form to the SCMLA office by **November 21, 2008 for posting in the Special Sessions Call for Papers section of the Winter 2008 Newsletter**. We will continue to post "Calls" on our website as they are received. The "Due Date" indicates the date by which you would like to receive abstracts or papers for consideration; please keep the final proposal deadline (February 20, 2009) in mind when choosing a due date. **Please note you may also submit proposals by email to scmla@ou.edu.**

Return Call to: SCMLA, U of Oklahoma, 104 Fourth Street, Baker, B47 Norman, OK 73019-6410; Phone: (405) 325-6011; FAX: (405) 325-3720; Email: scmla@ou.edu

Session Title _____

Description (limit to 30 words) _____

Papers Required or Abstracts Required ? **Word Limit** _____ **Due Date** _____

Proposer Name _____

School _____ **Department** _____

Address (to where paper abstracts should be sent) _____

City _____ **State** _____ **Zip** _____ **Phone** _____

Email Address _____ **Alternate email address (if any)** _____

Proposers of Special Sessions (but not Regular Sessions) may read in their session. No one may present more than one paper or chair more than one session at the conference.

Upon receipt of the Call for Papers Form, you will be sent a Final Special Session Proposal Form, to be returned by **February 20, 2009**. Completed panels, whether or not they are listed in the Call for Papers, must be submitted on an SCMLA Special Session form by **February 20, 2009**. This Special Session form will include a detailed description of your panelists' papers. These proposal forms will be refereed by the SCMLA Program Committee. Organizers of Special Sessions accepted for Baton Rouge 2009 will be notified in March 2009.

Online Registration for San Antonio and Membership Payment

SAVE TIME, REGISTER FOR SAN ANTONIO 2008 AND PAY 2009 DUES ON-LINE

Beginning in July, you will be able to register for the Memphis convention and pay your membership dues on-line.

You can pay for the following on-line via www.ou.edu/scmla:

San Antonio 2008

- Conference registration
- Conference meals including the Friday business luncheon, the Women's Caucus breakfast and the SCCEA breakfast

Calendar Year 2009

- 2009 Membership Dues

You will also be able to vote for new executive committee members. For a minimal credit card fee and processing fee, you will not have to wait for the pre-convention mailing to send a check to the SCMLA for 2008 conference registration and 2009 membership. Also, there will be a link to the convention hotel for you to make your on-line hotel room reservation.

If you would like to continue to pay as you have in the past, you will still have the option of pre-registering for San Antonio 2008 and paying 2009 dues by sending a check to the SCMLA offices at the U of Oklahoma. Hard copies of the conference registration form will be sent to paid members in August, and pre-convention registration will be accepted until October 6, 2008. Members will also receive a reminder email in July from the SCMLA office with instructions on how to register for San Antonio 2008 on-line.

To pay by credit card go to:

www.ou.edu/scmla

To pay by check send registration forms after August to:

Diana L. Hodges
SCMLA, U of Oklahoma,
104 Fourth Street, Baker House B46
Norman, OK 73019-6410

San Antonio Information

Shuttle/Taxi Service

TAXI CAB SERVICE TO/FROM AIRPORT : Taxi cabs are available at the lower level curbside, outside of baggage claim, at Terminal 1 and at the front curbside of Terminal 2 just outside baggage claim. For assistance, please contact the Airport Ground Transportation Agent wearing an airport badge. One-way fare to the San Antonio downtown area is approximately \$20 to \$22 (U.S.) per taxicab.

Yellow Cab Service: 210/222-2222

United Cab 210/444-2222

National Cab Company: 210/434-4444

AAA Taxi 210/222-2223

San Antonio Taxis: 210/444-2222

Armadillo Cab 210/558-3535

Events in San Antonio during our stay:

Mexico at the Museo at the Museo Alameda, 101 South Santa Rosa, San Antonio 210/299-4300
www.thealameda.org

San Antonio New World Wine and Food Festival, www.newworldwinefood.org

For more information about San Antonio: www.visitsanantonio.com

Convention Hotel Information

Sheraton Gunter Hotel San Antonio, Texas

ROOM RESERVATIONS

Call 210-227-3241 or 888-999-2089

**Reservation Code: SCMLA
(Please use this code in order to obtain the special SCMLA rate)**

SCMLA Convention Reservation

DeadlineDate:

OCTOBER 06, 2008

All conference participants must reserve their rooms with the Sheraton Gunter by the above date in order to receive the conference rate of **\$139 single/double** per night.

****Pre-convention packets with conference registration materials will be mailed to members in August****

**You may register on-line at
www.ou.edu/scmla**



Pictured above:

The Sheraton Gunter Hotel
205 East Houston Street
San Antonio, Texas 78205
Website: www.gunterhotel.com.

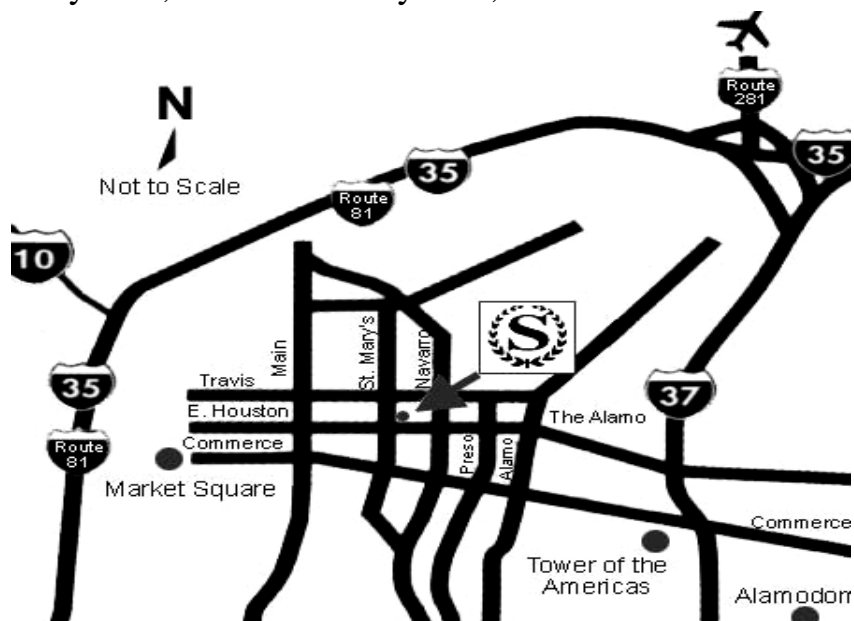


Directions to the Sheraton Gunter by car

1-10 East: Exit Durango left to Santa Rosa, left on Santa Rosa to Travis, right on Travis to St. Mary's, right on St. Mary's, the hotel's entrance is on the left.

1-37 North: Exit Commerce St., left on Commerce to Navarro, right on Navarro to Travis, left on Travis to St. Mary's St., left on St. Mary's St., the hotel's entrance is on the left.

1-37 South: Exit Commerce St., right on Commerce to Navarro, right on Navarro to Travis, left on Travis to St. Mary's St., left on St. Mary's St., the hotel's entrance is on the left.



THE SOUTH CENTRAL MODERN LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION

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**[[http://www.ou.edu/
scmla](http://www.ou.edu/scmla)]**