

# ***NUCL***

## ***2022***

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

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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

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## 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***

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

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

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

Moderator: Claire Mueller

#### **Franz 217**

Ella Sohn  
Jesuit High School

Nikola Zupcic  
Jesuit High School

Shreya Kaushik  
Jesuit High School

#### 5. **Consuming Gender Politics: Food and Feminism**

Changing the Narrative: Literary Representations  
of Disordered Eating

Consumption and Feminism in *The Edible Woman*

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

Moderator: Janea Melido

#### **Franz 231**

Lilly Grey Rudge  
University of Portland

Mia Tierney  
University of Portland

Dalton Sikes  
Pacific University

## **SESSION II      11:00 – 12:15**

### 1. **Original Poetry: NUCL in Verse**

The Sound Just Below the Sound

Bloom & Burn

indulging the poet

Intimacy

From One to Another

Moderator: Sadie Wuertz

#### **Franz 206**

Nate Metz  
Santa Clara University

Trinity Herr  
Western Oregon University

Alaya Mays  
Western Washington  
University

Kaya Heimowitz  
University of Puget Sound

Nicole Harris  
Whitworth University

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

**CLOSING RECEPTION**

**4:15-4:45**

**Franz Hall Lobby**

## FACULTY SPONSORS OF NUCL PARTICIPANTS

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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  
Kirk Glaser, Santa Clara University  
Dorothy Hale, University of California, Berkeley  
Fr. Pat Hannon, University of Portland  
Desiree Hellegers, Washington State University  
Cara Hersh, University of Portland  
Henry Hughes, Western Oregon University  
Merose Hwang, Hiram College  
Jennifer James, Pacific Lutheran University  
Monika Kaup, University of Washington  
Kate Koppelman, Seattle University  
William Kupinse, University of Puget Sound  
Laura Laffrado, Western Washington University  
Laurie Lamon, Whitworth University  
Megan Mathes, Jesuit High School  
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](mailto: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

