

THE COLLEGE LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION



www.clascholars.org

January 31, 2017

Dear CLA members:

Working together with our English Area Representative Jervette Ward, our World Language Representative Matthew Pettway, and our CLA President Clément Akassi, we have arranged what promises to be a stimulating and memorable CLA Convention in Columbia, Missouri! We are excited to welcome new participants, ranging from undergraduates (the future of the CLA) through professors attending for the first time. We are delighted to welcome back our life members and active supporters. We look forward to greeting many of the Past Presidents of the College Language Association as we celebrate our 80th anniversary. Thus, whether this will be your first CLA or your second or your “I stopped counting” convention, we look forward to greeting you in Columbia.

In this 50th anniversary of the passing of Langston Hughes, we have events to remember the life and work of this prolific author, including a performance at the luncheon on 4/6. To celebrate our banquet speaker, Jamaica Kincaid, we have a number of papers being presented. Colleagues from around the world are scheduled to present papers exploring language and literature in rich and illuminating ways. We anticipate at least three sessions focusing on the digital humanities. This convention will be full of enriching intellectual opportunities and warm collegiality.

The University of Missouri is rolling out the red carpet to welcome us, and faculty from “Mizzou” are participating throughout the convention. Our hotel, the Stoney Brook, offers free wi-fi in guest rooms and free a-v connections in our meeting rooms, so you can show those visual images to enhance your presentations! With an affordable conference rate of \$89, we invite you to come early and stay late! Just remember to take into account your travel time, if you are flying, since Columbia is a smaller airport and may require a change of planes or a shuttle service (from a larger airport such as St. Louis or Kansas City).

We look forward to seeing a large reunion of our CLA veterans and a great arrival of first time participants. See you in Columbia!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Donna Akiba Sullivan Harper".

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Founded in 1937