

THE COLLEGE LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION



www.clascholars.org

August 4, 2017

Dear College Language Association Members:

I am pleased to announce that April 4-7, 2018, the College Language Association (CLA) will be celebrating its 78th Convention, "Native Sons/Daughters and Immigrants in the Black Metropolis," hosted by DePaul University, in Chicago, Illinois.

The CLA Executive Committee hopes that you had a good summer season, and we are delighted to share with you the exciting summer (snail and digitized) mailing, including, but not limited to, the posters for CLA's Call for Papers, the Study Abroad Award, the Creative Writing Contest, and the First-Time Attendee Fee Waivers announcement. Several CLA members expressed their willingness to donate for such a fee waivers. Indeed, we are forever thankful, and we are inviting you to also consider donating to a probable cause as we continue to grow through membership. You may donate, which counts as a tax write off, by contacting the CLA Treasurer at treasurer@clascholars.org.

The 80th anniversary celebration of our organization this year was humbling for the invaluable legacy of the "giant" founders, past presidents, and for the ongoing challenges. In this regard, we recently appointed a CLA Public Relations Director, so that we can continue serving (and recruiting) efficiently a growing and diverse constituency. As a result, we are proposing to have an electronic form for your proposal submissions for the 2018 CLA Conference in Chicago. In addition, we will Livestream (Live Recording) on Facebook some critical events, including the Banquet's Keynote Speech, which will be posted on YouTube as well. We will also continue our efforts to increase our current and remarkable presence on social media.

This fall, as you prepare to submit your proposals electronically, please, fill the e-form with your updated institution and email: it will help to build an online CLA's directory; and to send to you, among others, the CLA's announcements, your submission responses, the *CLAJ* information, and the post-convention survey form.

Regarding, our website (www.clascholars.org), it will continue to grant you the opportunity to join CLA or renew your membership; and to apply as potential host for our annual convention at your home institution, along with the responsibilities that such an application entails.

For the 2018 CLA Convention, we will continue our commitment to the internationalization of our organization, making it increasingly accessible to a global and diverse membership through translation (in French, German, Portuguese and Spanish) and wide distribution.

In the spirit of globalization and ethics of responsibility, the College Language Association, our organization, stands for "No Wall Against Immigration," because Immigration reaffirms the Human Right to seek for dignity anywhere human kind inhabits—unless the secular fraternity was claimed only for a particular kind of human being. You are thus invited to attend and participate actively in the panels and special sessions related to the 2018 CLA's general theme, "Native Sons/Daughters and Immigrants in the Black Metropolis."

Please, feel free to share the 2018 CLA's Call for Papers with colleagues, students, and friends, and note that moving forward, we will launch in summer 2018 a digitized summer mailing so that CLA will continue to go paperless.

Sincerely,

Mo (in Agni, my African Language),

Atentamente,

Bien cordialement,

Atenciosamente,

Hochachtungsvoll,

Clément Animan Akassi, Ph.D.

CLA President

Founded in 1937