About Convention Locations

Convention sessions take place in the New York Hilton Midtown and the Sheraton New York Times Square. Both hotels' back entrances are across 53rd Street from each other. The MLA registration and welcome center, PubCentral, exhibit hall, and MLA Career Center are located in the Hilton.

Delegate Assembly Agenda

At this year’s meeting, the Delegate Assembly will consider regular staff and committee reports on association activities, special reports from the Ad Hoc Committee on Advocacy Policies and Procedures and the Elections Committee, proposed constitutional amendments, and proposals received from members, if any. Information on these agenda items can be accessed at the MLA Web site (www.mla.org/da-agenda-18).

Since the 1 October deadline for submitting motions and regular resolutions has passed, only emergency resolutions may be added to the assembly’s agenda. Members may submit emergency resolutions to the chair of the Delegate Assembly Organizing Committee up to twenty-four hours before the start of the assembly meeting. The last opportunity for submitting an emergency resolution comes at the Open Hearing on Resolutions at the convention (session 285). Please see the second section in “Checklists for Submitting Resolutions” (www.mla.org/Checklists-for-Submitting-Resolutions) for information on submission requirements.

The assembly meeting will begin at 12:30 p.m. on Saturday, 6 January, in East Ballroom in the Hilton (third floor). Members may address the assembly on any of the issues on the assembly’s agenda. Because the assembly meeting is open-ended, latecomers will have a chance to join in important discussions of association policies.

The open hearings and the assembly meeting are open only to MLA members and accredited journalists. Please remember to wear your badge.

Guest Passes to Sessions

MLA members and all others in the profession that the MLA serves are required to register in order to participate in or attend sessions. A convention speaker may obtain a pass for a guest who has no professional interest in language or literature to hear a presentation by that speaker. The speaker must request the pass at the MLA registration and welcome center on the day of the session, before the center closes. Passes may not be requested by guests of speakers or by MLA members who have not registered for the convention.

Event Highlights: 4 January

MLA Advocacy Tables

Take a few minutes between sessions to write a postcard to Congress and urge its members to support humanities education. The MLA’s new advocacy site, the MLA Action Network (action.mla.org), will be sponsoring three advocacy tables (Hilton, Promenade, second and third floors; Sheraton, second floor). Craft your own message or send a preprinted postcard.

94. Research and the MLA International Bibliography: From Scholarly Insecurities to Published Citations
3:30–4:45 p.m., Hilton, Gibson, second floor

Join MLA International Bibliography staff members for a discussion that explores how the bibliography has reflected and responded to “scholarly insecurities” of the past and what this might tell us about potential strategies in confronting the insecurities of the present.

156. The MLA International Bibliography as an Active Archive: Knowledge Creation for the Twenty-First Century
5:15–6:30 p.m., Hilton, Gibson, second floor

The MLA International Bibliography is an active archive and knowledge-creation mechanism, exposing trends in scholarship and reshaping categories. Panelists discuss the dynamic, creative, and democratic processes that inform the collection and harvesting of international language arts scholarship.

Cultural Excursions: 4 January

For questions or cancellations, visit the MLA membership desk (Hilton, Promenade, second floor). 4:00–6:00 p.m.

10:00 a.m.–12:00 noon. Morgan Library and Museum
11:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m. New York Society Library
1:30–3:30 p.m. The National Museum of the American Indian
6:00–8:30 p.m. Tenement Museum Tour and Reception

Convention App and Online Program. Download the MLA 2018 app to create your own convention schedule, be alerted to session updates, learn about exhibitors, and have easy access to session information, maps, and other convention details. A searchable program for the convention is also available online (mla.confex.com/mla/2018/meetingapp.cgi).

The Convention Daily is published three times during the convention and is available free at the MLA registration and welcome center, the headquarters offices, and various other locations. Two more issues will appear, on Friday, 5 January, and on Saturday, 6 January.
MLA PubCentral

Hilton, Rhinelander Gallery, second floor
5–6 January, 9:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m.
7 January, 9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.

Visit MLA PubCentral for everything related to MLA publications. Shop for MLA products at the booth, explore the MLA International Bibliography and its tutorials, learn about Humanities Commons and the Commons Open Repository Exchange (CORE), and browse the winners of MLA’s publication prizes all in one central location. Everyone is welcome to stop by and spin our prize wheel at the MLA Bibliography table to win free gifts!

MLA Style Help

On 6 January, MLA editors will lead two workshops (sessions 525 and 589) on using the MLA Handbook to document sources and credit the work of others. Both sessions are suitable for librarians and teachers as well as for students at all levels.

MLA Books

Browse a wide variety of MLA books at PubCentral starting at 9:00 a.m. on 5 January. All MLA titles ordered at the booth will be discounted 30% throughout the convention. Stop by for a wine reception beginning at 4:30 p.m. on 5 January to celebrate new titles released by the MLA in 2017.

MLA International Bibliography

Staff members from the MLA International Bibliography will be on hand to show tutorial videos, discuss new teaching tools and instructor guides, and demonstrate using CORE to share lesson plans and BibLink to update your ORCID profile.

2017 MLA Prize Winners

All the 2017 MLA-prize-winning books will be on display, and a video will feature material from the winners. The awards will be presented at the MLA Awards Ceremony (session 706), 6 January, 7:00 p.m., Hilton, West Ballroom, third floor.

MLA Commons

Visit the MLA Commons area at PubCentral to update your MLA Commons profile; learn about the Humanities Commons, the new interdisciplinary network for anyone working in the humanities; and find out the advantages of making your work openly available with the Commons Open Repository Exchange (CORE). Join staff members on 5 January for a session on using Humanities Commons to enhance your professional online presence (session 362).

Twitter

Follow @MLAconvention on Twitter and tweet sessions using the convention hashtag (#mla18) and session hashtags (e.g., #s441).

Exhibit Hall

Remember to wear your badge!

Two locations in the Hilton:

- Rhinelander Gallery (100s), second floor
- Americas I (200s, 300s, and 400s), third floor

5–6 January: 9:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m.
7 January: 9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.

Download the MLA 2018 app for exhibitor details. Pick up a copy of the exhibit hall floor plan or the Convention Guide for an updated listing of exhibitors. Admission to the exhibit hall is restricted to persons wearing badges or carrying appropriate passes.

Professional Head Shots

Come to the exhibit hall for your complimentary professional head shot. The photographer will be available Friday, 5 January, and Saturday, 6 January, from 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Visit the Bedford / St. Martin’s exhibit booth (200 and 201) in Americas I to sign up.

Friday, 5 January

9:30 a.m.–5:00 p.m. Bedford / St. Martin’s (booths 200 and 201, Americas I, third floor). Sign up for your complimentary professional head shot.
11:40 a.m. Cambria Press (booth 101, Rhinelander Gallery, second floor). Meet Christopher Lupke, author of The Sinophone Cinema of Hou Hsiao-hsien, for a Q&A.
3:00 p.m. Bloomsbury Publishing (booths 137, 138, 139, Rhinelander Gallery, second floor). Bloomsbury celebrates the award-winning books Ecocriticism and Italy and Viktor Shklovsky: A Reader with a wine reception.
4:30–5:30 p.m. Princeton University Press (booth 122, Rhinelander Gallery, second floor). Attend a reception to celebrate this year’s award winners and meet Princeton’s authors.

Saturday, 6 January

9:30 a.m.–5:00 p.m. Bedford / St. Martin’s (booths 200 and 201, Americas I, third floor). Sign up for your complimentary professional head shot.
3:00 p.m. Bloomsbury Publishing (booths 137, 138, 139, Rhinelander Gallery, second floor). William Germano will be signing copies of his new book, Eye Chart, at the Bloomsbury booth.
2018 Program Update

The following list includes changes in meeting times and locations, speakers (and their presentation titles and affiliations) who joined the MLA or who agreed to speak at a session after the 7 April deadline for inclusion in the Program, and other corrections. The list does not announce speaker cancellations. Program updates are subject to the approval of the MLA staff; please stop by the headquarters office in the Sheraton New York (Bryant Park, lower level) or write to updates2018@mla.org with any changes.

Thursday, 4 January

16. Digital Humanities in Practice: Caribbean Models
   [new location]
   12:00 noon–1:15 p.m., Sutton North, Hilton

26. Fake News
   12:00 noon–1:15 p.m., Gibson, Hilton
   Presiding: Anne-Hélène M. Miller, U of Tennessee, Knoxville

47. A Tool Kit for Doctoral Student Career Planning
   1:45–3:00 p.m., Murray Hill East, Hilton
   Presiding: Stacy Hartman, MLA
   Additional speaker: Stacy Hartman

51. 1618–2018: Remembering the Thirty Years’ War
   1:45–3:00 p.m., Concourse F, Hilton
   Presiding: James A. Parente, U of Minnesota, Twin Cities

Using Your Language Proficiency and Cultural Expertise in a Federal Government Career

3:00–5:00 p.m., Sutton North, Hilton
MLA Career Center
Presiding: Jill Sandler, Office of the Director of National Intelligence
Speakers: Richard Donovan, Defense Language Inst.; Donald Gentile, Office of the Director of National Intelligence; Christine Healy-Rendell, National Language Service Corps; Roy Savoy, Defense Language and National Security Education Office; Patrice Shackleford, National Security Agency

This workshop provides an overview of various federal careers that utilize skills in languages and cultural expertise—translator, interpreter, instructor, intelligence analyst, language analyst, foreign language program manager, foreign service officer, and law enforcement officer. Recruiters and subject-matter experts discuss career opportunities, ways to prepare for federal careers, and the application process.

96. Big History in the American Century
   3:30–4:45 p.m., Union Square, Sheraton
   Presiding: Robert Rabiej, Temple U, Philadelphia

125. “La France est en guerre”: Witnessing War in Contemporary France
   5:15–6:30 p.m., Murray Hill East, Hilton
   Presiding: Jennifer Cazenave, U of South Florida, Tampa

159. Connected Academics: Building a Public Humanities PhD Program from the Ground Up
   7:00–8:15 p.m., Murray Hill East, Hilton
   Additional speaker: Robyn Schroeder, U of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

Friday, 5 January

203. Anxious Pedagogies: Negotiating Precarity and Insecurity in the Classroom
   8:30–9:45 a.m., Nassau West, Hilton
   Additional speaker: Amber Pouliot, U of Evansville

206. Proust and Photography
   8:30–9:45 a.m., Gibson, Hilton
   “Reviewing the Recherche through Painting, Photography, and Journalism,” Max McGuinness, Columbia U

248. Thorstein Veblen’s The Higher Learning in America at One Hundred
   10:15–11:30 a.m., Lincoln Suite, Hilton
   “Labor Power and the Work of Disciplines,” Christopher Findeisen, U of Southern California

252. He Said WHAAT??!! Editing Oral Texts for Print Publication
   10:15–11:30 a.m., Sutton Place, Sheraton
   Presiding: Carol DeBoer-Langworthy, Brown U

268. Teaching the Fragments: English Education, Democracy, and Digital Media
   10:15–11:30 a.m., Gramercy, Sheraton
   Presiding: Matthew Overstreet, U of Pittsburgh

314. Blended Learning: Balancing Social Media and Face-to-Face Pedagogies
   12:00 noon–1:15 p.m., Chelsea, Sheraton
   “Sustaining Communities of Learning from Afar,” Anna Ioanes, Georgia Inst. of Tech.

331. Local Color to World Literature: An Interview with Jia Pingwa
   1:45–3:00 p.m., Sutton Center, Hilton
   Additional participant: Nick Stember, translator

356. The DNA of a Story
   1:45–3:00 p.m., Concourse B, Hilton
   Presiding: Peggy Sue McCracken, U of Michigan, Ann Arbor

393. Printable Pedagogy and 3-D Theses
   3:30–4:45 p.m., Gramercy East, Hilton
   Additional speaker: Helen J. Burgess, North Carolina State U

419. Queer per Verse
   5:15–6:30 p.m., Gramercy, Sheraton
   Additional speaker: Brian Glavey, U of South Carolina, Columbia
Cash Bar Arranged by the Department of English and Northrop Frye Centre at the University of Toronto
7:15–8:30 p.m., Central Park West, Sheraton
This event has been canceled.

Saturday, 6 January

454. Digital Humanities Tools and Technologies for Students, Emerging Scholars, Faculty Members, Librarians, and Administrators
8:30–11:30 a.m., Sutton Center, Hilton
Additional speaker: Laura Estill, Texas A&M U, College Station

472. Rethinking Marlowe and the Aesthetic
8:30–9:45 a.m., Sugar Hill, Sheraton
Presiding: Joel M. Dodson, Southern Connecticut State U

553. Early Modern Collaboration and Expanded Shakespearean Authorship
12:00 noon–1:15 p.m., Gramercy, Sheraton

1:45–3:00 p.m., Nassau West, Hilton
Presiding: Toby Wikström, Tulane U

666. Connected Academics: A Showcase of Career Diversity
5:15–6:30 p.m., Sutton Center, Hilton
Additional speaker: Brian Johnsrud, Khan Acad.

5:15–6:30 p.m., Harlem, Hilton
Presiding: Christopher Abram, U of Notre Dame

Organizational Meeting of the Forum LLC Pre-14th-Century Chinese
7:15–8:45 p.m., Clinton, Hilton

Cash Bar Arranged by the Penn State University Department of English
7:15–8:30 p.m., New York Ballroom East, Sheraton

Cash Bar Arranged by the New York University Department of English
7:15–8:30 p.m., Riverside Ballroom, Sheraton

City University of New York Graduate Center English Program
Cash Bar
7:15–8:30 p.m., Central Park West, Sheraton

Reception Arranged by the Forum LLC Korean
[new time]
8:45–10:00 p.m., Murray Hill East, Hilton

Sunday, 7 January

781. Ecologies, Empires, and Island Speculations
10:15–11:30 a.m., Nassau East, Hilton
Presiding: Leanne Day, Brandeis U

830. Writing at This Moment: Contemporary Poetry against American Imperialism
12:00 noon–1:15 p.m., Sutton Place, Sheraton
4. “Cathy Park Hong’s Dance Dance Revolution and Dynamic Globalization: Fostering a New World Community,” Tana Jean Welch, Florida State U

830A. Finding Security through Action
12:00 noon–1:15 p.m., Murray Hill East, Hilton
MLA Committee on Academic Freedom and Professional Rights and Responsibilities
In the current political climate, individuals and their campuses are being targeted, often in systemic ways. This town hall will be a candid exchange focusing on skills, strategies, and resources for action-oriented responses. CAFPRR invites you to bring examples of problems and solutions to share.