

# CALL FOR PAPERS AND READINGS

## The Society for the Study of Midwestern Literature invites you to participate in its 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Symposium

**Writing the Midwest: A Symposium of Scholars and Creative Writers**  
May 10-12, 2012 Michigan State University Union, East Lansing, Michigan

The Society for the Study of Midwestern Literature is devoted to the study and production of Midwestern literature in whatever directions the insight, imagination, and curiosity of the members may lead. The annual symposium brings together writers, scholars, and filmmakers to present criticism, poetry, fiction, one-act drama, and creative nonfiction.

We welcome proposals for individual papers, panels, and roundtables on Midwestern literature, and reading of creative work with a Midwestern emphasis. Sandra Seaton will receive the Mark Twain Award and David Radavich will receive the MidAmerica Award. Panels on their work are encouraged.

Please plan on fifteen minutes for each creative and scholarly presentation.

**Deadline for proposals: Wednesday, February 1, 2012.**

### **Proposals must include:**

- The title of your proposed paper or reading;
- Your name and institutional affiliation or, if an independent scholar/creative writer, your home town;
- Your mailing address, e-mail address, and telephone number;
- Days and times during the conference that it would be impossible for you to present;
- If you are a new participant, please provide an abstract of your paper; if you are proposing to read creative work, please submit a short sample of recent work.
- If you are a student, indicate whether you wish to be considered for a scholarship waiver of the 2012 dues. If you are also applying for support from your college or university to present at this conference, let us know whether you wish to be considered for up to \$100 in matching funds.

**Presenters must be members** (or must become members) of the Society. Dues are \$30 for students and \$50 for all others. Up to twenty student scholarships are available providing waiver of 2012 membership dues; scholarship awardees who receive financial support from their colleges or universities to present at the conference will also receive up to \$100 in matching funds. Scholarship awardees must receive matching funds from their school and these funds must be documented. All presenters, including those awarded student scholarships, must pre-register and pay the conference registration fee (\$30 for students, \$95 for participants, and \$30 for non-participants).

**Submit proposals and queries** to Ken Grant, program chair, at [kenneth.grant@uwc.edu](mailto:kenneth.grant@uwc.edu) or E11960 Kessler Rd., Baraboo, WI 53913.

**Prizes:** The Society offers \$250 prizes for the best poem, creative prose piece, and literary criticism read at the conference, and a \$250 prize for student work in any genre. Winning entries in all four contests are published in *MidAmerica*. Critical work presented at the conference may be also submitted for inclusion in one of the Society's two refereed publications, *MidAmerica* and *Midwestern Miscellany*.

**Membership, registration, and lodging:** information will be posted at [www.ssml.org](http://www.ssml.org).

**Audiovisual Support:** As a way of avoiding additional Symposium expenses and minimizing hardware/software incompatibility, we encourage presentations that do not rely on audiovisual support. If your presentation requires audiovisual support, please let Ken Grant know immediately so that you can be scheduled for a day and time when a data projector and screen will be available. To use the data projector, you must bring a laptop with a USB connector. Flash drives, travel drives, and CD/DVD disks cannot be used directly on our available equipment. Because the equipment you rely on at your home institution may differ from that available at the MSU Union, compatibility is not always possible and cannot be guaranteed. If you have questions concerning the available technology, contact Marc Van Wormer (vanworme@msu.edu).