

## Information about the Poe Studies Association's Fifth International Edgar Allan Poe Conference: *Poe Takes Boston*April 7-10, 2022, at the Omni Parker House Hotel, 60 School St, Boston MA 02108 Revised January 18, 2022

The Move to a Hybrid Conference: Although we had hoped to have an in-person conference, the state of the pandemic globally as of mid-January 2022 is making travel difficult and led many universities and colleges to implement travel restrictions. In the interest of making it possible for members constricted by these limitations to participate, the Poe Studies Association's Executive Committee has decided to use a hybrid format that will allow presenters and members to attend either in person at the Omni Parker House Hotel or online.

**Registration:** For those who attend the conference in-person, the registration fee covers access to sessions, the banquet, coffee breaks, and the (cash-bar) reception. Tickets for the side trip to Providence and extra guest tickets for that trip, the reception, and the banquet may also be purchased. For those who attend the conference virtually, registration fees will help cover the high costs of creating online access. Here's how to register:

**Step One**: Send an email saying that you want to register to Travis Montgomery, PSA Secretary, at tdmontg1@gmail.com. **If you are going to attend in-person**, scan or photograph an official record of your full-vaccination status and include it in the email. If you are bringing a guest or guests to the conference, you will similarly need to send proof of their full-vaccination status to Travis prior to registering. **If you are going to attend virtually, you need not send proof of your vaccination status**. Please direct questions about this step to Travis.

**Step Two**: When Travis replies to your message, he will send you the link to the online registration form we have set up on the PlanetReg site. Payment may be made by credit card or through PayPal. Please direct questions about this step to Carole Shaffer-Koros, PSA Treasurer, at ckoros.kean@gmail.com.

Registration fees

Registration through February 1, 2022: \$345 Registration February 16: \$395 Registration from March 1, 2022: \$445

Registration fees for students, retired and adjunct faculty Registration through February 1, 2022: \$295
Registration February 16: \$345
Registration from March 1, 2022: \$395

Extra reception and banquet tickets

Extra reception tickets: \$25 Extra banquet tickets: \$100

**Cancellation** with a full refund (minus a \$25 processing fee) until March 1, 2022; after March 1, no refunds will be given.

**PSA Membership** is required for participation in the conference. If you are not yet a member or have not yet renewed for 2022, please join or renew now by following the instructions on the PSA Membership site: https://www.poestudiesassociation.org/membership.

Covid-19 Precautions: To assure the highest level of safety, all attendees will be required (1) to provide proof of their full-vaccination status in order to register for the conference and (2) to provide proof of a negative Covid-19 test taken before the start of the conference when they check in at the conference. Similarly, all guests at the reception, or the banquet, or on the Providence side-trip must provide proof of their full-vaccination status (when their host registers) and proof of a negative Covid-19 test taken before the start of the conference (when their host checks in). We will also follow Boston's indoor mask mandate.

Guest of Honor and Banquet Speaker: The Guest of Honor for the Fifth International Edgar Allan Poe Conference: *Poe Takes Boston* will be Marilynne Robinson. Professor Robinson is the author of five remarkable novels: *Housekeeping* (1980), *Gilead* (2004), *Home* (2008), *Lila* (2014), and *Jack* (2020). She is also the author of varied and engaging works of nonfiction, including a keen appreciation of Edgar Allan Poe. Professor Robinson, who taught at the Iowa Writers' Workshop, has won the Pulitzer Prize, the National Humanities Medal, and the Library of Congress Prize for American Fiction. We will be very happy to welcome her to the Boston Poe Conference.

**Staying at the Omni Parker House Hotel:** We strongly encourage attendees to stay at the conference hotel and reserve rooms soon at the site the hotel has set up for this purpose: <a href="https://www.omnihotels.com/hotels/boston-parker-house/meetings/psa-04032022">https://www.omnihotels.com/hotels/boston-parker-house/meetings/psa-04032022</a>
Note that a limited number of rooms will be available at the conference rate, and that you will be able to cancel reservations up to 72 hours before the first reserved date.

**Side Trip to Providence, Rhode Island**: Details for the April 7 bus trip to Providence are being worked out at this time, but the plan is to travel from Boston to the Providence Athenaeum in the morning, hear a talk about Poe and Sarah Helen Whitman, explore the historic building, and have free time on your own to walk through the old center of Providence, visit an historic house or museum, and/or have lunch before returning to Boston in time for the conference reception. Tickets will cost \$35; sign up when you register for the conference. The number of reservations we can accept is limited by space constraints at the Athenaeum.

**Tane Travel Grants**: The PSA is grateful to Susan Tane for funding grants to assist international scholars with the costs of travel.

## For questions about the conference, please contact Richard Kopley (rxk3@psu.edu) or Paul Lewis (lewisp@bc.edu).

**Co-Sponsors**: The Poe Studies Association, its officers and members, are grateful to the generous co-sponsors of the Fifth International Edgar Allan Poe Conference:

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