CFP: Catharine Maria Sedgwick Symposium

Two Centuries of Sedgwick

The Red Lion Inn, Stockbridge, Massachusetts
June 8-11, 2022 (Wednesday to Saturday)

Proposals of no more than 250 words should be sent to Jenifer Elmore at Jenifer_Elmore@pba.edu by December 15, 2021.

The Catharine Maria Sedgwick Society invites submissions for its ninth symposium, Two Centuries of Sedgwick, celebrating the bicentennial anniversary of the beginning of Sedgwick’s professional writing career in 1822.

The symposium will be held June 8-11, 2022, at the Red Lion Inn in Sedgwick’s picturesque hometown of Stockbridge, Massachusetts—just down the street from the Sedgwick family’s historic home. The town and the surrounding Berkshire Mountains region of western Massachusetts and northeastern New York supplied settings for Sedgwick’s first two novels and many of her shorter works. Her immediate family and their descendants were prominent citizens of the region who have made important contributions in the fields of law, politics, education, and the arts from the revolutionary era to the present day.

Gretchen Murphy, Professor of English at the University of Texas-Austin, will serve as the keynote speaker for the symposium. Murphy is the author most recently of New England Women Writers, Secularity, and the Federalist Politics of Church and State (Oxford, 2021). Her other works include Shadowing the White Man’s Burden: U.S. Imperialism and the Problem of the Color Line (NYU Press, 2010) and Hemispheric Imaginings: The Monroe Doctrine and Narratives of U.S. Empire (Duke UP, 2005).

The organizers invite proposals for papers that address any aspect of Sedgwick’s life and works, the works of Sedgwick’s contemporaries, or the Sedgwick family’s ties to the Berkshire region. They particularly encourage papers on the following topics:

- Reception, interpretation and appreciation of Sedgwick’s works over time
- Sedgwick’s first novel, A New-England Tale (1822)
- Sedgwick’s second novel, Redwood (1824)
- Strategies for teaching the works of Sedgwick and her contemporaries
- Nineteenth-century U.S. women’s literature in the digital age

NOTE: All proposals that were originally accepted for presentation at the 2020 Sedgwick Symposium in Schenectady, New York (which was postponed and eventually canceled because of the pandemic) will be accepted for the 2022 symposium. Proposals of no more than 250 words should be sent to Jenifer Elmore at Jenifer_Elmore@pba.edu by Dec. 15, 2021.
Join the CMSS!

Membership in the Catharine Maria Sedgwick Society supports initiatives surrounding our triennial symposia, including travel subsidies for graduate students. In addition, current CMSS members are eligible to vote in CMS Society elections and receive priority notice regarding CMSS calls for papers, the CMS Society Newsletter, and email updates about society activities.

The membership year runs from July 1 to June 30. One-year membership fees are as follows:

- Regular: $10
- Student: $5
- Institutional: $25

You can also become a Lifetime Member of the Society for $200.

See the Sedgwick Society website to join:

cmsedgwicksociety.org/
cmsedgwicksociety.org/membership/

CMSS Executive Board
[The following officers were elected by the Sedgwick Society membership in late Fall 2018.]

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