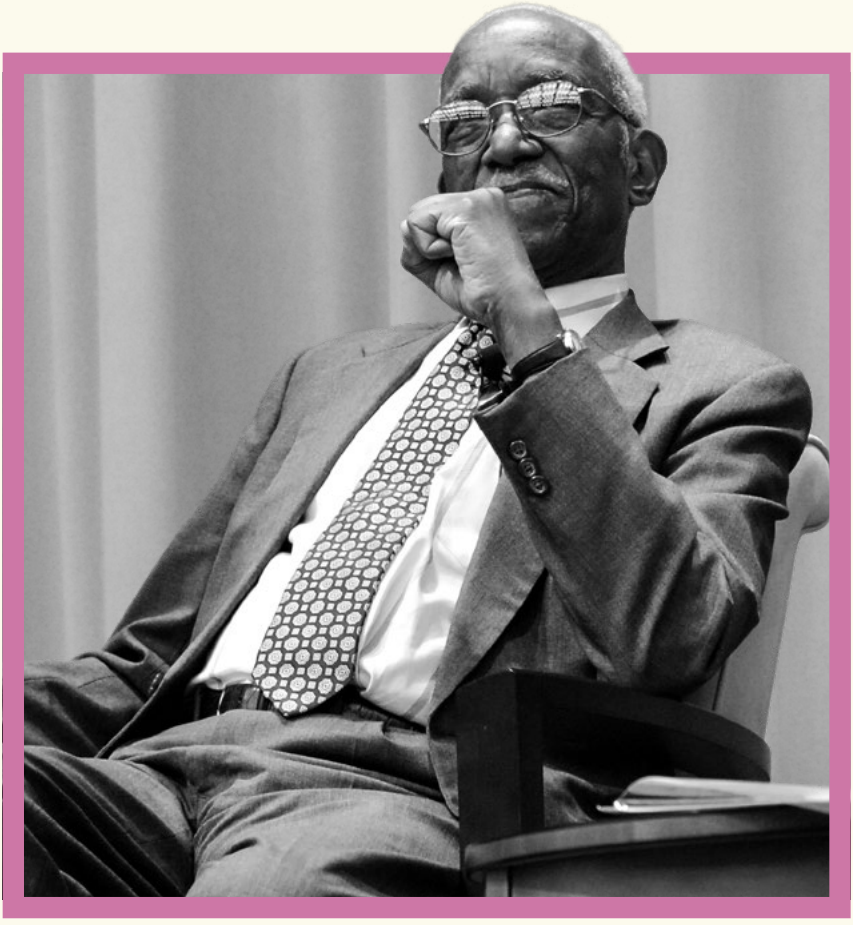
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2026 AWARD & PRIZE WINNERS

TO OUR ASA PRIZE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

We are so grateful for the members of the Prize Committees of the American Studies Association for your thoughtful and generous work in reviewing this year's submissions. We know the care and time it takes to engage with and consider books, essays, and accomplishments across such a wide and interdisciplinary field. Your insight and discernment help us recognize work that is not only rigorous and original but also moves our shared conversations forward. We're grateful for the time, attention, and spirit you bring to this process, and for the role you play in celebrating the creativity and intellectual daring that define American Studies.

John Hope Franklin Prize

CHAIR: Harilaos Stecopoulos, University of Iowa
Sarah Chinn, Hunter College
Eve Dunbar, Vassar College
Brian Herrera, Princeton University

Lora Romero Prize

CHAIR: Martin Manalansan, Rutgers University New Brunswick
Victoria Reyes, University of California, Riverside
Tanya Saunders, University of Maryland Baltimore County
Teona Williams, Rutgers University

Ralph Henry Gabriel Prize

CHAIR: Mary Zaborskis, Penn State Harrisburg
Anne Boyd, University of Texas Rio Grande Valley
Alexa Rodriguez, University of Virginia

Angela Y. Davis Prize

CHAIR: Cynthia Franklin, University of Hawai'i
Angelica Camacho, San Francisco State University

Mary C. Turpie Prize

CHAIR: Beth Fowler, Wayne State University
Regina Mills, University of Michigan
Mark Rice, Saint John Fisher University

Wise–Susman Prize

CHAIR: Christian Ravela, Arizona State University
Maggie Goddard, University of Kansas

Gloria E. Anzaldúa Prize

CHAIR: Kate Drabinski, University of Maryland Baltimore County
micha cárdenas, University of California Santa Cruz
Andrea Miller, Penn State University

Constance M. Rourke Prize

CHAIR: Denise Lynn, University of Southern Indiana
Michael Turcios, Northwestern University
Rebecca Nisetich, University of Southern Maine

The cover of this booklet features John Hope Franklin, namesake of our prize for Best Book in American Studies.

2026 AWARDS & PRIZES

ASA PRIZES FOR SERVICE AND TEACHING

Angela Y. Davis Prize 4
for Outstanding Public Scholarship

Mary C. Turpie Prize 5
for Teaching, Advising, and Program Development in American Studies

Gloria E. Anzaldúa Prize 6
for Outstanding Independent Scholars, Contingent, or Community College Faculty

ASA PRIZES FOR WRITTEN SCHOLARSHIP

Constance M. Rourke Prize 7
for Best Article in American Quarterly

Gene Wise and Warren Susman Prize 8
for Best Student Paper at the Annual Conference

Ralph Henry Gabriel Prize 9
for Best Dissertation in American Studies, Ethnic Studies, or Women's Studies

Lora Romero Prize 10
for Best First Book in American Studies

John Hope Franklin Prize 11
for Best Book in American Studies

COMMITTEE AND CAUCUS AWARDS AND PRIZES

Emerging Scholar in Childhood Studies Award 12
Conferred by the Children and Youth Studies Caucus

Ángel David Nieves Book Award (Edited Collection) 13
Conferred by the Digital Humanities Caucus

Ángel David Nieves Book Award (Monograph) 13
Conferred by the Digital Humanities Caucus

Digital Project Award (Legacy) 14
Conferred by the Digital Humanities Caucus

Digital Project Award (Newcomer) 14
Conferred by the Digital Humanities Caucus

New Directions in Critical Disability Studies Prize 15
Conferred by the Critical Disability Studies Caucus

Annette Kolodny Award 15
Conferred by the Environmental Justice Caucus

Sidney Mintz Prize for Mentorship in Food Studies 16
Conferred by the Critical Food Studies Caucus

Shelley Fisher Fishkin Prize 16
Conferred by the International Committee

Alan Bray Memorial Book Award 17
Conferred by the GL/Q Caucus

Crompton–Noll Award for Best LGBTQ Studies Article 17
Conferred by the GL/Q Caucus

Richard A. Yarborough Award 18
Conferred by the Race, Indigeneity, and Scholar Support Committee

Emerging Scholar in Sports Studies Award 19
Conferred by the Sports Studies Caucus



Shamari Reid

New York University

Dr. Shamari Reid (he/him/his) is a faculty member in the Department of Teaching and Learning at New York University. As a scholar, Dr. Reid's work explores how Black trans and queer youth and their communities sustain themselves amidst oppression, as well as how we can collaborate with these communities to better transform schools into sites of equitable opportunities for Black LGBTQ+ youth. Dr. Reid's work has been published in top-tier education journals such as *Urban Education*, *Curriculum Inquiry*, *TC Record*, *Equity & Excellence in Education*, and *Theory Into Practice*. In addition to working with Black LGBTQ+ communities to reimagine schools, Dr. Reid's work examines radical love as a moral imperative in social justice education and as a path toward culturally sustaining school communities, which he explores in his recent book, *Humans Who Teach: A Guide to Centering Love, Justice, and Liberation in Schools*.

Committee Statement

Shamari Reid embodies Angela Davis's dedication to combating state violence, and her risk-taking on behalf of those struggling for freedom. Early in his career, Reid has committed to fighting for queer BIPOC trans youth. He uses his institutional privileges to advance grass-roots liberatory projects that can be led by Black trans women. As one letter writer states, "Many academics claim the title of 'community-engaged,' but Dr. Reid lives it with deep ethical accountability." Through his courageous work, he creates abolitionist, life-affirming presents and futures.

ABOUT THE PRIZE

Recognizes scholars who have applied their scholarship to the public good; winners receive lifetime ASA membership. The prize honors Angela Y. Davis, Black feminist theorist, activist, and prison abolitionist whose books include *Women, Race, and Class; Are Prisons Obsolete?* and *Abolition Democracy: Beyond Prisons, Torture, and Empire*. A critical voice in Black freedom struggles who continues to organize against the prison-industrial complex, Davis taught at UCLA, San Francisco State University, and UC Santa Cruz, where she retired.



Brett Mizelle

California State University, Long Beach

ABOUT THE PRIZE

Established in 1993, the prize recognizes outstanding ability and achievement in American Studies teaching, advising, and program development at the local or regional level. Recipients receive lifetime ASA membership. It honors Mary C. Turpie, an early pioneer in American Studies and long-time faculty member at the University of Minnesota. Turpie shaped the field's pedagogy, departments, and scholars through intensive mentorship, advising over a hundred students at a time while presiding over dozens of dissertations.

Dr. Brett Mizelle is an American Studies lifer, with an undergraduate degree in American Studies from Georgetown University and a Ph.D. in American Studies from the University of Minnesota. He is Professor of History and Director of the American Studies Program at California State University Long Beach. His publications include the book *Pig* (Reaktion, 2011), the *Handbook of Historical Animal Studies* (with Mieke Roscher and André Krebber), and numerous articles, book chapters, and reviews at the intersection of Animal Studies and American Studies. As Director of "American Studies at the Beach" he works with his colleagues to engage students with history, culture, and activism in Long Beach and the region.

Committee Statement

Dr. Mizelle is deserving of this award based on his work building the American Studies program at California State University, Long Beach from the ground up, and guiding it to success, especially during a period when resources in academia are strained. He advises each student that enters the program, providing them with a tailored courseload, teaches at every level, infuses office hours with fun activities like pizza parties and soccer games, and creates high-impact immersive experiences for students, including visits to museums and learning walks across Long Beach and Southern California, all of which strengthen his institution's retention goals. Our committee was also impressed by his consistent engagement with the American Studies Association at both the national and state levels, and how he mentors students who are often at risk of leaving the university with significant debt and no degree, leading to improved graduation rates among marginalized populations.



Leanne Betasamosake Simpson

Independent Scholar

Leanne Betasamosake Simpson is a renowned Michi Saagiig Nishnaabeg musician, writer and independent academic. She is the author of eight books, including *As We Have Always Done* (winner of the NAISA subsequent book prize), the novel *Noopiming* (short list, Dublin Literary Prize), and her collaboration with Robyn Maynard, *Rehearsals for Living* (short list, Governor General's Literary Award for non-fiction). Leanne's latest work, *Theory of Water*, is a national best seller and won the Writer's Trust Hilary Weston prize for non-fiction. As an educator, Leanne has spent over a decade collaboratively building the Dechinta Centre for Research and Learning, an Indigenous-led, land-based post-secondary education program in the North. She is a member of Alderville First Nation.

Committee Statement

Leanne Betasamosake Simpson is a Michi Saagiig Nishnaabeg and Status Indian and band member of Alderville First Nation. As a multidisciplinary independent scholar, writer, artist, musician, organizer, and educator, Simpson embodies Anzaldúa's spirit and legacy. Like Anzaldúa, Simpson's work exceeds and refuses knowledge systems rooted in oppression and coloniality, and instead offers, in one nominator's words, "generative frameworks for Indigenous life, liberation, and flourishing grounded in reciprocal relations and ethical responsibility."

ABOUT THE PRIZE

Honors the contributions of independent scholars, contingent faculty, and community college faculty in American Studies and related fields; winners receive $1,500. It pays tribute to Gloria E. Anzaldúa, the Chicana feminist writer, theorist, and queer activist whose work redefined conversations about identity, language, and the U.S.–Mexico border. Building her career as an independent scholar and contingent faculty member, she forged frameworks for hybridity and spiritual activism while mentoring generations of scholars, artists, and organizers.



Jennifer C. Nash

Duke University

"Black Feminist Arithmetic" (December 2025)

Jennifer C. Nash is the Jean Fox O'Barr Professor of Gender, Sexuality, and Feminist Studies at Duke University. She is also, at Duke, the Margaret Taylor Smith Director of Gender, Sexuality, and Feminist Studies and Director of the Black Feminist Theory Summer Institute. She earned her Ph.D. in African American Studies at Harvard University and her J.D. at Harvard Law School. Her research interests include Black feminist theory; race, gender, and law; intersectionality; Black maternal health; and visual culture.

ABOUT THE PRIZE

Awarded annually to the best article published in *American Quarterly* by a current ASA member; winners receive $500. It honors Constance M. Rourke, an influential scholar and educator who wrote widely on popular culture, humor, and cultural history. Rourke taught at Vassar College and was foundational to the development of American Studies as an intellectual field.

HONORABLE MENTIONS

JONATHAN S. KARP, Collaborative Humanities Postdoctoral Fellow at Vanderbilt University. "The Hotel de Breeze: Performances of Aftermath and the East St. Louis Program" (June 2025)

K MOHRMAN, Associate Professor at University of Colorado Denver. "As-Salaam-Alaikum, Bitches!": The Biopolitics of Secularism, Neoliberal Multiculturalism, and the Real Housewives of Salt Lake City" (March 2025)

Committee Statement

The committee unanimously agreed that Jennifer C. Nash's "Black Feminist Arithmetic" was a clear winner. Nash argues that Black feminists have neglected part of their intellectual tradition, an entanglement with the arithmetical. Amid debates on what, whom, and how to count, arithmetic has often rendered Black people "things," a "technology of violence" and "tool of racial capitalism" that Black feminism must "destabilize to envision a different kind of social world." The article is innovative, sweeping, and incites conversation within Black feminism, arriving at a heady time of heightened racial injustice, right-wing attacks on ethnic and gender studies programs, and hostility toward academia. Nash demonstrates that addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division are not just abstract STEM terms; they have implications for writing a history of the Black experience and its response to structures of power. It guides feminists and activists to engage a mathematical framework to confront and upend injustice.



Victoria Huynh

University of California Berkeley

"The Criminal Refugee and the Limits of State Protection"

Victoria Huynh (she/her) is a PhD candidate in Ethnic Studies at UC Berkeley and an interdisciplinary scholar of Southeast Asia's post-war diasporas, with specific interests in forced migration, U.S. empire, war and memory, and abolition feminism. Her dissertation, an ethnography of Southeast Asian refugees in California's prison system, takes up the criminal refugee as an imperfect victim of history and a figure which challenges the state-sanctioned dichotomy between those who merit saving and those who merit social and legal condemnation. Currently based in Oakland, California, Victoria volunteers locally with in-prison education and deportation defense.

Committee Statement

The committee was thoroughly impressed by the methodological deftness, critical acumen, and political urgency of Huynh's essay. By seamlessly weaving together analyses of the legal archives and public campaign around Ny Nourn and original interview data from her, Huynh develops the notion of the "criminal refugee." According to Huynh, the criminal refugee's survival not only reveals the breadth and depth of the totalizing violence at the intersection of imperial and carceral systems but also forwards an urgent politics that widens the scope of justice by cutting across the delimiting strictures of U.S. political culture — foreign and domestic, alien and citizen, criminal and innocent. Perhaps most impressively, Huynh's essay helpfully bridges the work of abolition feminism and critical refugee studies. Thus, Huynh's essay augers exciting new directions for others to take in American Studies scholarship.

ABOUT THE PRIZE

Recognizes the best paper presented by a graduate student at the ASA annual meeting; the winner receives $500. It honors two scholars who wrote foundational essays on American Studies as both an intellectual field and an institutional movement: Gene Wise, theorist and cultural historian best known for "'Paradigm Dramas' in American Studies," who taught at Case Western Reserve and the University of Maryland College Park; and Warren Susman, cultural historian of *Culture as History* (1984) and a longtime professor at Rutgers University New Brunswick.

HONORABLE MENTION

LYDIA BURLESON, Doctoral Candidate, Stanford University. "Theorizing Indigenous Modernisms in Mary Sully's *Triptych Aesthetics* and D'Arcy McNickle's *The Surrounded*"



Frankie Barrett

University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

"Valuing Cheap: Constructing, Consuming, and Contesting the Dollar Store Economy"

Frankie Barrett is an interdisciplinary historian and North Carolina native who was born and raised in Asheville. She now calls Hillsborough, NC home. Frankie recently completed a Ph.D. in American Studies from Yale University. In addition, she holds a B.A. in Women's and Gender Studies from the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill and an M.A. in Southern Studies from the University of Mississippi. In her scholarship and work, Frankie is committed to thinking critically about the relationships between place, power, and identity.

ABOUT THE PRIZE

Awarded annually to the best doctoral dissertation in American Studies, Ethnic Studies, or Women's Studies; recipients receive $1,000. It honors Ralph Henry Gabriel, an American intellectual historian whose works include *Course of American Democratic Thought* and *American Values, Continuity, and Change*. Gabriel edited *The Pageant of America* series and the *Library of Congress Series in American Civilization*, and taught for many years at Yale University, as well as New York University, Stanford University, and Cambridge University.

HONORABLE MENTION

JULIA HARRIS, Graduate Student, Harvard University. "Beyond Exclusion: New Narratives of Lesbian and Trans Entanglements in the 1970s"

Committee Statement

Barrett's interdisciplinary project brings together business and labor history, Southern studies, Critical Race Studies, Cultural Studies, Sociology, and Geography to examine how the development and expansion of dollar stores – and specifically Dollar General, Family Dollar, and Dollar Tree – in the United States has spatialized racialized, classed, and gendered inequities, all under the guise of "serving" communities. While these businesses lack a central archive, Barrett fascinatingly and meticulously constructs one from corporate materials, annual reports, newsletters, studies, and social media; the committee was impressed with her ability to read sources against the grain to construct a "'bottom-up' history of business" that allows us to see a history of racial capitalism and community responses to the inequities these businesses exacerbated. Well-structured, exceedingly cogent, and insightful at every turn, "Valuing Cheap" is destined to have an impact on many fields, and we are honored to recognize it.



Umayyah Cable

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

Mainstreaming Palestine: Cinematic Activism and Solidarity Politics in the United States

Umayyah Cable is Associate Professor of American Culture and Film, Television, and Media at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. They have a B.A. in American Studies from Smith College and a Ph.D. in American Studies and Ethnicity from the University of Southern California, as well as a graduate certificate in Visual Studies from the USC Visual Studies Research Institute. Their research and teaching interests span the fields of Race and Ethnic Studies, Film and Media Studies, Anti-Colonial Studies, and Queer Theory, with a particular focus on the roles that art, film, and media play in the mobilization of Palestine solidarity politics in the United States. Their research has been supported through fellowships at Northwestern University and Harvard University.

Committee Statement

Drawing and building upon queer of color critique, Cultural and Media Studies, and Arab and Arab American Studies, Cable, deftly and with careful attention to materiality and power relations, traces the last 50 years of cinematic activism vis-à-vis Palestinian cinema and Palestinian solidarity cinema to theorize a shift in the U.S. from compulsory Zionism, which erases Palestinians and their struggles for liberation, to the beginnings of normalization of discourse around Palestinians and Palestinian liberation. Cable does not stop there. With clarity and precision, Cable pinpoints the pitfalls accompanying mainstreaming Palestine—what they call "watermelon capitalism" and Brand Palestine, or the commodification of Palestinian solidarity—and issues a warning that representation in and of itself is not liberation.

ABOUT THE PRIZE

Awarded annually to the best first book in American Studies highlighting intersectional dynamics in the study of race, gender, class, sexuality, and/or nation; winners receive $1,000. The prize is a memorial tribute to Lora Romero, a long-active ASA member and Assistant Professor at Stanford University who died in 1997 as her first book, *Home Fronts: Nineteenth Century Domesticity and Its Critics*, appeared in print. She remains an esteemed colleague and treasured friend to many in the Association.

HONORABLE MENTION

JINA B KIM, Associate Professor, Smith College.
Care at the End of the World: Dreaming of Infrastructure in Crip-of-Color Writing



Kimberly Juanita Brown

Dartmouth College

Black Elegies: Meditations on the Art of Mourning

Kimberly Juanita Brown is the inaugural director of the Institute for Black Intellectual and Cultural Life at Dartmouth College, where she is also Associate Professor in the Department of English and Creative Writing. She is an interdisciplinary scholar working at the intersection of contemporary literatures of the Black Diaspora and Visual Culture Studies. She is the author of *The Repeating Body: Slavery's Visual Resonance in the Contemporary* (Duke University Press, 2015) and *Mortevivum: Photography and the Politics of the Visual* (MIT Press, 2024).

ABOUT THE PRIZE

Recognizes the most outstanding book published in American studies in the year preceding the ASA annual meeting, with a $1,000 prize. Named in honor of John Hope Franklin (also pictured on this booklet's cover), an American historian whose dozens of books include the influential *From Slavery to Freedom: A History of African Americans*, work that provided context for the 1954 Brown v. Board of Education decision. Franklin served as president of both the ASA and the American Historical Association and received the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1995.

HONORABLE MENTIONS

JOSEPH M. PIERCE, Associate Professor of Hispanic Languages and Literatures, Stony Brook University. *Speculative Relations: Indigenous Worlding and Repair*

DAVID SERLIN, Professor of Communication and Science Studies, University of California San Diego. *Window Shopping with Helen Keller: Architecture and Disability in Modern Culture*

Committee Statement

Kimberly Juanita Brown's *Black Elegies: Meditations on the Art of Mourning* (MIT, 2025) is a vivid and brilliant survey of the Black arts of mourning organized through different sensory categories: sight, sound, touch. Reveling in a rich range of Black cultural expression — literature (Baldwin, Bambara, Lorde, Morrison), art (Weems), film and photography (DeCarava, Jenkins, McQueen), music (Gaye), dance (Ailey), and more — Brown demonstrates an extraordinary facility for turning scholarship into poetry. As she writes, *Black Elegies* "depends heavily on the musicality of longing and loss. It flows, like water with 'perfect memory' from one purposeful expression of grief to another." Brown's deep and enviable learning exists in moving counterpoint to the sorrow and joy of her lyric expression. American Studies scholars will learn a great deal from this stunning book.

JOHN HOPE FRANKLIN PRIZE FOR BEST BOOK IN AMERICAN STUDIES



EMERGING SCHOLAR AWARD

Katherine Martin

Rutgers University, Camden

Katherine Martin is a doctoral candidate in Childhood Studies at Rutgers University Camden, specializing in 20th century children's social and cultural history. Her dissertation examines the New Deal's Federal Art Project and centers the project's youth-focused cultural programming and children's experiences of identity, race, citizenship, and concepts of childhood. Katherine has published chapters which interrogate concepts such as inherent creativity and children, and children's creative expression within adult structured environments. After her time researching with the NEH Summer Institute at the Library of Congress, Katherine is working on a public history project which explores New Deal children's publications authored and illustrated by Federal One employees.

Committee Statement

We are thrilled to recognize Katherine Martin with one of two Emerging Scholar Awards. Katherine is a doctoral candidate specializing in 20th century American social and cultural history of childhood and youth in the Childhood Studies Department at Rutgers University. Her research examines youth-focused programs of President Roosevelt's New Deal, exploring how these programs targeted vulnerable youth to assimilate them into particular modes of citizenship. Her work has been supported by the National Endowment for the Humanities and utilizes wide-ranging interdisciplinary methods to explore the intersections of childhood, class, and race.



EMERGING SCHOLAR AWARD

Ayami Ono-Hatanaka

New York University

Ayami Ono-Hatanaka is a doctoral candidate in American Studies at New York University. Her research interests include kinship, families and children, responses to harm, citizenship, security and the state, racial capitalism, and abolition. Before attending graduate school, she worked as an out-of-court advocate at the Neighborhood Defender Service of Harlem in the Family Defense Practice.

Committee Statement

We are also thrilled to recognize Ayami Ono-Hatanaka with the Emerging Scholar Award. Ayami is a doctoral candidate studying family policing and the child welfare system in the American Studies Department at New York University. Her research utilizes feminist ethnographic methods to examine the family court system in New York City, exploring how this is a site that disciplines children and parents to ascribe to ostensibly "American" values under the guise of safety and protection. The policing of the entire family shapes the contours of American citizenship.



ÁNGEL DAVID NIEVES BOOK AWARD FOR AN EDITED COLLECTION

Jacquelyne Thoni Howard and The Feminist Pedagogy Project

Tulane University

Feminist Pedagogy for Teaching Online

This project preserves and celebrates the work of feminist educators while providing feminist pedagogical educational resources in traditional, online, and hybrid undergraduate courses. It supports educators across disciplines by emphasizing active learning and caring practices. The editors of Feminist Pedagogy for Teaching Online are Jacquelyne Thoni Howard, Clare Daniel, Liv Newman, Niya Bond, and Enilda Romero-Hall.

Committee Statement

Feminist Pedagogy for Teaching Online expertly examines the experiences that interdisciplinary and global feminist educators have had—both their successes and their challenges—in infusing feminist pedagogical tenets into their online teaching and learning practices. Contributors consider a variety of questions, including how to promote connection, reflexivity, and embodiment; build equity, cooperation, and co-education; and create cultures of care in the online classroom.



ÁNGEL DAVID NIEVES BOOK AWARD FOR A MONOGRAPH

Amy E. Earhart

Texas A&M University

Digital Literary Redlining: African American Anthologies, Digital Humanities, and the Canon

Amy E. Earhart is Professor of English and affiliated faculty of Africana Studies at Texas A&M University. Publications include *Traces of Old, Uses of the New: The Emergence of Digital Literary Studies* (U Michigan Press 2015), a co-edited collection *The American Literature Scholar in the Digital Age* (U Michigan Press 2010), and a number of articles and book chapters. She is at work on a monograph titled "The Millican Massacre: Networked Racial Violence and Archival Restitution."

Committee Statement

Mobilizing American Studies, Black Studies, Critical Race Studies, literary criticism, digital humanities, book history, and Digital Information Studies, *Digital Literary Redlining* foregrounds critical questions about knowledge infrastructures and their impacts in a moment of growing white nationalism and the erasure of Black texts and histories.

HONORABLE MENTION: William Rankin, Associate Professor of History, Yale University. *Radical Cartography: How Changing Our Maps Can Change Our World.*



ASA DIGITAL HUMANITIES CAUCUS DIGITAL PROJECT AWARD (LEGACY)

Linford D. Fisher

Brown University



"Stolen Relations: Recovering Stories of Indigenous Enslavement in the Americas"

The Stolen Relations project was founded and is led by Linford D. Fisher, Professor of History at Brown University. Its creation and maintenance has been made possible by the staff at the Center for Digital Scholarship, including Ashley Champagne (Director), Patrick Rashleigh, Tarika Sankar, Khanh Vo, Elizabeth Yalkut, and Cody Carvel. The project was also built with the collaboration of tribal representatives from a New England Native communities. To learn more, please visit www.stolenrelations.org.

Committee Statement

The Stolen Relations project is a rich resource created in relationship with tribal partners, resulting in a database of 7,000+ entries of people related to the enslavement of Indigenous people and interviews, artwork, and music with and from contemporary tribal members. The project is accessible to a wide breadth of users, including tribal communities, students, teachers, researchers, academics, and the wider public.



ASA DIGITAL HUMANITIES CAUCUS DIGITAL PROJECT AWARD (NEWCOMER)

Hannah Rose Green

University of Idaho

"Sedimentation: An Archive of Glen Canyon"

Hannah Rose Green is a Ph.D. student in the Department of Environmental Sciences at the University of Idaho, where she recently earned an M.A. in English. Her research explores the intersection of human and natural histories, particularly in riverine environments. "Sedimentation" is her Master's thesis.

Committee Statement

In a dynamic exploration of Glen Canyon that also doubles as a study of narrative form, this project team explores pressing questions about resource management, conservation, territory claims, water rights, ecological remediation, and environmental justice while simultaneously probing the impacts of formats and sentiment. "Sedimentation: An Archive of Glen Canyon" expertly utilizes the affordances of digital storytelling to integrate visual material, hyperlinkages, user interactivity, and writing.



NEW DIRECTIONS IN DISABILITY STUDIES GRADUATE STUDENT PAPER AWARD

Hannah Brancato

University of Maryland

"Resisting the Reparative: Moving Beyond the Trauma Industry"

Hannah Brancato, M.F.A., is a Baltimore-based artist-scholar and doctoral student in American Studies at the University of Maryland (UMD). With more than 15 years of politically engaged collective art practice, Brancato's research examines the role of art in anti-carceral movements against gender-based violence. She recently curated *We Will Not Be Silent: Art Transforming Rape Culture* at UMD's Stamp Gallery. Her writing has appeared in *Unbound: A Journal of Digital Scholarship*, with work forthcoming in *Women & Performance* and the anthology *Handbook of Craft as Method*. She is a 2026 Imagining America PAGE Fellow.

Committee Statement

This year's prize is awarded to Hannah Brancato, as curator/chair of the roundtable "Resisting the Reparative: Moving Beyond the Trauma Industry," along with Isifaa Ahmed, Avgi Saketopoulou, and Lara Sheehi. The committee was impressed by Hannah's curatorial labor across disciplines and ranks, for the work they did in thinking across fields, and for synthesizing work on trauma with Disability Studies in ways that pushed the field in new directions.



ANNETTE KOLODNY AWARD FOR BEST ENVIRONMENTALLY-THEMED PAPER AT THE CONFERENCE

Lisa Fink

Michigan State University

"'Invasive' Species, Carceral Conservation, and Abolitionist Restoration"

Lisa Fink (they/she) is Assistant Professor in the Lyman Brigg's College at Michigan State University. Their research and teaching focuses on human-environment relations, land management, and Tribal sovereignty.

Committee Statement

In their award-winning presentation, Dr. Fink applies the lens of abolition ecologies to argue that invasive species management exemplifies carceral conservation through containment, blaming, "command-and-control" forms of environmental management, and technologies of surveillance—at the expense of Indigenous knowledges and lifeways. Examining Anishinaabe basketmaking and conservation practices in the upper Great Lakes region, they identify an abolitionist restoration that envisions the abolition of carceral forms of conservation and restoration by restoring Indigenous communities, relations, and praxis to the land.

CRITICAL FOOD STUDIES CAUCUS

SIDNEY MINTZ PRIZE FOR MENTORSHIP



Psyche Williams-Forson

University of Maryland, College Park

Psyche Williams-Forson is a professor, author, and leading scholar of Black food studies whose extensive publications have helped build the field as a vital area of academic inquiry. Through the landmark, award-winning book *Building Houses out of Chicken Legs* and the James Beard Award–winning *Eating While Black*, she examines how food illuminates Black women's lives, racial power, gender, class, and cultural history.

Committee Statement

Dr. Psyche Williams-Forson's record of helping build both scholars and the field in which they work is unparalleled. She was the first Black woman to chair the University of Maryland's Department of American Studies, her mentorship has taken many forms: through advising and serving on committees; through leadership that helped make space for emerging researchers and exciting questions about food politics and ethics; and through the influence of work that continues to be cited, taught, extended, and acknowledged across this field and others. In honoring Williams-Forson, we recognize mentorship as a practice of growing a discipline through sustained relationships and the circulation of ideas in ways that ensure the field remains diverse and connected to the questions that will shape its future.

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE



SHELLEY FISHER FISHKIN PRIZE FOR INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP IN TRANSNATIONAL AMERICAN STUDIES

Jake Subryan Richards

London School of Economics and Political Science

The Bonds of Freedom: Liberated Africans and the End of the Slave Trade

Jake Subryan Richards is Assistant Professor of International History at the London School of Economics and Political Science. He is a historian of the Atlantic world and global history, with interests in legal history, the history of empires, and the African diaspora. Richards has published articles in multiple journals, co-curated the exhibition *Black Atlantic: Power, People, Resistance at the Fitzwilliam Museum in Cambridge* (2023-24), and coedited the accompanying catalogue. Richards is a Fellow at the Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin (2026-27).

Committee Statement

This impressively researched book assembles an extensive, transnational, and transimperial archive to illuminate the understudied history of people who were seized from slave ships by maritime patrols, forced into bonded labor, and sought to materialize their own visions of freedom. The work and its method — diasporic Atlantic legal history — will make important contributions to a range of fields.

HONORABLE MENTION: Etsuko Taketani, Meiji University. *Aerial Archives of Race: African American Cultural Expressions and the Black Nuclear Pacific.*

ALAN BRAY MEMORIAL BOOK AWARD



Kyla Wazana Tompkins

University of Buffalo

Deviant Matter: Ferment, Intoxicants, Jelly, Rot

Kyla Wazana Tompkins is Chair of the Department of Global Gender and Sexuality Studies at the University at Buffalo, currently on leave as a 2026 – 2027 fellow at the National Humanities Center in North Carolina. Her scholarship reads food, race, and sexuality through close attention to aesthetic form. Her first book, *Racial Indigestion*, won the ASA's 2013 Lora Romero Prize. Her essays have appeared in *American Quarterly*, *Social Text*, and *Callaloo*, and she co-edited "On the Visceral," a special double issue of *GLQ*.

Committee Statement

There is no dearth of scholarship on the topic of deviance in queer studies and yet there is no study to date that has accomplished what *Deviant Matter* has. Through its engagements with queer of color critique and Black feminisms, Tompkins tends to new materialism's race problem as it charts a new path for queer and otherwise minoritarian political and disciplinary critique.

HONORABLE MENTION: Marcos Gonsalez, Baruch College. *Revolting Indolence: The Politics of Slacking, Lounging, and Daydreaming in Queer and Trans Latinx Culture*

CROMPTON-NOLL PRIZE FOR BEST LGBTQ STUDIES ARTICLE



Ava L.J. Kim

University of California, Davis

"The Future is Child's Play: A Travesti, Intersex Theory of Anti-Development"

Ava L.J. Kim is Assistant Professor of Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies at the University of California, Davis. Her book-in-progress, *Still / Life*, traces how "transition" names both a person's change of gender and a nation's path toward democratization and development, drawing on Argentina, Chile, the Philippines, and Vietnam. Her essays have appeared in *GLQ*, *Studies in Gender and Sexuality*, *American Studies*, and the collection *About Face*. She co-founded the Mellon-funded Trans Freedom School with Christoph Hanssmann.

Committee Statement

The committee unanimously selects Kim's essay in recognition of its exceptional facility with the current state of trans and queer studies and its genuinely innovative contribution to the field. Kim's work demonstrates deep engagement with contemporary trans theory while productively linking psychosocial models of development to broader national and political discourses of transition, thereby reframing questions of temporality, futurity, and governance in trans life.

HONORABLE MENTION: S. Pearl Brilmyer, University of Pennsylvania. "Queer Rigidity: Habits and Limits of the Performativity Thesis"



RICHARD A. YARBOROUGH MENTORING AWARD

Sean X. Goudie

Pennsylvania State University

Sean X. Goudie is Associate Professor of English at Penn State University where he serves as Director of the Center for American Literary Studies (CALS). Goudie's research and teaching challenge bounded "national" estimations of the field in favor of "hemispheric" and "transnational" approaches, and he is a past recipient of the MLA Prize for a First Book for *Creole America: the West Indies and the Formation of Literature and Culture in the New Republic* (U Penn Press, 2006). Under the auspices of CALS, Goudie co-founded C19: The Society of Nineteenth-Century Americanists and he founded and co-directs, with Priscilla Wald of Duke University, the First Book Institute, which celebrates its fifteenth anniversary in 2027.



Priscilla Wald

Duke University

Priscilla Wald teaches and works on U.S. literature and culture, particularly literature of the late-18th to mid-20th centuries, contemporary narratives of science and medicine, science fiction literature and film, law and literature, and environmental studies. Her current work focuses on the intersections among the law, literature, science and medicine. In her research, her teaching and her professional activities, she is committed to promoting conversations among scholars from science, medicine, law and cultural studies in order to facilitate a richer understanding of how information circulates through language, images, and stories to shape lived experience.

Committee Statement

While the award usually honors a single scholar for their dedication and excellence in mentoring and advising minority scholars, this year's award is special in that it honors two exemplary scholars, Sean X. Goudie and Priscilla Wald, who have worked together to mentor numerous early career scholars over the last decade through their establishment and co-directorship of the First Book Institute (FBI), held annually, which features workshops and presentations led by institute faculty aimed at assisting early career participants in transforming their book projects into ones that promise to make a significant impact on the field.

HONORABLE MENTION: Ricardo L. Ortiz, Professor of U.S. Latinx Literature, Georgetown University



EMERGING SCHOLAR AWARD

Alex T. Nuñez

University of Arizona & Pima Community College

Dr. Alex Nuñez is a recent Ph.D. graduate from the Department of History at the University of Arizona. A historian of Mexican Americans and sports, his current research project examines how Mexican Americans have used baseball to build community and establish hybridized identities as Americans with Mexican ethnic backgrounds. Stemming from his past experiences with museums and the National Park Service, the core of his research philosophy is using historical inquiry to ensure the accessibility of sports, outdoor leisure, and recreational spaces for Mexican-descent populations and other minorities. He is currently an instructor for the University of Arizona's W.A. Franke Honors College, Department of History, and Office of General Education, and adjunct faculty in Department of Mexican American Studies at Pima Community College.

Committee Statement

We are thrilled to award Dr. Alex T. Nuñez the 2026 ASA Sports Studies Caucus Emerging Scholar Award. His dedication to cultivating conversation and community through the traveling Smithsonian exhibit, “¡Pleibol! In the Barrios and the Big Leagues,” as well as his teaching and scholarship, beautifully represents the future of our field.

HONORABLE MENTION: Tracie Canada, Assistant Professor, Duke University

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at the ASA's Opening Night Dinner and Awards Ceremony, featuring a special program from College Unbound. Tickets and information on our website: theASA.net/opening.


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