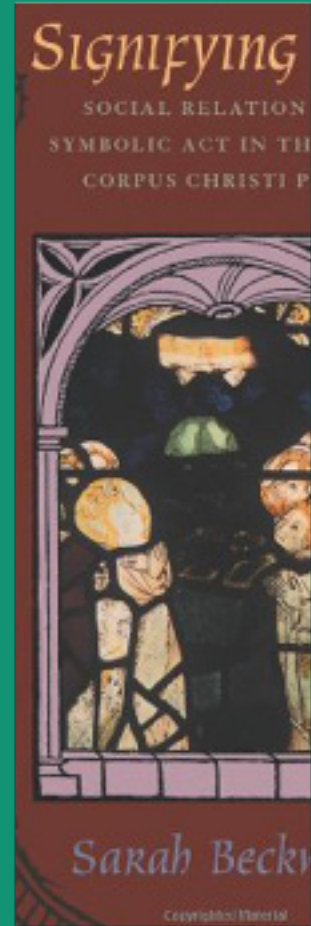




HUMANITIES INSTITUTE
Challenge. Create. Connect.

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA



SPRING
2015

VOLUME 8
ISSUE 2

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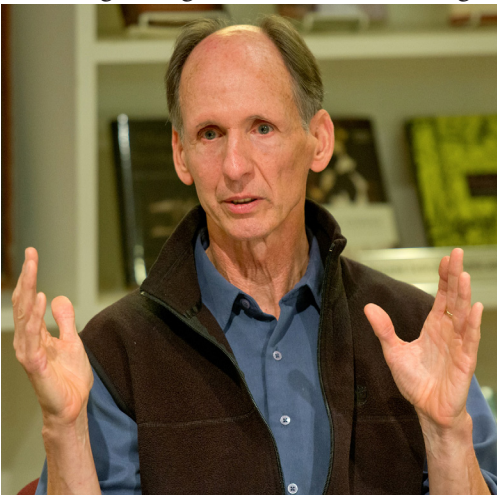
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Spring Scholars-in-Residence

Our successful Distinguished Scholar-in-Residence program continues this Spring with an influential anthropologist/historian and an award-winning poet and young-adult writer.

James Clifford will be in residence at USF for the week beginning Jan. 26. He is Distinguished Professor



James Clifford addresses "Art and Ethnography in the Post-Western Museum" on Jan. 27, in CWY 206 at 6 pm.

in the Humanities and Emeritus Professor in the History of Consciousness Department, University of California, Santa Cruz. After completing his PhD in European Intellectual and Social History at

Harvard (1977), Clifford worked with Hayden White, Donna Haraway, Teresa de Lauretis, Barbara Epstein, Angela Davis and many more, developing an innovative interdisciplinary PhD program linking the Humanities, Social Sciences and Arts. This environment shaped his scholarship, encouraging experimentation and border crossing.

Over decades, Clifford's work has combined perspectives from history, literary analysis, anthropology, cultural studies, poetics, and museum studies. He contributed to the intellectual history of anthropology, with an emphasis on Western notions of culture, art, and the exotic as these were related to changing colonial and postcolonial situations. Two key books developed a critique of anthropological knowledge and research practices: *Writing Culture; the Poetics and Politics of Ethnography*, co-edited with George Marcus (1986), and *The Predicament of Culture: 20th Century Ethnography, Literature and Art* (1988). Both have had a broad influence across many fields of cultural analysis and artistic production, becoming key texts in the "crisis of representation" of the 1980s and 1990s. Clifford followed this in 1997 with *Routes: Travel and Translation in the Late 20th Century*.

Clifford's work has both problematized and championed ethnographic perspectives, especially when combined with culturally sensitive historical analysis. His most recent book, *Returns: Becoming Indigenous in the 21st Century*, is both a critique of historical ethnography and an attempt to put it into practice in a combination of analytic scholarship, meditative essays, and poetic experimentation.

James Clifford is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, a recent Guggenheim recipient and an External Fellow at the Stanford Humanities Center. He has held visiting professorships at Yale, University College London, The Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales in Paris, and the Freie Universität in Berlin.

While at USF, Clifford will visit seven classes in several departments, and will also give a public talk: "Art and Ethnography in the Post-Western Museum." He notes two principal avenues through which the material creations of non-Western peoples have gained value in Europe and North America. One may be called "culture," the other "art." In spite of the decentering pressures of decolonization and globalization, these categories—"two museums"—persist. His talk explores shifting institutional relations between art and ethnography, drawing on examples from museological innovations in Vancouver, Berlin, and Paris. He asks: "what is gained and lost in the increasing pressure to represent "global arts and cultures?" What prospects for serious cross-cultural translation can be found in the emerging forms of collecting, programming, and marketing diversity?"

Clifford will speak at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 27, in CWY 206, followed by a reception and book signing.

Naomi Shihab Nye is our second distinguished visitor for the week beginning March 30. Nye is a poet, novelist, songwriter, essayist, and writer of young adult fiction. She will visit in conjunction with our annual National Poetry Month events, visiting classes, giving a reading and talk,

She brings attention to the female as a humorous, wry creature with brisk, hard intelligence, and a sense of personal freedom.

and presenting prizes in our annual poetry competition.

Born to a Palestinian father and American mother, she has published more than 30 volumes, including poetry, essays, and novels for both adults and children. Her fellowships include Lannan, Guggenheim, and Witter Bynner (Library of Congress), and she has received numerous poetry awards, including the Lavan Award from

the Academy of American Poets, the Isabella Gardner Poetry Award, the Lee Bennett Hopkins Poetry Award, the Paterson Poetry Prize, four Pushcart Prizes, and the Robert Creeley Prize.

In 2013, Nye won the prestigious NSK Neustadt Prize for Children's Literature, a \$25,000 juried award sponsored by the University of Oklahoma and World Literature Today. At the award banquet, WLT's executive director, commented that "with her powerful vision ... Ms. Nye may be one of the most complete and accomplished writers in the world."



Naomi Shihab Nye will kick off National Poetry Month at USF 2015.

Her most recent young adult novel, *The Turtle of Oman* (2014) tells the story of Aref Al-Amri, a young boy who must say good-bye to his hometown of Muscat, Oman, to move with his family to Michigan.

According to Jane Tanner in the *Dictionary of Literary Biography*, "Nye observes the business of living and the continuity among all the world's inhabitants... She is international in scope and internal in focus." Another critic noted that she "brings attention to the female as a humorous, wry creature with brisk, hard intelligence and a sense of personal freedom."

Since 9/11, Nye has spoken often on behalf of Arab-Americans, and as a voice for cross-cultural understanding. Her volume, *19 Varieties of Gazelle: Poems of the Middle East*, was widely praised for its timely message.

Critic Donna Seaman wrote that "Nye's clarion condemnation of prejudice and injustice reminds readers that most Americans have ties to other lands and that all concerns truly are universal."

Naomi Shihab Nye will give a reading on Monday, March 30 (MSC 4200), and will headline a discussion panel on Wednesday, April 1 (MSC 4200) with poets visiting USF for the College of the Arts' "Building Bridges" grant. Both events will be at 6 p.m., followed by a reception and book signing.

Digital Humanities in the New Technological Era

While “digital humanities” has become something of a buzz-word of late, there are many versions of what it means, and how it affects research, teaching and learning. This January, we’re delighted to welcome a pioneer in digital humanities, Steven Jones, who will address the implications of profound technological changes for the humanities in “The Eversion of Cyberspace and the Emergence of the Digital Humanities.”

Jones is Professor of English and Co-Director of the Center for Textual Studies and Digital Humanities at Loyola University Chicago. His research interests include Romantic-period literature, textual studies—which looks at the production, transmission, and reception of texts of all kinds—and digital humanities, the intersection of computing and the humanities. This year he is Distinguished Visiting Fellow in the Advanced Research Collaboratory at the City University of New York Graduate Center, where he is working on a book about the beginnings of humanities computing.

His books include *Codename Revolution: The Nintendo Wii Platform* (with George K. Thiruvathukal, 2012), *The Meaning of Video Games* (2008), and *Against Technology* (2006), about the historical Luddite movement in Britain and its neo-Luddite descendants.

is now experienced as a ubiquitous grid of data that we move through and interact with every day, raising new questions about the social, locative, embodied, and object-oriented nature of our experience in the networked world. As he notes, “the new interdisciplinary digital humanities can be understood as a response to these social and technological changes, a shift in focus that brings the insights of the humanities and its research to



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In his talk, as in his most recent book, *The Emergence of the Digital Humanities* (2013), Jones argues that the past decade has seen a profound shift in our collective understanding of the digital network. What was once understood to be a transcendent virtual reality

bear on the relationship of the digital and the physical in today’s world.”

Jones will speak at 6 p.m., Tuesday, Jan. 20, in CWY 206 with a reception and book signing to follow.

USF Digital Humanities Initiative Our January event helps highlight a new USF Digital Humanities Initiative, coordinated by the College of Arts and Sciences and the Institute. A recent survey to assess interest in DH drew 80 responses from faculty in 19 departments, including both those already working in the area and others interested in knowing more. We plan to provide an opportunity to meet informally with Dr. Jones, to discuss ideas for the future of Digital Humanities at USF. Stay tuned for more details!

Homegrown Humanities

Local talent guaranteed fresh

In 2012 the Humanities Institute started its Homegrown Humanities project—a series of events designed to celebrate newly published books by USF faculty. These talks are a great way to learn about the innovative research being done by our own world-class faculty. Refreshments are served at 3 pm in the Grace Allen Room of the Library and talks begin at 3:30 p.m. This semester, we're happy to feature new books by John Lennon and Rick Wilber.

John Lennon (English)

Boxcar Politics: The Hobo in U.S. Culture and Literature, 1869 – 1956

Wednesday, Jan. 14 The hobo is a figure ensconced in the cultural fabric of the United States. Once categorized as a member of a homeless army who ought to be jailed or killed, the hobo has evolved into a safe, grandfatherly exemplar of Americana. *Boxcar Politics* reestablishes the hobo's political thorns. John Lennon maps the rise and demise of the political hobo from the nineteenth-century introduction of the transcontinental railroad to the Federal Aid Highway Act of 1956. Intertwining literary, historical, and theoretical representations of the hobo, he explores how riders and writers imagined alternative ways that working-class people could use mobility to create powerful dissenting voices outside of fixed hierarchal political organizations. Placing portrayals of hobos in the works of Jack London, Jim Tully, John Dos Passos, and Jack Kerouac alongside the lived reality of people hopping trains (including hobos of the IWW, the Scottsboro Boys, and those found in numerous long-forgotten memoirs), Lennon investigates how these marginalized individuals exerted collective political voices through subcultural practices.



Rick Wilber (Mass Communications)

Field of Fantasies: Baseball Stories of the Strange and Supernatural



Wednesday, Mar. 11 Rick Wilber has gathered a collection that reaches from some of the earliest classics from the pulp era and baseball's golden age, all the way to material appearing for the first time in a print edition. You'll encounter ghostly apparitions in the stands, a strangely charming vampire double-play combination, one fan who can call every shot and another who can see the past, a sad alternate-reality for the game's most famous player, unlikely appearances on the field by famous personalities from Stephen Crane to Fidel Castro, a hilariously humble teenage phenom, and much more. Whether you love the game or just great fiction, these stories will appeal to all.

Civil War, Civil Rights, and Beyond

The Resonance of the Past in the Present



The year 2015 is the 150th anniversary of the end of the American Civil War, and also marks 50 years since a key year in the Civil Rights movement, which saw the assassination of Malcolm X, the Selma to Montgomery Marches, “Bloody Sunday,” and the passage of the Voting Rights Act. But although the Civil Rights struggle brought legal equality, true equality remains elusive, 50 years later.

Throughout February, assisted by a grant from the Florida Humanities Council, the Institute hosts a series of events that interrogates the impact of the Civil War and its legacy through Reconstruction, the Civil Rights Era, and into today. Four prominent humanities scholars/writers offer a critical discussion of the war’s long “afterlife,” inviting audiences to reflect on sometimes uncomfortable aspects of our heritage, with a special focus on the South.

Historian **David Goldfield** leads off the series on Feb. 3. Goldfield, the Robert Lee Bailey Professor of History, University of North Carolina, Charlotte, is the author of several books, including the widely acclaimed *America Aflame* (2011), which offers a new interpretation of the Civil War era, providing a reevaluation of the “fiery trial” that transformed the country. In his talk, “The Civil War: An American Legacy,” he argues that although the War ended slavery and saved the Union, it did not resolve the status of the freed slaves or the nature of the new Union. “How Americans remembered that war would shape the responses to those issues over the next 150 years.”

USF’s own **K. Stephen Prince**, Assistant Professor of History, continues the discussion on Feb. 10 with “Stories of the South: Race and the Reconstruction of Southern Identity, 1865-1915,” also the title of his 2014 book. He argues that during Reconstruction, the North assumed significant power to redefine the South, imagining a region rebuilt and modeled on northern society. The white South actively resisted these efforts, while white southern storytellers worked to recast the South’s image, romanticizing the Lost Cause and heralding the birth of a New South. This cultural production was as important as political competition and economic striving in turning the South and the nation away from the egalitarian promises of Reconstruction and toward Jim Crow. Examining novels, minstrel songs, travel brochures, illustrations, oratory, and other cultural artifacts of the time, he shows



SIGNATURE THEME

History,
Myth, and
Memory

the centrality of popular culture to the reconstruction of southern identity, shedding new light on the complicity of the North in the retreat from the possibility of racial democracy.

On Feb. 17, we welcome **Leslie Brown**, Associate Professor of History and Africana Studies at Williams College. Author of the award-winning book *Upbuilding Black Durham: Gender, Class, and Black Community Development in the Urban South* (2008), she is an expert on slavery, emancipation, and civil rights. In her talk, “To Demand these God-Given Rights is to Seek Black Power: Power Politics and Civil Rights Activism,” she notes that the themes of black power and black nationalism are often associated with the radical shift of political trends during the mid- and late-1960s. But those concepts, their associated strategies of activism, and even their language can be found in the 19th Century as well as the 20th. Nor have these concepts waned in the 21st century, as black people continue to demand access to their “God-given rights.”

We close the series on Feb. 24 with a visit from acclaimed writer **Leonard Pitts, Jr.** Novelist, commentator, syndicated columnist, and Pulitzer Prize winner, his writing spans historical novels set in the post-Civil War era to hard-hitting columns about current events, with a frequent focus on issues of race. His work features regularly in the *Tampa Bay Times*. His talk, “The War That Would Not End,” looks at how, from the moment the war ended, much of the country has sought to attain the wartime goals of the South—that is, the suppression and subjugation of African-American people, men in particular—by other means. The nation’s failure to live up to the principles enshrined in its founding documents and vindicated at a great cost of blood during the Civil War, was what made the Civil Rights Movement necessary. “And Ferguson is a direct reflection of how much remains yet undone.”



**Florida
Humanities
Council**

The four talks may be experienced as a related series, but each also stands alone. All will be at 6 p.m. in CWY 206 (Military Science Building), and will be followed by a reception.

Guest Speakers

All talks begin at 6 pm in CWY 206
(Military Science Building)



David Goldfield
The Civil War: An American Legacy

February 3



K. Stephen Prince
Stories of the South: Race and the Reconstruction of Southern Identity, 1865-1915

February 10



Leslie Brown
To Demand these God-Given Rights is to Seek Black Power

February 17



Leonard Pitts, Jr.
The War That Would Not End

February 24

Spring 2015 Calendar

Jan. 14
Wed. 3:30pm
GAR (Library)

JOHN LENNON: *Boxcar Politics: The Hobo in U.S. Culture and Literature*
A Homegrown Humanities Event
Refreshments served at 3 pm

Jan. 20
Tue. 6pm
CWY 206

STEVEN JONES: *The Eversion of Cyberspace and the Emergence of the Digital Humanities*
Followed by a reception and book signing

Jan. 27
Tue. 6pm
CWY 206

JAMES CLIFFORD: *Art and Ethnography in the Post-Western Museum*
Followed by a reception and book signing

Feb. 3
Tue. 6pm
CWY 206

DAVID GOLDFIELD:
The Civil War: An American Legacy
Followed by a reception and book signing

Feb. 10
Tue. 6pm
CWY 206

K. STEPHEN PRINCE: *Stories of the South: Race and the Reconstruction of Southern Identity, 1865 - 1915*
Followed by a reception and book signing

Feb. 17
Tue. 6pm
CWY 206

LESLIE BROWN: *To Demand these God-Given Rights is to Seek Black Power: Power Politics and Civil Rights Activism*
Followed by a reception and book signing

Feb. 24
Tue. 6pm
CWY 206

LEONARD PITTS, JR.:
The War That Would Not End
Followed by a reception and book signing

Mar. 11
Wed. 3:30pm
GAR (Library)

RICK WILBER: *Field of Fantasies: Baseball Stories of the Strange and Supernatural*
A Homegrown Humanities Event
Refreshments served at 3 pm

Mar. 16
Mon. 6pm
CWY 107

ELLEN KLAGES: *Science Fiction Reading*
Followed by a reception and book signing

Mar. 17
Tue. 2pm
MSC 3705

ELLEN KLAGES: *Sci-Fi, Fantasy, and Gender Discussion Panel*
Followed by a reception and book signing

Mar. 30
Mon. 6pm
MSC 4200

NAOMI SHIHAB NYE: *Poetry Reading*
Followed by a reception and book signing

Apr. 1
Wed. 6pm
MSC 4200

Arab American Poetry Discussion Panel
Followed by a reception and book signing

Apr. 6
Mon. 6pm
CWY 206

SARAH BECKWITH: *Shakespeare, Tragedy, Possessing Language*
Followed by a reception and book signing

Apr. 16
Thu. 6pm
TECO Room

JACQUELINE OSHEROW: *Poetry Reading*
Followed by a reception and book signing

Apr. 21
Tue. 6pm
TECO Room

SANDRA BEASLEY & MEG DAY:
Poetry Reading
Followed by a reception and book signing

Apr. 22
Wed. 6pm
TECO Room

Women in Poetry Discussion Panel
Followed by a reception and book signing

WHERE IS THAT BUILDING?

GAR: The Grace Allen Room is located on the 4th floor of the USF Library. Exit the elevators and go through the door on the left marked “Special Collections.”

CWY: C.W.. Bill Young Hall is the ROTC building located between the Recreation Center and the Tennis Courts on Maple Drive.

TECO Room: The TECO Room is located on the first floor of the Education Building, across from Cooper Hall.

MSC: The Marshall Student Center is in the center of campus near the theaters and Contemporary Art Museum. It is accessible via Holly Dr.

Patel Ctr. for Global Solutions: From the USF main Fowler entrance, turn right on Alumni Drive. The Patel Center for Global Solutions (CGS) will be on the right at the intersection of Alumni Dr. and Maple Dr.

WHERE DO I PARK?

Download a visitor parking map at: www.usf.edu/parking. All venues are convenient to visitor parking areas with automated pay-by-space machines.

Gender Bending Sci-Fi

This Spring, we continue our annual Science Fiction tradition with a visit from the new World Fantasy Award winner, Ellen Klages.

Klages, along with co-author Andy Duncan won the prestigious 2014 WFA award for their novella, *Wakulla Springs*, a coming-of-age story set in a mysterious freshwater cave, deep in the jungle of the Florida

collections, and two novels, and she serves on the “Motherboard” for the James Tiptree, Jr. Award, an annual literary prize for works of science fiction or fantasy that expand or explore issues of gender.

Klages’ short fiction has appeared in many anthologies and magazines, including *The Magazine of Fantasy and Science Fiction*, *Black Gate*, *Eclipse*, and *Firebirds Rising*. Her story, “Basement Magic,” won the Best Novelette Nebula Award in 2005. Several of her other stories have been on the final ballot for the Nebula, World Fantasy, and Hugo Awards, and have been reprinted in various Year’s Best volumes. According to one reviewer, “Klages creates wonder-filled and beautiful worlds.”

Her first novel, *The Green Glass Sea*, about two misfit eleven-year-old girls living in Los Alamos during WWII, explores themes of

gender, science, and history, described in a review as “an intense but accessible page-turner.”

Klages developed her interests in writing while working at the Exploratorium museum in San Francisco; in addition to her fiction she has written four books of hands-on science activities for children (with Pat Murphy).

Klages will be speaking and reading from her work on Monday, March 16, at 6 p.m. (CWY 107) followed by a reception. On March 17 at 2 p.m. in MSC 3705, she will be joined by USF faculty members Diane Price-Herndl (Women’s & Gender Studies) and Nancy White (Anthropology) for an interdisciplinary discussion of science fiction/fantasy and gender, moderated by Rick Wilber. The event is co-sponsored by the School of Mass Communications.



panhandle.

Klages is the author of over 20 short stories and novellas, several

National Poetry Month 2015

NPM@USF

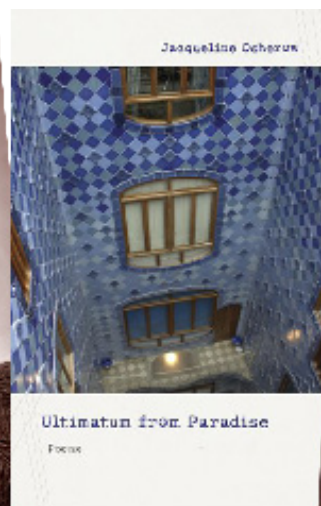
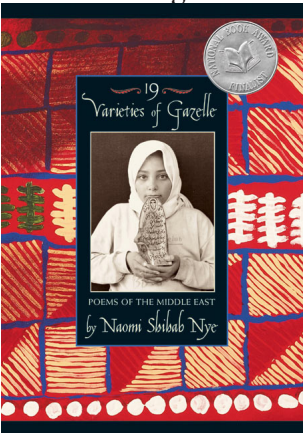
National Poetry Month 2015

The Humanities Institute is known for its special emphasis on the Power of the Poetic. It is one of our signature themes and every year we participate in the Academy of American Poets' celebration of "National Poetry Month."

NPM@USF has evolved from a small series of readings into a wide range of readings, lectures, performance events, and an annual poetry contest. This year's NPM promises a great mix of events that will appeal to anyone who loves poetry. For the third year in a row, we thank the Florida Humanities Council for their support and Dr. Jay Hopler in the Department of English for his dedication to this series.

NPM@USF will begin with a week-long visit from **Naomi Shihab Nye** as part of our Distinguished Scholar-in-Residence program (see page 3 for details of Nye's prestigious career). During her residency she will hold two public events. The first will be a poetry reading on March 30 at 6 p.m. (MSC 4200). The second

event will be an on-stage discussion and Q&A with several Arab American poets who will be visiting USF as part of the College of the Arts' "Building Bridges" grant including Suheir Hammad, Tahani Salah, and Amir Rabiyyah. This event will be held on April 1 at 6 p.m. (MSC 4200).



Please visit the NPM@USF website for a complete list of events, author bios, photos, and more.

April 6: Sarah Beckwith: "Shakespeare, Tragedy, and Possessing Language." Sarah Beckwith, the Katherine Everitt Gilbert Professor of English, Theater Studies, and Religious Studies at Duke University, will give the second annual Shakespeare lecture at 6 p.m. in CWY 206 (Military Sciences Building).

April 16: Jacqueline Osherow, Distinguished Professor of English at University of Utah, is the author of several collections of award-winning poetry including *Looking for Angels in New York*, *The Hoopoe's Crown*, *Dead Man's Praise*, and *Ultimatum from Paradise*. She will give a poetry reading at 6 p.m. in the TECO Room (Education Building).

April 21: Sandra Beasley, author of *Theories of Falling* and *I Was the Jukebox* and Meg Day, author of *Last Psalm at Sea Level* will give a poetry reading at 6 p.m. in the TECO Room (Education Building).

April 22: Sandra Beasley and Meg Day will be joined by Erica Dawson to participate in a discussion panel addressing issues of poetic influences, mentoring, and gender disparities in publishing, 6 p.m. in the TECO Room (Education Building).

The
Power
of the
Poetic

SIGNATURE
THEME

NPM@USF2015 Poetry Contest

Once again we invite you to unleash your inner poet, and compete in our annual poetry competition. This year's theme is *"Everyday Life."* What inspiration can be found in the daily acts of eating breakfast, answering email, or even sitting in traffic? The theme of "Everyday Life" may be interpreted broadly allowing poets to draw inspiration from the often overlooked routines of our daily lives. The contest is divided into two categories: High School Poets and USF Poets.

- High school poets must be enrolled in either public or private high school (or home school equivalent) in Hillsborough, Pinellas, Pasco, or Manatee Counties.
- USF Poets must be students, staff/faculty members (including part-time, adjunct, OPS, etc.) or alumni, affiliated with any institution in the USF system.

Visit the NPM@USF website to read all the rules, download the required coversheet, and learn how to submit your poem. Entries must be original and unpublished and they must be received by Feb. 20th. We will award first, second, and third place prizes in both categories and winners will receive their awards at the March 30th poetry reading with Naomi Shihab Nye. Additional finalists' poems will be featured on the NPM@USF Website throughout the month of April, 2015. www.humanities-institute.usf.edu/poetry/

Shakespeare and the Importance of Being Human

This April, we continue our annual Shakespeare series with a visit from renowned scholar Sarah Beckwith, who maintains that through Shakespeare, we can better understand the importance of being human.

Beckwith is the Katherine Everitt Gilbert Professor of English, Theatre Studies, and Religious Studies at Duke University, where she teaches



classes that include medieval literature and theatre. She is the author of three books: *Christ's Body* (1996), *Signifying God* (2003), and most recently *Shakespeare and the Grammar of*

Forgiveness (2012). She is a co-founder of the book series, *Re-Formations*, published by the University of Notre Dame Press, and served as co-editor of the *Journal of Medieval and Early Modern Studies*.

In her talk, "Shakespeare, Tragedy, Possessing Language," Beckwith argues that "The rejection of all talk of the human has left the humanities pathetically enfeebled and almost defenseless against the combined but formidable onslaughts of the corporate university, the business model of education, and its own consequential abandonment of the common reader." She shows how Shakespeare offers us a way of talking about the human – not as either a metaphysical or biological entity to be scientifically established, nor as a definition

that excludes non-rational creatures, but as a form of life to which we are



fated. She notes that "In particular his late tragedies are involved in an exploration of how it is internal to being human to wish to escape from this condition, and the cravings, ruses, compulsions, the costs and consequences of this avoidance."

Beckwith will speak at 6 p.m., Monday, April 6 in CWY 206 followed by a reception and book signing.



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