Elmira 2022:
The Ninth International Conference on the State of Mark Twain Studies
August 4 – 6, 2022

Elmira College and Quarry Farm
Elmira, New York

Conference Chairs:
Shelley Fisher Fishkin, Stanford University
Tracy Wuster, University of Texas at Austin

Online Registration at
marktwainstudies.com/elmira2022
Elmira 2022 Conference Schedule

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(Friday, April 1, 2022)

Wednesday, August 3

8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.  Registration (Meier Hall, Morris Classroom)

Thursday, August 4

8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.  Registration (Meier Hall, Morris Classroom)

8:00 a.m. – 8:50 p.m.  Full Breakfast

9:00 a.m. – 10:20 a.m.  Session One

A.  **Flash Session: The Changing Landscapes of Author Societies and Other Academic Organizations**  (Tifft Lounge)

   - Ben Click
   - Tsuyoshi Ishihara
   - Judith Yaross Lee
   - Bruce Michelson (organizer)
   - Rebecca Nisetich
   - Jeanne Campbell Reesman
   - Tracy Wuster

B.  **La Familia Clemens: Susy, Jean, Nina**  (Gannett-Tripp Library)

   - Linda A. Morris, “Susy Clemens: The Final Years (1890-1896)”
   - Philip Bauer, “For the Sake of Growth and Change: My Inconsistent Look at the Life of Jean Clemens”
   - Alan Rankin, Nina Gabriowitsch: Actress, Writer, Photographer”
10:30 a.m. – 11:50 a.m.  
**Session Two**

**A. Flash Session: Mark Twain Studies: Surviving Change, Embracing the Future (Tifft Lounge)**

- Erin Bartram
- Joe B. Fulton
- Susan K. Harris (organizer)
- Myrial A. Holbrook
- James Leonard
- Matt Seybold
- Mika Turim-Nygren

**B. Changing Views of Twain and Imperialism (Gannett-Tripp Library)**

- Harold Hellwig, “The Political Theatre in Mark Twain’s Illustrated Travel Works”
- Rosie Click, “The [Real] American Game”: Twain’s Thoughts on Soft Imperialism in Cuba
- M.M. Dawley, “‘Only dead men can tell the truth in this world’: The Growth of Mark Twain’s Anger”

12:00 p.m. – 12:50 p.m.  
**Luncheon Buffet**

1:00 p.m. – 2:20 p.m.  
**Session Three**

**Changing Constructions of Mark Twain from the 1950s to the 1980s (Gibson Theater)**

- Shelley Fisher Fishkin, “How Hal Holbrook’s Understanding of Mark Twain Grew and Changed Over Time: The First Decade”
- Mark Dawidziak, “*Big River, Lighting Out for the Tonys*”

2:30 p.m. – 3:50 p.m.  
**Session Four**

**A. New Interventions in Twain Biography (Tifft Lounge)**

- Judith Yaross Lee, “‘Mr. Stanley, I presume’: Mark Twain’s 1872 Visit to England and His Growth as a Writer”
- Takuya Kubo, “Mark Twain’s Failures as His ‘Neglected Texts’”
- Jeff Steinbrink, “Of Time and Quantum Mechanics in *Roughing It*”
- Katherine Frost, “Evidence for a New Becky Thatcher”
B. No Longer Unknown: Reconsidering Twain’s Neglected Works (Gannett-Tripp Library)

- Ben Click, “Twain’s Philosophical Aphorisms for the Damned Human Race: Maxims Toward a Deterministic Philosophy”
- Silas Kaine Ezell, “Deconstructing the Brontosaurus: Mark Twain’s Influence on Critical Theory”
- David Bianculli, “Mark Twain on Christian Science”

4:00 p.m. – 5:20 p.m.  Session Five

A. The Living, Breathing, Talking, Playing, Lying Mark Twain (Tifft Lounge)

- Kerry Driscoll, “Talking is the Thing”: Mark Twain’s Bold Experiment in Empowering Women’s Voices
- Atsushi Sugimura, “‘Her Adored Moral Half-Breed’: Mark Twain’s Refracted Autobiography and His ‘Playing Indian’”
- James Caron, “Mark Twain Lying in Bed”
- Mika Turim-Nygren, “Huckleberry Finn’s ‘Effect of Indigeneity’: Native Erasure in Law and Literature”

B. Mark Twain Reading/Reading Mark Twain

- Robert Arbour, “Reading the Postbellum in Twain’s ‘Whittier Birthday Speech.’”
- James W. Leonard, “‘Absolutely Fresh’: Revising Francis Galton in Pudd’nhead Wilson.”
- Myrial Holbrook, “Mark Twain, Comically Adapted: The Role of Comic Books and Graphic Novels in Twain’s Legacy”

5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.  Happy Hour

6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.  CMTS Awards Dinner

8:15 p.m. – 9:15 p.m.  Presentation by David Bianculli and Mark Dawidziak (Gibson Theater)

9:30 p.m. – 12:00 a.m.  Cash Bar

Friday, August 5

8:00 a.m. – 8:50 p.m.  Full Breakfast
9:00 a.m. – 10:20 a.m.  

**Session Six**

A. The Shifting Global Reception of Mark Twain *(Tifft Lounge)*

- Holger Kersten, *The Early Reception of Mark Twain in German-Language Newspapers and Periodicals: New Material from Digital Resources*
- Asma Ahmad Asiri, “Perceptions of Mark Twain in the Arab World through Translation”

B. The Cultural Legacy of *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* *(Gannett-Tripp Library)*

- Philip Bader, “Tom Sawyer and Harry Potter, the Boys Who Live”
- Hugh Davis, “‘A History of a Boy’: Tom Sawyer as Icon”
- Cindy Lovell, "How *Tom Sawyer* Made Hannibal, MO. ‘America’s Hometown’”

10:30 a.m. – 11:50 a.m.  

**Session Seven**

A. **Flash Session:** Grief, Memory, and Mark Twain *(Tifft Lounge)*

- Joseph Csicsila (organizer)
- Paula Harrington
- Jennifer Hughes
- Jeanne Campbell Reesman
- Chad Rohman
- Tracy Wuster (organizer)

B. **Flash Session:** Has Our Understanding of *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* Grown and Changed? *(Gannett-Tripp Library)*

- Kerry Driscoll
- Kevin Mac Donnell
- Linda Morris
- Patrick Ober
- Kent Rasmussen (organizer)

12:00 p.m. – 12:50 p.m.  

**Luncheon Buffet**
1:00 p.m. – 2:20 p.m.  
**Session Eight**

A. Global Contexts and the Changing Mark Twain (*Tifft Lounge*)
   - Seema Sharma, “Why I Still Teach Twain in a Twentieth Century Indian Classroom”
   - Faith Ben-Daniels, “Studying Mark Twain’s *The Diaries of Adam and Eve* from a Ghanaian Context”
   - Cassio de Oliveira, “Russifying Tom, Huck, and Jim: Soviet Film Adaptations of Mark Twain’s Mississippi Novels”

B. The Ever-Evolving Mark Twain: New and Neglected Works (*Gannett-Tripp Library*)
   - Kevin Mac Donnell, “State Banquet Remarks: A Previously Unrecorded Work by Mark Twain”
   - Maggie E. Morris, “‘[H]e realized the shabbiness of his own self: Reading Children in Poverty in Twain’s Adaptation Network”

2:30 p.m. – 3:50 p.m.  
**Session Nine**

A. Mark Twain Sites and Their Futures (*Tifft Lounge*)
   - Kerry Driscoll, Mark Twain Papers and Project
   - Joseph Lemak, The Center for Mark Twain Studies
   - James Lundgren and Henry Sweets, Mark Twain Boyhood Home and Museum
   - Pieter Roos, Mark Twain House and Museum

B. Global Perspectives on Mark Twain (*Gannett-Tripp Library*)
   - Hamada Kassam, “Travel Is Fatal to Prejudice: The Rise of Mark Twain as a Social Critic and Fictive Abolitionist”
   - Koto Naganaki, “Mark Twain as Literary Anthropologist: *Letters from the Earth* and Cultural Relativism”
   - Timothy Donahue, “*Huckleberry Finn’s* Hemispheric Tempest”
4:00 p.m. – 5:20 p.m.  
**Session Ten**

*New Perspectives on Teaching Twain Today (Gibson Theater)*

- Jocelyn Chadwick, “Teaching Mark Twain Today: GenZ, Parents, and Disrupt Texts—What We Need to Know and Understand”
- John Pascal, “*Tom Sawyer* in the Classroom”
- John Bird, “‘Like setting down on a kag of powder and touching it off just to see where you’ll go to’: Reflections on 40 Years of Teaching Mark Twain’s *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*”

5:30 p.m. – 6:45 p.m.  
**Happy Hour**

- The Mark Twain Players Perform “The Invalid’s Story,” followed by Dennis Eddings, “Poe, Twain, and Limburger Cheese” Revisited

7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.  
**Dinner**

8:15 p.m. – 9:15 p.m.  
**CMTS John S. Tuckey Award Presentation and Keynote Address**

9:30 p.m. – 12:00 a.m.  
**Cash Bar**

**Saturday, August 6**

8:00 a.m. – 8:50 a.m.  
**Full Breakfast**

9:00 a.m. – 10:20 a.m.  
**Session Eleven**

*Flash Session: How Might Mark Twain Fit into An Anti-Racist Pedagogy? (Gibson Theater)*

- Jocelyn Chadwick
- Shelley Fisher Fishkin (organizer)
- Ronald Jenn
- Selina Lai-Henderson
- Terry Oggel
- Seema Sharma
- David E.E. Sloane
10:30 a.m. – 11:50 a.m.  **Session Twelve**

A. New Understandings of *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* (*Tifft Lounge*)

- Larry Howe, “Property and Freedom on the Mississippi”
- Kumi Ikoma, “Transbellum Perspectives in *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*”
- Andrew Touma, “Mark Twain’s Phonographic Prescience”

B. Mark Twain and God (*Gannett-Tripp Library*)

- Dwayne Eutsey, “‘Nothing Remains the Same’: Mark Twain’s Ever-Evolving Religious Views”
- George Cabanas, “Avatar of God: Mark Twain versus the Moral Sense and the Implications for the Contemporary World”
- Seth Murray, “Mark Twain and the Afterlife”

12:00 p.m. – 12:50 p.m.  Luncheon Buffet

1:00 p.m. – 2:20 p.m.  **Session Thirteen**

A. Flash Session: How Do We Teach the Language of *Huckleberry Finn* Now? (*Tifft Lounge*)

- M.M. Dawley
- Darryl Dickson-Carr
- Larry Howe (organizer)
- Michelle Robinson
- Ann Ryan
- Vershawn Young

B. Changing Perspectives on *Pudd’nhead Wilson* (*Gannett-Tripp Library*)

- Thomas W. Howard, “‘Two Stories Tangled Together’: The Double Brain, *Pudd’nhead Wilson* and *Those Extraordinary Twins***
- K. Patrick Ober, “Mark Twain and Conjoined Twins”
- Terry Oggel, “Mark Twain’s *Pudd’nhead Wilson*: The Tragedy of Nineteenth-Century American Race Law”


2:30 p.m. – 3:50 p.m.  
**Session Fourteen**

A. Mark Twain, Philosophy, and Morality (*Tifft Lounge*)
   - Alan Goldman, “Huck Finn, Morality, and Racism”
   - Elizabeth Cantalamessa, “The Devil and Mark Twain”
   - Aleksandra Hernandez, “Disgust, Contempt, and Animal Cruelty in Twain’s Later Writings”

B. Lit out for the Territory: New Approaches to Huck and His Sequels (*Gannett-Tripp Library*)
   - Nathaniel Williams, “Growing to Dislike Tom Sawyer: Sam Clemens’ Journey”
   - Robert Slotta, “Important Insights Extracted from the Direct Sequel to *Huckleberry Finn* & Their Impact Upon Mark Twain Studies”
   - David Carolyn, “Jim at Huck’s Circus: Reconsidering the Evolution of *Huckleberry Finn*— and of Twain’s Attitudes”

4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.  
**Session Fifteen**

Mark Twain Circle Awards

Reconsidering Twain’s Relevance Today (*Gibson Theater*)
   - Donald Bliss, “Mark Twain’s Ten Lessons for a Workable Democracy: Or, Keeping the Republic”
   - David Bordelon, “Predictive Satire: *Huckleberry Finn* and 21st Century Hucksters”
   - Virginia Maresca, “‘Treachery on Both Sides’: Mark Twain’s Lessons to Modern America on White Victimhood”

6:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.  
**Quarry Farm Picnic**

**Sunday, August 7**

8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  
**Meier Hall Check-out** (*Meier Hall, Morris Classroom*)