



Summer News at the MMLA

Dear MMLA Community,

Now that decision letters have been delivered to all individuals who proposed an individual paper, workshop, and/or pre-organized panel, our staff members are hard at work preparing the program for November's annual meeting. In the meantime, we write to offer a friendly reminder about a number of upcoming deadlines as well as two important announcements, one related to the MMLA's upcoming relocation to College of DuPage, and the other inviting proposals for the theme and guest editor(s) of the spring 2028 issue of the *Journal of the Midwest Modern Language Association* (JMMLA).

Mark Your Calendars!

1. Applications for a Travel Award are Due July 1st

- For the 2026 Convention, the MMLA will offer a limited number of lodging awards to part-time faculty, non-tenure track faculty, independent scholars, and graduate students who have been selected to present a paper and need assistance paying for costs that are associated with staying in Chicago, IL. Applications are due to the MMLA (mmla@cod.edu) **by Wednesday, July 01**. Please visit our [Convention Awards page](#) on the MMLA's member portal for further instructions.

2. Nominations for the Annual Book Award are Due July 1st

- During our November meeting, members of the MMLA's Executive Committee will award a **\$500 prize** to the best creative book published by an MMLA member between July 01, 2024 and June 30, 2026. Current MMLA members who wish to be considered for a Book Award must submit the requisite materials to the MMLA (mmla@cod.edu) **by Wednesday, July 01**. Please visit our member portal's [Convention Awards page](#) for further instructions.

3. Membership for the 2026-27 Fiscal Year Begins July 1st

- **Not So Fast! Wait until after July 01 to become a new member of, or to renew your membership with, the MMLA!** MMLA memberships follow a fiscal-year calendar, meaning they run from July 1st of one year through June 30th of the next year. If you join now, your membership will expire in less than two weeks. If you wait until after July 1st, your membership will last twelve months, including the upcoming 2026 convention in November.

Sometimes procrastination is the right choice! Please visit the [MMLA's Membership page](#) for information regarding member types and their associated fees.

4. Convention Registration Opens July 1st

- Registration fees cover costs associated with running the meeting, such as space rental, coffee service, and catering for the President's Reception. **Early-bird pricing** runs **from Wednesday, July 01 through Tuesday, September 15**, after which time registration rates for regular and special members will increase. Please visit the [MMLA's Registration page](#) for information regarding registration types and their associated fees.

Participation in the annual MMLA Convention and Undergraduate Research Symposium requires **(a) current membership** AND **(b) registration**, both of which are *distinct, non-refundable items* that must be *purchased separately and in sequence*.

MMLA Relocation to College of DuPage

Effective July 1st, 2026, the MMLA will relocate from Loyola University Chicago to College of DuPage. This relocation does not alter MMLA leadership: the MMLA Executive Committee and officers continue in their established roles. What will change are the people responsible for the MMLA's daily functioning, and the MMLA will also have new contact information. Starting July 1st, responsibility for the MMLA's daily management will shift to MMLA Executive Director Julia diLiberti and MMLA Associate Director Alejandra Ortega, both of the College of DuPage. The MMLA's new email address will be mmla@cod.edu, and its new mailing address will be the following:

MMLA
C/O Liberal Arts Division
College of DuPage
425 Fawell
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137

Please make a note of these changes as you plan to attend the 2026 MMLA convention in Chicago. We're working hard to make this administrative transition occur smoothly, and we request your patience and understanding should any delays arise as the MMLA baton passes from Loyola University Chicago to the MMLA's new institutional home at College of DuPage.

JMMLA Call for Spring Theme and Guest Editor(s)

Each spring issue of the *JMMLA* has a guest editor or editors whose interest and expertise in a particular topic will provide the theme for that issue. For Spring 2028, we're looking for an editor who will foster discussion of the selected topic across the pages of the journal, encouraging vital conversation among the MMLA's scholarly community.

To be considered, submit the following to the MMLA at mmla@cod.edu by **October 1st, 2026**:

- Your most recent CV
- A cover letter describing your expertise on your proposed topic
- A description of your proposed topic

Wishing you all a restful and enjoyable summer,
The MMLA Team



Contact Us

Midwest Modern Language Association
Loyola Hall 308
1032 W. Sheridan Road
Chicago, IL 60660
773-508-6083
mmla@luc.edu

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