

Kutztown University

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KUCC -- Kutztown University Composition Conference

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Apr 15th, 9:00 AM

### Schedule & Program Booklet

English Department, Kutztown University

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# **KUTZTOWN UNIVERSITY**

## **COMPOSITION CONFERENCE**



# **LOOKING BACK, WRITING FORWARD**



**APRIL 15TH, 2024**







# Greetings

We are excited to welcome you to the 20th annual Kutztown University Composition Conference.

Our theme this year is “Looking Back, Writing Forward,” a tribute to two decades of collaboration among faculty, students, and community members. Since its inception in 2004, the KUCC has explored how writing contributes to our personal and collective growth. Evolving with the times, the conference, originally conceived as an in-person event, embraced a virtual modality in 2020, for the first time, due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We have increasingly extended our reach beyond composition classes to welcome all students engaged in writing across disciplines. Creative writing has also taken center stage, with recent years featuring events such as our after-lunch poetry reading and open mic session. The KUCC also has been committed to embracing new technologies, enriching the conference experience for everyone through the inclusion of poster exhibitions, multimedia projects, and alternative presentation formats. In twenty short years, the KUCC has undergone considerable growth and change. But despite its reinvention, it has always maintained its identity as a welcoming and supportive conference, and this year is no exception.

“Looking Back, Writing Forward” invites attendees to think about what prompts us to write, and the benefits that composition brings to both the author and the audience. Whether it is through personal narrative, a researched essay, a cycle of poems, a text-based adventure, or the creation of a podcast, writing enables us to envision a brighter and more collaborative future. Sharing our experiences and our research not only fosters better understanding within ourselves and among others, it also sparks the imagination. This process is crucial as we navigate a turbulent world that is recovering from the pandemic, grappling with violent global conflicts, and confronting the looming specter of climate disaster. Although the writing process can be messy, it can lead to surprising revelations. In this spirit, we invite you to look back and reflect on the past with us while summoning the courage to write forward. Like previous conference organizers, we view the KUCC as a source of optimism and creativity, and we are absolutely thrilled to have you contribute to its ongoing story.

Thank you for joining us to celebrate our students’ insights and efforts. We hope that you enjoy the day—and have something to “look back” on!

On behalf of the KUCC Planning Committee,

Robert Fillman and Robert Foschia



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# Schedule

9AM

## WRITING NARRATIVE GAMES FORWARD WITH TWINE

MULTIPURPOSE ROOM, MSU 218

MODERATOR: SANDRA M. LEONARD

Ashley Dryden, "*Lights on the Mountain*"

Soph Pino, "*Fox's Library of Thoughts*"

Kaitlyn Resline, "*Matched: A Subversion of the Dating Simulator Genre*"

9AM

## LOOKING AT VIOLENCE AND WOMEN (PART I)

FORMAL DINING ROOM, MSU 223

MODERATOR: AMY LYNCH-BINIECK

Stephanie Crogran, "*Lisbeth Salander: The Cost of Female Individuality*"

Zoe Berken, "*The Power & Gender: A Superhero or a Scapegoat?*"

Taylor Klucsarits, "*Coping Through the Legend of Deer Woman*"

9AM

## BUILDING ON BOURDAIN: FOOD WRITING, MEMORY AND THE SENSES

UPSTAIRS CONFERENCE ROOM, MSU 323

MODERATOR: MELISSA NURCZYNSKI

Max Gattone, "*You Never Forget Your First Tomato Sauce*"

Isabella Diaz, "*I Failed at Jeopardy!*"

Derek Young, "*Campfire Cuisine*"

Regan Bradley, "*The Cultural Impact of American Fine Dining*"



# Schedule

10AM

## LOOKING AT HOW GAMING SHAPES OUR WORLD

MULTIPURPOSE ROOM, MSU 218

MODERATOR: SANDRA M. LEONARD

Violet Calcut, *"Disability in Gaming: The Importance of the Body"*

Ashley Dryden, *"How Much of Us Do We See in Our Characters"*

Paula Guarderas, *"Dating Sims as a Storytelling Medium and How They Reflect Real-Life Romance"*

Jake Worsham, *"Does Being In A Toxic Fandom Make Nostalgia Worse?"*

10AM

## LOOKING AT VIOLENCE AND WOMEN (PART 2)

FORMAL DINING ROOM, MSU 223

MODERATOR: COLLEEN CLEMENS

Jack Schembri, *"Evolution as a Means for Female Survival: The Power & Gender; Teeth"*

Lucas Moyer, *"A Pearl Among Swine: Female Rage and Maternal Pressure"*

Taylor Klucsarits, *"Finding Peace After Harassment: My Memoir"*

10AM

## THE FUTURE AUTHORS CLUB: LOOKING BACK ON LYRICS

UPSTAIRS CONFERENCE ROOM, MSU 323

MODERATORS: ROBERT FILLMAN AND ETHAN BRIGGS

Joseph Lafty, *"Naming a Horse"*

Sara Thomas, *"I'm Strong Enough"*

Austin Guyer, *"The Animals"*

Paul Langford, *"Remember the Time"*



# Schedule

11AM

## **BARBIE: SHAPING TOMORROW'S NARRATIVES TODAY**

MULTIPURPOSE ROOM, MSU 218

MODERATOR: COLLEEN CLEMENS

Jessica Chilcote, "*Are You Kenough?: Gender & Authenticity in Barbie*"

Lucas Moyer, "*How Patriarchy Dulls Everyone's Kenenergy*"

Kayla Mackney, "*Embracing Our Inner Weird Barbie*"

11AM

## **MOVING REVISION FORWARD: THE FUTURE AUTHORS CLUB ROUNDTABLE**

UPSTAIRS CONFERENCE ROOM, MSU 323

MODERATOR: ETHAN BRIGGS

Ethan Briggs

Anna Classon

Siobhan Houghton

Alex Lock

11AM

## **POEMS, VIGNETTES, STORIES: HOW WE WRITE OURSELVES FORWARD CREATIVELY**

UPSTAIRS CONFERENCE ROOM, MSU 312

MODERATOR: JENNIFER TOPALE

Nicolette Schikel, "*Poems on Albania*"

Anjali de Leon-Bello, "*Off the Grapevine*"

Gina Glantz, "*The Stringless Finger*"



# Schedule

12PM

## KEYNOTE PRESENTATION

Please join us for a light lunch and Keynote presentation from the Writing Center in the Formal Dining Room MSU 223.

12PM

## LOOKING BACK, WRITING FORWARD: THE UNIVERSITY WRITING CENTER

FORMAL DINING ROOM, MSU 223

MODERATOR: PATTY PYTLESKI

Sadie Doss  
Keeley Landis  
Jack Schembri  
Megan Stager  
Jessi Walker



# Schedule

IPM

## **MEDIA MATTERS: WAYS OF WRITING THE PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE**

MULTIPURPOSE ROOM, MSU 218

MODERATOR: KRISTINA FENNELLY

Mason English, "*The Influence of Influencers*"

Adam Pagano, "*The Oversaturation of Star Wars*"

Nicole Parker, "*Coinciding Pandemics: COVID-19 and Fake News*"

Abigail Miller, "*German and American Horror Film Throughout the World Wars*"

IPM

## **POETRY READING & OPEN MIC**

FORMAL DINING ROOM, MSU 223

MODERATOR: ROBERT FILLMAN

Please join us to read or listen to students' original poetry and creative writing.

IPM

## **RESEARCH IN PUBLIC RELATIONS**

UPSTAIRS CONFERENCE ROOM, MSU 312

MODERATOR: ROBERT FOSCHIA

Lismeylin Feliz

Megan Hughes

Ashley Guava



# Schedule

2PM

## TELLING MY STORY: THEN AND NOW

MULTIPURPOSE ROOM, MSU 218

MODERATOR: JULIE KING

Naiya Hendrickson, *"Finding My Missing Piece"*

Carissa Gurganus, *"Settling My Score"*

Vincent Redpath, *"The Fall Of A Lifetime"*

Natasha Marques, *"I Was Only Five"*

2PM

## PERSPECTIVES ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND ENVIRONMENTAL ADVOCACY

FORMAL DINING ROOM, MSU 223

MODERATOR: ROBERT FILLMAN

Victor Ortiz, *"Critical Race Theory in the Modern Classroom"*

Alison Bender, *"The Land of Equality"*

Aidan Brown, *"A Case for Managing Feral Pig Populations in America"*

Nikolai Kochel, *"The Activist Role in the AIDS epidemic"*

2PM

## SHOOFLY EDITORS ROUNDTABLE

UPSTAIRS CONFERENCE ROOM, MSU 323

MODERATOR: JEFF VOCCOLA

Kylie Frain

Gianna Iadonisi

Jessie Walker

2PM

## WRITING FEMINIST FILM THEORY FORWARD

UPSTAIRS CONFERENCE ROOM, MSU 312

MODERATOR: BOB KILKER

Jack Schembri, *"Black Christmas: Sisterhood Against The Collective Toxic Masculinity of 'The Killer'"*

Alex Lyons, *"Ignorant, Beautiful Blonde Ladies: What Whiteness Means for POC in Douglas Sirk's Imitation of Life (1959)"*

Riley Goshow, *"Mockery of the Modern Woman: Feminism and Satire in the Twilight Saga"*

Breyanna Sarabo, *"How Feminist is Post-Feminism?"*



# Schedule

3PM

## LOOKING AT GENDER PROBLEMS

UPSTAIRS CONFERENCE ROOM, MSU 323

MODERATOR: AMY LYNCH-BINIEK

Julyanis Torres Cintron, "*Shattering Gender Stereotypes*"  
Jordan Woodson, "*Unequal Punishment of Women and Minorities in the Workplace*"  
Stephanie Crogran, "*Gender and Feminism in the film Mona Lisa Smile*"  
Karleigh Patton, "*Period Poverty: Breaking Stigmas and Providing Products through Policy, Education, & Implementation*"

3PM

## WRITING PERSONAL HISTORIES: NARRATIVES OF IDENTITY

UPSTAIRS CONFERENCE ROOM, MSU 312

MODERATOR: ROBERT FOSCHIA

Jenna Freeman, "*Ready Player White*"  
Mary-Kate Holubowicz, "*Narrative Reflections*"  
Colm Geiger, "*Overcoming the Odds*"

3PM

## SPEAK YOUR MIND: MEMBERS OF PEN 2 PAPER

FORMAL DINING ROOM, MSU 223

MODERATOR: STEPHEN WALKER

Sabriya Brown  
Jaesha Wootson

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