



***POWER OF A PLACE, POWER OF ITS PEOPLE***  
**49<sup>th</sup> Annual Appalachian Studies Conference**  
**March 19 – 21, 2026, Marshall University**  
**Huntington, West Virginia**

**PRELIMINARY CONFERENCE PROGRAM AND REGISTRATION FORM**

Dear ASA 2026 Participants and Attendees,

Marshall University would like to welcome you to the 49<sup>th</sup> Annual Appalachian Studies Conference located in Huntington, West Virginia, an urban centerpiece of the Tri-State Area, where three states, three major rivers, and one of the most significant dividing lines in U.S. history converge. One-fourth of the counties that comprise Appalachia are classified as rural—neither part of, nor adjacent to, a metropolitan area. Although separated in geologic space by our region-defining mountains and rivers, and in political space by state borders and bureaucratic subdivisions, the Appalachian Region has long served as a symbol of an alternative to the nation's

norms, the “best” and the “worst” of the American experience, and of endurance in the face of struggles economic, political, and natural. Consequently, the 49<sup>th</sup> Annual Appalachian Studies Conference takes as its theme **“Power of a Place, Power of Its People.”** For this 49<sup>th</sup> iteration of our annual conference, we place a special emphasis on regionally significant strategies for confronting and countering issues of exploitation, prejudice, and oppression (broadly defined) relative to Appalachia.

*Cicero M. Fain, III, Conference Chair*  
*Marianna Footo-Linz, Co-Program Chair*  
*Paul L. Robertson, Co-Program Chair*  
*William "Tootie" Carter, Campus Arrangements Chair*

Logo Design by Charlie Umhau

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## CONFERENCE ORGANIZERS

Conference Organizers at Marshall  
University:

Conference Chair: Cicero M. Fain, III

Program Co-chair: Marianna Footo-Linz

Program Co-chair: Paul L. Robertson

Local Arrangements Chair: William “Tootie”  
Carter

Local Planning Committee:

- Kelly Bradley
- Monica Brooks
- Tijah Bumgarner
- Deb Carder
- Allison Carey
- Robert Ellison
- Brian Hoey
- Kelli Johnson
- Tacie Jones
- Lindsey Harper
- Eric Lassiter
- Jessica Lowman
- Cody Lumpkin
- Jodie Penrod
- Jodi Perry
- Cat Pleska
- Kelli Prejean
- Greta Resenbrink
- Walter Squire
- Brean Stewart
- Lori Thompson
- Boniface Yemba
- Stephen Young

*Special thanks to all those who helped  
read proposals!*

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## ASA MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Appalachian Studies Association is to promote and engage dialogue, research, scholarship, education, creative expression, and action among a diverse and inclusive group of scholars, educators, practitioners, grassroots activists, students, individuals, groups and institutions. Our mission is driven by our commitment to foster quality of life, democratic participation and appreciation of Appalachian experiences regionally, nationally and internationally.



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## CONFERENCE HOST, PARTNERS, AND SPONSORS

### Conference Host:

- MARSHALL UNIVERSITY



### Partners and Sponsors:

- Marshall University Office of Academic Affairs
- Marshall University College of Education & Professional Development
- Marshall University Libraries
- Marshall University Libraries Special Collections
- Marshall University History Department
- Marshall University Office of the President
- Marshall University Society of Yeager Scholars and Honors College
- Appalachian Film Festival
- Blenko Glass
- Carter G. Woodson Memorial Foundation, Inc.
- East Tennessee State University
- Huntington Area Convention & Visitors Bureau
- Huntington Museum of Art
- Margaret A. Cargill Philanthropies
- NAACP, Huntington Branch

- Nomada
- ReImagine Appalachia
- Mountain State Press
- Seth Weisberg
- Shawnee State University Center for Public History
- Tri-State Transit Authority
- Washington State College of Ohio
- West Virginia Mine Wars Museum
- West Virginia University Press

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## CONFERENCE SITE

### Marshall University

As an R2 Carnegie institution, Marshall University serves the educational needs of both West Virginia and the greater Tri-State area of northeastern Kentucky and southeastern Ohio. An integral part of urban Huntington, Marshall University supports the region with a nationally renowned hospital system, a premier entertainment venue (the Marshall Health Network Arena), the Brad D. Smith Center for Business and Innovation, and the Joan C. Edwards Performing Arts Center. Offering degrees through both on-campus and online modalities, Marshall University also operates a campus in Charleston, West Virginia. Marshall University has received national attention for its innovative “Marshall for All” program, an initiative to provide undergraduate students with a high-quality, debt-free university education.

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## Huntington, West Virginia

The second-largest city, just behind state capitol Charleston, “The Jewel City” of Huntington is located at the western edge of West Virginia. Although sharing many similarities with other urban Appalachian centers established in the late 19th century expansion of regional industry and commerce, Huntington (and its historical predecessor Guyandotte) is unique in its overlapping and evolving identities: an Ohio River trade locale, a frontier gateway of the early U.S., a portal between antebellum southern enslavement and northern freedom, an intentionally planned railroad hub, and a locus for healthcare, higher education, and the Arts.

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## TRAVEL INFORMATION, ACCOMMODATIONS, CAMPUS MAPS AND PARKING

### Accommodations:

The accommodations list is available on the conference website [here](#).

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### Transportation and Parking:

The Marshall University campus is a pedestrian-friendly campus located less than a mile from the Huntington downtown area. Numerous parking options are available at no cost for any conference attendees who will be

driving a vehicle to campus on Thursday, Friday, or Saturday. Handicap and accessible parking options are available near the main buildings where the conference will take place. Any parking lots or spaces that are designated accessible parking will require a handicap sticker or hang tag. Please respect this rule for the comfort and safety of any attendees with accessibility needs.

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### Getting to Marshall University:

The official address of Marshall University is:  
One John Marshall Drive  
Huntington, WV 25755.

If arriving by vehicle from I-64, take exit 11 for Hal Greer Boulevard/Downtown. Follow Hal Greer Boulevard to 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, then turn right. The entrance to Marshall University will appear on your left. Most parking options will be available from 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

If you are driving or walking from downtown to the Marshall University campus, follow 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue to Hal Greer Boulevard/16<sup>th</sup> Street.

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### Campus Maps:

A printable campus map is available at the following link: <https://www.marshall.edu/wp-content/top/campusmap.pdf>. The primary buildings that will be used for the conference will be the Memorial Student Center, Drinko Library, and the Joan C. Edwards Performing Arts Center, and these buildings appear as numbers 37, 33, and 44 in the linked map.

An interactive campus map with parking lot information is available at the following link: <https://www.marshall.edu/map/>.

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## General Parking:

For general parking (not accessible) on campus, visitors may use any spaces not designated as handicap/accessible in the following lots:

### **6<sup>th</sup> Avenue Employee Parking Lot**

Physical Address: 1638 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Huntington, WV 25703

When traveling by vehicle on Hal Greer Boulevard, turn onto 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, then make an immediate right onto Elm Street. The lot will be on the corner on the right-hand side. Use the alley entrance to access the lot as there is no entry or exit to/from the lot from 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

### **Engineering Parking Lot**

Physical Address: 1656 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue  
Huntington, WV 25703

When traveling by vehicle on Hal Greer Boulevard, follow the Boulevard through the intersection with 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue to Commerce Ave. Turn right onto Commerce Avenue and follow for one block until you see a large lot on the left-hand side.

If traveling on 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, stay in the far right lane, then turn right onto Hal Greer Boulevard at the intersection with 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue. You will know when to turn right when you see a restaurant called Calamity J on the left corner and Firehouse Subs on the right corner of 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue.

A crosswalk from the Engineering lot across 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue is available in front of the Engineering Building. This will lead you to the heart of campus. The Memorial Student Center will be visible when looking straight ahead once you reach campus.

### **Stadium Parking Lot**

Physical Address: Joan C. Edwards Stadium,  
2001 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue Huntington, WV 25703

When traveling by vehicle on Hal Greer Boulevard, turn onto 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue and move to the far left lane. Turn left onto 20<sup>th</sup> Street, and you will see the stadium and a large parking lot on the right-hand side.

If traveling on 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, then turn left onto 20<sup>th</sup> Street. The stadium and lot will be immediately visible on your left-hand side.

From this lot, you will walk in the opposite direction of the stadium to reach campus. A crosswalk is available in the center of 20<sup>th</sup> Street and the Stadium lot to reach campus. Another crosswalk is available on the corner of 20<sup>th</sup> Street and 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue near CVS.

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue Garage**

Physical Address: 1801 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue  
Huntington, WV 25703

When traveling by vehicle on Hal Greer Boulevard, turn onto 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue and move to the far left lane. Turn left onto 20<sup>th</sup> Street and remain in the left lane. Turn left onto 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, then you will see the garage on the right-hand side of the road.

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## Accessible Parking and Passenger Drop Off:

For any visitor who prefers a drop-off point close to the main buildings of the conference, two options are available.

The first is directly in front of the Memorial Student Center on the far left side of 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue. There is a pick-up/drop-off/loading zone lane available here.

The second option is a loading zone/circular drive on John Marshall Drive between Drinko Library and the Memorial Student Center.

From 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, take a left onto John Marshall Drive. This area appears as number 32 on the [printable campus map](#). No parking is allowed here as this serves as a loading zone and fire lane.

Three parking lots are available for visitors with accessibility needs or handicap tags/stickers.

### **Pay-By-Space Parking Lot (first option)**

Physical Address: 459 John Marshall Drive  
Huntington, WV 25755

The primary accessibility lot is available on John Marshall Drive near Drinko Library and the Memorial Student Center. On the [interactive campus map](#), it is referred to as the Pay-By-Space Parking lot. Please note that though there is a pay station in this lot, you **DO NOT HAVE TO PAY** to park in this parking lot. It is available free of charge for handicap and accessible parking.

### **Memorial Student Center Lot (second option)**

Physical Address: 1680 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Huntington, WV 25703

The second-closest parking lot is located on the east-side of the Memorial Student Center and near the Campus Christian Center, number 36 on the [printable campus map](#). Some spaces are designated handicap and require a permit.

### **Sixth Avenue Parking Facility (third option)**

Physical Address: 1650 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Huntington, WV 25703

The third option is recommended for any sessions that take place in the Joan C. Edwards Performing Arts Center (building 44 on the [printable campus map](#)).

A pick-up/drop-off lane is available on 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue for this building should that be a preference. If parking near the building is preferred, use the Sixth Avenue Parking Facility.

If you have special accessibility needs that need specific attention, please reach out by email to Ann E. Bryant ([mullins88@marshall.edu](mailto:mullins88@marshall.edu)).

### **EV Charging Station**

Two parking spaces are available for any electric vehicles that require charging. These two spaces are available in the:

#### **Pay By Space Parking Lot**

Physical Address: 459 John Marshall Drive  
Huntington, WV 25755

Please note that though there is a pay station in this lot, you DO NOT HAVE TO PAY to park in this parking lot when charging your vehicle.

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## Marshall University Campus Book Store, Eating Places, and Spaces:

Marshall University Book Store  
(eFollate)  
Open Thursday and Friday, 10:00 am-2:00 pm

MU Campus Dining  
Starbucks, hours TBA  
Chick-fil-A, hours TBA

### Food Options Close to Campus

There are multiple fast food and sit down restaurants within walking distance on Fifth, Fourth, and Third Avenues, east and west of campus.

### Memorial Student Center, Recreation Area

Free pool and ping pong will be available to all conference attendees and guests. Located on the lower level of the Memorial Student Center, the Recreation Area features five championship-size pool tables, two table tennis tables, and a lounge area.

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## In and Around Huntington, West Virginia:

Huntington, West Virginia is a vibrant city experience, with numerous opportunities for

food, entertainment, and recreation. Check out [“H-Town Things to Do”](#) and [“Visit Huntington”](#) for more information.

There are many local restaurants and small businesses in the downtown Huntington area, just west of Marshall University’s central campus. A number of fast food restaurants are located on the east side of campus off of 5th Avenue.

For more information about where to eat while you are in Huntington, check [here](#).

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# CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS, SPECIAL ACTIVITIES, EXHIBITS, AND SPECIAL WORKSHOPS

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## THURSDAY HIGHLIGHTS

### *THURSDAY TOURS*

### *THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD IN THE TRI-STATE (TOUR 1 OF 2)*

*Sponsored by the Shawnee State  
University Center for Public History*



This 3-hour tour, led by Andrew Feight, Director of the Appalachian Freedom

Heritage Tourism Initiative, visits six sites in three states (Ohio, Kentucky, and West Virginia), which the National Park Service recently placed on the National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom. Meet up at the 5th Avenue side of the Memorial Student Center.

Registration is required as seats are limited (12). Please use the link below to register <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-underground-railroad-in-the-tri-state-tickets-1981959771028?aff=oddtcreator>

***Thursday, March 19, 1:00 pm-4:00 pm.***  
***Departure and return to the 5th Avenue side of Memorial Student Center. (See Saturday for the second tour sign up.)***

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***ARTISANS TOUR: BLENKO GLASS AND THE HUNTINGTON MUSEUM OF ART-TBA***

***MOTHMAN MUSEUM & POINT PLEASANT RIVER MUSEUM AND LEARNING CENTER TOUR-TBA***

***MARSHALL FOOTBALL MEMORIAL PLANE CRASH TOUR-TBA***

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***MEMBERS' BUSINESS MEETING***

Please join us for our annual business meeting.

***Thursday, March 19, 3:00 pm-3:45 pm, Memorial Student Center, BE5.***

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***CONFERENCE OPENING RECEPTION***

***Sponsored by Nomada***



The Conference Committee is pleased to extend the invitation to attend the Opening Ceremony of the 49th Annual Appalachian Studies Association Conference, to be held on Thursday, 4:00 pm-5:00 pm in the Joan C. Edwards Performing Arts Center. There, you will have the distinct pleasure to enjoy fellowship, fraternity, and food from Huntington's own Nomada Bakery, voted the #1 spot in 2025 USA Today's 10Best Award for Best Cake Shop in America!

***Thursday, March 19, 4:00 pm-5:00 pm;***  
***Joan C. Edwards Performing Arts Center***

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***CONFERENCE OPENING CEREMONY, AWARDS, AND IN MEMORIAM***

The Appalachian Studies Association (ASA) conference will officially begin with an opening ceremony. Welcome and opening remarks will be given by Marshall University President Brad Smith, the Dean of the College of Education, Kelly Bradley and Anna Adkins, Huntington Area Convention and Visitors Bureau, as well as Huntington City Council member Teresa Johnson, and WV House of Delegates member Sean Hornbuckle. Further

welcome comments will follow from Sophia Enriquez, president of ASA, and Cicero M. Fain, III conference chair.

Immediately following the opening ceremony, Beth Nardella, chairperson of the ASA Awards Committee will open the Awards and the In Memoriam ceremony. Laura Leigh Morris will serve as emcee. Doug Van Gundy will be playing music during the In Memoriam section of the ceremony.

*Thursday, March 19, 5:00 pm-7:00 pm,  
Joan C. Edwards Performing Arts Center*

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## FRIDAY HIGHLIGHTS

### *MARSHALL UNIVERSITY SPECIAL COLLECTIONS OPEN READING ROOM HOURS AND TOUR*

Marshall University Special Collections invites you for a behind-the-scenes tour and a visit with some of our featured manuscripts and archival collections. Visitors will have the opportunity to view a curated selection of items from the manuscripts collection based on the theme of the ASA 2026 conference and engage with our permanent exhibits.

Additionally, a tour of the libraries and spaces that make up Special Collections will occur at 10:15am. The tour will take approximately 30 minutes plus any additional time for Q&As.

You will find us on the second floor of Morrow Library, the building across the field from the Memorial Student Center. A large bell in front of the building will let you know you're at the correct building. Visiting hours

on Friday, March 20<sup>th</sup> will be from 9:30 am until 12:30 pm. *The tour is scheduled for 10:15am.* Come by and see what's so special about Special Collections!

*Friday, March 20, 9:30 am-12:30 pm (tour 10:15am-10:45am), Morrow Library, second floor*

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### MORNING SNACK BREAK

*Sponsored by East Tennessee State University*



EAST TENNESSEE STATE  
UNIVERSITY

Department of  
Appalachian Studies

Please join us for refreshments.

*Friday, March 20, 10:00 am-11:00 am,  
Memorial Student Center, second floor*

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### ONE ROOM SCHOOL HOUSE TOUR

Neil Arneson will lead tours of a one room school house where all elementary students were taught in a single room. Simple wood-frame construction is typical of rural 19th century schools.

The school house was constructed in rural Cabell County ca. 1888 and transported and dedicated on Marshall's campus in 1995. The school house was donated by Mrs. Tina F. Bryan of Glenwood, WV, in memory of her husband Mr. James E. Bryan. The school house originally stood at Punkin as a Center School.

Honoring West Virginia's rural education heritage, it houses the Ovie and Jesse Cline Museum and was funded by alumnus Phil Cline in memory of his parents, who attended and taught in a one-room school.

*Friday, March 20, 10:00 am-11:00 am and 1:30 pm-2:30 pm, Fifth Avenue across from the Campus Christian Center on campus.*

**PLENARY 1: APPALACHIA'S POWERFUL LITERATURE OF PLACE AND ITS PEOPLE**

*Sponsored by Mountain State Press in memory of author Carter Taylor Seaton*



Moderated by Cat Pleska

Speakers: Jacinda Townsend and Willie Carver

Join Appalachian authors Jacinda Townsend and Willie Carver for a spirited discussion of the region's vital literature that provides insights into the voices of the land and its people. How does our culture comfort and confine, our land shape us; how do authors reveal our strengths and diversity, elevate us and our region into a model of perseverance? How does the literature of Appalachia celebrate the fact that we show the world our flaws and our triumphs, yet we remain—ever-

evolving, growing, and showing the world how it's done.

*Friday, March 20, 11:00 am - 12:15 pm, Brad D. Smith Center for Business and Innovation, Encova Auditorium, 116; 1415 Fourth Avenue, Huntington, WV 25701*



**Y'ALL MEANINGFUL NETWORKING AND EMBRACING OUR APPALACHIAN BACKGROUNDS AND CULTURE**

*Sponsored by ReImagine Appalachia*



Please join the Y'ALL Committee to share pizza, participate in networking activities, and hear from a panel on their experiences growing up in Appalachia. We want to promote pride in our Appalachian upbringings and share difficulties with one another so that we can work together to overcome them.

*Friday, March 20, 11:00 am-12:30 pm, Marcos, in the basement of the Memorial Student Center*

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## ***HUNTINGTON LGBTQIA+ ORAL AND VIDEO HISTORIES PROJECT***

**Project Objective:** To document and preserve the stories of the LGBTQIA+ community in the greater Huntington, WV, area through a combination of old and new stories, interviews, videos, and memorabilia, culminating in a video production and a physical exhibit.

Interviews will be conducted by Greta Rensenbrink and Jody Perry during the conference.

***John Spotts Room, second floor, Friday, March 20, 12:00 pm-4:00 pm in the Memorial Student Center***

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## ***BLACK HUNTINGTON HISTORY TROLLEY TOURS***

***Sponsored by Tri-State Transit Authority***

Attendees will learn of Huntington's rich African American history as Huntington native and historian, Cicero M. Fain, III, leads a tour of key historic African American sites throughout the city. See below for tour times.

***Friday, March 20, 12:15 pm- 1:15 pm; 1:30 pm-2:45 pm; 3:00 pm-4:15 pm. Meet up 5th Avenue side of Memorial Student Center***

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## ***FILM SCREENINGS***

***Jack Spadaro Documentary Film Award winners***

The Spadaro Award is given annually to recognize the producer of the best nonfiction film or television presentation on Appalachia or its people. The award, established in 2005, honors the activist and whistleblower Jack Spadaro, who spent his career working within the coal mining industry for the betterment of the Appalachian community.

This special conference session allows ASA members the opportunity to view the award-winning films:

- **Short documentary: *Strings***, directed by Nik Lee (Appalshop Films 2025)  
As the largest Appalachian media archive faces the aftermath of a 1000 year flood, a young Appalshop filmmaker struggles to come to terms with her own flooded memories.
- **Feature documentary: *A Beast Touch the Mountain***, directed by James Mottern (Bent Mountain Productions 2025)  
A band of Appalachian women fight to protect their land and way of life against a greedy and corrupt natural gas pipeline.

***Friday, March 20, 2:00 pm-4:00 pm, Brad D. Smith Center for Business and Innovation, Encova Auditorium 116; 1415 Fourth Avenue, Huntington, WV 25701***

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## **AFTERNOON SNACK BREAK**

Please join us for refreshments.

*Friday, March 20, 4:00 pm-5:00 pm,  
Memorial Student Center, second floor*

**KEYNOTE ADDRESS, RECEPTION, &  
BOOK SIGNING “BEEN TO THE  
MOUNTAINTOP!”**

**Keynote Speaker: William H. Turner**

*Sponsored by Huntington Area  
Convention and Visitors Bureau,  
Margaret A. Cargill Philanthropies, and  
Marshall University Office of Academic  
Affairs*



The Keynote begins at 6:00 pm with a reception and is followed by the address at 6:45 pm. William H. Turner will be available to sign his book, *The Harlan Renaissance: Stories of Black Life in Appalachian Coal Towns*, following the address.

*Friday, March 20, 6:00 pm-8:15 pm, Joan  
C. Edwards Performing Arts Center*

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## **SATURDAY HIGHLIGHTS**

***THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD  
IN THE TRI-STATE (TOUR 2 OF 2)***

*Sponsored by the Shawnee State  
University Center for Public History*



This 3-hour tour, led by Andrew Feight, Director of the Appalachian Freedom Heritage Tourism Initiative, visits six sites in three states (Ohio, Kentucky, and West Virginia), which the National Park Service recently placed on the National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom. Meet up at the 5th Avenue side of the Memorial Student Center. The tour will depart from, and return to, the Memorial Student Center.

Registration is required as seats are limited (12). Please register at the link below:  
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-underground-railroad-in-the-tri-state-tickets-1981959926493?aff=oddttdtcreator>

***Saturday, March 21, 9:00 am-12:00 pm.  
Meet up at the 5th Avenue side of the  
Memorial Student Center.***

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## **MORNING SNACK BREAK**

Please join us for refreshments.

***Saturday, March 21, 10:00 am-11:00 am,  
Memorial Student Center, second floor***

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**CAMP HAPPY APPALACHEE (CHA)**

*Sponsored by University of Kentucky  
Appalachian Center and Appalachia-  
Science in the Public Interest*



*Saturday, March 21, 12:15 pm-1:30 pm,  
East Hall, first floor*

**PLENARY 2: SOULFUL AND  
GOTHIC: APPALACHIAN MUSICAL  
TRADITIONS RETURNED,  
RECLAIMED, AND RE-IMAGINED  
A CONVERSATION WITH  
ARISTOTLE JONES AND CLOVER-  
LYNN**

Moderated by Paul Robertson  
Speakers: Clover Lynn and Aristotle Jones

Join us for an extended conversation with contemporary regional musicians Clover-Lynn (“hillbillygothic”/Clover-Lynn and the Hellfires) and Aristotle Jones, for a discussion of musical and representational intersections in Appalachia. Topics will include the relationship of “traditional” Appalachian

music forms to both pop cultural and subcultural genres (like Soul, Go-Go, Gothic, and Punk-Alternative), with personal reflections on how these forms are (or can be) appreciated both within and outside of Appalachian regional spaces.

*Saturday, 1:00 pm-2:15 pm, Brad D. Smith  
Center for Business and Innovation,  
Encova Auditorium, 116  
1415 Fourth Avenue, Huntington, WV  
25701*

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**FEATURED WORKSHOP**

***Circle Up Four: Kentucky "Big Set"  
Square Dance***

Sarah Kate Morgan, Hindman Settlement  
School

Way up on a mountain top in Letcher County Kentucky, the Carcassonne Community Center is home to the longest running square dance in Kentucky. Since the 1930's, Carcassonne dances have featured a unique Appalachian square dance called the Kentucky "Big Set". In this style, dances are done in one big circle as opposed to the traditional 8-person squares. These accessible dances feature traveling, "active" couples who form smaller circles of 4 around the larger circle of dancers. These groups of 4 dance through the figures, then progress to the next couple down the line. These dances are unique in that there is time for the non-active couples to either rest and watch or free-style flatfoot or clog. Varying physical abilities and dancing experience are all welcome!

Sarah will speak briefly about the history of the tradition of Kentucky Big Set dancing in

Carcassonne, Kentucky while also placing Appalachian square dancing in the context of broader folk dance traditions from around the world. Then, we'll all dive right into a square dance!

*Saturday, March 21, 2:30 pm-3:45 pm,  
Education Building, room 238, second  
floor*

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**AFTERNOON SNACK BREAK**

Please join us for refreshments.

*Saturday, March 21, 3:30 pm-4:30 pm,  
Memorial Student Center, second floor*

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**PUBLISHERS' RECEPTION AND  
BOOK SIGNING**

*Sponsored by West Virginia University  
Press*



*Saturday, March 21, 5:00 pm-6:30 pm,  
Memorial Student Center, first and second  
floors*

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**NEWCOMERS' RECEPTION**

*Saturday, March 21, 5:00 pm-6:30 pm,  
Memorial Student Center, first and second  
floors*

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**BENEFIT DRAG SHOW**  
*Thee Nysbyne's Starlettes*

Proceeds will benefit [Branches Domestic  
Violence Shelter](#).

Tickets sold at door: \$10 entry; cash only.  
Admission 18+. Must show ID at the door.

*Saturday, March 21, 8:00 pm-9:30 pm,  
West Edge Factory, 1040 Vernon Street,  
Huntington, WV 25704*

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**ON-CAMPUS EXHIBITS**

***Piecemaker Quilt Show***

Seventeen quilts constructed by the Piecemaker quilting group are on display throughout Drinko Library during the spring semester of 2026. With themes ranging from Ritter Park to the Underground Railroad, each piece is unique in color and style, carrying a note crediting the creator and a description of the pattern used.

*Open throughout the conference, Drinko  
Library.*

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**MU Libraries Art Exhibition 2026: *Rooted  
in Power: Place, People, and Possibility***

Our region is shaped by the power of its landscapes, its histories, and its people. Rooted in Power: Place, People, and Possibility invites Marshall University students, faculty, staff, and our Appalachian community members to explore and express what "power" means in the context of Appalachia today. This exhibition seeks works

that elevate, challenge, and expand our understanding of Appalachian power in its many forms — personal, collective, cultural, environmental, creative, and political.

**Full Details:**

<https://libguides.marshall.edu/libraryartexhibitions/2026>

*Open throughout the conference, Drinko Library, 3rd floor*

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***WV Author Banners presented by Voices of West Virginia***

Colorful, information-rich banners showcase 14 of West Virginia’s most celebrated writers, all featured on the *Voices of West Virginia literary* website <https://www.voicesofwv.org>. Each banner combines compelling visuals with quotations that reflect the state’s rich storytelling traditions and provide insight into each writer. This exhibit invites you to explore the diverse voices that have shaped—and continue to shape—the literary landscape of West Virginia and Appalachia.

*Open throughout the conference, Memorial Student Center, second floor balcony*

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**OFF-CAMPUS EVENTS**

***APPALACHIAN FILM FESTIVAL***

**Friday, March 20 through Sunday, March 22**



***Friday, March 20, Kickoff Night***

**Location: Foundry Theater, Starts at 6:00 pm**

- Start the weekend with a fun, social opening night.
- Film Screening
- Film Party
- Trivia Night
- A great way to meet filmmakers and festival-goers and kick things off right.

***Saturday, March 21, Films + Vendors All Day***

**Locations: City Hall & Foundry Theater, 10:00 am-9:00 pm**

- Films screening throughout the day  
Local vendors on the 1st Floor of City Hall
- Come and go all day, discover new Appalachian voices, and support local artists and businesses.

*Sunday, March 22 Professional  
Development*

**Location: Foundry Theater | 2:00 pm-4:00  
pm**

- Professional Development Session with Author Ed Ashton (*Mickey7 / Mickey 17*)  
Featuring panel discussion and audience Q&A  
Moderated by WSAZ's Tim Irr
- Panel + Q&A with Ed Ashton and guests
- \$5 General Admission  
Free for Festival Submitters

**Tickets & Passes for Appalachian Film  
Festival**

Tickets on sale now: [www.foundrytheater.org](http://www.foundrytheater.org)

**Appalachian Studies Conference Weekend  
Pass**

Access to festival events all weekend at a discounted rate. **Use promo code: AppStudy at checkout and receive \$10 off your purchase.**

Contact: Rachel Allinder,  
[www.foundrytheater.org](http://www.foundrytheater.org), (304) 674-5759

***Location: Foundry Theater, 800 5th  
Avenue, Huntington, WV***

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***JOSEPH B. TOUMA MEDICAL  
MUSEUM TOURS***

***Friday, March 20, 12:00 pm-5:00 pm and  
Saturday, March 21, 10:00 am-5:00 pm***

***Located on the third floor of 314 Ninth  
Street, Huntington, WV 25701***

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**OTHER PLACES OF INTEREST**

***Blenko Glass Company***

9 Bill Blenko Drive, Milton, WV 25541  
(304) 743-9081  
<https://blenko.com/>

Blenko Glass Company has been a family owned and operated company since 1893. We have been located in Milton, WV since 1921. Exquisite color, skilled craftsmen, and imaginative designs have made Blenko famous in the time-honored craft of hand-blown glass.

In a world of ever increasing automation, we at Blenko pride ourselves in paying particular attention to the forms and designs of our handmade products. We all need, now more than ever, handmade possessions that are unique and inspiring.

**Museum and Gift Shop Hours:**

**Monday - Saturday: 9:00 am-5:00 pm**

**Sunday 12:00 pm-5:00 pm**

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***Central City Museum***

The Central City Museum is a museum on a mission to weave the threads of personal stories and artifacts from industries into a professionally presented narrative history of the community. The vision of the Central City Museum is to contribute to the revitalization of the West Huntington neighborhood with a destination for residents and visitors that builds the significance of the area.

The Central City Museum was established in 2020 as a way to preserve and tell the rich history of Central City. The Central City Museum features a primary exhibit of glass, wood products, brewery memorabilia, and

other items from the shops and businesses found in Central City from 1893-1950s. The primary exhibit is part of the programming at RenewAll's Cultural Wealth Hub located at 610 14ST W in Huntington. The many objects in the Central City Museum collection are artifacts of the craftsmanship and abundant natural resources of the region. Central City is now part of the West Huntington Neighborhood but was originally developed as an industrial midpoint between Huntington and Kenova to take advantage of coal and other natural resources traveling along the rail lines. Central City bought several farms and created a planned town centered on what is today known as 14th Street West. Glass factories, Barrel Makers, D.E. Abbott Framing Shop, Heiner's Bakery, the Fesenmeier Brewing Company, Soda Fountains, Hardware Stores, early Department Stores, and other businesses filled the area with a bustling atmosphere. The Central City Museum is a program of RenewAll Inc., that serves a distinct destination for Heritage and Cultural Tourism.

***Days/Hours: Monday-Sunday from 11:00 am-5:00 pm***

***Contact: 681-204-5764***

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### ***Huntington Museum of Art***

2033 McCoy Road, Huntington, WV  
(304) 529-2701

<https://hmoa.org/>

Incorporated in 1947 and opened to the public in 1952, Huntington Museum of Art (formerly known as Huntington Galleries) serves the public as a museum and cultural center and, in the greater community, acts as a presence and advocate for the areas of arts, education, and nature. HMA's mission is

furthered by its four commitments: to acquire and display objects of art, provide excellence in education and arts experiences, maintain a plant conservatory and nature trails, and expand its service population.

**Free Admission to ASA Registered Conference Attendees! Just show your nametag.**

### ***Museum Hours:***

***Monday Closed to the public***

***Tuesday 10:00 am-8:00 pm***

***Wednesday-Saturday 10:00 am-5:00 pm***

***Sunday 12:00 pm-5:00 pm***

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### ***Mothman Museum***

400 Main Street, Point Pleasant, WV 25550  
(304) 812-5211

<https://www.mothmanmuseum.com/>

See the largest collection of props and memorabilia from the movie "The Mothman Prophecies"--in the town where the Mothman sightings and encounters actually occurred. Read rare historical documents from the Mothman eyewitnesses themselves, documenting what they experienced that fateful night on November 15, 1966. See rare historical press clippings and photographs of the Silver Bridge disaster. Learn more about the historical figureheads of the Mothman legacy like John Keel, Mary Hyre, & the Scarberry & Mallete eyewitnesses. There is plenty here to be discovered. Research and uncover the truth for yourself.

### ***Museum Hours:***

***Monday-Thursday 10:00 am-5:00 pm***

***Friday 10:00 am-6:00 pm***

***Saturday 10:00 am-6:00 pm***

***Sunday 12:00 pm-5:00 pm***

**ADMISSION:**

*Ages 11 to Adults – \$4.99*

*Children 10 & Under – \$1.99*

*\*We accept VISA, MasterCard, & Cash\**

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***Museum of Radio and Technology***

Interested in Antique Radios? Visit the Museum of Radio and Technology in Huntington, West Virginia near the tri-state corner of West Virginia, Ohio, and Kentucky.

The collection includes: Cathedral radios, console radios, table-top radios, transistor radios, old radios, antique radios, collectable radios, ham equipment, vintage amateur receivers and transmitters, broadcast collectables, military communications equipment, test equipment, vintage computers, vintage hi-fi, and an awesome vinyl record collection. There is also a technical library.

*Location: 1640 Florence Avenue,  
Huntington, WV 25701*

*Days/Hours: Saturday 10:00 am-4:00 pm,  
Sunday 1:00 pm-4:00 pm*

*Contact: 304-525-8890*

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**WHERE  
EVERYTHING  
HAPPENS ON  
CAMPUS**

**Brad D. Smith Center for Business and Innovation (SBUS)**  
*1415 Fourth Avenue, Huntington, WV  
25701*

- Plenary 1, SBUS, 116, Encova Auditorium
- Plenary 2, SBUS, 116, Encova Auditorium
- Jack Spadaro Documentary Films, SBUS, 116, Encova Auditorium
- Concurrent Sessions, room 113

**Corbly Hall**

- Concurrent Sessions

**Drinko Library**

- Poster Session, first floor
- Concurrent Sessions
- MU Libraries Art Exhibition 2026: “Rooted in Power: Place, People, and Possibility,” and Piecemaker Quilt Show

**East Hall**

- Camp Happy Appalachee, East Hall, first floor

**Education Building**

- Concurrent Sessions
- Square Dance, Education Building, room 238, second floor

**Gullickson Hall**

- Concurrent Sessions

**Harris Hall**

- Concurrent Sessions

**Joan C. Edwards Performing Arts Center (JCE)**

- Opening Reception & Opening Ceremony & Awards, JCE, Playhouse
- Keynote & Reception, JCE, Playhouse

**Morrow Library**

- Special Collections
- Special Collections Tour

**Memorial Student Center (MSC)**

- Business Meeting, MSC, BE5
- Gender Inclusive Restroom, MSC, first floor, Family Restroom
- Exhibit Hall, MSC, Don Morris Room, second floor

- Exhibitor Hospitality Room, MSC, 2E10, second floor
- Lactation Rooms, MSC, second floor, Women's Restroom
- LGBTQ Oral History Project, MSC, John Spotts Room, second floor
- Publishers' Reception & Newcomers' Reception, first and second floors of MSC
- Registration, MSC, Shawkey Dining Room
- Silent Auction, MSC, John Marshall Room
- Snack Breaks, Atrium, second floor of MSC
- Tours (off-campus), Meet at the MSC, 5th Avenue Entrance
- Quiet/Prayer Room, MSC, 2W10
- Volunteer Room, MSC, 2W19
- Y'ALL Workshop, Marcos, basement of MSC

#### Science Building

- Concurrent Sessions

#### Smith Hall (SH)

- Concurrent Sessions

#### Smith Music Hall

- Concurrent Sessions

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## REGISTRATION

All conference attendees, including presenters, must pay the registration fee or have received an ASA Scholarship. Pre-paid conference registration is:

- **\$175 individual**
- **\$115 student**

The deadline for pre-paid registration is **March 5, 2026**. Late or on-site registration is:

- **\$215 individual**
- **\$155 student**

To register go to:

<http://www.press.uillinois.edu/journals/jas/s/subscription.html>

Or complete the form at the back of this program. The on-site conference registration desk will be in the **Memorial Student Center, Shawkey Dining Room**.

Registration includes ASA membership for the 2026 calendar year, subscription to the *Journal of Appalachian Studies*, *Appalink* newsletter, and participation in all 2026 conference activities that do not require a ticket. Other ticketed events are not included.

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## TEACHER CERTIFICATION OF PARTICIPATION

Pre-K-12 teachers participating in the conference can have their attendance documented for possible professional development units. Teachers will need to obtain an attendance sheet from the registration desk, identify the convener or host in each session they attend, and have them sign the sheet. At the conclusion of the conference, teachers must submit their attendance sheet to the registration desk and after all hours are tallied they will be able to obtain a signed Appalachian Studies Association certificate, verifying their attendance and the number of participation hours. It is the responsibility of the teachers to confirm with their respective school districts that their conference participation will count toward professional development units.

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## RECORDING NOTICE

ASA reserves the right to record and use images of those attending our conferences, if you do not wish to be photographed or recorded, please let the photographer and/or registration desk know.

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## POSTER SESSIONS

Please bring your poster on a trifold poster board. Tables will be provided to display your trifold poster. Set-up will begin on Thursday, March 19, 12:00 pm-6:00 pm.

Posters will be displayed in Drinko Library on the first floor, from 8:00 am-5:30 pm, Friday and Saturday. **Presenters will be able to share their research during the poster session on Friday, March 20 from 3:00 pm-4:15 pm on the first floor in Drinko Library. Please be available.**

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## ONE-DAY K-12 TEACHER RATE

The steering committee has approved a one-day conference rate for K-12 Teachers of \$50. Membership in the ASA is not included in the one-day rate but may be added. K-12 teachers who choose the one-day rate and later decide to attend the whole conference may upgrade from the \$50 daily rate to the full registration rate (membership included) by paying the difference of \$125 at the registration desk. Please contact [asa@marshall.edu](mailto:asa@marshall.edu) to request the K-12 Teacher registration form. You may mail the completed form with payment to:

Appalachian Studies Association, One John Marshall Drive, Huntington, WV 25755. If you mail, please mail no later than March 7. Or, email the form to [asa@marshall.edu](mailto:asa@marshall.edu) and call to pay with a credit card. You may also pay onsite at the registration desk during the conference.

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## FINAL PROGRAM

Access to the final program will be emailed to all registered attendees at least several days prior to the beginning of the conference, and access will be provided to those who register onsite at the conference.

The final version of the program will be in a printable, digital format only. It will be provided in a reduced file size, searchable PDF format via a website link provided to those who register for the conference.

The schedule of sessions will be included in the digital final program. In addition, we will be selling a printed copy of the schedule of sessions for \$5.00. These copies will be front and back and will contain only the schedule of sessions and no other information from the final program. To order a copy, call the ASA office at (304) 696-2904 by March 9, 2026.

We accept credit card payments over the phone. We will have a very limited number of printed schedule of sessions available for sale at the Registration Desk, and they will be sold on a first come, first serve basis. We can accept cash, check and credit cards at the Registration Desk located in the Shawkey Dining Room, Memorial Student Center (MSC).

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# TECHNOLOGY

## Technology for Presenters:

We recommend presenters have a copy of their materials on a USB flash drive, as well as a copy they can retrieve from the cloud (email, Google Drive, etc.).

Each attendee will have a login generated by IT in advance for public machines on campus. Students or staff volunteers will be present in each area to assist presenters.

MU Classrooms being used for the conference are equipped with HDMI connections to large screen monitors or overhead projectors. Marshall is predominantly a PC campus. If you bring your own device, you must bring an adapter if your device cannot connect directly to HDMI. Adapters for connections other than HDMI will not be provided.

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## Wi-Fi Access:

Campus visitors and guests can access the MU WiFi network with instructions provided by IT here:

<https://www.marshall.edu/it/files/MU-Guest-WiFi.pdf>

1. Connect your device to the MU Guest WiFi network.
2. Open a web browser. You'll be directed to the Marshall Sponsored Guest Portal page.
3. Click on the link "Don't have an account?" located below the "Sign-On" button.
4. Complete the required fields and click "Register."

5. Sign in to the Sponsored Guest Portal with your MU Guest WiFi credentials.

These accounts are temporary and will expire after the last day of the conference. ASA volunteers will be present to assist if you experience problems accessing the portal or contact IT for assistance at (304) 696-3200.

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## eduroam:

Marshall University is also a member of eduroam, a secure, worldwide roaming Internet access service developed for the international research and education communities. Visitors from eduroam partners and Internet2 member institutions can connect to MU's wireless network using their home institution credentials. Check with your home institution to see if they are already members before you visit the MU campus. Access additional information here: <https://www.marshall.edu/it/wifi/eduroam/>

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## Printing and Photocopying:

The John Deaver Drinko Library will be open during the conference. If conference printing is needed, the library staff will assist ASA attendees at the main desk.

### John Deaver Drinko Library Hours:

- Thursday, March 19, 8:00 am-10:00 pm
- Friday, March 20, 8:00 am-10:00 pm
- Saturday, March 21, 8:00 am-11:30 pm

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## Social Media:

### *Hashtags:*

- o #appstudies2026
- o #appalachianstudies
- o #appalachia
- o #appalachian
- o #appstudies
- o #asa
- o #asainaction
- o #asaawards

### *Accounts:*

#### **ASA**

- [Facebook](#)
- [Instagram](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [YouTube](#)

#### **Marshall University**

- [Facebook](#)
- [Instagram](#)

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# ACCESSIBILITY AND INCLUSION

The Appalachian Studies Association strives to ensure that all events are accessible to all participants and that participation be in a meaningful and comfortable manner for all.

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## Individuals with Disabilities:

If you have a specific request, please contact Ann E. Bryant at [mullins88@marshall.edu](mailto:mullins88@marshall.edu), at the registration desk, or at (304) 654-4770.

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## Disability Entrances to the Buildings:

- **Brad D. Smith Center for Business and Innovation**

- **(SBUS) Main entrance** - Northside of building off 4th Ave  
1415 Fourth Avenue, Huntington, WV 25701
- **Corbly Hall** - Accessible Entrance Located Center of Building facing Drinko Library
- **Drinko Library** - Main Entrance
- **East Hall** - Accessible entrance located off 18th St via Elevator
- **Education Building** - Accessible Entrance located on the South side of building off College Ave via Elevator access
- **Gullickson Hall** - Accessible entrance located on the South side (Campus side) via Henderson Center. Elevator access located inside this entrance.
- **Harris Hall** - Both Entrances - Main Entrances on both Campus side and 3rd Ave side
- **Joan C. Edwards Performing Arts Center (JCE)** - Main Entrance facing 5th Ave
- **Morrow Library** - Accessible Entrance on West side of Building (Smith Hall side)
- **Memorial Student Center, MSC** - Both Main Entrances (Campus side and 5th Ave side)
- **Science Building** - Accessible entrance can be found on the southeast corner (to 1st floor)
- **Smith Hall (SH)** - Both Campus side Entrance and 3rd Ave Entrance
- **Smith Music Hall** - 3rd Ave (North) entrance

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## Gender Inclusive Restroom:

First floor Family Restroom, Memorial Student Center

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## Sober-Friendly Events:

All events on Marshall campus are sober-friendly.

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## Areas of Loud Music, Crowds and High Traffic:

- Exhibit Hall, Registration, and Silent Auction
- Posters
- Breaks
- Publishers & Newcomers Receptions
- Conference Opening & Receptions; Awards; In Memoriam; Keynote; & Plenaries
- Drag Show
- Film Festival

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## Quiet/Prayer Room:

A Quiet/Prayer Room is available in MSC, 2W10

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## Infants and Children at the Conference:

Lactation rooms are available on campus, on the second floor of the Memorial Student Center outside of the Don Morris Room, in the Women's Restroom. If you need a refrigerator please ask ASA staff at the

Registration Desk in the Shawkey Dining Room.

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## First-Time Attendees:

First-time attendees are invited to wear ribbons, which are available at registration. Everyone is encouraged to seek out our new members to make them feel welcome. Please join us in welcoming our newcomers at the Publishers' Reception and Book Signing and the Newcomers Reception on Saturday, March 21, 2026, in the Memorial Student Center, on the first and second floors. Also be sure check out our ASA First-Time Attendee guide created by Casey LaFrance and our FAQ page [here](#).

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## Pronoun Stickers:

There are pronoun stickers available at registration.

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## Childcare Grant Program:

Creating an inclusive conference is a priority of the Appalachian Studies Association. While all are welcome to attend the conference, we understand the financial burden of seeking child and/or dependent care during conference events. With this grant program, we hope to offset the cost of the conference for those with dependents. More information on the program and application process is available [here](#).

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## EXHIBITORS, VENDORS AND GROUPS

Exhibitors, vendors, and groups are invited to exhibit in the ASA exhibition area located in the Don Morris Room of the Memorial Student Center (second floor).

Contact Ann E. Bryant ([asa@marshall.edu](mailto:asa@marshall.edu)) for further information, and to check if space is still available.

### *Set Up:*

- Thursday, March 19, 10:00 am-2:00 pm
- Friday, March 20, 7:00 am-9:00 am

### *Take down:*

- Sunday, March 22, 8:00 am-10:00 am

The **exhibit area will be open** to the public at the following times:

- Thursday, March 19, 2:00 pm-5:30 pm
- Friday, March 20, 8:00 am-5:30 pm
- Saturday, March 21, 8:00 am-5:30 pm.

### *Directions for Vendors:*

We will be sending an email with additional information and any changes soon.

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## SUPPORTING SCHOLARSHIPS THROUGH THE SILENT AUCTION



We are currently seeking contributions for the **Howard Dorgan Silent Auction** for the 2026 **Appalachian Studies Conference**. The silent auction welcomes Appalachia focused swag and experiences including books, clothing, food, music, and craft bundles. Please start brainstorming now!

The more money we raise, the more **Appalachian studies** scholars we support! In the late 1990s, **Howard Dorgan** created the silent auction to raise funds to support student and community participation in the Appalachian Studies Association, particularly at the conference. All proceeds fund scholarships for people who could not otherwise attend the Appalachian Studies Conference. By contributing to the silent auction, and later placing a bid for items, you are building on Howard's legacy and supporting a more diverse and more robust Appalachian Studies Association. To help us promote the 2026 Howard Dorgan Silent Auction, please send photos and descriptions of your items using this [form](#):

If you would like to volunteer to help with the silent auction, please contact **Jeff Dey** ([jeffd134@aol.com](mailto:jeffd134@aol.com)) or **Dee Parker** ([darryl.parker32@gmail.com](mailto:darryl.parker32@gmail.com)). Please pledge your contribution by February 26th!

**FUNDRAISING GOAL OF \$6,000.**

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## ASA MEETINGS

**Thursday, March 19, 2026**

- **ASA Members Business Meeting**  
3:00 pm-3:45 pm  
Memorial Student Center, BE5

**Friday, March 20, 2026**

- **ASA Special Collections Meeting**  
7:00 am-7:45 am  
Memorial Student Center, 2W16B
- **JAS Editorial Board Meeting**  
12:15 pm-1:15 pm  
Memorial Student Center, 2W16B

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## OTHER MEETINGS

- **Appalachian Center Directors**, TBA
- **Appalachian Collegiate Research**, TBA

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# JOURNAL OF APPALACHIAN STUDIES SUBMISSIONS

The *Journal of Appalachian Studies* is a refereed, multi-disciplinary publication which seeks to provide a written forum for quality scholarship on Appalachian history, culture, and society. We are interested in articles based on original empirical research, including applied research, as well as literary criticism and reflections on conceptual, theoretical, and methodological issues in Appalachian studies. Given the Journal's broad readership, we encourage consideration of the wider implications of each study. Submissions must be written in a style that can be understood by non-specialists. We will consider rigorous scholarship from scholars, teachers, activists, and others whose work focuses on the Appalachian region. The current editor invites scholarship which compares the Appalachian region to other regions in the world and places the region in a critical, global context. All submissions are expected to demonstrate an understanding of relevant Appalachian studies literature.

Articles should be submitted electronically to the JAS online manuscript submission portal managed by the University of Illinois Press. This secure, personalized resource will allow you to track your manuscript through each step of the review and acceptance process. Please set up your personal account and upload your submission at the following link: <https://app.scholasticahq.com/login>.

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# CONFERENCE DIGITAL COLLECTION

Conference participants are invited to submit their papers, presentations, videos, images,

and posters to the ASA 2026 conference digital collection hosted by Marshall Digital Scholar (MDS) by emailing content to Gretchen Beach, MDS Administrator, beachgr@marshall.edu. MDS serves to collect, preserve, and provide global access to scholarly and creative work. This is the site where conference proposals were submitted. Please contact Gretchen Beach for additional information.

# CONFERENCE SCHEDULE AND OVERVIEW

\*MSC=Memorial Student Center

Thursday, March 19, 2026			
10:00 AM	5:30 PM	Exhibit Hall Set Up	Don Morris Room, MSC, second floor
10:00 AM	5:30 PM	Silent Auction Set Up	John Marshall Room, MSC, second floor
10:00 AM	2:00 PM	Registration Set Up	Shawkey Dining Room, MSC, second floor
12:00 PM	6:00 PM	Poster Set Up	Drinko Library, first floor
12:30 PM	4:30 PM	Artisans Tour: Blenko Glass & Huntington Museum of Art - Registration Required	TBA
1:00 PM	4:00 PM	The Underground Railroad in the Tri-State Tour (1 of 2) <i>Sponsored by: Shawnee State University Center for Public History</i> - Registration Required	Meet up 5th Avenue side of MSC
1:30 PM	5:00 PM	Mothman Museum & Point Pleasant River Museum and Learning Center Tour - Registration Required	TBA
2:00 PM	5:00 PM	Marshall Football Memorial Plane Crash Tour - Registration Required	TBA
2:00 PM	5:30 PM	Exhibit Hall Opens	Don Morris Room, MSC, second floor
2:00 PM	5:30 PM	Registration Opens	Shawkey Dining Room, MSC, second floor
3:00 PM	3:45 PM	Members' Business Meeting	MSC, BE5
4:00 PM	5:00 PM	Opening Reception <i>Sponsored by: Nomada</i>	Joan C. Edwards Performing Arts Center
5:00 PM	7:00 PM	Conference Opening Ceremonies, Awards, & In Memoriam	Joan C. Edwards Performing Arts Center
Friday, March 20, 2026			
7:00 AM	7:45 AM	ASA Special Collections Committee Meeting	MSC, 2W16B
7:00 AM	9:00 AM	Exhibit Hall Set Up continues...	Don Morris Room, MSC, second floor

7:00 AM	9:00 AM	Silent Auction Set Up continues...	John Marshall Room, MSC, second floor
7:00 AM	9:00 AM	Poster Set Up continues...	Drinko Library, first floor
7:00 AM	5:30 PM	Registration Opens	Shawkey Dining Room
8:00 AM	5:30 PM	Exhibit Hall Opens	Don Morris Room, MSC, second floor
8:00 AM	5:30 PM	Silent Auction Opens	John Marshall Room, MSC, second floor
8:00 AM	5:30 PM	Posters Open	Drinko Library, first floor
8:00 AM	9:15 AM	Concurrent Session 1	
9:30 AM	10:45 AM	Concurrent Session 2	
9:30 AM	12:30 PM	MU Special Collections Open/Close	Morrow Library
10:00 AM	11:00 AM	Morning Snack Break <i>Sponsored by: East Tennessee State University</i>	Memorial Student Center, second floor
10:00 AM	11:00 AM	One Room School House Tour (on campus)	Fifth Ave Across from Campus Christian Center
10:15 AM	10:45 AM	MU Special Collections Tour	Morrow Library, second floor
11:00 AM	12:15 PM	Plenary 1: <i>Appalachia's Powerful Literature of Place and Its People.</i> Jacinda Townsend, Willie Carver, Cat Pleska <i>Sponsored by: Mountain State Press</i>	Brad D. Smith Center for Business and Innovation, Encova Auditorium, 116
11:00 AM	12:30 PM	Y'ALL Workshop <i>Sponsored by: ReImagine Appalachia</i>	MSC, Marcos, basement
12:00 PM	4:00 PM	<i>Huntington LGBTQIA+ Oral and Video Histories Project</i>	John Spotts Room, second floor Memorial Student Center
12:00 PM	5:00 PM	Joseph B. Touma Medical Museum Tours	314 Ninth Street, Huntington, WV 25701; third floor
12:15 PM	1:15 PM	<i>JAS Editorial Board Meeting</i>	Memorial Student Center, 2W16B

12:15 PM	1:15 PM	Black Huntington History Trolley Tour (1 of 3)	Meet up on 5th Avenue side of MSC
12:15 PM	1:30 PM	Lunch on Your Own	
1:30 PM	2:30 PM	One Room School House Tour (on campus)	5th Ave. across from Campus Christian Center
1:30 PM	2:45 PM	Black Huntington History Trolley Tour (2 of 3)	Meet up 5th Avenue side of MSC
1:30 PM	2:45 PM	Concurrent Session 3	
2:00 PM	4:00 PM	Jack Spardaro Documentary Film Award Winners	Brad D. Smith Center for Business and Innovation, Encova Auditorium, 116
3:00 PM	4:15 PM	Black Huntington History Trolley Tour (3 of 3)	Meet up 5th Avenue side of MSC
3:00 PM	4:15 PM	Concurrent Session 4 and Poster Session	
4:00 PM	5:00 PM	Afternoon Snack Break	Memorial Student Center, second floor
4:30 PM	5:45 PM	Concurrent Session 5	
6:00 PM	6:45 PM	Keynote Reception followed by Keynote Address at 6:45 PM	Joan C. Edwards Performing Arts Center
6:45 PM	8:15 PM	Keynote Address: William H. Turner followed by <i>Harlan Renaissance</i> book signing Sponsored by: <i>Huntington Area Convention and Visitors Bureau, Margaret A. Cargill Philanthropies, and Marshall University Office of Academic Affairs</i>	Joan C. Edwards Performing Arts Center
6:00 PM		Appalachian Film Festival: Kickoff	City Hall & Foundry Theater, 800 5th Avenue, Huntington, WV
<b>Saturday, March 21, 2026</b>			
7:30 AM	5:30 PM	Registration Opens	Shawkey Dining Room
8:00 AM	5:30 PM	Exhibit Hall Opens	Don Morris Room, MSC, second floor
8:00 AM	5:30 PM	Silent Auction Opens	John Marshall Room, MSC, second floor
8:00 AM	5:30 PM	Posters Open	Drinko Library, first floor
8:00 AM	9:15 AM	Concurrent Session 6	

9:00 AM	12:00 PM	The Underground Railroad Tour in the Tri-State (2 of 2) <i>Sponsored by: Shawnee State University Center for Public History – Registration Required</i>	Meet up 5th Avenue side of MSC
9:30 AM	10:45 AM	Concurrent Session 7	
10:00 AM	5:00 PM	Joseph B. Touma Medical Museum Tours	314 Ninth Street, Huntington, WV 25701; third floor
10:00 AM	9:00 PM	Appalachian Film Festival	City Hall & Foundry Theater, 800 5th Avenue, Huntington, WV
10:00 AM	11:00 AM	Morning Snack Break	Memorial Student Center, second floor
11:00 AM	12:15 PM	Concurrent Session 8	
12:00 PM	12:00 PM	Close of Silent Auction; Items may be picked up from 12:00 PM-5:30 PM	John Marshall Room, MSC, second floor
12:15 PM	1:30 PM	Camp Happy Appalachee	East Hall, first floor
12:15 PM	1:30 PM	Lunch on Your Own	
1:00 PM	2:15 PM	Plenary 2: " <i>Soulful and Gothic: Appalachian Musical Traditions Returned, Reclaimed, and Re-imagined</i> " (A Conversation with Aristotle Jones and Clover-Lynn) moderated by Paul Robertson)	Brad D. Smith Center for Business and Innovation, Encova Auditorium (116)
2:30 PM	3:45 PM	Concurrent Session 9	
2:30 PM	3:45 PM	Featured Workshop: <i>Circle Up Four: Kentucky "Big Set" Square Dance</i>	Education Building, room 238, second floor
3:30 PM	4:30 PM	Afternoon Snack Break	Memorial Student Center, second floor
4:00 PM	5:15 PM	Concurrent Session 10	
5:00 PM	6:30 PM	Publishers' Reception and Book Signing <i>Sponsored by: West Virginia University Press</i>	Memorial Student Center, first and second floors
5:00 PM	6:30 PM	Newcomers' Reception (Adjacent to Publishers' Reception)	Memorial Student Center, first and second floors
8:00 PM	9:30 PM	Benefit Drag Show. <i>Thee Nysbyne's Starlettes</i> . Proceeds to benefit Branches Domestic Violence Shelter Tickets sold at door: \$10 entry fee; cash only. Admission 18+. Must show ID at the door.	West Edge, 1040 Vernon Street, Huntington, WV 25704

Sunday, March 22, 2026

8:00 AM	10:00 AM	Take down Exhibit Hall and Registration	Don Morris Room, MSC, second floor
2:00 PM	4:00 PM	Appalachian Film Festival. Professional Development.	City Hall & Foundry Theater, 800 5th Avenue, Huntington, WV

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March 19-21, 2026

INDIVIDUAL CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM

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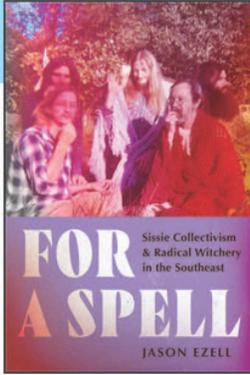
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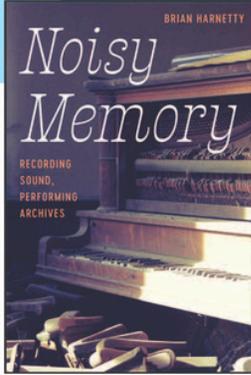
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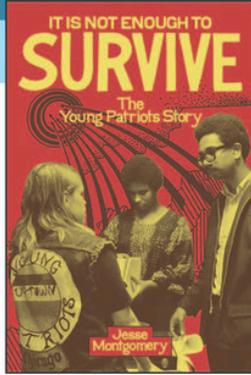
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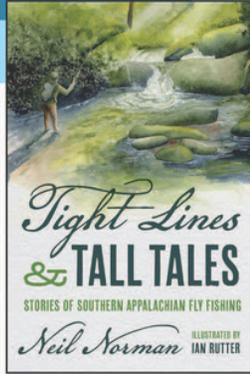
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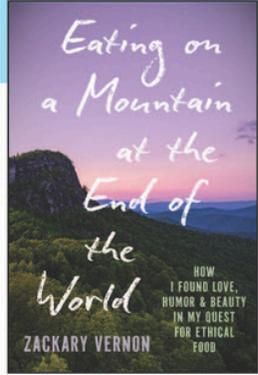
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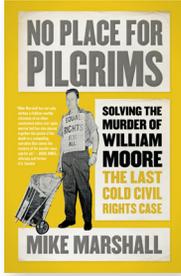


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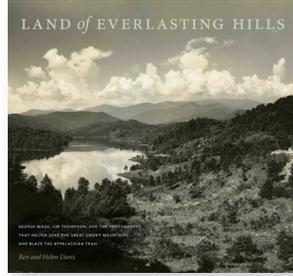
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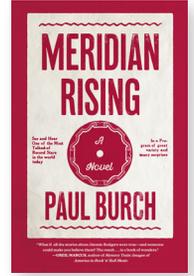
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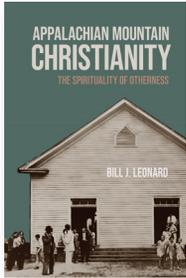
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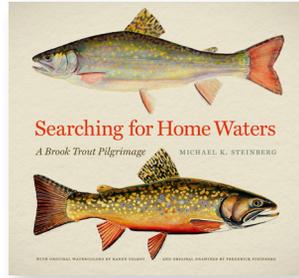
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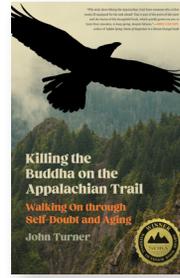
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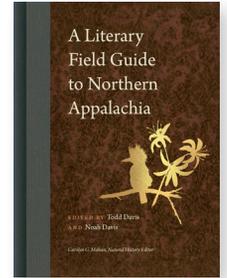
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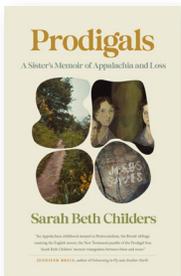
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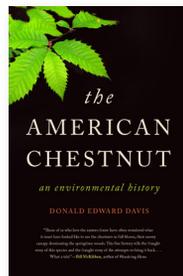
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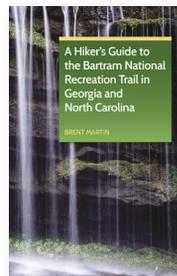
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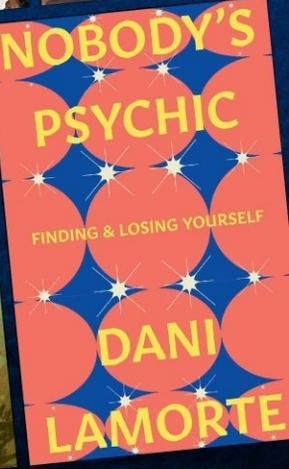
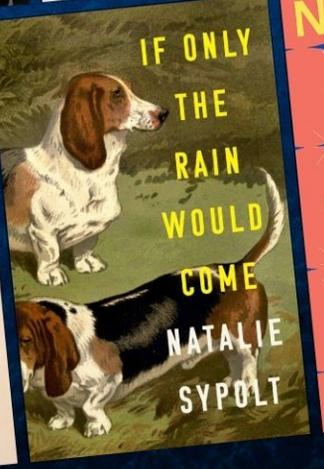
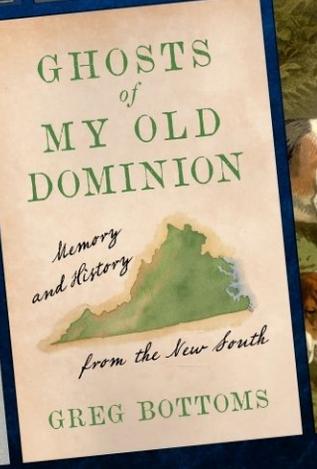
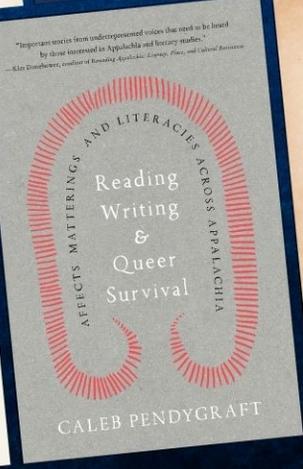
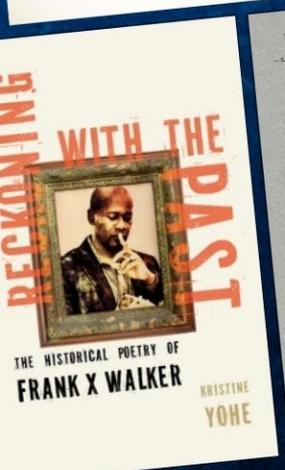
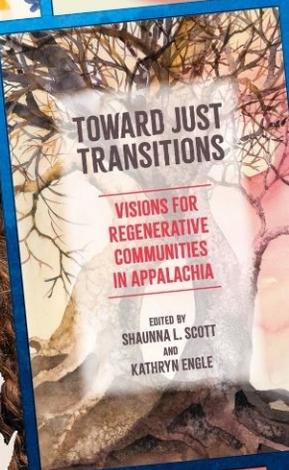
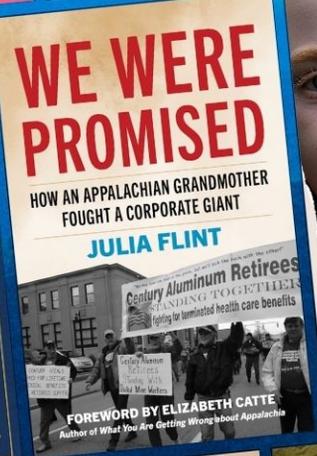
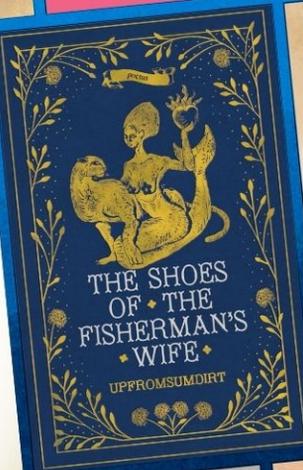
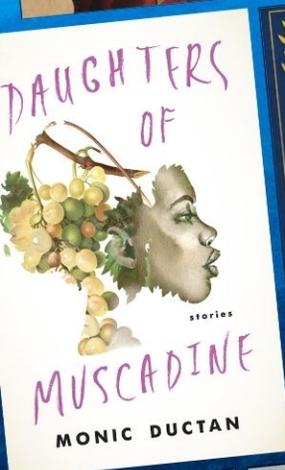
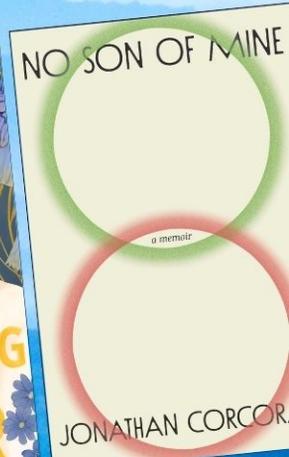
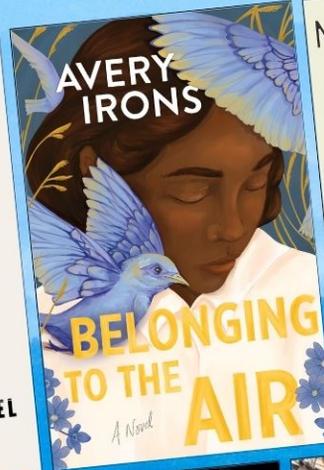
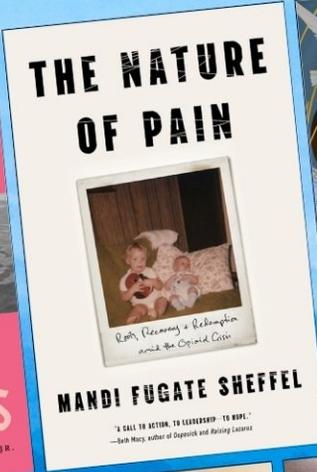
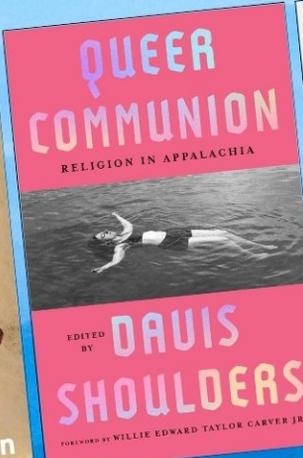
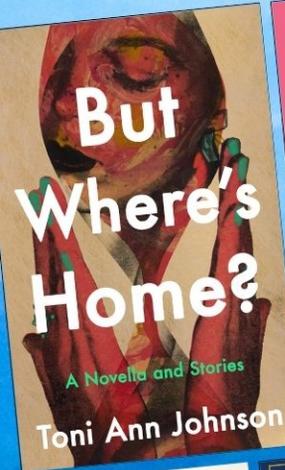




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