

A photograph of the Denver skyline at sunset. The sky is a mix of purple, pink, and orange. The city lights are on, and the sun is setting behind the mountains in the distance. The text is centered in a white box with a black border.

The 15th Annual Conference of  
*The* **Association** of  
**Literary Scholars**  
*and* **Critics**

October 9-11, 2009

*Westin Tabor Center Hotel*  
*Denver, Colorado*



# ALSC

## Association of Literary Scholars and Critics

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# Thank you for your contribution!

# Featured Speaker



Photo by S.J. Staniski

## Azar Nafisi

Author of *Reading Lolita in Tehran*, and Director of the Dialogue Project at the Foreign Policy Institute of Johns Hopkins University's School of Advanced International Studies in Washington, DC)

# Friday Evening's Readers at XO



Mark Irwin



Phillis Levin



Dave Mason



Chris Ransick



Bill Tremblay

Photo of Phillis Levin by Sheila McKinnon

Cover Photo by Bob Ashe for Denver Metro Convention & Visitors Bureau

# Schedule of Events

## Friday, October 9, 2009

**10:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.**

**Registration**.....Lawrence Room Foyer

**11:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.**

**Exhibits** .....Lawrence Room Foyer

**1:30 p.m.–2:45 p.m.**

**Saving the Planet:**

**You and Your Literary Non-Profit**..... Tabor Auditorium  
Convener: **David J. Rothman** (University of Colorado)

**Michael Henry** (Lighthouse Writers Workshop of Denver)

**Jill Leininger** (Vermont Studio Center)

**Mike Levine** (Northwestern University Press)

**Alice Quinn** (Poetry Society of America)

**Stephen Young** (The Poetry Foundation)

**3:00 p.m.–4:30 p.m.**

**Ancient Drama, Modern Practice**..... Tabor Auditorium  
Convener: **Michael Poliakoff**

Respondent: **Maria Fitzgerald** (University of Minnesota): "The Art and Challenge of Translation"

**Francis Charles Blessington** (Northeastern University): "Trusting the Classics and Translating the Bacchae of Euripides to the Stage"

**Helaine Smith** (The Brearley School): "Euripides' Nurse"

**Diane Rayer** (Grand Valley State University): "Translating *Antigone* for Performance"

**Richard Russell** (Baylor University): "Seamus Heaney and Sophocles"

**4:45 p.m.–5:45 p.m.**

**Reception and Presidential Address** ..... Augusta Room  
**Clare Cavanagh** (Northwestern University)

**6:00 p.m.–8:15 p.m.**

**Dinner**.....TAG Restaurant

**Reservations Required.** *Remarks and a Reading by Incoming Vice-President* **Greg Delanty** (Artist in Residence and Poet, Saint Michael's College)

**8:30 p.m.–10:00 p.m.**

**Poetry Reading**.....XO Restaurant, The Jet Hotel

**Reservations Recommended.** *Readings by* **Bill Tremblay**, **Phillis Levin**, **Mark Irwin** and **Dave Mason**, with **Chris Ransick**, Poet Laureate of Denver, as Master of Ceremonies

**10:00 p.m.–Midnight**

**Third Annual ALSC Open Mic** .....XO Restaurant, The Jet Hotel  
With **Richie Hofmann** (Emory University) as Master of Ceremonies

## Saturday, October 10, 2009

**8:00 a.m.–5:30 p.m.**

**Exhibits** .....Lawrence Room Foyer

**8:30 a.m.–10:15 a.m.**

### CONCURRENT SESSIONS

**Great Books II\*** .....McCourt Room  
Convener: **David Clemens** (Monterey Peninsula College)

**Joshua Cohen** (Massachusetts College of Art and Design): "In Praise of Older Students"

**David Joplin** (Monterey Peninsula College): "Great Books in the Non-Literature Core Classes: Challenges and Rewards"

**Alexandra H. Olsen** (University of Denver): "Hero Stories of the Ancient World"

**Joshua Pederson** (Marymount Manhattan College): "Examining the 'Inquisitor': On the Continuing Importance of Biblical Literacy to Literary Studies"

**Tess Taylor** (2010-2011 Amy Clampitt Resident): "Twice Told Tales"

\*The Great Books II session will be conducted as a panel, rather than as a seminar.

**Poetry and the Web** .....Blake Room  
Convener: **Susan Harris** (Words Without Borders)

**Asya Graf** (Boston University): "Internet as Samizdat: The Case of Contemporary Russian Poetry on the Web"

**Richie Hofmann** (Emory University): "Allusion and Hyperlink: Poetry Scholarship and the Web"

**Toni M. Holland** (University of Texas, Arlington): "Media and Activism: Methods of Poetry Pedagogy"

**Antonio Ochoa** (Simmons College): "From Typesetting to Moveable Type: Reading Poetry Online"

**Adelaide Russo** (Louisiana State University): "Poetry and the Web in the Francophone World"

**Madeline Weinstein** (Northwestern University): "How We Read Now: Approaches to Poetry in the Internet Age"

**Historicisms**.....Curtis Room  
Conveners: **Susan Wolfson** (Princeton University) and **Ron Levao** (Rutgers University)

**David Ben-Merre** (Buffalo State University)

**Mike Benveniste** (Stanford University)

**Joel Fray Burges** (MIT)

**Sumita Chakraborty** (AGNI)

**Peter Cortland** (Quinnipiac University)  
**Jack Cragwall** (Loyola University Chicago)  
**Rachel Leah Jablon** (University of Maryland)  
**Peter Manning** (Stony Brook University)  
**Molly McQuade** (Independent Scholar)  
**Nick Moschovakis** (Independent Scholar)

### 10:30 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

**ALSC - The Year in Print** ..... Tabor Auditorium  
Convener: **Christopher Ricks** (Boston University)

**Zachary Bos** (Boston University)  
**Leslie Harkema** (Boston University, editor of *Literary Matters*)  
**Steven Isenberg** (PEN American Center)  
**Robert Wilson** (The American Scholar)

### 1:30 p.m.–3:00 p.m.

**The K-12 English Curriculum:  
Challenges and Proposals** ..... Tabor Auditorium  
Convener: **Sandra Stotsky** (University of Arkansas)

**E. Thomas Finan** (University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth):  
"Reflection and Tradition: Some Humanistic Observations for  
Reforming K-12 English Education"  
**Will Fitzhugh** (*The Concord Review*): "History as Literature: What  
High Schools Students Are Not Assigned and Do Not Write About"  
**Carol Jago** (National Council of Teachers of English): "Crash! The  
Currency Crisis in American Culture" - How Literature Prepares  
Students for the Real World  
**Quentin Suffren** (The Learning Institute): "Improving Student  
Outcomes in English Language Arts via Rigorous Content Standards  
and a Core Reading Curriculum"

### 3:30 p.m.–5:00 p.m.

**The Once and Future Sonnet** ..... Tabor Auditorium  
Convener: **David Mikics** (University of Houston)

**Brett Foster** (Wheaton College): "Cecco Angiolieri and Onward: On  
Comic-Realistic Sonnets"  
**Phillis Levin** (Hofstra University): "Echoes and Antecedents"  
**Christina Pugh** (University of Illinois, Chicago): "On Sonnet Thought"  
**Jay Rogoff** (Skidmore College): "The Aesthetics of Contemporary  
Sonnet Sequences"  
**Meg Tyler** (Boston University): "You Hardly Notice as You Move: Sound  
Patterns in Recent Sonnets"

### 5:30 p.m.–6:30 p.m.

**ALSC Members' Meeting** ..... Tabor Auditorium

### 7:00 p.m.–9:00 p.m.

**Banquet & Featured Presentation** ..... Augusta Room  
*Banquet, followed by a conversation between featured speaker **Azar Nafisi** (author of *Reading Lolita in Tehran*, and Director of the Dialogue Project at the Foreign Policy Institute of Johns Hopkins University's School of Advanced International Studies in Washington, DC) and **Clare Cavanagh** (Northwestern University)*

## Sunday, October 11, 2009

### 8:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

**Exhibits** ..... Lawrence Room Foyer

### 9:00 a.m.–10:30 a.m.

**Dostoevsky in the 21st Century** ..... Tabor Auditorium  
Convener: **Susan McReynolds** (University of Michigan)  
Chair: **Robin F. Miller** (Brandeis University)

**Paul Contino** (Pepperdine University): "Incarnational Realism and  
Dmitri Karamazov's Decision to Escape"  
**John Isham** (Carthage College): "*Crime and Punishment* on the  
Curriculum: Teaching Dostoevsky as Part of the Western Heritage"  
**Gary Saul Morson** (Northwestern University): "Translating the  
Theology of *The Brothers Karamazov*"  
**Steven Shankman** (University of Oregon): "Inside-Out: Reading  
Dostoevsky in Prison after Levinas"

### 10:45 a.m.–12:15 p.m.

**Who Reads What Where?  
The Western Canon in New Contexts** ..... Tabor Auditorium  
Convener: **Lee Oser** (College of the Holy Cross)

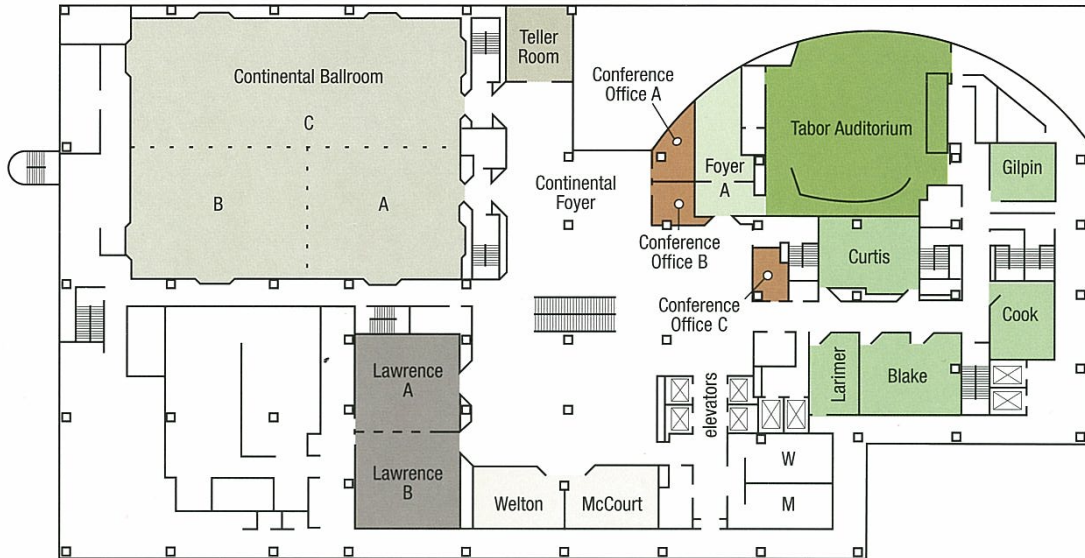
**Christine Buttram** (Winona State University): "Generation-Y Gen-Ed  
Classes and Transgenerational European Classics: Learning How to  
Ask New/Old Questions about Self and Life and 'Stuff'"  
**Michael Daher** (Henry Ford Community College): "Dostoyevsky's  
Sonya: *Sharmouta* or Heroine?"  
**Mark Irwin** (University of Southern California): "Poetry &  
Memorability: Distortion & Disjunction in the Lyric & Prose Poem in  
a Technological World"

## Think Globally, Meet Locally

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[www.bu.edu/literary/conferences/local-meetings.shtml](http://www.bu.edu/literary/conferences/local-meetings.shtml)

# Hotel Map

Mezzanine Level, Third Floor



Lobby Level, Second Floor

## **Lawrence Room Foyer**

Registration  
Exhibits

## **Tabor Auditorium**

Plenary Sessions

## **Augusta Room**

Reception & Presidential Address  
Banquet & Featured Presentation

## **TAG Restaurant (Off-Site)**

Dinner (Friday evening)

## **XO Restaurant (Off-Site)**

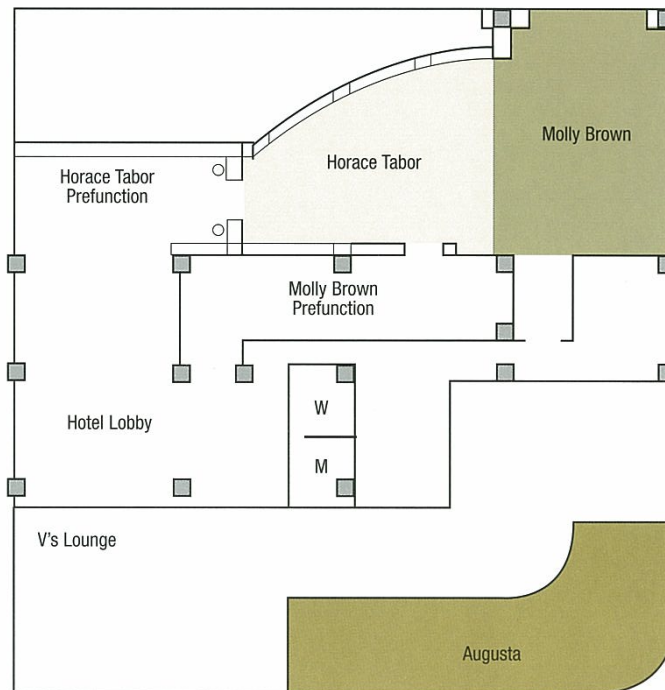
Poetry Reading  
Open Mic Night

## **Blake Room**

## **Curtis Room**

## **McCourt Room**

Concurrent Saturday Sessions



# Presenters

**Mike Benveniste** is a graduate student at Stanford University finishing his dissertation on American fiction, *A Judgment of Critique: United States Literary Production in the Era of Academe*. It argues that aesthetic postmodernism and cultural politics derive from shifts in institutionally promulgated concepts of literature and culture in the United States after WWII which valorized symbolism over causal description. Next summer *NLH* will publish an article he has co-authored on *Tom Jones* that attempts to reconceive narrative from a functional, rather than formal-symbolic, perspective. His interests include American literature, contemporary world literature, and theories of fiction and narrative.

**David Ben-Merre** is an assistant professor of English at Buffalo State College, where he teaches poetry, literary theory, and 20th-century literature. He has published on Lord Byron and WB Yeats and has work forthcoming in the *James Joyce Quarterly* and *PMLA*. Articles on Charles Dickens, Wallace Stevens, and James Merrill are presently under consideration. He has also written the introduction to the Modernist Journals Project's archive of *Poetry* magazine, which will soon be available online. Currently, he is completing his book manuscript, *Time Travels and Modernist Poetry*.

**Francis Blessington** is a professor of English at Northeastern University in Boston. He has also published verse translations of Euripides' *The Bacchae* and Aristophanes' *The Frogs* (Crofts Classics, 1993; rpt. Authors Guild, 2003), a verse play, *Lorenzo de' Medici* (University Press of America, 1992), *Paradise Lost: Ideal and Tragic Epic* (Twayne, 1988; rpt. Authors Guild, 2004), and *Paradise Lost and the Classical Epic* (Routledge and Kegan Paul, 1979), His novel, *The Last Witch of Dogtown*, appeared in 2001 from The Curious Traveller Press. *Wolf Howl*, a book of poems, came out in 2000 from BkMk Press (The University of Missouri at Kansas City). *Lantskip*, a book of poems, appeared in 1987 from William L. Bauhan.

**Zachary Bos** is the editor of *Sixty-Six*, a journal on the sonnet, and a founding editor of *Pusteblyme*, a journal of translation. From 2004 to 2007, he served as Deputy Editor for *News from the Republic of Letters*. He is currently studying under Robert Pinsky and Louise Glück as a graduate student in poetry at Boston University.

**Joel Burges** currently teaches in Literature and Comparative Media Studies at MIT. He is working on two books: *The Uses of Obsolescence*, which aims to unsettle dominant views of historicism in the study of contemporary culture and critical theory, and *Fiction After TV*, which aims to understand what happens to the category of fiction in both the literary and televisual fields after the rise of TV in postwar America. His paper for ALSC, "How Novels Periodize," is a specifically novelistic sequel to *The Uses of Obsolescence*.

With a BA from Emory and graduate degrees in English & Comparative Literature from Columbia, **Dr. Chris Buttram** is an Asso-

ciate Professor of English at Winona State University, Minnesota, where she has recently finished her term as Vice-President of the Faculty Association. Modernism is her main field, and T.S. Eliot is the focus of her research. The author of several articles on Eliot, Chris is currently finishing her book on Eliot and the human body and serving on the Board of the T.S. Eliot Society.

**Clare Cavanagh** is Herman and Beulah Pearce Miller Research Professor in Literature and Associate Professor of Slavic Literatures, Comparative Literary Studies, and Gender Studies at Northwestern University. She is the author of *Lyric Poetry and Modern Politics: Russia, Poland and the West* (Yale UP, 2009), and *Osip Mandelstam and the Modernist Creation of Tradition* (Princeton UP, 1995). She has translated the work of Wislawa Szymborska and Adam Zagajewski. She is currently working on an authorized biography of Czeslaw Milosz (under contract, Farrar Straus, Giroux).

**Sumita Chakraborty** is assistant poetry editor of *AGNI Magazine* and a graduate of Wellesley College. She received the Morris S. Smith Foundation Fellowship for Emerging Writers from the Writers' Room of Boston in early 2009. Her poems have appeared or are forthcoming in *Free Verse*, *Salamander*, *Dos Passos Review*, and other journals; her reviews and critical essays have appeared or are forthcoming in *Gently Read Literature*, *Boston Review*, and other journals. She studies poetry and poetics.

**David G. Clemens** is the founder and coordinator of the Monterey Peninsula College Great Books Certificate Program. He publishes in the scholarly and popular press, most recently the *San Francisco Chronicle*, *inside english*, *Community College Advocate*, *Reading at Risk: A Forum*, and the *Chronicle of Higher Education*. He also appears in the documentary film *Indoctrinate U*. In 2006, he received the Allen Griffin Award for Excellence in Teaching.

**Joshua Cohen** teaches literature at the Massachusetts College of Art and Design. He earned his PhD in English at Boston University, and has written essays about ancient to early modern literature, Shakespeare, and opera.

**Paul Contino** is Professor of Great Books at Pepperdine University. With his wife, Maire Mullins, he serves as Co-editor of the journal *Christianity and Literature*. With Susan Felch, he edited and introduced *Bakhtin and Religion: A Feeling for Faith* (Northwestern UP, 2001). His work has appeared in *Studies in the Novel*, *Renascence*, *Religion and the Arts*, *Comparative Literature Studies*, *The Cresset*, *Commonweal*, *America*, *Image*, and *Religion and Literature*.

**Peter Cortland** is employed by Quinnipiac University in Hamden, CT, and likes to probe the narrative assumptions in the work of Flaubert and of Stendhal, between many classes of Freshman English.

**Jasper Cragwall**, Assistant Professor of English at Loyola Uni-

versity Chicago, is the author of several articles on Wordsworth and the Shelleys. He is currently at finishing his first book, *Lake Methodism*, which argues for the fearful symmetry between the most famous formations of polite romanticism, and the most infamous pieties of eighteenth- and nineteenth-century religious enthusiasm.

**Michael Daher** teaches English and American literature at Henry Ford Community College in Dearborn, Michigan, and serves as the Director of the college's Arab Cultural Studies Program. He wrote and co-produced features for the radio series "Insights into Arab Culture," which was syndicated on the National Public Radio satellite system. Daher has also taught as a senior Fulbright professor at Damascus University in Syria, and participates in a United States Institute of Peace program that examines the cultural dimensions of conflict resolution. An ongoing interest in the theme of work in literature has led to his designing and acting as project director of three National Endowment for the Humanities summer faculty seminars entitled "Henry Ford and the History of American Industry, Labor, and Culture."

**Greg Delanty** is the Artist in Residence in the English Department of Saint Michael's College, Vermont. His most recent books are *Collected Poems 1986-2006* (from the Oxford Poet's series of Carcanet Press), *The Ship of Birth* (Carcanet Press 2003, Louisiana State University Press 2006), *The Blind Stitch* (Carcanet Press 2002, Louisiana State University Press, 2003) and *The Hellbox* (Oxford University Press 1998). He has received many awards, most recently a Guggenheim for poetry. The National Library of Ireland have recently acquired the papers of Greg Delanty up to the end of 2012.

**E. Thomas Finan** holds a PhD in literature and philosophy from the University Professors Program at Boston University. He has taught English at both the high school and college levels. He is currently researching the role of "reality" for American literature and has written on nineteenth-century American intellectual history and poetry.

**Maria J. Fitzgerald** is a novelist, short story writer and translator who teaches Creative Writing in the English Department at the University of Minnesota. Two stories, "The Invention of Greek Statues" and "XX to XY", both interpretations from Ovid's *Metamorphoses*, were published in *Literary Imagination*.

**Will Fitzhugh** has undergraduate and graduate degrees from Harvard University and founded *The Concord Review* in 1987 after ten years of teaching social studies at the high school in Concord, Massachusetts. The journal, the only one in the world for the academic papers of secondary students, has published 868 history research papers by students from 44 states and 35 other countries in the last 22 years. He has published articles on reading and writing in *Education Week*, the *New Mexico Journal of Reading*, *Knowledge Quest*, the *New York Sun*, *School Reform News*, *EducationNews.org*, *History Matters!*, *Edspresso*, and *Gifted Education International (UK)*.

**Brett Foster's** poems have appeared or are forthcoming in *Columbia*, *Hudson Review*, *Image*, *Literary Imagination*, *Raritan*, and *Southwest Review*, and his criticism in *Boston Review*, *The Georgia Review*, *Kenyon Review*, and *The Missouri Review*. His

versions of Cecco Angiolieri's sonnets have appeared in various journals, including *Italian Poetry Review*, *Journal of Italian Translation*, and *Yale Italian Poetry*. He has also published scholarly articles and reviews in *genre*, *Modern Philology*, *Prose Studies*, *Sixteenth Century Journal*, and *Shakespeare Bulletin*, and has edited volumes on Shakespeare's Sonnets and *Hamlet* for a "Shakespeare Through the Ages" reference series. He teaches Renaissance literature and creative writing at Wheaton College.

**Asya Graf** is a writer and teacher currently working on her MFA in poetry at Boston University. Her poetry, short fiction and literary criticism have appeared in *Boxcar*, *DMQ*, *Anderbo*, *Vestal Review*, *Comparative Literature* and other journals. She received her PhD in Comparative Literature from Princeton in 2006.

**Rachel Hadas** is Board of Governors Professor of English at the Newark (NJ) campus of Rutgers University and the author of numerous books of poetry, essays, and translations. Her recent books of poetry include *Laws*, *The River of Forgetfulness*, and *The Ache of Appetite*. She is currently co-editing an anthology of Greek poetry in translation from Homer to the present, due out from Norton in December 2009. Her honors include fellowships from the Guggenheim and Ingram Merrill Foundations, the O.B. Hardison Award, and an award in literature from the American Academy-Institute of Arts & Letters.

**Leslie Harkema** is the editor of our newsletter, *Literary Matters*. A doctoral student in Hispanic Language and Literatures at Boston University, she is also the ALSC's special liaison for graduate student affairs. From 2005 to 2007, while earning her MA in comparative literature from the University of Georgia, she worked as an editorial assistant for *Literary Imagination*.

**Susan Harris** is the editorial director of *Words Without Borders*.

**Michael Henry** is co-founder and Executive Director of Light-house Writers Workshop, an independent creative writing program located in downtown Denver. His poetry and nonfiction have appeared in places such as *5280 Magazine*, *Georgetown Review*, *Threepenny Review*, *Pleiades*, and *Rio Grande Review*. Over the years, he has received a Colorado Council on the Arts fellowship, and a PlatteForum fellowship. He received an MFA in creative writing from Emerson College, an undergraduate degree in English from University of Rochester. A collection of poetry, *No Stranger Than My Own*, was published by Ghost Road Press in the fall of 2008.

**Richie Hofmann** is a first-year Ph.D. student at Emory University, studying twentieth-century poetry and the history of art. He graduated from Boston University in 2009 with a B.A. from the University Professors Program, where he received an Alice M. Brennan Fellowship from the Humanities Foundation for his interdisciplinary research in literature and the visual arts. He has volunteered with the Association of Literary Scholars and Critics since 2007.

**Toni M. Holland's** poet residencies include The Millay Colony for the Arts, Vermont Studio Center, and Shakespeare and Company in Paris, France. She is completing her doctoral dissertation on the literary and cultural history of United States poets laureate, at the University of Texas at Arlington. She has received an Academy of American Poet's University Award for poetry (first-runner



up) at UT and a University Scholar Award at UTA.

**Mark Irwin** is the author of six collections of poetry; the last three include *White City* (BOA, 2000), *Bright Hunger* (BOA, 2004), and *Tall If* (New Issues, 2008). Recognition for his work includes four Pushcart Prizes, two Colorado Book Awards, and fellowships from the Fulbright, Lilly, NEA, and Wurlitzer Foundations. He teaches in the Graduate Creative Writing Program at the University of Southern California.

**Steven Isenberg** was recently named the Executive Director of the PEN American Center. For several years prior to that, he was Visiting Professor of Humanities at the University of Texas at Austin teaching 19th and 20th century British and American Literature in the liberal arts honors program. Before that, Isenberg served as the interim president of Adelphi University, the Publisher of *New York Newsday* and the Executive Vice President of the *Los Angeles Times*, and was the Chief of Staff for then New York Mayor John V. Lindsay.

**John Isham** is an Assistant Professor of Great Ideas and Modern Languages at Carthage College. In addition to a PhD in Russian Literature from Columbia University, he also holds Master's degrees from Middlebury College (Russian Language) and from Columbia's School of International and Public Affairs. His interests include the Russian Sentimentalists of the eighteenth century, nineteenth-century Russian literature and the cinematic work of Andrei Tarkovsky. Dr. Isham is now in his third year at Carthage and has been teaching courses there in Western Heritage, Russian Cinema, and Communications and Digital Media.

**Rachel Leah Jablon** is a PhD Candidate in Comparative Literature at the University of Maryland. Her concentrations include African diasporic and Jewish literature, as well as performance studies. She is writing her dissertation on the effects of the internet on Holocaust memorialization.

**Carol Jago** has taught English in middle and high school for 32 years and directs the California Reading and Literature Project at UCLA. She is currently president-elect of the National Council of Teachers of English. She served as AP Literature content advisor for the College Board and has published six books for teachers with Heinemann. She has also published four books on contemporary multicultural authors for NCTE's High School Literature series. She has written a weekly education column for the *Los Angeles Times*, and her essays have appeared in *English Journal*, *Language Arts*, and *NEA Today*.

**David Joplin** is a professor of English at Monterey Peninsula College.

**Jill Leininger** works as Director of Development at the Vermont Studio Center. Prior to Vermont, she served as communications director and fundraiser at the University of Oregon, where she received her MFA in 1999 and edited for the *Northwest Review*. Her poems have been published in *Shenandoah*, *Crab Creek Review*, and *Seattle Review*, among others.

**Ronald Levao** teaches at Rutgers University, New Brunswick. He is the author of *Renaissance Minds and Their Fictions* (University of California Press) and editor of *Selected Poems of Thomas Campion*, *Samuel Daniel* and *Sir Walter Raleigh* (Penguin) and

*Henry IV, Parts One and Two* (Longman). His articles have appeared in *PMLA*, *Representations*, *Raritan*, *Modern Language Quarterly*, *Literary Imagination*, and *The Ring*.

**Phillis Levin** is the author of four volumes of poetry, *Temples and Fields*, *The Afterimage*, *Mercury*, and *May Day*. She is the editor of *The Penguin Book of the Sonnet: 500 Years of a Classic Tradition in English*. Her many honors include the Poetry Society of America's Norma Farber First Book Award, a Fulbright Scholar Award to Slovenia, the Amy Lowell Poetry Travelling Scholarship, and fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation and the National Endowment for the Arts. She is a professor of English and the poet-in-residence at Hofstra University and lives in New York.

**Mike Levine** is an Acquisitions Editor at Northwestern University Press. He was previously a Senior Editor at the Great Books Foundation. He has a PhD in English from Rice University and teaches in the Seminar Program at the Newberry Library in Chicago.

**Peter Manning** graduated from Harvard University and took his MA and PhD in English from Yale University. After teaching at Berkeley and the University of Southern California he became chair of the Department of English at Stony Brook University in 2000. He is the author of *Byron and his Fictions* and of *Reading Romantics* and of numerous essays in the field of British Romanticism, and the editor with Susan Wolfson of, among other titles, *The Romantics and Their Contemporaries*, a volume of *The Longman Anthology of British Literature*.

**David Mason's** books of poems include *The Buried Houses* (winner of the Nicholas Roerich Poetry Prize), *The Country I Remember* (winner of the Alice Fay Di Castagnola Award), and *Arrivals*. His verse novel, *Ludlow* (2007), was named best poetry book of the year by the Contemporary Poetry Review and the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum. Author of a collection of essays, *The Poetry of Life and the Life of Poetry*, Mason has also co-edited several textbooks and anthologies, including *Western Wind: An Introduction to Poetry*, *Rebel Angels: 25 Poets of the New Formalism*, and *Twentieth Century American Poetry*.

**Molly McQuade** is currently teaching two seminars: "Lives of the Dancers" and "Are Animals Necessary?" She is also working on an essay that tries to connect the dots between the hunter Jim Corbett, the poet Marianne Moore, and Tippoo's Tiger, an 18th-century automaton from Mysore, India, now housed at the Victoria & Albert Museum in London.

**Susan McReynolds** is Associate Professor and Chair of the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures at Northwestern University. She is the author of *Redemption and the Merchant God: Dostoevsky's Economy of Salvation and Antisemitism*, as well as numerous articles that explore intersections among aesthetics, nationalism, and antisemitism. She is the President of the North American Dostoevsky Society.

**David L. Mikics** is the author of *A New Handbook of Literary Terms* (Yale UP), *Who Was Jacques Derrida?* (Yale UP), and, with Stephen Burt, *The Art of the Sonnet* (April 2010, Harvard UP), along with earlier books on Renaissance poetry and Emerson and Nietzsche. He teaches in the English Department and the Honors College of the University of Houston, and works frequent-

ly with UH's Creative Writing Program.

**Robin Feuer Miller's** most recent books are *Dostoevsky's Unfinished Journey* and *The Brothers Karamazov: Worlds of the Novel*. She has written on other nineteenth century Russian and European writers. Her work includes two co-edited volumes, Kathryn B. Feuer's *Tolstoy and the Genesis of War and Peace* (with Donna Tussing Orwin) and *The Cambridge Companion to the Classic Russian Novel* (with Malcolm V. Jones). She served as Dean of Arts and Sciences for six years at Brandeis University where she is now the Edytha Macy Gross Professor of Humanities and Chair of the Department of German, Russian, and East Asian Languages and Literature.

**Gary Saul Morson** studied Russian literatures at Yale and Oxford and is Frances Hooper Professor of Arts & the Humanities at Northwestern. He has won "best book" awards from the American Comparative Literature Association and the American Association of teachers of Slavic and east European Languages, which also gave him the 2008 Outstanding Career award. He has written 7 books, edited 6 more, and published over 100 articles. He teaches the most popular course in Russian literature in America and has won many teaching awards.

**Nicholas Moschovakis** has published essays in a special issue of *College Literature* titled "Cognitive Shakespeare" and in a collection of essays edited by Stephen Cohen titled *Shakespeare and Historical Formalism* (2006). His current work focuses on topicality and literary allusion in Shakespeare, and on their implications for both historicist and presentist approaches to problems of intentionality and reception.

**Azar Nafisi** is best known as the author of the national bestseller *Reading Lolita in Tehran: A Memoir in Books*, which electrified its readers with a compassionate and often harrowing portrait of the Islamic revolution in Iran and how it affected one university professor and her students. Earning high acclaim and an enthusiastic readership, *Reading Lolita in Tehran* is an incisive exploration of the transformative powers of fiction in a world of tyranny. The book has spent over 117 weeks on the *New York Times* bestseller list. *Reading Lolita in Tehran* has been translated in 32 languages, and has won diverse literary awards, including the 2004 Non-fiction Book of the Year Award from Booksense, the Frederic W. Ness Book Award, the 2004 Latifeh Yarsheter Book Award, an achievement award from the American Immigration Law Foundation, as well as being a finalist for the 2004 PEN/Martha Albrand Award for Memoir. In 2006 she won a Persian Golden Lioness Award for literature, presented by the World Academy of Arts, Literature, and Media.

Azar Nafisi is a Visiting Professor and the director of the Cultural Conversations at the Foreign Policy Institute of Johns Hopkins University's School of Advanced International Studies in Washington, DC, where she is a professor of aesthetics, culture, and literature, and teaches courses on the relation between culture and politics. Azar Nafisi held a fellowship at Oxford University, teaching and conducting a series of lectures on culture and the important role of Western literature and culture in Iran after the revolution in 1979. She taught at the University of Tehran, the Free Islamic University, and Allameh Tabatabai before her return

to the United States in 1997 — earning national respect and international recognition for advocating on behalf of Iran's intellectuals, youth, and especially young women. In 1981, she was expelled from the University of Tehran for refusing to wear the mandatory Islamic veil and did not resume teaching until 1987.

Azar Nafisi conducted workshops in Iran for women students on the relationship between culture and human rights; the material culled from these workshops formed the basis of a new human rights education curriculum. She has lectured and written extensively in English and Persian on the political implications of literature and culture, as well as the human rights of the Iranian women and girls and the important role they play in the process of change for pluralism and an open society in Iran. She has been consulted on issues related to Iran and human rights both by the policy makers and various human rights organizations in the US and elsewhere. She is also involved in the promotion of not just literacy, but of reading books with universal literary value.

Azar Nafisi has written for *The New York Times*, *Washington Post*, and *The Wall Street Journal*. Her cover story, "The Veiled Threat: The Iranian Revolution's Woman Problem" published in *The New Republic* (February 22, 1999) has been reprinted into several languages. She is the author of *Anti-Terra: A Critical Study of Vladimir Nabokov's Novels*. She also wrote the new introduction to the Modern Library Classics edition of Tolstoy's *Hadji Murad*, as well as the introduction to Iraj Pezeshkzad's *My Uncle Napoleon*, published by Modern Library (April 2006). She has published a children's book (with illustrator Sophie Benini Pietromarchi) *BiBi and the Green Voice* (in Italy with Adelphi, as *BiBi e la voce verde*). Azar Nafisi's new book, *Things I Have Been Silent About: Memories*, a memoir about her mother, was published in January 2009. She is currently working on a book entitled *Republic of the Imagination*, which is about the power of literature to liberate minds and peoples. She lives in Washington, DC.

**Antonio Ochoa** obtained his doctorate from the University of Edinburgh, Scotland with a dissertation on the concepts of presence and space in Latin American poetry. He recently finished the Spanish translation of Robert Duncan's book of poems *Bending the Bow*. He teaches at Simmons College in Boston.

**Alexandra H. Olsen** was born in Polson, Montana, and her family moved to San Francisco when she was three and she grew up there. She attended the University of California at Berkeley and earned a BA (1970), MA (1973), and PhD (1978). She came to the University of Denver in 1980 and is a Full Professor. She teaches primarily Old and Middle English literature but also linguistics and texts from the classics through modern fantasy. She has been married to Gary L. Olsen since 1967.

**Lee Oser's** books include *The Ethics of Modernism: Moral ideas in Yeats, Eliot, Joyce, Woolf, and Beckett* and *Out of What Chaos: A Novel*. His poetry has appeared in *Southwest Review*, *National Review*, *Commonweal*, and *Literary Imagination*. He teaches religion and literature at the College of the Holy Cross, in Worcester, Massachusetts.

**Joshua Pederson** received his PhD in Religion and Literature

from Boston University in May of 2008, and he currently teaches at a number of universities in and around New York City. His interests include 20th-century American literature, film studies, and Biblical literacy. His forthcoming essays address religious themes in a range of contemporary authors, from Tony Kushner to Thomas Pynchon.

**Michael Poliakoff** is the former Vice-President of Academic Affairs and Research at the University of Colorado. He graduated magna cum laude from Yale University in 1975 and attended Oxford University as a Rhodes Scholar from 1975-1978. He earned his doctorate in Classical Studies from the University of Michigan in 1981.

**Christina Pugh** is the author of two books of poems: *Restoration* (TriQuarterly Books / Northwestern University Press, 2008) and *Rotary* (Word Press, 2004; winner of the Word Press First Book Prize), as well as the chapbook *Gardening at Dusk* (Wells College Press, 2002). A recent recipient of the Lucille Medwick Memorial Award from the Poetry Society of America and a fellowship in poetry from the Illinois Arts Council, she is an associate professor of English at the University of Illinois at Chicago.

**Alice Quinn** is executive director of the Poetry Society of America and the editor of *Edgar Allan Poe & The Juke-Box: Uncollected Poems, Drafts, and Fragments* by Elizabeth Bishop. She served as poetry editor at *The New Yorker* from 1987-2007, where she was also a fiction editor for many years, and she teaches at Columbia University's graduate School of the Arts. Her articles on and interviews with poets and writers have appeared in *ArtForum*, *Poetry Ireland*, *The New Yorker*, and *The New Yorker Online*, and she is currently at work on an edition of Elizabeth Bishop's journals and notebooks.

**Chris Ransick**, Denver's Poet Laureate, won a Colorado Book Award in 2003 for his first book, *Never Summer*. He was a 2005 CBA finalist for his collection of short stories, *A Return To Emptiness*, and in 2006 published another collection of poems, *Lost Songs & Last Chances*. Chris worked as assistant to the editors of on the definitive anthology, *The Last Best Place: A Montana Anthology* and has recently received a planning grant from Colorado Humanities/National Endowment for the Humanities to begin work on a comprehensive anthology of Colorado literature. His next collection of poems, *Asleep Beneath the Hill of Dreams*, is forthcoming from Ghost Road Press.

**Diane Rayor** is Professor and co-founder of the Department of Classics at Grand Valley State University in Michigan, where she teaches ancient Greek, mythology, translation theory, and classical literature. She has published four books of translations, including *The Homeric Hymns* (California, 2004) and *Sappho's Lyre: Archaic Lyric and Women Poets of Ancient Greece* (California, 1991). Her translation of Sophocles' *Antigone* is under contract with Cambridge University Press.

**Christopher Ricks** is Warren Professor of the Humanities and Co-Director of the Editorial Institute at Boston University. He has recently concluded his term as Immediate Past President of the ALSC and his term as Professor of Poetry at the University of Oxford (2004-2009).

**Jay Rogoff** has published three books of poetry, most recently

*The Long Fault* (LSU Press, 2008). His next book, *The Code of Terpsichore*, forthcoming from LSU in 2011, deals largely with dance and contains a sonnet sequence called *Danses Macabres*. His poems have lately appeared in such journals as *Field*, *The Hopkins Review*, *Literary Imagination*, *Ploughshares*, *Poetry London*, and *The Southern Review*, among others. His criticism also appears widely, especially in *The Southern Review* and *The Hopkins Review*, where he serves as dance critic. He lives in Saratoga Springs, New York, where he teaches at Skidmore College.

**David J. Rothman**, this year's ALSC Conference Coordinator, is also co-Founder of the Crested Butte Music Festival, Founding Editor and Publisher of Conundrum Press, and served for six years as Headmaster of Crested Butte Academy, an independent school in Colorado. He is President of the Robinson Jeffers Association and sits on a number of non-profit boards, including that of the ALSC. Rothman's volumes of poetry include *Dominion of Shadow*, *Beauty at Night* and *The Elephant's Chiropractor*. A new volume, *Go Big*, is forthcoming from Red Hen Press. In academia but not of it, he teaches part-time at the University of Colorado in Boulder.

A native of West Tennessee, **Richard Rankin Russell** is Associate Professor of English at Baylor University, where he teaches twentieth-century British and Irish literature. Editor of a collection of essays on the London-Irish playwright Martin McDonagh, Russell is also author of the first monograph on the Northern Irish writer Bernard MacLaverty (Bucknell UP, 2009). He has recently completed a book entitled, *Poetry's Power: Michael Longley, Seamus Heaney, the Northern Irish Conflict, and the Peace Process* and is currently writing an environmental literary study of the Irish dramatist Brian Friel.

**Adelaide Russo** received her PhD from Columbia University. She has taught at Columbia, Barnard College, Vanderbilt, the Université de Provence and was a Mellon Fellow at Harvard University. She is on the editorial boards of *Pleine Marge* (Paris) and the interdisciplinary monograph series *CHIASMA* published by Rodopi (Amsterdam & New York). She directs the research initiative in Belgium Francophone Literature and Culture of Louisiana State University's Center for French and Francophone Studies and is also a member of the Women's and Gender Studies Faculty.

**Steven Shankman** holds the UNESCO Chair in Transcultural Studies, Interreligious Dialogue, and Peace at the University of Oregon, where he is also Distinguished Professor of English and Classics and Director of the Center for Intercultural Dialogue. His work in the Western classical tradition includes *Pope's Iliad: Homer in the Age of Passion* (1983) and *In Search of the Classic: Reconsidering the Classical Tradition, Homer to Valéry and Beyond* (1994). He has been a Guggenheim and an NEH Fellow. He is currently chair of the Committee on Intercultural Studies of the International Comparative Literature Association.

**Helaine L. Smith** teaches English at The Brearley School in New York City. She is the author of *Masterpieces of Classical Greek Drama* and is currently completing a text on teaching Homer and the Homeric Hymns and working with a colleague to adapt Aristophanes for middle and high school use.

From 1999-2003, **Sandra Stotsky** served as Senior Associate Commissioner in the Massachusetts Department of Education, where she directed complete revisions of the state's preK-12 standards for all major subjects, its licensing regulations for teachers, administrators, and teacher training schools, and its tests for teacher licensure. From 1991-1997, she served as editor of *Research in the Teaching of English*, the research journal sponsored by the National Council of Teachers of English. She has taught elementary school, French and German at the high school level, and undergraduate and graduate courses in reading, children's literature, and writing pedagogy.

At TLI, **Quentin Suffren** manages a comprehensive K-12 English/Language Arts curriculum and assessment program, part of which includes core reading curriculum development and support for teachers and curriculum directors. The Learning Institute provides assessment, data, and curriculum services to 80 school districts (educating over 200,000 students) in Arkansas and Louisiana. He is also the lead writer/editor of TLI's online publication, *The Learning Curve*. Previously, he worked as a project manager for the Thomas B. Fordham Institute, as a curriculum coach at Hot Springs School District, and as a Humanities instructor at the Arkansas School for Mathematics, Sciences and the Arts.

**Tess Taylor**, the 2010-2011 Amy Clampitt Resident, has received writing fellowships from Amherst College, the American Antiquarian Society, the Headlands Center for the Arts, and the MacDowell Colony. Her chapbook, *The Misremembered World*, was published by the Poetry Society of America, and her work has appeared in *The Atlantic Monthly*, the *Boston Review*, the *Harvard Review*, *Literary Imagination*, *The Times Literary Supplement*, *Memorious*, and *The New Yorker*.

**Bill Tremblay** is an award-winning poet as well as a novelist, teacher, editor, and reviewer whose work has appeared in seven full-length volumes of poetry including *Crying in the Cheap Seats* (University of Massachusetts Press), *The Anarchist Heart* (New Rivers Press), *Home Front* (Lynx House Press), *Second Sun: New & Selected Poems* (L'Epervier Press), *Duhamel: Ideas of Order in Little Canada* (BOA Editions Ltd.), *Rainstorm Over the Alphabet* (Lynx House Press), and most recently *Shooting Script: Door of Fire* (Eastern Washington University Press).

**Meg Tyler** is Assistant Professor of Humanities at Boston University. She is the author of *A Singing Contest: Conventions of Sound in the Poetry of Seamus Heaney* (Routledge, 2005, Studies in Major Literary Authors' series). She is currently working on a book provisionally entitled *Broken Sonnets*, about sonnets written by contemporary British, Irish and American poets.

**Madeline Weinstein** is a student in the Creative Writing program at Northwestern University, with a focus on poetry and a minor in Slavic Studies. She is a research assistant to Professor Clare Cavanagh and is currently involved in editing the new edition of the Princeton Encyclopedia of Poetry and Poetics. Her research interests include modern British and American poetry, Russian language and literature, and literary translation.

**Robert Wilson** has been editor of *The American Scholar* for five years. Before that, he was editor of *Preservation*, founding liter-

ary editor of *Civilization*, book editor and book columnist at *USA Today*, and an assistant editor at *The Washington Post*. He has taught writing at the University of Virginia, Johns Hopkins, George Mason, and American. *The Explorer King*, his narrative biography of the adventurer Clarence King, appeared in 2006, and he is writing a narrative biography of the photographer Mathew Brady. His essays, reviews, articles, and fiction have appeared in many newspapers and magazines.

**Susan Wolfson**, Professor of English at Princeton University, is Vice President and soon President of the Association. Her essay, "Empson's Pregnancy," appeared in *Literary Imagination*, and her most recent essay, "Byron's Ghosting Authority," is in this fall's *ELH*. Her critical studies, which have concentrated on the era of British Romanticism, include *The Questioning Presence* (1986), *Formal Charges* (1997), *Borderlines* (2007), and *Romantic Interactions* (forthcoming 2010). She is on the board of editors of *The Longman Anthology of British Literature*, and has developed innovative editions of Felicia Hemans, John Keats, Shelley's *Frankenstein*, and Byron's poetry (this last, coedited with Peter Manning).

**Stephen Young** began as an assistant at *Poetry* in 1988 and served as Senior Editor for many years before he became Program Director at The Poetry Foundation in 2003. He received an Everett Helm Fellowship for work on *Dear Editor: A History of Poetry in Letters*, co-edited with Joseph Parisi and published in the Fall of 2002 by W. W. Norton. With Joseph Parisi, he also co-edited *The Poetry Anthology 1912-2002* (Ivan R. Dee, Publisher, 2002) and *Between the Lines: A History of Poetry in Letters 1962-2002* (Ivan R. Dee, Publisher, 2006).

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500 16<sup>th</sup> St. #320  
303.433.1000

Enjoy appetizers and drinks while listening to the house jazz band in the club or on the outdoor patio.

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303.436.1234

You'll fall in love with Denver as you revel in panoramic views of the city and Rockies. Enjoy some wine, beer, cocktails and light appetizers after 3 p.m. and surround yourself with the beauty of the magical west.

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Everyday from 2:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. Good drink specials and small plate versions of some of their best dishes for \$3 and \$4 each. A good value enjoyed in a fine lounge area.

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Offering two-hour historical and architectural walking tours of

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## Museums

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100 W. 14<sup>th</sup> Avenue Parkway  
720.865.5000

Architecture buffs will enjoy the North Building, designed by famed Italian architect Gio Ponti, and the Hamilton Building, designed by Daniel Libeskind and completed in 2006. Art lovers will find plenty to marvel at in the combined 356,000 square feet of both buildings. Open 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. on Fridays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturdays, and noon to 5 p.m. on Sundays. The museum is closed on Mondays.

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Cutting-edge contemporary art housed in a magnificent building. Open Tuesday through Sunday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Fridays from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.

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1445 Larimer Square  
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Fresh and delicious salads and sandwiches at a reasonable price. Novo coffee is located inside the restaurant and features specialty coffees brewed to perfection. Enjoy an espresso-based beverage or marvel at a cup of coffee made with the help of a Clover Coffee Maker. FYI: Novo has a presence inside the Denver Art Museum's North Building at the Duncan Pavilion. Here you can sip your cup of coffee in the bright and airy lounge area, or outside on the rooftop deck.

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303.293.0075

Located underground in the historic D&F Clocktower. Cocktails, appetizers and desserts available. Show schedule is as follows:

*Friday, October 9*

"Sammy Mayfield Blues Revue" (8 p.m.)

"Magic Underground: All New Variety and Trickery" (11 p.m.)

*Saturday, October 10*

"Lannie Garrett's Great Women of Song" (8 p.m.)

"Fannie Spankings 'Off the Clock' Late Night Burlesque" (11 p.m.)

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