



# NEHA

New England Historical Association

**Saturday  
October 26, 2019**

**Roger Williams University  
Bristol, Rhode Island**

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## **Fall Conference Program**

**All sessions will be held in Global Heritage Hall**

**8:00-8:30 Registration & Continental Breakfast  
(GHH)**

**Global Heritage Hall**

### **First Morning Sessions, 8:30-10:00**

#### **Session 1: Politics, War, and American Society (Bristol - Global Heritage Hall - 101)**

Chair/Commentator: Erik Christiansen, Rhode Island College

Alex Beckstrand, University of Connecticut, “The Thing to Do Now: The Four Pillars of American War Preparations, May-December 1940”

Philip A. Grant, Pace University, “The Congressional Career of Edmund S. Muskie of Maine”

Shawn Driscoll, University of Massachusetts-Lowell, “The Conflicted Soldier – The GI antiwar movement and exploring the narratives and myths of the Vietnam Era Soldier that morally rejected service in Vietnam”

#### **Session 2: Religious Reform and the Common Good in Seventeenth and Eighteenth-Century New England (Bristol - Global Heritage Hall - 105)**

Chair/Commentator: Thomas Balcerski, Eastern Connecticut State University

Charles Kennedy Hartman II, Roger Williams University, “Like a Candlestick Forgotten: John Myles and early Baptists in America”

Dominic DeBrincat, Missouri Western State University, “A Pox on Their Blasphemous Houses: Isolating Disease and Religious Dissent in Colonial New London”

Christopher J. Martin, University of Massachusetts-Amherst, “‘To Promote One Common Good’: African American Leaders in Providence in the 1790s”

**Session 3: Women Educators and Associations in Nineteenth-Century Massachusetts (Bristol - Global Heritage Hall - 106)**

Chair/Commentator: Elizabeth DeWolfe, University of New England

Naomi Schoenfeld, Rivier University, “With Diligence and With Success: The Role of Women Caregivers at Schools for the Intellectually Disabled in 1850s Massachusetts”

Nicole O’Connell, University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth, “‘Like the Pages of a Great Book’: Diaries of the Worcester Normal School”

Kathryn Angelica, University of Connecticut, “Democracy and the New England Women’s Auxiliary Association”

**Session 4: England through the Ages (Bristol - Global Heritage Hall – G01)**

Chair/Commentator: Troy Paddock, Southern Connecticut State University

Sally Shockro, Merrimack College, “Context and Meaning in Bede’s Abbreviated Psalter”

Kathryn Lamontagne, Boston University, “Mary in the World: Finding the ‘New’ Catholic Women in Britain, 1880-1920”

Thomas J. Sojka, Boston University, “Selling bright young things: Advertising aristocracy in Interwar Britain”

***Break for Socializing & Refreshments: 10:00-10:30***  
**Mezzanine**

**Abromson 2<sup>nd</sup> floor**

**Second Morning Sessions, 10:30 – 12:00**

**Session 5: Teaching Slavery in the Public Square and in the Classroom: A Roundtable Discussion (Bristol - Global Heritage Hall - 101)**

Chair: Erik Jensen, Salem State University

Bethany Jay, Salem State University

Jessica Parr, Simmons University

Johanna Obenda, Yale University Art Gallery

**Session 6: U.S. Women’s Political Activism in the Early Twentieth Century (Bristol - Global Heritage Hall - 105)**

Chair/Commentator: Lauren Kozakiewicz, University of Albany

Kelly Marino, Sacred Heart University, “‘The Obligation of Opportunity’: Maud Wood Park and the Activism of the College Equal Suffrage League”

Robert Chiles, University of Maryland, College Park, “Mary Norton’s Revolution of ’28: From Jersey City to National Affairs”

Hayley Crum, Birmingham City Schools, “Maryland Grassroots Suffragists, 1900-1930”

**Session 7: Erasing/Finding Race and Identity in Nineteenth and Twentieth-Century America (Bristol - Global Heritage Hall - 106)**

Chair/Commentator: Eric C. Cimino, Molloy College

Gabby C. Womack, Merrimack College, “From ‘Mulatto’ to ‘Negro’: The 1930 United States Census and the Erasure of Mixed-Race People”

Ella Howard, Wentworth Institute of Technology, “Slavery Markers in the Big Easy: Historic Interventions in the Tourist Landscape of New Orleans”

**Session 8: Disasters: Commemorating and Remembering Tragedy in the United States (Bristol - Global Heritage Hall - 108)**

Chair/Commentator: Laura D’Amore, Roger Williams University

Brian Peterson, Shasta College, “Tragedy, Memory, and Horror: Revisiting the Coconut Grove Fire, November 28, 1942, in Boston, Massachusetts and Its Significance in United States History”

Philip Mosley, Penn State University, Emeritus, “Historicizing Anthracite (Part Two): Commemorative Modes and Representational Forms”

**Session 9: Using the Past to Understand the Present (Bristol - Global Heritage Hall – G 01)**

Chair/Commentator: Thomas Carty, Springfield College & Miriam Reumann, University of Rhode Island

Lisa Nocks, IEEE History Center, “Shocking Remedies: A Historically-based Evaluation of Medical Electricity for Pain Management”

Debra A. Mulligan, Roger Williams University, “Democratic National Chairman J. Howard McGrath and the ‘Jewish Vote.’ The 1948 Election and the Recognition of Israel: A Case Study”

**Session 10: New Perspectives on Ireland and America during the Great Irish Potato Famine (Bristol - Global Heritage Hall – G 05)**

Chair/Commentator: Kristen Petersen, MCPHS University

Katherine Carper, Boston College, “Merchant Involvement in Irish Famine Relief Organizations”

Ian Delahanty, Springfield College, “Transatlantic Abolitionism and the Great Irish Potato Famine”

James Zibro, Kent School, “Remember...you promised to take me out of Ireland”: Famine-Era Migration Chains in the United States

***12:15-1:30 Lunch and Business meeting***

## **Afternoon Sessions, 1:30 – 3:00**

### **Session 11: Entrepreneurial Women and their Contributions to the Nineteenth-Century New England Economy (Bristol - Global Heritage Hall - 101)**

Chair/Commentator: Laura Prieto, Simmons University

Mary Sherman Lycan, University of Connecticut, “The Clockmaker’s Wife: Tila Oates Willard and the Economy of Household Weaving in Early Federal New England”

Elizabeth DeWolfe, University of New England, “Carrie’s Hair: Customer Networks and Hair Work Jewelry in Mid-Nineteenth-Century Maine”

### **Session 12: Ambiguous Agency: Slavery, Exile, and Mission in Asia (Bristol - Global Heritage Hall - 105)**

Chair/Commentator: Debra A. Mulligan, Roger Williams University

Steven Michael Brown, Southern Connecticut State University, “Freedom in Bondage, Exploring the Subjectivity of Slaves in Southeast Asia”

Sharmishtha Roy Chowdhury, Queens College, CUNY, “Exile, Imprisonment and Narratives of Territoriality in Colonial India, 1914-1924”

Beth Shinn, Roger Williams University, “Recreating the Legacy: The Story of the Huamei Hospital and the Wagner Family, 1886-2015”

### **Session 13: Historical Curiosities in Nineteenth-Century America (Bristol - Global Heritage Hall - 106)**

Chair/Commentator: Lukas Rieppel, Brown University

Edward Guimont, University of Connecticut, “Searching for the Woolly Mammoth: A Nineteenth-Century Endangered Species”

Brian Regal, Kean University, “Nellie Horsford: Forgotten proponent of the Viking Theory of American Discovery”

### **Session 14: Contending Forces: Philosophy, Theology, and the Politics of Empathy in Nineteenth-Century New England (Bristol - Global Heritage Hall - 108)**

Chair/Commentator: Elizabeth Francis, Rhode Island Council for the Humanities

Todd S. Gernes, Stonehill College, “Weaving History: Rowland Hazard, Free Will, and the Politics of Empathy”

Sarah C. Holmes, New England Institute of Technology, “‘An Indwelling Spirit’: Sophia Little’s Prison Reform and the Limits of Activism”

Deborah Kisatsky, Assumption College, “Wars of Religion: Adin Ballou’s Newspaper Polemics of 1828-1831”

**Session 15: Female Reformers in the Nineteenth Century: A Showcase of Student Research from AP US History at Portland High School (Bristol - Global Heritage Hall - 109)**

Chair/Commentator: Gavin Glider, Portland High School

Lucy Howe, Portland High School “Elizabeth Cady Stanton: The Fight for Women’s Suffrage and Beyond”

Zoe Bertsch, Portland High School, “Harriet Tubman’s Unifying Effects on Abolitionism and Feminism”

Hannah Prue, Portland High School, “Dorthea Dix and Prison Reform in the 1800s”

**Session 16: Teaching and Writing History in the Modern World: Challenges and Opportunities (Bristol - Global Heritage Hall – G 01)**

Chair/Commentator: Dominic DeBrincat, Missouri Western State University

Laura D’Amore, Roger Williams University, “Teaching Sexual Violence in Historical Context in the Era of Me Too”

Nicolas Hardisty, Rhode Island College, “Preventing, Recognizing and Destigmatizing Vicarious Trauma in Historians”

Christian Gonzales, University of Rhode Island, “What we did to the Indians” –Why the Memory of Native Dispossession Matters”

**Session 17: “Designing Public History: Faculty, Student, and Community Perspectives” (Bristol - Global Heritage Hall – G 05)**

Chair: Charlotte Carrington-Farmer, Roger Williams University

Charlotte Carrington-Farmer and John Farmer, Roger Williams University, “Faculty Perspective: Connecting Historians and Designers through Community Partnerships Projects”

Rebecca Farias, Daniel Perkins, Samantha DaRocha, and Carolyn Westgate, Roger Williams University, “Student Perspective: Experiential Learning in the History Department”

Dave Weed (Sowams Heritage Area Project Coordinator) “Community Partner Perspective: Creating a New Heritage Area in New England”