



Fall Conference Plans: November 7-8, 2025

Plan now to join us for a very special 60th anniversary Fall meeting, held at Nichols College, in Dudley, Massachusetts. On Friday, November 7, we will have a tour of the Samuel Slater Experience museum in Webster, followed by cocktails, a banquet, and a keynote speech by distinguished historian James Grossman. Conference presentations will take place on Saturday, November 8, at Nichols College.

NEHA attendees can get discounted hotel rooms at the **Wellsworth Hotel** in nearby Southbridge, MA, for just **\$129 a night** on the nights of **November 6, 7, and 8**. Please call the hotel and let them know you are attending a conference at Nichols to receive the discount. For more information or to book a room, please call **508-765-8000** or visit wellsworthhotel.com. The **Publick House** in Sturbridge is also an option, please visit them at publickhouse.com

Many thanks to NEHA Vice President Michael Neagle, Paul Lambert Sr., Maureen Butler, Heather Bowes, and Christina Alexander for their work organizing the conference program and handling its orchestration.

Registration is now open at: <https://neha.wildapricot.org/event-6334714>

The Friday, November 7 Banquet and Keynote Address will be \$40.

Registration before October 27 will be \$20. After October 27, registration will be \$30.

Saturday Lunch Buffet will be \$30. Undergraduates attend for free, please email Executive Secretary Sean Perrone for a code at neha.execsec@gmail.com



Nichols College Sign, Courtesy Caspian Horn

NEHA Fall 2025

Friday, November 7, 2025

Samuel Slater Experience Group Tour

31 Ray Street
Webster, MA
3:00 – 5:00 p.m.

NEHA 60th Anniversary Celebration Banquet

Daniels Auditorium
Nichols College
124 Center Road
Dudley, MA

Reception and Cocktail Hour with light hors d'oeuvres and cash bar

5:30 – 6:30 p.m.

Dinner

6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Welcome Remarks

Thomas Balcerski, Eastern Connecticut State University and NEHA President
Bill Pieczynski, Nichols College President

Keynote Address: “What is to be Done?: The Challenges of Historical Work”

James Grossman, former Executive Director of the American Historical Association



Daniels Auditorium at Nichols College

Fall Conference Program

Saturday, November 8, 2025

Hosted by Nichols College
Academic Building, Davis Hall, and Daniels Auditorium
124 Center Road
Dudley, MA

Schedule at a Glance

| | | |
|--|---------------------|--------------------------------|
| Registration and Complimentary Breakfast | 8:30 - 9:00 AM | Academic Building Atrium |
| Quiet Study/Relaxation Area | 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM | Academic Building Room 109 |
| First Morning Sessions | 9:00 - 10:30 AM | Academic Building & Davis Hall |
| Break | 10:30 - 10:45 AM | Academic Building Atrium |
| Second Morning Sessions | 10:45 AM - 12:15 PM | Academic Building & Davis Hall |
| Lunch | 12:30 - 1:30 PM | Daniels Auditorium |
| Afternoon Sessions | 1:35 - 3:15 PM | Academic Building & Davis Hall |
| Break | 3:15 - 3:30 PM | Davis Hall Foyer |
| Plenary Session | 3:30 - 4:30 PM | Davis Hall Room 205/207 |

* Denotes Undergraduate Presenter

First Morning Session – 9:00 – 10:30

Panel 1 – Academic Building Room 203

Perspectives on Public Discourse and Historical Narrative

Chair/Comment: Robert W. Smith, Worcester State University

‘Unnatural,’ Self-Imposed Dysfunction: Excessive Venery, Venereal Disease, and Sexual Modesty in Eighteenth-Century England

Michelle Henault, SUNY Albany

Profit over People and Planet: U.S. Corporate Influence and the Degradation of the Environment

Jeremy Lutton, Worcester State University*

Collaborative Partnerships in Public History Education

Joshua D. Koenig, Worcester State University

Addyson Steele, Worcester State University

Erika L. Briesacher, Worcester State University

Panel 2 – Academic Building Room 104

Adapting to the Natural World

Chair/Comment: David Evans, University of Connecticut

Indigenous Explorers in the Gulf of Maine: Historical and Archaeological Perspectives on Champlain's Voyage of 1604-1605

Arthur Anderson, University of New England

Jonathan DeCoster, University of New England

Exploring Emerson's 'Circles' in the Natural World

Rebecca Taylor, Siena University

Charlotte Molyneux Holloway's Take on Female Store Workers: A Reflection on Connecticut's Progressive-Era Working Class

Donald W. Rogers, Central Connecticut State University

New York City Hospitals and the 1918 Influenza Pandemic

Eric Cimino, Molloy University

Panel 3 – Academic Building Room 204

Europe in the Twentieth Century

Chair/Comment: Kathryn Lamontagne, Boston University

From Hope to Fear: Changes in Irish Jesuit Perspective Through the Eyes of Rev. Patrick J. Gannon, SJ

Richard Whitehead, Fitchburg State University

A Tale of Two Torches: Smoloskyp and the Olympics

Erin Redihan, Salve Regina University

Anatomy of Atrocity: Examining the Genocidal Process in Bijeljina

Emma Dashnaw, Somers (CT) Public Schools

Panel 4 – Academic Building Room 105

Slavery and Settlement in Antebellum America

Chair/Comment: Dominic DeBrincat, Missouri Western State University

Equines, Slavery, and Freedom-Seeking: A Case Study of The Providence Gazette in 1786

Richard M. McGee, University of Rhode Island

Colonialism's Shield: How Moral Debates over Removal Foreclosed on Critiques of Settler Expansion

Christian Gonzales, University of Rhode Island

Cotton Union: The Proslavery Political Economy of David Christy

Alex Kueny, University of Connecticut

Panel 5 – Davis Hall Room 205/207

Domestic Politics of the Twentieth Century

Chair/Comment: Allison Lange, Wentworth Institute of Technology

World War I and the Limits of Gradualism: A Comparative Study of India, Ireland, and the United States, 1914-1924

Sharmishtha Roy Chowdhury, University of Connecticut-Hartford

JFK's Romantic Youth and the Catholic Church, 1917-1947

Thomas J. Carty, Springfield College

America 150: Nationalism and Museums in 1926

Heather Hole, Simmons University

Student Conceptions of Leftism and Communism: Harvard, 1948-1954

Amelia Gantt, UMass-Boston

Second Morning Session – 10:45 – 12:15

Panel 6 – Academic Building Room 104

Perspectives on Late-Nineteenth and Early-Twentieth Century Movements

Chair/Comment: Erika L. Briesacher, Worcester State University

The Inconceivable Weight of Perpetual Conflict: How Zionism Turned the Cultural Political and the Ethnic National

Zachary Rich, Worcester State University*

Near Beer, Cheese, and Soda Water: A History of Progressive Era Alcohol Companies Under the Shadow of Prohibition

Addyson Steele, Worcester State University

Understanding the Rise of the Second Ku Klux Klan and the Opposition to it Throughout Massachusetts

Nicholas Pettigrew, Worcester State University

Panel 7 – Academic Building Room 105

Urban Communities of Care: Stories from a Worcester Social Service Agency, 1910-1950

Chair/Comment: Ella Howard, Wentworth Institute of Technology

The Edward Street Temporary Home and Day Nursery, A Multigenerational Neighborhood Anchor

Tona Hangen, Worcester State University

Using Archival Records to Understand Early-Twentieth-Century Urban Life

Tiernan O'Neal, Worcester State University

Documenting Worcester's Diversity in the Mid-Twentieth Century

Abby Rickert, Worcester State University*

Mental Health and Social Services in the Edward Street Temporary Home and Day Nursery Archive: Social Stigma, the 'Deserving Poor,' and Coding Challenges

Kaylee Chen, Worcester State University*

Panel 8 – Academic Building Room 203

The Pen is Mightier: Print Culture in the World

Chair/Comment: Todd Gernes, Stonehill College

The Invention of the Steel Pen

Kim Richardson, University of South Carolina-Lancaster

The Business of Paper: Social Capital and Eighteenth-Century Philadelphia Printers

Rachel Hendrick, Independent Scholar

Jimmy Woo Fights Yellow Claw!: Perceptions of Chinese Americans in the 1950s

Emma Grayeb, University of Pennsylvania

Panel 9 – Academic Building Room 204

Living Off the Land in New England

Chair/Comment: Donald W. Rogers, Central Connecticut State University

The Age of Freehold: Land, Farming, and American History, 1750-1950

Christopher Clark, University of Connecticut

The Summer Crop: Urban Anxieties, Bucolic Tourism, and the New Hampshire State Board of Agriculture, 1889-1910

Samuel Moore, Keene State College

From Deluge to Design: The 1936 Connecticut River Valley Flood and the Evolution of Regional Resilience

Joshua Shanley, Independent Scholar

Panel 10 – Davis Hall Room 205/207

Teaching Roundtable: Reflecting on “Reacting to the Past”

Chair: Michael E. Neagle, Nichols College

Discussants:

Victoria Breen, Nichols College*

Eric Fauss, CT State-Tunxis

Nathan Jedziniak, Central Connecticut State University

Hailie Marcioch, Nichols College*

Louise Blakeney Williams, Central Connecticut State University

Lunch – 12:30 – 1:30

Buffet Lunch – Daniels Auditorium

Welcome Remarks: Dan Borgia, Nichols College Provost

Presentation of the 2025 James P. Hanlan NEHA Book Award

Seth Rockman (Brown University) – *Plantation Goods: A Material History of American Slavery* (University of Chicago Press)

Committee Announcements

First Afternoon Session – 1:45 – 3:15

Panel 11 – Academic Building Room 104

Reexaminations of Historical Narrative

Chair/Comment: Joshua D. Koenig, Worcester State University

Reflections on Translating Tacitus

Spencer Bellarosa, Worcester State University

John Muir and his Legacy

Bogomil Tchangov, Independent Scholar

Fashion, Gender, and the Lesbian Experience in Weimar Germany

Nora Burnham, Worcester State University*

Historical Perspectives on a Life and Legacy: The 1994 Murder of Robert Mortell, Police Chief of Paxton

Barbara Driscoll de Alvarado, Anna Maria College

Panel 12 – Academic Building Room 203

Military and Society

Chair/Comment: Allen Horn, Independent Scholar

Remembering and Commemorating Henry Knox and the ‘Noble Train of Artillery’

Ben Haley, Massachusetts Historical Commission

PTSD and the Vietnam War

Lissie Craig, Eastern Connecticut State University*

Luminaries of the Service: Primary Sources in Official Military Personnel Files “Persons of Exceptional Prominence”

Ryan C. Walker, University of Portsmouth (UK)

Panel 13 – Academic Building Room 105

Thinkers of America in the World

Chair/Comment: Caitlin Carenen, Eastern Connecticut State University

Expert from Moscow: One Diplomat’s Misunderstood Life and U.S. Intervention in Costa Rica’s 1948 Civil War

James Irving, University of New Hampshire

Expertise on the New Frontier: McGeorge Bundy, the National Security Council, and the Myth of the “Best and the Brightest”

Andrew David, Boston University

From Louis Powell to Project 2025: The Legacy of a Little-Known Memo

Troy Paddock, Southern Connecticut State University

Panel 14 – Academic Building Room 204

Food, Word, and Song

Chair/Comment: Tricia Peone, Congregational Library and Archives

Rusks and Mastic: How to Incorporate Cuisine into a Byzantine History Course

Andrew Drenas, UMass-Lowell

“All the Greatness in Goethe Belongs to the Proletariat!”: The Goethe Jubilee in the Soviet Union in 1932

Diego Benning Wang, Harvard University

Necessary and Sufficient: A Further Inquiry in the ‘Champagne Style’ of The Lawrence Welk Show in the History of American Popular Music, 1938-1977

Brian Peterson, Shasta College

Panel 15 – Davis Hall Room 205/207

Women in the World

Chair/Comment: Kelly Marino, Sacred Heart University

She-Rebels, Amazonians, and Patriotic Ladies: Women’s Vengeful Responses to Lincoln’s Assassination

Bruce W. Eelman, Siena University

“Send Her Home”: Maternal Containment and the Social Correction of the Nineteenth-Century Female Tramp

Daniela Lilly Rodiles, University of Connecticut

The Commissioner: Anna Tillinghast, Gender, Politics, and Immigration in 1920s New England

Lorna Rinear, Wheaton College (MA)

Sunday’s Women: Understanding the Influence of British Imperialism on Catholic Women Through Derry, 1972

Adriana Hazlett, Boston University*

Afternoon Break – 3:15-3:30

Coffee and Cookies – Davis Hall Foyer

Second Afternoon Session – 3:30-4:30

Plenary Session – Davis Hall Room 205/207

Past Presidents Reflect on NEHA at 60

Chair: Thomas Balcerski, Eastern Connecticut State University

Discussants:

Charlotte Gradie, Sacred Heart University

Tona Hangen, Worcester State University

Mark Herlihy, Endicott College

Paul Lambert, Nichols College

Martin Menke, Rivier University

Troy Paddock, Southern Connecticut State University

Sean Perrone, Saint Anselm College

Laura Prieto, Simmons University

Don Wyatt, Middlebury College



Nichols Bison Statue, Courtesy Caspian Horn

Message from the NEHA President

With a new academic year upon us, the New England Historical Association (NEHA) once again is gearing up for an exciting year of programming. Already, the new Officers and Board of Directors has met for a planning retreat, graciously hosted by Tona Hangen of Worcester State University. Over a half day of conversation, NEHA leadership mapped out the year's events and made good headway on ways to strengthen our organization in the upcoming academic year. As before, we will hold two meetings, the first at Nichols College over November 7-8, 2025 (our 60th anniversary) and the second at Middlebury College on April 11, 2026. And we will continue to award the James P. Hanlan Book Prize, the Undergraduate and Graduate Paper Prizes, and the Research Travel Grant. All in all, it looks to be a busy (and productive) year ahead!

There is an old saying—possibly even a proverb at this point—about virtue and longevity that goes something like this: “An organization is not good because it is old; it is old because it is good.” I can’t remember when I first heard this phrase (probably in college), but I have come to think about these words as we celebrate 60 years as New England’s affiliate of the American Historical Association (AHA). Certainly, NEHA is getting up there in years! Yet I hope that you will agree with me that NEHA’s age is a direct reflection of all that is good about the practice of history in our region.

“Everything has a history,” historians are fond of saying, and this includes NEHA. For my part, I have begun something of a study into our organization’s history, utilizing an outstanding collection of documents held by the Special Collections & University Archives at UMass Amherst. From a 20-year history of NEHA, I found this telling line: “It was our desire to make the association a regional and not a parochial one. It was to be like the Pacific Coast or the Southern Association.”

The reminiscence goes on to state what the founders of NEHA hoped by creating the group. “The association would serve as a means of bringing the New England historical community into a more intimate acquaintance than existed at that time.” The NEHA founders understood the special value of gathering together to create opportunities “to share the results of their research with a larger audience in New England by reading papers at our annual sessions.” I am proud to say that in 2025, sixty years on, the goal of creating a scholarly community continues to be a mainstay of what our organization does.

Maybe not everyone enjoys celebrating birthdays, especially as we get older, but our fall meeting at Nichols College is one birthday party you won’t want to miss. We will kick things off with a special guided (and optional) tour of the Samuel Slater Experience, led by NEHA

past president Paul Lambert, Sr., of Nichols College (who also works there part-time). From there, we will gather for a reception, with light hors d'oeuvres and cash bar, and a celebratory banquet at the Daniels Auditorium on campus. We are very pleased to welcome Dr. Jim Grossman, former AHA Executive Director, to deliver a keynote address on the challenges of doing historical work in 2025. The evening promises to be very memorable indeed.

We will resume the next day with a packed program of 15 panels, featuring some 80 individual presenters and moderators. Many thanks to our Vice President, Dr. Michael Neagle of Nichols College, for pulling together this program, our largest and most diverse in its offerings since the Covid-19 pandemic.

Anniversaries also offer an occasion for reflection. Toward that end, I have invited all living past presidents to join me for a special plenary session at our fall meeting. Following a day of our usual thought-provoking panels, please stay a while longer and join me and eight past presidents and executive secretaries to revisit 60 years of NEHA and a look ahead to our future.

NEHA meetings are the heart and soul of our organization, and I encourage all members to put at least one gathering on their calendars. May this year be the one which you connect with NEHA, an organization that has meant so much to so many people!

Sincerely,
Thomas J. Balcerski
NEHA President, 2025-26



Quinebaug River Reservoir at Dudley, Courtesy Caspian Horn

Save the Date: NEHA Spring 2026

Please join us for our **Spring 2026** conference, at **Middlebury College** in Middlebury, Vermont, on **Saturday, April 11**.

Our **Spring CFP** will open after the Fall meeting, with proposal deadline **February 1, 2026**. Send proposals and brief CV to: nehasubmissions@gmail.com

Our **Fall 2026** conference will be held on **September 26** at **Fairfield University** in Fairfield, Connecticut.

Our **Spring 2027** conference will be held on **April 24** at **Stonehill College** in Easton, Massachusetts.

2025 Book Prize

NEHA is pleased to announce Seth Rockman as the winner of the 2025 James P. Hanlan Book Award, for *Plantation Goods: A Material History of American Slavery*. Rockman examines the links between industrialization and slavery through clothing, tools, and other "plantation goods" manufactured by the North for the Southern market. These objects show that both the economies and societies of the Antebellum North and South were intertwined far more than many people acknowledge today.

Dr. Rockman will accept the award and give a short speech during the conference lunch on Saturday, November 8.

Spring 2026 Elections

We welcome NEHA members to nominate themselves or colleagues for various NEHA positions. We are currently seeking candidates to run for Vice-President, Secretary, Board of Directors (3 spots), and Nominating Committee (1 spot). The slate of candidates will be drawn up over the next few months for the elections held in the spring. Contact Kelly Marino (marinok2@sacredheart.edu), chair of the Nominating Committee for information about becoming a candidate.

Announcing: Member Spotlight

Done some interesting research lately? Starting next issue, *NEHA News* will include a Member Spotlight section to highlight the work and accomplishments of our wonderful members. If you wish to be included for the Spring 2026 newsletter, please send a short paragraph about your recent work and a headshot to Allen Horn (nehanews.editor@gmail.com). We hope to hear about your research!

Stay Connected

Social Media

Threads: [nehistoryassoc](#)

Bluesky: [@nehistoricalassoc.bsky.social](#)

Instagram: @nehistoryassoc

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/new-england-historical-association/>

Join or renew your membership:
neha.wildapricot.org/join-us

Website: newenglandhistorians.org
Includes latest NEHA updates, past conference programs, prize announcements, newsletter archive, guide for meeting hosting, and our bylaws.

NEHA Communications Chair is Ella Howard (Wentworth Institute of Technology), howarde@wit.edu. Please contact her with information, news, or questions about our website and social media.

Newsletter: We welcome announcements, calls for papers, fellowship notices, and news suitable for our **newsletter** or for posting to our website. If you have a submission for the Fall 2025 (November) newsletter, please send it to NEHA News editor Allen Horn (nehanews.editor@gmail.com) by September 15, 2025.

Book reviews should be sent to NEHA book review editor, Thomas J. Carty (Springfield College) tcarty@springfield.edu by February 1, 2026. If you have a book you would like to be considered for a future review, mail it to Thomas Carty at: Department of Social Sciences, Springfield

College, 263 Alden St., Springfield MA 01109.

Ways to Get Involved

Make a Tax-Deductible Donation. We welcome contributions to help support our programs and expand our reach! <https://neha.wildapricot.org/Donate/>

Contribute a book review for our newsletter. Contact: **Tom Carty**, tcarty@springfield.edu

Volunteer at an upcoming conference at check-in or with the local arrangements chair.

Serve on a prize committee

Book Prize: contact **Marie McDaniel**, mcdanielm4@southernct.edu.

Student Paper Prize (Grad / Undergrad): contact **Dominic DeBrincat**, ddebrincat@missouriwestern.edu

Run for office. We welcome NEHA members to nominate themselves or colleagues for various NEHA positions. Contact Nominating Committee Chair Kelly Marino(marinok2@sacredheart.edu) for information about becoming a candidate.

Have your institution ***host an upcoming NEHA conference***; more info on our website, newenglandhistorians.org.

Welcome New Members

Emily Brown (Bristol Community College)
Cynthia Elder (Independent Scholar)
Nicholas Hardisty (Tall Ships America)
Katherine Hermes (*Connecticut Explored*)
Elizabeth Hohl (Fairfield University)
Caspian Horn (Eastern CT State University)
Tanya Mears (Worcester State University)
Tricia Peone (Independent Scholar)
Liam Riordan (University of Maine)
Christopher Ryan (Goodwin University)
Sean Sullivan (Independent Scholar)

NEHA Prizes

NEHA sponsors four annual prizes: book award, research grant, and two student paper awards.

The **James P. Hanlan Book Award** is presented to an author based in New England who has produced an outstanding work of history published in the prior year. It is awarded each fall.

Criteria: Monographs on any historical topic, time, or place published in 2025, written by an author who lives or works in New England (or who has done so in the past two years), are eligible for the annual NEHA James P. Hanlan Book Award. The nominated book should represent the best historical writing and scholarship in any era or field of history. Award certificate and honorarium will be presented to the winner at the next Fall conference.

Any publisher may nominate one book each year by writing to **Book Prize Chair, Marie McDaniel**, Southern Connecticut State University by June 1, 2026. Other members of the committee include Lisa Edwards (UMASS Lowell), Don Wyatt (Middlebury College), and Elizabeth DeWolfe (University of New England).

NEHA Research Grant

Apply now for the New England Historical Association Research Travel Grant. We recognize how challenging it can be to obtain funding for historical research. We give one grant each year for up to \$1250 to meet the costs of travel and research at libraries, archives, museums, parks, and other historical sites. The grant will be awarded in February 2026. Those eligible to apply must be an active NEHA member for at least four years, who have not previously been awarded this grant, proposing valid academic research that requires the applicant to travel to access relevant materials (including public history projects). Current Board members are not eligible.

If you want to confirm your NEHA membership status or eligibility, please email the Executive Secretary (neha.execsec@gmail.com). The grant should be used within the calendar year in which it is awarded. Grant recipients will be expected to present initial findings from their work at a NEHA conference within two years of conducting the research, and to

acknowledge the grant in any scholarly publications resulting from it.

The next grant deadline is December 1, 2025.

To apply complete the application form at <http://www.newenglandhistorians.org/prizes/research-grant/>, plus a 500-750 word project statement, C.V., and budget for use of the grant funds.

Submit your application to NEHA Executive Secretary Sean Perrone at email: neha.execsec@gmail.com.

Student Paper Prizes

NEHA encourages the participation of students in its conferences and considers papers delivered at a NEHA conference for prizes for the **top graduate student paper** and **top undergraduate student paper**. Panel chairs may nominate papers from their sessions, or students may self-nominate.

Papers given during 2025 meetings will be eligible for the Spring 2026 award. Submit papers to **Student Prize Committee Chair, Dominic DeBrincat** (Missouri Western State University), ddebrincat@missouriwestern.edu.

CFPs, Grants and Fellowships

The **American Academy in Rome** awards an annual Rome Prize to 15 scholars

working in ancient, medieval, Renaissance and early modern, or modern Italian studies. It also awards 15 fellowships for emerging artists (e.g. architecture, landscape architecture, design, historic preservation and conservation, literature, musical composition, or visual arts). Recipients of the prize study at the academy in Rome. Application deadline is Nov 1. For more information, visit www.aarome.org/apply/rome-prize

The **American Antiquarian Society** in Worcester offers three broad categories of visiting research fellowships: long-term, short-term, and fellowships for creative and performing artists and writers. For more information, visit americanantiquarian.org/fellowships

The **American Philosophical Society Library** in Philadelphia offers competitive short-term fellowships to support in-residence research employing its renowned scholarly collections. Applicants with a Ph.D. or advanced Ph.D. candidates or independent scholars may apply for the fellowships, which carry a monthly stipend of \$2000 for 1-3 months. To apply, visit www.amphilsoc.org/grants/fellowships

The **Arthur and Elizabeth Schlesinger Library on the History of Women in America** at Radcliffe College offers a variety of research grants to support new scholarship on women, gender, and sexuality. Current grants include summer research fellowships and dissertation research funding. For more information,

visit www.radcliffe.harvard.edu/opportunities-for-researchers

The **Boston Athenaeum** offers short-term fellowships to support use of its collections for research, publication, curriculum and program development, or other creative projects. Athenaeum fellows are for a residency of 4 weeks. For more information, visit bostonathenaeum.org/library-collections/fellowships/

The **Francis A. Countway Library of Medicine**, an alliance of the Boston Medical Library and the Harvard Medical Library, offers two annual fellowships to support research in the history of medicine. There is the largest academic medical library in the nation, with an extensive collection of European medical texts from the 15th to 20th centuries and many other collections. For application information, visit countway.harvard.edu/center-history-medicine/services/fellowships

Historic Deerfield in Deerfield, MA, invites college juniors and seniors to apply for its 9-week, fully-funded Summer Fellowship Program in History and Material Culture. February deadline. For more information, visit www.historic-deerfield.org/sfp

Historic New England provides \$1000 grants to small and mid-sized heritage organizations in each of the six New England states, for historic community preservation. For more information, visit www.historicnewengland.org/helpful-links/

awards-programs/community-preservation-grants/

The **John F. Kennedy Library** offers various research fellowships and grants every year to support scholars who need to use the archival holdings of the JFK Library. For more information, visit www.jfklibrary.org/archives/research-fellowships-grants

The **Massachusetts Historical Society** offers short-term and long-term research fellowships each academic year. The Society is a participant in the New England Regional Fellowship Consortium. For more information and application deadlines, visit www.masshist.org/research/fellowships. Contact fellowships@masshist.org or call (617) 646-0577.

The **New England Regional Fellowship Consortium**, a collaboration of 30 major cultural agencies in our region, offers two dozen awards each academic year for a minimum of 8 weeks of research at participating institutions. For more information, visit www.masshist.org/fellowships/nerfc

The **Women's Studies Research Center** invites applications to be a Visiting Scholar in residence at Brandeis University for up to a year. For more information, visit www.brandeis.edu/wsrc/scholars/index.html

Future Conferences

American Historical Association

2026: Chicago, Jan 8-11

2027: New Orleans, Jan 7-10

2028: Seattle, Jan 6-9

African American Intellectual History

Society (aaihs.org)

2026: Pittsburgh, March 27-28

African Studies Association

(africanstudies.org)

2025: Atlanta, Nov 20-22

American Academy of Religion

(aarweb.org) Concurrently held with the

Society of Biblical Literature

2025: Boston, Nov 22-25

American Conference for Irish Studies

(acisweb.org)

2027: Denver, CO, TBD

American Society for Environmental History (aseh.org)

2026: Kansas City, MO, March 25-28

American Studies Association

(theasa.net)

2026: Chicago, Oct 22-25

2026: Atlanta, April 8-11

Italian American Studies Association

(italianamericanstudies.net)

2025: Montclair, NJ, Nov 6-9

Mormon History Association

(mormonhistoryassociation.org)

2026: Las Vegas, June 4-7

National Council on Public History

(ncph.org)

2026: Providence, RI, Sept 16-19

National Women's Studies Association

(nwsa.org)

2025: Puerto Rico, Nov 13-16

2026: Atlanta, Nov 5-8

North American Conference on British Studies (nacbs.org) in conjunction with the Western Conference on British Studies

2025: Montreal, Nov 14-16

2026: Pasadena, CA, Nov 12-15

Oral History Association (oralhistory.org)

2026: Portland, OR, Oct 14-17

Organization of American Historians

(oah.org)

2026: Philadelphia, April 16-19

2027: San Francisco, April 1-4

Popular Culture Association / American Culture Association (pcaaca.org)

2026: Atlanta, April 8-11

2027: Boston, March 24-27

2028: Chicago, April 12-15

Social Science History Association

(ssha.org)

2025: Chicago, Nov 20-23

2026: Atlanta, Nov 19-22

Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations (shafr.org)

2026: Columbus, OH, June 25-27

Society of Historians of the Early American Republic (shear.org)

2026: Philadelphia, July 16-19

World History Association (thewha.org)

2026: Incheon, Korea, June 25-27

Opportunities for Authors

If you would like to write a book review for **NEHA News**, please contact our book review editor, **Thomas J. Carty**, Springfield College, Department of History, Springfield, MA 01109; tcarty@springfield.edu. We have books available for review or you may suggest a good new book you have in hand. Reviews are 600 words and are due in 60 days.

The Historical Journal of Massachusetts

(HJM) seeks articles about any aspect of Massachusetts history, culture, politics, and life. HJM is a peer-reviewed journal published twice a year since 1972. HJM is especially interested in articles on the history of recent immigrant communities. Subscriptions are \$12.00 per year, and the acceptance rate is 35%. For submission guidelines see www.westfield.ma.edu/historical-journal/ or email them at masshistoryjournal@westfield.ma.edu.

The History Press (arcadiapublishing.com) is looking for local historians and writers

who are interested in publishing accessible histories of the towns and communities of New England. The History Press is a traditional, full-service press that focuses exclusively on publishing works of local and regional interest. They publish a wide range of books from brief histories of a town to collections of folklore and essays on the local culture. A typical author has strong ties to their community, and they strive to make their local history more accessible.

For more information, contact Edward Mack, commissioning editor, at Edward.Mack@historypress.net

The International Journal of Humanities and Social Science (IJHSS), an open

access, peer-reviewed and refereed journal, seeks interdisciplinary articles in humanities and the social sciences. If you have questions about the journal, please contact its editor, **J. Sabrina Mims-Cox** (editor@ijhssnet.com).

The International Journal of Liberal Arts and Social Science (IJLASS), a newly

established, open access, peer-reviewed journal, seeks all manner of contributions, including articles about history. Send your manuscripts to the editor at editor@ijlass.org, or editor.ijlass@hotmail.com

The New England Journal of

History (www.nejh.org/) seeks articles and book reviews for upcoming issues; it is published twice yearly by the New England

History Teachers Association, with rolling submission deadlines January 15 and July 15. Please send submissions or inquiries to editor Linda Morse, editors@nejh.org.

The New England Quarterly editors invite submissions for their consideration. This historical review of New England life and letters has been published since 1928. NEQ is an open forum dedicated to the exploration and discussion of New England civilization and its effects on the nation and the world. The journal is open to any historical method, and there is no restriction on the time period covered. Features also include brief memoranda, recently discovered documents, reconsiderations of historical controversies, periodic essay reviews, and approximately fifteen book reviews per issue. Manuscripts should be sent to the editor, **Jonathan Chu**, at: jonathan.chu@umb.edu

The **Northeast Popular Culture/American Culture Association** (NEPCA) offers its annual ***Peter C. Rollins Book Award*** for the best book on any American culture or popular culture topic published each year by an author in New England or New York. Contact the NEPCA Executive Secretary, **Lance Eaton**, Brandeis University, lance.eaton@Agmail.com.



The Black Tavern in Dudley, Courtesy Caspian Horn

“Supporting the Humanities at this Moment” Excerpts from Keynote Address New England Historical Association on April 26, 2025

By Emily B. Todd

Thank you, Dr. Tom Balcerski, for asking me to speak this afternoon.

Dr. Balcerski thought it would be valuable for me at this moment to address the state of the humanities and advocacy for the humanities.

I am sure we are all following the news about the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) and the cancellation of most of the NEH’s active grants in early April.

The motto for the NEH is “Democracy Demands Wisdom.” NEH funding has supported scholarship and scholarly exchange that have helped to cultivate the kind of excellent scholarship (that takes time, meticulous research) that is foundational to knowledge, wisdom, and expertise.

So, what can you as historians do to advocate for the humanities?

Support scholarly societies. The New England Historical Association is a division of the American Historical Association (AHA), and staying connected to the work of the AHA right now—maintaining your membership, reading AHA alerts-- is really important. I know that the Modern Language Association is working with the AHA and other scholarly societies to take legal action to defend the National Endowment for the Humanities. When I asked Paula Krebs, the executive director of the Modern Language Association, what you should do, she said, “Tell them to open their emails from the AHA and do what Jim Grossman recommends.” She also wanted you to know that there is a lot happening nationally. These scholarly organizations are so important right now and maintaining your connection matters greatly.

Follow the work of the National Humanities Alliance. If you haven’t already, sign up for alerts from the National Humanities Alliance (NHA) and check out their website. The NHA gives regular alerts about threats to humanities. But they have so many valuable resources; I have found their materials on recruiting for the humanities (search for “study the humanities”) to be quite valuable in my work both as a department chair and now dean. You can take out institutional memberships to support their work.

Connect personally or make sure your administration or grants office connects to your state Humanities organization. A lot of NEH money had been directed to those state humanities organizations, which are threatened by these cuts. Since the announcement of the cancelled NEH grants, I have found it helpful to be in direct contact with staff at Connecticut Humanities.

Make sure your academic leadership—your deans, provost, president—know how best to advocate for the humanities. Give them talking points if they need them. Point them to the National Humanities Alliance’s site. One of the points the National Humanities Alliance makes is that institutional strategic priorities can often be realized through support for the humanities (take, for example, civic engagement, community connections, student belonging).

Find allies on campus and in the community and bring history to your community. One small event might lead to something greater. I’ll give an example. When I was a professor at Westfield State, we started to host Douglass Day in 2018 for the 200th anniversary of his birth. If you haven’t hosted a Douglass Day on your campus, I recommend signing up for 2026—it’s a wonderful event that involves a “transcribe-a-thon” and connects the community to history. This has now become an established event at Westfield (Frederick Douglass’s great-great-great granddaughter attended this year), and we hold one at Eastern now. It is an event that draws in people from different divisions on campus.

So as we work to make the humanities vibrant in our institutions, communities, and nation, I urge you to form community, to stay connected, and to lean into your expertise—and have full knowledge that Democracy needs the work that you do, as humanists, as historians, researchers, educators. **Democracy Demands Wisdom.**

About NEHA

Website: newenglandhistorians.org

Threads: [nehistoryassoc](https://www.threads.net/@nehistoryassoc)

Bluesky: [@nehistoricalassoc.bsky.social](https://bsky.app/profile/nehistoricalassoc.bsky.social)

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The New England Historical Association (Inc)., founded in 1965, is a comprehensive incorporated non-profit organization for professional and avocational historians in all disciplines and fields. It meets twice a year (Spring & Fall) for one-day in-person or virtual conferences throughout the region.

Membership is open to all persons or organizations interested in studying, teaching or writing history of any time period, subfield, or region. NEHA is a regional affiliate of the **American Historical Association**.

Annual dues (calendar year) for regular members are \$30.00. Membership is \$15.00 for graduate students, adjunct, or retired / emeritus faculty members.

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Frog in the Quinebaug, Courtesy Caspian Horn



Nichols Campus, Courtesy Caspian Horn