

## Initial Email

Dear colleagues,

It is a pleasure to welcome you to the 2019 Shakespeare Association of America seminar "Shakespeare on the Contemporary Regional Stage." We are delighted you will be joining us.

As you know from our brief blurb in the bulletin, this seminar focuses on Shakespeare as produced on the local stage; the impact of performance in the regional community; and the interaction of actors, academics, and audiences at the local level. We welcome a wide range of approaches. Both of us have been working in this area recently: Niamh studying the Cincinnati Shakespeare Company and Jayme focusing on the Nashville Shakespeare Festival. This seminar's topic is a timely, broad, and rich one, which we expect to provoke many intriguing papers. We look forward to discussing this topic with you and learning what interests your own work brings to our seminar.

At the end of this e-mail, please find the full seminar proposal we submitted to SAA last spring, which will provide a more expansive description of our vision for the seminar. We've also attached the list of seminar participants.

Our schedule is as follows:

- **By 22 October 2018**, please confirm your enrollment in the seminar by e-mailing us both at [olearyn1@xavier.edu](mailto:olearyn1@xavier.edu) and [jayme.yeo@belmont.edu](mailto:jayme.yeo@belmont.edu). Please check the contact information we have for you (attached) and let us know if we should make any changes. It is especially important that we have your preferred name and email address. We also welcome your initial thoughts on how your work or interests engage with our topic. Our role is to facilitate productive discussion, and the sooner we can start this work, the better.
- **7 December 2018**: Please email us the title and abstract (200-300 words) of your proposed paper. Additionally, please send the bibliographic information for 2-3 articles or books that have shaped your interest or

work in our topic. We will then compile and distribute the abstracts and collective bibliography.

- **8 February 2019:** Please email your seminar paper to us. Your paper should be no more than 3000 words, excluding references. After we receive the papers, we will compile and distribute them, and we will divide the seminar into small groups and assign responses.
- **22 March 2019:** Please send us two final items: (1) brief responses to the other papers in your small group and (2) 1-2 questions about how the papers in your group speak to our larger seminar topic. If you wish to revise your abstract, send that at this time as well.
- **17-20 April 2019:** We meet in Washington, D.C., specific date and time to be announced. We hope to get together for a meal or drinks either before or after our seminar meeting.

Finally, a reminder: SAA guidelines stipulate that “No paper should be recirculated in any form or any venue without the author’s permission, and seminar abstracts should be treated in the same way as papers read or circulated. Permission must be obtained before citing unpublished work heard or read at the conference. Also to be observed are the SAA’s Social Media Guidelines for digital distribution, in real time or in retrospect, of the content of panels or seminars.”

Once again, we are very excited to collaborate with you over the next several months. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Best,

Niamh and Jayme

### **After papers were received:**

Dear colleagues:

I hope that you’ve all been able to access the Dropbox with our seminar papers. If not, please let me know.

Jayme and I have had the chance to read through your papers and organize them into groups around themes. In discussing the papers, we agreed that there were a number of ways they could

be organized, so we hope you take the chance to make connections with each other beyond your small groups, too. Based on the groups outlined below, by **March 22**, please send us two final items: (1) brief responses to the other papers in your small group, and (2) 1-2 questions about how the papers in your group speak to our larger seminar topic. When we gather in person on **Saturday, April 20, 4-6pm**, these questions will guide our conversation.

In addition, we would like to propose that, after our seminar, we adjourn to a group dinner on Saturday evening. Jayme and I will look into a restaurant near the hotel and make a reservation. Please let us know if you cannot join us.

And finally, a reminder: SAA guidelines stipulate that “No paper should be recirculated in any form or any venue without the author’s permission, and seminar abstracts should be treated in the same way as papers read or circulated. Permission must be obtained before citing unpublished work heard or read at the conference. Also to be observed are the SAA’s Social Media Guidelines for digital distribution, in real time or in retrospect, of the content of panels or seminars.”

Happy reading!

Best,  
Niamh and Jayme

#### Group 1: Embedded Scholarship/Audience Response

- Regina Buccola
- Ann Martinez
- Katharine Cleland
- Kate McPherson & Kathryn Moncrief

#### Group 2: Gender, Race, Politics

- Allison Meyer
- Ariane Helou
- Bryan Nakawaki

#### Group 3: Methods/Ethnography

- William Wolfgang
- Michael Shurgot
- David Hartwig

#### Group 4: Shakespeare & Community Identity

- Douglas Green
- Robert Ormsby
- Kevin Chovanec

**Respondent's notes (sent the first day of the SAA conference):**

Hi all,

We hope you are enjoying the SAA, and we are looking forward to our conversation on Saturday! I'm writing ahead of time to share the insightful responses to our groups written by our seminar respondent, Stephanie Pietros. If you don't have time to read these, that's completely fine--we will certainly cover them in the course of our conversation.

Also, keep an eye out for a location for dinner on Saturday evening following our seminar.

Looking forward to seeing you,  
Jayme and Niamh