

2021 Midwest PCA/ACA Conference

Popular Fiction

Deadline for submissions:
April 30, 2021

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CALL FOR PAPERS, ABSTRACTS, AND PANEL PROPOSALS

Midwest Popular Culture Association/Midwest American Culture Association Annual Conference

Friday-Sunday, October 7-10, 2021
Westin, Minneapolis
Minneapolis, MN

The Popular Fiction area of the Midwest Popular Culture Association/Midwest American Culture Association is now accepting proposals for its 2021 conference in Minneapolis, MN. We are looking for papers that address any form of popular fiction including, but not limited to the following genres:

- Crime Fiction/Mysteries/Detective Stories/Police Procedurals
- Thrillers/Suspense Novels
- Action and Adventure Novels
- Speculative Fiction/Science Fiction/Fantasy
- Romance Novels/Erotica
- Western Novels
- Religious/Inspirational
- Horror Novels/Stories of the Supernatural
- Historical Fiction
- Women's fiction

Some potential themes that papers might examine could include the following, but all entries will be considered:

The mixing of themes, plots, tropes between different genres
Representations of gender and sexuality, race and ethnicity, and class and economics in the literature
Forgotten or semi-forgotten authors or works of literature that warrant a new investigation in the 21st century

Please submit a paper abstract of 250-300 words or a panel proposal including short abstracts and titles of each prospective paper to the "Popular Fiction" area on the MPCA/ACA Submission [website](http://submissions.mpcaaca.org) (submissions.mpcaaca.org). We strongly encourage pre-constituted panel submissions.

Deadline for receipt of proposals is April 30, 2021.

Please include name, affiliation, and e-mail address of each author/participant. A preliminary version of the schedule will be posted on our website around August 2021. The final version will be distributed in hard copy at the conference.

Special Notes Regarding Proposal Submissions: (1) AV equipment will be rented from the hotel by the Association. The Association does not provide laptops, cords, or speakers. (2) If necessary, indicate and submit potential scheduling conflicts along with your proposal. (3) If you wish your presentation to be listed as MACA (rather than MPCA), please include this request with your proposal.

MEMBERSHIP DUES & REGISTRATION FEES: Membership renewal forms for the 2021 calendar year and 2021 conference registration forms will be available on the website in the coming weeks. All participants must register for the conference. A registration-membership form may be printed from the website at <http://www.mpcaaca.org>.

Day passes will be available for guests of the conference that are not presenting a paper.

Attendees are financially responsible for all costs related to their participation in the conference, e.g., transportation, lodging, meals, registration, membership, etc. Graduate students are invited to apply for competitively awarded travel grants from MPCA/MACA. Details on these grants are available [here](#).

CANCELLATION POLICY: If your proposal is accepted and you do not attend the conference, it is expected that you will (1) notify all members of your panel, your Area Chair, and the MPCA/MACA Executive Secretary (Malynnnda Johnson) of your cancellation; (2) provide such notification as early as possible.

COVID-19: The Midwest Popular Culture Association is monitoring the COVID-19 situation closely. At this point, we intend for the conference to go ahead as planned in October. Please note that the deadline for registration is September 15. In the event that the conference is moved into a virtual setting, postponed, or canceled, we will notify you with how the organization will respond as soon as possible. Please check the MPCA website or follow MPCA on Twitter or Facebook for the latest information