

Conference Presentations and Individual Talks on Phillis Wheatley Peters in 2023

Here, we provide a representative listing of Wheatley-Peters-focused presentations from various organizations' 2023 programs so that you can contact speakers directly if you'd like to request more information about their work. In cases where we have secured permission to pass along a copy of the presentation, you'll find a link to the paper or an abstract.

If you'd like to have a conference session/paper added to our listing, please send that information to Professor Robbins, following the format below. We'd also welcome news about—and resources from—individual lectures or informal public talks, particularly if you are able to share an abstract or a video link to your work. Send to s.robbins@tcu.edu

If you have presented on Wheatley Peters during 2023, and you'd like to share your work here (in full or in abstract), please send a copy to “The Genius of Phillis Wheatley Peters” co-director Sarah Ruffing Robbins with confirmation that you give permission to post your contribution on this website. s.robbins@tcu.edu

Thank you for helping to make our website a participatory space of shared learning and networking among communities dedicated to study of Wheatley Peters, her writing, and her era.

MLA Conference in San Francisco, January



Session: Phillis Wheatley (Peters) Futures

The future of Wheatley studies depends on our collective curiosity about who she is. Contributors to an upcoming special issue of *Early American Literature* highlight new approaches to Wheatley's work and legacy.

Tara Bynum, U of Iowa; Donald Holmes, Carnegie Mellon U; Camille Owens, Harvard U; Christy Pottroll, Boston C; Cassander Smith, U of Alabama, Tuscaloosa; Ana Schwartz, U of Texas, Austin (Presider)

Session: Wheatley in London

Papers:

Wheatley's Travels: An Afro-British American Poetics of Pan-Africanism
April C. E. Langley, U of South Carolina, Columbia

Writing the Weather in Wheatley Peters's Voyages
Annette Hulbert, Willamette U

Phillis Wheatley, Abolition, and Alexander Pope
Surya Parekh, Binghamton U, State U of New York

Wheatley's British Empire
Joseph Rezek, Boston U

Session: How Literacy Transforms Histories and Lives

Paper:

Phillis Wheatley's Literacy Records as Resource for Creative Writers Today

Presenter: Sarah Ruffing Robbins

ASECS Conference in March, St. Louis, MO

AMERICAN
SOCIETY FOR
18TH-CENTURY
STUDIES

Session: Genres of the Atlantic I

Paper:

"I Knew You Loved Me When You Did Not Speak of Ships": Phillis Wheatley, Honoree Fanonne-Jeffers and the Poetics of Arrival"

K. Avvirin Gray, Washington and Lee University

Session: Poetry and the Arts

Paper:

Phillis Wheatley Peters' Desire to Look: Ekphrasis and Lyric Interiority

Chip Badley, University of California, Davis

Session: When the 1700s Go Diachronic: Music, Fashion, Politics

Paper:

The Trials of Elizabeth Warren: Phillis Wheatley-Peters and the 2020 Campaign

Micah Bateman, University of Iowa

Session: Phillis Wheatley Peters' Poems on Various Subjects at 250 Years (Aphra Behn Society I)

Presenter: Megan PEISER (Choctaw), Oakland University

Papers:

“On Recollection”; or, Phillis Wheatley-Peters Invoke the Muses
James FORD, Occidental College,

Grief and Grievance in Poems on Various Subjects
Anna FOY, Sewanee: The University of the South

Phillis Wheatley Peters’s Transatlantic Poetics
Leah M. THOMAS, Virginia State University

Phillis and the Oceans
Mona NARAIN, Texas Christian University, “

Phillis Wheatley and Conjunctural Black Aesthetics
Mark VARESCI, University of Wisconsin-Madison,

Session: Phillis Wheatley Peters’ Poems on Various Subjects at 250 Years (Aphra Behn Society II)

Presider: Amanda Springs, SUNY Maritime College

The Faith of Phillis Wheatley
Keith BYERMAN, Indiana State University

Lost Letters? Wheatley Peters and the Verse Epistle
Abigail ZITIN, Rutgers University–New Brunswick

New Poems and Legacies
Wendy R. ROBERTS, University at Albany, SUNY

Phillis Wheatley as Jane Austen’s Contemporary?
Misty KRUEGER, University of Maine at Farmington

Rhyming Rivals: Phillis Wheatley Peters Plays a Poem Game
Jennifer FACTOR, Brandeis University

BAAS Conference in April, Keele University



Session: Transatlantic Crosscurrents: Diasporic Communities and
Intersectional Exchange in the Long Nineteenth Century

Paper:

Clare Elliott, "Transatlantic Feminism and Antislavery Activism: Frederick Douglass, Phillis Wheatley, and Julia Griffiths"

SEA Conference in June, University of Maryland



SOCIETY
OF EARLY
AMERICANISTS

Session: Approaches to Eighteenth-Century Black Lives and Leaders

Papers:

Phillis Wheatley's Oceans

Magdalena Zapędowska, Smith College

How 'Sportive Fancy' Plays: Phillis Wheatley Peters and the Poem Game

Jennifer Factor, Brandeis University and the California Institute of Technology

Session: Black Literary Studies in Early America

Paper:

Phillis Wheatley 'Passes' an Evening with Someone Else's Husband; Or, Towards an 18th-Century Black Community in Rhode Island

Tara Bynum, University of Iowa

Session: *The Black Atlantic* at Thirty

Paper:

Phillis Wheatley and Canon Formation/Reformation in the Black Atlantic/Transatlantic

Phillip M. Richards, Colgate University

Session: Phillis Wheatley Peters' Legacies Across Time

Erasing the 'Stain of Slavery': Isaac Knapp's Antislavery Edition of Wheatley Peters' *Poems on Various Subjects*

Papers:

Barbara McCaskill, University of Georgia

Imagining an American National Poetics: Charles Frederick Heartman's Early 20th-Century

Recovery of Phillis Wheatley Peters Sarah Ruffing Robbins, TCU

Phillis: Traversing Time and Space Alison Clarke, Writers Guild of Alberta

Phillis Wheatley Poetry Festival at Jackson State November 1-4, 2023



For information about the many presentations planned for this multi-day event, visit the Festival website [here](#).