New & Noteworthy, April 2020

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Hello, everyone!

As you may have heard, the 2020 LMDA conference is going virtual. Never fear, this conference will be great and we are in the process of curating a fun virtual experience for you in June. In addition, the 2021 conference will be in Mexico City and we will continue conversations from the 2020 conference to the 2021 conference.

Registration is now open for the conference. We encourage you to join us! Please visit the conference page on the LMDA website (https://lmda.org/2020-conference-conferencia-2020) for more information about this conference reboot (pun intended)! If you have any questions or concerns, always feel free to reach out at President@lmda.org.

Sincerely,
Martine Kei Green-Rogers
The Association for Theatre in Higher Education (ATHE) is the largest organization dedicated to supporting and showcasing the work of students and faculty who are part of theatres at academic institutions. For at least twenty-five years, LMDA has had a close relationship with the ATHE Dramaturgy Focus Group. Many people who are part of the LMDA University Caucus are also part of this ATHE focus group. And the strong interest that many of us who are longtime members of LMDA have to support early career dramaturgs finds potent expression in the annual ATHE Dramaturgy Debut Panel. The 2020 ATHE Annual Conference in Detroit will welcome the twenty-fourth Dramaturgy Debut panel. Panelists present at the ATHE Annual Conference and their work has been featured in the LMDA Newsletter.

The ATHE Dramaturgy Focus group has a particularly successful debut panel history and legacy. Former Dramaturgy “Debutantes” (as the longtime former chair of the debut panel Cynthia SoRelle was fond of calling them) have gone on to take on leadership roles in ATHE and LMDA and helped to shape the field of Dramaturgy. Dramaturgy Debut Panelists have become Conference Planners for ATHE and Focus Group Representatives, gone on to win awards from ATHE, served on the Executive Committee of LMDA, served on the Board of LMDA, gone on to win the Elliott Hayes Award for Outstanding Dramaturgy, and to serve as President of LMDA (including President-elect Bryan Moore). (Full Disclosure: I was part of the debut Debut panel. My presentation title: “Dramaturgy for Marguerite
From the call for proposals:

The DRAMATURGY FOCUS GROUP showcases outstanding and innovative work by EMERGING DRAMATURGS in professional and educational theatre. Emerging professional dramaturgs, graduate students, and interns who have provided dramaturgy for a production or event during the past three seasons are eligible and invited to apply.

I have had the good fortune of chairing or co-chairing the Dramaturgy Debut panel for the past five years. It has been an absolute delight getting to know the applicants and their work. And it will come as no surprise to you to learn that early career dramaturgs are doing some AMAZING work. I am continually impressed by the work early career dramaturgs are doing. Chairing this panel is my wonderful annual reaffirmation of the importance of dramaturgs and the work we do.

If you are interested in applying for the Dramaturgy Debut panel, please reach out to me at morr@sdsu.edu. The deadline is in April every year and panelists present at the ATHE Annual conference in the following July or August. The ATHE Annual Conference in Detroit is scheduled for July 29-August 2, 2020. The Dramaturgy Debut Panel deadline this year has been extended to April 30, 2020. Please see the call for more details and how to apply.

Photo: Dramaturgy Debut Panelists, current and past, taken at the ATHE Annual Conference in Orlando in 2019. From the left, Bryan Moore, Dan Smith, Jenny Sledge, Emily Dzioba, Shelley Orr, Lindsay Barr, and Jacob Hellman.

Upcoming Regional Events
Welcome to Spring 2020! It's an odd duck, but I hope that you and your families are comfortably in isolation. Our Regional VPs are scheduling online activities so that we can stay connected and support one another. See the list below, and make sure to stay connected via the ListServ and Regional Facebook Groups, as we do add events between newsletters as well.

**Director-Dramaturg Open Jam: May 4 (Open to All Members)**
Join us on May 4 from 8-9pm EST online to discuss Dramaturg-Director Hyphenates: How do these roles balance/support each other? For Zoom info, email: [regional@lmda.org](mailto:regional@lmda.org)

**Third Coast Online Happy Hour: May 7**
Let's have some fun and get to know one another! Oklahoma, Arkansas, and Texas dramaturgs are invited to a strictly social virtual happy hour on May 7th from 5pm-6pm CST. Make yourself a "quarantini" or a cup of tea and make some friends that share your passion for dramaturgy. Those who RSVP will also be invited to fill out a questionnaire about a few of their favorite things to be shared on the LMDA Third Coast Facebook page in a "get to know you" post series after the event. Care to join us? Email Third Coast Regional VP Haley Nelson at thirdcoast@lmda.org to RSVP or ask questions. Hope to see you there!

**Metro Philadelphia Online Happy Hour: May 12**
Join us on May 12 from 5:30-6:30pm for a happy hour and to just check-in and see how everyone is doing. Zoom link and call in numbers on our regional Facebook page: [https://www.facebook.com/groups/843725708984462/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/843725708984462/) or contact [regional@lmda.org](mailto:regional@lmda.org)

Please feel free to always reach out to your Regional VP. You can find their information here: [https://lmda.org/map](https://lmda.org/map). You are always welcome to reach out directly to me as well at: [regional@lmda.org](mailto:regional@lmda.org).

We hope to see you at Regional activities this season!

**Region Facebook Groups:**
- [Canada](https://www.facebook.com/groups/843725548997903/)
- [Mountain West](https://www.facebook.com/groups/843725577302295/) (Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, Wyoming, Colorado)
- [Greater Midwest](https://www.facebook.com/groups/843725708984462/) (IL, IN, IA, western KY, MI, MN, OH, WI)
Metro Bay Area
Metro Chicago
Metro NYC
Metro Boston
Central Appalachia (WV, VA, eastern KY, northern TN, and western NC)
Florida
Metro Philadelphia
Mid-Atlantic (DC/Maryland/DE)
Northeast (Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York State, Rhode Island, Vermont, Pennsylvania)
Northwest (Idaho, Oregon, Washington)
Southern California
Plains (Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska)
Southeast (Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, eastern North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, southern Tennessee, western NC)
Southwest (Arizona, Nevada, New Mexico, California)
Third Coast (Arkansas, Oklahoma, Texas)

Your Dramaturgy Ad Here!

We're reserving this high-value newsletter real estate for our Institutional Members. Do you have a job posting you want our readers to see, an M.F.A. program looking for a well-qualified applicant pool, or a festival you want to make sure smart dramaturgs have on their radar? This is the place for it! Institutional Memberships are only $200, and they come with four individual member profiles for your organization to divvy out as you see fit.

Let your organizational leadership know that we’d love them to join the LMDA party.

Pandemic Response: Resources for Artist

Interested in contributing to the next newsletter? Have content ideas?
E-mail communications@lmda.org.

Want to keep up with the conversation about the latest in dramaturgical activity?

- Follow us on Social Media (@LMDAmericas) by clicking on the logos below!
• Subscribe to our listserv